

McKinlay Shire Council

Mayoral Message



Welcome to 2018. I hope everyone managed a relaxing Christmas and New Year though I know we are still all awaiting a wet season and a lot of people across the Shire will have continued to work through. Whilst we are still under drought declaration I certainly hope that we will receive widespread rainfall to change this.

With all Council staff and Councillors back at work we have hit the ground running with submissions to the Federal Governments Senate enquiry to Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport focusing on our air services. I also attend the State's Transport User Group Forum on a similar matter. I have attended my first board meeting for the year for Outback Tourism as well as Local Government Policy Executive in Brisbane.

Our Australia Day celebrations were held in both Julia Creek and McKinlay. A full list of award recipients is contained in this newsletter and I congratulate them all again as well as thanking the Julia Creek CWA for providing the catering and the bar.

In relation to the Council landfill in Julia Creek, over the years a significant amount of work has been undertaken to keep the area as tidy as possible. Council is planning to change how people dump general waste to make the process easier but in the mean time we urge people to put their rubbish as close as possible to the edge of the pit, as there has increasingly been a lot of rubbish dumped next to the general waste pit.

Speaking of rubbish impacts, last year the Queensland Government passed legislation for a plastic bag ban across the State. Plastic bags do cause a significant problem in our Shire and at our landfill. Council will be speaking with business about supporting them to implement this process that will come in to affect on the 1st of July this year. There is also a budget allocation to assist in this area.

Currently we are meeting and reviewing our progress against the Annual Operational Plan and budget with the Mid Year review to be completed in February. Overall we are tracking well. Prior to Christmas Council formally adopted new Shire Tourism Plan 2018-2022. Copies of the Plan can be found on Council's website or by request from Reception. The Shire Economic Development Plan 2018-2022 will be adopted at Council's Ordinary Meeting in February and I thank everyone for their contribution to this important document. Following adoption, this Plan will also be available for viewing on Council's website or by contacting Reception.

Lastly, I would like to make comment on our community coming together recently to remember Amy "Dolly" Everett who recently passed, taking her own life due to bullying. I cannot reiterate enough that bullying is not acceptable in any form whether it is online or not. We will be looking at ways to support our local school, our organisation and greater community to ensure that this is more than messaging but is evident in everyone's actions. It's simple really...be kind.

Council Contact Details

29 Burke St Julia Creek

PO Box 177 Julia Creek QLD 4823

E: reception@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

P: 47 467 166

W: www.mckinlay.qld.gov.au



Australia Day Awards



Australia Day

On the evening of Friday 26th January 2018, Council held its Official Australia Day Celebrations and Award Ceremony at the Julia Creek CSA Building. Our Australia Day Ambassador Justine Christerson spoke of her volunteer work in regional Queensland and Brisbane hospitals, assisting with home cooked meals, gift cards, service information, friendship, toiletry packs, care packs for children and most importantly support and understanding. A fantastic evening was had by all who attended; there was an amazing spread of food, accompanied by music and a bar. The evening concluded with a spectacular fireworks display. Congratulations to all the nominees and winners.



- Citizen of the Year - Chris Hewlett
- Volunteer of the Year - Bec Climie
- Sports Administrator of the Year - Kate Frazer
- Junior Sports Star of the Year - Breana Verhoeven
- Senior Sports Star of the Year - Eddie Maxwell
- Sarus Crane Award (Southern Gulf) - Robert Hacon
- Best Local Aussie Baker - Wendy Crawford
- Small Community Event - Julia Creek Pony Club
- The Endless Muster



McKinlay Shire Council Updates & Notices

Digital Innovation Launch Day

Council has secured ARIP funding for three years to deliver a series of digital innovation initiatives. Our launch day will be held on Tuesday 20th March @ the Julia Creek Civic Centre. Parents, governesses, business operators and community members are encouraged to attend to hear from in-region presenters with recent success. There will also be technology on display showing the current trends and possibilities into the future. Registration is \$30. Event contact - Jade Lyons 47467166 / jadel@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

Rates Notices

Rates for the period of 1st January - 30th June 2018 will be levied on the 14th February 2018. Rates are due on the 16th March 2018 to obtain the discount. See Council's website on how to pay and discounts.

Rural Ergon Assessment & Power Pod Project

By completing a survey available on Council's website you have the opportunity to relay current issues and future power requirements directly with Ergon, from which a report will be provided to you and Council. Council has also committed to a project where we investigate the viability of Hybrid Power Pods. These pods will have the capability to supply power to remotely located stations with a 25kva power requirement. Following the Ergon assessment, your rural property may be eligible to go into a ballot (held at an Ordinary Council Meeting open to the public) to trial a Power Pod. There will be up to four Power Pods available, the final number depending on budget. The Power Pod will be serviced by the supplier for the duration of the experiment (up to two years depending on installation costs). During this time the property owner will be responsible for supplying diesel to the Power Pod. The Power Pod, in the form of a shipping container, will consist of solar, battery, generator and, if feasible, a wind turbine. The Power Pods would aim to be installed by May 2018.

Merging of Local Health Groups

For many years Council has hosted the Health Advisory Panel (HAP), which acted as a forum for health service providers and community representatives to collaborate on the health service delivery and work together to improve the service models. Since the transition of the Julia Creek Hospital to a Multi Purpose Health Service which required a Community Advisory Network (CAN), the two forums have been in operation. It has become evident that the two groups are overlapping as their core objectives are very similar and the membership is largely the same. To this end it has been decided to cease the HAP. Council will continue to be an active member of the CAN.

RV Site Road

Council were successful in securing funding through the Transport and Tourism Connections program to seal the access road to the RV Site, ultimately extending Shaw street. Council have commenced work on this project with formation works completed and sealing works to be done in the coming weeks. The road will be closed during this time and is expected to reopen by the end of February. The road is closed from the RV site at Punchbowl road through to the Bike Safety Park.



Community Events



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA [FACEBOOK.COM/MCKINLAYSHIRE](https://www.facebook.com/mckinlayshire)

@MCKINLAYSHIRE [YOUTUBE.COM/MCKINLAYSHIRE](https://www.youtube.com/mckinlayshire)

INSTAGRAM: MCKINLAY_SHIRE_COUNCIL

MARCH

Craft Expo
10th & 11th March 2018
McKinlay Shire Cultural Association
Julia Creek Civic Centre
[facebook.com/MSCulturalAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/MSCulturalAssociation)

Lions Ladies 'Meet & Greet'
Friday 16th March
'Taste of Harmony' multicultural food
Julia Creek Civic Centre at 6pm

Digital Innovation Launch Day
Tuesday 20th March
Julia Creek Civic Centre
jadel@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

Community Fun Day
Saturday 24th March 2018
Julia Creek CSA Building
jo-anne.butler@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

APRIL

Kids In2 Cricket Session
Thursday 12th April 2018
sportrec@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

Julia Creek Dirt 'n' Dust Festival
13th to 15th April 2018
www.dirtndust.com

Anzac Day
Wednesday 25th April 2018

APRIL continued

Outback Bushwhack – 7km Obstacle Course
Saturday 28th April 2018
3.30pm for a 4pm start @ Kev Bannah Oval
sportrec@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

MAY

Julia Creek Campdraft
18th - 20th May 2018
[facebook.com/campdraft.net](https://www.facebook.com/campdraft.net)

JUNE

Queensland Day Celebrations in the Park
Saturday 2nd June 2018
jo-anne.butler@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

McKinlay Races
Saturday 23rd June 2018
[facebook.com/MckinlayRacingCommitee](https://www.facebook.com/MckinlayRacingCommitee)

Saxby Roundup
29th June - 1st July 2018
[facebook.com/saxbyroundup](https://www.facebook.com/saxbyroundup)

AUGUST

Sedan Dip, Races, Rodeo and Campdraft
17th - 19th August 2018
[facebook.com/sedan.dip](https://www.facebook.com/sedan.dip)
www.sedandip.com.au

For more information or to list your local event, please call Faith Williams on 07 4746 7166
or email: faith.williams@mckinlay.qld.gov.au