



Community Newsletter

The Macleay Valley Coast
...Lifestyle - second to none

September 2008

Kempsey hosts successful Saleyards Conference

The conference for the Saleyard Operators of Australia was held on 23-25 July 2008 at the Kempsey Macleay RSL Club. It was a huge success.

Twelve months ago Councillor Brian Sowter, Bruce Snape and Steve Read secured the rights to host this year's conference in Kempsey. Apart from hosting a successful conference, Council's organising team wanted to showcase the Macleay Valley to conference delegates whilst

minimising any cost to ratepayers. This was achieved through the generous support of event sponsors and the efforts of staff to do a lot of the preparatory work in-house.

After the conference, Steve Loane, President Saleyard Operators Australia, had this to say: "The dust has settled on another successful SOA annual conference. Those that were able to attend would no doubt agree that organisers did a splendid job. The venue was great with peaceful views over the mighty Macleay River and a more than adequate auditorium. The staff looked after us like royalty and the locals welcomed everyone like family. Delegates witnessed some torrential rain and the partners had a wonderful time on tour of the district's attractions."

Left: Steve Read, MC, gets proceedings underway at the conference Meet & Greet Function.



Above: Council staff welcome some of the delegates at the Conference Registration desk.

A report on the conference was presented to the August meeting of Council. To view this report go to Council's website, then 'Communications', 'Agendas & Minutes'; Click on the 12.8.08 Agenda and then scroll down until you find the report.

SWR Treatment Plant Upgrade & Water Recycling Plant

In the past year Macleay Water, in conjunction with Hunter Water Australia, has been working towards upgrading its sewage treatment plant at South West Rocks. As part of this project, the existing sewage plant capacity will be doubled and a new water recycling plant will be constructed.

The existing sewage plant currently consists of 3 pasveer channels, 1 effluent pond and 2 sludge lagoons to treat the sewage. The upgrade will consist of two (2) new Sequence Batch Reactor (SBR) units, an additional above ground balance tank, a blower building and new office building. This upgrade will increase the capacity from the current volume of 6000 EP to 12000 EP. The Contractor for this project is Laheys Construction Pty Ltd.

The new water recycling plant will be constructed in a new building adjacent to the sewage treatment plant and will consist of sand filters, membranes and ultraviolet and chemical disinfection. The recycled water will then be pumped to an existing reservoir which will supply various residential subdivisions around the South West Rocks area, the golf course and sportsfields with this water. The Contractor for this project is Odis Filtering Ltd.

In conjunction with these projects is another contract for the construction of the recycled water mains, which is still being finalised.

Construction is expected to commence soon for the sewage treatment plant upgrade with the remaining contracts to commence in the coming months. The overall project is expected to cost approximately \$19M and is expected to be completed mid 2009.

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE IN THE COUNCIL ELECTIONS SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER...

AND

REMEMBER TO VOTE 'YES' OR 'NO' TO THE REFERENDUM QUESTION:

"The Mayor of Kempsey Shire council is currently elected by the Councillors.

Do you favour the election of the Mayor by electors for a four year term and without changing the number of Councillors from nine including the Mayor?"

For information on the 'Yes' and 'No' cases for this question see the advertisements in the Macleay Argus, Mid Coast Observer or Macleay Valley Happynings.

Authorised by A Burgess Kempsey Shire Council, 22 Tozer St West Kempsey

Achieving our Vision

Council provides high quality services and facilities through strong leadership which considers the needs of our community, the environment and future generations

Kempsey's Living Library to kick off in History Week

In partnership with Interrelate, Kempsey Shire Library has been working over the past few months to develop a Living Library, the launch of which will be on Wednesday 10 September 2008 during History Week 2008. On the day there will also be a host of other activities to celebrate this exciting and much anticipated launch.

From 2.00 pm, library staff and expert volunteers will hold information sessions, and demonstrations of equipment and resources for the beginner family history researcher. Material from the State Archives, the State Library website, the genealogy website ancestry.com, library resources and information available from the web will be demonstrated to small groups. There will also be a demonstration of Council's cemeteries database. These sessions are designed for general information rather than to provide one-on-one assistance on this occasion.

Under the patronage of the Mayor, Betty Green, the Living Library will be launched at 3.00pm. A number of Living History Books, who have grown up in the Macleay Valley or who have lived here for many decades, will be on hand to chat with Readers about their recollections of what the region was like 40 to 60 years ago.

Living Books can be booked for half an hour and the session extended if no one else is waiting. It will be a fun way to spend a couple of hours reminiscing in good company and a friendly, social environment while learning about our community's recent history.

Historical film footage with local themes will also be shown in the foyer and refreshments available all through the afternoon. For more details contact the Library by phoning 6566 3210.

Tour Of Recycling Facility Enjoyed By All



As part of this year's Local Government week celebrations, Kempsey Shire Council conducted a tour of the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) at Cairncross. Nineteen residents took advantage of the opportunity to participate in the free tour and, in the process, learned more about what happens to the material they place in their recycling bin. Back at the Council Chambers after the tour the group shared morning tea and a cuppa.

Crosses for unmarked graves

Council, in partnership with the Kempsey Men's Shed, is making white wooden crosses for the unmarked graves in the cemeteries.

The project is for graves over 5 years old that have no monument to indicate who is buried in that particular plot. East Kempsey is the first cemetery where this is being undertaken.

The men are doing a fabulous job making and painting the crosses, ready for Council to paint the name of the person buried without a permanent marker.



Above: Lads from the Men's Shed at work preparing crosses to be used marking graves at East Kempsey cemetery.

In brief...

Council has developed a webpage to assist pet owners and residents with checking on impounded cats and dogs. It is designed to help people track down a lost or missing pet and for anyone thinking about adding a new canine or feline member to the family. The site will be updated on a daily basis and can be checked at any time of the day. Just follow the link: <http://www.kempsey.nsw.gov.au/impounded-animals.html>.

Best wishes to Bruce Snape, Council's Director Corporate and Community Services who is retiring after more than 30 years of service to Council.

The management of water, water conservation and ecological sustainability are important issues for both Council and the community. Did you know the NSW State Government offers a rainwater tanks rebate scheme. Residents are encouraged to take advantage of this rebate opportunity. If you own a residential property and are considering installing a new rainwater storage system you could save money through this rebate scheme. For more information, or to find out if you are eligible, contact the Department of Energy and Climate Change Environment Line (phone 1300 361 967), hitting their website (www.environment.nsw.gov.au/rebates/ccfrtw.htm) or Council's Customer First Centre (phone 0265663200 / email ksc@kempsey.nsw.gov.au)

If you see a dead animal on the road which needs to be removed please phone Council on 65 663200 as soon as you see it. For staff it is much easier to do this unpleasant job before the carcass of the unfortunate animal is well and truly squished!

YOUR COUNCILLORS

Mayor Betty Green	6562 8938 0427 419302
Deputy Mayor Janet Hayes	65617188 0427 804956
Councillor John Bowell	65625122 0438 625 122
Councillor Terry Hunt	6561 7157 0414 356 197
Councillor Jim Gribbin	6566 6907
Councillor Bob McWilliam	65665465 0402 134040
Councillor Dean Saul	65674682 0419 639943
Councillor Brian Sowter	6567 4281
Councillor Ellis Walker	6562 2119

How can we help you?

Please contact us

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