



BURKE SHIRE COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

Edition 7 - December 2006 / January 2007
(Issued on 1 December 2006)

Welcome to our final edition of 2006. You will find lots of important public notices in this edition pertaining to the next few months so please take the time to read them so you can be informed of what is happening around you.

Thank you to those who have contributed to this newsletter and I am looking forward to your contributions in 2007.

I wish you all a very safe and Happy Christmas.

Cheryl Portch

Key Council Dates

Ordinary Meeting of Council (December)	14 December 2006
Ordinary Meeting of Council (January)	18 January 2007
Deadline for contributions to next newsletter	24 January 2007
Council's Annual Breakup	15 December 2007
Council's Return to work	2 January 2007
Australia Day	26 January 2007

CURRENT PUBLIC NOTICES

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

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



RANGER'S REVIEW



Distinguishing between the 'prickle bushes'

As we the Burke Shire have been cursed by having the four main prickly bushes established in our area it is advantageous to be able to distinguish the difference between "the prickly bushes".

Mesquite is often confused with other prickly bushes such as prickly acacia, parkinsonia and mimosa bush. These prickly bushes, are also Weeds of National Significance and are to be eradicated at every opportunity.

It is possible to tell the difference between prickly bushes by the appearance of the flowers and pods.

However, if neither of these is available, they can be distinguished by their bark colour and, in some cases, their leaves. As this can be difficult, a local weeds officer should be consulted.

Feature	Mesquite	Mimosa Bush	Parkinsonia	Prickly Acacia
Seed Pod Size	Up to 20 cm long, very slight constrictions between seeds	Up to 6cm long, cigar shaped	Up to 10cm long, straight long thin constrictions between seeds	Up to 23cm long, large constrictions between seeds
Seed Pod Shape	Straight or slightly curved	Slightly curved		
Pod Colour	Straw coloured sometimes purple	Brown to Black	Straw coloured	Grey-green
Pod Hair	No hairs	No hairs	No hairs	Fine hairs
Flowers	Greenish cream-yellow lambs tail cylindrical flower spike, 5-8cm long	Golden yellow, ball shaped. 1 cm across with an orange spot	Four all yellow petals and one erect petal either orange or yellow	Golden yellow, ball shaped. 1cm across
Leaves	Fern like, paired (1-4 pairs, often with a gap between leaves)	Fern like paired (2-4 pairs with a gap between leaves)	Narrow, flat paired (1-3) pairs green leaf stalks with small green oblong leaflets)	Fern like paired (4-10 pairs, often overlapping)
Bark	<i>Young:</i> Smooth dark red/ green <i>Mature:</i> Rough grey	Grey with prominent white spots	Smooth and green, straw coloured at base of older trees	<i>Young:</i> Tinge of orange and/or green <i>Mature:</i> Dark, rough
Branch Shape	Zigzagged	Zigzagged	Slightly Zigzagged	More or less straight
Tree Shape & Size	Variable	Rounded shrub to 3m, usually multi stemmed	Shrub or small tree to 5m, single or multi stemmed	Spreading tree to 10m usually single stemmed

Mosquito season is here again!

Protect yourself against Mosquitoes!!!

- Avoid being outdoors just before sunset and dawn
- Wear loose fitting light coloured clothing with long sleeves, long trousers
- Use insect repellent when outdoors and reapply regularly (repellents containing DEET are the most effective)
- Make sure fly screens on windows and doors are in good order
- If camping sleep under a mosquito net

It is expected that mosquito fogging will commence over the next few weeks.

In addition to this fogging, there are a number of actions that can be taken by residents to prevent mosquitoes from breeding and cooperation in attending to these is requested. These include:-

- Mosquitoes need water to breed – get rid of surplus water and you may eliminate the problem;
- Animal water dishes emptied and cleaned regularly;
- Drain saucers under pot plants – have sand in them or do away with saucers during the wet;
- Store old tyres so they can't hold water;
- Keep roof guttering in good repair and clear of leaves;
- If there is a water tank, make sure it is securely screened with a fine good quality gauze;
- If there is a fish pond, make sure it is well stocked, preferably with native fish;
- If there is a bird bath, make sure it is drained and cleaned at least once a week

Ranger's Review Continued-

Morning Glory Park Development

- All park irrigation and fertilizing systems are working well with lawns looking good and helping make the town look cool, neat and tidy. Some tree planting required finishing off the horticulture part of the park project.
- Park flood lights have been upgraded to watchman lights and 3 new ones have been installed. These have dramatically improved night lighting around the park and pond water feature allowing the areas to be used for activities during the cool of the evening (new lights have yet to have shrouds placed around the sides of the bulb to stop them being a nuisance to nearby residences (these have been ordered by Ergon).
- Pond water feature is now complete and is a nice quiet area for residents to sit and relax. It is good to see the BBQ area being well utilized by residents.

Work arranged to be completed

- Mural on Park toilet block exterior walls designed and painted by Burketown school children looks good with positive comments being received; further murals should be completed by students before school breaks up and we loose Rebecca our artistic teacher.
- Designing/ planning/tendering etc is currently being undertaken on the kids water feature this will enhance the park for use by Burketown children.

PRE-CYCLONE SEASON CLEANUP

Cyclone awareness is the responsibility of everybody in the community. To assist the residents in making Burketown and Gregory safer in the event of a cyclone during the upcoming wet season, Council will be undertaking a pre-cyclone season cleanup as follows:-

**Tuesday 5 December 2006 in Burketown; &
Thursday 7 December 2006 in Gregory**

Items that can be safely lifted by hand by two people should be left on the edge of the road reserve at the front of your property by 7:00am on Tuesday 5 December 2006 (for Burketown residents) and by 7:00am Thursday 7 December 2006 (for Gregory residents).

Should you have any larger items that are too heavy to be safely lifted, such as fridges and old car bodies, please contact Allan Cox at the Council Depot before 3:30pm Friday 1 December 2006 and let them know the details of the items. This will enable alternative collection arrangements to be made.

Please note Council will be limited in what can be collected.

Council's free pre-cyclone cleanup is your chance to get rid of bulky items and reduce the risk to yourself, your family and other community members of flying debris in the event of a cyclone. All residents are therefore encouraged to participate and use this opportunity to cleanup junk that may be lying around.

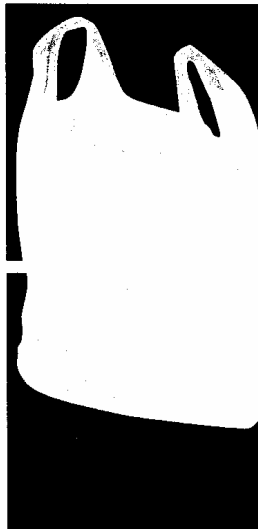
CONGRATULATIONS TO US!

Keep 
Australia
Beautiful

Plastic Bag

Reduction Awards

 **VEOLIA**
ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES



QLD State Winner

Government Category

Burke Shire Council

For

Reduction in
Plastic Bag Usage
Within Burke Shire

2006

PUBLIC NOTICE

CYCLONE SEASON – “BE PREPARED”

The following is provided on behalf of the Burke Shire Local Disaster Management Group for Burketown residents' information and action during the upcoming cyclone season:-

LISTEN TO YOUR RADIO (OR TV IF AVAILABLE) FOR CYCLONE UPDATES OR RING THE COUNCIL OFFICE ON 4745 5100. PLEASE NOTE THAT A WAILING SIREN BROADCAST ON YOUR RADIO OR TELEVISION MEANS THAT AN URGENT SAFETY MESSAGE IS ABOUT TO BE MADE

IN THE EVENT THAT IT IS DECIDED TO EVACUATE RESIDENTS TO CENTRALISED LOCATIONS THE FOLLOWING WILL APPLY:-

THE FIRE TRUCK WILL SOUND IT'S SIREN THROUGH THE STREETS TO INDICATE THAT IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT ALL RESIDENTS SHOULD MAKE THEIR WAY TO THE FOLLOWING CENTRAL AREAS (IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE TO DO THIS PLEASE CONTACT THE COUNCIL OFFICE).

THESE LOCATIONS ARE THE COUNCIL BUILDING, SCHOOL TOILET BLOCK AND THE POLICE “LOCK UP” (IF YOU ARE ON MEDICATION PLEASE GO TO THE COUNCIL OFFICE AS THE HEALTH PERSONNEL AND AMBULANCE WILL BE BASED THERE). DOGS ARE ALLOWED AT THESE AREAS BUT THEY MUST BE ON A CHAIN.

EACH CENTRE WILL HAVE A SUPERVISOR - PLEASE REPORT TO THEM ON ARRIVAL.

PLEASE BRING AN EMERGENCY KIT – IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THIS CONSIST OF A CHANGE OF CLOTHES, SOME TUCKER (DON'T FORGET BABY FOOD, MILK & DISPOSABLE NAPPIES IF NEEDED), TORCH, BLANKET & ANY TABLETS OR MEDICINE YOU MAY NEED.

BEFORE LEAVING YOUR HOUSE PLEASE TURN OFF POWER AND GAS.

EACH LOCATION WILL BE EQUIPPED WITH COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT AND BASIC SUPPLIES, INCLUDING DRINKING WATER.



Carols by Candlelight

at the Shire Hall, Burketown

Sunday Night 17 December 2006

Starting at 7:30pm

All Welcome

(Remember to bring a candle in a bottle)



HELP CUSTOMS PROTECT AUSTRALIA'S BORDERS

Patrolling Australia's borders

Customs protects all 37,000 kilometres of Australia's border through the strategic use of intelligence, surveillance and response capabilities.

Using a fleet of patrol boats and surveillance aircraft Customs is responsible for patrolling the Australian coastline as well as the coastal and maritime area, almost four million square nautical miles.

With an area so large, Customs cannot be everywhere and relies on the Australian community to be its eyes and ears on a daily basis. Whether you are a local or travelling through an area, you know what looks or sounds suspicious and you should report it to the free call Customs Hotline, 1800 06 1800.

Customs wants to remind everyone that illegal activity can take place at any time of the year and people should be alert to any suspicious border activity.

The Customs Hotline program encourages members of the community to be alert to unusual behaviour and to help Customs prevent potential illegal activity taking place.

Far North Queensland is a haven for fishing and boating and it offers plenty of access to remote areas. While being the only person in an area can offer private beaches or campsites or ensure you the best catch of the day, it is important to remember that remote and isolated areas can also be an attraction to people involved in illegal activity. Remote locations may provide hiding spots for people to store or transport drugs, wildlife or other prohibited items.

Customs relies on the help of the wider community to identify illegal activities at the border, particularly in regional Australia. Customs officers in regional locations also provide a vital link in the detection and deterrence of illegal activities by gathering information from members of the communities in which they operate.

Communities, landholders and travellers in remote and regional areas are encouraged to be alert to suspicious border activities and report to the Customs Hotline.

How you can help

You too can help protect Australia's borders. You know your local area and you know what looks or sounds suspicious on land, at sea, or in the air.

Report any suspicious border activities to the Customs Hotline 24 hours a day on 1800 06 1800. Your information could be the small piece of information that leads to another successful Customs operation.

What you can do

Report any unlawful, unusual or suspicious border activities.

Don't get involved – simply report what you see or hear.

Don't disturb or remove anything as this could destroy vital evidence.

Act immediately. Your prompt action could make a difference.

What to tell Customs

The time, date and place of the incident.

What you saw or heard.

A description of the people and the transport involved (eg planes, boats, trucks).

Registration numbers or call signs you saw or heard.

How your information could help

While out and about on the land, you might see:

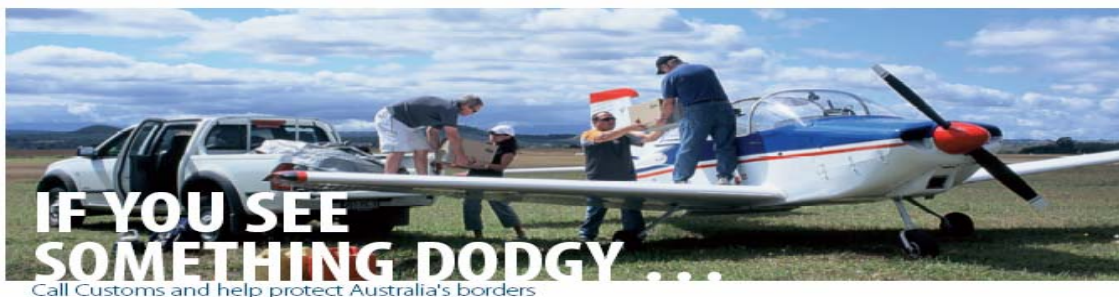
- light aircraft operating in unusual places, light aircraft landing or taking off at night and newly constructed airstrips
- unusual aircraft movements.
- aircraft loading or unloading goods in unusual locations.
- unusual activity on beaches or in remote areas
- vehicles on roads and tracks not usually used
- unexplained lights or signalling devices
- hidden camp-sites or fuel dumps; or evidence of interference with flora and fauna.

While out on your boat you might see:

- possible unauthorised landings by foreign vessels.
- merchant ships at anchor unusually close to land, islands or other vessels.
- vessels outside the normal shipping lanes.
- ships signalling or being met by small craft.
- yachts and pleasure craft in remote or unusual areas.
- anyone making landings in remote areas.
- unusual objects at sea or ashore (eg buoys, rubbish, signaling devices)
- Salvage operations on shipwrecks

Any of these could be a sign that someone is trafficking drugs, weapons, flora, fauna, or other prohibited items. Your information can help Customs.

As you enjoy living, and travelling, in Far North Queensland remember to be alert to any activity which appears unusual or suspicious and report it to the Customs Hotline, 1800 06 1800.



Report suspicious border activities to the

CUSTOMS hotline
1800 06 1800

Helping Customs protect our borders is as simple as being aware of your surroundings. You know your local area and you know what looks or sounds suspicious on land, at sea, or in the air.

Use your instincts and if something seems suspicious, report it immediately. Don't get involved or disturb or remove anything as this could disturb vital evidence.

What to tell Customs

You will need to provide Customs with as much information as possible. Be sure to record the date, time and place of the incident, what you saw or heard and a description of the people and transport involved.

2007 Australia Day Awards

Call for Nominations

Council invites interested persons and organisations to submit nominations for the 2007 Australia Day Awards (Local Government Section). Expressions of interest are also being sought from individuals to represent the community on the awards judging panel, which will reflect the various interests and constituencies of the community.

The three award categories for this year are: *Citizen of the Year*; *Young Citizen of the Year*; and *Junior Sports Award*. The awards are part of a family of awards coordinated through the National Australia Day Council.

The *Citizen of the Year* awards are presented to individuals whom have made a noteworthy contribution to the community during the current year and/or given outstanding service to the local community over a number of years. Whilst the awards recognise outstanding personal achievement they also celebrate the remarkable contributions individuals are making to their community.

The *Junior Sports Award* is presented to an individual who has made a noteworthy record of achievement in sport or has made a significant contribution to sport as a coach, official or administrator.

Award nomination forms may be obtained from the Burke Shire Office, Musgrave Street, Burketown:- telephone (07) 4745 5100, facsimile (07) 4745 5181 or e-mail:- burkesc@bigpond.com. Nominations marked "2006 Australia Day Nomination" must be received at the Burke Shire Office by 4:00pm Monday 8 January 2007. Nominations can be hand delivered, mailed, faxed or e-mailed.

For those members of the community that may be interested in judging the awards, please provide an expression of interest by 8 December 2006.

Weather permitting the awards will be presented at the Council's Australia Day BBQ which will be held at the Shire Hall in Burketown on 26 January 2007. In the event of inclement weather the presentations will be incorporated with Council's Anzac Day function on 25 April 2007.



AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS 2007 PRESENTATION FUNCTION



The presentation of the Burke Shire 2007 Australia Day Awards - Local Government Section will be held on Friday 26 January 2007 at the Shire Hall, Burketown.

The day will commence around 11:00am with activities for children & adults, the presentation will commence at 12:00noon and will be followed by a BBQ luncheon provided by the Burke Shire Council. A bar will be provided from 11:00am to 4:00pm.

All members of the public are cordially invited to attend.

Burke Shire Home & Community Care Program
(HACC) News



The Burke Shire HACC Clients went on a scenic trip to Hells Gate Roadhouse where we had lunch. We have also been busy baking Christmas cakes in our new oven. Nellie Chong, one of our clients, has moved away from our Shire to live with her daughter in Mossman. She will be missed by all our HACC clients and we wish her well. The HACC program will be having their Christmas break-up luncheon on 8 December at the old church for all the HACC clients and their invited guests.

HACC will close for the Christmas period for 2 weeks from the 15/12/2006 to 2/1/2007. Our HACC centrebased day care activities which we hold on Tuesday's and Friday's will recommence on 5 January 2007.

We wish you all a Merry & Safe Christmas.

Mandy Douglas

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 book arrivals!

We now have some new sports equipment!
Come in and have a look!



Memberships for the library is free, come join today
Library Hours – 8:00am to 4:00pm weekdays



Don't forget, if you live on a rural property you can fax or email through an order to be ready for your collection

If there are any books which you would like to order in, bring in a list and I will do my best to get them.

See you in the Library - Jenny Williams

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

TV TIMES

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

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: Caline.Dalton@dpi.qld.gov.au

TIDE TIME CHARTS

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



COUNCIL WORKS RELATED NEWS & ACTIVITIES



CURRENT MAJOR WORKS

Construction of Gregory Water Supply - all mains, intake & treatment plant completed. Connections & technical aspects of plant currently being done

Upgrading & sealing of Gregory Airport - bitumen works have been completed

Seniors Housing Development - undertaking electrical & plumbing works and completing verandahs, ramps & carports

Burketown Water Treatment Plant - Complete upgrade works, including desludging of the ponds

Burketown Sewerage Treatment Plant - Complete upgrade works associated with the Blivet unit

Wills Developmental Road upgrading (Main Roads/RoadTek currently working on gravel & then seal section between Running Creek & Barkly Creek)

FUTURE MAJOR WORKS & WORKS IN PLANNING STAGE

Gregory - Lawn Hill Road - upgrade and seal some sections

Introduction of a Waste Management Plan, including recycling

Permanent repair of China Wall Culvert on Truganni Road

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 Kubota F1900 ride on lawn mower



ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 2006 CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR SHUTDOWN



The Burke Shire Office and Works Depot will be closed for the Christmas/New Year period from Monday 18 December 2006 and reopen on Tuesday 2 January 2007. A "skeleton" crew will be working, and on call, through this period to ensure water, sewerage and airport services are maintained in Burketown and water and airport services are maintained in Gregory.

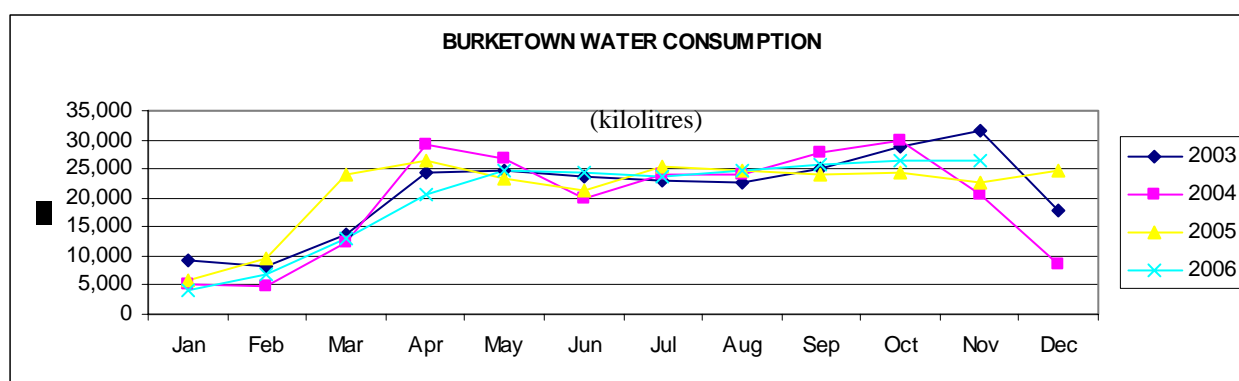
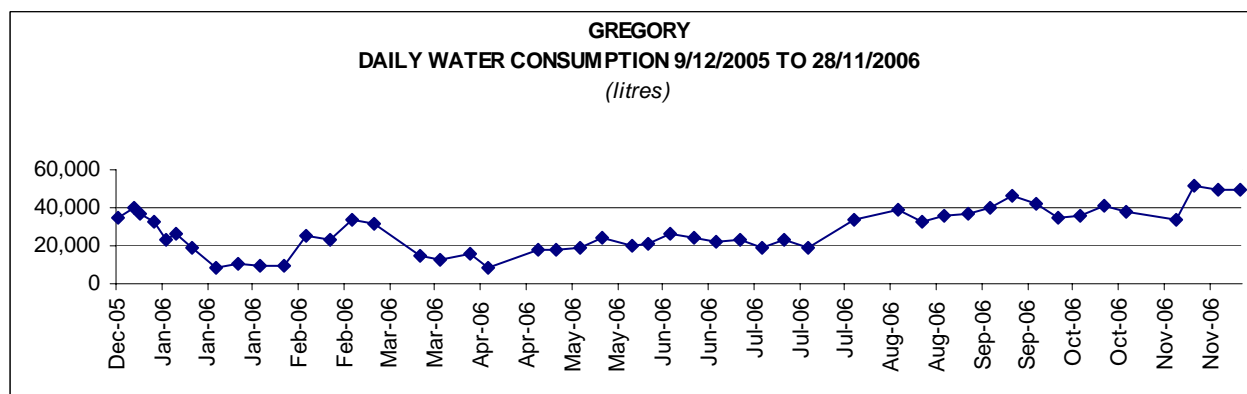
During the period that the Office and Works Depot will be closed, in the event of water, sewerage and/or airport associated emergencies in Burketown please contact Bob Marshall on (07) 4745 5153.

For other Council related matters, that are urgent in nature, please contact Craig Turnour on mobile 0439 945 709.

Garbage collection arrangements for Burketown residents over this period will continue as normal i.e. on Fridays (in this case Friday 22 & Friday 29 December 2006). As per usual practice residents are requested to place their garbage bins at the edge of the bitumen seal by 7:00am on the scheduled collection day.

GREGORY WATER CONSUMPTION

Date	Daily Consumption	Meter Reading
	<i>litres</i>	<i>litres</i>
22-Aug-06	32,732	5,832,645
29-Aug-06	35,576	6,081,675
5-Sep-06	36,998	6,347,182
12-Sep-06	39,695	6,625,048
19-Sep-06	46,038	6,947,312
26-Sep-06	42,309	7,235,668
3-Oct-06	34,781	7,479,132
10-Oct-06	35,358	7,726,639
17-Oct-06	40,706	8,011,583
24-Oct-06	38,343	8,279,981
8-Nov-06	33,893	8,788,373
14-Nov-06	51,079	9,094,847
21-Nov-06	48,992	9,437,789
28-Nov-06	49,041	9,781,079
Total Consumption		9,741,188
Average Daily Consumption		33,475



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	24,582	25,796	26,500	26,500		220,619

PUBLIC NOTICE

SCHEDULE OF ORDINARY MEETINGS FOR 2007

Pursuant to Section 464 (1) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the following is a schedule of dates for the Ordinary Meetings of the Burke Shire Council for the year 2007:-

Thursday 18 January 2007
Thursday 15 February 2007
Thursday 15 March 2007
Thursday 19 April 2007
Thursday 17 May 2007
Thursday 21 June 2007
Thursday 19 July 2007
Thursday 16 August 2007
Thursday 20 September 2007
Thursday 18 October 2007
Thursday 15 November 2007
Thursday 13 December 2007

All meetings are to be held in the Council Chamber in the Shire Office, Musgrave Street, Burketown, and are scheduled to commence at 9:00am.

ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATION “COMPETITION”

To instill the ANZAC “spirit” into local children Council has endorsed a project to liaise with a locality in New Zealand with the intention of sending a local child (and chaperone) to a town in New Zealand as our local “ANZAC Day ambassador” to participate in a ceremony over there. If this is successful then we may invite that New Zealand town to do a similar thing and send someone over to Burketown. The Queensland’s ANZAC Day Committee and the New Zealand Returned Servicemen’s Association are very supportive of this proposal.

To facilitate the children’s involvement Council suggested that this be done in conjunction with the local schools:- Burketown State School, Gregory Education Facility and the Burke Shire children in School of the Air. Each child would be encouraged to think about what ANZAC means to them and then submit an entry on this. Entries close on 1 December 2006, and will be sent to “Queenslands ANZAC Committee” to be judged. This allow us enough time to have the entries judged and for us to make the necessary travel arrangements for the winner and their chaperone.



VMR NEWS

The next zone meeting will be held in Karumba on the 9 & 10 December 2006. Any member interested in attending/crewing for this trip please contact Brett.

VMR is now the proud owner of a new Belarus 4WD tractor which has pride of place in the SES shed.

Police Beat

Sadly there has been another serious accident on our roads resulting in the death of a young man and serious injuries to three others. These accidents are avoidable and the death of a young man is a tragedy. My thoughts and condolences go to the Lorraine family. I have written in my articles before about safe driving practices. Although Burketown is a small community with little traffic, serious and fatal accidents have occurred. If you have had too much to drink or are tired please do not drive as your life and the life of others is far more important.

By now all kids from the Burketown and Gregory State schools as well as the school of the air and kindergarten have received their new bike helmet and bicycle license. It is pleasing to see that the kids are all wearing the helmets when they are riding their bikes. If there are any new kids to town, or any who have missed out, please give the station a call and I would be more than happy to supply helmets and a license.

Jim and I would like to give special thanks to the outlying stations and properties within Burketown who accommodated us in our recent tour of the area. Your hospitality and generosity were much appreciated. We plan to do another one after the wet has passed.

In recent times members from Liquor Licensing have visited Burketown and conducted an audit on the pub and other licensed premises within Burketown. It was noted that many people are consuming liquor in the covered area out the front door of the pub on the footpath. This area is not licensed and a \$75 fine may be issued. Having said that I am aware from experience that during the hot months, inside the pub gets very hot and the new smoking laws force people into outside areas to smoke. Please be mindful of this and consider using the beer garden at the rear of the pub.

By the time this article is printed Christmas will be a short distance away. For those of you travelling please drive safely and have a great break. This will be my second Christmas here and I have to say that in the past 13 months me and my family have thoroughly enjoyed our time in this fine community. Jim will be away over the Christmas period so I wish him well.

Heres wishing you and your families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Stay safe

Paul GRIFFITHS
Sergeant
OIC Burketown Police



TENNIS



Burke Shire Community Tennis Tournament perpetual shield was won by Gregory. John Clarke & Pam Daniell (representing Gregory) defeated Damien Forsyth-Stewart & Jacquie Yanner (representing Burketown) in 2 sets 6-4; 6-4. Thanks to all those that participated and a big thank you to Outback & Involved for providing the funding and Burke Shire Council for their inkind support. Commencement dates for 2007 Community Tennis Tournament will be published in February's Newsletter.



"Step Into Life"

WOULD YOU LIKE TO IMPROVE YOUR FITNESS & HEALTH ?

**Sign up to the
10,000 Steps Community Challenge
Starting 20 December 2006.**

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

To register your interest please contact Cheryl Portch by 10 December 2006
on

Ph: 47455271 or mobile no. 0428 578442



Festivals funding

Apply for funding for your arts project, and add an exciting new element to your regional or community festival.

Applications close 15 February 2007 for projects starting after 1 July 2007

Festivals Australia program

The Festivals Australia program funds arts projects at community festivals

Festivals Australia Regional Residencies

The Festivals Australia Regional Residencies funds artists-in-residence at festivals and community celebrations

www.dcita.gov.au/festivals_residencies

How do we apply?

Regional, community, and local government organisations can apply. Visit the websites for application forms and general information.

Contact a program officer to discuss your project:

Email: festivals.australia@dcita.gov.au
Phone: 1800 819 461 (freecall)
02 6271 1661
02 6271 1931

Post: Festivals Australia
Dep't Communications,
IT and the Arts
GPO Box 2154
Canberra ACT 2601



Burketown State School
Christmas Concert & Awards Night
Friday 1st December 2006

At the Burke Shire Hall
6:00pm start
All Welcome

Formal proceedings will commence at 6.30pm

P & C will be selling hotdogs and soft drinks between 6pm and 6.30pm (\$2.00 each)

For further details please contact Sharon Hawkey at Burketown State School

School News

The 2006 school year is drawing rapidly to an end. We have had a very busy and successful year at Burketown State School. The highlight for the years 3-7 students was their camp to Magnetic Island earlier this term. Students had a wonderful time and came back tired but happy!

Throughout the year many individuals have volunteered their time to assist the school in some way. I would like to sincerely thank the people in the community who get involved in the life of the school.

The student council ran many fundraising events throughout the year to assist them with their school camp to Magnetic Island. A sincere thank you to all the individuals and businesses who supported the fundraising and/or donated goods to the student council.

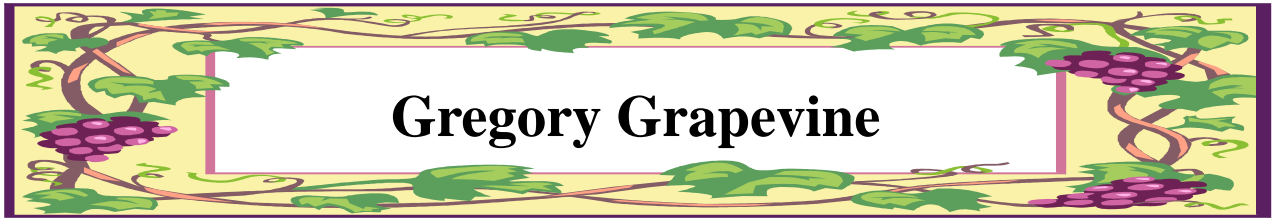
Next Friday evening (1 December 2006) we will be holding our annual Christmas concert and awards evening. This is an opportunity to celebrate the end of the year, thank our faithful helpers and acknowledge the academic successes that students have achieved throughout the year. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

At the end of this year Rebecca Thompson will be transferring back to Brisbane. Myself and Jacqueline Weller will be returning in 2007, along with a new teacher. Jacqueline will be teaching the year 3-7 class next year.

I hope everyone has a safe and happy Christmas break and I look forward to 2007 at Burketown State School.

Regards

Sharon Hawkey



Gregory Grapevine

RFDS Clinic Gregory

- December Clinic - Thursday 14th

Gregory School

- School breakup BBQ Wednesday 6 December 2006 at the School from 6pm. Adults \$5 p/h - kids free. The children will also do a performance and will be presenting their assignments and work. Everyone is welcome.

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)
- Christmas breakup was held on Sunday 26/11/06 at the Gregory Hall. Santa handed out presents to 40 primary age kids and under. The kids sang "Jingle Bells" to Santa followed by Col & Bev from Mt Isa Salvation Army singing Christmas Carols with the children.

Gregory Hall

The kitchen renovation at the Gregory Hall are nearly complete. The renovations have been able to be completed with funding from the Gaming Fund Grant, Burke Shire Council, Gregory District Sporting Association, Gregory QCWA, Gregory Jockey Club and lots of volunteer help and donations.



FIRE OFFICER



Hello one and all, it is that time of year now that the heat has arrived and all the grass around the country has 100 % cured which means it now holds no more moisture and with the holidays coming up it is a good idea to ready your properties if you are leaving during the break. Make sure all grass is cleared away from your fences or a good fire break has been put in around any assets on your land. You should also clear all guttering around your house and if you are away and there is a fire your local fire brigade can gain safe access to your property. Also when we go camping we all love to light a camp fire so when you are leaving please break the fire apart and put it out with water. Please do not cover the fire with dirt or leave it open to go out itself. 30% of children's burns come from camp fires not being put out properly, so with this let's protect our future and do the right thing. So with all this said please have a safe and Merry Christmas and we will see you all in the New Year.

Kevin Anderson
Fire Project Officer
Ph-47455132
Fax-47455204
Mobile-0427112073
Sat phone-0147141322



MOUNGIBI HOUSING CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD

5 BOWEN STREET
BURKETOWN QLD 4830

PHONE: (07)4745 5135

PO BOX 87

FAX : (07)4745 5299

BURKETOWN QLD 4830

EMAIL: moungibi@bigpond.com

ABN: 97 663 794 613

YARD MAINTENANCE

**Due to the shortage of staff we are unable to conduct any
Yard Maintenance**

i.e mowing of yards, pruning etc until further notice.

**We apologise for any inconvenience this
may cause you.**

Regards—Moungibi Housing 14/11/06

MOUNGIBI HOUSING OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM

18TH DEC TO 14TH JAN

**Centrelink will be open
10.00am to 12.00pm Weekdays
Except for Public Holidays**

If you wish to pay rent etc during the above closure , you can do so
between 10.00am to 12.00pm except for Public Holidays

If you have any queries please contact the
Moungibi Office before the 15th December.

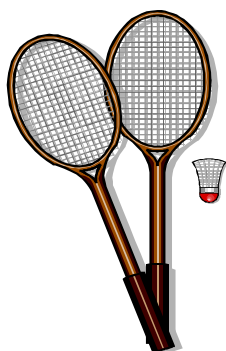




Vacation Care

LOCATED AT THE BURKETOWN SHIRE HALL

Games



BADMINTON

Craft

Lots of art and
craft activities
to enjoy. Lots
of painting!!



Sport

Come and see
Glenn and Steph
Contact:
GSR Inc
47451010

11 to 22 December

9 am to 5 pm

12.30 to 1.30 Closed
for lunch break

SOCCER



*Linda will be making
beaded crocodiles,
juggling clowns and
wooden frogs.*



TENNIS

