

BURKE SHIRE *Council* Newsletter



Edition 42 : December 2014

Burketown Came Alive



The Gulf of Carpentaria in Queensland, Australia is home to one of the world's most extraordinary phenomena, the Morning Glory Cloud. These clouds are so rare most people will never see one in their life.

There is only one spot on Earth where the cloud can be predicted and observed on a regular basis from late September to early November and that's in the town of Burketown, 30km inland from the Gulf.

To celebrate the incredible natural occurrence, the inaugural Morning Glory Festival was held from 25 to 28 September, 2014 in Burketown.

The festival combined a program of events including a camp draft, rodeo, cultural workshops and Carpentaria Land Council Aboriginal Corporation's (CLCAC) 30 year anniversary celebrations.

Burke Shire Council Mayor Cr. Ernie Camp said "The first Morning Glory Festival has been and gone... and we not only survived but made some great memories and enjoyed some excellent entertainment over the four days."

"On behalf of Council, I would like to thank all those who attended and showed their support of the various events. The happy atmosphere meant attendees – whether young or old, local or visiting, family or individual – were able to enjoy all that was on offer and have a positive experience of Burke Shire." Said Cr Camp.

The Morning Glory Festival was a joint partnership of the Burke Shire Council, the Carpentaria Land Council Aboriginal Council and the Burketown Rodeo & Sporting Association with support from Tourism and Events Queensland and the Arts Council of Australia.

For more information on the Morning Glory Festival 2015 please visit www.morninggloryfestival.com.au or Like us on Facebook.



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Images courtesy of Burke Shire Council, Tourism Queensland and various local photographers.'



Message from the Mayor

Ernie Camp

Where has the year gone? It seems not long ago I was enjoying the river flowing, catching barra and now here we are approaching storm season and thinking about getting out the fishing rods again.

In recent times friends of ours have been rocked by the decision of their loved ones to take their own lives. The stresses of life and society along with the ongoing drought can be overwhelming for some and I would implore you to keep an eye on your friends and family and don't be afraid to ask RUOK or if you have feelings that you are struggling with to seek help and guidance from a trusted source.

The Morning Glory Festival was a busy four days for volunteers and council staff but their hard efforts paid off and locals and visitors alike were treated to a myriad of visual and acoustic enjoyment. It was also fantastic to see on Sunday morning the flyover by the glider pilots who chase the morning glories every year. The positive feedback has been overwhelming and it looks as though the festival has earned its place in our calendar of regular events.

No doubt, if you've been in town recently, you will have noticed that the security fencing and signage have been removed from the street behind the council office. The Burke Shire Nijinda Durlga has reached practical completion. I have been on a tour of the new building and it looks fantastic both inside and out. It is an asset of which the community can be very proud and I am sure many other regions would be envious.

A community opening ceremony is being held following the November Council meeting and I look forward to showcasing this wonderful facility to you. Council will be hosting our first official event – the Regional Assembly of Councils and the Regional Roads Group Meetings - in the new building at the end of November.

We continue to work on improving roads within our Shire and are currently undertaking work on the Doomadgee West road to upgrade a section to bitumen standard.

Please be aware that there is a trucking programme taking place between Century Mine and both Townsville and Karumba and so there will be an increase of heavy traffic on various roads in the area. With the onset of storms it also means road conditions can change rapidly – please ascertain the latest information before setting out on a journey in order to decrease the potential of getting stranded.

Council continues to work with Government and the Traditional Owners/CLCAC to progress the ILUA. Thanks to those who came along to recent community meetings or provided feedback to Council. We hope to have it finalised by mid December.

As a result, come 2015 Council hopes to be able to offer increased opportunities for individuals to reside and businesses to develop and grow within the Shire. Work will soon commence on driving pylons in preparation for a pontoon on the Albert River upstream from the current boat ramp.

I would like to welcome Louise Campbell and Brian Whitchurch to Burke Shire's workforce. Congratulations to Matthew Douglas on his HVM apprenticeship with Council. Thanks to Di Dillon for manning the Tourist Information Centre this year. I would also like to thank departing staff – Jeanette DeGrussa, Col Baker and Pam De Joux for their years of service to Council. Pam has gone above and beyond in



her role as HACC Co-ordinator to deliver quality outcomes for her clients and her care and compassion have been a balm for not only them but their friends and family as well. On behalf of Council I wish you all the best in your future endeavours.

Congratulations to all graduating students of Burke Shire schools. With year 7 moving to secondary next year a greater number than previously will be transitioning to boarding.

I wish you well on this exciting new chapter of your lives and encourage you to take full advantage of all the opportunities afforded to you in your new school – there is much to learn about the world and yourself and by being involved it makes your time away from home pass seemingly quicker and more enjoyable.

I hope the Ambassador's Pack you received will help you in your transition and thank all the local businesses and individuals who have supported this initiative again this year.

And another congratulations – this time to the Ganggalidda and Garawa Rangers and Normanton Rangers who won the Peabody Environment and Landcare Award at the Qld Regional Achievement and Community Awards. Both the Rangers and the Gregory Landcare Group are working hard to tackle problem weeds and pests in our Shire.

Congratulations to Rod and Michelle LowMow and the other directors of Adels Grove who recently won Best Hosted Accommodation and Best Tour and Transport Operator Awards at the Outback Tourism Qld Awards in Charleville. Adels Grove attracts a constant stream of tourist traffic due to its great facilities and the variety of experiences on offer.

Finally from my family to yours I wish you the richest blessings of the Season and I look forward to seeing you at the Christmas in the Park and to sharing stories of successful fishing with you over the Summer.

Message from the Deputy Mayor

Cr Paul Poole

Another year has nearly passed. This last year brought many changes. From the changes a more robust understanding has emerged of what is required under the Local Government Act.

The level of understanding of the Mayor and Councillors of the various reporting requirements has dramatically improved. Change from the unexpected was swift and certainly propelled our new Chief Executive Officer and his Management into the fast lane of Local Government management exposing them to extreme workloads.

I would like to thank all the Staff from the CEO down for their efforts over the last twelve months. Life is never dull in the Burke Shire. Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and enjoy the break if you are having one. Once again, thanks to my fellow Councillors, Burke Shire Staff, Rate Payers and Residents. See you all in 2015.



Message from Councillor

Cr Tonya Murray

We are now at the end of another year and no doubt everyone is busy finalising things for 2014. Council has seen many exciting projects and relationships develop over the year including housing, completion of the Nijinda Durlga, weed management activities, the Morning Glory Festival, the Burketown ILUA and much more and we hope to continue this progress in 2015.

In the new year I would personally like to see improvements in the timing and the delivery of road works throughout the Shire, finalisation and signing of the Burketown ILUA, improvements to the water use practises shire wide, greater emphasis on weed control across the shire and continued improvement of our infrastructure and facilities.

I would like to applaud the generosity of businesses who donate and community volunteers who continue to work hard throughout the year to ensure we have our iconic events including the Burketown Fishing

Comp, Gregory Canoe Race, Campdrafts, Horse Racing, Rodeo, Order of the Outback Ball and many other smaller functions.

A lot goes on behind the scenes and without the efforts of so many these events just aren't possible so again I encourage everyone to get involved with a community group and help out where possible, particularly the young people out there who are looking for a way to use their time.

Lastly I would like to wish everyone a safe and very Merry Christmas with plenty of good food, good cheer and good company and best wishes for a happy and successful New Year with good fortune to all.

Message from Councillor

Cr Tracy Forshaw

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all Burke Shire Residents and your families. 2015 looks promising for upgrading our road network which will benefit all of us. Take care over the holiday season. Best wishes and cheers, Tracy and family.

SEGRA Conference

In early October Councillor Poole and Council's projects and HR Manager Nils Hay attended the annual Sustainable Economic Growth for Regional Australia (SEGRA) conference, held this year in Alice Springs.

Being an event focused on regional Australia, it was a great opportunity to catch up with representatives from other small remote shires to compare notes and discuss strategies for managing the manifold challenges that distance and a low population present to a local government.

One common theme was the growing level of expectations that rate- and tax-payers have of their governments, and the declining level of trust that many Australians hold in local, state and federal politics.

The need for community involvement and consultation in important decision-making processes was highlighted and – given the level of engagement involved around the development of the Community Plan, ILUA and new Water Rating System – we feel that (while there is always scope for improvement) this is one thing Burke Shire Council manages better than most.

Another popular topic was that of infrastructure development and funding; a key driver of economic growth and a constant focus for the team at Council.

Deputy Prime Minister, Warren Truss, announced the launch of the \$1bn Stronger Regions Fund – which we will be applying for a share of to assist with several future projects – and a revision of the Regional Development Australia network, which will hopefully provide councils like ours with greater support in accessing funding for development projects.

The event closed with an examination of the role crowd funding and angel investors can play in regional development, underscoring the need to consider alternative funding models for Council works.

After a jam-packed three days, we returned from the Red Centre armed with a host of new ideas, a wealth of literature and some reassurance that – while we may face tougher obstacles in remote Australia – we remain well-placed to overcome them.

Library Update

Broadband for Seniors

Most of the fun and usefulness of owning a computer has to do with accessing information on the internet.

By 'logging on' people can research, look for lost relatives, book airline and theatre tickets, search for a partner, buy things ranging from pins to elephants and keep in touch with friends all over the world. After visiting their local Broadband for Seniors kiosk, many seniors have become cyber seniors who enjoy using the Internet.

The Burketown Library has joined the Broadband for Seniors campaign and now have two computers (one being a touch screen) available for seniors over 50 to use for free. See our Library staff for more information on how to book a session to learn; how to use a computer, search on the web or just play your favourite game of cards.

Go to www.necseniors.net.au for information on the program and training resources, you can do some of it from your home computer.



From the Chief Executive Officer's Desk

Phil Keirle

Council would normally be winding down about this time of year but that will certainly not be the case in 2014. Council is progressing the Burketown ILUA to completion, awaiting the arrival of our external auditors, installing the piles for the Burketown Pontoon, an ablation facility in Gregory, awarding tenders for the removal of scrap metal, major renovations to the admin building and repairs/renovations to House 6. All in all, a very busy end to a very productive year.

BURKETOWN ILUA

The State of Queensland, Burke Shire Council and the Ganggalidda People are in the final stages of negotiating the Burketown ILUA. No substantive tenure changes to the ILUA have occurred since the second community consultation that was held on 31 October 2014. As discussed previously, ILUA negotiations were shaped by the desire to do the following:

- Increase land available for residential development
- Increase land available for light industrial development
- Increase land available for rural residential development
- Regularise tenure over core Council infrastructure:
 - Sewerage Treatment Plant
 - Water Treatment Plant
 - Burketown Rubbish Tip
- Amend reserves to reflect current use and projected future use
- Improve environmental outcomes:
 - Creation of a green strip and walkways around town
 - Improve land and pest management
- Promote Indigenous economic development
- Align and open roads

TOWN PLANNING

It will be crucial that Council has an appropriate Town Planning Scheme to manage new land tenures arising from the Burketown ILUA. Council will be working with the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning in the development of a new Planning Scheme. This will not only result in a considerable cost saving to Council, it will also ensure the Scheme is able to be developed with full confidence that it will pass the State Interest Review. With a greater focus on the impacts of Climate Change, working with DSDIP on this pilot project will provide the kind of certainty that is much sought after in scheme planning but one that is rarely found.

ROADS

1) NDRRA (Queensland Reconstruction Authority)

Councils Queensland-wide continued to struggle with the changing evidentiary and acquittal requirements expected of flood-damage funding. With goal posts shifting over the last few years, the project management function of NDRRA projects is supremely important.

To reduce the risks associated with completing road works that are ineligible for NDRRA funding (past, present and future), Council works with GBA, an engineering consultancy, to ensure that onerous documentation and acquittal processes are correctly followed. The results of this partnership are paying dividends, as Council. Unfortunately, "day labour" continues to be ineligible for Councils under NDRRA funding arrangements.

As Council's roads crew will not be funded to complete these restoration works, it will be necessary to outsource the various contracts for this work. To this end, Council will host a meeting with local contractors early in the new year to get a sense of availability and capability.

2) Roads 2 Recovery

The Federal Government has confirmed that the Roads 2 Recovery program will continue. This program will place \$200,000 per year into Council coffers over the next 5 years. Funding will double in the 15-16 financial year before reverting back to the original sum.

INFRASTRUCTURE

The following projects are at different stages of completion:

- Practical Completion for the Burke Shire Nijinda Durlga (co-funded by Department of Local Government) was received on 28 October 2014;
- Phase 1 of the Burketown Pontoon Installation should be nearing completion by the time the newsletter goes to print;
- So too the installation of the new Gregory ablation facility (co-funded by DTMR);
- Renovations on the Burke Shire Council Administration Office will commence on 19 December 2014 during the Christmas shutdown period and into mid-January 2015;
- Renovations to House 6 will commence upon completion of the Admin Office;
- A heritage-qualified architect will complete an inspection of the Visitor Information Centre (former post-office) during December, to draw up a scope of works for minor-major renovations of this building;
- Preliminary load testing for the solar array for powering the Gregory Water Treatment Plant.

RATES

The introduction of the B-Pay payment system for rates has proven very successful, with a high proportion of ratepayers electing to use this payment option. We are hopeful that it makes the processing at your end as it easy as it is now at our end. Council has commissioned an audit of all rates assessments – lots, blocks, parcels, exemptions, service charges – in order to ensure the integrity of Council's rating's data. Annual audits of this kind are essential to Council operations, to ensure community and organisational confidence in one of Council's key functions.

RUBBISH TIP

A number of changes at the Burketown rubbish tip are taking place. A tender to remove scrap metal from the tip has been awarded. Commencing next year, Council will introduce a range of new regulations to the rubbish tip. First-up, Council will fully enclose the tip. Following the full enclosure of the tip, Council will restrict access and introduce operating hours. To ensure compliance with its permitting conditions, Council will employ a part-time tip attendant to manage and record in-goings and out-goings. Down the track, Council will proceed with the full rehabilitation of this site and relocate the facility.

EVENTS

No rest in the Event's Department following the Morning Glory Festival, with a host of activities and events taking place. Judges toured the Shire for the Tidy Yard Competition, Remembrance Day commemorations were held at the Burketown cenotaph, and there was a great turn-out for Get Ready Queensland event and the opening of the Burke Shire Nijinda Durlga ("our place").



Information on our Website

Burke Shire Council has a website – www.burke.qld.gov.au

You can find information on:-

- Current Tenders
- Positions Vacant
- Council Meetings
- Add in your event information
- Notices and much more...

Follow us on Facebook

Burke Shire Council has a Facebook Page:
www.facebook.com/BurkeShireCouncil



Positions Vacant

If you would like to apply for work with Burke Shire Council please contact Council on 07 4745 5100 or email office@burke.qld.gov.au to obtain an Employment Application.

Public Notice Distribution

It is easy to obtain copies of Councils Notices and information, request to be added to the Burke Shire Council Notice Distribution List by sending an email to office@burke.qld.gov.au

Articles for BSC Newsletter

Do you have something you would like to promote in our newsletter? Send through your information to events@burke.qld.gov.au. Articles will be approved at Council's discretion.

2015 Council Meeting Dates

Burke Shire Council meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month in the Council Chambers in the Shire office, Musgrave Street, Burketown, and are scheduled to commence at 9.00am.

Meetings for 2015 will be held on:-

22 January, 19 February, 19 March, 16 April, 21 May, 18 June, 16 July, 20 August, 17 September, 15 October, 19 November and 10 December.



Web Pages of Interest

Regional Development Australia

www.rdatanwq.org.au/newsletters

The key focus of RDA Townsville and North West Queensland Committee is uniting communities around economic, social and environmental issues and opportunities. RDA will:

- Support informed regional planning;
- Consult and engage with the community on economic, social and environmental issues, solutions and priorities;
- Liaise with governments and local communities about government programs, services, grants and initiatives for regional development; and
- Contribute to business growth plans and investment strategies, environmental solutions and social inclusion strategies.

MMG (Mineral Mines Group) www.mmg.com

Located in north-west Queensland, Century is Australia's largest open-cut zinc mine. Century produces zinc and lead concentrates at its mining and processing operation at Lawn Hill, located about 250 kilometres north-west of Mount Isa. Concentrates are then transferred via a 304-kilometre underground pipeline to Century's Port facility for shipping to smelters in Australia, Europe and Asia.

CNWQML (Central & North West Queensland Medicare Local)

www.cnwqml.com.au

CNWQML has a long and proud history of delivering effective, integrated primary health care services in the region previously as North and West Queensland Primary Health Care.

Tourism Queensland

www.tq.com.au/marketing/australian-tourism-data-warehouse/australian-tourism-data-warehouse_home.cfm

This is a free way for all events to get major promotion on websites including the new Gulf Savannah website and Drive North Queensland phone app, TTNQ website and over 50 more. All local events should be on this – you just need to register then keep updating your event year after year for free promotion. Hope you can be on ATDW.

The Savannah Way www.savannahway.com.au

The Savannah Way is Australia's Adventure Drive, linking Cairns in Tropical North Queensland with the historic pearling town of Broome in Western Australia's Kimberley, via the natural wonders of Australia's tropical savannahs and the Northern Territory's Top End. The 3700 kilometre route links 15 national parks and five World Heritage areas.

You can explore just a section or cross the continent enjoying its wide horizons, ancient gorges and abundant wildlife, connecting with Aboriginal and pioneer heritage in today's friendly outback. This website can help you plan your journey on the Savannah way with maps, safety information and much more.

Gulf Savannah Development www.gulf-savannah.com.au

The Gulf Savannah region in North Queensland is an exciting and vibrant area of investment growth and economic opportunity, and a unique tourist destination in its own right. This website is presented by Gulf Savannah Development Inc., the development agency for the region. Gulf Savannah Development's voting members are the Shire Councils of Burke, Carpentaria, Croydon, Doomadgee, Etheridge and Mornington and industry partners, MMG Century and Ports North.

Cloud Appreciation Society – Morning Glory Cloud Information

www.cloudappreciationsociety.org/mgmoreinfo/

TOURIST INFORMATION

Burke Shire Council – www.burke.qld.gov.au
 Burketown Caravan Park – www.burketowncaravanpark.net.au
 Burketown Pub – www.burketownpub.com
 Savannah Lodge – www.savannah-lodge.com
 Morning Glory Restaurant – www.morninggloryrestaurant.net.au
 Adels Grove – www.adelsgrove.com.au
 Kingfisher Camp – www.kingfisherresort.com.au

If you would like your information added to this page, please email your request to office@burke.qld.gov.au

Burke Shire School Updates

Burketown State School

by Acting Principal Brett de Grussa

It's been a very busy and productive year at Burketown State School this year. The year has gone very smoothly thanks to all concerned from the hardworking, dedicated staff to the parents and caregivers and of course the students themselves.

In comparison to last year, our attendance has increased which is very pleasing. Last year the attendance was 81.55%. This year, it has increased to 88.3%. We have ten students who have been at school for at least 95% of the year which is wonderful.

We implemented a new reading program this year which resulted in improvements in all year groups – mainly preps, two Year 6 students and one Year 7 student. Two programs, Yumi Deadly Maths and Language for Learning supported numeracy and literacy respectfully. We continued to implement C2C, (Curriculum into the Classroom) across the relevant key learning areas.

We have attended numerous sporting events including touch football and swimming in Croydon, Karumba Festival of Sport, (hockey and basketball) and Athletics' Carnival at Normanton. A couple of students represented the region at Longreach for the district athletics' carnival.

The Live! Learn! Leap! program has visited the school numerous times in second semester with their message of a healthy life style through self-discipline, healthy living and playing sports.

Other events included ANZAC Day, Yamba the Honey Ant Healthy Lifestyle Program, Ditto the Lion Cub Keep Safe Program, Cupcake Day and the Young Adventurers Fishing and Gardening Program. A highlight of the year was the Years 4-7 camp with the students visiting Canberra and the snow.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous 2015.

Burketown Kindy

Endings and beginnings weave throughout our lives and the ending of Kindy for Phillip Booth, Anthony MacNamara, Horatio Stephenson and Summer Martin is a time to celebrate their first milestone.

As they continue their journey onto Prep at the 'Big School', we wish them every happiness and success for their continuing care and education. It is also a time to reflect on the challenges of providing an Early Childhood Centre in Burketown when Government requires more and more legislation and higher standards making it difficult to keep the 'doors open'. Our new committee consisting of; President, Tonya Murray, Vice President Kylie Camp and Secretary Kahleelah Marshall have been working hard to address these issues. The position of Treasurer is vacant.

However our strength has been the overwhelming Community support and involvement. We would like to sincerely thank you for contributions as without your assistance our children would not be celebrating their achievements in their Kindergarten environment.

We are starting a Christmas hamper raffle (you can win a wheelbarrow full of special goodies), so make sure you get in early for your tickets and don't miss out!



Burke Shire celebrated the community opening of the new community centre the 'Burke Shire Nijinda Durlga'

Burke Shire residents celebrated the official opening of the \$3.7 million Burke Shire "Nijinda Durlga" ("Our Place"), a brand new community centre which derives its name from the local Gangalidda language. Burke Shire Mayor of the Cr Ernie Camp declared the new facility in Burketown open to the community at 6.30pm on Thursday 20 November 2014.

"Today is a day of celebration for the people of the Burke Shire and another step forward in delivering quality infrastructure to the community," said Cr. Camp, who also hinted that he hoped to see a few members of the Council exchanging matrimonial vows shortly in the new facility. The Burke Shire Nijinda Durlga houses several multi-purpose community meeting spaces, a commercial bar and kitchen for catering as well as a large community hall space. The extensive outdoor decking provides a great view of the Burketown tennis courts and some parkland where Council is hoping to set-up an outdoor cinema during the cooler months of the year. Burke Shire Council Chief Executive Officer Phil Keirle noted that the new facility was receiving "rave reviews" and had "attracted a great deal of interest in terms of future bookings, from those seeking to host regional board meetings in Burketown, to those wishing to host community markets, family reunions and fishing competitions."

"Our great hope is to see this facility used by all community members and community organisations. We expect the venue, with its amazing hall space, outdoor decking, bar and commercial kitchen, to provide the perfect setting for a wide range of Council-run events and community fundraisers as well as being a great resource to be shared with other commercial and government interests."

"The modern and innovative facility will support the long-term growth and development of Burketown, providing the kind of first-class infrastructure that attracts residents and families to regional areas and provides the confidence for local residents and others to invest in the town's potential."



Carpentaria Land Council Aboriginal Corporation

Carpentaria Land Council Aboriginal Corporation Indigenous Ranger program wins Queensland Regional Achievement and Community Award

At a ceremony held in Caloundra on Saturday night 8 November, the Carpentaria Land Council was announced the winner of a Queensland Regional Achievement & Community Award for its Indigenous Ranger program.

The Gangalidda & Garawa Rangers, who are based in Burketown, and the Gkuthaarn, Kukatj and Kurtijar Rangers based in Normanton took out the award in the Environment & Landcare Award category for their outstanding work in land and sea management.

The Land Council's Land and Sea Ranger Program was established in 2007 and the Corporation currently employs 16 rangers to care for country extending from the Northern Territory border to the Staaten River north of Karumba. Activities carried out by the rangers include feral animal control, weed eradication and fire management aimed at improving the unique bio-diversity within the region.

CLCAC Board of Director and Chairperson of the Gangalidda & Garawa Native Title Aboriginal Corporation, Mr Murrandoo Yanner, said: "Recently the Federal Minister, the Hon Nigel Scullion, lauded our rangers as the best he's seen in the country. Winning this award further confirms that the Land Council and the traditional owners are doing the right things to protect country for the future and to look after the unique flora and fauna that exists in the Gulf."

"Our rangers look after country using traditional methods and by using the best white fella science available. They are also developing skills that can be taught to others and help them get jobs in the future", he said.

Over the past year, the CLCAC Rangers have established partnerships with local landholders and are now active in their environmental endeavours on Gulf properties covering an area of over 40,000 square kilometres. The Rangers also participate in community engagement projects including working with local schools to encourage children to join junior ranger programs and to instill long term environmental and job ready messages for future generations.

For more information and media comment from the CLCAC call Murrandoo Yanner on (07) 4041 3833.



Carpentaria Land Council Aboriginal Corporation (CLCAC) 30th year Celebrations

Standing Strong and Leading the Way 1984-2014

CLCAC celebrated 30 years of Standing Strong and Leading the Way since being incorporated from 1984-2014. The celebrations were held in Burketown over a 3 day period from the 26th to the 28th of September 2014 as part of the inaugural Morning Glory Festival.

The celebrations included: 30 Year Timeline displays of CLCAC achievements which still can be viewed at the Burketown Visitors Information Centre, Ranger Tag Along Tours, Helicopter Tour and a Gala Dinner Celebration with guest speakers: the Hon Nigel Scullion and Professor David Trigger.

As the Chairperson of CLCAC I am so proud of the Corporation, its people and the achievements accomplished over the 30 years and remaining strong and leading the way in our region.

Thomas Wilson, Chairperson.

Right: Hon Nigel Scullion delivering keynote speech.



From the Ranger's Desk

by Russell Cunningham

Field release of the Parkinsonia Looper Moth

On the 12th November the Parkinsonia Looper moth *Eueupithecia* species 2 nicknamed "UU2" was released at four sites on Escott Station by the CSIRO in an endeavour to control Parkinsonia in the Burke Shire. Parkinsonia aculeate is native to the Americas and is recognised as one of the twenty worst weeds in Australia. It has been declared in all states and territories. The Australian weed committee approved Parkinsonia as a target for biological control in Australia in 1983.

Three insect species have previously been released in Australia but only one, the seed-feeding bruchid, *Penthobruchus germaini*, from Argentina, established and dispersed readily. Although the bruchid is widespread (it is present in our Parkinsonia) it has so far failed to have a significant impact. The leaf-feeding looper caterpillar, *Eueupithecia cisplatensis* (nicknamed "UU") and *Eueupithecia* species 2 (nicknamed "UU2"), were identified in Argentina, and have the potential to be an effective biological control agent for Parkinsonia.

Is it safe? What else does it eat?

After preliminary testing in the field and in laboratory conditions in Argentina, CSIRO imported UU and UU2 into a quarantine facility in Brisbane where testing was completed on a broad range of plant species. Testing concluded that both moths are highly specific to Parkinsonia with newly hatched larvae surviving no more than a couple of days on non-target test plants before starving to death.

Based on these investigations, Australia regulatory authorities (currently, Department of Agriculture and Department of Environment) have given permission for their field release in Australia. Continue reading about the field release at www.burke.qld.gov.au

Adels Grove: An Outback Winner

The team from the idyllic camping park oasis known as Adels Grove, located just 10 kilometers from the Lawn Hill Gorge, Boodjamulla National Park are once again celebrating success having taken out the titles of Best Hosted Accommodation and Tour and Transport Operators at the Murweh Shire Outback Queensland Tourism Awards over the weekend.

Hosted at the Charleville Race Course on the evening of Saturday November 15, Directors Michelle and Rod Low Mow, Alan Mathieson and Gary Murray donned their Outback themed outfits and took on the 'who's who' of the Outback Queensland Tourism Industry, coming up trumps in not one but both of their nominated categories. Renowned as one of the Outback's most unique, picturesque and diverse tourism destinations Co-Director and park Manager Michelle Low Mow was over the moon with the wins; contributing a year of innovation and hard work to their success.

"The past 12 months has seen Adels Grove continue to develop. Along with a stand out peak season we introduced a number of new initiatives to complement our diverse range of attractions, facilities, services and tours" said Michelle.

"Aspects such as the introduction of guided tours on our ecofriendly, state of the art solar powered pontoon boat through Lawn Hill Gorge, the all new Shack takeaway meal service, professional media, PR and social media campaigns, through to stand out customer service are all components that we feel contributed to our success. A dedication and a true passion for the Outback and what we offer visitors at Adels Grove makes our wins over the weekend all the more meaningful; especially considering the calibre of competition we were up against".

When asked what was on the cards for the coming 12 months Michelle and the team said they would be concentrating on efforts to continue to improve



Co-Director and Park Manager Rod Low Mow accepts the Best Hosted Accommodation Award on stage at the 2014 Murweh Shire Outback Queensland Tourism Awards along with Michelle Low Mow, Alan Mathieson and Gary Murray.



Michelle Low Mow with the Winners plaque for the Tour and Transport Operators category.

and maximise visitors experience; including the completion of expansion efforts with the all new ensuite cabins, the fine tuning of the newly launched Cannington Mine, Lawn Hill Gorge and Up the Creek Tours and some secret plans that they look forward to divulging in the near future.

Well worth a visit, Adels Grove is just a 4 hour drive from the city of Mount Isa; open 7 days a week year round and offering everything from camping, bed and breakfast accommodation, swimming, tours, a restaurant; even an airstrip be sure to make Adels Grove your next destination for an outback adventure and see just why they were voted Outback Queensland's Best Hosted Accommodation and Tour and Transport Operators for 2014.

Burke Shire Works & Services Department



FLOOD DAMAGE: The Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) are a joint funding initiative of the Commonwealth and State Governments to provide disaster relief and recovery payments and infrastructure restoration to help communities recover from the effects of natural disasters. Most relief measures under NDRRA are funded 75% by the Commonwealth Government and 25% by the Queensland Government. The Burke Shire has made claims for \$8.3m in funding attributed to Tropical Cyclone Fletcher and will begin the tendering process over the coming wet with the aim to commence works in April / May 2015.

ROAD WORKS: A further 5km's of road seal works have been completed on the Doomadgee West Road under the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS). Further works are currently being undertaken on the Camooweal Road leading up to the beginning of the wet season. These will include repairs and re-sheeting to an approximate value of \$200,000 under the requirements of the Road Maintenance Performance Contract. Grid repairs and replacements have occurred on the Gregory - Century Road and were undertaken by MMG.

Parks and Gardens are proud to present their new and improved gardens. When you enter town from the West you will be greeted by a brand new garden that has plenty of different plants including desert roses, Mondo grasses, and miniature bottle brush. These plants were chosen to attract bird life and are hardy drought tolerant plants.

WATER AND SEWER: New meter numbers will be placed on existing water meters for all properties in Burketown and Gregory. It is hoped that the new tag system will help improve efficiencies in water reading collections. If you have identified any breaks or crack in sewer piping on your property, please report them to Council. This will assist us in maintaining our sewer operations and limit that amount of unintended water and silt entering the sewer system.

WATERING OF LAWNS: Remember - The most efficient time to water lawns and gardens is in the cool of the day (early morning or evening) and out of the wind. Where possible, always use timers!

DOGS IN PUBLIC PLACES: Please be mindful of your responsibilities as dog owners: Dogs should be suitably restrained and are to be kept under control at all times (this includes dogs on your property); and; Dog litter - it is your responsibility to clean up after your dogs. Council provides dog litter bags in the park. Penalties may apply.

by Chris Rohan



Remote Jobs and Communities Program (RJCP)



The Bynoe RJCP program has come a long way in Burke Shire during 2014 and we now have many aspects to our program in Burketown and Gregory.

Next year will see a few changes to the way the program is delivered, including a move for the Bidunggu participants. We want to continue to work with the community and hopefully will build many new partnerships in the New Year. The office will close from Friday 19th December and will re-open on Monday 5th January. From the staff and participants of the RJCP program we would like to wish all in the community a safe and very Merry Christmas!!!

CONTACT DETAILS for BYNOE CACS

NORMANTON – MAIN OFFICE:

Sharon Robinson

34 Old Croydon Road | PO Box 414, Normanton 4890

Ph: (07) 4714 9030 Fax: (07) 4745 1304

Email: rjcp@bynoecacs.org.au

BURKETOWN:

Tonya Murray, Mounigibi Office, Bowen Street

Ph: 0429 174 668 Email: ec_burke@bynoecacs.org.au

Workshop Update

For the 2014/15 year the following items of Councils Fleet will be replaced:

#535 Toyota Landcruiser tray back - to go to local tender in the new year

#488 Job truck with hook lift - to go to local tender in the new year

#409 Rubbish Compactor - as per #488

#537 Toyota Landcruiser tray back - due on kilometres but not tendered yet

#536 Toyota Landcruiser tray back - due on kilometres but not tendered yet

#561 Toyota Landcruiser Dual cab - due on kilometres but not tendered yet

#545 Mitsubishi Canter Job Truck - not due yet

#457 Mitsubishi 10 Tonner - not due yet

#470 Komatsu WA380 Loader - not due yet

#20 Ingersolrand Drum Roller - not due yet

#22 Multipak Drum Roller - not due yet

Note: Both #20 and #22 will be traded for 1 x padfoot roller

Recognition Relay Reaches Burketown



Burketown locals were invited to be part of history in the making when the movement to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Constitution arrived September. The Journey team were treated to a great BBQ hosted by Burke Shire Council. Kaylene Ashton, Senior Coordinator for Journey to Recognition travelled with the Journey through Cloncurry, Normanton, Burketown, Doomadgee and Mt Isa.

"We had a fantastic time in Burketown and the BBQ was a great way to chat with so many lovely residents about constitutional change. A highlight for us was talking with the amazing students at Burketown State School who had so many good questions. The journey team had an amazing experience visiting the Gulf region, we met so many supportive people and had a lot of great conversations. It is such a beautiful part of our Country".



The relay gives communities across the nation a chance to be part of the movement to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in our country's Constitution – and to ensure there is no place for racial discrimination in it. RECOGNISE is the movement leading the Journey to Recognition. Cass Goodwin, Manager of Outreach and Research for RECOGNISE, travelled with the Journey from Mackay to Cloncurry.

"Driving through these places, it was fantastic. We'd go to fill up the car and people would recognise the R on our t-shirts and say I've seen that, I've heard about that. It was really fantastic that we didn't have to prompt them and lots of them had already really heard about our campaign what we were trying to do. Everyone was so kind."

The movement is building awareness to recognise the 40,000+ years of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history in our founding document and ensure there is no place for racial discrimination in it.

"We're wanting to make sure that we fix it, we make it right and we make Australia a more cohesive and fair nation. Australia prides itself on being a fair nation and we really want to make that reflected in our Constitution, which is our highest legal document," said Goodwin.

Around 2000 people walked the first kilometre of the relay along the banks of the Yarra - led by AFL legend Michael Long, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders and political figures from right across the party spectrum. Small relay teams of RECOGNISE campaigners have since covered more than 25,000 kilometres across the nation by foot, bike, 4-wheel drive, kayak, surfboard and paddle board. The Journey has now been on the road for 209 days, travelled through 162 communities, engaged more than 14,000 people at over 197 events and meetings.



Burketown Remembered Our Fallen

At 11.00am on Remembrance Day 2014, Burketown residents silently paused for one minute to reflect on and remember the sacrifice of those who proudly donned a uniform to defend our values and nation during times of war and conflict.

Burketown remembered all the Australians who have lost their lives in war or in conflict. We paid tribute to all who returned, some bearing reminders of the horrors of war, and the families and friends who waited and cared for them upon their return.

Burke Shire Council's Chief Executive Officer Phil Keirle said "We also pause to remember our current serving members; - we thank them for their service. We also send thanks to their families who unselfishly let their loved ones go to serve their country"

"The local primary school and many residents attended this year's Burketown Remembrance Day to pay their respect and show thanks. I thank each and every person who came out today. A special thank you to all involved in the Ceremony with special mention to Chris Rohan, Council's Works Manager and a former member of the Armed Forces, for delivering a heartfelt address on the year that marks the beginning of the commemoration of the Centenary of Anzac," said Dr Keirle.



Home & Community Care Update

by Pam deJoux

With the year coming to a close it is time to reflect on the past happenings at our HACC unit. With clients both in Burketown as well as Gregory our programs tend to differ from time to time to cater to the needs of our aged clients. This having been said we still managed to incorporate more activities than usual in our programs this year.

Many crafts were undertaken - some old ones with many new and varied ones included in the programmes. With crochet, fancywork and knitting the ladies spent months putting together seven knee rugs which they donated to the Laura Johnson Home in Mt Isa as one of their Community Services.

Patchwork became a challenge for them but with help and determination they followed through to completion. Beading, sewing, painting, clay and Christmas crafts were also in their weekly activities, along with regular exercises.

The men took on woodwork and produced some interesting pieces over the past few months. With care they produced some wonderful work, -- shadow boxes, hanging shelves, domino sets and cotton reel holders -- the ladies helped with the sanding and staining.

HACC completed two Community Services this year with the second one being the Drought Relief for Farmers. The HACC gardens have been a delight for all with their outdoor activities focused on weeding, planting, watering and renewing with several new plants.

In March we embarked on a four day cruise to the Whitsundays on the "Pacific Dawn", which was undoubtedly the highlight of the year for them. It was an amazing experience for all and a joy for us carers to watch the expressions on their faces. We have also had overnight stays at Adel's Grove, Mt Isa, and at Karumba where we set sail on a "sunset" cruise and croc spotting.

For Seniors Week we had Wayne - singer/songwriter join us, along with the school children for a Musical Workshop making instruments and performing a song.

We also enjoyed dinner and a night of music at The Morning Glory with Wayne on guitar and Dennis on bagpipes. The Seniors Week ended with a "Bingo" day held at the Burketown Pub with prizes, lunch and entertainment.

With age and weariness impacting on all our clients, the numbers have dropped to three clients in Burketown and three in Gregory. It was with great sadness that we lost one of our old clients recently, with another client now a resident at Laura Johnson Home. On Thursday 4th December we will be holding our Annual Christmas Lunch at Gregory Hotel with HACC breakup on 11th December.

As I will be retiring on the 12th December as HACC Coordinator, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support and friendship over the past 19 years.

I have enjoyed my time here, and made many friends whom I will miss but feel that it is my time now to move on. I have bought a cottage at a beach resort in Northern NSW, so if you are venturing down that way anytime, I hope that you will drop in or call. On behalf of all the HACC clients and I we wish everyone a safe and Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) – Annual Meeting in Mackay

Mayor Camp, Cr Poole and the CEO attended the LGAQ annual conference in Mackay in late October. The conference was built around the theme "Better Councils, Better Communities", which was approached through the lens of "financial sustainability." The importance of asset management was the main game in town.

Councillors and CEO attended workshops on Town Planning and Governance, participated in Regional Council and Resource Council workshops, attended the annual Regional Roads & Transport Group meeting and voted on the myriad motions put to the members (Camp and Poole were in charge of the electronic voting devices). The conference also provided an opportunity to network with peers, to look at the many stalls of suppliers – IT, mapping, playground equipment, ablutions, business software etc. – to discuss service levels with Ergon and Telstra and to liaise with representatives from various government departments.



Burke Shire Tidy Yards Winners

Burke Shire Council announced the winners of the Annual Burke Shire Tidy Yard Competition at the Community Opening of the new Nijinda Durlga on Thursday 20 November 2014.

Phil Keirle, Chief Executive Officer of Burke Shire Council said "Council was delighted with the number of entrants in this year's competition and the effort that all residents and businesses showed in keeping the Burke Shire a beautiful place to live in and visit."

"The Burke Shire Council has conducted the competition over the past five years and during this time judges have consistently noted the amazing effort that goes into creating and maintaining these gardens. I was fortunate to be one of the judges last year and remember how difficult it was to choose between the many outstanding entries," he said.

The competition is structured to offer many opportunities for people to enter regardless of the size of their yard or their location. This year's categories included: Best Rural Yard, Best Urban Yard, Best Patio / Veranda and Best Non- Residential Yard. A winner and runner up were selected from each category.

"There were some substantial cash prizes on offer to the winners and runners-up. I would like to congratulate all the entrants from the 2014 competition and thank them for making Burketown, Gregory and surrounds beautiful places to live."

Winners of the 2014 Burke Shire Tidy Yards Competition:

Best Rural Yard: Winner: Gregory Downs Station
Runner Up: Nicole Jansen for Quarters at Armraynald Station

Best Urban Yard: Winner: Geoff Darrach & Leah Mitchell
Runner Up: Elva Portch

Best Patio/Veranda: Winner: Hayley Booth & Lou Daniel
Runner Up: Janet Bishop

Best Non-Residential Yard: Winner: Burketown State School
Runner Up: Savannah Lodge

New Apprentice for Council Workshop

The hard-working team in Council's workshop will have an extra set of hands from late November, as Matthew Douglas moves from the Parks and Gardens crew to undertake a Heavy Vehicle Mechanic Apprenticeship.

The move will see Matthew undergo up to four years of practical and theoretical training and emerge as a qualified mechanic, helping to keep Council's fleet of plant and equipment in optimal working condition. He joins a growing list of past and present apprentices and trainees within the organisation, underscoring Council's ongoing commitment to improve the skills and long-term career options of staff.

Council congratulates Matthew, and wishes him luck in his new role; it was a hotly contested selection process, and planning is already underway to identify potential new apprenticeship opportunities in 2015.



Burketown Residents Get Ready

At the community opening of the Nijinda Durlga last night (Thursday 20 November) Burke Shire residents attended this year's Get Ready Queensland event.

As always, the key theme of the event focused on Prevention, Preparation, Response and Recovery and the role and responsibilities that individuals and emergency services have in the lead-up to, during and after disaster events. Residents had the opportunity to hear from Kevin Andersen of the SES, Gavin Fryar of the Rural Fire service, Matt Lord of the Queensland Police and Philip Keirle of the Burke Shire Council. The agencies had met earlier in the day as members of the Local Disaster Management Group to discuss their disaster response capabilities.

Burke Shire Council CEO Philip Keirle noted that "while residents of the Shire are well-versed in planning for cyclones, floods and fires, it is always important to take stock in the lead up to the disaster season to ensure that emergency plans are up to date, generators are fuelled and that there are plenty of baked beans in the pantry. I urge individuals and businesses to get in touch with Council and the range of emergency services agencies – SES, Rural Fire, Police and Health – and make use of the many hints, tips and services offered by these agencies," Dr Keirle said.



qld.gov.au/getready

Seed in the guts = kick in the guts

Despite the drought, Prickly Acacia has set seeds across much of western Queensland and they are now almost ripe. These highly palatable seeds can remain viable in the gut of livestock for at least six days. Prickly Acacia is a Class 2 declared pest plant that can reduce farm productivity by up to 75%.

This plant will grow in most areas of Queensland ... reducing its spread is crucial!

The number one agent for seed movement is livestock. Landholders are obliged, under Queensland legislation, to control this plant; this includes ensuring stock are free of weed seed when moved. Stock may need more than six days to pass seed before being placed into clean country.

If you are purchasing stock, ensure they are free of Prickly Acacia seed. Control is a cost you don't need, so make sure you have a weed seed hygiene program in place.

If you have any questions or need advice about a Prickly Acacia weed seed hygiene program for your property, contact Desert Channel Queensland's Prickly Acacia Eradication Program on **07 4658 0600**.



ph 07 4658 0600

Some Sweet Treats for Festive Celebrations

by Kylie Camp

Jellied Plum Pudding

Place 3 cups of milk and 3 small tablespoons of cocoa in a saucepan. Bring to the boil and then reduce to a simmer. Once simmering add 1 small packet of mixed fruit, 125 grams of chopped nuts and 1/2 cup of sugar and simmer for 5 mins. Turn off heat and let cool. Once cool add 1/2 teaspoon vanilla.

Dissolve 3 dessertspoons of gelatine in 1/4 cup of hot water and add to mixture. Lastly add 3 tablespoons of brandy, rum, whiskey if desired. Stir well and pour into dish to set.

Honeycomb and Mango Ice Cream Cake

Line a 22cm springform tin with baking paper or cling wrap. Soften 2L of vanilla ice cream (the better the quality of ice cream the better the end product) in a large bowl - but not completely melt. Add 500g of thick vanilla custard and fold in until combined. Carefully stir in 300g of roughly chopped chocolate coated honeycomb and the chopped flesh of 1 large mango. Spoon into prepared tin, cover with cling wrap and re-freeze for 24 hours.

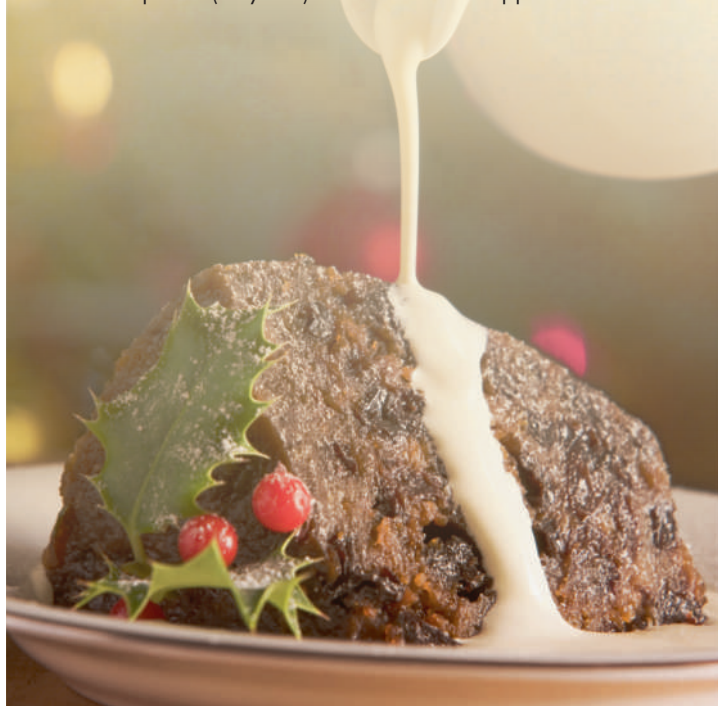
When ready to serve - carefully turn out onto serving plate and allow to sit for about 10 minutes before slicing and serving with either frozen mixed berries (nearly thawed) or more slices of mango and drizzled with passionfruit. If re-freezing for longer than 24 hours cover top also with alfoil and when ready to serve let it sit for 10-20 mins prior to serving.

You could also make in a loaf tin.

Christmas Terrine

Mix together - 500g of crushed malted milk biscuits, 20g chopped glace cherries, 1/2 cup chopped hazelnuts, 1/2 cup sultanas, 2 beaten eggs, 2/3 cup cocoa and 250g softened butter. Press into a loaf tin lined with alfoil. Chill.

Melt 200g milk chocolate. Spread on slice and refrigerate. Cut into small pieces (very rich) and have with a cuppa and a chat.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER 6

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARTY

6.00-9.00PM



DECEMBER 16

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMPETITION



JANUARY 26

AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATIONS



APRIL 3-5

37TH BARRAMUNDI WORLD FISHING CHAMPIONSHIPS



See more information on the Burke Shire Council website
www.burke.qld.gov.au