



UPPER HUNTER SHIRE COUNCIL

A Quality Rural Lifestyle - in a caring, thriving community

LOCAL GOVERNMENT WEEK 2013

Local Knowledge : Local Services : Local Community

Upper Hunter Shire is celebrating NSW Local Government Week 2013 by holding its popular Mayor For a Day Competition through local Primary Schools. With over a hundred entries, a wide range of suggestions have been made by young people about what they would do if they were the Mayor for a Day, reflecting the many areas of community life that Council is involved in. The competition is an opportunity for young people to discuss the levels of Government in Australia and focus on the one that is closest to the people - Local Government.

Held from 29 July - 4 August, Local Government Week is an opportunity to recognise all the important work councils do in their local communities. "From council-owned and managed roads, child care centres, libraries sports fields and cemeteries to food safety checks, animal registration, special celebrations and town water and sewerage services - Local Government and its many functions are embedded in people's lives, said Mayor Michael Johnsen. "Council works very closely with our strong communities to develop a sense of pride in the Upper Hunter".

Some of Council's diverse highlights from the past year:

Bridge construction

A number of bridges have been constructed including Alec Cone Bridge and the Old School Bridge at Woolooma, a footbridge at Moonan Flats and the Cuan Bridge on the Scone-Merriwa Road, which will be opened next week.



Opening of Alec Cone Bridge

Aberdeen Flood Study

A flood study was recently completed by engineering consultants, WMA Water, for Aberdeen and surrounding areas. The Aberdeen Flood Study was commissioned by



Council's Rural Women's Gathering Committee will host the 21st NSW Women's Gathering in Scone in October with the theme of "Horsin' Around"

Upper Hunter Shire Council in 2005 and was jointly funded by Council and the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage. The results of the flood study will support the preparation of a floodplain risk management study and plan for Aberdeen.

Draft Upper Hunter LEP 2013

Upper Hunter Shire Council has prepared a new Local Environmental Plan (LEP) known as the Draft Upper Hunter LEP 2013. The draft LEP will apply to all land in the Upper Hunter Shire and will regulate land use and development within prescribed land use zones.

Childcare Services

Council runs three childcare services for the benefit of people in the Shire. Upper Hunter Family Day Care has recently registered two new Scone Home Based Educators which will increase the places available for childcare for children up to 12 years. Scone Out of School Hours care has run very popular vacation care programs, with families encouraged to book early so as not to be disappointed. It also runs both before and after school care to assist parents. Centre based childcare for children under school age is provided by Upper Hunter Early Learning Centre. It has increased its enrolments following the appointment of a second Early Childhood Teacher and has recently completed its re-licensing inspection.

Vote 'Yes' in the referendum for Local Government

This year Local Government Week is all the more important given the referendum to financially recognise Local Government in the Australian Constitution is being held on 14 September.

Mayor Michael Johnsen has called upon the Upper Hunter Shire Residents to vote "Yes" in this referendum to ensure the Australian Government can continue to provide direct funding to councils, which are used to improve local roads and other vital infrastructure projects.

A Yes vote has the support of the Upper Hunter Shire Council and NSW Local Government Association.

Saleyards

Cattle yards at the Scone and Upper Hunter Regional Saleyards now feature a new roof over the north western corner of the cattle yards.

Water Supply

The Lake Glenbawn to Scone pipeline and high level reservoir has been a large undertaking and is now completed.

Recreation areas

Moonan Flats has had a new Playground installed for youngsters and Valley View Park in Aberdeen has been enhanced by the addition of Adult exercise equipment.

Aberdeen Subdivision

A new subdivision was developed and opened to enable new housing and population growth in the Aberdeen area. Sales are progressing well.

Youth Services

Council runs Youth Centres at Scone, Merriwa and Murrurundi providing a range of social activities. Staff have now extended services into providing casework, skills groups, Information and referrals. A partnership with local schools to support the new Youth Council and a successful Youth Opportunities grant from NSW Government has led to increased youth events in the Shire, including Youth Week activities. The Young Endeavour Scheme has had 26 nominations this year, for 6 young people to sail on a voyage of a lifetime, thanks to Council and community sponsors.

Upper Hunter Shire Libraries

LIBRARY

ABERDEEN CASSILIS MERRIWA MURRURUNDI SCONE

JOIN TODAY BY VISITING OR CONTACTING YOUR NEAREST LIBRARY

ABERDEEN - Monday to Friday - ph 6540 1303 CASSILIS - Wednesday & Friday - ph 6376 1295
MERRIWA - Tuesday to Saturday - ph 6521 7007 MURRURUNDI - Tuesday to Saturday - ph 6540 1363
SCONE - Monday to Saturday - ph 6540 1183

For opening hours contact your local library or visit:
www.upperhunter.nsw.gov.au or www.uhrl.nsw.gov.au

Associated Libraries at Muswellbrook & Denman

Upper Hunter Shire Young Endeavour Scheme is seeking sponsorship to send SIX young people on a voyage of a lifetime

"I have come away with the desire to try new things as well as the courage to do it" - Aidan Beiboer, Hobart to Sydney 2011

Sponsorship Booklets are available at any Council Office, online or contact **Jodie Phelps on 6540 1142** for more information

Thank you to our current sponsors

UPPER HUNTER FAMILY DAYCARE

Servicing the Area for Over 30 Years

Providing safe and nurturing high quality child care for children aged birth - 12 years in the homes of Registered Educators in the Upper Hunter and Muswellbrook shires.

- ★ Personal, small group attention (no more than 5 children of pre-school age)
- ★ Family environment
- ★ Child Care Benefit and Child Care Rebate approved
- ★ Supported by a qualified Coordination Unit

Phone 6540 1151

Do you own a dog or cat? Companion Animals

The NSW Companion Animals Act is designed to benefit pets, their owners and the wider community. The permanent identification and lifetime registration system assists Upper Hunter Shire Council in returning lost and injured animals to their owners. All dogs and cats born, or who have changed owners since 1 July 1999 have been required to be microchipped and lifetime registered.

upper hunter early learning centre

Quality childcare for children 6 weeks to 5 years
Providing nursery, toddler and preschool programs
7.00am to 6.00pm -Monday to Friday **6540 1345**

UPPER HUNTER SHIRE YOUTH SERVICES

Scone Youth Centre 105 Susan Street Scone Ph: 6545 2203 BH: 6540 1100 Mob: 0417 287 540	Merriwa Youth Centre Bow Street Merriwa Ph: 6521 7050 BH: 6521 7000 Mob: 0447 610 915	Murrurundi Youth Centre Mayne Street Murrurundi Ph: 6546 6249 BH: 6540 1350 Mob: 0438 437 082
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SOOSH
SCONE OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS

Waverley Street, Scone
6540 1177
soosh@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au
Before & After School Care
Vacation Care