



COUNCIL - in brief -

Pay and win

YOU could be a winner by paying your rates early. Rate notices for the half-year ended December 31 will be issued on August 8, and due for payment on September 7. Residential ratepayers who pay the net amount shown on their rate notice by close of business August 22 will automatically go into a draw to win one of three \$500 shopping vouchers. Eligible pensioners have an extended payment date of December 14 for the discount to apply. Council offers a range of payment options, such as online, telephone, BPay, BPay View and in person at Australia Post or council Customer Service Centres.

Spirit is high

MORE than 8700 people have already booked to tour the Spirit of Anzac Experience when it visits the MECC from July 25 to July 31. There are still some spaces available, so to avoid missing out book your free pass right away at www.spiritofanzac.gov.au. The exhibit tells the story of Australia's involvement in the First World War to present day. It features recreated First World War environments and a collection of genuine military artefacts.

Cricket a hit

INTERNATIONAL cricket is coming to Mackay next month. Australia A, India A, South Africa A and Cricket Australia's National Performance Squad will pad up at Harrup Park as part of the Quadrangular Winter Series. Harrup Park is hosting six one-day games between August 24 and August 31, as well as two finals of the one-day series on September 3 and 4. Council helped secure this cricket spectacle with support from its Invest Mackay Events Attraction Program.

History sought

COUNCIL is asking for your help to paint a picture of The Dome building site pre-1971. As part of the Dudley Denny City Library project, developers are hoping to integrate historical and heritage elements into the new facility. If you can help fill in some of the area's history, go to www.mackay.qld.gov.au/libraries/official_stuff/submit_your_photos

Bring dogs for a day out at event

Annual Pet Registration Day shifts from Civic Precinct lawns to off-leash dog park area near the Gooseponds

COUNCIL'S popular annual Pet Registration Day is on the move. This year's event will be held at the Police Dog Tunza Off-leash Dog Park at the Gooseponds in North Mackay. It will be held on Saturday, July 30, from 9am to noon. Community Engagement Committee chair Cr Kevin Casey said Pet Registration Day had been held on the lawns of council's administration building in the Civic Precinct in recent years. "The park has a purpose-built obstacle course they can explore." He said this year's move to the off-leash dog park at the Gooseponds would make it even more interactive for residents' furry friends. "Stalls will be set up in the grassed area beside the off-leash park. "That means dogs, under the supervision of their owners, will be able to socialise in the off-leash dog park.



Beagles Archie and Gertie at last year's Pet Registration Day. Photo: Coffee and Hops.

>> Discount pet rego fees: Desexed dogs \$33; non-desexed dogs \$75; de-sexed cats \$10; non-desexed cats \$25. More information at mackay.qld.gov.au

Recycling message not sinking in

IT seems residents still aren't getting the message when it comes to using their recycling bins properly. September/October last year. And, frustratingly, the results are also similar to the last inspections in 2014-15. Infrastructure and Services Committee chair Cr Karen May said some contamination was obviously due to residents not understanding recycling rules. "For example, inspectors have found recyclables in recycling bins but they've been in plastic bags," Cr May said. "Other types of contamination include nappies, food scraps, green waste and building materials," she said. "While around 70 per cent of residents are recycling right, we really need the message to get through to others." "We'd like to see a big improvement in future recycling bin audit figures." Three inspections have been conducted annually for the last two financial years, with 6754 bins inspected last financial year, up from 5553 bins in 2014-15.



An example of contamination of a recycling bin.

>> For more details on what residents can and can't put in their yellow-lidded recycling bin, visit mackay.qld.gov.au/recycling

WATCH THE FLOW OF YOUR H₂O

Did you know you can allow your tenants/property managers access to myh2o to monitor and manage the water consumption at your investment properties? Sign up today and allow them access at myh2o.qld.gov.au

An artist's impression of the Scilleet pre-delivery centre approved in Paget.



Stimulus given to \$60m in projects

AN economic stimulus measure aimed at helping kick-start development in the Mackay region is gaining good traction. Under the Facilitating Development in the Mackay Region Policy, council approved concessions of more than \$1.6 million for eight projects last financial year. The original infrastructure charges for the eight projects totalled just over \$3.1 million. Economic Development and Planning Committee chair Cr Amanda Camm said the concessions would be a worthwhile economic investment by council if they helped get these projects off the ground. "The construction costs of these eight projects amount to more than \$60 million," Cr Camm said. "They're forecast to create 286 jobs and provide an economic output of \$112 million between them," she said. Cr Camm said the concessions approved by council for eligible projects were subject to conditions. "For example, each project must be completed within two years from approval for the concessions to apply," she said. "Also, use of local contractors must be maximised during construction." The policy applies to major developments in the Mackay City Centre and industrial developments at Paget, Marian, Mirani, Sarina, Slade Point and Glenella. Aged care and retirement developments, as well as rural and nature-based tourism projects outside urban areas, are also eligible. Projects concessions have been approved for range from industrial developments for Werner Engineering and Scilleet to an Adventure Riders Ranch and a new Camilleri fruit and vegetable outlet near Mac's Truckstop.

>> To view the policy search for "facilitating development" at mackay.qld.gov.au

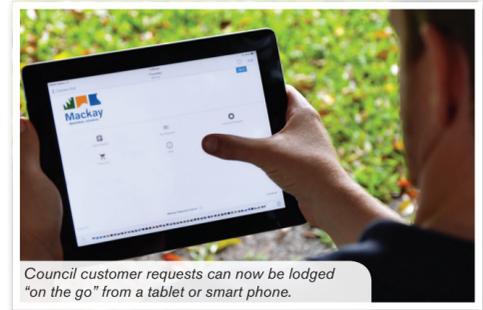
Connecting with your councillors

COUNCILLORS have been allocated to localities across Mackay Regional Council.

The Council in Community initiative is part of a commitment by elected members to better engage with all residents.

Two councillors share each locality, including: **City area** - Councillors Amanda Camm and Kevin Casey **Northern Suburbs** - Councillors Fran Mann (nee Fordham) and Justin Englert **North Coast & Beaches** - Councillors Ross Gee and Laurence Bonaventura **Southern Region** - Councillors Karen May and Martin Bella **Western Region** - Councillors Ross Walker and Ayril Paton

>> More details and locality maps at mackay.qld.gov.au



Council customer requests can now be lodged "on the go" from a tablet or smart phone.

Lodge 'on the go'

LODGING a customer request or making payments online is about to become easier for Mackay Regional Council clients. Council has upgraded its online services, with the new product to go live today. The improved online services will allow clients to lodge a request or make a payment at any time, with new mobile functionality. Council's Corporate Services Committee chair Cr Ross Walker said this included a GPS locality function and the ability to send a photo with a customer request while on the go. "For example, if someone wanted to report a straying dog, they could take a photo of the dog, attach it to their customer request and the GPS will automatically plot the location," he said. "This new service is a lot more customer-friendly and looks great on a tablet or smartphone." Extra functionality is planned to be added to online services in the future.

>> To try our online services go to mackay.qld.gov.au

Spooky fun in City Centre

Twilight City Spooktacular
PRESENTED BY MELCO ENGINEERING
SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 4PM TO 9PM
VICTORIA AND WOOD STREETS MACKAY CITY CENTRE

Get ready for Mackay City Centre's annual free family street party. Twilight City Spooktacular will include live entertainment, roving street performers, scary fun craft for the kids, delicious food and drinks, and fun scary surprises. An outdoor cinema will screen Hotel Transylvania 2.



Supported by council and the City Centre Taskforce



A refurbishment of the heritage-listed former Pioneer Shire Council building in Wood Street has won multiple awards.

Restoration works shine

A REFURBISHMENT of the heritage-listed former Pioneer Shire Council building in Wood Street has earned another gong. Trust awards and a Regional Commendation at the Australian Institute of Architects Central Queensland Regional Architecture Awards, the building has now been awarded the State Award for Heritage Architecture at the Queensland State Architecture Awards. This is a fantastic honour for the Conrad Gargett and council team involved in bringing the building back to its former glory. The conservation work engaged further interest and the building is also now used by a not-for-profit community organisation. The beautifully restored building is a valuable community resource. The project will now vie for recognition at the National Architecture Awards to be announced on November 3.

>> For more on heritage resources search for "heritage" at mackay.qld.gov.au