



COUNCIL CONNECTIONS

JANUARY 2009

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

Over the last few months we have had our new General Manager in Roger Bailey, the new Council has been elected and in that time there seems to be a good spirit of cooperation between the Councillors as they have looked to review a number of council policies.

The Policy review is important but compulsory for a new Council to review within the first 12 months of being elected. One of the changes that has come about has been for meetings to go back to how they have been in the past, as in once every three weeks (except for public holidays) starting at 7pm, with public question time being the first part of the meeting. The dates for these meetings are on the Council website but start on Tuesday 27th January 2009 (Monday being public holiday).

In November of last year I was lucky enough to go to Canberra to represent the Council at the Inaugural Australian Council of Local Government Conference. The bottom line of this Conference was that Lithgow City Council will receive \$529,000 to be used on infrastructure in our area. Council will have to decide exactly what it can use the money on and will be looking for projects of its own (it can't be spent on projects that are not councils) and could include things such as halls, repairs to pools, libraries, skate parks etc.

Council has recently completed some major road works particularly in Hartley Valley, Wolgan Road and have more major works to complete on Magpie Hollow Road, Barton Ave Wallerawang and the Portland/Cullen Bullen Road. Even though some of these roads have taken some time it will be good to see they have been finally completed.



ORDINARY MEETING DATES FOR 2008

- January 27th 2009 (Tuesday)
- February 16th 2009
- March 9th 2009
- March 30th 2009
- April 20th 2009
- May 11th 2009
- June 1st 2009
- June 22nd 2009
- July 13th 2009
- August 3rd 2009
- August 24th 2009
- September 14th 2009
- October 6th 2009 (Tuesday)
- November 2nd 2009
- November 23rd 2009
- December 14th 2009

The Ordinary Council Meeting will commence at 6pm.

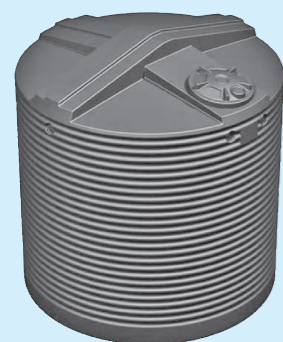
RATE INSTALLMENT DUE DATES

2nd March 2009
1st June 2009

Rainwater Tank & Domestic Appliances REBATE PROGRAM

One of Lithgow's most important water catchment areas is just above your head! During heavy rain storms, hundreds of litres of water can drain off an average roof. By installing a rainwater tank, you can capture and store this precious resource to help ease the strain on our town water, and also save money on your water accounts.

Council has introduced a rainwater tank rebate scheme to help you do this. Council is offering rebates as follows:



OPTION 1

Minimum 5000 litre tank connected to Garden Tap only - \$200

OPTION 2

Minimum 5000 litre tank connected to Garden Tap & Toilet and Washing Machine - \$800

Additionally

For water efficient Household appliances such as Dishwasher or Washing machine that have a four star WELS rating or AAAAA rating a rebate of \$150/appliance/Household. This is one of the many ways Lithgow City Council is working with the community to create sensible solutions for people and the environment to ensure that clean, fresh drinking water doesn't become a luxury item.

For a comprehensive guide to rainwater tanks, or full details of the rebate offer and terms and conditions, refer to Council's Rainwater Tank Rebate Policy.

Annual Report and State of Environment Report

The Council's 2007/2008 Annual Report and State of Environment Report can be downloaded from the website. These documents report on all of the Council's activities and achievements over the past financial year. Check out what Council's has done for the community.



2008/09 RATES & CHARGES

The 2008/09 Rate notice will be issued by 31 July 2008 and following dates and payment options will apply.

1st Instalment: 31 August 2008

Payments received up until Monday 1 September 2008

2nd Instalment: 30 November 2008

Payments received up until Monday 1 December 2008

3rd Instalment: 28 February 2009

Payments received up until Monday 1 March 2009

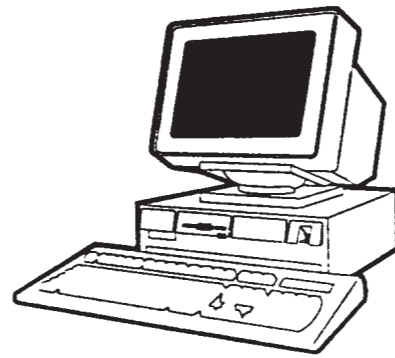
4th Instalment: 31 May 2009

Payments received up until Monday 1 June 2009

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

- AUSTRALIA POST** All outlets
Phone Payment 13 18 16
Internet Payment www.postbillpay.com.au
- BPAY** Contact your own bank and quote your personal Reference No. on your rate notice
- MAIL/PHONE** Mail Credit Card details, Cheques or Money Orders to:
Lithgow City Council
PO Box 19
LITHGOW NSW 2790
Phone: 02 6354 9999 with Credit Card details
- IN PERSON** 180 Mort Street, Lithgow
Cash Hours: 8.30am to 4.00pm
- DIRECT DEBIT** Contact 02 6354 9999 for an application form. Instalments will be automatically deducted from your nominated account on the instalment date.

For payments and further information please contact Council's Customer Service Officers on 02 6354 9999.



ON COUNCIL'S WEBSITE

www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au

Check out the Council's website, it is full of valuable information and publications.

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.

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

Do you have a public event, group, workshop or any other information that you would like your community to know about?

Lithgow City Councils community notice board, situated in Cook Street Plaza, is a great way to get this information out in the community. If you would like to have your information displayed on the community notice board, please be sure to drop off your flyers etc into Council at least a couple of weeks before your event. Please ensure that all flyers etc are community focused.

Please contact Council's Community Development Officer who would be happy to speak with you further regarding the noticeboard.

SOCIAL PLAN

The Council has recently updated its Social Plan with 2006 ABS Census data.

Download your copy with the latest information.



Draft Cultural PLAN

You can now download and comment upon the Council's Draft Cultural Plan.

The Draft Cultural Plan acknowledges the diversity and contribution that the residents of the Lithgow Local Government Area play in developing the community. The Plan identifies key areas in relation to economic, environmental, social, cultural, heritage, tourism and industrial development in the Lithgow Local Government Area. Some of the areas identified for development include: cultural precinct, Eskbank House and Museum, Lithgow Library Learning Centre, Recreational Facilities, Placemaking, Public Art Programs, Village enhancement programs, heritage, cultural tourism, collection management, and more. Members of the public are invited to comment on the Draft Cultural Plan by the 6th February prior to it being put to the Council for adoption.



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 & inspection. For information contact Deborah McGrath, Cultural Development Officer on 02 6354 9999.