

From the Mayor



Welcome to the February edition of the Galilee Gazette.

We have an exciting six months ahead with a few projects to finish off and a full program of road works.

With the Aramac-Barcaldine Road widening and the Alpha-Clermont Road jobs as a base we are assured of secure income and employment for the next two to three years.

The six months to June 30 will be a time to review the current budget and frame the 2019/20 budget papers.

We welcome any suggestions for projects that are sustainable and potentially job creating.

Redbank, the Barcaldine Weir, Aramac Creek and the Muttaborra Dam look great now they have a bit of water in them, ready for the tourist season.

Council's application to the Outback Tourism Infrastructure Fund for the Freedom of Choice Parks project in Jericho, Aramac and Muttaborra was successful and work will commence soon. We will market them online and through other media to ensure travellers get off the beaten track and visit and support our communities and the Lake Dunn Sculpture Trail.

Australia Day was great across our five towns and was well attended. Thanks to all who had a hand in organising each event. Our three Ambassadors Leigh, Olivia and Gitie were inspiring to say the least.

Now we just need some more rain and if the long bearded fellow upstairs sends it down we will all have a pretty good new year.

Cheers, Rob

CEO's report

The entire workforce is back on deck and has participated in safety inductions workshops during January. This annual induction is to ensure we maintain our priority on Workplace Health and Safety.

2019 will see Council undertake a number of major projects across the region including the Freedom of Choice Parks, streetscapes, as well as roads and water projects.

Drought Communities Funding and the next round of Works for Queensland funding will inject close to \$2m into our communities delivering essential community projects and importantly supporting local suppliers.

The region will see an increase in media coverage through RM Williams Outback Magazine, Queensland Outback Travellers Guide and the Matilda Country magazine which is aiming to help bolster tourist numbers. The Premiers Department has also announced that 2019 will be 'The Year of Outback Tourism'. This will see an increase focus on visitors to our region and the Outback and our events.

Unfortunately there have been a number of incidents where our refuse tips have been purposely set alight by persons unknown to burn off materials. I must reinforce that this activity is strictly prohibited and offenders will be prosecuted. Fires at the refuse tips are a breach of our licence conditions. The potential ramifications for Council are significant fines and other operational requirements imposed by the Environmental Protection Agency that will cost ratepayers a significant amount of money. Please help us ensure that Council complies with our licence conditions and do your bit to protect the environment. Do not light fires at refuse tips. Don't risk a fine for yourself or Council.

Regards, Steven



The Knowledge Hub

With the assistance of State Library of Queensland, Barcaldine was successful in obtaining a grant to purchase a 65" VR, Touch Screen, Smart TV known as "The Knowledge Hub".

This system has many wonderful features - tourist information and maps, jigsaw puzzles, video puzzles, word search, sight words, maths and of course our Virtual Reality Games – Google earth, Ocean Rift, Titanic, Kokoda and many more.

Come in and check it out at the Barcaldine Library - Monday to Friday 9.30am to 4.30pm with lunch from 12.30pm to 1.30pm.



Bob O'Brien testing 'The Knowledge Hub'.

ATM installed in Alpha

You can now withdraw cash at any time in Alpha with the newly installed ATM at the Rowley Roberts Information Centre.

Make sure you say 'hello' to Nola and Tanya when you are there.



Disc Golf in Barcaldine

A Disc Golf course has been installed at Lagoon Creek. It is a great fun activity for family and friends so get a group together and make it a competition. Bring along your own Frisbee or purchase a Disc Golf Disc from the Barcaldine Visitors Information Centre or also available from the Barcaldine Administration Office for \$20.00.



Council General Meeting Dates

In accordance with Section 277 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 notice is hereby given of the following General Meetings of Council:-

- 16 January 2019: Barcaldine Council Chambers
- 20 February 2019: Jericho Disaster Coordination Centre
- 20 March 2019: Muttaborra Memorial Hall
- 17 April 2019: Alpha Council Chambers
- 15 May 2019: Aramac Council Chambers
- 26 June 2019 (Budget Adoption): Barcaldine Council Chambers
- 17 July 2019: Barcaldine Council Chambers
- 21 August 2019: Muttaborra Memorial Hall
- 18 September 2019: Alpha Council Chambers
- 23 October 2019: Jericho Disaster Coordination Centre
- 20 November 2019: Aramac Council Chambers
- 18 December 2019: Barcaldine Council Chambers

All meetings are scheduled to start at 9.00am and are open to the public.

For sale by tender

Barcaldine Regional Council offers 2 parcels of land for sale by tender as follows:

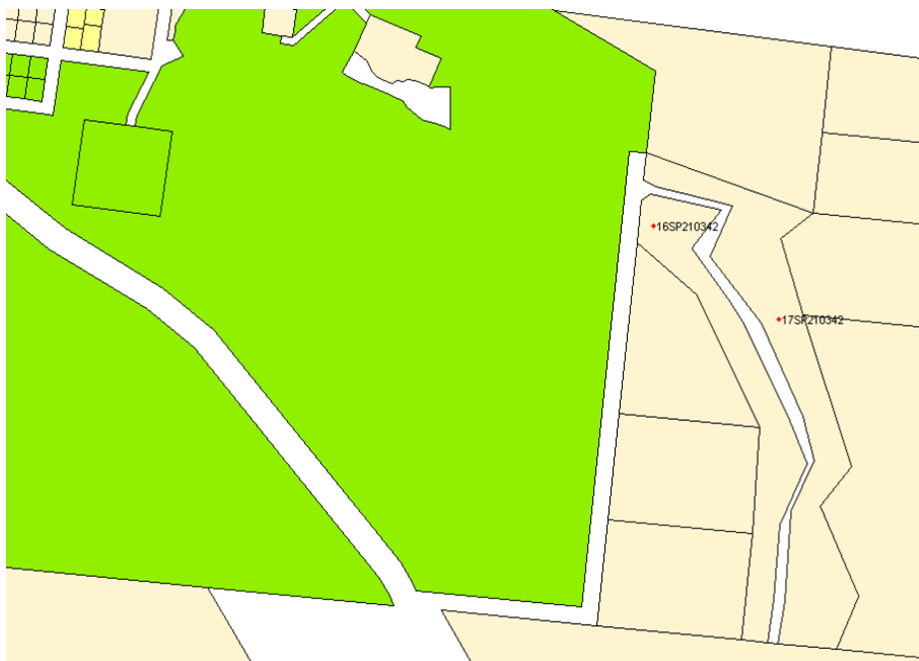
- Lot 16 SP210342 – east of Jericho on Jordan Creek – 8.704ha
- Lot 17 SP210342 – east of Jericho on Jordan Creek – 13.34ha

Tenders may submit prices for each parcel and/or a combined price for both parcels.

Tenders close at 12 noon on Friday 8 February 2019.

Tenders (excluding GST) must be submitted in writing to:

Barcaldine Regional Council
PO Box 191 Barcaldine 4725 or
tenders@barc.qld.gov.au



Disability Access Forum

In early December, 19 people attended the Disability Access Forum in Barcaldine. This was an opportunity for the community to identify access issues that they experience on a daily basis.

Some issues of concern were:

- access from homes to pathways across sandy footpaths
- access to roadways over 'rollover' guttering
- access to some businesses in Oak Street
- large bumps on existing pathways
- the slope and pavers in Oak Street
- access, via wheelchairs, to footpaths from roads
- the safety of allocated disabled parking (using a wheelchair hoist)
- the excessive bumps in roads, exacerbated in wheelchair accessible bus
- access to buildings where doors are not able to 'click' and remain open.

While concerns were raised, there were many positive comments about the network of pathways around Barcaldine and the attention that is made about access for the less abled. Positive comments also about the handrails in Oak Street and the Aged and Disabled allocated parking.

The highlight of the day was Barcaldine Regional Council staff and Councillors using wheelchairs and mobility scooters to experience first hand the challenges we often take for granted.

There will be some modifications to assist access in the future and these access concerns will also be addressed across the whole region.



Harry Redford Cattle Drive

'The Year of the Outback Tourism' will not include one iconic event. The famous Harry Redford Cattle Drive has once again been postponed in 2019 due to the ongoing drought in our area.

Councillor Peoples commented "that the committee could never have envisioned the Drive would be on hold for five years due to a lack of feed on the stock route."

"We can only hope that the seasons do change for the better in future years and that the drive once again becomes our premier attraction in Outback Queensland."

The steering committee had the hard task of making the decision not to proceed again in 2019 and are extremely disappointed that they could not bring this iconic event to you. Once again, the primary reason for the cancellation sits with the welfare of the stock and horses and available feed on the stock route. This is the fifth year we have had to cancel due to the drought condition.

The Harry Redford Cattle Drive steering committee sincerely regrets any inconvenience and disappointment caused by this unavoidable cancellation. The committee also would like to thank all the past participant and people who want to go on the drive for their prayers for rain and all their well wishes.

Local Laws Officer

Council has appointed David Lester to the position of Regional Local Laws Officer.

David will be based in the Barcaldine District Office, but will travel throughout our region.

His role includes implementing, advising, administering and reporting on compliance issues in regards to Council's Local Laws* such as Animal Management, Community and Environmental Management and more; delegated State Legislation and other applicable Legislation. David will also have the responsibility of responding to, scheduling and investigating reported breaches of Local Laws and where applicable, make recommendations to Council.

**More information about Barcaldine Regional Council's Local Laws can be found at www.barcaldinerc.qld.gov.au/about-council/local-laws or by contacting your local Council Administration Office.*



Assistance for farmers, their families and rural communities

Farmers, their families and their communities can access a range of government services and support to help them manage during times of drought and prepare for future conditions.

People are encouraged not to self-assess their individual situation, but to seek advice from an expert.

Visit www.agriculture.gov.au/ag-farm-food/drought/ to access assistance or contact Council if you do not have access to the internet.

2019 Australia Day Awards and Celebrations

Barcaldine Regional Council publicly honoured its community, sporting and cultural achievers at the 2019 Australia Day Celebration, held in each of our five communities.

“The 2019 Australia Day Celebrations across our five communities were the best in years. Great crowds turned out at every venue. Credit must go to the organisers from each community – Alpha Jockey Club, Jericho Men’s Shed, Barcaldine Bowls Club, Central West Aboriginal Corporation, Aramac State School P&C and Muttaborra Golf Club and Council staff members who assisted in the coordination of the events.” Mayor Rob Chandler said.

“Our three Australia Day Ambassadors, Gitie House OAM, Leigh Skinner and Olivia Hargrove, were fantastic Ambassadors and each have commented since that this trip was the best Australia Day Celebrations they have ever attended. In their words the warm and friendly welcome by all made it a special day.”

Mayor Rob Chandler and Barcaldine Regional Council Councillors announced the winners of the Australia Day Awards in seven categories, with **Kristy Sparrow** named 2019 Citizen of the Year.

“Congratulations to Kristy Sparrow, Regional Citizen of the year. A just reward for the tireless advocacy by Kristy in the final of better communication for the bush, her volunteering efforts and organisational skills.” Cr Chandler said.

“Congratulations to **Hayley Cridge**, the Young Citizen of the year. The award was dedicated to Hayley for her mentoring roles at the Barcaldine State School, her community spirit and wonderful community person.

“Finally the Community event of the year, presented to the **Jericho Hay Run**. A huge community effort to recharge landholders in times of hardship. The Hay Run was organised by a team of volunteers under the leadership of our local Jericho policeman, Acting Sergeant Luke Young and community nurse, Lesley De Landelles.”

Cr Chandler said, “On behalf of my fellow Councillors, staff and all of us in the Barcaldine Regional Council, a warm congratulations to the regional winners, the individual community winners and to all those that were nominated this year.”

The community awards were presented to:

Certificate of recognition	Joycelyn Bennetts, Barcaldine
Volunteer of the year	Lesley De Landelles, Jericho Luke Young, Jericho Patrice Lawrence, Barcaldine Ted Bignell, Aramac Robert Turner, Muttaborra
Senior sports award	Dawn James, Aramac
Junior sports award	Ryan Dillon, Alpha Riley O'Dell, Jericho Elizabeth Pumpa, Barcaldine
Cultural award	Gladys Gifford, Jericho



Photo on the bottom left:
Ted Bignell, Volunteer of the year in Aramac and Leigh Skinner.

Photo on the bottom right:
Robert Turner, Volunteer of the year in Muttaborra and Olivia Hargroder.



Citizen of the Year, Kristy Sparrow.



Gitie House OAM and Olivia Hargroder and Young Citizen of the Year, Hayley Cridge.



2019 Australia Day Celebrations in Jericho.



Our 2019 Australia Day Ambassadors, Gitie House OAM, Olivia Hargroder and Leigh Skinner.

Australian Government Mobile Service Centre



centrelink

medicare

Serving Regional Australia

Visit the Mobile Service Centre to find out about Australian Government payments and services for rural families, older Australians, students, job seekers, people with disability, carers, farmers and self-employed people.

Information about Department of Veterans' Affairs programs and support services for veterans and their families will also be available.

Staff can provide you with information and support. They can also help you create a myGov account. myGov is a simple and secure way to access government services online.

ARAMAC: Wednesday 6 February 2019 | 9.30am to 4.00pm | Opposite Rural Transaction Centre, Gordon Street

ALPHA: Thursday 7 February 2019 | 10.00am to 3.30pm | Opposite the General Store, Shakespeare Street

BARCALDINE: Friday 8 February 2019 | 9.00am to 3.30pm | Opposite the Newsagency, Oak Street

For more information, go to humanservices.gov.au/mobileoffice or call **132 316**.

SE156.1811



Australian Government
Department of Human Services

humanservices.gov.au

WHAT'S ON IN 2019

EVENTS PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY BARCALDINE REGIONAL COUNCIL



AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATIONS | SATURDAY 26 JANUARY

Alpha | Jericho | Barcaldine | Aramac | Muttaborra

Celebrate Australia Day at our community activities and congratulate the 2019 Australia Day Award recipients.



TOURISM AND SMALL BUSINESS EVENTS |

Harnessing the untapped potential of our region

Linda Hailey, small business mentor, will be visiting the region from Monday 11 to Friday 15 March and details regarding her visit will be released in due course.

Further dates will be confirmed for October.



CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY | SUNDAY 3 MARCH

Alpha | Jericho | Barcaldine | Aramac | Muttaborra

Join us at a local site. Change starts with you.



MADBAG MINI TRIATHLON | SUNDAY 24 MARCH

Barcaldine

Join in the fun of the annual triathlon as an individual or part of a team. You'd be mad to miss it!



GET GARDENING COMPETITION

Alpha | Jericho | Barcaldine | Aramac | Muttaborra

Nominations open on Monday 10 June 2019 and close on Monday 5 August 2019.

Judging will be held between Monday 19 and Friday 23 August 2019. The winners will be announced at the Get Gardening Expo.



GET GARDENING EXPO | SATURDAY 14 SEPTEMBER

Jericho

Enjoy market stalls, food stalls, entertainment, a special guest gardening speaker and the announcement of the winner of the annual Get Gardening Competition.



CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMPETITION

Alpha | Jericho | Barcaldine | Aramac | Muttaborra

Light up your neighbourhood for your chance to win! Judging from Wednesday 11 to Tuesday 17 December 2019. The winners will be announced on Wednesday 18 December 2019.

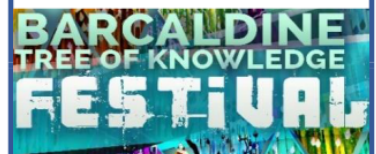


2020 AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

If you know of a person or community group dedicated to making the Barcaldine Region a better place, help us recognise their efforts and nominate them for a 2020 Australia Day Award.

Nominations open:
Friday 4 October 2019

Nominations close:
Friday 3 January 2020



BARCALDINE TREE OF KNOWLEDGE FESTIVAL | FRIDAY 3 TO MONDAY 6 MAY Barcaldine

Barcaldine Regional Council in conjunction with the Community Groups of Barcaldine proudly present the Barcaldine Tree of Knowledge Festival. The festival showcases the community spirit and all that is great about Barcaldine and the outback. We would love you to be part of this exciting and unique weekend.

contact us **Executive Office** PO Box 191 (71 Ash Street) Barcaldine QLD 4725 4651 5600

Alpha 43 Dryden Street 4985 1166 **Aramac** 35 Gordon Street 4652 9999 **Jericho** Darwin Street 4651 4129

Muttaborra 20 Bruford Street 4658 7191 **Website** www.barcaldinerc.qld.gov.au www.facebook.com/BarcaldineRegionalCouncil