

## Festival showcases feast of local talent

2016 Mackay Mazda Festival of Arts has plenty of headline acts but also provides the perfect platform for performers from our region to strut their talent

MORE than 500 local performers will take part in next month's Mackay Mazda Festival of Arts.

Community Engagement Committee chair Cr Kevin Casey said local participation rates were the highest he had seen in recent years.

"It's great to see so much homegrown talent being put in the spotlight," he said.

"We have some exceptional young artists in our region. Events like Caneland

Central's Lunchbox Concerts are the perfect platform for these young, upcoming stars to get valuable experience performing in front of a crowd.

"With the stage located just below the busy Caneland Central food court, they will have the opportunity to perform to hundreds of shoppers who pass through this area over three days from July 12 to 14."

Other popular festival events, like G&S Engineering's Wine

and Food Day and Gala in the Gardens, will also feature plenty of homegrown talent. Favourites like Django, Oliver Carter-Beck, Will Anderson and Karrie Hayward are just a few of the locals, who will be supporting this year's headline acts, Tim Campbell and Danni Da Ros, at the G&S Engineering Wine and Food Day.

Residents attending Gala in the Gardens will be blown away by the musical stylings of the Mackay Choral Society



Mercy College students (from left) Britney Worbey, Danika Brondello, Amber May, Jonathon Bickeridge, Ben Luhrman, Alexandra Lurhman, Hithyshini Prasad, Ethan McCarthy and Lawson Stevens ready for Lunchbox Concerts.

and Mackay City Band as they perform a combination of modern hits and traditional classics at the Meadowlands Amphitheatre.

G&S Engineering's Wine

and Food Day and Caneland Central's Lunchbox Concerts are free to attend as part of this year's Mackay Mazda Festival of Arts. Entry to Gala in the Gardens is a gold coin donation.

Other highlights include DBCT's Metropolis, Paris Underground Cabaret, Friends of the MECC Jazz Brunch, Progressive Dinner and Gourmet Safari.

>> For more information about the 2016 Mackay Mazda Festival of Arts, including a copy of this year's program, and to buy tickets go online at [mackaytix.com.au](http://mackaytix.com.au)



This new bitumen pad area behind council's Material Recovery Facility at Paget was built using recycled crushed glass from the facility.

## Crushed glass in the mix

CRUSHED glass has been used in the construction of a new pad area behind council's Material Recovery Facility (MRF) at Paget.

Local civil works company Rock and Road used the recycled crushed glass in the hot mix.

Recycling Design & Technologies (RDT) national operations manager Zaine

Hollister said a good portion of the sand replacement in the mix was recycled glass from MRF.

"Around 2.5 per cent of the mix content is the recycled imploded glass product produced at the MRF," said Mr Hollister.

Infrastructure Services Committee chair Cr Karen May said it was great to

see the product being used by local companies in local construction projects.

"It is exciting to see a product that was once a waste material being reused as quality product," she said.

"The glass crushing plant now diverts more than 2000 tonnes of glass from landfill each year, which is a great environmental outcome."

## Help make community accessible

WHAT does an accessible community mean to you?

That's the question being asked of residents as council shapes its Accessible Communities Action Plan for the next five years.

Accessibility was a number one priority for council, said Community Engagement Committee chair Cr Kevin Casey.

"Now is the time to plan for the future to make sure our community is as inclusive and accessible as it possibly can be," Cr Casey said.

"We are interested in knowing what is limiting you from participating in council activities and programs, or how we can improve access to our facilities and resources."

>> Have your say at [connectingmackay.com.au](http://connectingmackay.com.au)



A rehabilitated section of Little McCreadys Creek.

## Benefits flowing

A PROJECT to rehabilitate Little McCreadys Creek will be completed by the end of this month.

It includes about 4.5 hectares of council land on Little McCreadys Creek, upstream from the Mackay-Bucasia Road crossing and extending through to Dawson Boulevard.

The project is part of a partnership between Reef Catchments and council.

It aims to improve the quality of water run-off from built-up urban areas, as well as

improving the fish habitat available for biodiversity.

"The project area is about 720 metres in length in total," said Economic Development and Planning Committee member Cr Fran Fordham.

"By all accounts, the community is happy with what is being delivered, knowing that the vegetation needs time to fully establish.

"Ongoing maintenance is important and we have engaged a local contractor to maintain the site for the next 12 months."

>> For more details visit [mackay.qld.gov.au](http://mackay.qld.gov.au)

## Lagoons Creek given makeover

STAGE two of the Lagoons Creek rehabilitation project is nearing completion.

Economic Development and Planning Committee member Fran Fordham said the grassed area beside Glenella Connection and Lansdowne roads had been completely reshaped.

"Previously, the area was just a grass paddock," she said.

"This project has transformed the area into two wetlands with a formalised channel and

three purpose-built rock-ramp fishways.

"This will help improve fish passage through the area, which is essential to many species' life cycles.

"This project has also improved the appearance of the area, will provide better environmental outcomes and it will be easier to maintain."

Earthworks are due for completion later this month, with revegetation to be delivered in following months.



The rehabilitation of Lagoons Creek has transformed the area into two wetlands with a channel and purpose-built rock-ramp fishways.

>> This project is jointly funded by Mackay Regional Council, Reef Catchments and the Department of Transport and Main Roads

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

Regularly check your taps, hoses and pipes for leaks. A leak that goes undetected not only wastes water, but money as well. Sign up to [myh2o.qld.gov.au](http://myh2o.qld.gov.au) to keep an eye on your daily water use, be alerted to leaks and high water consumption!

## Save the date



**Rock Paper Scissors Art & Design Market**  
1pm to 4pm Sunday, July 3  
In the green space of the Civic Precinct behind Artspace Mackay, Gordon Street

Artspace's annual free design market is on again, with more fantastic art, craft and "indie design". The market will showcase the best craftspeople in the region, so get ready to shop. Whether you are preparing for gift-giving or treating yourself, there's something for everyone. It's a perfect time to grab a bite to eat from the wide range of delicious foods stalls or Foodspace Café. There will be local live music and free craft activities for the kids.

More details online at [artspacemackay.com.au](http://artspacemackay.com.au)

## Training awards recognise council

MACKAY Regional Council will contest the state finals of the Queensland Training Awards in September.

Council was one of 175 regional finalists chosen from 600 applications across the state for the awards.

The regional finalists were announced by Training and Skills Minister Yvette D'Ath.

Named the only finalist in Large Employer of the Year Category for the Central Queensland region finals next month, council will collect the award and progress to the state finals.

The state winners will be announced in Brisbane on September 9 and, if successful, council will then contest the Australian Training Awards in Darwin on November 17.

CEO Craig Doyle said making the state finals in the Large Employer of the Year Category was fitting recognition for council.

He said council's range of initiatives for employees, ranging from its annual



Council Paget warehouse trainee Sam Boath.

apprentice and trainee intake to Supervisor training programs and e-learning, helped secure the award.

"This council is seen as a benchmark for many of its training initiatives and that has been recognised by the Queensland Training Awards judges."

Mr Doyle said council was up against four other entries shortlisted for the Central

Queensland regional award.

"After the interview stage, which focused on strict criteria for the awards, we were chosen as the only Central Queensland regional finalist in that category.

"That is a huge achievement, given we were up against a range of other large employers in the region and we'll now contest the state finals."

>> For details of job opportunities with council go to [mackay.qld.gov.au/careers](http://mackay.qld.gov.au/careers)

### Desex pets

WITH dog and cat registrations due next month, council is supporting "Operation Wanted". It is an initiative run by the RSPCA in conjunction with local vets to provide discounted desexing (20 per cent off) until August 31. Participating vets include Better Pet Vets, Mackay Vet Hospital, Mount Pleasant Vet Surgery and Northern Beaches Vet Hospital. There is also an opportunity to enter a draw to win a Harley Davidson, seven-day pet friendly beach holiday, plus vouchers. More details at [operationwanted.com.au](http://operationwanted.com.au)

### Veteran cars

GREENMOUNT Homestead is hosting the perfect picnic for the motoring enthusiast in association with the Veteran Car Club of Queensland's 60th Anniversary. There will be 40 veteran cars on display at the picturesque grounds on July 6 from 10am to 2pm. Organisers are encouraging visitors to dress up in Edwardian and early 20th century fashions. Bring a picnic, enjoy the atmosphere while relaxing under the fig tree and don't miss your chance to check out Queensland's early automotive history.

### Top gardens

MACKAY Regional Botanic Gardens has been awarded a Certificate of Excellence by Trip Advisor. The award reflects consistently great reviews on the world-renowned travel website. Come in and visit the gardens and see what's on offer, from regular guided walks to exciting school holiday activities for the kids. A trip to the gardens isn't complete without stopping in at the outdoor café overlooking the lagoon for lunch or a coffee. Be sure to also view the latest exhibition at the Lagoon's Gallery. Find out more at [mackayregionalbotanicgardens.com.au](http://mackayregionalbotanicgardens.com.au)

### Print on run

YOU can now print with your home computer or mobile device directly to a printer at a Mackay Regional Council Library. The new MobilePrint Service allows residents to print documents quickly and easily. They simply pop into the library to release it to the printer. To find out more about MobilePrint Service™ go to [mackay.qld.gov.au/print](http://mackay.qld.gov.au/print) or ask a friendly librarian.