

October 2008



Community news from Mt Nebo and Mt Glorious
<http://gloriousnebo.org.au/MTN/>

No trees were harmed by the sending of this newsletter
however a lot of electrons were slightly inconvenienced.



Do Your
Block!

FREE BUSHCARE SERVICE

Would you like some assistance managing bushland on your block, advice on weeds, or advice on planting local native plants in your garden?

MEPA has a free service offering advice and information (supported by PRSC)
(Contact Maggie - 3289 8175 or Dominic - 3289 0093)

BUSH FIRE
WARNING SIREN
TESTING

1ST WEDNESDAY
EACH MONTH
7.00 - 7.30PM

WILDLIFE CARE AND RESCUE
CALL PENELOPE ON 3289 0085

LOCAL
TOP QUALITY
FIREWOOD

Phone: 32890156

MICHELE HOBART

B.A., Dip. RM

REMEDIAL & SPORTS MASSAGE CENTRE
RELAXATION - SEATED CHAIR MASSAGE
DEEP TISSUE - FOOT REFLEXOLOGY
LYMPHATIC DRAINAGE

To relieve:

STRESS, NECK & BACK PAIN, HEADACHES
SPORTS & JOB RELATED INJURIES

0407 662 044

1863 Mt Nebo Road, Mt Nebo 4520

(Next to Boombana Café)

Health Fund Rebates - ATMS Member



SPRING FAIRY FESTIVAL
At THE LYELL DEER FARM
MT. SAMSON

Saturday 4th. and Sunday 5th.
October 2008.
1.30pm to 3.30pm

In the Bush Fairy Garden " Boomajarri!"
We invite Little People and Big People to
come and Dress for this
very important occasion.
Their will be Craft Stalls and Face Painting.
Have Fun and Games with Fairy Luana and
"Woody" the mischievous Wood Elf.

Visit our Reservation with
Indian Princess Mina.

FAIRY FEAST FOR ALL.
Cost \$10.00 Big Folk / \$7.50 Little Folk
Bookings Essential : Ph 3289 4270

REMEMBER IN CASE OF FIRE:

Telephone **000**

then **Terry Bradford: 3289 8181** or
Bob Snowdon: 3289 0150

D'Aguilar Range National Park News

New park border gates installed in the D'Aguilar Range

In an effort to control the unauthorised use of four-wheel drive vehicles in the Gold Creek and Lake Manchester areas, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rangers have recently installed locked gates and 'Restricted Vehicle Access' signs to management roads connecting the western side of the park to private property. Unauthorised vehicle use on the Park's management roads causes safety risks to other authorised users, including horse, mountain bike riders and bushwalkers. Frequent vehicle use also impacts negatively on the Park's precious ecosystem, causing soil erosion and damage to plants and animals.

EPA rangers will maintain the gates and issue fines to the drivers of vehicles found travelling in areas where unauthorised vehicle access is prohibited. If you see any unauthorised activities occurring in the park please contact EPA rangers on 1300 130 372.

Feral animal control in the D'Aguilar Range

EPA rangers have recently observed signs of feral pig activity, including digging and wallowing, around Lawnton Rd and Joyners Ridge road at Mt Glorious. In an effort to reduce the numbers of these environmental pests in the Park, rangers have set pig traps which so far have led to the removal of one large sow.

EPA rangers have continued the successful feral cat trapping program in the D'Aguilar Range, recently trapping a fourth feral cat. This cat displayed characteristics common to feral cats, such as a well-built body, highly camouflaged fur, and a robust, muscled head and jaws (Feral cat ecology and control fact sheet. DPI, 2007). Rangers will continue feral cat and pig trapping programs to assist in the control of both of these species of feral animals.

Mountain bike riding in protected areas

With mountain bike riding becoming an increasingly popular activity, areas such as the D'Aguilar Range and Bunyaville Forest Reserve have become ideal destinations for visitors wanting to combine enjoyment of the natural environment with recreation and physical activity.

There are many established mountain bike tracks throughout the park which offer riders the opportunity to safely participate in this activity. Mountain bike tracks are also shared with walkers and horse-riders, so always be aware of other track users.

Springtime activity on the Range

Winter is officially over and in the bush, this means a time of plenty, particularly for young native animals emerging to begin life on their own. Across the D'Aguilar range marsupial young are leaving the safety of the pouch to explore the world around them. Puggles (baby echidnas) are beginning to leave the pouch as their quills become harder and sharper. Other local animals beginning to emerge include sugar and yellow-bellied gliders, and many small carnivorous marsupials (dasyurids), such as antechinus and dunnarts.

Brush turkeys are starting to hatch from their eggs, emerging from their nests resembling quails with large legs and feet. Brush turkey hatchlings are completely independent and can fly at just a few hours old. If you are finding life with your resident brush turkey difficult, discourage turkey mounds in your garden for next year by introducing a layer of chicken wire underneath mulch or cover the base of plants with gravel.

With temperatures rising, reptiles including snakes are becoming more active - searching for food and mates as they approach their breeding season. As venomous snakes reside in the D'Aguilar Range, residents are advised to treat any snake sighted with caution, avoiding any contact. For more information regarding living with snakes or other native Australian wildlife visit the EPA website www.epa.qld.gov.au or call the EPA on 1300 130 372.

For help with identification of animal species contact the Queensland Museum (ph: 07 3840 7555).

Justin Lee, Senior Ranger, EPA.

For more information about any of the topics in this column, please contact the EPA Customer service Centre on 1300 130 372



© Ian Witheyman, EPA

If you would like to help maintain mountain bike tracks, why not join the Bunyaville trail care group by emailing bunyatrailcare@hotmail.com.

This dedicated group of volunteers provides invaluable assistance to EPA rangers in looking after the tracks and making them environmentally sustainable.

The Wilson Report

Music in the Valley

Samford Rotary's annual Music in the Valley is going to be a great success yet again this year. This is always a great night of fun for the whole family and I encourage you all to come along and enjoy the music on 18 October. Events such as this that bring the community together are very important and I'm looking forward to catching up with everyone.

Public Consultation: Review of Queensland Government Climate Change Strategy

The Queensland Government is reviewing, updating and consolidating its current ClimateSmart 2050: Queensland climate change strategy 2007 and Queensland's ClimateSmart Adaptation 2007-12: an action plan for managing the impacts of climate change in light of the latest scientific assessments as well as national and international developments in climate change and climate change policy. As part of this process, the Government is calling for public input. Issues include; energy, community, transport, and ecosystems to name just a few. For information on how to have your say, contact my office or visit www.climatechange.qld.gov.au

Electricity Billing Penalties

As Queensland's Minister for Mines and Energy, I recently announced tough new penalties for power billing companies that do the wrong thing by their customers. These new penalties will further protect pensioners who have been overcharged on their electricity bills. The Bligh Government doesn't turn its back on the battlers. We know they're doing it tough and we're on their side. We've already brought in rules to force power billing companies to repay the money. But now, they will also have to give householders a credit of \$40 on their next bill. We've had a gutful of power billing companies doing the wrong thing by their customers. It's time for those companies to be hit in the hip pocket instead and the new code will require power billing companies to pay their customers for the inconvenience and stress of being overcharged. The new code is expected to start in a matter of weeks and will be administered by the independent Queensland Competition Authority.

Out & About in the Electorate

On 13 September I held one of my regular mobile offices at the Great Western Super Centre. This was a great morning spent listening to local residents. I also recently attended a hospitality training event with students from Ferny Grove State High School who are completing their Certificate III in hospitality at the Arana Leagues Club. This was a significant day for the students and I wished them all the best with their training.

In closing, I welcome people contacting me with their views and seeking information or help with any State Government matter. Telephone me on 3851 1570, fax me on 3851 1261, email me on ferny.grove@parliament.qld.gov.au, or check out my website, www.geoffwilsonmp.com My Electorate Office is at 3/6 Nepean Avenue, Arana Hills - next to the Caltex Service Station (office hours 9:00 am to 12.30 pm and 1.30 pm to 5:00 pm week days)

From the Fossa archives



Retro image of what is now the Boombana Cafe.
Photo of the interior circa 1976.

a3 full colour posters \$1.10
a4 colour prints \$0.55

cheap flyers and postcards too!

bargainprint@hotmail.com nathan 0405817482

Working with our local community

Geoff WILSON MP



**State Member for
Ferny Grove**

ELECTORATE OFFICE:
Nepean Centre
Unit3/6 Nepean Ave
Arana Hills

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm

Tuesday night by appointment

Tel: 3851 1570 Fax: 3851 1261
Email: ferny.grove@parliament.qld.gov.au



School News

Our Track and Field Carnival was on 17 September and what a fabulous day it was. Students from Prep to Year 7 participated with Wattle winning the day. Max received the Sportsmanship Award with Michael and Mia earning Boy and Girl Champion status.

Thank you to the staff for the preparations leading up to the day. Thank you to the mums and dads for your attendance and cheers on the day. A huge thank you to the fantastic boys and girls...you were the day.

We are looking forward to seeing you on Wednesday 5 November at 6.00pm for the prep Information Night. If you are coming, please call the school so we can adequately cater on the night.

Cheers

Mr Kerry Lofgren, Principal

Phone: 3289 8162

Fax: 3289 8318

Email: klofg1@eq.edu.au

Web: www.mtneboss.eq.edu.au



Boy and Girl Champion



Waratah Tunnel Ball



Wattle War Cry



Wattle Captain Ball

Cat Came Back – Hat still missing...

Previously, few people would have known that we are cat-owners. Cats, being largely reviled by quite a few mountain folk, made it something we tend not to advertise. And up until recently, we have been able to maintain our feline-friendly anonymity. For, despite living on the mountain for the past 5 years, our cats are indoor cats, and therefore largely unseen. The closest they come to terrorising nature is decimating old gum leaves which fall on their fuzzy heads when they sleep on the deck. We were thus smugly protected from having to justify our love for the little beasties.

All that changed a couple of weeks ago.

Returning home one evening, we found that our 10 year old Norwegian, Oscar, was absent... not sleeping on top of the bookcase... not locked in a cupboard... not hiding under the doona...not inside.

We launched a desperate search, knowing he must have somehow fallen from the deck, and scoured the neighbourhood and forest for hours that night. All we succeeded in doing was teaching a couple of tawnies how to call "Oscar!" Without sight or sound of him, we returned home to spend a wakeful night, the slightest noise indication of his return, a light burning outside (in case he suddenly forgot how to see in the dark).

After searching again the following morning, we had to leave for work, harbouring dark thoughts of injury, sickness, or deadly encounters with dingos. Also adding to our concern, was that Oscar needed daily medication.

That night brought no relief; still no Oscar. We made a poster and hung them throughout the village... and then we went doorknocking. While not expecting anyone to have seen him, we weren't going to give up on the little guy just yet. Besides, we had yet to publicly humiliate ourselves by not only declaring our cat-cohabitation status to all and sundry, but admit that the medication Oscar required each day was antidepressants. Oh yes. And human antidepressants at that (he thinks himself far too much of a person for animal drugs).

Apart from bringing comic relief for our neighbours, our efforts did not bring Oscar home that night.

Nor the following morning.

And he still hadn't turned up when we got home that night.

But somehow, whichever gods are assigned to protect small crazy animals decided to give him a break. Late that night, he came home - skinny, muddy, with knotted in his fur bits of foliage, prickles and even a small branch. Amidst the purring, he got lots of cuddles, Frontline for any ticks, a good brushing... oh, and his antidepressants.

A big big big thank you to all our wonderful neighbours for keeping an eye out for him. And mostly managing to keep a straight face.

Vicki K and Andy

The Mountainfolk Bulletin Board...

Bigger, juicier 'n' not-exactly-the-samer than ever before

Join us...it's all free and provides instant communication with locals.

If you want to chat about anything or just lurk - reading what everyone else is saying.....then what are you waiting for? *Join up!*

email us at:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mountainfolk>

(Say hello and tell us who you are in your email)

Hoon Line

If you see hoons or other dangerous road users call the police (The Gap 3511 0077, or Ferny Grove 3851 4499).

If it's possible and safe, get a description of the vehicle and number plates.

If they have resources available at the time, police should respond.

All Areas

Bernies Computer Help



- WebSites built / maintained
- New / Used Systems
- Repairs and Upgrades
- Virus Spyware Experts
- Flash / Photos / Tuition
- BroadBand / Networking

WE COME TO YOU

Friendly and simple PC talk

3325-0428

0419-797367



"Like chicken...? Really!?"



Councillor's Column

GOAT TRACK UPDATE

I have been provided with further feedback from Council engineers following the latest of their regular inspections of the track and unfortunately the news continues to not be good. I am told that there is further evidence of ground movement on the outer edges of the track's surface and that despite this there are traffic management implications in opening the track to-way because of the several sections that are now clearly not wide enough because of the landslips that have occurred. Council has allocated in the current year's budget, some \$100,000 to undertake a detailed audit of the track which should reflect councils commitment to the future of this road and its consideration of the safety issues involved. Some readers may have also noted the recent determination against a council by the coroners court in NSW following a major landslip which took out a section of hillside road and led to the death of a family travelling the road. In our own case, we have to be guided by the professional officers who are monitoring the situation and whilst the inconvenience is certainly annoying and somewhat adds to travel costs, we need to be mindful that the two way use of the track evolved over time and without sound road construction taking place.

By the time you receive this update, I will have inspected the track again in the company of council engineers and on this occasion with their divisional director and will continue to keep you informed of developments. I propose at an appropriate time when additional information is available, to convene a meeting so that residents can be more fully informed on the matter by appropriately qualified staff and others.

BUSHFIRE SEASON ON OUR DOORSTEP

The regular but small rain periods last summer have significantly increased fuel loadings and the rapidly drying conditions we are currently experiencing do not auger well for the coming fire season. Council has been working with the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, local volunteer Fire Brigades and the community to ensure any risks are minimised as much as possible. A number of community fire awareness meetings have been conducted and with regular hazard reduction burning over recent months the region is as well prepared for wildfires as it has been for many years. Residents in the higher risk semi rural areas and on the urban fringes of bushland are encouraged to do all within their power to prepare their properties and families and be aware of what they should do in the event of a bushfire. Publications offering valuable advice are available from your local Brigade, Council offices and on the Fire Service website www.fire.qld.gov.au/communitysafety.

ROADSIDE LITTERING

Despite increasing public awareness on the issue and the efforts of hundreds of residents taking part in the Clean Up Australia programme each year, roadside littering nevertheless remains a blight on our community.

The State Government has increased fines for littering and given greater powers to Councils to issue fines for such things as general littering, throwing litter from a vehicle, and illegal dumping. Of particular note is the fact that loads in trailers and on the back of trucks and utes must be adequately contained as litter that falls from these vehicles can attract an on the spot fine of \$225.00.

DID YOU KNOW?

That the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) have a new integrated hotline number to assist with calls relating to pollution, marine strandings, camping and national parks, licence and permit applications and general information requests for wildlife complaints and emergencies. The number is 1300 130 372.



The newly revamped John Scott Park in Samford, which was officially opened last month, features walkways with sleeper inlays and shelters similar to historic railway station buildings.

Moreton Bay Regional Council

Bob Millar

Councillor Div 11

*Working with
the Community*

Council Services: 3480 6666

Councillors Office: 3480 6455
Mobile: 0409 890 203

E: bob.millar@moretonbay.qld.gov.au
W: www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au

Classifieds

YOGA IS STILL ON at the Mt. Nebo Hall
Monday's at 7- 8.30 pm and Friday's at 10am -11.30.

All ages welcome. For more info phone Jeanne on **32890235**

FOR SALE - STRAINER POSTS, recycled house stumps, good solid timber, \$20.00 each. Can deliver. phone **3289 0020**

FOR SALE - 1 x Cedar PVC EcoBlinds 180cm wide x 137cm drop \$60; 1 x working Upright Small Chest Freezer \$25; 1 x 3 seater SofaBed,VGC, \$140; 3 x handbags VGC \$5 each; Black Suede Jkt with a little mark on it, hardly worn \$40; Size 12 Wedding outfit (dress, wrap, veil, tiara, bag) \$300; Retro 1970s ski outfits, 1 male, 1 female \$80 for both. Can email photos katerush@minilease.com.au or Tel **3289 8228** Kate Rush.

CHILDRENS DRUMMING CIRCLES - 2nd. Sunday of every month. 4pm - 5.30pm. Children of all ages welcome. Come have Fun!! Drums and Rattles supplied. Bookings essential. \$5.00 per child. For more info. Ph. Maureen Lyell Deer Farm. **3289 4270**

NATIVE AMERICAN CEREMONIAL FULL MOON DRUMMING CIRCLE - Wednesday 15th. October 7.30 - 9.30 pm. All Welcome. Adults \$10.00 N/C for Children. Ph. Maureen for more information **3289 4270**

FURNITURE FOR SALE - Mt Nebo village - Beds - Queen, Double and Single, dressing tables, study, dining table etc. Come and have a look and make an offer. Call Simon on **3135 8505** or **3289 8224**

REMEDIAL MASSAGE & release for chronic pain, and associated stress. 25 years experience, last seven years in Samford Valley, and now here in Mt. Glorious. Available weekdays, and evenings. Mobile massage also available, on request. Ph. Anne **0412 099 091**

PAINTING CLASSES - Beginner's watercolour classes by artist Janette Bailey. Easy, fun, creative. For more information please call Janette on **3289 8251**

Mt Nebo Community Exchange System (CES) is a non-profit community exchange system for sharing skills & is based on the idea that all people have valuable skills to share with their community, whether they are under-employed, unemployed or retired. HOW to make use of the communities true wealth - the skills & services of the people, without the use of money. Join CES \$FREE at www.community-exchange.org
e: nebo@community-exchange.org

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Diary
Dates

1st. Wednesday of the month - Mt Nebo Residents' Association meeting at the Hall. 7:30pm

2nd. Monday of the month - Mt Nebo P&C Assoc meeting at 7pm ASC Bldg. (No meetings in School Holidays)

Every Wednesday - Playgroup every Wednesday, 10am noon at Mt Nebo Hall, \$2 per family, babies, toddlers, preschoolers welcome, please bring a plate to share.

2nd Saturday of the month - Working Bee at the Community Hall 10 am - 12 midday. Please come along and help maintain the hall & gardens - jobs for everyone to help with.



Town & Country

Pumps & Pipes

- * Water tanks & installations
- * Pump sales & advice
- * Pump repairs & installations
- * Irrigation supplies
- * Plumbing sales & service
- * Water saving showers
- * Water filtration systems

Samford Central Shopping Centre 07 32891888

Submission details

Di Clark - 3289 8309

Steve Reinthal - mountain_news@yahoo.com.au

Please submit all articles by the **20th of the month** to the Mt News Box located at the Post Office at Mt Nebo or e-mail, by the **23rd of the month** to mountain_news@yahoo.com.au. Please supply your e-mail article with MTN in the Subject . Put articles in the body of the e-mail, as attachments can be messy. Pictures should be in JPEG or TIFF format, with a minimum resolution of 300dpi, copy in TEXT. *Please* don't send us MSWord ".doc" attachments or even worse, fancy schmancy things done in MSPublisher. How did that software ever get allowed out?? We really mean this bit. We *hate* Microsoft Word because it should be hated, we want to hate it, and we can, oh look, now you've got us started agin on Microsoft! PLEASE just don't do it, but you are probably going to totally ignore that request anyway aren't you? Why not? Everyone else does. You aren't actually even reading this are you? We're just muttering to ourselves...The articles in the Mt News reflect the views of the contributing authors and not necessarily those of the Mt News Committee (except the bit about hating MS Word). If you are actually reading this, you're actually the third person to ever do so, or else your the 1st or 2nd reading it again!! but hey, what's up? Either you need to get a library card or you really *do* care. Thank you. Crochet is good too but like a song you need a good hook, especially for doing sharp hospital corners on lamingtons

We use advertising as a service to the community and as a way to cover costs.

We have two levels of advertising—classified and display. Classifieds are by donation. Display advertising is still charged at the following ridiculously low rates:

1/8 page:	\$15.00 per issue	\$135 per year
1/6 page	\$20.00 per issue	\$180 per year
1/4 page	\$30.00 per issue	\$270 per year
1/2 page	\$60.00 per issue	\$540 per year

Classified ads by donation.

September 3, 2008

Solar lights request

Moreton Bay Regional Council will investigate the pros and cons of installing solar lights in council parks, reserves and other public-use areas.

Commercial Enterprises Committee chairman, Cr Brian Battersby, has asked the council to consider the options of costs and savings, various project stages and long-term environmental benefits.

This follows news to council that the cost of street lighting across the region would increase a massive 63 per cent from \$3.9 million last year to \$6.35 million for 2008/09, excluding GST.

"Whilst council is already actively participating in a trial of energy efficient grid connected street lights in conjunction with Energex, the Department of Mines and Energy and other regional councils, other alternatives should also be considered," Cr Battersby said.

"The deregulation of street lights in areas served by Energex, which includes the Moreton Bay region, means council is no longer eligible to remain under the regulated tariff system.

"With increased growth predicted for the Moreton Bay region we can only expect the costs to grow as the population expands."

Cr Battersby said an increase in the use of solar energy would also lead to a decrease in carbon dioxide emissions which contributed to global warming.

"Electricity costs are continuing to increase while solar energy technology advances. If the council can save in the long-term by turning to solar it should certainly be investigated," he said.

Date: September 4, 2008

From the office of the Mayor

Library fees aligned across Moreton Bay region

Book lovers can now have any item from any library in Moreton Bay region delivered to their nearest branch for a small fee of \$0.60.

The policy, which allows library users to place a hold on any item from any of the region's 18 branches, is another step towards aligning council services across the region's three districts.

The hold and inter-library loan fee is now in place at libraries in Caboolture and Pine Rivers districts and will be introduced at Redcliffe Library in February 2009 to allow time to promote the changes.

Library users can also now borrow up to 20 items per month from Moreton Bay regional libraries.

Donna Sawyer
Media, Marketing and Communications Unit
Tel: 5433 2495

Date: September 5, 2008

From the office of the Mayor

Be prepared for storm season

Residents of Moreton Bay region have been urged to prepare their homes ahead of storm season.

Every summer, storms in South East Queensland cause millions of dollars of damage to homes and result in numerous injuries to residents – even deaths.

An alliance consisting of the Bureau of Meteorology, the Department of Emergency Services, Energex and eleven local government authorities including Moreton Bay Regional Council, is working to ensure South East Queenslanders are better equipped for the storm season this summer.

Moreton Bay Regional Council Mayor Allan Sutherland said the alliance will be asking residents to get 'storm smart' this summer and take steps to protect themselves and their property against the damaging effects of severe storms.

"As we brace ourselves for storm season, I urge residents to have a look around their home and backyard, secure loose items which can become flying missiles in high winds, clean roof gutters and downpipes and trim branches away from their houses," Cr Sutherland said.

Council is encouraging residents to clean up their yards and take all rubbish including green waste to their local tip before the storm season begins in October.

State Emergency Services (SES) local controller Peter Wooler said it was crucial residents were not complacent.

"The fact of the matter is that storms can kill – we see this every year – so it's really important residents of Moreton Bay Region take all the steps they can before and during storms to minimise damage."

Residents have also been urged to ensure they always have an emergency kit handy, including a checklist of emergency numbers, a battery operated radio and a torch.

To keep updated this storm season, Moreton Bay Region residents are encouraged to listen to their community radio stations (101.5FM and 99.7FM) for vital information and warnings or to visit Energex's website www.energex.com.au for more information.

September 19, 2008

From the office of the Mayor

Council supports conservation planning research project

Moreton Bay Regional Council has endorsed a University of Queensland research project which will investigate the effects of landscape change on native wildlife.

Council has given its 'in principle' support to the research project, which will explore co-ordinated measures for conservation planning by local governments and other authorities throughout South East Queensland.

Council will also consider contributing \$15,000 towards the project as part of the 2009/10 budget deliberations. Council has been asked to contribute \$15,000 per annum for three years.

Sustainability Committee Chair Councillor Rae Frawley said council would be able to use the information gained to consider environmentally sustainable options in making its planning decisions.

"Balancing development with nature conservation planning is the key to maintaining a quality of life for residents throughout the region," Cr Frawley said.

"To be able to plan for this, it is vital that we understand and can quantify the effects changes to the landscape has on our native wildlife."

Donna Sawyer
Media, Marketing and Communication
Tel: (07) 5433 2495

Date: 22 September 2008

Art awards opened to all

THE Moreton Bay regional Council Art Awards will be open to all comers next year.

Previously entries were generally limited to regional residents.

Mayor Allan Sutherland said the awards had grown from strength to strength over the 16 years they had been conducted and by opening up competition to artists anywhere, they should attract even higher standards of work.

He said there would be a \$5000 non acquisitive prize in each of three categories and a special "local only" prize of \$1000. A further \$15,000 would be set aside for acquisitions.

"In addition, there will be no size restriction on works and three judges - each with a specialty in one of the categories - will be utilised at the awards," Cr Sutherland said.

"These changes should really give artists both regional and otherwise an incentive to enter the awards."

Cr Sutherland said while the bulk of the exhibition would be displayed at the Strathpine Community Centre, the newly-acquired artworks would be toured at appropriate venues in the region.

Entries for the 2009 art awards close on March 2 and the exhibition is held in May.

John Shears
Media, Marketing and Communications Unit
Tel: 3283 0209
Fax: 5420 0388

Date: 22 September, 2008

Free bushfire information sessions

MORETON Bay Regional Council will sponsor free information sessions on precautions residents can take to avoid bushfire damage.

Mayor Allan Sutherland said the sessions would be conducted by Queensland Fire and Rescue Service through September, October and November. They would be attended by local fire crews and in some cases Queensland Parks and Wildlife officers.

Cr Sutherland said national research had identified that most communities were vulnerable to the damaging effects of bushfires.

"Even homes some distance from vegetation are still vulnerable to the effects of fire embers but by taking a few precautions people can greatly enhance their chance of avoiding damage," he said.

Details of information sessions can be obtained by phoning the Rural Fire Service Caboolture area office on 5420 1333.

John Shears
Media, Marketing and Communications Unit
Tel: 3283 0209
Fax: 5420 0388

Date: 22 September 2008

Local art a feature of gallery

An emphasis on local art and artists will be a feature of the 2009 Pine Rivers Regional Art Gallery program.

Division 9 Councillor, Mike Charlton, said the program would showcase the work of more aspiring professional local artists than previously seen in the history of the gallery and it would also provide workshop opportunities for beginners and more advanced artists.

"The gallery tries to cater for all tastes and there is also a touring exhibition of indigenous artworks called 'Across Country' scheduled for April and May of next year," he said.

"However, there is a wealth of established and emerging local talent and we are pleased to have the opportunity to support them."

The 2009 program will start from January 7 to 25 with "Kaleidoscope" an exhibition of painting, drawing and sculpture by local artists Bernard Bush, Joan Gerry, Janna Quarrantoto, Rex Simons and Jenine Ryan. It will be complemented by summer holiday workshops between the same dates.

The gallery is also changing its opening hours to 10am to 4pm Monday to Saturdays. The new times will be effective from October 15.

ENDS

John Shears
Media, Marketing and Communications Unit
Tel: 3283 0209
Fax: 5420 0388

Date: 22 September, 2008

Pine museum program

The Pine Rivers Heritage Museum will host eight major exhibitions and a series of workshops during its program for 2009.

Moreton Bay Regional Council Mayor, Allan Sutherland, said all the exhibitions would be produced by the museum staff and feature local history.

He said the first exhibition would be Pioneering the Pine 5 in January and others throughout the year would include an Anzac Exhibition, Our Rock 'n' Roll Days, A Tribute to Emergency Services of the Shire and Twistgrip and Leathers - racing through motorcycle history.

"These are just some of the exhibitions dedicated to local history and produced by the museum," Cr Sutherland said.

"There will also be a series of workshops covering conservation techniques, damper and butter making, arts and craft and drawing sessions."

The Pine Rivers Heritage Museum is located at Old Petrie Town on Dayboro Rd. Opening hours are 10am to 3pm Wednesday to Friday, 10am to 2pm Saturday and 10am to 3pm Sunday.

ENDS

John Shears
Media, Marketing and Communications Unit
Tel: 3283 0209
Fax: 5420 0388

September 25, 2008

Exhibition attracts ace art

Up to 45 pieces from some of Queensland's prominent artists will feature in the up-and-coming '15 Artists' exhibition, to be held at the Redcliffe Art Gallery from October 1 to November 1, 2008.

Division 6 Councillor, Rae Frawley said the 15 Artists exhibition had been an annual highlight on the local arts calendar for 11 years.

"Since established in 1997, this exhibition has grown significantly through the support of artists and members of the community," Cr Frawley said.

"Showcasing a range of dynamic pieces, the great thing about this exhibition is you don't need to be an arts buff to appreciate and enjoy the display."

Cr Frawley said yet again the exhibition would feature a fantastic cross-section of fine art from both experienced and emerging artists.

"The Moreton Bay region will be strongly represented this year with six local artists contributing works," she said.

"With many high-profile names included in this exhibition, it has become quite an honour to be selected as one of the 15 selected artists - and I am sure the exhibition will again attract many visitors.

"The artists included in this year's exhibition include Nameer Davis, Glenda Orr, John Carr, Karla Marchesi, Sophie Bray, Alistair W. George, Jennifer I. Stuerzl, Lewis Miller, Libby Yee, Nan Dingle, John Brigden, Elizabeth Hobbs, Susan Buret, Emma Lindsay and Graeme Peebles."

Cr Frawley encouraged members of the community to attend Friday evening's exhibition launch.

"The 15 Artists exhibition will be officially opened from 6pm at the Redcliffe Art Gallery on Friday October 3, 2008," she said.

The Redcliffe Art Gallery is located on 470-476 Oxley Ave, Redcliffe and can be contacted on 3283 0415.

Date: September 12, 2008

Young artists running out of time to enter awards

Young artists have less than a month left to enter the first ever Moreton Bay Region Youth Art Awards.

More than \$4,000 in prize money is on offer and the awards are open to young people 18 or under who attend Moreton Bay Region schools or live in the region.

Entry is free and entry forms and details can be found on the Moreton Bay Regional Council website at www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au

Entries close on Friday, 10 October and the best works will be exhibited from October 25 until November 2 at the Strathpine Community Centre, following an awards presentation and official opening of the exhibition at 5.30pm on October 24.

As part of the awards, there is a special collaborative artwork award for entries involving four or more students from the same school who create a piece based on the theme "Out of the Box".

Cr Sutherland said the collaborative award theme had been chosen especially to provide plenty of potential for creativity. "As a newly amalgamated organisation we're discovering many different ways to work "out of the box" so this theme is an ideal one to help us mark our first year as Moreton Bay Regional Council," he said.

Pine Rivers Shire Council has run youth art awards in the past and Councillor Sutherland said organisers had been delighted with the standard and diversity of youth artwork submitted previously.

"The variety of work submitted is a healthy reflection of the future of visual arts, and I'd encourage young people throughout the region to be involved in this year's awards," he said.

Students may only place one entry each in either the two-dimensional (2D) or the three-dimensional (3D) category. Schools may only enter one collaborative work in each category.

Prize money, art supplies and certificates will be awarded to winners across four different age categories.

Special awards from sponsors for 2008 include a \$500 casting voucher from Piperides Art Foundry in Brendale for the 3D section, art classes by Janet Skinner, a \$200 framing voucher for a 2D artwork and additional vouchers for each category from Brendale Custom Framing. Just Art at Rothwell has sponsored a \$200 People's Choice Award.