



## COUNCIL - in brief -

### It's easy to get an update on our roads

Log onto council's interactive roadwork map [www.mackay.qld.gov.au/roads](http://www.mackay.qld.gov.au/roads) to plan your travel across the region. There are works occurring which you may not be aware of and the online map provides details on the type of works and expected completion date. Current projects include the \$26 million Connors Road upgrade, and \$7.8 million Paradise Street rehabilitation.

### Cool school holiday fun

Council's facilities have plenty on offer to keep the kids entertained these school holidays. You can take them to the free *Active in the City Zumbatomic* and *Kinder Moves* classes at the Bluewater Quay, join in the free winter craft classes at Artspace Mackay and let them turn into crazy scientists at council's libraries. Visit council's website for details.

### Council parks great place to host an event

The next time you're planning an event or celebration don't go past council's parks. Council has a number of parks and playgrounds throughout the region with shade structures, BBQ facilities and plenty of chairs and tables. Visit council's website [mackay.qld.gov.au](http://mackay.qld.gov.au) to find the location of your nearest park.

### DrumMUSTER facility at the Gargett tip

Farmers can now take their empty DrumMUSTER containers to the Gargett Rural Transfer Station. Council has built a new compound to house and recycle the empty containers. The Gargett Transfer Station is open four days a week Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, 10am to 5pm.

# First show at amphitheatre a big one

The Botanic Gardens will come alive with singing and dancing next month when Rock Pop Mime performs at the new outdoor entertainment centre on Saturday, July 27.



Mayor Deirdre Comerford and councillors Frank Gilbert, Greg Martin, Theresa Morgan, Kevin Casey, Paul Steindl, Chris Bonanno, Laurence Bonaventura and Dave Perkins kick up their heels at the new amphitheatre

Tom Becker from Mackay Host Lions Club said he can't wait to see the students perform at the new venue.

Mr Becker said there is something for everyone at this year's Rock Pop Mime concert.

"The Meadowlands amphitheatre is something out of a story book," he said.

"The outdoor entertainment centre is undercover, has great acoustics, three-tiered seating, and is set amongst the beautiful gardens."

Parks and Environment

portfolio councillor Theresa Morgan said the \$1.1 million amphitheatre is a part of the Botanic Gardens 10 year Master Plan.

"In 2010, a 10 year phase-by-phase development plan was produced in consultation with gardens staff, community representatives and specialist horticultural groups to transform the Gardens into an exciting place that meets today's community and environmental needs," she said.

"The new outdoor amphitheatre with 190 car parks, toilet facility and all access pathway is phase one of the Meadowlands upgrade. There will also be water features, interpretative features, an ex-sugar cane paddock transformed into a garden with plants from the Mackay/Whitsunday region to help prevent extinction and bus and caravan parking."

If you would like to host your performance at the Botanic Gardens new outdoor amphitheatre between May and December contact the Gardens today on 4952 7300 to reserve your spot.

**Rock Pop Mime 6pm Sat July 27 Meadowlands Amphitheatre**  
Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens  
**Free admission!**  
Food and drinks will be available.

>> For further info on the Botanic Gardens visit: [www.mackayregionalbotanicgardens.com.au](http://www.mackayregionalbotanicgardens.com.au)

## Did you know?

By logging on to: [www.ecomackay.com.au](http://www.ecomackay.com.au) you have access to more than 50 sustainable living tips and a personalised footprint calculator that can help you save money on your household bills.

## Don't bag recycling

Thinking about putting a plastic bag in your recycling bin; think again.

"Plastic bags take between 20 and 1000 years to break down and cannot be used to make another product," Cr Bonaventura said.

Council has just finished its first round of recycling bin inspections and removed 164 bins from service because they contained a plastic bag.

Waste, Health and Regulatory Services portfolio councillor Laurence Bonaventura said plastic bags are non-recyclable and cause serious problems at our recycling facility.

Cr Bonaventura encourages residents to re-use their plastic bags, take them to the specially-marked recycling bins at our supermarkets or dispose of them in their general waste bin.

>> For more tips on what you can and can't recycle head to [www.mackay.qld.gov.au/waste](http://www.mackay.qld.gov.au/waste).

## Safety grants up for grabs

Safety in the workplace is important that's why council is offering a new Workplace Health and Safety Grant as part of its community grant program.

The funding can be used to test electrical equipment, develop safety processes or undertake safety reviews.

Council has a variety of grants and funding opportunities available including sports grants, art grants and natural environment grants. The next round of Community Grants close Friday, August 2.

>> For further information visit council's website or call Community Development on 1300 MACKAY.

**WATCH THE FLOW OF YOUR H<sub>2</sub>O**

Wash your car on the grass using a trigger or twist nozzle and a bucket. Your lawn will be greener and you'll use less water.

## Help us keep our roads safe

When driving, you may come across road signs or barriers, and it's important that you obey their directions and drive around the work site where required.

Council has had reports of drivers blatantly moving barriers in the middle of work sites to access their properties.

Roads and Drainage portfolio councillor Kevin Casey said there is considerable work happening at the moment and this type of action can be dangerous and potentially life threatening.

"Traffic management is in place to ensure your safety and the safety of workers on site," Cr Casey said.

"Please do not remove any signage so we can keep our roads safe."

>> For more details call 1300 MACKAY.



Join Jodie Louw and her daughter Sahara for a walk along the Bluewater Quay.

## Winter warm-ups

Keeping fit and healthy during the cooler months is easy.

Council has free winter Active in the City classes and special Healthy Rural Community and Focus on Sarina programs for you to take part in.

For as little as a gold coin donation, you can:

- try tai chi, pilates and yoga classes in the Pioneer Valley
- learn how to cook a healthy winter treat at Calen
- get your heart rate up at the Keep Fit and Heartmoves classes in Sarina.

If you live in or near the Mackay City Centre there are free Active in the City classes for everyone.

For the month of June you can Zumba at the Bluewater Quay, join the LayZee Runners Club and take part in the walking groups: mums and bubs, senior social and pet walks.

>> For more details visit council's website.



## Packs support pound pet adoption

Brad Smith from Mackay Pet Superstore and a furry friend check out the new Pound Pet Packs.

Too often pets are adopted by people who later down the track find they are unable or unwilling to continue caring for them.

That's one of the prime reasons why Mackay Pet Superstore owner Brad Smith has teamed up with council to offer support to new owners.

From now on, anyone who adopts a dog or cat from the pound will receive a Mackay Pet Superstore voucher entitling them to a free pet starter pack up to the value of \$50.

The contents of the packs will vary according to availability but generally will include items such as a feeding bowl and toy, sample packs and food.

Store manager Brad Smith said he's keen to promote responsible pet ownership.

"Our aim is to work with council to help buck this trend by giving people who are adopting an animal that initial support to get them started," he said.

Reminder: Pay your dog and cat registration by July 31 to take advantage of council's early-bird discount.

>> Pound Pets are available to view online at [mackay.qld.gov.au/poundpets](http://mackay.qld.gov.au/poundpets)  
To pay your pet rego visit: [mackay.qld.gov.au/animalrego](http://mackay.qld.gov.au/animalrego) or call 1300 MACKAY.

## Join NAIDOC Week celebrations

The Mackay region is home to more than 30 nationalities. From July 7 to 14 we will be celebrating the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The official NAIDOC Flag Raising Ceremony will be held on Monday, July 8 at the council precinct lawns.

From 10am there will be a Welcome to Country by the Traditional Custodians, cultural performances and a community lunch.

Become a library member between Wednesday, May 1 and Monday, June 24 and go into the draw to win a back stage pass to meet and greet well known Indigenous band Tjintu Desert.

The winners will be contacted during the first week of July.

>> Phone 1300 MACKAY (622 529) for more details.



## Housing of all shapes and sizes

One, two and three bedroom homes and houses that accommodate all residents and budgets is what you can expect to see in the Mackay region.

To meet the needs of our growing population, singles, couples, families and retirees council is proposing under its Draft Mackay Region Planning Scheme that single detached dwelling houses on large lots remain relevant along with a mix of lot sizes and housing types including housing for smaller families, an ageing population and short term accommodation.

Council encourages you to review council's draft planning scheme and provide your feedback to council by 5pm, Friday, July 19.

>> Visit [mackay.qld.gov.au/planningscheme](http://mackay.qld.gov.au/planningscheme) to learn more.



The Old Fella will be appearing at Seaforth Bowls Club and Pinnacle Playhouse as part of the Mackay Region Festival of Arts.

## Local and interstate acts heading your way

Whether you live in the Pioneer Valley, Sarina or Mackay you're in for a treat.

The Mackay Region Festival of Arts (July 6 to 21) is bringing local and interstate artists to you.

Two of the finest classical guitarists in the world, Slava and Leonard Grigoryan will be performing on Saturday, July 6 at the Mackay Sugar Classical in the Cane Fields at the Greenmount Homestead, Walkerston along with rising Australian opera stars, soprano Annie Lower and Glenn C. Lorimer.

Local hip hop sensation Modern Day Mayhem will also be performing at the PV Rocks Out concert at the Pinnacle Playhouse on Sunday, July 7.

If you're in need of a good laugh; spend the night laughing along to 'The Old Fella', from Australia's Got Talent. He'll be performing at the Seaforth Bowls Club on Sunday, July 14 and the Pinnacle Playhouse on Monday, July 15.

Book your tickets before 5pm Friday, June 28 to receive a \$5 discount on most shows.

>> Book your Festival tickets online at [www.festivalmackay.org.au](http://www.festivalmackay.org.au) or 4961 9777.