

To the resident

Muswellbrook Shire

Community News

December 2011

Draft Land Use Development Strategy (Coal Mine Land Use Component)



Developing a future vision of how land may be used requires strategic planning. The natural environment, rural land use and lifestyle, tourism/eco-tourism, equine, viticulture, and the built environment are all to be considered. Muswellbrook Shire Council is currently developing a Land Use Development Strategy. This Strategy sets out the future direction for land use in the Shire for the next 20 years, establishing an overarching policy framework focused on the best use of land for community value.

The first of many components that will make up the Land Use Strategy will be the most significant - the coal mine land use component. This will recognise the important contribution that the coal mining industry makes to the Shire and focuses on guiding principles that ensure that the future role of mining in the Shire is positive.

The Coal Mining Land Use Strategy is on public exhibition until 16 February 2012. Constructive comments from community and stakeholders generated by this component will inform the way Council addresses the remaining components. To review this document visit the Muswellbrook Shire Council website, the Council Administration Centre or Muswellbrook or Denman libraries.

Councillors and staff wish you an enjoyable and safe Christmas and new year.



Holiday trading hours

Friday 16 December 2011 Administration Centre, Libraries and Regional Arts Centre will be closed for a staff development day.

From 4.30pm Friday 23 December 2011 to ~~Tuesday 03~~ Monday 02 January 2012 Administration Centre, Libraries and Regional Arts Centre will be closed. Normal business hours will resume from ~~Wednesday 04~~ Tuesday 03 January 2012.

Wednesday 26 January 2012 Administration Centre, Libraries and Regional Arts Centre will be closed for the Australia Day public holiday.

Swimming centres open every day except Christmas.

For Council related emergencies call **6549 3700**.

Australia Day 2012



Free BBQ breakfast, awards ceremony, Australia Day Art Prize exhibition and family entertainment.

Join us to celebrate the remarkable citizens of Muswellbrook Shire.

7.00am - 12.00pm Denman Sports Complex.

Attendants receive a free entry pass for Denman and Muswellbrook aquatic centres.

It's business as usual while Muswellbrook Pool is upgraded

The upgrades to Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre are continuing on schedule, with improvements to access and amenities close to completion. Funding from the Federal Government has enabled Council to conduct the upgrades, which include the construction of a new entry, kiosk, café, access ramps, and change facilities for the indoor pool area.

Council staff and contractors have been hard at work on the facility since approval. Work is expected to be completed, and the indoor pool reopened, by 22 December 2011.



New SES and RFS headquarters location is ideal

Muswellbrook Shire Council has purchased property in Industrial Close, Muswellbrook to serve as new headquarters for both the local State Emergency Service and the Shire's Rural Fire Service.

The site will allow for future expansion needs, is close to Council's disaster evacuation point, is consistent with adjoining land uses, and is close to the proposed bypass corridor and the hospital. It will provide for helicopter take-off and landings away from residential dwellings and can accommodate the construction of a joint service club facility for storage of equipment.

The site also has the capacity for the future relocation of the Edinglassie Brigade of the RFS from its existing facility near the Muswellbrook Wastewater Treatment Plant if so determined by the Brigade.

The improved onsite facilities will include electrical upgrades, toilet and shower amenities and disability access. It is anticipated that the services' move to a dedicated facility will lead to improved response coordination in emergency situations.

Be one of the first to witness Newcastle Knights coach Wayne Bennett's new super star line-up against the Cronulla Sharks in February 2012




New Knights signings such as Timana Tahu, Kade Snowden and Danny Buderus could be playing against Sharks players like Paul Gallen and Todd Carney in a rematch following this years successful preseason trial game held right here in Muswellbrook Shire.

Limited details are available although the match is scheduled for 18 February 2012 at Olympic Park, Muswellbrook.

Visit Council's website for an announcement of ticket sales and for further details as they become available.





Looking for a cheap and cheerful place to take your family this holiday?

Go to the pools!

Family entry only \$11.00 (2 adults and 5 children)
Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre ph **6541 2999**
Denman Aquatic Centre ph **6547 2333**
www.muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au/pools

Responsible pet ownership during the Christmas holiday season

Summer holidays are the busiest time of the year at the Muswellbrook Animal Shelter. Some holiday makers either leave their pets at home alone or dump them at the shelter. Suddenly being left alone day after day is



very distressing for social animals such as dogs, who as a result will either bark incessantly causing noise issues for neighbours, or escape the yard.

It is recommended you ask family, friends, colleagues or

neighbours to house-sit, or have your pet stay with them; if they can't help they may know someone who can. Boarding kennels will provide peace of mind, or you could choose pet friendly holiday locations.

The Animal Shelter attempts to re-home unwanted and unclaimed animals; however, due to an excess population of dogs and cats, it is recommended that owners have their pet desexed. If cost is a concern speak to your vet or an animal welfare association about options, and if you require financial assistance please visit the National Desexing Network website at www.ndn.org.au

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Muswellbrook Animal Shelter would like to thank all the rescue agencies who have provided their professional support, particularly David Atwell for his professionalism and service. The shelter also thanks the constant Pet of the Week and Dogz Online website visitors, who take an active role in helping to rehome animals.

Volunteers wanted for events aimed at increasing animal wellbeing

If you would like to participate in an upcoming community project to increase animal wellbeing please complete a volunteer form available at www.muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au/pets, or at the Council Administration Centre.

Toy donations wanted for Christmas

Donations of animal toys are welcome for this Christmas. Please drop your kind offering at Council's Administration Centre, Muswellbrook or Denman libraries.



Be prepared this bush fire season

If you live in a bush fire prone area make a **bush fire survival plan**. Prepare yourself, family and home from the threat of bush fire and check you have adequate insurance.

The Rural Fire Service website provides a four-step approach to help households be prepared. This includes a Bush Fire Household Assessment Tool, bush fire survival plan brochure, a property checklist to reduce your risk of danger and information on recovering after a fire.

Visit www.rfs.nsw.gov.au to get prepared now.



PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

Rural Fire Service brochures are also available in the foyer of Council's Administration Centre.



7 days \$7
this **February** at the pool
Purchase a **Seven Day Pool Pass** and enjoy unlimited access for **7 consecutive days, only \$7.00.**
Purchase your pass now at the ticket window.
Go to muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au/pool for conditions.



Keep up to date on the latest community announcements

Follow us on Twitter:
@lovemyshire

Like us on Facebook:
Muswellbrook Shire Council

What's on

Active Over 50 8.30am Tuesdays and Fridays. Muswellbrook & District Workers Club. Contact Julie Sneddon on 6543 2517.

Aqua Aerobics 6.30pm Wednesdays. \$11.00. Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre. Wilkinson Ave. Call 6541 2999 for details.

Aqua Fun & Fitness 5.00pm Wednesdays at Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre. For school aged children. Phone 6541 2999 for details.

Baby Rhyme Time 0-2 years 10.15am Wednesdays during school term at Muswellbrook Library. Bring a rug. Call 6543 1913 for details.

Body Balance™ (yoga/pilates) 9.30am Mondays. 6.00pm Tuesdays and Thursdays. Muswellbrook Library. Call Julie Sneddon on 6543 2517 for details.

Ceramics Group Workshops 10.00am - 3.00pm Saturdays. The Pot House, Lions Park, Lower Brook St, M'brook. Contact Scott on 0427 101 697.

Denman Farmers Market 8.00am to 1.00pm first Saturday of the month at Lions Park, Denman.

Denman Preschool Storytime 11.00am Mondays at Denman Library. Storytime and crafts for preschoolers. Call 6547 2208.

Fat Burner and Step Class (classes alternate weekly) 6.00pm Mondays at Muswellbrook Library. Bookings recommended. Call Julie Sneddon on 6543 2517

First Thursday Book Club 6.30pm first Thursday of the month. Muswellbrook Library. Call 6543 1913 for details.

Fitness classes with Karen Cherrett 7.30pm Tuesdays and Thursdays at Muswellbrook PCYC.

Email ptbykaren@live.com.au or visit www.personaltrainingbykaren.com.au

Fitness swimming classes just for adults 1.00pm Tuesdays and Thursdays at Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre. Wilkinson Ave. Call 6541 2999 for details.

Giant Inflatable at Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre 12.00-1.00pm then 1.30-2.30pm Tuesdays and Thursdays during the summer school holiday. Only \$3.50 per session. Call 6541 2999 for details.

Learn to swim holiday intensive program Weekdays from Monday 3rd, 9th and 16th January 2012. Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre. Wilkinson Ave. Phone 6541 2999.

Mainly Music 9.00am Tuesdays at Muswellbrook Baptist Church. A fun and interactive 30 minutes for kids and mums. Phone Alana Burgess on 0428 672 733.

Mini-squad at Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre Tuesdays at 4.45-5.30pm. Call 6541 2999 for details.

Muswellbrook and District Camera Club 7.00pm fourth Wednesday of each month at Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre. Share your photographs and push your creativity with like-minded enthusiasts. Call Roger Skinner on 0407 002 777 for details.

Muswellbrook Bridge Club 7.00pm Mondays, Challenge Disability Services, 11-13 Rutherford Rd, Muswellbrook. Beginners lessons available. Call Barbara Hunter on 6543 1228 for details.

**muswellbrook
carnivale ...in spring**
August to December for
event information visit
www.muswellbrookcarnivale.com.au



Muswellbrook Markets and Poultry Auction 8.00am - 1.00pm second Sunday of the month. Muswellbrook Showground, Maitland Street.

Old Time Dance 7.30pm fourth Saturday of the month. Muswellbrook Workers Club. Dance along with the band.

Playtime at Denman Library 10.30am every Monday at Denman Library. Storytime and crafts for preschoolers.

Preschooler Storytime 3-5 years 11.00am every Wednesday during school term at Muswellbrook Library. Call 6543 1913.

Sunset Storytime at Muswellbrook Library for preschoolers and their family 6.00pm Thursday at Muswellbrook Library during school term only. Phone 6543 1913 for details.

Toastmasters club meeting 6.45pm in the Ron Adams Room of Muswellbrook Workers Club on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Monday of the month. Guests welcome. Contact Graham Turvey on 6543 3401 for details.

Zumba® Fitness classes Monday 6.00pm Muswellbrook Workers Club.
Zumba® Basics Wednesday 9.30am at Muswellbrook Uniting Hall. **Zumba® Gold** (for the older active adult) **Wednesday** 10.30am at Muswellbrook Uniting Hall.
Zumba® Fitness classes Thursday 6.00pm Denman RSL Club. Call Christine on 6547 5183 for details.

03 Dec **Car Boot Sale Scot Hall Denman**
Go to www.visitdenman.com.au for details.

04 Dec **Upper Hunter Concert and Jazz Band Concert**
2.00pm at Scone High School MPU. Call 6541 4888 or go to www.uhcm.com.au for details.

5-18 Dec **Red Cross Christmas Tree and Wreath Display.**
Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre.

17 Dec **UHCM Community Christmas Carols.** Highbrook Park from 5.30 to 8.30. Free entry. Call Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music on 6541 4888 for details.

18 Dec **The Christmas Event at Muswellbrook Baptist Church**
5.30pm 77-79 Sydney Street, Muswellbrook. Enjoy jumping castles, barbecue, carols, animals and what Christmas is all about. Call Dave Burgess on 0429 672 737 for details.

18 Dec **Denman Community Christmas Carols**
Go to www.visitdenman.com.au for details.

09 Jan **African drumming workshops at the Denman Library**
Visit the depth of Africa with this school holiday activity. Bookings essential. Call Roger at Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre on 6549 3769.

26 Jan **Australia Day Celebrations and Awards Ceremony**
7.00am - 12.00pm at Denman Sports Complex. Free breakfast, family entertainment and pool entry.

26 Jan **Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre Australia Day BBQ**
Giant Inflatable, sausage sizzle, apple bobbing contest, noodle races and face painting. Call 6541 2999 for details.

18 Feb **Newcastle Knights Trial Match** Olympic Park Muswellbrook. Visit muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au for details.

Are you organizing a community event?

Have your event details published in this quarterly newsletter and on our website. Just email your event details to whatson@muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au

Go to muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au/newsletter for deadlines.

The information provided on this page has been provided in good faith. However, the accuracy of the information cannot be guaranteed. Please contact the event organiser directly if you have enquiries. Email your event to whatson@muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au. Go to muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au/newsletter for details.

