

BURKE SHIRE Council Newsletter



Edition 39 : March 2014

Australia Day in Burketown



The community of Burke Shire celebrated Australia Day with a jam packed program, starting with a cricket match in the morning, with Mark "Spiegel" Judge taking out the Man of the Match trophy.

The cricket was followed by a Car Rally, with over 15 teams trying to solve a series of cryptic clues which lead them to all manner of destinations in and around Burketown.

The Rally raised plenty of money for the local Kindergarten. The major prize was taken out by Cameron Ketchup and Kahleela Marshall, who cruised past the other contenders by collecting special bonus points for spotting and gathering Australian Flags that were planted in locations around Burketown.

After the last of the lost Rally Drivers returned, residents and visitors assembled at the Council office for the Australia Day Flag Raising Ceremony, where Mayor Cr. Ernie Camp addressed the importance of flying the Aboriginal and Torres Straight Island Flags alongside the Australian Flag on Australia Day as a means of recognising the past and the promise of the future:

"We should take advantage of the opportunity provided by Australia Day to look at the past, acknowledge it and learn from it but do so only briefly for we don't have the luxury of time to ponder. We need to firmly keep both eyes on the road ahead to ensure our future actions leave a better tomorrow and bring a strong community for our youth for our destiny lies with them."

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Images courtesy of Burke Shire Council, Tourism Queensland and various local photographers.'



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Message from the Mayor

Ernie Camp



After a slow start rain is starting to fall on a regular basis and fill in the gaps. Hopefully there will be enough to break the drought – not just here but over the whole drought declared area. Of course all roads are out as the creeks are up but I would urge caution when crossing. It is just not worth the risk.

Australia Day was once again a great celebration for the community. Our Australia Day Ambassador, Barbara Piscatelli, was a delight and willingly gave her time to the community to run art workshops the day before.

The Cricket Match was a great start to the day with some impressive batting skills on display. Congratulations to Phil's team and to the winner of Best Player on Field – Mark Spiegel from Savannah Aviation. The Car Rally was also a lot of fun, and there were cars whizzing in every direction, though the clues were fairly challenging for some.

Congratulations to the Australia Day Award winners Kevin Anderson (Citizen of the Year), Pam de Joux (Community Champion) and to Burke Shire Council (Event of the Year – Bloc Party).

Thanks to Nicole and all the community members who volunteered their time to assist in the running of the day. Council welcomes to the team Chris Rohan as Works Manager and Simba Chimpaka in the Finance Department. We hope you and your families settle into Burketown and enjoy the great lifestyle this Shire has to offer.

Council has made a submission to the Joint Select Committee on North Australia White Paper with a view to highlighting the potential of our Shire and the North as a whole with particular emphasis on the need for infrastructure to meet our current and emerging needs – infrastructure such as power, communication, roads, education and health – to ensure future sustainability and enable the fulfilment of identified potential.

GSD also put in a submission on behalf of its members that reiterated many of the points in our Submission. As Chair of GSD I, along with the CEO and Deputy Chair of GSD, have been involved, alongside MITEZ and key major local industry representatives in North West Qld Strategic Development Study meetings over the past year.

There is a workshop coming up on 11 March in Mt Isa at we will be looking at the submissions and comments made during the information gathering sessions and then prioritising and narrowing the focus of regional development requirements.

This in turn will create a final robust document that highlights the region's potential and identifies requirements to meet that potential. The target audience will be government and commercial investors.

Gulf Savannah Development (GSD) is entering an exciting new era. It has just appointed a new CEO and is transitioning its office back to the Gulf region.

The Small Business Advisory Service is continuing its good work supporting Gulf businesses and I know Annie has plans for a visit and workshop in the coming months.

Council has resolved that over the next four years it will seal from Doomadgee back to the Northern Territory border.

We are also seeking to engage with our Local Government counterparts over the border regarding sealing on the NT side as well with the relevant NT Minister to develop mutually beneficial relationships.

Planning for the new Community Hub is well underway with contracts awarded. Weather permitting the new building should be complete by the end of Winter.

The new building will incorporate a new hall, meeting rooms a coordination centre for local disaster management and offices suitable for use by visiting professionals. It is going to be a piece of infrastructure the whole community can use and be proud to have ownership of.

As always I am available should you wish to speak with me regarding Council matters and I am often in town at the Council office if you would like to speak with me in person.

I wish you all the best for the coming months and look forward to seeing you and sharing my great barra stories – and not about the ones that got away!

Kind regards, Ernie Camp, Mayor.

Message from Cr. Tracy Forshaw

Happy Easter to Everyone in the Burke Shire. I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

The rain is wonderful for our whole Shire. Welcome to our new council employees and residents. Good luck to all the participants at Burketown's Easter Barra Fishing Competition.

I hope to catch up with people at the Dawn Anzac Service at Gregory and then in Burketown for the Morning Service.

Then it will be time to put on the suits and frock up for the Gregory Downs Horse Races on the Saturday 3rd May and to top the weekend off watch the paddles in the Gregory Canoe Race.

In June the Burke Shire Ball will be held at Gregory this year – more dresses and suits. Who said living in the bush was dull. I encourage you all to "talk-up" our wonderful shire and persuade people to come and live, work and play here.

Burke Shire is the Hub of Gulf and we should show how proud we are to live here. As soon as the wet finishes, the Council road crew will be out doing what they do best – that is fix roads, whilst our town crews keep our other infrastructure running at its best.

Please do hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss anything.

Take care, Regards Cr Tracy Forshaw.

Burke Shire Council Update

COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

The pre season meeting for the Local Disaster Management Group was held in Burketown on Wednesday, 20th November, 2013 and the LDMG was stood up and met on Monday, 3rd February, 2014 when Tropical Cyclone Fletcher threatened.

Council will be making a submission to the Department of Transport who are presently calling tenders for regional airline routes including Burketown. Council will be raising issues such as subsidised fares and eligibility, reintroduction of User Group Meeting etc.

Council has to commence a major review of its Town Planning Scheme. Council has installed flood cameras at the Beames Brook and Gregory River (Tirrana) Crossings and these will be linked to Council's website.

THE ENVIRONMENT

Mosquito fogging and misting was carried out in the latter part of 2013 and will recommence in both Burketown and Gregory shortly. A coordinated 1080 baiting program for Burke Shire properties was done in late 2013.

Council is organising quotations for an initial clean-up of the Burketown Landfill. This will be the first stage in a progressive plan to reach full compliance.

THE ROAD NETWORK

Council staff completed the seal of approximately 10kilometres of Doomadgee West Road from the Northern Territory border east in the latter part of 2013; The restoration of flood damage in 2012 and 2013 has been completed. Assessment of damage following Tropical Cyclone Fletcher will be assessed when staff can carry out inspections.

Maintenance works continue on Camooweal Road. Gregory to Lawn Hill Road. Maintenance grades have been conducted on all shire roads and when the weather permits opening grades will commence; Council assisted Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Council with road and street sealing works.

SERVICES

Town Water Supplies are providing the normal abundance of water and operating to the required quality for drinking water – an upgrade to the Burketown Water Treatment Plant will occur shortly. An extension of land has been applied for the Gregory Water Treatment Plant and the plan is for two (2) extra tanks to ensure at least 4 days supply should a malfunction occur.

All parks and gardens are being maintained to a satisfactory standard; Sewerage System operations are maintaining services with minimal maintenance issues; Aerodromes are operating satisfactorily with no issues to report; Aquatic Centre working well however patronage has been down due to weather. Trees and shrubs will be planted at the Burketown Cemetery in the upcoming program – Council is embarking on a program for the placement of plaques and the identification of graves at the cemetery as well as the upgrade of the notice board. Town Entrance signs will be installed on the approaches to Burketown and Gregory in the coming months.

EVENTS

Anzac Day: 25 April, 2014. **Outback Ball:** 28 June, 2014.

Morning Glory Festival: 24-28 Sept., 2014.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Council accepted the tender of Richardson Builders for the design and construct of the new Community Hub to be constructed in Sloman Street. Work is scheduled for completion by the end of August, 2014.

Council has appointed Councillors to Portfolios – The Mayor is ex officio on all Portfolios.

1. Infrastructure – Cr Paul Poole
2. Workshop and Fleet – Cr Zach Duff
3. Community Information – Cr Tracy Forshaw and Cr Tonya Murray
4. Finance – Cr Tracy Forshaw and Cr Zach Duff

ECONOMIC ISSUES

Negotiations are being held between the Traditional Owners and State Government on land tenure issues.

COUNCILLOR TRAVEL FOR DELEGATIONS, MEETINGS & TRAINING

Councillor Camp and Poole attended Gulf Savannah Development Inc meeting. Councillor Camp attended the North West Strategy Meeting. Councillors will be attending an Elected Members Update at Normanton on 13th March, 2014. Council is planning to hold consultation sessions in relation to Water Rates.

WATER RATES

Burke Shire Council, after consultation with Government departments and a ratings specialist, will introduce a two-part water tariff with a connection fee commencing on July the 1st, 2014.

In implementing this system, Council seeks to balance the tension between a) the abundance of available water in/around Burketown and Gregory; and b) the extremely high costs of treating water in a remote environment.

The introduction of this new system is an important component of Council's plan to place downward pressure on water rates by reducing treatment costs and water usage at the same time as Council and residents maintain Burketown and Gregory as green oases within the Gulf.

How can this be achieved? Council will be sending out more information on projected water bills for all residents and businesses shortly and conducting public consultations on water usage and the new rating structure very soon.

On the supply side, Council is looking at ways to reduce the \$p/kL (kilolitre) cost of treating water through better strategies around freight and the delivery of treatment inputs, employing more efficient treatment technology and through improved asset management.

In terms of water use by Council and residents, the aim will be to find a more efficient balance between water usage and keeping the townships green and beautiful.

The following websites may be helpful in providing some tips around more efficient (but equally effective) water usage in the garden:

www.nrm.qld.gov.au/waterwise

www.nrm.qld.gov.au/waterwise/home.html

www.nrm.qld.gov.au/waterwise/education/units/index.htm



Australia Day Award Recipients

Local resident Pam de Joux received the 'Community Champion of the Year' Australia Day Award.

This award was presented by the Australia Day Ambassador, Dr Barbara Piscitelli AM. Pam is very unassuming and matter of fact about her work with the elderly community. Pam's work with Home and Community Care (HACC) is vital to the happiness and welfare of the aged community in Burketown.

Pam often does work outside her HACC hours when caring for the elderly in Burketown. Pam's work means that people who might otherwise be vulnerable are looked after with dignity and shown respect. She also engages the youth in Burketown through her art classes and workshops and holds many art classes and exhibitions for the community of Burketown.

The Citizen of the Year was awarded to Kevin Anderson (pictured above) for his outstanding contribution to the community – volunteering his time at events and with the Rural Fire Brigade. He has contributed to the social fabric of Burke Shire and is proactive within the indigenous community, working at the CLCAC.

The Community Event of the Year was awarded to the Burketown Bloc Party 2013, a free family-friendly event that was held in September 2013 and engaged the whole community. The event was a great marketing tool for the community resulting in publicity for the Shire. The event celebrated the local community as well as the sealing of the road from Gregory to Burketown.

The Event incorporated live music, the Burketown Gift running-race, the 'Burketown rap song' – as performed by the State School children – and a range of stalls and presentations by the SES, the CWA, the Kindy and the Lands Council (CLCAC).

Continued from front page...

The Australia Day crowd then moved to the air-conditioned Hall for a free BBQ with MYO Aussie Burgers and Pavlovas. The Burketown Bake off was judged by fly-in judges, Dr Barbara Piscitelli AM (Brisbane), Athol Young (Brisbane), and Robert Goldsmith (from Melbourne) with Kylie Camp making scones and strawberry jam, Shannon Anderson making lamingtons, Cheryl Landrigan making Jam and the Mayor making lamingtons and taking out the Overall Champion Bake –Off award for his Blackberry and Vanilla Bean Jam. Maybe next year a Bake-Off challenge will be issued from the Mayor to the Mayors of neighbouring Shires.

The Australia Day Ambassador – Dr Barbara Piscitelli conducted art classes on the Saturday, with over 25 people from the community painting something for the Art Exhibition, which was on display at the Hall on Australia Day. It was a great day for Burketown, with many of the local community enjoying the free family activities.

The Australia Day Ambassador had a wonderful time in Burketown and commented that it was a very lovely, tightly-knit community, and that she enjoyed meeting and talking to everyone on Australia Day and over the long weekend.

Gregory Grapevine

Gregory Downs Jockey Club 2014 Races

- Saturday 3rd May

North West Canoe Club

- Annual Canoe Race – Sunday 4th at the Gregory

Gregory 2014 Campdraft & Horse Sports

- June 21st & 22nd
- Contact Campdraft President Ian Forshaw 4748 5521 or Secretary Stephanie Eckford on 4748 5556

CWA – Gregory Branch

How Many Grids To Gregory cookbooks are available for sale \$10 each contact Treasurer Sue Clarke Ph: 4748 5575

Gregory QCWA 2014 Horse Sports & Family Fun Day

- Date Claimer – Sunday 21st September

RFDS Clinic Gregory (Doctor & Child Health Nurse)

From 9am Thursday Fortnightly

- 7th & 13th March
- 10th & 24th April
- 8th & 22nd May
- 5th & 19th June

Health Nurse will also be doing talks at the clinics on topics about eyes, hearing, heart & lungs, flu shots etc.

Sunday Night Tennis

- Family fun night
- BYO food to share on the BBQ
- Starts 7pm

Gregory / Lawn Hill SES Training & Joining-Up

Contact Ian Forshaw 4748 5521 or email: iforshaw@activ8.net.au

Burketown Events

- March – The Pit Stop – in conjunction with Medicare Local and the Burke Shire Council
- 18th - 20th April: the 36th World Barramundi Fishing Competition
- 25th April – Anzac Day
- June – The Order of the Outback Ball @ Gregory

Gregory River Landcare Group

Who we are and what we do...



Gregory River Landcare Group (GRLG) was formed in May 2006 through a "twinning" partnership with the Bulimba Creek Catchment Group (B4C) from South-east QLD. B4C supported the establishment of the GRLG by sharing members' skills and knowledge as well as providing moral support. Southern Gulf Catchments also supported the fledgling group and a close relationship has existed between the three groups ever since.

Early projects focused on community based initiatives including:

- 'Healthy food gardens' established at each school within the Gregory River Catchment-the gardens are maintained annually with support from SGC.
- Four editions of 'dream river calendar' were produced with contributions from the children of Gregory, Doomadgee and Burketown.
- Fishing clinics for local school children.

More recent projects have expanded to target catchment scale issues including:

- Multiple projects controlling weeds along the Gregory River in partnership with the Burke Shire Council, Century environment Committee, Southern Gulf Catchments and local landholders.
- Installing a 'Dump Ezy' at Adels Grove to prevent the illegal dumping of caravan toilet waste into the river.
- Native tree plantings around the Gregory community oval.
- Hosting a 'Gains from Grazing' workshop for local producers.

Membership of the GRLG is increasing and includes the pastoral sector, local business and local government. GRLG believe that working together with local communities, encouraging participation and educating people on the importance of our environment will lead to a better, more sustainable future for generations to come.

"Our goal is to increase the skills and knowledge in our remote communities so we can work together and protect our unique environment."

From the Far Side...

Our apologies to our valued customers in the Burke Shire - we have been stranded on the western side of the Nicholson River for 5 weeks at the time of writing this! But hey, who's counting!

We know that the rain is so welcome to many in not only the Burke Shire but all of western Queensland and we are glad that it has arrived to so many who need it. With the Nicholson River Crossing at Doomadgee flooded, there are quite a few people catching Barra and Bream at the falls when they can reach them and the weir. It is quite a popular spot in the evenings and the weekend - I suppose where else can we all go?

The mossies and sand-flies are starting to come out with a vengeance and it is as steamy as ever, but everything is green and there has been ample work in Doomadgee to keep us busy.

Thank you for your patience, for those who are waiting on us to attend to jobs. We hope to attend to all your electrical needs as soon as the waters subside, unless we can manage to build that ark - or perhaps it would be novel to visit by boat. Please don't hesitate to call us to book your job in or discuss any of your electrical needs - remember we also do testing and tagging and installation of split system air conditioners.

Mark, Annie & Jack, Clemments Electrical Pty Ltd. Doomadgee. Phone: 0400 737 666 or 0427 565 755.

Burke Shire Community Events

supported by Century Sponsorships

If your Not-For-Profit organisation in the Burke Shire is holding a cultural, sporting, educational or health related event during 2014, you can submit a request for financial or in-kind support as part of MMG Queensland Operations' Small Grants Program.

The Program provides sponsorships up to and including \$3,000. If a request is approved, the amount provided may include all or part of the financial or in-kind support requested. MMG Small Grant Sponsorships focus primarily on the regions in which the company operates, and the event or activity must benefit a broad range of people.

Successful applicants need to allow up to six weeks for the sponsorship payment process and be willing to give MMG feedback on how the event or activity went. To request a sponsorship application form, email centurycsp@mmg.com or call the Community and Stakeholder Partnerships Department on 1800 098 721.

Remote Jobs and Communities Program (RJCP)

Remote job seekers are given personalised support to build their skills and get a job.



BURKETOWN & GREGORY



The Remote Jobs & Communities Program reflects the Government's view that everyone who can work should work. Remote job seekers are given personalised support to build their skills and get a job.

Those who cannot get a job participate in meaningful activities that contribute to their community and improve the job seekers work readiness. The program also helps remote-area employers to meet their workforce needs and supports communities in remote Australia to plan and build a better future.

There are 60 regions across Australia the RJCP is delivered in and each region has a single provider work with individuals, communities and local employers to help more people into jobs and build stronger communities. The program is for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous job seekers in remote Australia.

The RCJP has responsibility for services previously delivered under Job Services Australia, Disability Employment Services, Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) and the Indigenous Employment Program.

The provider for Burketown and Gregory is Bynoe Community Advancement Co-Operative Society who are based in Normanton and also service Karumba and Croydon. Bynoe CACS was originally established to provide affordable housing to local Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people. They became incorporated on the 29th October 1979 and are governed by a board of Directors.

Bynoe CACS continues to provide quality housing as well as delivering several other community-orientated services and businesses which include RJCP, Labour Hire, Training, an Arts Centre and Normanton Traders. For more info on Bynoe services and businesses visit the website at www.bynoecacs.org.au

Tonya Murray is Bynoe's Officer permanently based in Burketown who works out of the Mougibi complex in Bowen Street and makes regular visits to Gregory. Since starting in late 2013 Burketown the RJCP team have been mainly undertaking yard maintenance at various properties around town.

We are particularly happy to be assisting the Burketown Kindergarten with regular maintenance to keep it looking nice and safer for the kids.

The team at Gregory will soon be starting a project to fence the Cemetery at Bidunggu and possibly establishing a park for the kids and the community.

The ultimate goal is to find employment for people, however for those that aren't successful in finding work, they need to be completing training, volunteering in the community, undertaking work experience or participating in projects or activities that are arranged through Bynoe.

In 2014 we hope to work closely with all facets of the community and team up with various organisations to broaden our scope of works and contribute positively to growth in our area.

If you're a job seeker, employer or member of a community group with an idea or an upcoming project please contact us to see how we can work together.

CONTACT DETAILS for BYNOE CACS

NORMANTON – HEAD OFFICE: Sharon Robinson: 34 Old Croydon Road, PO Box 414, Normanton 4890. Ph: (07) 4714 9030 Fax: (07) 4745 1304 Email: rjcp@bynoecacs.org.au

BURKETOWN: Tonya Murray: Mougibi Office, Bowen Street. Ph: 0429 174 668 Email: ec_burke@bynoecacs.org.au



Burketown Kindergarten

The Burketown Kindergarten association would like to thank all individuals, businesses and organisations for their contributions whether in goods, services, time or financial support in 2013.

It has seen our Kindy grow and strengthen and we look forward to your continued support. We would like to thank and acknowledge the efforts of Cheryl Portch and Katrina Rex who stood down from the committee after many years of involvement. Thanks to Leonie and Laylee for providing an engaging and stimulating programme for our children. Best wishes for the year ahead.

The Burketown Kindy Committee.

Message
from

Burketown State School



Each student at Burketown State School has an Individual Learning Plan, as although it is very important to connect with students emotionally, we need to help them get better in the one thing that can serve them for life – their day-to-day learning, and that can only occur by determining each student's strengths and weaknesses.

Data is critically important at your school to determine how the students are performing. More importantly, however, is putting faces on data so that the data gathered can inform us of each student's strengths and weaknesses and guide us on how to approach further learning.

On a personal note I have been a teacher for 15 years and I have very much enjoyed the last several weeks as Principal here and look forward to staying here for the long-term.

Prior to being appointed Principal at Burketown State School, my wife Jeanette, (who works at the Burke Shire Works Depot), and I lived on 40 acres in the Brisbane Valley.

We have two children who are both at university studying to be teachers! Jeanette and I are both looking forward to be the first person in the de Grussa family to catch the illusive Barramundi!

I would also like to thank everyone who has made us feel so welcome in this wonderful part of the world – thank you.

*Brett de Grussa,
Principal, Burketown State School.*

The start to the 2014 school year has been very smooth and productive.

It has been outstanding to observe the students getting down to the task of learning and achieving their best.

This has been enabled by the hard-working teaching and non-teaching staff here at school and the support of parents / caregivers and the wider community – it takes a village to raise a child. Our underlying philosophy is one of high expectations and no excuses.

Our priorities for 2014 are:

- Improving the implementation of the Australian curriculum in multi-age learning environments;

- Improving literacy by embedding a culture of reading, writing and spelling within the school;

- Building strong positive relationships with parents and community by redirecting community involvement through school-based mutually beneficial programs;

- Improving quality learning and teaching in the classroom through goal setting and creating, enjoyable and engaging learning environments;

- Improving instructional leadership through developing team capacity and cohesion; and

- Maintaining a consistent pedagogical practise that reinforces continuity across all year levels.

Saddles & Paddles Races

MAY 3RD 2014 @ GREGORY

The Gregory Races is one of the last Bush Race Meetings (affiliated with Queensland Racing) in Queensland's Gulf Country.

For over one hundred years the folk of Gregory have volunteered their time to keep this historic club racing.



Please join us for a Fun Filled Day!

SUNDAY:
CHEER ON THE COMPETITORS
IN THE ANNUAL GREGORY
RIVER CANOE MARATHON

- CHICKEN & CHAMPAGNE LUNCHEON STARTING AT 12 NOON – All Welcome
- 6 RACE PROGRAM - FIRST RACE STARTING AT 1:30PM
- FUN EVENTS FOR CHILDREN
- BOOKMAKERS
- FASHIONS OF THE FIELD
- CATERING AND BAR FACILITIES
- DINNER & MUSIC IN EVENING 'TIL LATE'
- FREE CAMPING

TOTAL PRIZE MONEY
\$54,000.00

President: John Clarke (07) 4748 5575 • Secretary: Rebecca Dixon (07) 4748 5631

Young Gulf Trainees to Benefit

Young Gulf people in traineeships at Century Mine, including those from the Burke Shire, will benefit from the mine's new approach to trainee placements.

As Century approaches the end of open-cut zinc production in mid-2015, it has adopted a trainee employment strategy that will reduce reliance that young Gulf people have on the mine for employment, while still providing opportunities that appeal to their strengths and preferences.

Several recent graduates of Century's Work Ready, Job Ready Program at Myuma near Camooweal have been placed with host employers locations as diverse as Townsville, Cloncurry, Normanton and Camooweal. Century continues to pay trainees' wages even when they are placed with host employers.

The Work Ready Program is a partnership between the Queensland Government and Century. The Government funds the training component of the course and Century pays participant's wages, living expenses and employs five full time employees to support trainees and apprentices.

Members of Century's Training team will be visiting local job networks

over the next weeks to discuss opportunities for future placements in local communities. While 17 trainees and apprentices completed their studies during 2013, Century still has more than 60 trainees and apprentices across its Lawn Hill and Karumba sites and in community-based employment.

Sunday School Dates

2014 BURKETOWN SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9.30a.m. – 10.30 a.m. & NIGHT GOSPEL MEETING 7.30p.m. – 8.30 p.m. held in Church Building - 45 Musgrave St., (P.O. Box 49) Burketown. Q 4830. Ph: 07 4745 5058.

PROPOSED DATES WITH DOUG & FAYE JONES: 2014

9th February, 23rd February, 9th March, 23rd March, 4th May, 18th May, 1st June, 15th June, 20th July, 3rd August, 17th August, 31st August, 14th September, 12th October, 26th October, 9th November, 23rd November.

Indigenous Fire & Weed Project

LATE SEASON RUBBER VINE WORK

Carpentaria Land Council Aboriginal Corporation (CLCAC) and Burke Shire Council are excited to announce a new 'Indigenous Fire & Weed Management Project' taking place in the lower Gulf.

The project is designed to create a collaborative early-season fire management regime across the Gulf Savannah to improve biodiversity, reduce fuel loads and maintain fire breaks. Weeds of National Significance (WoNS), such as Rubber Vine, Prickly Acacia and Parkinsonia will be targeted using chemicals and prescribed late season burning to reduce their impact on pastoral productivity and natural assets.

The 'Indigenous Fire and Weed Management Project' has been funded for four years and brings together a range of experienced partners; including CLCAC GangaliddaGarawa ranger group, the Qld Rural Fire Service, Biosecurity Qld, Southern Gulf Catchment and Burke Shire Council. Over the four years of the projects' duration major outcomes are anticipated, including:

- The control of WoNS, particularly Rubber Vine, through a reduction in the extent of weeds in the project area.
- Active management of the containment line for Rubber Vine and strategic outlier infestations, halting the encroachment of Rubber Vine into the Northern Territory.
- The protection of pasture and biodiversity values across the landscape through the prevention of the spread of wildfires.
- Building capacity for continued best practice in fire and weed management;
- Expanding the current Gulf Savannah Fire Management Guidelines for the region.

In November the Gangalidda and Garawa rangers carried out the first of the late season fire work for the project. Prescribed burning for Rubber Vine was undertaken along the coast from Massacre Inlet to Moonlight Creek, while the Normanton rangers carried out late season fire work on Delta Downs from Karumba to the Gilbert River.

The rangers surveyed areas of Rubber Vine infestation to determine the priority target areas to get the best results and reassess previous target areas of re-infestation.

To complete this component of the project there needs to be at least 50 mm of rainfall a week before the fire application, providing the required soil moisture and to dampen the mulch layers.

This methodology helps the quick return of grasses, resulting in less stress on trees helping them recover quickly. The fire is placed as a backing fire which is slow moving and gives enough cooking time to dry and split the bark on the Rubber Vine, allowing fungus to penetrate, infest and kill the plants. To apply the fire, the rangers used an R44 helicopter which had a gel torch suspended underneath controlled by the pilot allowing us to use spot fires or lay out a line of fire as required.



Photo: Survey plot showing all Rubber Vine has been eradicated (Lime green flag tape showing survey plot in middle of photo) at Moonlight Creek.

The rangers fly in the helicopter as navigators to spot for the pilot and record data. The fire application was a great success in both regions with plenty of great photos and film footage taken showing great fire management. Pilot Craig Gifford commented on how smooth the operation was and was very impressed with results. In particular, Craig was impressed with the destruction of thousands of Rubber Vine plants and how quickly the country has opened up and regenerated.



Paul Edwards from Normanton looking at gel torch with pilot Craig Gifford.

Congratulations to both ranger groups for their hard work and commitment with what can sometimes seem a relentless and endless task. We look forward to having a look at the results of this work in the scheduled post surveys in 2014.

As well as support from Burke Shire Council, CLCAC is also funded to undertake this work by Australian Government Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet; the Queensland Government and Southern Gulf Catchments.

Thanks must also go to all pastoralists in the region who contribute to this important project. Over the next four years the CLCAC are excited to partner with pastoralists and land managers to achieve great outcomes through the 'Indigenous Fire and Weeds Management Project'.

If you would like to be part of this initiative or find out more information please contact Kevin Anderson of the CLCAC on 4745 5132.



Gel torch in operation.

2014 ANZAC DAY

FRIDAY 25 APRIL

@ BURKETOWN

Memorial

- 0545 Assemble for Dawn Ceremony
- 0600 Dawn Ceremony at Cenotaph
- 0615 Complimentary 'Gunfire' Breakfast at the Hall
- 1050 Mid-morning service at Cenotaph and wreath laying

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU TO A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE AND TO CELEBRATE THE SPIRIT OF ANZAC, WITH ITS HUMAN QUALITIES OF COURAGE, MATESHIP AND SACRIFICE.



*"They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn,
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We shall remember them"*

Lest we Forget

36th
World

BARRAMUNDI

FISHING CHAMPIONSHIPS



OVER \$20,000 IN CASH, PRIZES & TROPHIES

- 1st Prize for Heaviest Barramundi \$3,600
- 2nd Prize for Heaviest Barramundi \$1,000
- 3rd Prize for Heaviest Barramundi \$500
- 30 Other Prizes in Categories for Open, Men, Women and Children
- Team Event (Team of 4) – The more teams that enter the bigger the prize money!!! (includes prize for best dressed team)
- Plus Lucky Nomination Prize Giveaway:
- Adults: BOAT, MOTOR & TRAILER
- Juniors: NINTENDO (or similar)

A fun weekend for the whole family held in BURKETOWN, Queensland on 18th, 19th and 20th April, 2014

Supporting our School, Kindergarten and other Community Service Groups

Don't miss the boat for the "only" fishing competition to be at on Easter Weekend 2014

Further information can be obtained by contacting Burke Shire Council on (07) 4745 5100 or Garry Jeffries on 0418 711 734

36th WORLD BARRAMUNDI FISHING CHAMPIONSHIPS - INFORMATION:

WHEN: The Championships will be held over Easter 2014 – from Friday 18th April to Sunday 20th April. The event is hosted by the Burketown Barramundi Fishing Organisation for the benefit of a number of community service groups.

WHERE: In the Albert, Nicholson, Leichhardt Rivers around Burketown in Queensland.

SECTIONS, COSTS & NOMINATIONS: Entry fees are:- Open section \$30, Junior section (14 years and under) \$15, Family section (2 adults and 2 juniors) \$60. Teams Section (4 persons per team) \$80 per team. Nominations are open: 6:00-9:00pm, Thursday 17th April and also 9:00-12:00noon & 3:00-6:00pm, Friday 18th April 2014.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Thursday 17th April – Nominations open at 6:00pm and close at 9:00pm at the Burke Shire Hall.

Friday 18th April – Nominations and Weigh In at the Burketown Pub - 9:00am to 12:00noon & 3:00pm to 6:00pm; Final nominations close at 6:00pm. Entertainment, food and bar at the Burke Shire Hall from 7:00pm.

Saturday 19th April – Weigh-ins at Burketown Pub - 9:00am to 12:00noon & 3:00pm to 6:00pm; Meals available at the Burketown Pub, including 5 lucky draws of \$100 throughout the night– Must be there to win!!!

Sunday 20th April – Weigh-ins at Burketown Pub open at 8:00am and close (final) at 1:00pm. Entertainment, food and bar at the Burke Shire Hall from 6:00pm, including presentation of prizes and trophies.

CATEGORIES: The interim categories and prize money for the 2014 event are as follows:-

Section	Category	Prize
Open	Heaviest Barramundi	\$3,600
Open	Runner Up Heaviest Barramundi	\$1,000
Open	3rd Heaviest (2nd Runner Up) Barra	\$500
Open	All Round Angler	\$200
Open Men	Heaviest Jew	\$150
Open Men	Heaviest Salmon	\$150
Open Men	Heaviest Bream	\$150
Open Men	Heaviest Grunter	\$150
Open Men	Heaviest Fingermark	\$150
Open Men	Heaviest Queenfish	\$150
Open Women	Heaviest Jew	\$150
Open Women	Heaviest Salmon	\$150
Open Women	Heaviest Bream	\$150
Open Women	Heaviest Grunter	\$150
Open Women	Heaviest Fingermark	\$150
Open Women	Heaviest Queenfish	\$150
Junior	Barramundi	\$340#
Junior	All Round Angler	\$150#
Junior	Heaviest Jew	\$150#
Junior	Heaviest Salmon	\$150#
Junior	Heaviest Bream	\$150#
Junior	Heaviest Grunter	\$150#
Junior	Heaviest Fingermark	\$150#
Junior	Heaviest Queenfish	\$150#
Junior	Most Catfish Boys & Girls	\$100/ea
All Entrants	Lucky Nomination Prize Team Event (Team of 4)	

NOTES: 1. #These Junior Categories include 1st, 2nd & 3rd prizes.

The amounts shown are the total prize pool value for each category.

2. Sawfish, Stingrays, Sharks (incl Shovel Nose) and Catfish are NOT eligible for "All Round Angler" or "Team" Categories

• NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Further information can be obtained by contacting – the Burke Shire Council on (07) 4745 5100, visit www.burke.qld.gov.au or contact Garry Jeffries on 0418 711 734.

Schedule effective 3 June 2013

Monday Westbound					Monday Eastbound				
Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.	Flt #	Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.	Flt #
CNS	NTN	12:05	13:35	Q654	ISA	DMD	09:20	10:20	Q655
NTN	ONG	14:05	14:55	Q654	DMD	ONG	10:40	11:20	Q655
ONG	BUC	15:15	15:55	Q654	ONG	NTN	11:40	12:25	Q655
BUC	DMD	16:15	16:40	Q654	NTN	CNS	12:55	14:15	Q655
DMD	ISA	17:00	18:00	Q654					

Tuesday Eastbound					Wednesday Westbound				
Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.	Flt #	Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.	Flt #
ISA	DMD	09:20	10:20	Q653	CNS	NTN	12:50	14:20	Q656
DMD	BUC	10:40	11:05	Q653	NTN	ONG	14:50	15:40	Q656
BUC	ONG	11:25	12:05	Q653	ONG	DMD	16:00	16:40	Q656
ONG	NTN	12:25	13:10	Q653	DMD	ISA	17:00	18:00	Q656
NTN	CNS	13:40	15:00	Q653					

Thursday Westbound					Thursday Eastbound				
Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.	Flt #	Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.	Flt #
CNS	NTN	12:50	14:20	Q656	ISA	DMD	09:20	10:20	Q655
NTN	ONG	14:50	15:40	Q656	DMD	ONG	10:40	11:20	Q655
ONG	DMD	16:00	16:40	Q656	ONG	NTN	11:40	12:25	Q655
DMD	ISA	17:00	18:00	Q656	NTN	CNS	12:55	14:15	Q655

Friday Westbound					Friday Eastbound				
Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.	Flt #	Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.	Flt #
CNS	NTN	12:05	13:35	Q654	ISA	DMD	09:20	10:20	Q653
NTN	ONG	14:05	14:55	Q654	DMD	BUC	10:40	11:05	Q653
ONG	BUC	15:15	15:55	Q654	BUC	ONG	11:25	12:05	Q653
BUC	DMD	16:15	16:40	Q654	ONG	NTN	12:25	13:10	Q653
DMD	ISA	17:00	18:00	Q654	NTN	CNS	13:40	15:00	Q653

NTN = Normanton
ISA = Mount Isa

ONG = Mornington Island
CNS = Cairns

BUC = Burketown
KRB = Karumba

DMD = Doomadgee

1300 759 872

www.skytrans.com.au

Skytrans have introduced student fares on gulf services to and from Cairns and Mount Isa. Fares are offered at a reduced rate to anyone over 12 years that goes to high school, TAFE or university. You must present sufficient and current full time student ID at time of booking. A faxed copy of the id must be sent to reservations centre to obtain the fare. All fares subject to availability.