



BURKE SHIRE COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

Edition 6 - October 2006 / November 2006
(Issued on 13 October 2006)

Our tourist season is coming to an end and our Morning Glory season is just starting so we say farewell to the tourists and hi to the glider pilots. The year is winding down and all major events for the year have been successfully completed. If you have enjoyed yourself at any of these events and have ideas on how they can be improved then please get involved and join the organising committees - keep watch on the public notice boards for notices calling for EOIs to form committees to organise future events.

Cheryl Portch

Key Council Dates

Ordinary Meeting of Council (October)	24 October 2006
Ordinary Meeting of Council (November)	16 November 2006
Deadline for contributions to next newsletter	24 November 2006
2006/07 Rates Notices to be issued	10 October 2006
Payment Due Date for 2006/07 Rates Discount	9 November 2006
Melbourne Cup Day (Public Holiday in Burke Shire)	7 November 2006

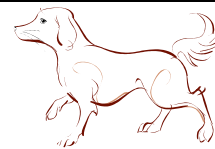
CURRENT PUBLIC NOTICES

All public notices are displayed at Nowlands, Burketown Post Office, Burketown Pub, Burketown Health Centre, Gregory Downs Hotel, Moungebibi and the Shire Office.

Dog Baiting
Mosquito Fogging
Calico Bag Give Away
Fines for Dogs Found at Large
Council Meeting Dates for 2006
Update on Road Closure of China Wall



RANGER'S REVIEW



OUR LOCAL #1 WEED MENACE - RUBBER VINE

Introduction

Rubber vine (*Cryptostegia grandiflora*) – one of northern Australia's worst weeds – is among Australia's 20 Weeds of National Significance. A national strategic plan for control of rubber vine has been developed, outlining four programs to prevent its spread, reduce its impact, manage it nationally, and coordinate management.

Rubber vine is a woody perennial vine that colonises areas aggressively, forming impenetrable thickets that smother vegetation. It impacts on native ecosystems, primary industries and tourism. It is quite distinct from most other plants although it may be confused with some native vines.

History of spread

Rubber vine is a native of Madagascar. The exact date of its introduction into Australia is not known but it is prior to, or about, 1875. It was a popular ornamental plant in North Queensland mining settlements, favoured for its luxuriant growth even under harsh conditions. By 1917 there were major infestations around Rockhampton, Charters Towers and Georgetown. During the Second World War, efforts were made to grow rubber vine as a rubber source and although the enterprise was not successfully developed, it may have led to further spread. Rubber vine was declared a noxious weed in Queensland in 1955. It is now present across 20 percent of the state and densely infests over 700 000 hectares, costing the Queensland beef industry in the excess of \$18 million per year due to loss of pasture and reduced beef production.

Description

Rubber vine is a vigorous climber with twining, whip like shoots. It can grow unsupported as an untidy, many stemmed shrub to 2 metres in height or scramble up to 30m high in trees. Individual plants have been known to live for more than 80 years. The stems, leaves and unripe pods exude a white, milky sap when broken or cut. Leaves are glossy dark green, smooth and thick, 6-10 cm long, 3-5 cm wide, occurring in opposite pairs. Rubber vine tends to be deciduous, shedding its leaves at the onset of winter; however, when it grows along creeks and rivers it can retain them till later in the season. Rubber vine can take from less than one, to more than four years to flower, depending on the availability of soil moisture. Flowers are 5-6 cm long with five white to pale pink/purple petals arranged in a bell shape. Peak flowering occurs from October to April following rainfall events. Rubber vine produces rigid seed pods that grow mostly in pairs at the end of a short stalk. They mature about six months (180 days) after flowering and contain an average of 350 brown seeds, 95 per cent of which are viable. Each seed has a tuft of long white silky hairs that enable easy dispersal by wind and water. Animals, birds in particular, also spread the seed. Rubber vine is poisonous to stock, with most deaths occurring after animals have been stressed or when other feed is scarce.

Control Methods

Biological Control

Rubber vine rust, which was released between 1995 and 1997, has had a significant impact. It has been found on Rubber vine in all areas but is less prevalent in the dryer western areas as it needs high humidity to survive and multiply.

Rust infection causes rubber vine to lose its leaves prematurely, and a number of defoliations per season can greatly reduce the reproductive and vegetative growth of each plant. Rubber vine moth was released between 1988 and 1991. In the early stages it was found to be quite effective in defoliating large patches of rubber vine, but in recent times a number of factors (including its parasitisation by native wasps) have reduced its effect.

Control Using Fire

Fire is perhaps the most overlooked tool in the control of rubber vine. Burning can be more effective and cost efficient than attacking dense infestations solely with chemical, which requires spending significant amounts of money and time. Fire does not stand alone as an approach to controlling rubber vine but should be part of a planned and managed program that includes a number of control techniques and several fires. Preparing and managing the fuel load prior to burning and following up in a timely manner after fires are critical in the overall success of the program.

Chemical Control

Herbicides can be applied to rubber vine in a number of ways:

- . on the leaves (foliar application)
- . on the ground (soil application)
- . by aircraft (aerial application)
- . to the stem and bark of the plant (basal barking)
- . to the stump immediately after cutting (cut stump)

Herbicides must be treated with great care due to the possible impact on non target vegetation, many are toxic to the user and the great cost of chemical i.e. Access costs \$600 a 10 litre container which when mixed with diesel at a rate of 4:1 can cost \$1250 for a 400 litre mix, the chemical has to be applied so then labour costs also come into the equation. So it is essential that chemical is applied at the right time in the plants growing cycle, at the right coverage and application rate.

Mechanical Control

Slashers, cutter-bars, stick rakes and blade or disk ploughs can be used to destroy rubber vine mechanically.

Timing is important – June to September is best, when dry conditions minimize reshooting.

Conclusion

There are many different ways of controlling rubber vine. As no single method is suitable for all situations, planning is the key to identifying the most efficient and economical way to achieve the desired outcome. Most land managers use a combination of methods. Together with diligent monitoring and follow-up, these have achieved the best results.

Rangers Review Continued-

Morning Glory Park Development

Lawns are looking good and help make the town look cool, neat and tidy. 3 current park flood lights have been upgraded to watchman lights and have dramatically improved night lighting around the toilet block and Morning Glory park shelter. There are 3 new watchman lights to be installed to illuminate the BBQ, adjacent play area and beside the Pond water feature. These are being installed by Ergon energy.

Work arranged to be completed

- Mural on Park toilet block exterior walls designed and painted by Burketown school children, materials have arrived and the project is ready to proceed
- Pond water feature is waiting for a protective safety mesh covering to be installed before it can be commissioned for public use.
- Designing/ planning/tendering etc is currently being undertaken on the kids park water feature.

SENIORS' WEEK 2006

Seniors' Week is annual event. The Burke Shire Council takes time out to acknowledge and celebrate with the senior members of our community. Council celebrated Seniors' Week this year by organising a few activities for our senior citizens. The first activity was a bus tour around some of Council's facilities. This was followed by a morning tea at the new pond feature in Morning Glory Park. The senior members of the community were also invited to have morning tea with the Councillors at their meeting on 21 September - this was well attended and gave the seniors a chance to informally chat to the Councillors.



The senior citizens who attended the bus tour at the Morning Glory pond feature.



TENNIS

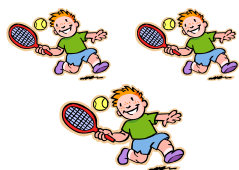


The Gregory tennis finals were played on the evening of Friday 8 September between Chris Daniels/Megan Munchenberg & John Clarke/Pam Allsop. It was a well contested match with plenty of support from the crowd at the BBQ on the sidelines. John & Pam won the match in 2 sets and will now play the winners of the Burketown tournament Damien Forsyth & Jackie Yanner for the Shield (Jackie replaces Caroline Strathdee who is no longer in our Shire and couldn't make it back to play in the finals).

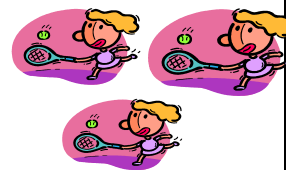
This match for the shield will be held at Gregory at 6:30pm on Sunday 22 October 2006, following which there will be free BBQ & shield presentation.



Chris Megan Pam John



JUNIOR TENNIS



Cheryl Portch is coaching junior tennis at the Burketown tennis courts every Tuesday from 5:00pm till 6:30pm. All school age children are welcome to attend. The aim of this course to teach the children the basic skills to enable them to participate in tennis and maybe a junior tournament. Fundraising is also in progress to raise enough money to give every participant who acquires the necessary skills a tennis racquet of their own to keep.

If anyone is interested in helping with coaching please contact Cheryl Portch on Ph:4745 5271 (after hours).

ARTS & CRAFT SHOW

The Burke Shire Arts & Craft Show was held on 12 August 2006 and was considered a great success. It has Council's endorsement and support to make this an annual event.

Anyone interested in joining the Committee to organise next years Arts & Craft Show will be most welcome - keep a look out in the new year for notices advertising future meetings.

There were a wide variety of categories with a total of 728 items displayed with 120 people entering their articles in the Show. Various community groups raised monies by holding their own stalls - these included VMR; SOTA; ICPA & CWA. An auction of donated exhibits was also held and the \$1100 in proceeds raised was split evenly between RFDS & SOTA.

The following people were the Grand Champion of their category and were each awarded a trophy & ribbon:-

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Cooking | Faye Jones |
| • Decorated Bike | Coby Marshall |
| • Indigenous Crafts & Artifacts | Pam de Joux |
| • Horticulture | Russell Cunningham |
| • Jewellery, Beading & Leatherwork | Lynn Battle |
| • Woodwork & Metalwork | Frank Thomas |
| • Needlework | Annie Clarke |
| • Painting & Drawing | Nola Crosbie |
| • Papercraft | Jennifer Hetherington |
| • Poetry | Bill Crosbie |
| • Pottery & Ceramics | Carrol Cunningham |
| • Photography | Benique Howes |
| • School Projects | Yarren Butcher |



Peter Willcocks with the "Peoples Choice Award" & winning Sculpture



VMR REPORT

VMR Burketown recently purchased a 'new' secondhand 4WD tractor off VMR Bundaberg. The new tractor will enable the VMR crew to launch and retrieve the Firefly II with greater ease and safety. Fundraising activities will be carried out to cover the purchase of the tractor, including our recently held Oktoberfest which was enjoyed by all. Thanks must be extended to the Council, VMR crew and those who attended for making the night a success.

Council Meeting Minutes

Council meeting minutes are produced within 10 days following each Council meeting and are available free of charge to all ratepayers and residents. If you are not on the mailing or emailing list for the minutes and want to be, please contact the Council office and let us know. They are also posted to our website:- www.burkeshirecouncil.com

Library News

New books will be arriving next Month. Library opening hours are weekdays from 8:00am till 4:00pm. Internet access available at \$1.10 for 20 minutes.



2006/07 DOG REGISTRATIONS

are now due

Only \$2.20 per dog.

Registration forms are available at the Council Office.



RECYCLE YOUR OLD MOBILE PHONES

Burke Shire Council, as part of our Waste Management Plan, will now accept all obsolete mobile phones for recycling. For more information contact the Council office.

You can also RECYCLE OLD PRINTER CARTRIDGES

by putting them in the box provided at Burketown Post Office



TIDE TIME CHARTS

**ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE
COUNCIL OFFICE OR CAN BE
ACCESSED ON THE DPI FISHERIES WEBSITE**



QLD RECREATIONAL FISHING RULES & REGULATIONS GUIDE

is available at the Council Office and the Tourist Information Centre.

For more information on this guide please contact Caroline Dalton Ph 3225 1038 or email: Caroline.Dalton@dpi.qld.gov.au



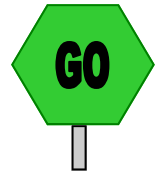
TV TIMES

Rainfall in Burketown for
Aug - nil
Sept - 31.6mm

*A copy of the TV Times is available to be picked up from the Council office every Friday after 10.00am.
Also available on website - www.ourguide.com.au*



COUNCIL NEWS & ACTIVITIES



CURRENT MAJOR WORKS

Construction of Gregory Water Supply
Upgrading & sealing of Gregory Airport
New access road for the Gregory Airport
Seniors Housing Development
Repair slab on Leichhardt Crossing
Flood damage repairs Doomadgee West Road
Burketown Water Treatment Plant - Complete upgrade works
Burketown Sewerage Treatment Plant - Complete upgrade works
Shade structure over the Burketown Multipurpose Courts

FUTURE MAJOR WORKS

Gregory - Lawn Hill Road - upgrade and seal some sections
Wills Developmental Road upgrading [Main Roads are planning 20 kms of gravel (between Running Creek and Brookdale) and then seal in 2006/07]
Introduction of a Waste Management Plan, including recycling
Repair of China Wall Culvert

WORKS IN PLANNING STAGE

New Albert River Bridge
Barramundi Fingerling Growout Facility
Albert River Boat Ramp & Pontoon
Swimming pool facility for Burketown
Kids water play feature for Burketown

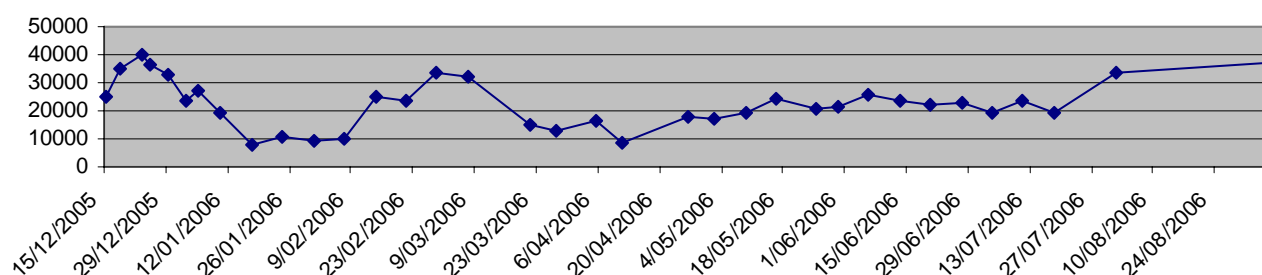
PLANT & EQUIPMENT—PENDING DELIVERY

New Rubbish Truck

GREGORY WATER CONSUMPTION

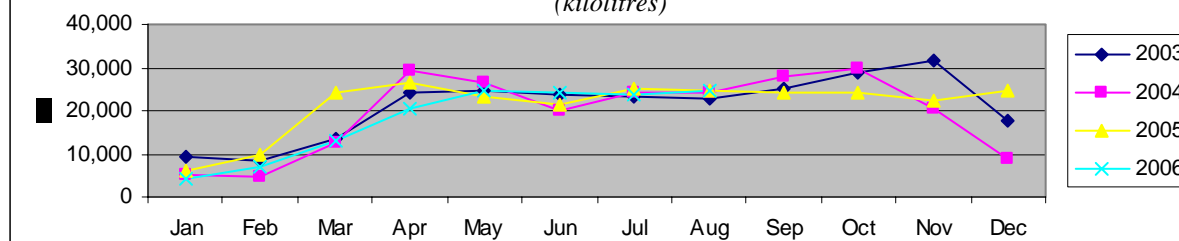
Date	Daily Consumption	Meter Reading
	<i>litres</i>	<i>litres</i>
02-May-06	17,472	2,892,439
09-May-06	18,970	3,025,228
16-May-06	23,987	3,193,138
25-May-06	20,427	3,376,982
30-May-06	21,119	3,482,576
06-Jun-06	25,980	3,664,434
13-Jun-06	23,719	3,830,469
20-Jun-06	21,866	3,983,533
27-Jun-06	22,956	4,144,225
04-Jul-06	19,426	4,280,207
11-Jul-06	23,487	4,444,615
18-Jul-06	19,361	4,580,139
1-Aug-06	33,722	5,052,241
5-Sep-06	36,998	6,347,182
Total Consumption		6,307,291
Average Daily Consumption		23,360

GREGORY
DAILY WATER CONSUMPTION
(litres)



BURKETOWN WATER CONSUMPTION

(kilolitres)



BURKETOWN WATER CONSUMPTION (kilolitres)

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
2003	9,319	8,173	13,696	24,222	24,614	23,518	23,092	22,661	24,888	28,854	31,575	17,894	252,506
2004	5,007	4,700	12,470	29,295	26,660	20,017	23,989	24,081	27,720	29,942	20,591	8,669	233,141
2005	5,923	9,569	24,149	26,580	23,482	21,419	25,317	24,683	24,143	24,295	22,554	24,655	256,769
2006	4,283	6,876	12,879	20,685	24,684	24,267	23,567	24,500					141,741

"Step Into Life"

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO IMPROVE YOUR
FITNESS & HEALTH ?**



How about signing up for the

10,000 Steps Community Challenge.



10,000 Steps is a non-profit health promotion which aims to increase physical activity throughout the state and nation.

For more information please contact Cheryl Portch
after business hours on

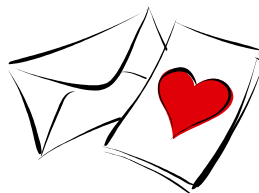
Ph: 47455271 or mobile no. 0428 578442

Burke Shire RADF

PAPERCRAFT WORKSHOP

Due to stock not arriving in time the papercraft workshop has been postponed until Saturday 21 & Sunday 22 October. A Cardmaking/Stamping workshop will be held at Burketown Shire Hall on 2006 from 8am - 4:30pm each day. The workshop will cover basic cardmaking technics showing participants how to make simple but very effective cards for all occasions from birthdays to babies to Christmas.

Through RADF funding participants will be supplied with a basic papercraft toolkit and all materials will be supplied. Participants will need to supply their own lunch. For those who wish to undertake the workshop but are unable to attend on the weekend, four evening workshops will be held also on dates yet to be finalised. If you are interested in participating in this workshop please call Karen on 47455093 to reserve your place. Places are limited to 20 participants so be quick to register.





Gregory Grapevine

RFDS Clinic Gregory

- October - Thursday 19th
- November Clinic - Thursday 16th
- December Clinic - Thursday 14th

Allied Health Gregory

Next visit due on Friday 13 October

Gregory School

- School resumes Monday 9 October 8:30am to 2:30pm.
- Pupil Free Day Monday 23 October.
- Active After School Sports Programme will commence the 2nd week of school in Term 4. It will be run every Wednesday from 2:30pm to 4:00pm. Students will receive a small healthy snack and will participate in activities run by the Gregory Teacher (Rebecca), parents and community members. Activities will include lots of dance, music games, karaoke and fishing.
- School breaks up on Friday 8 December 2006 for Christmas Holidays.

CWA - Gregory Branch

- *How Many Grids To Gregory* cookbooks are available for sale - \$8 each or for local Burke Shire residents and businesses discount of 20 books for \$120 (a saving of \$2 per book) - contact either Sue Clarke (ph: 4748 5575) or Tess Arnold (ph: 4748 5584)
- CWA Children's Christmas Tree to be held at the Gregory Hall followed by swimming down at the river — date to be advised.

Gregory Hall

The kitchen renovation will commence at the Gregory Hall in late October. The Gregory District Sporting Association Inc received a Gaming Fund Grant, and with funding from the Burke Shire Council, Gregory QCWA and Gregory Jockey Club we all hope the kitchen will be up and running for our Christmas Tree.

Gregory “No Talent” Contest

Later in the year a *NO Talent Singing/Karaoke* night will be held - any funds raised will be donated to charity. Keep your eyes peeled for the dates.

North West Queensland Primary Health Care



Foot Doctor (Derek Condon)

Dietitian (Katrina Carey)

Physiotherapist (Martha Crombie)

Primary Health Nurse (Sheila Simpkins)

Indigenous Health Worker (Glenda Booth, Burketown)

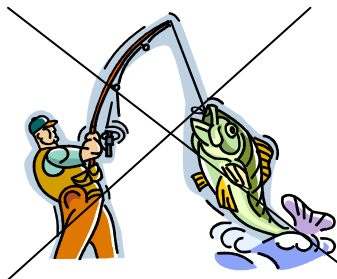
Will be visiting Gregory on Friday 13 October

Come and see us at the

- Hotel Dining Hall / RFDS clinic between
- approx 10.30 - 1:30 - no appointment needed
- Gregory Station (Planet Downs) between approx 2 - 4pm

Call 1800 22 11 31

**Appointments in your community are
FREE.**



**BARRAMUNDI SEASON
IS NOW
CLOSED**

From 30 September 2006

Reopens 26 January 2007

RESULTS OF THE GREGORY SPORTS DAY HELD 24/9/2006

<u>Event</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>3rd</u>
1	6 & Under Barrel	J CROMBIE	J HILL	M BRADY
2	7-9 yrs Barrel	L CROMBIE	A BRADY	N FORSHAW
3	10-13 yrs Barrel	H BOOTH	B FORSHAW	P CROMBIE
4	Ladies Barrel	S BOOTH	W BRADY	K ENNIS
5	Gents Barrel	J BOOTH	A WEBBER	C TUCKER
6	6 & Under Flag	J HILL	M BRADY	M HETHERINGTON
7	7 - 9 yrs Flag	C CROMBIE	A BRADY	N FORSHAW
8	10-13 yrs Flag	H BOOTH	B FORSHAW	A MILTON
9	Ladies Flag	S BOOTH	W BRADY	H CLARKE
10	Gents Flag	M CROMBIE	L CLARKE	A WEBBER
11	6 & Under Bending	J HILL	J CROMBIE	M BRADY
12	7-9 Bending	N FORSHAW	L CROMBIE	A BRADY
13	10-13 Bending	P CROMBIE	A HETHERINGTON	B CLARKE
14	Ladies Bending	A WEBBER	H. CLARKE	A W / W BRADY
15	Gents Bending	A WEBBER	L CLARKE	M CROMBIE
16	6 & Under Figure of 8	J HILL	M BRADY	M HETHERINGTON
17	7-9 Figure of 8	L CROMBIE	C CROMBIE	N FORSHAW
18	10-13 Figure of 8	H BOOTH	P CROMBIE	J CLARKE
19	Ladies Figure of 8	H CLARKE	E WEBBER	MARTHA / W BRADY
20	Gents Figure of 8	J BOOTH	M PATTISON	C TUCKER
21	6 & Under Musical Chairs	J HILL	L WEBBER	M BRADY
22	7-9 Musical Chairs	C CROMBIE	A CAMP	L CROMBIE
23	10-13 Musical Chairs	B CLARKE	P CROMBIE	N CAMP
24	Under 14 Boots & Hat Race	H BOOTH	P CROMBIE	C CROMBIE
25	Open Guzzlers Race	M PATTISON	B COLES	E CAMP
26	Open Gretna Green	S BOOTH	H WEBSTER	M MUNCHINBERRY
		J BOOTH	C WYTHES	GEORGE HURST
27	Open Billy Can Race	J BOOTH	E COLES	B COLES

<u>Event</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>3rd</u>
1T	10-13 years Sack Race	H BOOTH	J SCHAFER	B CLARKE
2T	7-9 years Sack Race	L CROMBIE	C CROMBIE	C KUNDE
3T	6 & Under Sack Race	J CROMBIE	M BRADY	Z CAMP
4T	Gents Hop, Step & Jump	C WYTHES	H WEBSTER	W McALPINE
5T	Ladies Hop, Step & Jump	H CLARKE	H CLARKE	E TURNER
6T	Adult/ Child 3 Legged Race	J BOOTH	M CROMBIE	B WEBBER
		H BOOTH	L CROMBIE	S WEBBER
7T	6 & Under Foot Race	J CROMBIE	M BRADY	Z CAMP
8T	7 - 9 years Foot Race	C KUNDE	C CROMBIE	P HETHERINGTON
9T	10 - 13 years Foot Race	J SCHAFER	S WEBBER	H BOOTH
10T	Gents 100 yard Foot Race	J BOOTH	C WYTHES	PJ WEBBER
11T	Ladies 75 yard Foot Race	S DODD	H CLARKE	E TURNER
12T	10 - 13 years Brush Throw	S WEBBER	H BOOTH	J SCHAFER
13T	Under 10 Brush Throw	C CROMBIE	C KUNDE	A BRADY
14T	Ladies Broom Throw	T FORSHAW	H CLARKE	H CLARKE
15T	Gents Broom Throw	J CLARKE	T SCHAFER	L CLARKE
16T	Open Stepping the Distance	KYLIE CAMP		