

Seniors Week 2010 - your events calendar

Sunday 21st March

- All day Richmond Vale Railway Museum will be offering half price entry and a free morning tea to senior citizens. **\$4**
- All week Hunter Valley Gardens will be offering 250 FREE entry tickets for senior citizens during Seniors Week. Activities throughout the week will include cooking demonstrations, talks on wine, Gardens history talk, Elvis the Legend Show, a retirement village expo and much more. Once all free tickets are allocated, entry to the gardens is just \$10 (normally \$17) for the remainder of the week. For further information on scheduled events, please contact the Gardens on 4998 4000. Free tickets can be collected from Cessnock City Council's Customer Service Centre. **FREE**

Monday 22nd March

- 10.00am Come and Try Croquet – one of the oldest and easiest outdoor activities. Very pleasant and extremely social. Morning tea provided. Transport available and bookings are essential on 4990 1295. **FREE**
- All day Cessnock Cinema 3 will be offering \$2 cinema entry for senior citizens. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer. **\$2**
- 10.00am-12.00pm Adina Winery will be holding Olive Tours and Tastings. Four sessions throughout the day at 10.00am, 12.00pm, 1.30pm and 3.00pm. Bookings are essential by contacting 4930 7473. **FREE**
- 10.00am-2.00pm The Memory Van will be visiting Cessnock Library - "Mind Your Mind" talk - which provides positive messages about reducing risks of dementia. Morning tea is provided and bookings are essential by contacting Cessnock Library on 4993 4399. **FREE**

Tuesday 23rd March

- All day Cessnock Cinema 3 will be offering \$2 cinema entry for senior citizens. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer. **\$2**
- 10.00am Come and Try Scrapbooking – create your own masterpiece while protecting your precious family photos. Numbers are strictly limited and bookings are essential on 4993 4399. **FREE**
- Pick-up from 8.30am 'Going Wild' Picnic Day – Visiting Peace Park and Hunter Valley Zoo. Morning tea and lunch provided. Numbers are strictly limited, transport is provided and bookings are essential. To book your place phone Jessica Forbes at Cessnock City Council on 4993 4287. **FREE**
- 10.00am-2.00pm The Memory Van will be visiting Kurri Kurri Library - "Mind Your Mind" talk - which provides positive messages about reducing risks of dementia. Morning tea is provided and bookings are essential by contacting Cessnock Library on 4993 4399. **FREE**
- 10.30am-11.30pm Learn the exotic moves and 'Spirit' of Belly Dance in this one hour introductory class. For more information call (02) 4926 1633 or visit www.dsr.nsw.gov.au. **FREE**

Wednesday 24th March

- 8.00am Kurri Kurri Healthy Heart Walk. Morning tea will be provided after the walk. Please contact Mr Noel Rose on 4990 9120. **FREE**
- 10.00am 'I'm Taking Off' tour of Cessnock Aerodrome. Hunter Valley Aviation and Wine Country Helicopters will provide participants with commentary on pilot training and other interesting aviation topics. Participants will also have the opportunity to wander through the Hunter Valley Recreational Flyer Club hangers to view ultra light and micro light aircraft. Morning tea will be provided by the Hunter Valley Recreational Flyer Club. Numbers are strictly limited, transport is available and to book your place phone Jessica Forbes at Cessnock City Council on 4993 4287. **\$5**
- 10.00am Introduction to the Internet Class at Kurri Kurri Library Bookings are essential. Please contact Kurri Kurri Library 4937 1638. **FREE**
- 10.00am Come and Try Painting for Pleasure – be told the wonderful stories behind dot paintings by Australia's principle Aboriginal artist, Les Elvin. Learn to put brush to canvas for the first time. All materials supplied and bookings are essential on 4990 1295. **FREE**
- 10.00am The Cessnock Regional Art Gallery will be holding a morning tea and talk for senior citizens. The exhibition on display will be 'Rediscovered: An Archaeology of the Present'. For further information, contact the Gallery on 4991 6619. **FREE**
- 10.00am Variety Concert at Abermain Plaza Hall, Bathurst Street. Acts to include the Cessnock Pensioner and Senior Citizen Choir, community singing, duets, dancers and recitals. Morning tea will be provided. Coalfields NeighbourCare will be holding an information expo at the event. Please contact 4930 4444. **FREE**
- 10.00am Computer Pals information session at Abermain Plaza Hall, Bathurst Street. Please contact 4937 2501. **FREE**
- 4.00pm Cessnock Youth Centre and Outreach Service (CYCOS), 49 Aberdare Road, Aberdare will be holding an open day. All senior citizens are welcome to drop in and see what CYCOS does as well as meet the young people who attend the Centre. A light afternoon tea will be provided. For further information please contact 4991 5372. **FREE**

Thursday 25th March

- 10.00am Presentation of the Cessnock City Senior Citizen of the Year at Cessnock Performing Arts Centre. Morning tea provided. Entertainment for the day will include *A Tribute to Elvis* by Norm Bakker, West Cessnock Public School Choir, Bush Poetry and singing. For tickets phone Jessica Forbes at Council on 4993 4287. **FREE**
- 10.00am Introduction to the Internet Class at Cessnock Library. Booking essential please contact Cessnock Library 4993 4399. **FREE**
- 10.30am-12.00pm Samaritans Information & Neighbourhood Centre will be presenting a Law Talk on Wills & Power of Attorney. Bookings are essential, for further information please phone 4993 3400. **FREE**

Friday 26th March

- 10.00am Come and Try Petanque or Boules – what is Petanque? It is a very enjoyable game played outdoors by throwing a small silver ball, underarm, to land as close as possible to the jack. Come along and have fun. Bookings are essential on 4990 1295. **FREE**
- 2.00pm An afternoon of SHORT FILMS at the Cessnock Community Performing Arts Centre. To book please phone 4990 7134. **FREE**

Council reviews draft LEP

Cessnock City Council was pleased with the level of public interest shown during the public exhibition of the draft Local Environmental Plan (draft LEP), with 928 formal submissions received.

However, after reviewing all submissions Council staff believe that the most significant issues raised are those related to the NSW Government's standard LEP template.

Council's Land Use Planning Manager, Bo Moshage, says that many of the issues raised in the submissions can be resolved. "It's the statutory issues, the ones that relate to the draft LEP template, which will be the most difficult to address in a timely way," he said.

"This may mean new clauses and local provisions being introduced into the draft LEP and this will take some time. However, Council has already commenced discussions with the Department of Planning in regard to these issues."

The main issues covered in the submissions received by Council, include:

- Application of the E3 Environmental Management Zone in both the Wollombi Valley and Mulbring areas;
- The expansion of the number of Heritage items, including the treatment of the heritage conservation area for Wollombi;
- The spot rezoning proposals relating to the "Wyndham Street" (Greta) and "Valley View Place" (Nulkaba) Precincts;
- The treatment and application of the Hunter Economic Zone (HEZ) under the draft Local Environmental Plan and template;
- Application of the RU1 Primary Production Zone for the Vineyards District and the lack of appropriate land use definitions for vineyard related matters in the template;
- Loss of perceived development potential as a result of changes to existing holding provisions.

Mr Moshage says Council staff are now working on revisions to the draft LEP in response to the public submissions.

Council staff will also consult with a number of NSW Government agencies, including the Department of Planning, the Department of Environment and Climate Change, the Roads and Traffic Authority and the Department of Industry and Investment - (Primary Industry) and (Minerals and Energy).

Individuals and groups who lodged submissions have been afforded the opportunity to address the Councillors in relation to their issues.

Mr Moshage said "When this process ends on 10 March 2010 and the Council staff finalise the revisions, then the draft LEP will be reported to a Council meeting for consideration." Mr Moshage advised that he is aiming to report the draft LEP to the Council Meeting of 20 April 2010 but stated that "all parties who made submission will be provided with written notice confirming the date of the Council meeting."

Free wireless internet

Free wireless internet access is now available in the centre of the Cessnock central business district.

Initiated and organised by Council, the access is available within 100 metres of the junction of Cooper and Vincent Streets.

"The internet access cost Council just under \$8,000 to set up and we have a monthly fee to maintain the service," Council's Information Services Manager, Mr Steve Hepple said.

"It is becoming commonplace for even small regional towns to have a free internet service and we believe it will be a useful service not only for residents but also for those who are visiting the Cessnock local government area."

Local businesses are able to advertise on the homepage of the internet service for a small fee and those who are interested should contact Council's Customer Service Centre on 4993 4300 to get the contact details of the provider.

Don't forget Sunday 7 March 2010



For locations and times please refer to the ad printed in this paper.



@ your library a wildly successful reading program



Readers: Emma and Kate Rutledge celebrate receiving their certificates

Over the summer holidays Cessnock and Kurri Kurri Libraries hosted a summer reading program as part of a state-wide initiative this year themed 'Read on the Wild Side'.

For the first time ever adults were invited to join the summer reading program with 25 per cent of participants being adults, making this a very successful new venture with great follow-on effects for adults and children.

In total there were 128 entrants with many successfully completing the program to win prizes and a participation certificate.

Kate Rutledge from Kurri Kurri Library read a whopping 100 books to win the best reader prize.

Major sponsors Rover Motors and Millbrook Estate provided prizes for all the children who 'Read on the Wild Side' during their summer holidays.

Around the LGA

Infrastructure works

Recently completed projects

Hall St. Cessnock

Installation of medians and pedestrian refuges at the intersection of Hall and Cumberland St Cessnock. Budget \$47,000

Swanson St. and Station St. Weston

Installation of kerb and gutter, parking bays and road reconstruction from Third Street to Weston Street. Budget \$580,000

Lindsay St. Cessnock

Installation of kerb and gutter on the eastern side from McLean Street to Nelson Street. Budget \$130,000

Majors Lane Keinbah

Reconstruction and sealing from Lovedale Rd towards Mears Lane. Budget \$485,000

Mulbring Drainage

Drainage improvement works including piping of easements and inlet controls. Budget \$360,000

Wilderness Rd. Rothbury

Reconstruction and sealing from the timber bridge for 800m west to existing sealed pavement. Budget \$383,000

Current projects

Deakin St. Kurri Kurri

Construction of major culvert, kerb and gutter and pavement reconstruction

from Boundary St to Florence St. Budget \$585,000

Old Maitland Rd Sawyers Gully

Widening and reconstruction of road pavement from Sawyers Gully Rd to Majors Lane. Budget \$322,000

Quarrybylong St. Cessnock

Installation of kerb and gutter on the western side and associated road reconstruction from Melbourne St to Victoria St. Budget \$300,000

Paynes Crossing Rd. Wollombi

Widening and reconstruction of the existing gravel section and construction of the approaches to the new Cunneens Bridge which is being constructed adjacent to the existing timber bridge. Budget \$800,000

Cunneens Bridge

Realignment of Paynes Crossing Road just north of the town of Wollombi. The works include the construction of a replacement bridge downstream of the existing timber bridge known as Cunneens Bridge. Council construction crew is preparing the site for the bridge contractor (Civilbuild Pty. Ltd) to take possession. The bridge construction is likely to take 16 - 18 weeks to complete. Budget \$1,200,000

Recreation facilities

In recent months \$974,000 has been spent by Council on the following recreation projects:

Shiraz Grove Playground (Cessnock) shade cover; North Rothbury Playground fencing; Mulbring Cricket Oval retaining wall; Branxton Oval site improvements; Booth Park (Kurri Kurri) fencing; North Cessnock Community Hall upgrade; Miller Park (Branxton) amenity block; Branxton Pool access ramp; Kurri Kurri Community Centre façade upgrade; Carmichael Park (Bellbird) BMX track upgrade; and, Laguna Community Hall multi purpose court.

Current projects

Greta Central Oval fencing (stage 3)

Installation of new boundary fencing at the site to replace the existing broken and decaying fences. Additional stages will be completed on an annual basis in line with the adopted Masterplan for the site until all of the fencing has been replaced. Budget \$20,000

Pokolbin Park

Replacement of the aged and dated public toilets at Pokolbin Park with an accessible and centrally located facility at the "top" of the park. The toilets will be constructed of brick and



"We should leave the future of Cessnock to look after itself" was energetically debated last week when Council launched its Cessnock 2020 community consultation program.

The comprehensive program of consultation and engagement activities across the Cessnock local government area offers all residents the opportunity to participate in the development of the Cessnock 2020 Community Plan. This will be the community's plan, outlining the community's vision, the key challenges that face us over the next ten years and strategies for overcoming these challenges.

There are a number of ways you can have your say and help shape the future of Cessnock. You could attend one of our community workshops:

Cessnock	6pm on Wednesday 3 March Cessnock Performing Arts Centre, Vincent St
Weston	7pm on Thursday 4 March Weston Civic Centre, Station Street
Pokolbin	6pm on Tuesday 9 March Pokolbin Community Hall, McDonalds Road
Branxton	6pm on Thursday 11 March McAuley Centre, Station Street
Wollombi	10am on Saturday 13 March Wollombi Community Hall, Maitland Road
Kurri Kurri	6pm on Tuesday 16 March Kurri Kurri Community Centre, Lang Street
Mulbring	6pm on Wednesday 17 March Mulbring Community Hall, Stone Street
Millfield	6pm on Thursday 18 March Millfield Community Hall, Crawford Avenue

Let us know what you think

Leave a recorded message on the
Cessnock 2020 hotline 4993 4330

post a comment on the
**Focus on Our Future online forum at
www.focusonourfuture.com.au**

or complete a community survey
on Council's website
www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au

adjacent to the community meeting room in the facility to enable improved use of the meeting room without intrusion on the other services operating in the building. An access ramp will also be installed to enable direct access from the car park into the community meeting room. Budget \$45,000

Howe Park Abermain

Expansion of the amenity block to increase the capacity of the building. The renovation and upgrade will result in additional storage for bins and equipment, a new referee and first aid room, new male and female toilets as well as a unisex accessible toilet, improved kiosk facilities and new and upgraded changerooms. Budget \$300,000

Abermain School of Arts

A new and accessible toilet will be constructed

well as a new section of shade sails to cover the new equipment. Budget \$103,000

Miller Park Regional Sports Complex

In line with the adopted Masterplan for the site, this project entails an upgrade to the children's playground via the installation of new play equipment as well as upgrades to some of the existing pieces. New safety surface (recycled rubber) will be installed as

Gordon Williams Memorial Lawn Cemetery Western boundary fencing at the site will be extended to compliment the lawn cemetery expansion and an additional columbarium wall and concrete plinth will be installed. The columbarium wall will provide niches for up to 60 ashes and the concrete plinth will provide plots for up to 76 burials. Budget \$45,000

Administration Centre

62 - 78 Vincent Street Cessnock

Postal Address:

PO Box 152 Cessnock NSW 2325

Phone 02 4993 4100

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Email council@cessnock.nsw.gov.au

Web www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au

General Manager

Bernie Mortomore

Council Departments

City Planning

Director: Darryl Fitzgerald

Corporate and Community

Director: Craig Bennett

Infrastructure and Services

Director: David Pavey

Council meetings

Council meetings are open to the public and all are welcome. Meetings start at 6.30pm in the Council Chambers.

Council meeting dates

3 and 17 March 2010

7 and 21 April 2010

5 and 19 May 2010

Councillors

To contact Councillors, please phone Council's Administration Centre on 02 4993 4100 or view their contact details on Council's website.

Mayor: Councillor Alison Davey

Ward A

Cordelia Burcham
James Hawkins
Rachel Main

Ward C

Jeff Maybury
Allan McCudden
Christopher Parker

Ward B

Ian Olsen (*Deputy Mayor*)
Bob Pynsent
Dale Troy

Ward D

Neil Gorman
James Ryan
Graham Smith