

Council Elections

Make your vote count...

Ballot packs have been mailed to eligible voters in the Mackay Regional Council area and residents are being reminded that voting is compulsory.

A 'postal only' election, each pack contains two ballot papers, one for the 33 councillor candidates and the other for the three mayoral candidates.

Voters are advised for the best way to ensure your vote is counted, complete the two forms like this:

> Mark a number '1' in the box next to the Mayoral candidate of your choice.

> Mark numbers 1-10 in the box next to the 10 councillor candidates of your choice.

The envelope also contains a declaration that must be filled out and signed by the voter. A witness aged 18 or over must also sign the declaration and include their name and address.

Ballot papers must be filled out and posted no later than 6pm on voting day, April 28.

A reply paid envelope is included and the Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ) requests that ballot papers be filled out and returned without delay. If you have not received your pack by end of next week, council suggests to contact the ECQ.



>> Voters in need of assistance can phone the ECQ helpline on 1300 881 655 or find more details at www.ecq.qld.gov.au.



Rebuilding our Roads – it's not an easy task!

Repairing our flood damaged roads is a mammoth task and not something that can be completed quickly.

As our crews and contractors continue to progress the major rebuilding program – this month council has agreed to an additional \$2 million be allocated to fund complementary work and road sealing work associated with the projects funded by the Natural Disaster Relief Recovery Arrangements.

A further \$1 million of council funds will be used to enhance our road sealing to protect our road assets and preserve the local road network.

Council shares motorist's frustrations about the standard of our roads, but with four successive wet weather events, it's been a challenge for our crews and contractors.



Project Snapshots in Bucasia

These two roads are among hundreds of roads that are receiving restoration works as part of the Rebuilding our Roads campaign.

• **Bucas Drive** has almost been completely restored with works valued just over \$140,000 almost finished.

• **Jenvey Court** has been allocated \$56,000 and work is at 50 per cent completion.

>> You can keep up-to-date on what roads are being addressed by visiting www.mackay.qld.gov.au/roads.

Adopt a Pound Pet and save a life today



Mackay Regional Council's Pound Pets are made available to the public when their owner cannot be found.

Health and Regulatory Services Acting Manager Debbie Adams said the animals that end up in the Pound have either been handed in, dumped or are found wandering the streets unregistered.

"If your pet is lost, a council registration tag will allow council to easily identify your pet and return it safely to you," she said.

"It's important that when looking at purchasing a pet that residents consider a number of factors to ensure they are going to be responsible pet owners."

Things such as:

> Find the type of animal that best suits your lifestyle and family situation.

> Desex your animals to avoid unwanted kittens and puppies.

> Remember that they are your responsibility so you need to be able and prepared to control your pet in regards to nuisance barking and wandering.

> Exercising your dog, walking them on a leash and picking up their litter.

Ms Adams said that a Pound Pets feature occurs each week in the Midweek Newspaper - so residents can continually keep an eye out for a pet that might suit their needs and requirements.

>> To view the full list of impounded animals visit council's website, www.mackay.qld.gov.au/poundpets.



Pound Pet #: 6682
Impounded: 13 April
Male, Maltese X, Cream



Pound Pet #: 2529
Impounded: 13 April
Female, Domestic Short Hair



Don't forget there are now four off-leash dog sites across the region. Council is trialling the sites to determine whether to make them permanent sites. The areas are: Camilleri Park, Town Beach, Campwin Beach and Bucasia Beach. Remember certain conditions and time restrictions apply.

Postcards help to celebrate M150

Three series of postcards have been developed in an effort to help residents celebrate Mackay's 150.

Mayor Col Meng said the postcards are a great way for residents to collect items that depict the past century and a half.

"Each series contains four different cards promoting a specific theme; be that either the people, places or stories significant to our region," he said.

"The postcards are a great way in letting friends and family who don't live in the region know that we are celebrating this momentous occasion by posting them a friendly hello on any of these photographic postcards."

Each set is \$2 – so for a very small sum of \$6 you can collect them all, either to use or just to keep as a collectables in order to remember this significant milestone in years to come.

>> They are available for purchase from any council facility or Customer Service Centre.



ANZAC Day services for the Mackay region...

Next week on Wednesday, April 25, ANZAC Day commemoration ceremonies will be held around the region to acknowledge and remember the service of our veterans and all Australians who have served and died in the wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations.

Mackay Regional Council wishes to inform residents of the following service times for Mackay City:

Dawn Service: 5am Main: 9.30am
Held at Jubilee Park
Cnr of Alfred and Wellington streets

Mayor Col Meng said he hoped that residents would take the time to attend their local ANZAC Day service next week.

"My fellow councillors will be attending many ceremonies across the region in order to pay their respects."

>> To view the full list of services, simply log onto council's website www.mackay.qld.gov.au or phone 1300 MACKAY (622 529) for further assistance.



Newsletter available for Migrants

Mackay Regional Council produces and prints an informative newsletter for Migrants who have settled in the Mackay region.

The publication is printed quarterly in the months of February, June, September and December. The easy to read newsletter includes a wide range of information on upcoming events, useful contacts and available services to name a few.

To receive the newsletter regularly residents simply need to contact council's Community Development team by phoning 4961 9596. The newsletter can be received either electronically to your inbox or in a printed hardcopy via the mail.

>> Alternatively, keep your eye out for the newsletter when visiting your local Customer Service Centre.

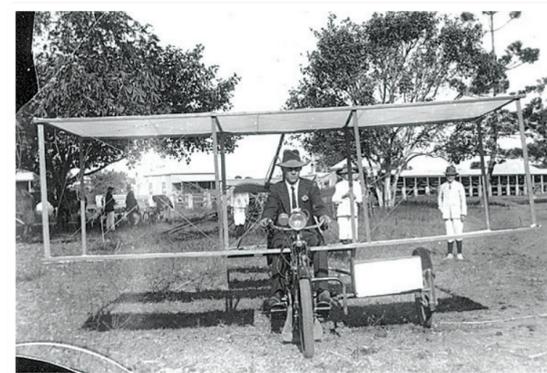
Did you know?

The Great Moscow Circus is coming to town. Opening night is Wednesday, May 2 which is also the Mayor's Charity Performance. All ticket sales from that night go to The Mackay Foundation.

The Circus will be situated at Mackay Showgrounds and to book your seat, call the MECC on 4961 9777 or visit mackaytix.com.au.



A snapshot of our history...



As Mackay is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year, Mackay Regional Council is promoting a monthly image from our Library Service's Heritage Collection at the Mackay City Library.

Image for April (pictured left) Mr. A.B. Milne with his box kite from which the first aerial view of Mackay was taken.

The kite was over-sized at almost six feet (approximately two metres) in length, in order to hold the extra weight of a specially-designed, lightweight camera that could be activated by a gentleman's watch. Several men were required to raise the kite. It took about 45 minutes to raise and lower the apparatus and develop each photograph taken. The total process took many days to complete.

>> To view the Heritage Collection visit the Mackay City Library, for opening hours phone 4961 9387.

Why not try our Bluewater Lagoon? It's a winner!



It's free, highly popular and generates an estimated \$5 million in economic benefits to the region annually.

They're the findings from an economic and social benefits study of the Bluewater Lagoon, which has been conducted as part of our funding agreement with the Australian Government.

The three tiered aquatic facility attracts

almost 400,000 annually, 85 per cent of the visitors are local residents, about 10 per cent are tourists and the remainder come from the Issac and Whitsunday areas. With some of council's other Swim Centres shutting down for annual maintenance - why not pop in and see what everyone is raving about!

>> For more info and operating hours, call 1300 MACKAY.

