



Mayoral Message

Welcome to 'Keeping You Posted' for May and June. There has certainly been some significant highs for our Shire over the last eight or so weeks not the least of which was the formal announcement of the new \$8.4 million Julia Creek Hospital. I would like to acknowledge and thank everyone involved in the advocacy of this important project for the future of health in our Shire and we look forward to the start of construction later this year.

Unfortunately we also received the resignation of our CEO Peter Fitchat. Mr Fitchat had been with McKinlay Shire Council for just under two years and achieved a lot in a short space of time. Moving forward Council has engaged the services of interim CEO Mr John Kelly, whom many of you will already know. John will be engaged as our Interim CEO for the coming months whilst we move through a recruitment process for a new CEO.

On a happier note the Saxby Committee delivered another great event to our Shire this year and I wish to congratulate everyone on all the hard work that goes into creating a weekend like this. The McKinlay Races were postponed due to some small rainfalls and will have been run by the time you are reading this newsletter. Coming up in July and August there are many events so please visit our website which has had a great facelift or follow Council on social media.

From a Council perspective I have travelled significantly over the past weeks from Canberra with Cr Royes for the National Local Government Conference to Brisbane for Local Government and Tourism meetings which have been very beneficial. Back in the Shire after a number of meetings and workshops Council formally adopted the 2018/2019 budget with a 3% rate rise. We will be organising our annual budget presentations across the Shire in the coming weeks so please keep an eye out for the dates and times at Kynuna, McKinlay, Neila and Julia Creek to see all the detail around services and capital works and planning for the coming year.

Many of you will have either heard of or be aware of the potential Vanadium Mine Project with Multicom Resources just to the east of Julia Creek. The project is moving along well and is looking extremely positive for our Shire. Council will be keeping the community informed as best we can in the future in collaboration with Multicom Resources.

Mayor Belinda Murphy



VANADIUM

Vanadium is a medium-hard, ductile metal. Approximately 92% of vanadium produced is used in steel alloys. There is also a growing demand for vanadium in energy storage through its use in Vanadium Redox Flow Batteries.

“Bull-ieve In Yourself”

Julia Creek State School student and school leader Cooper Parry-Pope traveled from Julia Creek to Sydney on 9th May 2018 with his mother Tanya accompanying him on his journey. Cooper entered in the Say No To Bullying Poster Competition run by non for profit community support organisation, Interrelate earlier in the year. The aim of our Say No To Bullying Poster Competition is to raise awareness of the issue of bullying and to assist schools to identify and address bullying behaviours in their school communities. The involvement and interest has been overwhelming, with more than 20,000 students taking part since the launch in 2014.



The poster Cooper created was inspired by the slogan, “Bull-ieve In Yourself”. His creativity and effort awarded him a place as a Regional Finalist in the competition, giving him the opportunity to attend the awards ceremony to acknowledge his success. His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd) Governor of New South Wales, who is a patron of Interrelate met with the finalists at Government House in Sydney for the presentation.

McKinlay Shire Council are truly proud to have our community represented by Cooper, through his wonderful achievement as a Highly Commended Regional Finalist if Interrelate's, Say No To Bullying Poster Competition.

CONGRATULATIONS COOPER PARRY-POPE!

Interrelate is a wonderful organisation dedicated to providing a range of quality services, relevant to community needs, aiming to empower people to live and relate more effectively. Find out more about Interrelate: <https://www.interrelate.org.au/>



Queensland Day

McKinlay Shire's Queensland Day celebrations were held on Saturday 2nd June 2018 at Julia Creek's Peter Dawes Park. The event commenced at 9am with markets in the park whereby local artisans sold their wares and local bakers sold their delicious treats. The day represented everything that is great about living in Queensland with children's rides, old fashioned games and a free sausage sizzle under some beautiful Winter sunshine. In the lead up to the event, a competition was held for children where they were encouraged to submit entries summarising “What being a Queenslander means to me”. Congratulations to Jack Woodfield.



Budget 2018 / 2019

McKinlay Shire Council adopted its 2018/19 Budget on 26th June 2018. Modelled on workshops and portfolio meetings, the Budget will see revenue of \$21,753,973 and expenditure of \$21,162,629 enabling a positive cash position of \$591,344 and reserves of \$1,400,000 at 30th June 2019.

Informed by the McKinlay Shire Roads Strategy, the allocation for roads maintenance is \$1,230,000. The 2018 flood event has been lodged with National Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) and a modest \$5,200,000 has been included from a possible claim of approximately \$28,000,000, yet to be approved.

The capital works proposed have revenue of \$3,310,983 and expenditure of \$8,411,787. The Capital Works Program is financially responsible, strives to renew assets and endeavours to provide economic and community benefit. Capital expenditure on roads focuses on the continuation of new sealing works on the primary network comprising the Nelia-Bunda, Gilliat-McKinlay and Punchbowl Roads. Other undertakings include: Julia Creek Housing Project; Julia Creek Wi-Fi; Julia Creek Sewage Treatment Plan and upgrades to McKinlay Shire infrastructure and plant. Pending funding approval, additional projects include: further works on the McKinlay-Gilliat Road; Innovation Hub and the internal fit out of the Community Events Precinct.

The budget contains a new Community Plan and also an Early Years Hub business case for the care of babies through to Primary School aged children. Both of these projects are contingent on receiving funding. In the areas of Economic Development and Tourism, newly adopted plans guided this area of the budget.

Unfortunately, due to a lack of funding, the special rate levy for Dog Baiting will be charged in 2018/19. A rates rise of 3% in 2018/19 was also necessary to ensure that McKinlay Shire Council is able to meet rising costs; maintain strong financial management; deliver for community and to maintain operational services in their entirety. A 3% rates rise equates to an annual increase of approximately \$40 for an average residential land owner in the Shire or an approximate increase of \$18 for a pensioner.

"Overall, this budget ensures that all services to community are maintained whilst strong financial sustainability and management are upheld with a positive cash position and healthy cash in reserve. McKinlay Shire Council will present the adopted 2018/19 Budget during July/August in meetings across the Shire and through normal community communication channels," Mayor Belinda Murphy summarized.



Pit Stop Health Check

On Thursday 24th May 2018, McKinlay Shire hosted a team from the Royal Flying Doctors Service of Australia, who conducted a 'Pit Stop' health promotion day for our community. Held at the Julia Creek Civic Centre, men and women over 18 years of age were invited to a free service to put their bodies over the pits, just like they would do with their motor vehicles, to see if they were 'road worthy'. The day provided an opportunity for people to get their oil pressure (blood pressure) checked, to find out ways to improve their extractors (bowels), and to discuss things like the condition of their duco (skin), their ball-bearings (men's health), their gearbox (women's health) and their shockies (mental health).

Tea, coffee and light refreshments were served for those in attendance. Lucky-door prizes were won by Beryl Lynn, Renee Kruszyna, Teana Rafter and Amy Tinning. Queensland Country Womens Association's, Country Kitchens program was also represented at the event – with Judy Fysh kindly whipping up a healthy treat option for a mystery taste-test competition. Carolyn Marshall and Aimie Athorn correctly identified the three key ingredients in the carrot, date and zucchini cake and were awarded Pit Stop water bottles for their efforts.

Many thanks to those who attended and made this day a success!
Yours in good health,

Nicole Morris, McKinlay Shire Council Community Health Nurse



Creativity & Virtual Reality Workshops



Inspiring Creative Young People - Parents & Educators Forum.



RSVP by 3 August 2018. REGISTER: jadel@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

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McKinlay Shire Council have partnered with Fiftysix Creations to deliver a free creativity forum for parents & educators. The forum features presentations, a taste of our workshop programs and plenty of time to have your questions answered, or ideas heard.

Topics Covered: Inspiring Creative Students, Cyber Safety, Social Media, Importance of People Skills in a Digital World and the Skills Young People will need in the Workforce of the Future.

Speakers Include: Taj Pabari, 2017 Young Australian of the Year for Queensland; Zara Lassey, Lead Classroom Coach at Fiftysix Creations and Charles Coverdale, Futurist and Economist.

McKinlay Shire Council have partnered with Fiftysix Creations to deliver a free creativity and and virtual reality workshop. All students who attend will start their very own business or social change movement and build a virtual reality headset.

DATE: Sunday, 12 August 2018

TIME: 10:00am to 3:30pm

VENUE: Julia Creek Civic Centre

AGE: 8 to 16 years

COST: Free



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