



Installations a sign of our active times

Mackay's old inner-city railway corridor is transformed into a safe haven for cyclists and pedestrians

Stage one of the Cross City Link is now complete with a shared pathway between Bridge Road, Milton Street and Juliet Street.

The link is an extension of the award-winning Bluewater Trail, which promotes an active, healthy lifestyle and improves safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

Mayor Deirdre Comerford said council was proud to be one of three cities in Queensland to be part of the Active Towns Pilot Program.

"We're focussed on improving our bikeway connectivity and providing facilities to create a fit, active, healthy community," she said.

"The next stage involves constructing a shared pathway from Bridge Road to Archibald Street."

New interpretative signs have been erected along the Cross City Link to provide direction and encourage further use of the 21-kilometre Bluewater Trail.

The Active Towns Program is a partnership between the Queensland Government and Mackay Regional Council.

In another boost, council has allocated a further \$500,000 in the 2013-2014 Budget to complete another two sections of the Bluewater Trail from Quota Park to Mackay Stadium and from the stadium to Paradise Street.

>> Visit www.mackay.qld.gov.au or call 1300 MACKAY (622 529) for more details.



Riders Rebecca Dumbleton and Peter Gillham check out the new Active Towns sign on George Street.

Kickstart your career with council

Stability, opportunity and a challenging and rewarding environment are only some of the many benefits of working for Mackay Regional Council.

If you're keen to learn the tricks of your proposed trade from experienced industry professionals within a community-orientated, supportive organisation – then a council apprenticeship or traineeship is for you!

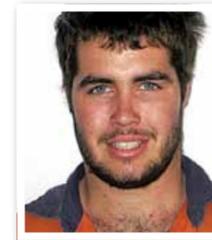
Twenty five apprenticeships and traineeships are currently on offer across a range of careers. Applications close August 8.



Sarah Parrot, Sarina Sugar Shed Tour Guide:
I chose to do my Retail Certificate III with council because I think they have excellent job opportunities. It was a great way to gain hands-on experience and I was fortunate it led to a job.



Tabitha Rix, Administration Assistant:
Council is a large organisation that offers diversity. After finishing my Business Traineeship I was excited to be offered a temporary position.



Lochlan Kennedy, Small Engine Mechanic:
I finished a four-year Outdoor Power Equipment (Mechanics) Apprenticeship in April and am now working at Paget. I feel like I have a secure job with high safety standards.



Nicole Bourne, Second Year Apprentice:
I'm currently halfway through a Certificate III Engineering Mechanical Trade out at Mirani Depot. I absolutely love working in diesel fitting and my team is really supportive.

>> For more details or to apply visit www.mackay.qld.gov.au/apprenticeships or phone Cloe Schultz on 1300 MACKAY (622 529).

Save the date

- > **Rock Pop Mine:** July 27 from 6pm to 9.30pm at the Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens' Meadowlands Amphitheatre.
- > **Seniors Expo:** August 23 from 9am to 2pm at the Senior Citizens Centre, Macalister Street.
- > **Orchid Extravaganza:** September 21 and 22 from 10am to 2pm at the Orchid House, Queens Park.
- > **Bluewater Ecofest:** October 5 from 8am to 3pm at Bluewater Quay.

>> Visit www.mackay.qld.gov.au for more events.

All animals need love and exercise

Obesity is fast becoming an epidemic not exclusive to mankind

In fact, 41 per cent of dogs and 33 per cent of cats are considered obese in Australia, according to Greencross Vets 2013 statistics.

Big or small, young or old, all animals need daily exercise.

Without physical activity, your pet is likely to become bored, frustrated and unhealthy.

All this information and more will be discussed at Mackay Regional Council's Pet Registration Day celebration.

The RSPCA's Education Mobile Unit (EMU) Van, a state-of-the-art classroom on wheels, will also be on site to deliver other useful advice and information on responsible animal care.

To be held on Saturday, July 27, from 9am to noon on the lawn of council's Gordon Street administration building, pet owners will also have the opportunity to microchip (courtesy of Andergrove Veterinary Clinic) or register their pets for half price.



Leah Harris agrees adopting Clive has changed her life for the better.

To take advantage of council's early-bird discount, register your pet by July 31.

Remember: Lost pets are alone; registration brings them home.

>> To register your pet visit www.mackay.qld.gov.au/animalrego or call 1300 MACKAY (622 529).

Cycling the city is easy

Forget about paying for petrol – why not ride your bike to work? With more than a dozen bike racks now in the City Centre and a secure bicycle facility at the Memorial Pool (fitted with lockers and showers) peddling around town is easier than ever before. Visit www.mackay.qld.gov.au/activetowns for more details.

Last chance to have your say

Residents have until Friday, August 2, to have their say on council's draft planning scheme. For more information pop in to the Development Services building, Wellington Street, or book a free 15 minute appointment with a Duty Planner. Submissions must be received on or before 5pm at council's customer service centres, or post to PO Box 41, Mackay, 4740, or go to www.mackay.qld.gov.au/planningscheme.

Save time and enquire online

Pay your rates, check your balance and see a breakdown of all charges with ease using council's new online service. Other rate-related information now accessible online includes the rateable valuation of your property, a valuation summary (annual valuations) and the unimproved value (land value) of your property. To take advantage of the new system, register online at www.mackay.qld.gov.au/online-services. Once your registration has been lodged you'll receive email confirming your username and password; to activate your account simply log back on with those details.

Do business with council

Learn how to submit quotes and tenders to council at the Doing Business with Council information session at the MECC on Wednesday, July 31, from 6.30-7.30pm. RSVP to contracts@mackay.qld.gov.au by Friday, July 26.

Building a better road network

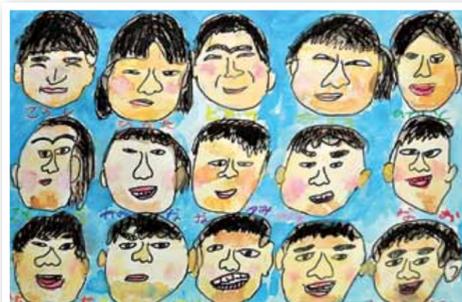
More than \$1.5 million worth of rehabilitation and reconstruction works are now in full swing.

Road reconstruction works valued at \$580,000 will be carried out in Sophia Street, South Mackay, between Boddington and Shakespeare streets and \$640,000 worth of work will be completed in Paulette Street, West Mackay, between Field and Longair streets.

Pavement rehabilitation works are almost complete in Heinrich Street. This \$450,000 project is part of National Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements flood-damage works.

All of these projects are expected to be finalised in September.

>> For more details on ongoing roadworks visit www.mackay.qld.gov.au/roads.



Yuuma Umemoto's Sports Festival will be on show at Artspace alongside other works from Matsuura students.

Learn about our sister city via art

Bring the family along to Artspace during July and enjoy a colourful exhibition of artworks by children from our Japanese Sister City, Matsuura.

The exhibition, which is currently on display (and was part of the Mackay Festival of Arts) comprises 30 large drawings by Year 4 and 5 students attending Tsukinokawa Primary School.

"This artwork gives families a

unique window into our sister city's world through the eyes of its children," Artspace Mackay Director Anna Thurgood said.

"It's inspiring for young artists to see drawings by children of a similar age from the other side of the world," she said.

An initiative of Artspace Mackay and the Mackay Matsuura Sister City Advisory Committee, these works will be on show until August 4.

>> For more details visit www.artspacemackay.com.au.

Help prevent an overflow

A full inspection program of council sewers and private house drains is under way in a bid to identify areas where stormwater is entering the sewerage system.

Excess stormwater flowing into the sewerage system can cause it to become overloaded and result in a sewage overflow that would

compromise public health and the environment.

Inspections of the sewerage network will occur via CCTV and dye and smoke testing. Visual property inspections may also be required. Residents will be notified in writing at least 48 hours prior to any testing on or near their property.

>> For full details of the inspection plan visit www.mackay.qld.gov.au/inspections.

WATCH THE FLOW OF YOUR H₂O

Spreading a layer of organic mulch around plants retains moisture and saves water, time and money.



Nelson and Ben Millwood can't wait for the Sarina skate park to be finished.

Skaters get ready to roll

Sarina brothers Nelson and Ben Millwood are keen to be the first to use the new Brewers Park skate park.

facility in Sarina to encourage kids to get out and get active.

Sport, Recreation and Facilities portfolio councillor Paul Steindl said the project was progressing well.

"The area has been cleared, the concrete is being poured and the equipment will be

installed in August," he said.

"It should be ready for the kids to use in September."

"Eleven-year-old Nelson said he "can't wait to try it out."

"There'll be five different sections to skate and ride along," he said.

>> For more information visit council's website www.mackay.qld.gov.au.