



COUNCIL CONNECTIONS

APRIL 2008

COUNCIL CONNECTIONS

For further information on any item in *Connections* please do not hesitate to contact Council at PO Box 19, Lithgow or phone (02) **6354 9999**

Fax (02) 6351 4259
E-mail: council@lithgow.nsw.gov.au
Lithgow Visitor's Centre email is: tourism@lithgow.com
Lithgow Library's email is: library@lithgow.com

OFFICIAL WEBSITE for Lithgow District: www.lithgow.com

MAYORAL MESSAGE

At a recent meeting between Lithgow Police and Lithgow Council at Wallerawang, it was noted that there will soon be a new policeman in Wallerawang transferring from Capertee and the Capertee position is in line to be filled soon after. A small number of positions are currently unfilled at the Lithgow Police Station but plans have been put in place to have these positions filled in a relatively short period of time. Also from this meeting it was noted that in some circumstances crimes even of a minor nature, such as vandalism or graffiti, often go unreported and as such, the Police are not in a position to see a pattern of behaviour in a particular area. If people see crime of any sort taking place, they should ring their local Police Station or the Police Assistance Line. People are allowed to be anonymous but any information of any criminal activity would be helpful.



Council is about to start its new Budget and Management Plan for the upcoming financial year. As part of this, Council will be going to a number of locations to present the Management Plan and Budget to residents in places reasonably closer to their home over a period of couple of weeks.

As part of this year's Budget and Management Plan the option for the Indoor Heated Pool is expected to be on the agenda. Council at this stage has agreed to continue to push for the Government to allow for a variation of rates to allow the aquatic centre to be built. I would encourage people to come to the Management Plan meetings to have their say on this or any other issue.

The Lithgow Australia Day celebrations were hosted in the grounds of Eskbank House. The celebrations and the day were very successful and the grounds of Eskbank House proved to be a wonderful backdrop for the occasion. I am not sure if the general public is aware but the grounds of Eskbank House are available for being hired for such events as weddings etc. The Eskbank House itself is a wonderful educational resource providing people with a glimpse of yesteryear and a link to Lithgow's own historical past. I encourage people to take the chance to have a look at the wonderful house and gardens of Eskbank House.

RATE INSTALMENT DUE DATES

- 4th Instalment due on 31st May 2008

ORDINARY MEETING DATES FOR 2008

- Monday 21st April 2008
- Monday 19th May 2008
- Monday 16th June 2008
- Monday 21st July 2008
- Monday 18th August 2008
- Monday 15th September 2008
- Monday 20th October 2008
- Monday 17th November 2008
- Monday 15th December 2008

The Ordinary Council Meeting will commence at 7pm.

ORDINARY MEETING

COMMITTEE DATES FOR 2008

- Monday 7th April 2008
- Monday 5th May 2008
- Monday 2nd June 2008
- Monday 7th July 2008
- Monday 4th August 2008
- Monday 1st September 2008
- Tuesday 7th October 2008
- Monday 3rd November 2008
- Monday 1st December 2008

The Policy and Strategy Committee Meetings will commence at 6pm & the Finance and Services Committee Meetings will commence at 7pm.

COMMITTEE MEETING

GRANTS OFFICER

Council welcomes the commencement of Sara Knox, as the Grants Officer for the Central Tablelands Alliance. Sara is based in Lithgow and is responsible for researching and successfully targeting funding opportunities to fulfill the priorities of Lithgow, Mid-Western Regional and Oberon Councils.

Sara is also available to assist any interested community groups with the funding application process and give advice regarding project ideas and funding opportunities.

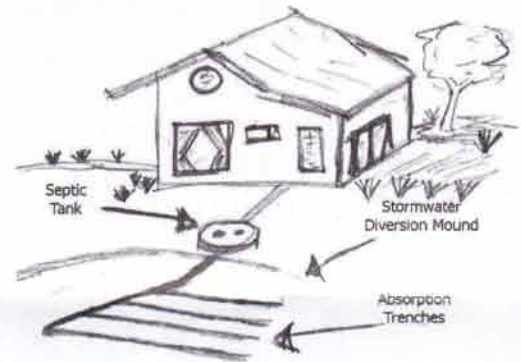
To contact Sara, please phone **6354 9999** or email council@lithgow.nsw.gov.au

On-site Wastewater Management System Inspection Program

Council's inspection program involving all On-site Wastewater Management Systems within the Lithgow Local Government Area will be commencing soon. The inspection program is part of Council's responsibility to ensure the long-term protection of public health and the environment and is in response to State Government legislation.

Property owners will receive an information package prior to inspection.

If you require further information please visit Council's website www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au or call Council.



AT THE LIBRARY...

An enjoyable summer reading and art Programme for our younger members was concluded with a wildly successful Superhero Party on Friday 25th January. Nothing quite like it has been seen in the library before!!! A dozen or more assorted superheroes in colorful costumes paraded around the library led by Super Dagg (pictured) to the amazement and amusement of older patrons.



This was followed by prize-giving and super food much enjoyed by all. We eagerly await the next bright idea from the Children's Library Officers.

PRIVACY & PERSONAL INFORMATION PROTECTION NOTICE

By forwarding your email address you may be providing Council with personal information. Council will collect the information only for a lawful purpose directly related to the function of Council. We will take reasonable care not to disclose personal information. Exempt documents may come under Section 12 of the Local Government Act.

Volunteer Tour Guide Program at Eskbank House

Lithgow City Council is seeking enthusiastic, reliable persons with a genuine interest in history and promoting the Lithgow Local Government Area to be Tour Guides at Eskbank House & Museum.

Tour Guides will be required to:

- Operate the Museum on weekends & some weekdays.
- Increase the hours of operation of the Museum.
- Provide informative tours about the Museum & assist visitors with enquiries about the area.
- Assist with research & exhibition development.
- Assist with developing & implementing exciting public programs at the Museum.
- Assist with providing interesting & interactive workshops for school groups & school holiday programs.
- Assist with promoting Eskbank House & Museum as a premier wedding & wedding photography facility.

New volunteer Kim Castillo getting into the action on Australia Day



If you are interested in volunteering at Eskbank House & Museum please contact the Cultural Development Officer on 02 **6354 9999** for a Volunteer Information Pack.



Weddings AT ESKBANK



Looking for a romantic and intimate setting for your special day? Why not have your wedding ceremony or wedding photos taken in the grounds at Eskbank House & Museum. With the romance of roses and grandeur of yesteryear Eskbank House is the perfect place to celebrate your marriage.

**Eskbank House & Museum is open 10am to 4pm Wednesday to Sunday for enquiries and inspection.
For information contact Deborah McGrath, Cultural Development Officer on 02 6354 9999.**

Australia Day CELEBRATIONS

Celebrate What's Great!



The Official Australia Day Celebrations conducted by Lithgow City Council at Eskbank House & Museum was a huge success this year.

The 'Colonial Theme' for the celebrations was given greater focus with the inclusion of the 'Blessing of the Convict Bonnets' made by members of the Lithgow District Family History Society as part of the Official Ceremony.

The bonnets were on display at the museum from Australia Day until the 23rd February and generated a great deal of interest with both locals and visitors to the Museum. One group of visitors from Queensland found a great deal of information about their own convict descendant in some of the source material provided by the LDFHS; A Springwood lady (who had made bonnets for a whole ship) is now researching each of the women she made bonnets for and found a descendent of one of her convict ladies in Lithgow. The LDFHS's, Colin Glynn, so she was looking to form links with him on her research project.

Trevor Keir and Debby Blundell from the Colonial Show kept everyone on their toes with their antics during the day as 'Nugget McGrath, Swaggie Extraordinaire' and 'Lizzie Wilkins the Browns Maid'.

The day was one of continual entertainment with the Lithgow City Band and the ever popular Highland Band performing in the grounds. The absolute highlight of the day was the Australian Heritage Dancers from Sydney. They conducted three performances with the last one being an audience participation opportunity with participants as young as two getting into the action. Everyone enjoyed old favourites such as the Barn Dance and the Pride of Erin along with learning some new dance moves. It was a heap of fun!

The Cocky's Joy and sausage sizzle provided by the Lithgow Lions Club courtesy of our official sponsors Delta Electricity and Lithgow Valley Springs was, as always, well received by all. Australia Day stall holders enjoyed record sales for Australia Day with people enjoying the variety of home made, home baked and home grown goods on offer.



Council's Cultural Development Officer, Deborah McGrath & her daughter Claire learning a new step or two.

Road Construction & Maintenance Activities

Council's road construction Programme is well underway with several significant projects being recently completed. Stage 1 of the Wolgan Rd project, comprising the gravel sheeting and widening of 14kms of rural road was completed just before Christmas, much to the delight of local residents and visitors to the Newnes area. Sandford Avenue was given a makeover with over \$100,000 being spent on a new hot-mix sealed surface. Following in early February, saw the completion of the bitumen sealing of Range Rd near Portland and the completion of bitumen sealing of the Wallerawang - Rydal Rd. Both these projects complete the 'missing link' of bitumen on these well trafficked roads.

Commencing in late February and progressing through March, will see the reconstruction and bitumen sealing of approximately 5.6km of rural road at Dark Corner. This work will provide a much improved and safer road for the local community and for the logging industry. Following this work, Council will commence in April the upgrading and resealing of the Wolgan Rd at various sections from Lidsdale to the top of the Wolgan gap.

Recent maintenance works include rural road grading in the Kanimbla Valley area, Hazelgrove Rd and Honeysuckle Falls Rd while future maintenance works in March and April are scheduled for the Glen Davis and Glen Alice area, Palmers Oaky area, Turon Gates Rd, Rydal/Hampton area and Springvale Lane.

The current wet summer has provided Council with many challenges in the areas of grass cutting, parks and gardens maintenance and pot hole patching. Roadside mowing has taken a back seat until now, however Council commenced in late February roadside mowing in the Wallerawang, Portland, Sunny Corner, Meadow Flat, Tarana and Rydal areas. A contract grass cutting team has assisted Council with roadside mowing in the Glen Alice area as we attempt to catch up.

Cultural Plan

Lithgow City Council is in the process of exhibiting and finalising the **Draft Cultural Plan 2008-2011**. Anyone wishing to make comments on this document should contact the Cultural Development Officer and register their interest.

School Holiday Drama Workshops



Australian Government

Regional Arts Fund

April School Holidays

Inspired by the Australian War Memorial's travelling exhibition **Backyard Frontline – Australia under Attack 1942-1943**, the Bathurst Theatre Company will be hosting two **youTheatre** workshops during the April School Holidays at Lithgow.

Learn about the history of WWII whilst playing drama games, visiting exhibitions and local historic sites and developing characters for the final show. The workshops will be held over four days each week with the final day (Thursday) of each workshop culminating in a small performance.

Junior Workshops (7-12 Years): 14th – 17th April from 9am to 3pm.

Senior Workshops (13 – 17 Years): 21st – 24th April from 9am to 3pm.

Venue: To be confirmed.

July School Holidays - Drama Celebration Workshop

Create a drama celebration to share with your families and the community in a final performance on the Thursday afternoon. Participants will make costumes and develop characters for a 'parade'. This workshop will involve making and creating.

Mixed Class Workshops (7+ Years) 7th – 10th July.

Venue: Cullen Bullen Progress Hall (TBC).

Cost: \$80 per person per workshop.

Contact: Kylie Shead, Bathurst Theatre Company on 0416 250 269 or kyshead@csu.edu.au

Lunch: Bring your own.

Backyard Frontline: Australia Under Attack 1942-43
Closes Sunday 27 April 2008



Australian War Memorial

Australian Tourism Awards
Major Tourist Attraction
HALL OF FAME

Don't miss an opportunity to see this exciting travelling exhibition from the Australian War Memorial – **Backyard Frontline – Australia under Attack 1942-1943** before it closes on Sunday 27 April.

The exhibition features a time when Australians felt they were under imminent danger of attack and relates to Lithgow's own history of defence with the Bowenfels & Clwydd Gun Emplacements, the Small Arms Factory and the Marrangaroo Army Barracks.

The exhibition also deals with the frightening episodes in which Australians endured air and sea attacks. Those who lived through the attacks still recall the harrowing sights and sounds as the Japanese attacked. The exhibition outlines the breadth, magnitude and location of these attacks and puts them into a context that younger Australians can understand.

The Australian War Memorial's Travelling Exhibition program is funded by the Australian Government's Commemorations program and offers small museums like Eskbank House an opportunity to provide quality exhibitions to the local community at no additional cost.

Bring in your Memorabilia Day

Sunday 6 April 2008

Eskbank House & Museum is excited to be hosting a 'Bring in your Memorabilia Day' as part of the travelling exhibition from the Australian War Memorial – **Backyard Frontline – Australia under Attack 1942-1943**.

Professional Historians and Curators from the Australian War Memorial will be on hand to discuss your war collections, memorabilia or heirlooms. Providing insight into collecting and caring for these items.

- **Chris Goddard** is the curator of **Backyard Frontline: Australia Under Attack 1942-43** and the larger exhibition **Australia Under Attack**.
- **Karl James**, Military Historian is a wealth of knowledge in Military Collections and ephemera.
- **George Bailey**, Conservator is a wealth of knowledge on the conservation and preservation of objects.

The Lithgow Lions Club will be selling refreshments, sausage sandwiches, steak sandwiches and hamburgers to raise funds for local charity.

Eskbank House & Museum is open 10am-4pm Wednesday to Sunday. Further details are available on www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au/eskbank or by contacting the museum direct on **02 6351 3557** or the Cultural Development Officer on **6354 9999**.