



# Community Newsletter

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

JULY 2007

## ***Dog and Cat owners urged to check out draft Companion Animals Management Plan***

As a result of the Department of Local Government 'Better Practice' review Council has developed a draft 'Companion Animals Management Plan' to help manage issues associated with cats and dogs in the local area. It covers such key areas as:

- Off leash Free Areas and Signage
- Dog Faeces Management
- Feral Cat/Wild Dog Management
- Excessive Barking
- Funding and Grants
- Keeping of Domestic Animals other than Cats and Dogs
- Pound Procedures
- Problem Pet Owners
- Cat/Dog Registration and Microchipping
- Dangerous Dogs and Restricted Breeds

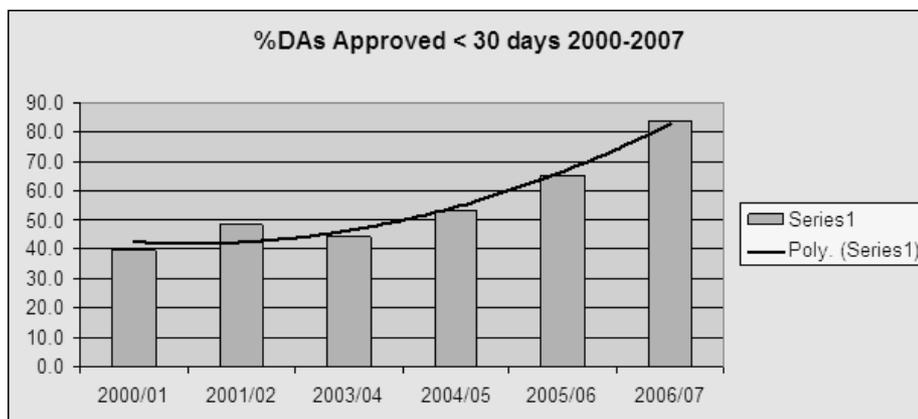
The draft document is now on public display at Council's Customer First Centre and at the Kempsey, South West Rocks, Hat Head and Stuarts Point branches of the Shire Library.

Members of the community, especially owners of cats and dogs, are invited to submit their comments and suggestions in writing so they can be taken into consideration before the final 'Companion Animals Management Plan' is adopted by Council. Please address your comments 'Draft Companion Animals Management Plan', General Manager Kempsey Shire Council, PO Box 78 West Kempsey NSW 2440. Further information is available by phoning Customer First on 65 663200.

## ***83.9% of development applications processed in just 30 days!***

In 2006/07 Kempsey Shire Council approved 629 development applications with a total value of over \$66 million with 83.9% of applications approved within 30 days and 89.1% approved within 40 days. The average number of days to process applications was only 20 days.

This represents a significant improvement in service delivery which can be attributed to ongoing processing improvements being implemented by staff, increased utilisation of the capabilities of Council's computer system (CivicView) and the introduction of the Customer First Centre.



## **FLAG RAISING KICKED OFF NAIDOC WEEK**



## **GET INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY CARE!**

If you would like to participate in social outings for seniors 65 years and over, requiring low level assistance, contact Macleay Community Care Options, Corner Forth and Yaelwood Streets, Kempsey.

The Neighbour Aid program is offering two outings per month which will be held on Mondays and will include bus trips locally and to surrounding towns visiting nurseries, art and craft galleries, beaches, movie theatres and other local attractions. The bus leaves the Macleay Valley Community Care Centre approximately 10.30am and returns approximately 3.00pm.

If you would like to meet new people and keep active then come along and join in these fun activities. Reservations must be made so phone Anne Flanagan or Michelle Stocks on 6562 6799 to book a seat. The cost of the outing which includes admission, light lunch and transport from the Centre is \$10.00.

**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

# OUR VALUES - Trust, Co-operation, Service, Innovation and Pride

## **Riverbank restoration at Smithtown**

Council has again been working with the Nestle Community Environment Program to help restore a 100 metre stretch of the Macleay Riverbank at Smithtown located near the Nestle Factory.

Twenty-four and a half tonnes of noxious weeds have been removed from the site and around 450 trees have been planted on the site.

## **Stuarts Point Residents: What do you think?**

Council is seeking input from residents of Stuarts Point on what you would like to see happen in the area next to and surrounding the Community Hall in Marine Parade.

The land is Crown Reserve owned by the Department of Lands; Council is trustee for the reserve and it is classified as Community land. The Hall currently hosts a Library, a Playgroup and a variety of leisure activity classes. Outside the Hall there is seating and a small garden.

One proposal from a member of our community is to have a community food garden on the north side of the Hall. This would involve planting food trees and plants, perhaps installing raised vegetable and herb gardens or special purpose gardens.

The usable area, next to the Hall on the eastern side of Marine Parade, is about 1,000 square metres. On the other side of Marine Parade the area of the reserve is approximately 2,800 square metres.

Based on the ideas and feedback received from the community, Council is looking at developing a draft Plan of Management for the reserve.

Council is seeking your ideas on how this area can be used. You can write to us at Kempsey Shire Council, PO Box 78 West Kempsey or email us at [ksc@kempsey.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ksc@kempsey.nsw.gov.au). Please forward your comments marked to the attention of Open Space & Recreation Co-ordinator, Kim Buckingham by 31 August 2007.

## **Water Mains work continues in River Street!**

The photos below show the Macleay Water construction team at work on a project to install a major new water main in River Street, West Kempsey.

The installation of these pipes, expected to be completed in October will ease the strain on the current system and is part of an ongoing program to upgrade the water supply in the Kempsey urban area.



## **Waste into Art project for Schools**

Council is running a 'Waste into Art' competition for local schools as part of its ongoing recycling education program.

The project, through which items of recycling will be converted into artwork, will culminate in an exhibition of the most outstanding entries at the Macleay Community Art Gallery in early November 2007.

## **MARG MOTTEE RETIRES**



Council Staff organised and funded a fitting farewell for Council stalwart, Marg Mottee, who retired on 3 July 2007. Marg has been a strong advocate for Council and for our community over many years. We wish her well in her retirement!

## **GRANT FUNDING EXPLAINED**

A question that is often asked of Council is "Why did you do that work when this work is more urgent?" For example, when Council installed a cycleway in Phillip Drive at South West Rocks some people asked why this money wasn't spent on 'more important things, like roads'. In fact, Council had gained grant funding to help finance this project.

When grant funding is awarded to Council it is usually for a specific purpose and Council has to provide evidence to the State or Federal Agency which granted the funds that it has, in fact, spent the money the way it was intended under the Grant.

Council tries to apply for as many grants as possible to supplement its rate income so that extra financial support is found for work that is deemed a high priority for our Shire. However, the options for Grant funding often do not co-incide with our areas of most need.

As a result, Council is often (but not always) in the unenviable position of deciding whether to apply for Grants relating to lower priority projects so that our Shire doesn't miss out on its share of Grant funding altogether.

In future editions of this newsletter Council will keep you informed about the Grant funding it receives.

*How can we help you?*

*Please contact us*



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