



MURGON MOMENTS



Produced in association with the Murgon Business & Development Association Inc.
118 Lamb Street, Murgon 4605. P.O. Box 166, Phone (07) 41681066, Fax (07) 41681947,
E-Mail Editor: Igeraghty@datawave.net.au

MURGON at the foothills of Boat Mountain, in the heart of the Burnett Valley, part of the great South Burnett.



PHOTO: The register of condolences for Philomene. Mayor Veerhoek on behalf of the municipality of Neder-Betuwe is writing.
cont: Page 28

**South Burnett
and Cherbourg
On Show**

**Labour Day Long Weekend
4-7 October 2014**

SOUTH BURNETT BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS.

The Murgon Business and Development Association is participating in the awards to recognise (award) a local Murgon business for business excellence and their achievements

This will encourage an all of region approach to economic development. The Business Excellence Awards provides this local business recognition opportunity to each South Burnett Business Association.

The overall Awards Package is more than just an award for nomination. All business nominees will be offered the opportunity (at no cost) to participate in business mentoring sessions and business improvement workshops both of which are aimed at supporting local businesses achieve their full potential.

We are proud to announce that Heritage Bank Nanango is the major sponsor of the South Burnett Business Excellence Awards.

The Awards include a Distinguished Business Service Award (sponsored by Stanwell Corporation) which will be awarded to a distinguished local business person for their achievements. . In addition there will be a People's Choice Award that asks local residents to recommend businesses to be awarded for great customer service.



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Business nomination award categories (category sponsors to be announced shortly) include:

Small Business of the Year Award (1 to 5 Staff)

Medium Business of the Year Award (6 to 20 Staff)

Large Business of the Year Award (21 and over staff)

Young Business Owner/Operator of the Year Award

Start Up Business of The Year Award

South Burnett Business of the Year Award (overall winner of all categories)

To encourage local business to nominate for an award category, nomination forms are relatively easy to complete and not overly time consuming. Nominations open Friday 4th July and close 31st August 2014.

The Murgon Business and Development Association fully support these awards.

Entry forms are available from the Murgon Business and Development Assoc Inc or Phil Harding, Manager Economic Development, South Burnett Regional Council, PO Box 336, KINGAROY QLD 4610,

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ENERGY REBATES FOR PENSIONERS AND VULNERABLE QUEENSLANDERS

Vulnerable Queensland families and pensioners will receive welcome help.

Energy Minister Mark McArdle and Communities Minister Tracy Davis said the State Government was increasing a range of concessions and rebates worth hundreds of dollars to help with electricity and gas bills.

Mr McArdle said to support older and vulnerable Queenslanders, the state Government was allocating \$164.6 million in 2014-15 for energy rebates and concessions - over \$25 million more than last year.

Queensland pensioners and seniors will be able to apply for an electricity rebate of \$320.97 a year - an increase of \$38.43.

The reticulated natural gas rebate will increase by \$2.03 to \$67.61.

The Medical Cooling and Heating Electricity Concession Scheme will increase by \$38.43 to \$320.97, while the Electricity Life Support Concession Scheme will rise as high as \$653.70 per year for oxygen concentrators and \$437.77 per year for kidney dialysis.

In addition, up to \$720 a year in emergency payments will continue to be available for low income households under the \$10 million Home Energy Emergency Assistance Scheme.

The state government is also maintaining the \$120 annual subsidy under the South East Queensland Pensioner Water Subsidy Scheme.

Further information on these schemes is available at <http://www.qld.gov.au/community/cost-of-living-support/electricity-gas-rebates/>

PLAN TO PRINT 3D KIDNEY TISSUE USING QLD EXPERTISE

It sounds like something out of science fiction but a US company is planning to produce kidney tissues using a 3D printer. And there's a Queensland connection.

Minister for Science and Innovation Ian Walker said mini-kidney tissue would be printed by America's 3D bio-printing company Organovo following an agreement signed with the University of Queensland's commercialisation company UniQuest.

"Professor Melissa Little and her team made a huge leap forward in stem cell technology last year by growing a tiny kidney in a laboratory dish."

"One in three Australians are at risk of developing chronic kidney disease so what Professor Little accomplished last year was a hugely important development," Mr Walker said.

He said the breakthrough drew enormous international interest, including from the San Diego-based Organovo, because of the continuous research progress shown in Professor Little's labs.

"The agreement with Organovo, the world leader's in 3D printing of human tissue, will optimise the cells created using Professor Little's technology in order to print kidney tissues from them using 3D bioprinting."

Mr Walker said the Queensland Government provided \$1 million to support Dr Little's research and that now the state was seeing a great outcome.

Prof Little, from the Institute of Molecular Bioscience at UQ, said 3D printing of fully functional mini-kidney tissue would enable better disease modelling and drug development.

"The mini-kidney tissue can be used to test the safety of new drugs," Prof Little said.

"The sad fact is that most new drugs fail during testing in humans and a big reason for that is that they turn out to be toxic to kidneys.

"If we can test a drug for kidney toxicity before applying it to human trials, we'll save a lot of time, effort and money."

The ultimate goal of Professor Little's research is to produce artificial kidneys for humans.

"There's more work to get to this point but when we do it will save lives and cut the cost of treating the disease."

Jeff Seeney MP – Newsletter

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Mini Modified Ne-Waza Tournament 19/07/2014



The tournament was a great success with groups coming from Gin Gin Judo Club and Logan P.C.Y.C. they were put into two teams, Murgon State School and Goomeri State School, all judokas had 4 matches each and Murgon State School came out on top by 3 wins and once again hold the shield till November when it will be played for once again.

This shield was donated by Corey Smith who was one of our outstanding Special Needs Judo players back in 2010, Corey won a Bronze and Silver Trophy in his first International Tournament in 2008 and silver in 2010 and gold in 2013 and numerous state and local tournament unfortunately he has moved on with his other sporting challengers.



A total of 7 seniors and 18 juniors competed, all had 4 fights.

Our patron Kathy Duff was there to support our club and we had her competing with a female senior competitor, unfortunately we did not have a pink Judogi so she played in a white Judogi.

This was also the first time we had our canteen to follow the Good Sports Club Suggested Menu and it was a great success with fresh fruit salad water melon, rock melon, jew melon and kiwi fruit along with water and poppers.

The first aid officer was a share position with Cam Dustan and Ivan Hills both recognised first aid officers and Judokas themselves. The only work they had was a sore neck from makura-kessa-gatame which was fixed with a simple ice pack and was back in the play for the games and next round.

The Gin Gin Coach asked me to do two gradings for 2 children that needed to be graded, he knew I was hard but fair however his students passed with flying colours.

I would just like to finish with one last comment that while the children had a great time meeting new friends I was so impressed by their behaviour and the parents were great it is so special to see people enjoy the company of others and not worry who wins because we all won by being there.

Murgon Judo Club Inc. would like to thank the following business for their generous support of our Mini Modified Ne-waza Tournament held on Saturday 19th July 2014: they were Westpac Kingaroy, I.G.A. Murgon, Ree's Café Murgon, Struddy's Sports Store Murgon, J.F.A. Qld and South Burnett Council.

Thank you to the Gin Gin Judo Club and Logan P.C.Y.C for supporting our tournament and the two schools who were competing for the Shield.

Stan Munday.

BRINGING ARTISTS AND WRITERS TOGETHER IN THE SOUTH BURNETT

The Kingaroy Writer's Association have members from Murgon, Goomeri, Wondai and Nanango as well as Kingaroy.

They have one thing in common. They love writing. The members have been working on very short stories (250 words) written to a theme, inspired by three items to be displayed at Robyn Dower's exhibition at the Wondai Art Gallery later in the year. It is to demonstrate that even though one can start with things in common, the finish can go in many different directions for both Writers



or Artists. The stories with the theme, a White Mouse, a Red Coat and an Old Key will be on display with the art.

The Writers held their meeting on Tuesday 17th June. Final preparations were made for the launch of the yearly publication of member's stories and poems on August 2 with Dorothy Pratt doing the honours at the launch. **All are welcome.** This year's publication will be dedicated to Geoff Missingham, a much loved member who died on May 22.

Kingaroy Writers meet on the first and third Tuesday of each month. Meetings start 9.30 am and close 12.30 am. Location: The Uniting Church Hall, corner Alford and Youngman Street, Kingaroy. Visitors are very welcome.

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THE TRAVELS OF TABLE, SIDEBOARD AND BOOK CASE



(Based on a true story) - Once upon a time, many years ago, there were three wooden items that met and became good friends over the years. Their names were Table, Sideboard and Book Case. They were very happy living with the family of the house that they had moved into. Many happy moments were spent by the family sitting around Table, which was situated in the dining room of the house. You knew it was a special occasion when you got to sit around Table for a meal – it mostly meant that there were special visitors who had come to join the family at special times. Table had a very strong back and members of the family were able to use Table to stand on and place Christmas decorations around the room – Table loved this time of the year especially as everyone was happy. Sometimes there were sad

moments when people would sit around Table and, over a cup of tea, would find comfort talking to each other. Several years ago, Table and her two friends had to find a new home as the last remaining member of the family who had been living in the house had passed away. Table was the first to leave the home where she had been so happy and sadly moved to her new home. She soon discovered that the next generation of the family were continuing on with the same traditions as she had seen in her previous home and she was overjoyed.

Sideboard, one of Table's friends, also had to find a new place to live – like Table, she soon became happy once again. Not long after she had moved to the same home where Table was, items were once again stored in her cupboards and draws or displayed on top, and this was very similar to what had happened in her old home. Sideboard was very glad to once again be living in the same place with Table – it was just like the old days but they were missing Book Case. Little did they know that Book Case was missing them just as much.

Eventually, after looking everywhere for her two friends, Book Case found them and moved in with them, and once again the three friends were together.. However, after several years had passed, Book Case became restless and wanted to move out and explore new horizons. Table and Sideboard wished her the very best, and felt quite sad as they knew that they would never again see their old friend Book Case once she left on her new venture. One day a very kind person came and gently placed Book Case on to the back of his vehicle, and carefully drove off into the sunset, taking Book Case to her new home. Book Case knows that she will be more than happy living with the next generation of her previous family. She will proudly store their books and will soon make lots of new friends and will have lots of fond memories of the past. We wish the three friends, Table, Sideboard and Book Case a long and happy life, wherever they may live out their days, perhaps it may be a Museum or in a home.

Why not come to the Dairy and Heritage Museum for a visit. The Museum is situated off Gayndah road, Murgon (look for the herd of colourful cows lined up against the fence waiting to greet you). You will find another family (just like Table, Sideboard and Book Case) who have found their new home at the Museum where they have already made many new friends. They would love to meet you and to tell the story of their life. The Museum has now installed in the detached kitchen, the Museum Chapel, Trinity and Castra, audio speakers that tells the story of that particular building and they are so easy to operate and very interesting to hear. If you are unsure how to use the speakers, please ask one of our friendly volunteers who will help you. The Museum is open from 9.30am to 12.30pm seven days a week. For further information, please phone the Museum on 41695001.

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Cherbourg boost to Australia's education outcomes

Cherbourg's effort to help lift the nation's school attendance has taken the next step. The Education Dreams ads it made have been used across Australia to help boost the Federal Government's Remote Schools Strategy in 40 regions and been heralded as a huge success.

Now talking posters using graphics from the commercials have been produced. These are to be installed in schools and will talk to people when pressed. They outline possible career options people can have and how going to school every day helps them to achieve their dreams. "Education doesn't discriminate. It gives everybody a fair crack at having a great life," Cherbourg State School principal Peter Sansby said.

He added the Remote Schools Strategy also had a positive effect on his students' outcomes.

"It's allowed us to hire local people who give us additional classroom support and that spills into family support," Peter said. "It's getting parents engaged with the school and their children's learning on a positive level. "It's strengthening the parent-school connect and that's having a great result. "It creates a level of mutual respect and that's a great thing for the learning outcomes of our children."

Photo: **Strike me pink, a talking poster:** Cherbourg State School principal, Peter Sansby pictured standing beside an Australian Federal Government poster with the face of St Joey's Year 4 student Jaylah Purcell. If you press the poste it will talk to you.



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BOOT CAMPS KICKING GOALS

Families across Queensland are safer thanks to the Government's youth boot camp trial, which is achieving outstanding results.

Attorney-General and Minister for Justice Jarrod Bleijie said the Government was delivering on its strong plan for a brighter future after visiting the North Queensland boot camp at Lincoln Springs, which is two hours' drive west of Ingham.

"Every young person that walks away from a life of crime means fewer cars stolen, fewer homes broken into and fewer families feeling threatened," Mr Bleijie said.

"We promised Queenslanders that we would revitalise frontline services and make this state the safest place to raise a family, and the boot camps are working.

"23 young people have attended the Lincoln Springs camp so far and it is changing lives.

"Since the camp opened in December, none of the young people who have been sentenced there by the Court and completed the residential phase have reoffended and some are now in work placement.

"These are kids who were repeat offenders who had been convicted of serious crimes, so this is a fantastic result.

"The camp is a remote and rough cattle station. I witnessed young offenders living life on the land and learning skills that will help them get an education or a job and turn their lives around."

The results are similar at the Government's early intervention camps:

Rockhampton – 25 young people taken part with a 100 per cent non-reoffending rate.

Fraser/Sunshine Coast – 31 young people taken part with a 90 per cent non-reoffending rate.

Gold Coast – 35 young people taken part with a 90 per cent non-reoffending rate.

"113 young people have now taken part in the camps, which all teach discipline, respect and life skills," he said.

"All the camps also include mentoring following their residential phases and many participants have re-engaged in education and are showing significant improvements in their relationships and behaviour with parents and teachers.

"Along with the Government's strong reforms that make recidivist juvenile offenders more accountable for their actions, the camps are an integral part of the Government's commitment to revitalising frontline services and stopping the revolving door of reoffending.

"We will soon unveil the next phase in our youth justice overhaul, which will focus on prevention and addressing the cause of repeat offending.

"The Government's Blueprint for the Future of Youth Justice in Queensland will be a key component of the Government's youth justice reforms.

"The Blueprint will include long term, evidence-based reform and the close engagement of partner agencies and organisations in the delivery of integrated services to at-risk children."

Jeff Seeney MP

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The Annual General Meeting of the Murgon & District Branch – National Seniors will be held on Thursday 21st August at the Murgon Bowls Club at 10.00am. Keith Haack, Zone Chairman will be in attendance. The next tour is on Thursday 18th September.

We sadly mourn the loss of :

HATHERELL, Rupert Paul, Late of Murgon

SCHULTZ, Dulcie May, Late of Murgon

REIS, Bray Jefferson, Late of Goomeri

Happy Birthday to You



Southern Cross Care Castra resident Isobel Smith with sons Brian and Gary and Activities Assistant Delia Blee and Facility Manager Shelley Lee, Southern Cross Care Castra Retirement Home. Isobel is celebrating her birthday with family and residents.

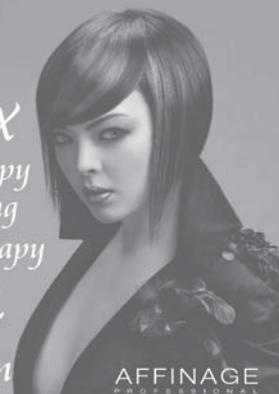


Martha Sleky's seen here was also enjoying the party at Southern Cross Care "Castra" Retirement Home.

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\$2 Million awarded for Rail Trail

Last week, Deputy Premier Jeff Seeney awarded \$2 Million for the construction of a Kingaroy to Kilkivan Rail Trail through the Royalties in the Region (R4R) Fund. Council was extremely proud to be awarded this funding having worked for over 13 months in proposals to various government leaders in both the Federal and State government. Council sees this project as substantially contributing to the economic development of our region by putting the South Burnett 'on-the-map' as the Rail Trail Capital of Queensland.

Budget 2014/2015

The Budget this year was based on three (3) principles:

- To maintain a modest surplus in organisational operations
- To deliver projects to make the South Burnett an even better place to live
- To keep a general rate rise to a minimum.

I am thrilled to say that we have achieved all of the above and the 2.75% general rate increase is the lowest increase ever brought down in the history of the South Burnett Regional Council. After two years of flood repairs, roads are still the focus of the budget. We have over 3000 roads to maintain and we will continue to service, maintain and upgrade our roads as best we can.

Community Assistance Grants Open

Not-for-profit organisations based in the South Burnett may be eligible for financial assistance through Council's Community Assistance Grants Program.

The program offers financial assistance for community events and projects and to elite performers at state and national level in the areas of sport, music, art and education.

To apply for a Community Assistance Grant visit Council's Website or make

contact with your local Council Office on (07) 4189 9100.

Know a deserving business?

Nominations for the Business Excellence Awards close on August 15.

Categories include:

- Small Business of the Year
- Medium Business of the Year
- Large Business of the Year
- Young Business Owner/Operator of the Year
- Start Up Business of The Year
- South Burnett Business of the Year

New Brisbane Bus Lines Schedule

Brisbane Bus Lines are now operating their new schedule. You can download the new Bus Schedule on Council's Website.

Until next time,
Kratzie

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Cameras for Kids by Sherrienne Talon of Talon Digital Imaging, www.talondigitalimaging.com

A lot of us have an older digital camera that we no longer use so why not give it to the kids? A digital camera is a wonderful tool for kids to capture their world as they see it. And they learn so quick! Show them the basics or just set it on automatic and let them shoot away. Their perspective can be quite amazing.

There are also a lot of great cameras on the market designed for kids. Some are geared to take anything, including being thrown on the floor repeatedly for those rough and tumble photographers under 3 feet!

And inexpensive digital cameras make great gifts for kids. Just look for features like ease of use, size of buttons, durability and some easy effect scenes. And kids love movie modes!

And don't forget to upload the photos to the computer so the child can see them. A great idea is to print out a couple from each month and put them in a photo album so they can have their own record of their childhood years, taken from their perspective, of things that were important to them. Scrapbooking or photo books are also great ideas for projects for older kids.

Teach them how to focus the pictures, how to hold the camera correctly and basic safety issues. Watch if they have a strap around their neck and don't leave them unsupervised. Let them know how to keep the camera safe and not to bump it or drop it.



You want them to create their own memories through their own eyes and in doing so, it helps us see what's important to our children and how the simple things in life can also be simply wondrous!

Visit www.talonphotography.com.au Please contact Sherrienne on 4168 2216 or email stalon@talondigitalimaging.com. Or like us on Facebook at TalonDigitalImaging.

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MAP BOOKLETS

Murgon RSL Women's Auxiliary recently donated and Presented Murgon Blue Care with 10 Rural Roads & Local Town Map Booklets for Staff to carry in their Cars at all times. The Auxiliary have given Donations this past year to other needy organizations namely Crisis Helicopter, Flying Doctor, Angel Flight, Legacy, Shona "Help me walk again Appeal" and Southern Cross Castra residents donation towards a Chicken Coop.



Photo : Left to Right Audrey Kapernick (Secretary), Debbie (Personal Carer from Blue Care), Madge Ramke (Treasurer) and Evelyn Kingston (President)
(Audrey, Madge and Evelyn are from RSL Women's Auxiliary)

Celebrate Prep!

What's happening with the Preps at Murgon State School?

Their first year of school is already half way finished...where has the time gone? The Preps at Murgon State School could show you all they have learned in that time!

"We write stories now." - "We can read books now." - "We are learning about weather." - "We learned about our Fabulous Families."

To celebrate, the Preps are busy working hard to show off their work and what they do for our special 'CELEBRATE PREP!' afternoon with lots of activities with their parents on Monday, 25th August from 1:30pm-3:00pm. Preps for 2015, come join us!

Mrs Pat van Kempen, Prep teacher Ph 4169 8333



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TRADE SUPPORT LOANS TO HELP APPRENTICES COMPLETE THEIR TRAINING

The Federal Government has delivered on its commitment to introduce Trade Support Loans for apprentices in Wide Bay, which will help to build a stronger local economy.

Legislation to implement the new loans scheme passed the Senate this week, Member for Wide Bay and Deputy Prime Minister Warren Truss said today.

“Apprentices in Wide Bay will now have access to loans of up to \$20,000 over the period of their training, with higher levels of assistance provided during the early years of apprenticeships, when it is most needed,” Mr Truss said.

“Trade Support Loans provide support of up \$8,000 in the first year of the apprenticeship, \$6,000 in the second, \$4,000 in the third and \$2,000 in the fourth. Apprentices who successfully complete their training will be rewarded by having up to \$4000, or 20 per cent, immediately deducted from their total loan.

“Like the HELP loans currently offered to tertiary students, Trade Support Loans are only repayable once apprentices begin earning a sustainable income over \$50,000,” Mr Truss said.

“Too often I hear of young apprentices unable to complete their training, due to the financial difficulties associated with undertaking an apprenticeship. These Trade Support Loans will ease the financial burdens on apprentices and help increase apprenticeship completion rates.

“The new Trade Support Loans are part of the Government’s Economic Action Strategy to build a strong and prosperous economy. Wide Bay will benefit from these loans through more tradesmen, and greater employment opportunities for young people,” Mr Truss said.

For further information on the programme, contact your local Australian Apprenticeships Centre or visit www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au.

Garage Sale at the Murgon Uniting Church Hall, 55 Gore Street Murgon - Saturday 20th September.



VISITING DATES

Thursday 4th
September

Thursday 2nd
October

Thursday 6th
November

Thursday 4th
December

TIMES- 3.30PM-
4.30PM & 4.30PM-
5.30PM

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Friday Night Live at the SB PCYC in Murgon



Children enjoying craft with Felicity Dascombe at the SB PCYC Friday Night Live.



You can enjoy lots of games and enjoy lots of our facilities



Many thanks to The Murgon Fire Brigade who demonstrated what to do in a case of a fire.



All School Children Welcome, Phone 4168 1889



Friday night - 12th September, 10th October, 14th November,
5th December 2014

Bus Transfer Times - Goomeri @ Dickenson Park
- Pick up 5:30pm Drop Off 9:15pm

Wondai @ Wondai Timber Museum
- Pick Up 5:30m Drop Off 9:15pm



Feel The **BENEFITS**, SHAB Over 50s



SHAB is a gentle physical activity program suitable for anyone who hasn't done any exercise in a while. You can exercise at your own pace in a friendly atmosphere.

This is our end of month 'cuppa'...get together...social aspect of the class. The SHAB group meets for coffee and a chat at the end of each month. We went to the MurriYuntha Café at Cherbourg to taste their wears. Everyone was impressed with the 'high tea' they prepared for us and the very welcoming staff. We then took a sightseeing tour to the lookout at

Cherbourg, as many of the class had never seen the magnificent views, before. The group pays \$3 for a bus fare & Paula drives them to a different location each month. A very important aspect of any group exercise class for the elderly is the social/emotional wellbeing of clients. The SB PCYC ensures we look after our valued SHABs! More people are welcome to come,

Phone the South Burnett PCYC, 40 Macallister St, Murgon. Ph: 4168 1889 for information.

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Richard O'Neill in Proston at the South Burnett Sub Chamber Finalist of the Ute Muster finals.

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MENU

ENTREES

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Tasmanian Oysters Natural | \$3.00 each |
| Greta Garbo Oysters <i>drizzled with lime topped with smoked salmon and cavier, sour cream and chives</i> | \$4.00 each |
| Tasmanian Oysters Bloody Mary Shooters <i>Polish vodka, tomato juice, Worcestershire and dash Tabasco with squeeze lemon</i> | \$4.00 each |
| Theebine Red Claw tails <i>crumbed served with mango dipping sauce and salad</i> | \$8.00 each |
| Beer battered Mooloolaba prawns <i>on salad with Asian dipping sauce</i> | \$6.00 each |

MAINS

| | |
|--|---------|
| Black Angus rib fillet 400g <i>with red wine jus</i> | \$28.00 |
| Jumbo steak burger <i>with chips</i> | \$19.00 |
| Slow baked beef rib <i>with our own BBQ sauce</i> | \$26.00 |
| Italian Sausages Forest Glen Organic Meats <i>served with mashed potatoes and red wine jus</i> | \$18.00 |
| Beer battered flathead fillets <i>with chips and salad</i> | \$16.00 |

DESSERT

| | |
|--|---------|
| Profiteroles filled with vanilla ice-cream <i>with chocolate ganache</i> | \$12.00 |
| Lemon lime curd tart <i>with icecream</i> | \$12.00 |
| Coffee or tea per person | \$4.00 |

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PICKLE'S GOOD LIFE COMES FROM RESPECT, SCHOOL AND EFFORT



Pickle Brown has loved every job he's had. "I've always given 100 per cent," the acting Cherbourg Community Health manager said. Today he's best known as Uncle Pickle to thousands of kids from 30 schools within the South Burnett who he's helped rescue from Otitis Media ear infections.

"Whenever I go into the schools that's what I hear; 'hello Uncle Pickle'," the man who runs the Health-e-Piccaninnies van said with a chuckle of satisfaction. But the youthful looking 56-year-old started life on the Cherbourg Mission. Pickle's father Cecil worked as a cabinet maker and farmhand and travelled to Brisbane to box professionally at its Festival Hall. His mother Rae had nine children and worked as a domestic at Cherbourg's hospital, until the family moved 31km to Kinbombi's farming district.

Pickle and five of his siblings then faced the daunting task of going to Goomeri's Year 1- 10 school.

"We were the only black faces there," Pickle said. But he and his two school-aged brothers and three sisters fitted in well and Pickle had a job at the bakery within minutes of his last day at school in Year 10.

"At the sound of the bell I walked straight up there and set to work," he said. "My father had spoken to the owner and had set it up for me."

Journey to success

Pickle went to live with his older brother and sisters in Brisbane. He worked in a meatworks, steel foundry and for Schwarzkopf Hair Products. "I had big frizzy hair then and they had the best products out there," Pickle said. "I put them to use." But when Pickle returned to Cherbourg to holiday with his elderly grandmother Elsie McGowan he decided to stay.

He worked at the Gallangowan Forestry for 13 years before being asked to start an emu farm by Cherbourg council CEO, Warren Collins. The industry was proving successful in Western Australia and riding off the back of demand for ostrich products.

Pickle was given 14 employees and a National Parks wildlife permit to capture 300 emu chicks.

It was easier said than done. Emus could run the pants off a Kangaroo. So he and his men sat down to work out what to do. "We decided to separate the old boy looking after the chicks with a motorbike and herded the chicks towards the fences," Pickle said.

His men then grabbed the small birds by the legs and put them in cages. "Six of us were A Grade footballers at the time and used it for training," Pickle said. "It was bloody hard work."

After four trips to the outback regions of Tambo and Blackall the men had their allotted amount.

For 13 years they built the Cherbourg Emu Farm to hold 5000 birds ranging from chicks to adults.

They sold stock to other farms and built an abattoir to provide emu meat, leather, oil, feathers and eggs to a European market. Then bird flu hit NSW and all exports were stopped.

The domestic market was too small to support the emu industry and Australian stakeholders began to fight

amongst themselves. Pickle looked to the future.

He realised he wasn't getting younger at 44 so decided to find work that would see him through to retirement and provide good superannuation. He found a job with Community Health and has continued to work and study. Pickle now holds a Diploma in Primary Health Science, is in a senior role and provides a service that helps people lead a happy life.

"For Cherbourg kids I'd say 'go to school every day, keep going, do your Year 11 and 12; even university'. "Learning gives you the scope for better wages and makes it more enjoyable for your job because you can operate better and utilise equipment. "You get better results; more satisfaction.

"You build your confidence once you master techniques."

Pickle now looks back and is thankful to his parents for making him and his brothers and sisters go to school every day, respect their elders and respect their family. "They taught us to treat people as we'd want to be treated and that school sets you up for your future," he said.

Picture 1: Work is fun: Pickle Brown loves his job and helping children like I-r Cherbourg State School's Shannon James-Keyes, Puffin Alberts, Sasha Gyemore, Jareece Gyemore and Rhonda Walsh.

The **Barambah Garden Club** met on Friday July 11 at the home of Bill & Lyn Vlaanderen. After the meeting we walked around an attractive garden. Bill and Lyn have made an excellent garden in a short time.

The produce competition was as usual well supported. It always amazes me that no matter what the weather, we get so many flowers and vegetables in the produce competition.



Bob Baldwin gave an interesting and informative talk about mistletoe. Because many of our club members are very interested in native plants we asked Bob to talk about

mistletoe. We try to get speakers to talk about any subject that is requested by our members.

Recently there was an article in the South Burnett Times blaming Bromeliads for harboring mosquito larvae.

Before you destroy your plants try this experiment - when it gets warmer. Fill the bromeliads with water and place a container with water among them. When you see wrigglers in the container, empty it. Then empty the bromeliads into the container and see just how many wrigglers you will find. You may be pleasantly surprised.

Anyone who would like to know more about our garden club and what subjects will be discussed at our meetings please phone 41686238.

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Tom Kirk lived on bush tucker, failed school but made a life for himself by facing challenges, taking a step at a time and learning as he went. Today he runs cultural awareness workshops in Cherbourg, Queensland, and across Australia. He is a man who helps people walk in two cultural worlds. Tom Kirk's mum always told him 'go on to school now, get educated so you can help your people'.

His dad hunted in the surrounding Brisbane bushland for kangaroo, fish, "porcupine" (echidna) and a host of other tucker for the family to survive on.

"Dad was a furniture machinist by trade from Cherbourg but there wasn't much money in those days and we relied on bush tucker a lot," Tom, 52, said.

Tom will now present a workshop for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people at the Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council training rooms on August 26.

Tom's style is engaging, non-threatening, puts historical events in context, diminishes cultural myths and helps people understand why they, or others, behave in the way they do.

People wanting to book can phone the council's community services coordinator Edwina Stewart on (07) 4168 1866.



Photo: Edwina Stewart (The council's community service coordinator) organising a Cultural Awareness Workshop for its service providers with Tom Kirk. Edwina is seen discussing issues with council housing officer Sherry Sandow and South Burnett PCYC Indigenous community sport and recreation officer, Max Harvey, who's already done Tom's workshop with Edwina.

MOFFATDALE SCHOOL CENTENARY

Following the formation of the School Centenary Steering Committee plans are now underway to celebrate Moffatdale State School's 100th Birthday. This celebration will take place on Saturday 31st October, 2015 at the school which does officially turn 100 the next day November 1st.

As part of the celebrations the steering committee are wanting to update the history of the school by way of recreating the history book which was last done in 1990 for the 75th Jubilee celebrations. The committee are asking anyone who has a story to tell, photos to share or knowledge of the history of Moffatdale to contact them.

As well as celebrating Moffatdale's milestone we are also interested in including some of the other small schools of the area that were unable to reach such milestones but have assisted Moffatdale in reaching theirs. These schools include Redgate, Johnstown West and Barambah. For this to be done we would like to hear from anyone who can assist in compiling the history of these schools.

As we are only a steering committee we welcome everyone who would like to contribute to the day to attend the monthly meetings held on the 3rd Thursday of every month at the school commencing at 6:30pm. If this is not possible or you would like more information please contact Lyle Hasselbach via haso.5@bigpond.com or 0429 684 816.



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Mayors Budget Address, Councillors

It is with great pride that I present the 2014/15 South Burnett Regional Council Budget for adoption, can I place on record the huge workload that has been undertaken by our staff led by CEO Ken McLoughlin and General Manager of Finance, Gary Wall and his team to help me prepare this Budget for our community.

The Local Government Act states that the Budget must be prepared by the Mayor and delivered to Councillors at least two (2) weeks before the statutory Budget meeting. This Legislative requirement was met but unlike many Local Government Budgets across Queensland the documents contents were mostly known by the Councillors of the South Burnett Regional Council prior to their official receipt.

I pay special gratitude to our Deputy Mayor Keith Campbell who has worked with me and given his advice, whether asked for or not on several occasions since negotiations began some six (6) months ago. To the rest of our team, a diligent band of committed and dedicated Councillors can I simply say thank you.

This is a Budget put together by a team striving to deliver an economic stimulus to our Region whilst keeping increases to a minimum. The external forces that affect this document is at times overwhelming as we deal with cost cutting from both Federal and State Governments, the fury of Mother Nature and the difficulty of being hamstrung by legislation and regulation.

Despite all of this the Budget is a remarkable achievement accomplished by team work, diligence and care for our community. It is based on three (3) principles:

To maintain a modest surplus in organisational operations

To deliver projects to make the South Burnett an even better place to live.

To keep a general rate rise to a minimum.

We have achieved all three (3) whilst converting the strategies and initiatives contained in Council's Corporate and Operational Plans into financial terms to ensure that there are sufficient resources for their achievement while focusing on financial sustainability.

I make the following point strongly - the continual reduction in Federal Grants, in particular the Federal Financial Assistance Grant has meant that Council is relying more and more on its own revenue sources to sustain its operations. To that end Council now funds 79% of its revenue from our own sources compared to 61% prior to amalgamation and around 50% 20 years ago.

As of today we are receiving \$1.8 million less in our share of the "taxation pie" compared to the indexed amount we would have expected to receive when this Council was elected in 2012. Despite this, the General Rate rise for 2014/15 will be 2.75%. Our projected surplus will be \$661,677 which will cover unforeseen shocks that may occur during the year. The general rate increase for the following year 2015/16 is forecast to be also 2.75%.

The overall rate revenue increase including all services such as water, sewerage and waste collection is 4.93%. Taken into context and including the largest single project ever undertaken by Council i.e. Kingaroy Wastewater Treatment Plant estimated to cost in the vicinity of \$24 million alone, this is a major achievement.

This is achieved whilst retaining a rate discount of 10%, unlike some other Councils who have reduced the discount, and continuing to support our pensioners by way of a \$200 rebate.

This Budget recognises the State governments continuation of a matching Pensioner rebate of \$200 and their generosity of a \$10 million grant for the Wastewater Project.

This Council has also withstood the pressure to reduce rate remissions and grants to our Community Organisations which amounts to over \$327,000. These concessions will continue in 2014/15 due to the commitment and desire of the six (6) Councillors I address today who are the Communities best advocates.

The General rate rise of 2.75% has been due in no small part to Council's realisation and empathy with our Primary Producers who have endured horrific seasonal conditions in recent times.

For the first time in the history of this Council we have taken the unprecedented step of reducing the waste collection costs of small business by \$96 per 240 litre bin. This charge is now more consistent with the residential charge.

Council's workforce will be maintained at its current level with no job losses, however productivity increases will continue to be pursued. Our workforce puts approximately \$560,000 back into our local economy each fortnight. Add to this Council's 'Buy Local' policy and we are a major contributor to our regional economy and should be recognised to the same extent that as are our other large employers.

Despite keeping the rate increase to the lowest since amalgamation, Council has spent weeks on developing a Capital and Operational Works program that will continue to position the South Burnett as a desirable destination in which to work and reside.

As stated previously this Budget includes the biggest single project ever embarked on by the South Burnett Regional Council. The \$24 million Kingaroy Wastewater Treatment Plant will accommodate growth in Kingaroy well into the future whilst guaranteeing we are environmentally responsible. The ongoing benefits of this project will be realised in the future from an economic rationale and the opportunities for sport and recreation and community enhancement whereby recreational and community will be explored.

In addition to this major project, roads remain the focus of this Budget. We will continue to build on the \$100 million plus rehabilitation of our roads that has been undertaken over the last three (3) years. For the first time since Amalgamation, Council has budgeted, \$6 million solely for road maintenance. This will be predominately spent on rural roads to ensure their trafficability and safety.

103 Council roads have been identified for resealing, spread from Benarkin to Murgon and all areas in between. \$900,000 has been allocated to complete the streetscape project in Nanango.

\$4.2 million will be spent on the replacement of two (2) major bridges, Sunday Creek Bridge on the Gayndah Hivesville Road and the Stuart River Bridge on the Kumbia Brooklands Road. The State government is contributing \$960,000 towards these replacements. Further sealing will be carried out on Ironpot Road, an upgrade of the Fisher/Moore Street intersection will also be undertaken. Pavement repairs and an upgrade of Markwell Street east of Kingaroy Street will be done.

We have listened to our constituents and will spend \$300,000 on Brights Road Nanango and the sealing of Logans Road has been earmarked to commence next financial year.

\$1.2 million will be carried out on pavement rehabilitation of Kumbia Road. Levers Road in Murgon will be realigned and rebuilt. Drainage and culvert upgrades will be undertaken on Clarke & Swendson Road in Kingaroy. Major upgrades will also occur on Minmore Road and Semgreens Road whilst Venman Street in Kingaroy will have pavement rehabilitation carried out and the kerb and channelling replaced.

A full geotechnical assessment has been budgeted for to investigate the options regarding Campbells Bridge at Silverleaf. Dalby Street in Nanango will be constructed to allow for the development of Heritage Lodge in conjunction with CTC, Heritage Community Bank, the State Government and Council.

\$300,000 has been allocated to upgrade and refurbish the Glendon Street Carpark in Kingaroy to begin rejuvenating the Kingaroy CBD. Major expenditure has been allowed to provide a safe footpath access from the town centre in Wondai to the Sportsground. Footpaths and bikeways will also be built and/or upgraded in Proston, Murgon, Nanango and Kingaroy.

This Budget also recognises that the township of Blackbutt does not currently have the standard of pavement coverage, drainage, kerb and channelling as do other major centres. This Council made a commitment to the people of Blackbutt that this will be rectified and we are true to our word. I am proud to announce today that \$3 million has been allocated to upgrade drainage, kerb & channelling and other associated works in the Blackbutt township. This work after planning and consultation is expected to commence in April/May next year and continue into 2015/16.

In total \$42,567,142 will be expended on Road Infrastructure, \$17.89 million on Wastewater Assets and \$6.07 million on Water Supply.

\$2.365 million will be spent on the operation of our 17 refuse tips and transfer stations throughout our Region. I am proud to announce that \$202,000 has been allocated for the new Hivesville Transfer Station and a further \$685,000 on Transfer Station Upgrades including Maidenwell, Cloyna, Brigooda and Home Creek.

Plant & Fleet will see the replacement of one (1) grader, two (2) rollers, two (2) loaders, one (1) backhoe, four (4) trucks and some smaller items of plant, however Council is certainly doing everything we can to minimise costs and maintaining plant for a longer length of time.

I.T. will see expenditure of \$1.192 million including the upgrading of our 2 way radio systems and the finalisation of our Disaster Recovery Set Up.

The ongoing expenditure on our vast array of recreational facilities, halls and swimming pools is an enormous cost and much has been said about these and the costs associated with the maintenance and the upgrades.

Whilst they are a drain on our financial resources I think it is time both Council and our Community take a minute to reflect on actually how fortunate we are to have all these facilities. Yes they cost us money by way of funded depreciation and then with Capital upgrades and the never ending maintenance costs, but to be honest I am proud to have a pool in Blackbutt, a Regional Art Gallery as good as Wondai's, the PCYC in Murgon, the magnificent Tourist facilities at Bjelke Petersen Dam and Lake Boondooma near Proston, one of the best Regional Airports in Australia at Kingaroy and a Visitor Information Centre in Nanango that is second to none.

It's time to embrace what we have and it's this Council's obligation to fund them to keep them at an appropriate standard for our constituents and many visitors to the Region.