



## COUNCIL - in brief -

### Carols start festive season

Save the date! Carols in the City will take place at the MECC from 5pm on Saturday, December 6. Bring your own picnic blanket or deck chair and join in the festivities in air conditioned comfort. Orchestrated by Kim Kirkman, Carols in the City features many talented community musicians and singers who will ring out festive cheer with popular Carols and favourite Christmas songs. Council wish to thank the event sponsors including 4MK, ZINC Mackay and Porters.

### Limited spots for Sports Expo

Booths for the 2014 Sports Expo and Sign-on Day are filling fast so if you are connected with a sporting or recreational group in the Mackay region get in quick and register by filling in the online form available on council's website. The 2015 Expo will take place at the MECC on Sunday, February 8 thanks to our sponsors Dalrymple Bay Coal Terminal, Rio Tinto, Sports Power and Active Towns.

### Resealing our region's roads

Works are underway to resurface numerous sealed roads around Mackay before the wet season. Council's annual resurfacing program is expected to be completed by mid-December 2014, weather permitting. The works will take place between 6.30am and 5.30pm, Monday to Saturday. Residents and businesses directly affected will be notified by letter at least 48 hours prior to works starting in their streets.

### Enjoy a picnic with a seaview

Old timber picnic settings and park bench seats at Seaview Park (Bucasia) have been replaced with modern aluminium settings just in time for barbecue season. Council has upgraded a total of seven picnic settings at the popular beach-side location.

## Submit your #CityCentreSelfie and win!

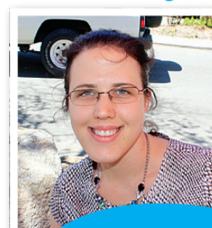
Start snapping! Whether you're purchasing your morning newspaper, hitting up the gym or meeting friends for a coffee, take a photo of yourself in action (a selfie) and share it with the Mackay City Centre Facebook or Instagram page and you could win great prizes!

**Misty Di-Filippo at Kevin's Place**



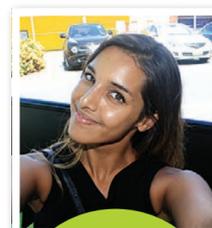
"They're great for quick and cheap lunch meals and it's nice eating out in the al fresco area."

**Suzanne Brown at Cool Mango**



"They've got fresh and healthy food, friendly service and it's close to work."

**Bianca Pietrzak at Crave**



"I love that they have healthy options available - like their dairy-free smoothies."

**Graham Bowling at Jelly Beans Kitchen**



"It's a regular lunchtime favourite for me - they always have great food and friendly service."

>> Entering is easy! Step 1: Snap a fun selfie. Step 2: Tag #CityCentreSelfie on the Mackay City Centre Facebook and Instagram pages.

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

Level 2 water restrictions apply for properties in the Pioneer Valley, Calen, Koliyo and Bloomsbury.

### GET READY MACKAY

Cyclone season is officially upon us and the message is clear - get ready now! Mayor Deirdre Comerford who holds the Emergency Management portfolio said public complacency is the greatest danger that a community faces in natural disasters.

Council is encouraging residential property owners to make use of their free dump vouchers and to start cleaning-up and preparing their properties.

Waste, Health and Regulatory Services portfolio councillor Laurence Bonaventura said the trial voucher system allows you to use one voucher for a ute load of green waste or two vouchers to dispose of a ute load of general waste.

"This is a great opportunity to clean up your gutters, trim tree branches and remove any household junk that might be lying around your yard."

"Loose materials and junk can turn into deadly missiles in a storm or cyclone."

Collect your copy of the 2014 Emergency Action Guide which includes updated storm tide maps from any council Client Service Centre, libraries or download at [mackay.qld.gov.au/emergency](http://mackay.qld.gov.au/emergency).



Kaye Gillam is mindful of her outdoor water use

## Watch the flow of your outdoor H<sub>2</sub>O

With little to no rain for the month of October, council has noticed a considerable increase in outdoor water use. At the start of this month (November) the average daily water consumption was 44 million litres per day, 26 per cent more than the last week of October.

- (visit council's website to create your own Plantastic Water Saving Garden)
- cover your pool so you don't lose hundreds of litres of water through evaporation
- water your lawn only when it needs it and water it according to the soil type
- use a broom to clean driveways
- check for leaks in hoses, pipes and taps.

"By being careful with your water use, you can keep your water notices down."

Water notices for the April to October billing period are due on December 12.

>> For full water restriction details and water saving tips head to [mackay.qld.gov.au](http://mackay.qld.gov.au)

## Celebrate Australia Day in your neighbourhood!

Australia Day means many things to different people but at its core it's about celebrating what's great about this country with friends, family and our entire community.

From getting the neighbourhood together for a barbecue at Midge Point to hosting a family fun day in Sarina, council is encouraging communities across the Mackay region to host their own Australia Day events next year.

To help jump-start you bonza Australia Day idea, council is offering community grants of up to \$2000 but you'll have to get in quick as applications close this Friday (November 14).

Festival, Events and the Arts portfolio councillor Chris Bonanno said at a local level, the best celebrations were often best organised by the local community.

>> Applications for the Australia Day 2015 grants program close this Friday at 5pm. Australia Day Awards are now open, nominations close January 9, 2015.

## Sugar Shed in high spirits



Move over Bundaberg, Sarina could soon be the ultimate destination for rum-lovers.

Sales of Sarina Sugar Shed's rum have exceeded all expectations according to the facility's coordinator Glenys Mansfield.

"Our alcohol sales have doubled since introducing the rum," she said.

"It has proven to be not only popular among locals but also with tourists travelling through."

> To order your bottle of the Sarina Sugar Shed Rum or call 4943 2801.



The Great Australian Bite Lamington Eating Competition was a big hit at this year's Australia Day celebrations in Mirani.

be Australian." "From environmental warriors and canteen mums to sporting officials and community volunteers - these people are champions in mine and many other people's eyes."

Cr Comerford said nominating someone for an award was a wonderful and satisfying feeling. There is a total of eight award categories including Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year.

Now's the time to nominate your 2015 Australia Day heroes. Collect a nomination form from council's Client Service Centre's of visit [mackay.qld.gov.au](http://mackay.qld.gov.au).

## Crack down on roadside car sales

If you're planning to plaster your boat, car or bike with a 'for sale' sign and display it on council land or near a high-profile roundabout, you'd better think again.

Council is cracking down on those who leave vehicles, on median strips, footpaths and roundabouts, issuing fines of up to \$227.

Health and Regulatory Services portfolio councillor Laurence Bonaventura said displaying a vehicle for sale on a street or footpath is not only an offence, it distracts motorists and can become a serious road safety hazard.

"Selling your vehicle from home is ok, just make sure it is displayed within your property boundary," Cr Bonaventura said.

A total of 76 fines have been issued since January 2014.



Council's Waste Management Officer Brett White inspects the Waste Educational Trailer.

## Recycle Right!

National Recycling Week is on now and to celebrate, council's waste education trailer is giving away freebies and advice at the Mackay City Library until Friday.

Also in the trailer is a recycling drop off box for toner cartridges and one for mobile phones and their accessories for free, responsible disposal.

It contains educational information on topics such as worm farming and composting, plus there is a prize draw that you can enter to win your very own worm farm.

> To learn more, visit [mackay.qld.gov.au/composting](http://mackay.qld.gov.au/composting).

## Waive goodbye to your fines

Mackay Regional Council Libraries currently have \$19,167 client overdue fees owing.

In the spirit of Christmas, libraries encourage members to pay their fees with donations of non-perishable food for the annual Food for Fines campaign.

Donated food will be distributed to those in the community most in need by charity organisations.

Food items must be non-perishable, new and within the use-by date and be at least of equal value to the overdue fines being waived.

>> For further information on Food for Fines contact your local library branch.

### Top 5 Library Loans

The top 5 reserved titles last month include:

- > **Divergent (DVD)**
- > **Stop walking on eggshells:** taking your life back when someone you care about has borderline personality disorder by Paul T. Mason and Randi Kreger
- > **The Scorch Trials by James Dashner**
- > **Fast Exercise by Michael Mosley and Peta Bee**
- > **Outback Blaze by Rachael Johns**

Council libraries are offering free online family history workshops for residents who want to learn more about their family history but aren't quite sure where to start.

The next workshop is on Thursday, December 6 at Gordon White Library, Phillip Street, Mount Pleasant from 6pm to 8pm.