



DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES REPORT

10th May 2005

DSS9 WORKS IN PROGRESS
FILE: R8-2 KJF

SUMMARY:

Reporting on Works in Progress.



ROADS

REGIONAL ROADS

Sealed

Patching and general maintenance is continuing on all the Regional Roads.

Work has commenced on MR75, Armidale Rd, realignment at Turners Flat. The work involves earthworks, drainage and pavement of the black spot section immediately west of the Turners Flat Rd intersection. This major upgrade is to commence mid April.

LOCAL ROADS

Sealed Rural/Local

Pavement maintenance work on the sealed road network is continuing.

Sherwood Rd realignment and rehabilitation works have been completed as part of the Roads to Recovery program. Sealing was completed on 29th April 2005.

Construction of the Northern end of Point Plomer Road commenced on the 4th April 2005.

UNSEALED RURAL

Gravel Resheeting

Resheeting of Mines Road was completed April 2005.

Resheeting of Toorumbee Creek Road was completed April 2005.

Resheeting/Maintenance of Toms Gully Rd was completed April 2005.

Resheeting/Maintenance of Mungay Creek Road has commenced and is due for completion early May.

Warbro Brook Road is due to be resheeted during May 2005.

Willi Willi Road (1.2klms from Tait's Bridge) is due to be resheeted during June 2005.

Maintenance Grading

The "Shire East" roads maintenance crew is currently in the Frederickton/Collombatti Area (Area E4). The crew will move to the Aldavilla Area (E5) upon completion of area E4.

Roads graded during the past month;

Lukes Lane	Thurgood Lane
Cooks Lane	Syd Sutherland Lane
Western Lane	Gills Lane
Reilly Street	Church Lane
Two Hills Lane	Dangars Lane
Raymonds Lane	Quarry Road
Everinghams Lane	Kemps Access
Spooners Ave	

The "Shire West" roads maintenance crew is currently in the Millbank Area (Area W7). The crew will move to the Nulla Nulla Area (Area W1) upon completion of area W7.

Roads graded during the past month;

Hickeys Creek Road

TOWN AND VILLAGE STREETS

Kempsey Town Improvement

No further TI work is scheduled for 2005.

Crescent Head Town Improvement

No further TI work is scheduled for 2005.

South West Rocks Town Improvement

The Memorial Avenue area is currently undergoing improvement works under the RTA 40km/h High Pedestrian Usage Program. This work will

involve the installation of blisters, median islands and footpaving to accommodate a more pedestrian friendly environment.

In Gregory Street the retaining wall has been completed, drainage and kerb and gutter work is complete, fencing has been erected, foot paving is complete and the roadwork is complete except for the sealing which will be completed as part of the 40kph works.

Frederickton Town Improvement

No TI work is scheduled for 2005.

Hat Head Town Improvement

The footpath/cycleway has been completed to the limit of available funds. Drainage works are due to commence in the Fern/Straight Street Area.

Stuarts Point Town Improvement

No TI work is scheduled for 2005.

Pedestrian Access Mobilisation Plan (PAMP)

PAMP work is scheduled in North Street in May 2005.

PAMP work is scheduled in Sea/Marsh Street in May 2005.

FLOOD MITIGATION

General maintenance and repair of the floodgates on Kinchela Creek and Belmore River flood structures is continuing.

The Christmas Creek Flood Structure maintenance works have commenced. This work involves the dewatering of the site; the grit blasting of the concrete structure; replacement of steel where needed; and the repairing of concrete surfaces. The floodgates will be renovated at the same time.

BRIDGES / STRUCTURES

Specific Maintenance

Maintenance on McIntyres Bridge on Nulla Nulla Rd has been completed.

BUILDING SERVICES

Work completed last 4 weeks

- Ongoing maintenance to amenities.
- Aged Care Units: miscellaneous repairs.
- Crescent Head. Erect collumbarium wall.
- Boronia Gardens. Paint BBQ area.

- SWR Heritage Precinct. Re-pier Rocket shed and prepare for painting.

Work proposed next 4 weeks

- SWR: Conversion of toilet block to Coastal Patrol HQ
- Gladstone Hall: Extensions for gallery (continuing).
- Lot 98 Akubra Place: Alterations to accommodate separate tenancy agreements. (continuing)
- Install Bus Shelters: Crescent Head Rd (opposite Blairs Lane) and intersection of Marys Bay Rd and Channels Way.
- SWR Heritage precinct. Reconstruct back verandah to Pilot Station Bldg.
- Unit 1 Tozer St. Refurbish shower and waterproof.
- Unit 2 Tozer St. Replace water damaged bedroom carpet.
- Unit 14 Boronia Gardens. Internal painting, clean floor coverings.
- 357 Armidale Rd. Refurbish prior to painting.

WASTE SERVICES

Works Completed during last 4 weeks

1. Normal Operation and Maintenance.
2. April MidWaste Meeting at Hastings Council.
3. Additional School Holiday service schedule
4. Continued negotiation of new Waste Agreements

Works proposed for next 4 weeks

1. Normal Operation and Maintenance.
2. Development of new service routes and extension to 5 day servicing
3. Delivery of new waste vehicles.
4. Relief staffing at KWR&DF for leave.
5. Training of Civic Maintenance Staff in Landfill operation

BATHS

Works completed during last 4 weeks

1. Normal operation and maintenance
2. Completed EPA Backwash Works at Gladstone.

3. All Pools closed for 04/05 season
4. Advertising of Pool Contracts for South West Rocks and Gladstone.
5. Site inspections for prospective Tenderers.

Work proposed for next 4 weeks

1. Post season maintenance and closure works
2. Continued EPA Backwash Works at Crescent Head
3. Site inspections for prospective Tenderers.
4. Negotiation and post season discussions with current Contractors.
5. Pool Tender closure for South West Rocks and Gladstone Pool Leases.

WATER SUPPLY

Normal operation and maintenance of Water Supply Pumping Stations and Treatment Plants continues.

Works completed last 4 weeks

1. Hat Head Road Main Realignment in conjunction with roadworks – complete.

Works Proposed for next 4 weeks

1. Install meters on all bore pumps – continuing.
2. Monitoring and testing of dam – continuing. Dam on line.
3. Stuarts Point Sludge Trial/Removal – continuing.
4. Meter Replacement Program – continuing.
5. Water main realignment RTA Macleay Street. Between William Street and Christmas Street, Frederickton.

MONTHLY WATER CONSUMPTION

	March 2004 Kilolitres
Kempsey Dam	151 261
Belgrave Falls	0
Bellbrook	977
Crescent Head	17 333
Hat Head	507
Sherwood - Lime Plant	202 626
South West Rocks	48 071
Stuarts Point	18 550

Willawarrin	875
Total Consumption	440 200

Kilolitres to Financial Year to Date: 3 327 004

Applications for connection in April – 6

SEWERAGE

Normal operation and maintenance of sewerage treatment plants and pumping stations continues.

Works completed last 4 weeks

1. South West Rocks sewer rehabilitation – complete this stage.

Works Proposed for next 4 weeks

1. Sewerage Pump Stations Fall Prevention Systems – manufacture and install – continuing.
2. Fence repairs, sewer installations and pump stations – continuing.
3. Infiltration repairs East and South Kempsey 95% complete.
4. West Kempsey Sewerage Treatment Works – Sludge Trial – continuing.
5. Defect notices to property owners, Catchment K6, West Kempsey – continuing.
6. De-sludge lagoon, South West Rocks – continuing.
7. Continuing sewer rehab K6 catchment.
8. Sewer main realignment RTA Macleay Street, between William Street and Christmas Street, Frederickton.

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND LIFESTYLE

Aboriginal Liaison

Highlight of the Month

More dollars (\$1.5mil) committed by the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs towards the Dunghutti Community Working Party for Aboriginal Housing.

The advertising for the Coordinator for The Circle Sentencing Project in Kempsey.

An address to be given to the Goorie Interagency group on Friday the 29th April 2005 by the Attorney General's Department.

Other activities

Maintaining the networking and the linkages with the Kempsey Local Aboriginal Lands Council.

Developing Naidoc Week activities to be held in July 2005.

The engagement of Aboriginal site officers on the Point Plomer Road project.

Twelve (12) Community Consultation meetings for Health, Housing and Culture and Heritage Matters were conducted.

In the process of developing the Draft Cultural Protocols in consultation with key stakeholders.

Aged Care Services

Highlights of the Month

Boronia Gardens Day Centre had an average of 14 clients attending the centre on both Wednesday and Saturday sessions. Day trips included a drive to Bellbrook, the Koala Hospital in Port Macquarie and a BBQ at Kempsey Riverside Park. Highlights of the in-centre activities included a craft day and a musical program.

Relevant Service Statistics

Community Options Program	-	30 clients
Community Aged Care Packages	-	35 clients
Neighbour Aid Program	-	41 clients
Veterans Home Care Program	-	162 clients

Outcomes of Meetings

Anne Flanagan and Glenda Hipwell attended the Home and Community Care (HACC) Regional Area Planning Round Community Care Forum at Port Macquarie. The following issues were discussed at this meeting:

- Summary of the Department of Ageing, Disability & Home Care Planning Round 21 forums;
- Presentation from Jane Ree from Alzheimer's Australia on dementia consultation and planning workshops;
- Presentation from Annette McPhillips, Home and Community Care Development Officer, who is based at Booroongen Djugen.

Anne Flanagan and Jo McGoldrick attended the Disability Interagency Network meeting and discussed other one-off funding options for needy clients.

Meetings were held with Najjia Hadzic (Mid North Coast HACC Development Officer) and Robyn Norris (HACC Service & Support Development Officer) regarding the Twilight Tours submission. These meetings were very beneficial, as it will assist with the finalisation of the Twilight Tours submission and further strengthened our working relationship with HACC representatives for our area.

Area Assistance Scheme and Cultural development

Highlight of the Month

Installation of the cupboards and painting of the new kitchen in the Gladstone Hall Macleay Valley Community Art Gallery.

Outcomes of meetings

Macleay Valley Community Art Gallery. Policies and procedures being developed for volunteers, artists and community cultural groups for gallery use.

Arts and Cultural Development Committee (ACDC). The Cultural Plan is being reviewed and updated with priorities set for 2005-2006. On completion, the Cultural Plan will be officially launched.

Progress of Specific Projects

The Macleay Valley Community Art Gallery is on time for completion in late May with a launch proposed for June/July.

Community Services & Lifestyle-General

Community Halls

A questionnaire has been developed to forward to each of the Community Hall Committees to complete information on usage, facilities, requirements and legalities to assist Council with future planning for Community Halls.

Relevant Service Statistics

Cemeteries:

Number of funerals – 15

Number of plaques erected - 6

Number of customer requests for mowing - 1

Kempsey Assistance Patrol:

Number of people assisted in March 2005 – 749

Community Bus Service:

Number of hires (March) – 22

Number of Km's (March) - 1571

Aged Units:

Occupancy – 98% (waiting for a lease to be signed)

Waiting list – 13 for Kempsey units, 23 for SWR

Street Stalls:

24

Progress of Specific Projects

Community Solutions

1. Improve lighting, landscaping and pavements in Kempsey CBD.
 - 70% complete with the remaining funds to be used towards improvements in Belgrave Street and repair of the Savages Lane murals for exhibition
2. Relocation of the Kempsey Assistance Patrol to appropriate premises.
 - 80% complete with the building works completed and remaining funds to be used to purchase training equipment, office equipment and furniture
3. Improve facilities at Wigay Aboriginal Cultural Education Park.
 - 99% complete with all building works completed and a consultant engaged to prepare a Business Plan. All extra funding for the Business Plan has been confirmed and completion of the Plan is the only outstanding item for this project
4. Develop a Community Recreation and Cultural facilities map and plan.
 - 30% complete
5. Develop a targeted apprenticeship scheme
 - 95% complete. This project is being delivered in partnership with the Djigay Centre at TAFE.
6. Establish a Youth Centre and a Youth Plan
 - 80% complete. This project has suffered a setback - is being assessed
 - Establish a Community Committee to investigate conducting a 'Croc' Eisteddfod or similar youth festival.

West Kempsey Community House

Highlights of the Month

The Department of Health and Ageing offering continued funding for another twelve months for Reducing the Risk of Suicide, Depression and Self Harm Behaviour in Young Men

Outcome: The Department of Health and Ageing has offered a new funding agreement for \$59,000 – this offer was the result of Federal Government independent evaluation and our presentation to the Department in Sydney in March 2005.

Outcomes of Meetings

Meeting with Durri Mental Health Worker and Education worker to discuss the drafting of a parent support program that helps families sustain their tenancies, has worked well. Phil Webber from the Department of Health is interested in this project and it is a skeletal program that has been written with future development with community engagement in all the processes.

Meeting with Durri Aboriginal Youth worker which resulted in a two week "full on" holiday activity program during the last two weeks of April 2005.

Meeting at PCYC for the Australian Government's Sports Commission Active After-school Communities – resulted in new partnerships developed that will allow WKCRP involvement in After School Activities at West Kempsey Primary School. This project is an after school project to enhance the health of school children and promote a healthy lifestyle.

Meeting with Department of Housing representative regarding the possibility of the WKCRP to act as a "brokerage agent" for a project supported by Department of Housing that allows for the employment of a Co-ordinator who can liaise with private rental agencies to secure accommodation for those who have difficulty renting including "hard sleepers" (those who sleep in the open).

Open Space and Recreation

Upper Macleay Riparian Weeds Project

A further \$100,000 funding has been secured from National Heritage Trust for this very important project - to continue with the eradication of regrowth of the problem riparian weeds that have so much impact on these important areas. The main weeds being targeted are Madeira Vine and Cats Claw Creeper. Vegetation works has again commences from the start of April 2005.

Crescent Head Foreshore

The first section of landscaping to the Crescent Head beachfront is near completed with additional restoration works commencing which will include turfing to improve areas of high usage in front of the carpark along the foreshore area. A landscape design is being drawn up for this area.

Riverside Park

Sail quotes have been received from two organisations for the erection of Sails over the playground at Riverside Park.

Noxious Weeds

1. Noogoora Burr in Sid Sutherlands Lane has been inspected and funding is being sought to control this infestation to prevent spreading into other roads, reserves and properties.
2. Aerial inspections were carried out on 27 April 05 for Groundsel Bush infestations in the Grassy Head, Stuarts Point, Clybucca, Collombatti and Kinchela areas. Infestations were mapped with the GPS. Inspection letters will be sent to property owners to notify them that they have this noxious weed on their land.

3. Noxious Weed Roadside and private property inspections are currently undertaken mainly targeting Parramatta Grass and Groundsel Bush.
4. Letters have been sent out to landowners for new infestations of Giant Parramatta Grass, Groundsel Bush and Salvinia identified on their property.
5. Giant Parramatta Grass control with Taskforce on roadsides and reserves is now completed. A few areas being treated with Roundup to complete the control program.
6. Groundsel Bush treatment control program is now underway, infestations are being treated on roadside and reserves. Control is also being carried out on crown lands in the vicinity of Stuarts Point. Infestations will be treated in the South West Rocks area, parts of the Pacific Highway and other areas of infestation
7. Planning for identification and control programs of Environmental Weeds, including Camphor Laurel, Large and Small Leaf Privet, Ochna, Cats Claw Creeper, Madeira Vine, Mother of Millions and Khaki Weed has commenced.
8. *Inspections being carried out for Salvinia, Giant Parramatta Grass, Groundsel Bush, Water Hyacinth, Red Lantana, Blackberry, Riparian Vine Weeds and Mother Of Millions as well as other Noxious Weeds.*
9. *Weed Calendars have been an excellent tool to promote weeds awareness and have been in great demand by customers.*

Libraries

Highlights of the Month

Ruth Waite completed the free internet training the library was offering to the community thanks to a small BHP-Billiton grant. There were 32 participants at all branches of the library and the feedback has been very positive.

Other activities

Nancy Tickle, the Toy Library coordinator, retired and Roz Smailes-Cook took over this function at the beginning of the month. Roz is full of enthusiasm and new ideas and has a daughter the right age, so this service should continue to improve and expand.

Our Shire Librarian attended the Country Public Libraries North-East Zone meeting of library managers at Dorrigo. As usual the meeting was very interesting and useful and the group has asked Kempsey Shire Librarian to make a presentation on our corporate library at the next full zone meeting. The May meeting with Councillors will be in Tamworth.

The Shire Librarian visited Wyong and Singleton corporate libraries in March and learnt about how they work. This provided new inspiration to progress Kempsey Shire corporate library.

We had a really interesting speaker and morning tea during Senior' Week, thanks to another small grant.

Tourism

Highlights of the Month

- New Shire Tourism Map finally arrives!
- Sydney Caravan, Camping and 4 Wheel Drive Show-The Macleay Valley Coast Brand is recognized.
- New Signature Touring Maps printed
- New Regional Gatefold Brochure printed
- Free Editorial and picture featuring Kempsey in the Saturday Daily Telegraph. Worth approximately \$5000

Relevant Service Statistics

Visitors to VIC

March 2004 **4178**

March 2005 **5586**

Inquires

Phone/Email

March 2004 **1141**

March 2005 **1620**

Accommodation

Bookings

March 2004

\$1526.00

March 2005

\$1535.00

Souvenir Sales

March 2004

\$1068.25

March 2005

\$2060.75

Meetings

Signage Meeting in Grafton with TASAC (Tourist Attraction Signposting Assessment Committee), RTA and Council Representatives from North Coast and Northern Rivers.

Progress of Specific Projects

- Billboards - designing board for Hat Head and Crescent Head.
- Investment Packages for Tourism Operators have been produced by VIC.
- Macleay Valley Coast Tourism is in charge of the judging process and award criteria for the *Greater Port Macquarie and Macleay Valley Coast* 2005 North Coast Regional Tourism Awards.

Tourism Strategic Plan Update

Strategy 1- Adoption of a New Tourism Management Model.

- Tourism Association formed.

Strategy 2 - Preserving and Showcasing the Core Values of MVC.

- Supporting National Parks and Wildlife Services to update walking trails-ongoing.
- Held meeting with Fishing Club regarding concern of fishing grounds being turned into National Parks and, therefore, having impact on tourism and local recreation all fishermen.

Strategy 3 - Developing the Capabilities of a Hub & Spoke Network.

- On-going project to develop themed trails such as Slim Dusty Way that will work in connecting all shires (no boundaries).
- Attended Signage meeting in Grafton regarding Scenic Drive Trails. Scenic Drive 12 and 14 have been audited by the RTA and results will be forwarded within two months.

Strategy 4 - Nurturing and Assisting Industry Development.

- Report on meeting with Aus Industries re Incubator Business is not complete. To be followed up.

Strategy 5 - Consolidating and Rationalising Marketing Activities.

- Undertaking research as a joint project with North Coast Tourism and Southern Cross University.

Strategy 6 - Enhancing Tourism Decision Making Through Research

- Assisting Tourism New South Wales (TNSW) and the RTO in regional research initiatives.
- Participation with the RTO and TNSW in the State wide Regional Data Package project -ongoing.

Youth Development

Highlight of the Month – Youth Week

Youth Week in Kempsey was an inspiring and exciting time for young people in the Macleay Valley with over 2000 in attendance at different events.

Many young people had the opportunity to display artwork with the “Big River Fresh Expressions” art competition, where the entries were of an exceptional standard.

Battle of the Bands was a huge success with two of the winning bands already booked to do several paid performances.

The “Totally Wickid Tour” was a huge crowd pleaser with extreme skate, bmx and inline experts doing displays and then working with the young people in clinics on safe practices surrounding skating and riding.

Many other programs were run over the two week period with cultural camps, movie outings, craft days and information stalls.

Relevant Service Statistics

Well over 2000 young people have been involved in Youth Week Activities. 26 individuals and services worked together to put Youth Week in motion.

Outcomes of Meetings

Macleay Youth Accommodation Service has agreed to advertise 3 new positions for the Kempsey Youth Refuge, which provides housing for homeless youth. During last year, the Kempsey Youth Refuge provided over 860 bed nights to young people in need, as well as servicing over 200 outreach clients.

Progress on Specific Programs

"Your Choice" underage drinking program is still a busy project. This project is facilitated by Kempsey Shire Council's Youth Development Officer, in partnership with PCYC and Area Health and funded by the RTA.

Crocfest is well under way and all committees have been formed and are meeting. At the moment it looks like Kempsey will see over 5000 people involved and close to 600 young people staying on site. This arts and educational festival will be a huge boost to Kempsey's social capital not to mention economic benefit to the shire.

The DA for the proposed Youth Information and Referral Centre in Memorial Avenue is now progressing the alterations that will be needed and correct consultation practices can begin to inform the residents as to the purpose of the centre.

Mid coast youth workers Forum are currently planning more training for youth workers on the Mid North Coast. Presently this is being done in conjunction with Nambucca and Kempsey Shire Youth Development Officers and is available to all youth workers on the Mid North Coast to assist with the development of young people in relevant areas.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- ***Environmental***

The work carried out by the Open Space & Recreation team is focussed on maintaining and enhancing the beauty of the Kempsey Shire environment.

Macleay Water and Works crews complete projects in compliance with standard Environmental Management Plans.

- ***Social***

Macleay Water and Works staff complete infrastructure construction and maintenance programs in support of the community.

The programs carried out within the Community Services team focus on building stronger communities and as such increasing Social Capital.

- *Economic (Financial)*

The works programme undertaken by Works and Macleay Water is funded by both grants and revenue.

State Government Grants fund the majority of programs carried out by Community Services whereas Council funds Tourism, Libraries and Open Space & Recreation.

- *Policy or Statutory*

Nil

- *Director's Review*

This report spans all activities undertaken by Shire Services and provides a guide to Councillors of project status.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be noted.

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K J Finnie
DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES