

# BURKE SHIRE *Council* Newsletter



Edition 44 : June 2015

## ANZAC Day in Burketown

One hundred years after those young souls attempted to climb the ANZAC Cove cliffs and cross the Gallipoli soils, Burke Shire folk gathered in the predawn to remember and honour their sacrifice and bravery.

A record crowd in Burketown gathered around the cenotaph in the main street at first light for the Dawn Service. All listened to the haunting strains of the Last Post, joined in prayers and offered a minutes silence in contemplation of those who have fought in conflicts, past and present, to ensure our freedom and safety. 51 FNQR representatives attended in Burketown and a RAAF representative was present at Gregory. A tasty breakfast was then enjoyed by all.

Mid morning a small but eager troupe of marchers gathered in Burketown's Morning Glory Park representing the schools, community groups, police and armed services and proceeded to march down the street.

They were organized by Sargent Troy Crompton from our local Police and ably led by Corporal Mick Smale, Warrant Officer Stephen Malone (51st FNQ Regiment Mt Isa) and Leading Aircraftman Joshua Allanson (RAAF Townsville).

The reading of the honour rolls as well as the wreath laying for the various sections of the armed forces aid the attendees in recalling not just the acts but the human face of war.

Warrant Officer Malone delivered a heartfelt and thought provoking speech in which he highlighted the core values and traits epitomised by our soldiers, much admired by friends and foe alike, and how they were merely a reflection of those apparent in all Australian communities -

mateship, loyalty, tenacity, a strong sense of what is right and determination to see things through. As usual, the young students of Burketown did their community proud with their enthusiasm and participation in the event. From their animated marching and flag waving to their reading of "My Brother George" their contributions were much appreciated.

The success of this day was aided by the efforts of Council staff and the community volunteers, who cooked our breakfast, helped clean up after the event, or helped during the ceremony.



# ANZAC Day in Gregory

## Dawn Service at Gregory Downs Station

60 people, including children, assembled at Gregory Downs Station (Planet Downs) kitchen at 5:30 am on ANZAC Day morning.

The group then marched behind the Australian flag held by the children and James Geeves on horseback with the flag pole representing the light horse to the tune of 100 Years of Anzac and Spirit of the Anzac. The crowd assembled at the flag pole for the ceremony.

Tess Arnold read the introduction and introduced the hymn "The ANZAC". Megan Munchenberg read the prayer of remembrance, while Kimberley read the address.

Gregory Downs Station, in honour of the centenary of the landing at Gallipoli, proudly erected a monument to the brave diggers that we were remembering on ANZAC Day, both those who fell and those who returned. The placing of the monument is of particular significance as the small tree beside it is a pine tree from Gallipoli, the same type as the Lone Pine which stands as a sentinel to those brave souls who rest there.

Acknowledgement was made to Megan and Jason Munchenberg and his parents Major Bruce (retired) and Lynette Munchenberg for the donation of the tree. Leading Aircraftman Joshua Allanson of the RAAF Townsville, Jason Munchenberg, long time Gregory Downs's employee and donator of the pine tree, and Ian and Tracy Forshaw unveiled the plaque.

The Blessing and bell ringing was conducted by Georgie and Bec. Tess then told us the story of the poem In Flanders Field written by Doctor Lieutenant Colonel John Macrae (1872 to 1918) of the Canadian Army. He did not want the young men he was seeing to die in vain. He penned this poem, asking our younger generation to keep the faith and be true to what these young men were fighting and dying for. The poem was read by David Arnold who then symbolically passed the flame to the children of Gregory representing the younger generation; in the hope they will carry the ANZAC tradition with pride.

The congregation was addressed by Bec, Georgie, Megan and Danielle who gave us a little insight into some personal stories and deeds by Australians during the Gallipoli campaign and the enormity of what these individuals gave with no thought to themselves.

After the hymn, Flowers of the Forest, the wreaths were laid.

- Cory - Navy
- Munch - Army
- Leading Aircraftman Joshua Allanson - Air Force
- James, Ellah and April, Aidan and Aylalaid a wreath and scattered 100 poppies they had made to honour the children of our servicemen and women who were so affected by war. The 100 poppies symbolises 100 years of ANZAC Tradition.
- Councillor Tracy Forshaw and Bev Webber, QCWA Representative, laid a wreath in honour of the women who nursed the wounded, drove trucks and jeeps, sent relief packages or just kept the home fires burning.

April then recited the Ode and then the Last Post was played followed by a minute's silence. After which Michael Jamieson will read the resolution. The flag was raised to top and then to half-mast when finished whilst the Reveille was played.

The crowd energetically sang the National anthem - Advance Australia Fair, and returned to the kitchen for a hearty breakfast.





# Message from the Mayor

## Ernie Camp



**As I write this Burke Shire has just been drought declared. A lack of a wet season has major impacts for many of our ratepayers.**

For stations it creates water and feed shortages for stock and a need to move them off as soon as possible to minimise negative impacts and allow sufficient resources for a core herd.

It affects our fishermen – professional and recreational – as the rivers need a good flush to encourage healthy stocks of fish and crustaceans. It impacts local businesses whose livelihood relies on other local businesses for support.

It also has implications for Council not only from the impacts on roads due to increased traffic to and from stations but the water shortage provides challenges for road works completion.

BOM has also recently released a report stating we are entering an El Niño period meaning rainfall is unlikely during the next few months. Whilst this not our traditional rainy period certainly some rain by the end of spring would more than be welcome.

It is in challenging times such as these that communities can provide much needed emotional and social support to each other. Council is planning to hold a Tackling Tough Times event at Gregory in July at which it will have representatives from various organisations who can provide that social and mental support network.

There will also be activities designed to promote positivity and unity within the community and individuals, culminating in a family movie night. I look forward to seeing many of you there. I would also urge you, should you see someone struggling to ask "Are you OK?" Just three words – but words that could make a difference to someone and their ability to cope with their current circumstances.

The Annual Barramundi Fishing Competition, ANZAC Day and the annual Gregory Downs Jockey Club Saddles and Paddles Races as well as the Gregory Canoe Race have come and gone.

All events drew large crowds and showcased the volunteering spirit of our Shire. Whilst the award winning fish still eludes us, my family and I enjoy the fishing comp weekend and the celebration on Sunday night.

ANZAC Day is always a day of contemplation and reflection, of thanks and gratitude for the sacrifice of not only the armed forces but of their families who let their loved ones travel to far off lands, perhaps never to return, in order to protect the rights and freedoms of Australia and her citizens.

The job of Mayor has its challenges but being part of the ANZAC Day commemorations and seeing the children participating in the ceremony is one of the yearly highlights of my job. Thank you to Bucca and Sean for reading "My Brother George" this year.

The horse races are always a great day out and it was great to see so many locals enjoying the day, the food and the facilities that are the result of countless volunteer hours from the Gregory Race Club and community members. I know I say it regularly but these events could not occur without the generosity of time and effort of volunteers and on behalf of all who have attended and enjoyed your efforts, I say thank you.

Council has been very busy this year and I thank the Councillors and staff for their commitment and efforts to progress several important projects on behalf of our communities – the pontoon in Burketown, improved

telecommunications in Burketown and Gregory, progression with Burketown Town Planning and the commencement of land tenure discussions at Gregory, ANZAC commemorative projects at both Gregory and Burketown, and the commencement of roadworks and maintenance to several buildings, residential and communal, around the Shire.

Along with the Mayors of Richmond and Carpentaria I met the Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Agriculture in Longreach to raise awareness of the adverse seasonal conditions in the Gulf and North West and ask that our communities be included in any building community resilience and capacity activities. Whilst there, the Prime Minister made several important announcements regarding drought support and Northern development.

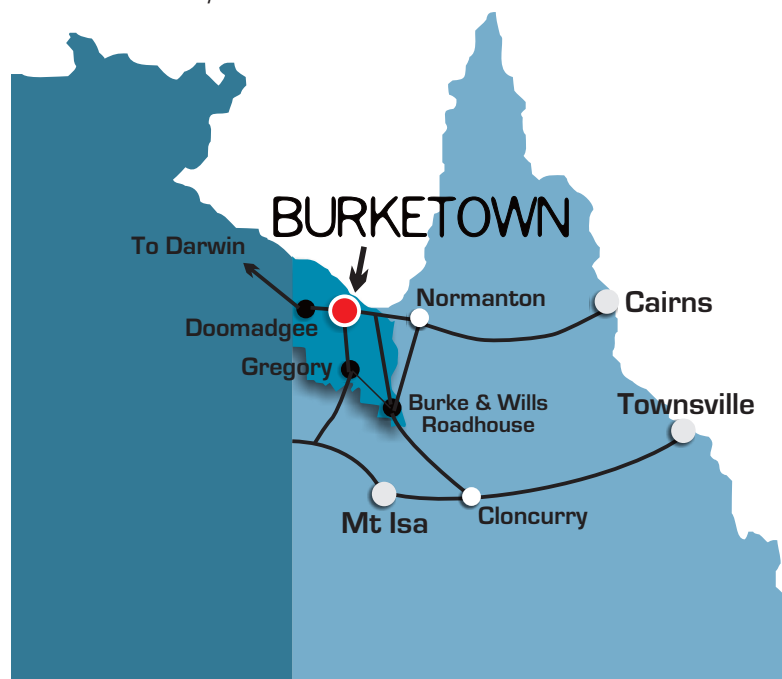
These announcements were welcome but Government needs to remember that disasters, whether man-made or natural, are inevitable and one of the best ways to build resilience in communities is to provide much needed infrastructure such as roads, energy and communications so the community is better placed to ride out these tough times.

In July as part of the Queensland Music Festival, Council, with the assistance of Richardson's Building Services and Burke Shire's RADF Committee, will provide an evening of contemporary music featuring violinist Ian Cooper and pianist Ambre Hammond.

I look forward to seeing you at this wonderful free event at the Nijinda Durlga. We also are in the early stages of planning the Arts and Craft Show and the Morning Glory Music Festival. If you would like to help out at these events please contact Faith Gwatidzo at the Council.

Thank you to Cr Zach Duff for his service to Burke Shire over the past three years and best wishes to both he and Kerry as they start a new adventure in the Northern Territory.

I would like to welcome Shannon Moren, Keiran Anderson, Patricia Prior, Daniel Judge, James Aitkens, Hector Rondon and Faith and Raymond Gwatidzo to the Council office. I would also like to congratulate Cr Murray and her family on their newest member – welcome to Burke Shire Clinton Murray Jr.



# From the Chief Executive Officer's Desk

## Phil Keirle

We are fast approaching mid-year and preparations for the 2015-2016 budget are well underway. There will be a far stronger focus on road maintenance and rehabilitation in this budget as well as some exciting capital projects related to tourism, telecoms, waste management and improved sewerage treatment infrastructure.

### Animal Control

A community consultation on Animal Control was recently held in Burketown (20th May). This meeting was held to discuss two problems of enduring concern – barking dogs and roaming dogs. At this meeting, Council acknowledged the need for improvement in Council's animal management practices.

Plenty of questions and concerns were raised by the audience of 30-odd people. The most common and the most pressing related to: child safety, animal safety, the process for handling dog complaints and the benefits of re-instituting the vet clinics in Burketown.

North West Vet Clinic are due to arrive on 9-10 June 2015, to provide surgical, health and well-being services to dog owners. While we are hopeful that there will be enough time to cater for everyone's needs, this particular clinic will prioritise issues related to dogs in Burketown, as this is the area of overwhelming concern at present.

### Telecommunications

Council currently lobbying State and Federal governments to come to the party as this relates to the funding of improved telecommunications services in the Shire. While Council acknowledges that the NBN satellites due for release in 2016 will provide a useful service for remote properties, Council views the installation of a mobile phone base station in Gregory and the installation of optic fibre to Burketown as key infrastructure projects.

### Pontoon

As you will have seen, the Burketown pontoon has been delivered to Burketown. At the time of writing, phase 2 of this project is nearing completion, with only the concrete abutment and connection of the gangway to come.

Council has been fortunate enough to receive funding from the State of Queensland (Royalties for the Regions) and the Commonwealth (National Stronger Regions Fund) for this project. Given this dual funding, Council will be able to proceed with the installation of an elevated, marine-grade aluminium walkway between the gangway and car-park, rather than the more modest design initially anticipated.

### Boat Ramp & Wharf

Council have now received designs and costings for the construction of a two lane boat ramp and car park infrastructure. Council will submit it's business case to the Department of Main Roads in the very near future.

### Mineral Baths & Hot Springs

Preliminary tests conducted by Simmonds & Bristow indicate that no water, soil or vegetation issues would stand in the way of the development of low-impact Mineral Baths around the Burketown Bore. Further discussions around design, development and budget need to take place before any work is scheduled. In terms of design, we have been fortunate to have students from the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) work on the Mineral Baths as a design project as part of their Town Planning degree.

### Radio Services

SBS Radio is now available on 99.5 FM and Council are in discussions over acquiring another license for broadcasting KIX, a country and western radio station. Further updates on this one to follow.

### Sewerage Treatment Plant

Council recently conducted some MEDLI modelling (Model for Effluent Disposal Using Land Irrigation) at the Sewerage Treatment Plant; one of the conditions of our Environmental Authority.

This modelling determines the sustainability of effluent irrigating practices by sampling soil, vegetation and groundwater quality. Council is happy to report that the modelling indicates no adverse effects to the surrounding environment.

Nevertheless, Council is looking at some long-term improvements to the sewerage treatment plants, which will provide increased capacity, reduce the machinery involved in the treatment process (thereby decreasing operational costs) and allow for the use of treated effluent to irrigate sporting fields around town.

## Burke Shire Works and Services Department

### By Chris Rohan

#### Roadworks

The road crew is currently preparing another section of the Doomadgee West road for sealing under ATSI TIDS funding. This will see another 1.5km of road sealed prior to the end of the financial year. ATSI TIDS funding is unmatched by council and is funded by DTMR – this year the Burke Shire Council has received \$287,000 to improve connectivity through the Shire to Aboriginal communities. NDRRA works have commenced on the Doomadgee west road and will continue over the next six months. Works commenced in early May and have concentrated so far on areas damaged by flood in early 2014. The program will see works continue on Doomadgee West before commencing on roads around Lawn Hill and Bowthorn stations over the next six weeks. Remaining tenders for stabilisation and concrete works associated with these works will be released in June.

#### Parks and Gardens

The laying of turf and garden beds has been completed with turf taking up very well around the Nijinda Durlga. Council would like to thank residents for staying clear of the turf over the last few months. We would like to remind residents to make use of the dog litter bags in the parks throughout Burketown and Gregory and further remind residents to keep dogs on leashes at all times.

#### Water and Sewer

With the continuing warm weather and lack of rain over the wet, we would like to remind all residents of the best times to water your lawns. Getting the most from your sprinklers will be aided by watering at the most appropriate times. Consideration of wind and warm weather when coming up with your watering plans will assist you in achieving the most from your water allocations, watering in the evening and out of the wind will ensure that you are getting your water where your lawns and gardens need it the most.

# Library Update

## Contact Best Start

If you have questions, feedback or ideas regarding key messages for parents and primary caregivers, please email [beststart@slq.qld.gov.au](mailto:beststart@slq.qld.gov.au) or phone 07 3840 7927 to speak with the Best Start Program Co-ordinator.

## Library Exchange

The State Library is working on our quarterly exchange of library resources which means that our library will have many new and exciting items for you to borrow.

### We will be receiving a selection of:

- Adult fiction
- Adult non fiction
- DVDs
- Picture books
- Junior fiction
- Junior non fiction
- Large print
- Young adult fiction
- Young adult non fiction

## RLQ Online Catalogue

In addition to our self items our members can borrow from the Regional Libraries Queensland (RLQ) online catalogue. RLQ is a partnership between the State Library and 30 local governments in Queensland and share a common catalogue of more than 300,000 items including books, large print books, magazines, DVDs, audiobooks, eBooks, downloadable audio books, information databases and music. All these resources are available to RLQ members via the online catalogue which can be found at [www.auroracloud.com.au/OPAC/QPIL/Burke/](http://www.auroracloud.com.au/OPAC/QPIL/Burke/) or accessed through the Burke Shire Council website. Members choose an item online and it is posted to us and when it arrives we contact you to collect it from the Library. There is no charge for this service.

## Membership

If you are not already a member now would be an ideal opportunity to sign up to take advantage of all that the library has to offer. Membership is Free. If you would like information or assistance regarding any library matter our friendly staff would be happy to assist.

## Best Start Library Program

### About Best Start

Best Start is a universal family literacy program aimed at creating stronger language and literacy environments for Queensland children before they start kindergarten and school.

Best Start supports parents and primary caregivers to understand their role and be confident as their child's first and most important teacher before and during formal education. Best Start programs, resources and services are rolling out across Queensland.

The Best Start program has been informed by four years of practical research and evaluation of family literacy practice in public libraries. The Best Start family literacy initiative is proudly supported by Queensland Government, State Library of Queensland and delivered in partnership with local government, public libraries and their local partners.

### About parents' and caregivers' important role

Parents and primary caregivers are their child's first and most important teacher. It takes just 10 minutes a day to nurture your child's love of language by reading together, sharing rhymes, singing songs, telling stories or playing with them. This interaction is critical and can happen anywhere and anytime.

Being read to at an early age is critical in terms of a child's social, cognitive, emotional and language development, and their overall well-being. When fathers are involved with their child's literacy education from a young age, their child demonstrates increased cognitive abilities, higher self-esteem and greater social competence.

Reading with children is the single most important activity families can do with their children to help them learn to read and write once they start school. Reading is not just about the words in the book; it's about having fun, talking about what you see, responding to what your child is interested in, and spending time together.

Don't wait until your child starts kindergarten and school! It's as simple as sharing a book, singing nursery rhymes and talking to your child from birth to give them the best start in life.

### What research tells us

Research shows that a child's language development before age 3 is the single most important factor in school success. Children who experience difficulties learning to read are unlikely to catch up to their peers and the gap will continue to widen.

In Queensland approximately 36% of parents of 0-2-year-olds, and 52% of parents of 3-8-year-olds do not regularly read to their children. During the first 3 years, a child's brain undergoes significant development. To provide a strong brain structure for future learning, children need experiences such as sharing books, talking together, singing songs and time interacting with important adults in their life.

Almost one in four Queensland children are not at the right language and literacy level when they start school and many never catch up. Research shows us that investing in emergent literacy skills (before children start school) is far more beneficial than attempting to treat poor literacy outcomes remedially for children when they are older.

## Information on our Website

Burke Shire Council has a website – [www.burke.qld.gov.au](http://www.burke.qld.gov.au)

You can find information on: Current Tenders, Positions Vacant, Council Meetings, add in your event information, notices & much more...

## Follow us on Facebook

Burke Shire Council has a Facebook Page:  
[www.facebook.com/BurkeShireCouncil](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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:-** 19 March, 16 April, 21 May, 18 June, 16 July, 20 August, 17 September, 15 October, 19 November, 10 December.

**The remaining meetings for 2015 will be held on:-** 18 June, 16 July, 20 August, 17 September, 15 October, 19 November, 10 December.

# Winter Warmers

## Beef & Vege Casserole with Dumplings

Heat 2 Tablespoons cooking oil in a pan. Brown 1.5kg diced round/chuck steak, in batches, until brown then remove to a bowl. Add 8 small brown onions, peeled (or use 4 larger onions peeled but root left intact but trimmed and quartered, 4 thickly sliced carrots and 4 cloves of finely chopped garlic to the pan and cook until onions are golden and softened.

Remove from pan and place with reserved meat. Stir 2 tablespoons of plain flour into the oil in the pan and then gradually add 4 cups beef stock, stirring until smooth. Add 1 x 400g can diced tomatoes, 1/3 cup tomato paste and salt and pepper to taste to the pan and bring to the boil.

Return meat/veges to pan, reduce heat and simmer for 1 ½ hrs or until meat is tender. Stir in ½ cup roughly chopped parsley. Alternatively, place in a large casserole dish and cook for 1 – 1 ½ hours @ 160°.

Place 2 cups SR flour in a bowl and rub in 6g of chilled, cubed butter until mix resembles breadcrumbs. Add 2 lightly beaten eggs, 2 tablespoons of chilled milk, 2 tablespoons of chopped parsley and pinch salt. Mix to combine and with floured hands shape into 6-8 balls. Place on top of meat mix in pan/casserole and gently simmer for approx. 40 mins until cooked.

Meat mix freezes well and you can just put dumplings on top when reheating. Serve with crusty bread and a green vege.

## Mild Curry

Preheat oven to 160°. Cut 1 kg of beef/lamb into cubes. Season with salt and pepper. Add in 2 tablespoons of oil and mix well. Brown meat in batches, transferring each browned batch to a casserole dish. Reduce heat and add a little more oil to the frying pan. Put in 1 large chopped onion and 2 cloves of garlic and cook for 2 minutes.

Optional – also add 3 thickly sliced and peeled carrots and 4-6 halved and scrubbed chat potatoes. Sprinkle 2 tablespoons of mild curry powder over veges and stir until coated and cook for another 2 minutes. Stir in 2 tablespoons of brown sugar and then gradually add 2 ½ cups beef stock and 400mL coconut milk. Stir until it boils and then transfer to casserole dish. Stir through meat mixture to combine.

Cover and cook until meat is tender stirring occasionally- it may take 2 ½ -3 hrs. Add water if need to keep ingredients just covered. Serve with rice and naan bread.

## Syrup Dumplings

Place 2 cups water, 1 cup sugar, 2 dessert spoons butter and 1 tablespoon golden syrup in a pan and bring to the boil, stirring until sugar dissolves. While this is coming to the boil, rub 1 dessertspoon of butter into 1 cup of sifted SR flour.

Beat 1 egg and add to flour – you may need to add a little milk to help dough come together into a soft but not sticky mixture. Roll mix with floured hands until small balls and place in simmering syrup. Simmer for 15-20 mins until firm and puffed.

Serve with ice-cream and/or cream.

Recipes by QCWA.

# Gregory Grapevine

## Gregory 2015 Campdraft & Horse Sports

Cancelled.

## CWA - Gregory Branch

- **How Many Grids To Gregory** cookbooks are available for sale - \$10 each contact President, Tess Arnold Ph. (07) 4748 5575.

## Gregory QCWA 2015 Horse Sports & Family Fun Day

- Date Claimer – Sunday 20th September
- President – Tess Arnold, Gregory Station Ph (07) 4748 5584.  
Email [gregorydowns@parawaypastoral.com](mailto:gregorydowns@parawaypastoral.com)
- Secretary – Annie Backhaus Mobile: 0400 737 666  
Email: [annieb73@live.com.au](mailto:annieb73@live.com.au)

## RFDS Clinic Gregory (Doctor & Child Health Nurse)

From 9am Wednesday Fortnightly (please note change of day to Wednesday).

- 3rd & 17th June
- 1st, 15th & 29th July
- 12th & 26th August
- 9th & 23rd September
- Health Nurse will also be doing talks at the clinics on topics about eyes, hearing, heart & lungs, flu shots etc.



## Tennis

Family fun, great exercise, courts available. Night-time – see Ian & Tracy for the key to the generator.

## Gregory / Lawn Hill SES Training & Joining-Up

Become a member – get involved. Contact Ian Forshaw 4748 5521 or email [iforshaw@activ8.net.au](mailto:iforshaw@activ8.net.au)

## Sometimes - Sheenagh Pugh (Poem)

*Sometimes things don't go, after all,  
from bad to worse. Some years, muscadel  
faces down frost; green thrives; the crops don't fail,  
sometimes a man aims high, and all goes well.*

*A people sometimes will step back from war;  
elect an honest man, decide they care  
enough, that they can't leave some stranger poor.  
Some men become what they were born for.*

*Sometimes our best efforts do not go  
amiss, sometimes we do as we meant to.  
The sun will sometimes melt a field of sorrow  
that seemed hard frozen: may it happen for you.*



# News from your local Country Women's Association Branch

January - May 2015

The QCWA Gregory Branch were proud to again participate in the ANZAC Day Services in both Burketown and Gregory. This year we laid a special QCWA Wreath at both locations, recognising the women and children affected by war.

Our wreath layers at the Gregory service were Bev Webber of Mellish Park Station and Tracy Forshaw of Gregory and in Burketown, Kylie Camp of Floraville Downs Station and Annie Backhaus of Doomadgee.

It was a busy weekend! On Sunday the 26th of April, the branch met for a general meeting with a fantastic attendance of members and guests!

From this meeting we are proud to announce the appointment of Larissa Lauder and Megan Munchenberg to the role of Agricultural and Environment Officer. This role enables the Gregory branch of the QCWA to report local agricultural and environmental issues back to our head office s who can then lobby government.

The branch also voted to become a local Landcare member and some of our members attended the most recent Landcare meeting.

Some other exciting up and coming projects for our group are an MMG Century Mine Tour and a Mums and Under 5s Get Together.

We would like to thank the Burke Shire Council for their sponsorship of the QCWA Gregory Branch Horse Sports and Family Fun Day street banners. It won't be long and we will be preparing for our 53rd event - a milestone we are all very proud of.

We would also like to thank the council for their co-sponsorship of the Women's Health Queensland Wide Inc. "Looking After You" health talks on Tuesday 26th and Wednesday 27th May.

If you have any questions regarding the local Gregory Branch of the QCWA, please do not hesitate to contact Tess Arnold, President, Gregory Downs Station on 4748 5584, Annie Backhaus, Secretary, on 0400 737 666 or Rose-Marie Newton, Treasurer, Talawanta Station on 4745 3526.

**Visitors and New Members Welcome.**

## MMG Century helps local kids have unique ANZAC experience

A group of students from Burketown State School and the School of the Air were able to fly 800km to Townsville for the 100th ANZAC anniversary with the help of Century. Meg Frisby from Century's Community team (top of stairs) made the group welcome when they transited through Lawn Hill.

When seats have been available on its commute aircraft, Century has provided seats on its commute flights for local children who are travelling for educational reasons. Over the years that Century has been in production, this support has meant that schools and families have had to bear less of a burden with airfare costs.



## Big wheels turning with MMG Trucking Program

A six-month trucking program to transport approximately 450,000 tonnes of ore from Dugald River (north of Cloncurry) to Lawn Hill has commenced. The trucks, operated by contract partner Wagners using their distinctive yellow trucks, will operate on a 24/7 cycle involving a 700km round trip throughout the period of the trucking program.

Road users can expect to see increased road works during the trucking program, including the spraying of a dust suppressant material on the Gregory to Lawn Hill road. Road users should be aware of speed limit signs of 40km per hour or less at road work locations.

The Dugald River ore will be processed at Lawn Hill once the final ore from Century's open cut pit has been processed. The Dugald River concentrate will then be piped to Karumba and shipped to market. Once the current trucking program is completed in November, MMG does not have any plans to have ongoing trucking or ore from Dugald River to Century.

MMG is very grateful to people like Jo Start at the Gregory Pub, Rod and Michelle Low Mow at Adels Grove, the team at Boodjamulla National Park, Ken and Anne Stott at the Burke and Wills Roadhouse, Local Government, our grazing neighbours and Native Title representatives for helping spread the message about sharing the road safely with road trains. If you would like to find out more about the trucking program, call Century on 1800 098 721 or email [centurycsp@mmg.com](mailto:centurycsp@mmg.com).



*Attendees of the General Meeting held at Gregory Downs Station on 26th April, 2015. L-R: Annie Clarke (seated), Carrol Cunningham, Laura Wilson, Jenny Williams, Tracy Forshaw, Ethleen Burnett (seated), Holly and Clayton Hammond, Bev Webber, Eileen Bailey (seated), Rebecca Dixon, Susan Clarke, Larissa Lauder with Harry Loechte, Kimberley Arnold (seated), Annie Backhaus, Faith Gwatidzo, Megan Munchenberg, Tess Arnold (seated).*



# Burke Shire School Updates

## Burke Shire State School ANZAC Day 2015

Our grade 5/6's commemorated the 100th Anniversary of the Gallipoli landing by the ANZAC's by travelling to the ANZAC Day Dawn Service and Military Parade in Townsville.

Very special thanks go out to Burke Shire Council and MMG Century Mine for their fantastic organisation and financial support to make these memories possible for all the students who attended.

We travelled to MMG Century Mine via the Burke Shire Council bus where we boarded the Alliance Jet to travel to Townsville in preparation to attend the ceremonies. Before we made our way to the accommodation we enjoyed a fabulous tour of the Lavarack Barracks organised by Chris Rohan from the Burke Shire Council, where we had the privilege to learn about and ride in a huge Bush-Master vehicle used by a Commander in the Australian Defence Force.

Next morning we had a very early start to the day attending the dawn service at 5.30am where we were VIP guests and had wonderful front row seats which really created the full impact of the service for the students.

At 9.30am we watched the Military Parade make its way around the streets of Townsville. While in Townsville we decided to allow the students to experience many activities which are not normally enjoyed in Burketown.

First stop was Launch Zone - Trampoline Fun Centre. Second was Ice-Skating which was the place that created the biggest smiles. Third we enjoyed King Pin ten-pin bowling. Finally we went to the Birch Carroll and Coyle Big Screen Movies. At the end of this fun packed day we all certainly slept well.

Magnetic Island was the next destination to experience where the students swam at the beach, toured the Island and did a touch of gift shopping. Completed with breakfast at MMG Mine and then back to the school. A brilliant trip was had by all.

**Special thank-you to:** Phil, Chris, Faith, Jenny and all the team at Burke Shire Council who made it possible.

**Special thank-you to:** Meg, Martin and Aaron and all the team at MMG Century Mine for making this trip a reality.

**Thank-you again from:** Mr Ford (Principal), Mrs Kristy Tritton (Parent), Kady (Yr 7), Mibby (Yr 6), Harrison (Yr 6), Claire (Yr 5), Jerome (Yr 5), Bailey (Yr 5) and Jed (Yr 5).





# Burke Shire School Updates

## Burketown Kindy

**Congratulations to Laylee on winning the 'Emergent Young Leadership Award'.**

This award recognises Laylee's commitment to her studies and support and her leadership to other students studying a Diploma in Early Childhood through Crèche and Kindergarten (C&K).

This award also reflects her passion and sincerity to 'the little people' in her life at Burke Community Kindergarten.

A special thank you to the Burke Shire Council, especially Jenny Williams who helped organise a Skype interview with C&K. Laylee's presentation and speech was outstanding on the Awards Night in Brisbane.



## Sunday School 2015

**2015 Proposed Dates with Doug & Faye Jones**

Burketown Sunday School: 9.30 am - 10.30 am. Night Gospel Meeting: 7.30 pm - 8.30 pm. Held in Church Building - Ph. 07 4745 5058.

May	3rd, 17th and 31st
June	14th
July	19th
August	2nd, 16th and 30th
September	13th
October	11th and 25th
November	8th and 22nd

## Mount Isa School of the Air

### TERM 2 - 10 WEEKS

3rd April - 19th April	Easter Vacation
20th April	On air resumes
4th - 8th May	Western Alliance Secondary Multi school - Longreach
12th, 13th & 14th May (TBC)	Year 3, 5, 7 & 9 NAPLAN testing in Mount Isa
13th & 14th May	Home Tutor Seminar / Activity Days
15th May	Sports Day in Mount Isa
17th - 22nd May	Year 4 Camp Magnetic Island Year 5 Camp Adel's Grove May Eisteddfod of the Air - Music and Speech and Drama
8th June	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
19th June	Mount Isa Show holiday

### TERM 3 - 10 WEEKS

27th June - 12th July	Winter Vacation
13th July	On air resumes
12th - 17th July	Year 6 Canberra Camp (TBC once flight schedules released)
7th & 8th August	Second Governesses In-service
9th - 14th August	Normanton Mini school
16th - 21st August	Boulia / Bedourie Mini school
23rd - 28th August	Cloncurry Mini school
24th - 28th August	Western Alliance Secondary Multi school - Longreach
30th Aug - 4th September	Camooweal Mini school
6th - 11th September	Gregory Mini school

### TERM 4 - 9 WEEKS

19th Sept - 5th Oct	Spring Vacation
5th October	Labour Day Public Holiday
6th October	On air resumes
16th October	Rock Pop Mime
18th - 23rd October	Julia Creek Mini school
TBA October	Western Alliance Camp
27th November	On air concert
30th Nov - 4th December	Sports for Bush Kids
1st December	Graduation Ceremony
2nd December	Christmas Activity Day Family Christmas BBQ
4th December	Last Day

# New Employee Profiles

## Keiran Anderson



**Current Role** Parks and Gardens Crew, Burketown  
**Joined Council** March 2015  
**Hometown** Burketown  
**Previous Role** Gardener / Labourer, Bynoe Burketown  
**Family Details** Lives in Burketown with parents & sister  
**Favourite thing about Burke Shire?** Love helping out with events

## Patricia Prior



**Current Role** Administration Officer  
**Joined Council** March 2015  
**Hometown** Parkes, NSW  
**Previous Role** Travelling and working our way around Australia for the past eight years. After leaving Parkes Shire Council in 2007 have had admin stints in Mackay, Darwin and Margaret River, general duties at a cattle station at Charters Towers and sheep stations at Barcaldine and Kalbarri (WA) and care taking a bush camp at Daly River (NT). Between jobs we've had plenty of time to enjoy exploring the country and having great experiences.  
**Family Details** Married to Greg with 2 boys Andrew (33) who lives in Emerald QLD and David (31) who lives at Berrima NSW. No grandchildren but some gorgeous grand-dogs.  
**Favourite thing about Burke Shire?** The laid back lifestyle, weather, fishing.

## James Aitkens



**Current Role** Parks and Gardens Crew, Gregory  
**Joined Council** March 2015  
**Hometown** Torres Strait  
**Previous Role** Truck Driver for Toll in Cloncurry  
**Family Details** Wife and 5 children, 2 girls and 3 boys, aged 17-25  
**Favourite thing about Burke Shire?** The fishing

## Hector Rondon



**Current Role** Senior Finance Officer (Contract)  
**Joined Council** May 2015  
**Hometown** Caracas, Venezuela  
**Previous Role** Finance / Funding Officer, Maranoa Shire Council in Roma QLD  
**Family Details** Younger sister in Argentina, older brother in Spain and a dog called Loco  
**Favourite thing about Burke Shire?** The peace and quiet, looking forward to meeting new people for a social game of soccer.

## Daniel Judge



**Current Role** Road Crew (Operator)  
**Joined Council** May 2015  
**Hometown** Burketown  
**Previous Role** Contractor, for Mal England in Burketown  
**Family Details** Wife and two children. One boy, aged 4, one girl aged 5.  
**Favourite thing about Burke Shire?** The great community atmosphere.





# Gregory Saddles & Paddles Races

The annual Saddles and Paddles Races conducted by the Gregory Downs Jockey Club on the 2nd of May proved to be the best ever with great racing enjoyed by a great crowd.

Gregory is regarded as one of the best bush race-meetings with a six races offering \$60,000 in prize money. The racing community responded with great nominations. Once again Tracy Forshaw with the support of the Burke Shire produced a wonderful race-book which included race programs from 1913 and 1930. Chicken and Champagne started the day with all enjoying a delicious meal. Thanks to Kylie Camp for co-ordinating and all those who helped with catering.

Fashions of the Field saw our major sponsor Jo Start along with Dianne Colless and Reegyn McElligott having great difficulty choosing the winners who included: Stephanie and Will Eckford (Morella), Lacie Ballard (Mount Isa), Nils Hay (Burketown), Georgia Ward (Longreach), Caitlin & Matthew Tait (Augustus), Hayley Booth (Burketown), Tom Collier (Escott), April & Ellah Dixon (Gregory Farm), James Geeves (Planet Downs).

## The results for the day were:

### RACE 1 - BRODIE & CO Class B Handicap (800 metres)

1st	Transfusion	James Cairns (Trainer)	Dan Ballard (Jockey)
2nd	Gearstick	Tanya Parry	Terrence Hill
3rd	Rivers End	Grant Wiles	Steven Galvin

### RACE 2 - START CONSTRUCTION - KEVIN FROM HEAVEN QTIS

#### Maiden Plate (800 metres)

1st	Flight Ruler	Grant Wiles	Steven Galvin
2nd	Dollarise	Jay Morris	Aaron Spradau
3rd	Ashlen	Shryn Gabriel-Royes	Dan Ballard

### RACE 3 - COLUMBA CATHOLIC COLLEGE / GEORGE WATSON MEMORIAL Benchmark 70 (1,000 metres)

1st	Surpasser	Tanya Parry	Ms Tamara Tincknell
2nd	Shantung Boxer	Denise Ballard	Keith Ballard
3rd	Ghost Train	Grant Wiles	Steven Galvin

### RACE 4 - JACK POWLEY MEMORIAL / NIVERAK SMASH REPAIRS Benchmark 60 (1,150 metres)

1st	Show Us The Way	Robert Burrow	Keith Ballard
2nd	Court Action	Tanya Parry	Terrence Hill
3rd	Man of Melody	Jay Morris	Aaron Spradau

### RACE 5 - BURKE SHIRE CUP Open Handicap (1,300 metres)

1st	Strumming	Tanya Parry	Terrence Hill
2nd	Haslington (NZ)	Denise Ballard	Dan Ballard
3rd	Abdicated	Denise Ballard	Keith Ballard

### RACE 6 - MMG CENTURY MINE Benchmark 60 Handicap (1,150 metres)

1st	Requirement	Ted Snelling	Tasha Chambers
2nd	Gun And Power	Kerry Krogh	Tim Brummell
3rd	Don't Think Do	Tanya Parry	Terrence Hill

Most successful jockey of the day was awarded to Terrence Hill.

Most successful trainer of the day was awarded to Tanya Parry.

President, John Clarke would like to thank all sponsors, some who have been supporting the club for many years. He also wishes to thank the volunteers who prepared the grounds, worked the bar and tea-stall, supplied the music, co-ordinated Fashions of the Field, cooked for the event, acted as starters, judges, clerks of the course and so much more. The club is proud to keep bush racing an event on the Burke Shire calendar.





# Gregory River Landcare Group Update

**2015 looks to be a busy year for the Gregory River Landcare Group and there are some new faces on the executive committee who are looking to build on the success of previous years.**

The Gregory River Landcare Group (GRLG) Annual General Meeting was held on the 28th April and saw some changes to the executive committee. Megan Munchenberg will remain as President, whilst Tony Loechte was nominated and accepted as the new Vice President.

The group thank outgoing Vice President Sheldon Brown for his continued support. Larissa Lauder was voted in as the new Secretary and will be taking over from Mark Van Ryt.

The group thank Mark for his ongoing and dedicated efforts on behalf of the Landcare group since the groups' incorporation. Jo Start retains her firm grip on the Landcare groups' finances as Treasurer.

2015 will be a busy year for the group as they will be targeting key weed infestations, supporting landholders in erosion control, providing Tourist Camping Packs, and revamping the school-based healthy food gardens.

## Weed Control

**In 2014 funding was successfully applied for to target isolated weed infestations on the upper reaches of the Gregory River.**

These are often the source of the weed spread downstream and are located in a priority area for the Australian Government. Unfortunately, the dry conditions have prevented burning the largest infestation which cannot be effectively controlled by other means.

Several other key infestations have been chemically treated and Charles Curry has also spent hours pulling Bellyache Bush by hand. This project is supported by Southern Gulf Catchments Limited through funding from the Australian Government and GRLG acknowledge our other project partners including Paraway Pastoral Company and Lawn Hill Riversleigh Pastoral Holding Company.

The group would also like to thank the Carpentaria Land Council Aboriginal Corporation for their support in preparing and planning the initial burn site at the Carl Creek Crossing and we look forward to working with them again on this planned burn when the conditions permit.

Weed contractors have recently completed chemical treatment of infestations along the Gregory River and adjacent to the Gregory Downs Outstation and the Gregory Township.

Weeds targeted include Rubber Vine, Bellyache Bush, Calotrope, Parkinsonia, Neem trees and Parthenium weed. They also completed large scale treatment of a Rubber Vine infestation within Lawn Hill Creek located on Lawn Hill Station.

All works undertaken by the contractors were strategically planned to build on previous years' work and to ensure all weed treatment areas would complement any future or previous treatment undertaken by the pastoral landholders, GRLG and the Carpentaria Land Council's Biddungu Waanyi Rangers.

## Erosion Control

**Funding was obtained through the Australian Government's Regional Landcare Facilitator Program to support Lawn Hill Riversleigh Pastoral Holding Company to commence works to stop erosion of a large gully head which was threatening to join two major creek systems.**

This gully poses significant threats to the nationally listed wetlands in the immediate area and also creates major pastoral management complications.

## Tourist Camping Packs

With a number of project partners, Tourist Camping Packs are being developed to provide travellers to the region with information, tools and encouragement to reduce their impacts on the natural environment.

**The packs are primarily aimed at reducing impacts associated with inappropriate rubbish disposal including:**

- toilet activities which leave toilet paper and human waste exposed
- dumping of portaloos
- dumping of general rubbish at camping sites and road sides
- washing of vehicles, and
- disposal of cigarette butts

Pack contents will be a range of rubbish bags and utensils for physical collection and disposal of rubbish as well as information on recommended methods and disposal locations.

The packs will also contain information on how travellers can reduce their risks of spreading weeds in the region and any other relevant information. These packs are a work in progress and the group hope to have a first run of 500 bags ready for distribution in late June.

Thanks to our funding partners Regional Landcare Facilitator Program, Southern Gulf Catchments, Queensland Water and Landcarers, Queensland's Keep QLD Beautiful campaign and Burke Shire Council for their support in running this pilot project.

**For media enquiries please contact the Secretary Larissa Lauder on: (07) 4748 5665 or email [gregorylandcare@hotmail.com](mailto:gregorylandcare@hotmail.com)**





# Gregory River Landcare Group Update

## Healthy Food Gardens

Once again Mark Van Ryt has been busy helping students create healthy food gardens in Burketown.

This year the gardens at Burketown State School and the Kindergarten were revamped. Thank you to the Burke Shire Council for their financial support with this project.



For media enquiries please contact the Secretary Larissa Lauder on: (07) 4748 5665 or email [gregorylandcare@hotmail.com](mailto:gregorylandcare@hotmail.com)





# Gregory River Landcare Group Update

## Other Activities

The Gregory River Landcare Group have also been active away from home trying to promote the work being done in the region and gaining knowledge from others to bring back.

Megan Munchenberg and another member will be attending the REEF, RANGE and RED DUST conference in late August and will be presenting about what the group is doing in the region. This is an opportunity to showcase what GRLG has achieved since its inception and to further promote the Natural Resource Management issues within our region.

The group have also nominated to host the Queensland Regional Landcare Facilitator forum which will bring representatives from all of the Natural Resource Management groups in Queensland as well as having a representative from the Australian Government come to the region. Additionally, Tony Loechte was sponsored by the group to attend the Australian Rangelands Society Conference in Alice Springs in April. Over the four days discussions and presentations were presented from across the northern and central regions of Australia.

Tony said, "It was good to see what other people are doing and being able to learn from other peoples successes and mistakes. I took most interest in the fire, weeds and feral presentation and I was really happy to see that

the Burke Shire Council is already trialing a moth which is thought to control Parkinsonia."

Larissa Lauder also attended the conference as a representative of Southern Gulf Catchments and said "For me the key messages reinforced what we are already doing and also gave an indication in what areas we could get stronger in. We repeatedly heard that small nudges make big differences so yes, we should keep chipping away at the weeds and other projects."

"Also, partnerships are essential in a world where funding is harder and harder to get and the Landcare group is already doing this well. But the single core theme that inspires me at the moment is that effective land management relies on two things that cannot be separated - knowledge and values - and that both of these are intrinsically linked to people."

"There is a real disconnect between the general public of Australia and the reality of the outback and what it takes to keep the land healthy. I believe the Gregory River Landcare Group is in a position where we could effectively target this through the region's tourism."

So it seems that there is plenty going on for the group and keep an eye out for future updates. For further information about the Gregory River Landcare Group or to become a member please contact the Secretary Larissa Lauder at [gregorylandcare@hotmail.com](mailto:gregorylandcare@hotmail.com).

## Burke Shire Calendar of Events

4 July	Burke Shire Community Fun Day
18 & 19 July	RADF Glass Slumping Workshop
25 July	Cooper & Hammond Music Classics
August / September	Burke Shire Tidy Yard Competition
6-11 September	Gregory Mini School School of the Air
September	Gregory CWA Horse Sports
TBA	Burketown Campdraft & Horse Sports
25 & 26 September	Morning Glory Festival
3 November	Melbourne Cup Day / Burke Shire Council Holiday
11 November	Remembrance Day
December	Young Ambassador
December	Community Christmas Tree
December	Christmas Lights
TBA	Artour

*Keep an eye out  
for what is coming up  
throughout the year*







# Upcoming Events

## JULY 4

**BURKE SHIRE COMMUNITY FUN DAY**

**SATURDAY 4 JULY  
STARTING @ 12 NOON  
In  
GREGORY**

- Ladies Pamper Party
- Cricket Match
- Bouncy Castles
- Market Stalls
- Free Lunch
- And Many More!!

A classic day of Family Fun...  
**FREE for the whole community!**

Supported By :



## JULY 25

### Burke Shire Council

Presents

**COOPER & HAMMOND CLASSICS & JAZZ  
FLYING TOUR**



Queensland Music Festival is an initiative of the Queensland Government



**Date: Saturday 25 July 2015**

**Time: 6pm Venue: Burketown Nijinda Durlga**

**Admission Is Free!!**

**Light refreshments will be served. See you There.**

## JULY 18-19

### RADF Glass Slumping Workshop

There will be a glass slumping workshop to be held in Normanton.

This is sponsored by RADF; please contact Burke Shire Council via email: [events@burke.qld.gov.au](mailto:events@burke.qld.gov.au) events for more details.

## SEPT. 25 & 26

### Morning Glory Festival 2015



# Web Pages of interest...

## Regional Development Australia

[www.rdatanwq.org.au/newsletters](http://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](http://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.

## Tourism Queensland

[http://tq.com.au/marketing/australian-tourism-data-warehouse/australian-tourism-data-warehouse\\_home.cfm](http://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.

## CNWQML [www.cnwqml.com.au](http://www.cnwqml.com.au)

*(Central and North West Queensland Medicare Local)*

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.

## The Savannah Way [www.savannahway.com.au](http://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](http://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

<http://cloudappreciationsociety.org/mgmoreinfo/>



## Tourist Information

Burke Shire Council – [www.burke.qld.gov.au](http://www.burke.qld.gov.au)

Burketown Caravan Park –  
[www.burketowncaravanpark.net.au](http://www.burketowncaravanpark.net.au)

Burketown Pub – [www.burketownpub.com](http://www.burketownpub.com)

Savannah Lodge – [www.savannah-lodge.com](http://www.savannah-lodge.com)

Morning Glory Restaurant –  
[www.morninggloryrestaurant.net.au](http://www.morninggloryrestaurant.net.au)

Adels Grove – [www.adelsgrove.com.au](http://www.adelsgrove.com.au)

Kingfisher Camp – [www.kingfisherresort.com.au](http://www.kingfisherresort.com.au)

If you would like your information added to this page,  
please email your request to [office@burke.qld.gov.au](mailto:office@burke.qld.gov.au)