



## Meet our new Councillors

Five new faces join four former Councillors to make up your Council for the next four and a half years. You are welcome to attend the monthly meetings:-

Ordinary Meeting - 2nd Tuesday of month  
 Planning Meeting - 4th Tuesday of month



**DEPUTY MAYOR**  
**Cr Brian Sowter**  
 Phone: 6567 4281



**Cr Betty Green**  
 Phone: 6562 8938



**Cr Terry Hunt**  
 Phone: 6561 7157



**Cr Dean Saul**  
 Phone: 6567 4682



**MAYOR**  
**Cr Janet Hayes**  
 Phone: 65623531  
 Mobile: 0418 289 151



**Cr John Bowell**  
 Phone: 6562 5122



**Cr Jim Gribbin**  
 Phone: 6566 6907



**Cr Bob McWilliam**  
 Phone: 6566 5465



**Cr Ellis Walker**  
 Phone: 6562 2119

### Tourism Update

- the preparation of a Tourism Strategic Plan for the Macleay Valley Coast is underway. The \$40,000 project is jointly funded by Council, Tourism NSW, National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Department of State and Regional Development. The plan seeks to define a pathway for the long term development of tourism in harmony with the thoughts and aspirations of both key industry stakeholders and residents/ratepayers. Targeted consultation with key stakeholders has commenced and a series of community and industry workshops is planned for mid May so that interested people can provide input into the plan. It is anticipated that the first draft will be completed towards the end of June and this will be exhibited on [www.kempsey.midcoast.com.au](http://www.kempsey.midcoast.com.au)

The development of this plan and the incorporation of the thoughts and feelings of industry representatives and local residents will provide a blueprint for the future development and promotion of our wonderful valley. The upper Macleay hinterland has already been identified as an untapped resource and the development of day trips, activities and accommodation opportunities in the hinterland will ease the strain on our magnificent coastal areas.

## Discover our Libraries on Open Day

### KEMPSEY Wednesday 26 May

- The launch of a new collection of DVDs purchased with a grant from the State Library of NSW.
- A collection of new books which will be available for borrowing on that day
- Free classes in the use of our website with links to health related databases, literature and other useful sites
- Demonstrations of family history websites
- Demonstrations of websites useful for Aboriginal family historians
- Demonstrations of homework help available for students and parents
- For children, story-telling and play sessions using Toy Library items
- Free half hour Internet training sessions
- A book hospital display showing damaged books & the repair process

### SOUTH WEST ROCKS Wed 26 May

- Demonstrations of the computer catalogue
- Demonstrations of the library's website and links to health-related databases
- Advice and demonstration of births, death and marriages information
- Homework help demonstrations for students and parents

### STUARTS POINT Thursday 27 May

- Demonstration of the computer catalogue
- Lessons on the use of the library's website and health-related links
- Demonstrations of homework help available for students and parents

*Light refreshments served on Open Day*

## 150 Melville Students

visited the Crescent Head Landfill Site recently as part of their Social Science studies for Year 10. Schools are invited to contact Council by phoning 6566 3200 to arrange excursions, talks or visits to Council facilities.





## Introducing Macleay Water

Our Water Services section is in the process of re-structuring as a separate business unit of Council. It is to be called Macleay Water and a new logo will accompany the name and structure change. The formation of Macleay Water is a platform from which a new focus on improved customer service can be initiated. It is proposed to develop a Customer Service Charter and form a Community Consultative Committee which would include representatives from across interest groups in the community. This would facilitate input and feedback on our consumers expectations.

More efficient allocation of water and sewerage funds means improved water and sewerage infrastructure and a better service for you, the customer. As a side benefit, you will also be able to recognise Macleay Water staff, vehicles and correspondence quickly and easily.

Macleay Water is building on what we do and is looking at ways to improve the urban water services (water supply, sewerage and stormwater) provided to its customers now and into the future. The Macleay Water Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy (IWCMS) is a plan for managing these services that will:

- help to meet customer needs;
- maximise the value of water resources;
- and minimise the impact of water use on the environment.

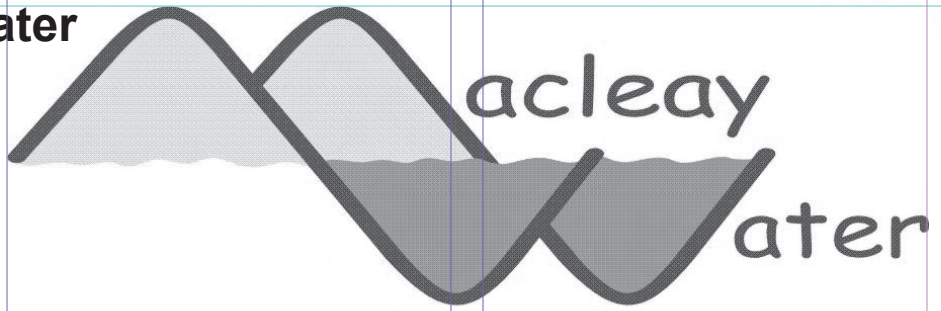
The first step in building the strategy was to ask, 'what are the issues?'

Three different categories of issues were identified:

### Free POOch Pouches

are now available at Council's Civic Centre, Crescent Head Post Office or from South West Rocks Library. The POOch Pouch is a small brightly coloured pouch that attaches to your dog's leash to store appropriate bags for cleaning up after your dog when you are out walking.

Responsible dog owners are aware that dog droppings are one of the main sources of contaminants in our waterways. When it rains, the droppings are washed into the stormwater which discharges into the ocean and our creeks. When walking your dog, please make sure you take along some biodegradable bags to collect any droppings and dispose of them when you get home - either in the bin, the garden or down the toilet. Get your POOch pouch today and let's all do our bit to avoid polluting the waters of the beautiful Macleay Valley Coast.



- Urban issues, including urban water service complaints, sewerage effluent disposal and the level of residential water consumption;



*The sedimentation tank at the South Kempsey Sewerage Treatment Works*

- Water resource issues, such as the need to provide water for the environment and to share water resources between the town and other water users such as farmers; and
- Catchment issues, including water quality, floodplain management and algal blooms.

The next step was to look at ways to fix the issues. Amongst the many suggestions were:

A BUSINESS UNIT OF KEMPSEY SHIRE COUNCIL

- programs to reduce wastage of water,
- increased use of treated effluent,
- rainwater tanks and
- improved stormwater management.

Part of the IWCMS process involved identifying five different ways, or scenarios, in which all three of these services, water supply, sewerage and stormwater can be managed together over the next 30 years. Building scenarios involved packaging together many of the suggestions to fix the issues identified.

An assessment of the social, environmental and economic impact of each scenario will soon be complete and a draft IWCMS will be put on public display. At this time, the community will be asked to express their opinions on the scenarios.

Together, Macleay Water and the community will adopt and work towards putting in place the preferred scenario. If you would like further information on this project, please contact Eli Ussher on 6566 3200 or visit our new, information packed website - [www.macleaywater.com.au](http://www.macleaywater.com.au)

**Great news.** The Toy library has re-opened with toys, especially for pre-school age children, available for borrowing at the Kempsey Library.

### Opening hours:

Thursdays & Fridays: 10.00am - 12.30pm  
2.00pm - 5.00pm  
Saturdays: 10.00am - 1.00pm

**Learn** all about the Internet with training available at all of our libraries during July. Phone 6566 3210 to book your place in one of the sessions.