

Lithgow

Council Connections

December 2013
Edition

Access to Water Meters

Residents are encouraged to keep their water meters clearly visible and free from all obstacles and overgrowth that may prohibit the meter being read.

In the event that the meter reader is unable to access the meter an averaged account will be raised using previous consumption at the property.

Foliage that covers or is located around the meter, (e.g. trees, shrubs etc) are to be trimmed or removed to allow clear access to the meter. Should animals obstruct the reading a notice will be placed in the letter box requesting that the resident contact Council.

Residents are also encouraged to rectify breakages and leaks promptly to ensure unnecessary water usage and accounts.

Receive Rate and Instalment Notices by E-mail

Contact the Customer Service Department on 02 6354 9999 or download an application form from Council's website www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au to receive your Lithgow City Council rate and instalment notices by e-mail.

Rate instalment Due
28 February 2014
31 May 2014

The New Waste & Recycling Service

Don't forget your **RECYCLING BIN** is serviced **FORTNIGHTLY** on the same day of the week as your garbage bin.

Your **GARBAGE** bin is serviced **EVERY WEEK**, as normal.

More information about how and when to use this service is available on Council's website: www.lithgow.com



Tired eyes?
Yawning?

Will you be driving these School and Christmas/New Year Holidays?

Driver fatigue is an issue that people often think about during holiday periods when locals and visitors are travelling to holiday destinations.

No one is immune to fatigue. It can affect anyone and impacts on our ability to judge our own level of tiredness.

Early warning signs of driver fatigue include: tiredness, yawning, tired or sore eyes, boredom, slow reactions, missing road signs, feeling irritable and having difficulty staying in the lane.

A micro sleep is a brief and unintended loss of consciousness - during a four second micro sleep a car travelling at 100km/h will travel 111 metres while completely out of the drivers control.

Fatigue related crashes can occur at any time, whether the trip is short or long in distance.

Fatal crashes are more likely to occur during public and school holiday periods, with the high risk times for fatigue related fatal crashes being between 10pm to 5am - when the body is used to being asleep.

Driver fatigue can affect anyone, so take regular breaks, share the driving and remember to **Stop, Revive and Survive** these school holidays.

A message from your Local Government Road Safety Program.

Sodwalls/Tarana Road Upgrade

Significant road works will be undertaken on the Sodwalls/Tarana Road as part of the Federal Funded Black Spot Program.

A 2 kilometre section of Sodwalls / Tarana Road will be upgraded (from the 2nd railway

bridge to the intersection with Jerry's Meadow Road) based on the history of numerous crash statistics on this particular section of road.

This road is a rural road that is estimated to carry between 150 and 250 vehicles per day, predominately light vehicles. As the road is also a tourist route it experiences increased traffic on weekends and during holiday periods.

These works will include road widening, earthworks to nominated corners, removal of some mature trees, extensions to existing piped stormwater culverts, erection of additional signage, sealing of new shoulders and drainage improvement areas and installation of new line marking.

Council expects these works to be completed in December 2013. Further information can be obtained by contacting Council's Operations Department during business hours on 02 6354 9999.

Road Rehabilitation Projects

Rehabilitation of Reserve Road at Marrangaroo and Curly Dick Road at Meadow Flat is currently being completed.

Reserve Road will be fully rehabilitated from the intersection with the Great Western Highway to the Marrangaroo Army Camp.

A section of Curly Dick Road will be fully rehabilitated from the intersection with the Great Western Highway for a distance of 2 kilometres (toward Tarana).

These works involve stripping the existing sealed bitumen surface, improvements to the run off from the road surface, reshaping of the road profile, application of additional road

base, and new 20/10mm bitumen seal, which will improve travel comfort and safety for users, as well as extend the life span of the road.

Council expects these works to be completed in December 2013. Further information can be obtained by contacting Council's Operations Department during business hours on 02 6354 9999.

Council's Road Program

During the December to March period Council will be undertaking roadworks at various locations on the following streets and lanes in Portland:

- Paine Street - reseal 800m².
- Bate Street - reseal 2400m².
- Railway Avenue - rehabilitation 1000m².
- Pipers Street - Portland Road to Saville Street - reseal 4000m².
- Thompson Street - Railway Avenue to Rowsell Street reseal 1250m².
- Jamieson Street - Long Street to Lidsdale Street - Reseal 2000m².
- High Street - Lidsdale Street to Roxburgh Street - Reseal shoulders 2000m².
- Carlon Street - Bitumen seal 2400m².
- Williewa Street approaches to rail crossing 500m².
- Laneway Kiln Street to Burton Street - gravel and seal 900m².
- Laneway behind Commonwealth Road - gravel and seal 900m².
- Laneway behind Wallerawang Road - William Street to Bell Street 600m².

Council Closure Dates

Lithgow City Council will be closed for business on the following dates:

Christmas Closure

Council Administration Centre will be closed from close of business on Tuesday 24th December 2013 and will re-open on Thursday 2nd January 2014.

Lithgow Visitor Information Centre will close at 2pm on Monday 24th December and will re-open on Boxing Day, 26th December.

All Libraries will be closed from close of business on Tuesday 24th December and will re-open on Thursday 2nd January 2014 or normal operating days.

Eskbank House Museum will be closed on Christmas Day, Monday 30th & Tuesday 31st December and New Years Day. Eskbank House will be open on Boxing Day, Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th December, resuming normal business operations from Thursday 2nd January 2014.

Rangers and Emergency Services

Rangers will be on call at all times and arrangements will be put in place for the Pound during closures.

Emergency Personnel will be on call out and can be contacted on 02 6354 9999.



Maree Statham
Mayor

As Mayor of Lithgow I was proud to see how people banded together to overcome the recent bushfire crisis.

It was awe inspiring to see the efforts of the many people involved in dealing with this crisis. During the event, I paid many visits to the Fire Control Centre in Silcock Street, Lithgow and saw first hand the coordination that went on there and was very impressed at how the different agencies worked together.

In addition, I also paid a number of visits to the Lithgow Workies Club which was the Evacuation Centre for those people that had left their homes.

I visited the Civic Ballroom on a number of occasions and saw the many fire fighters from Sydney, rural NSW, the ACT, Victoria and also Tasmania who were sleeping there over night in makeshift, but comfortable, conditions.

Throughout the crisis, a small army of volunteers, consisting of the Lithgow Lions Club, Exclusive Brethren, Hartley Rural Fire Service and many more prepared and delivered meals and sleeping areas for the fire fighters.

I would also like to acknowledge the effort of Council staff who were involved providing support to the fire fighters supplying bulk water with the Council water carts, using heavy machinery, traffic control and road closures, mechanical repairs, electrical repairs, cleaning of various venues for the fire fighters and control centre along with providing secretarial and administration support.

As we move on from this crisis, we can look forward to the opening of the UWS College in the new year and their generous offer of guaranteed placements for 700 students from Lithgow and the Blue Mountains who sat their HSC during the fire crisis.

We have recently celebrated Halloween, an event which far exceeded our expectations and bolstered the spirit of the community. Now, we can look forward to celebrating Christmas with the unique lighting spectacular, LithGlo. This year the three night festival will be centred around the Main Street Precinct and will include Hoskins Church (ChurchGlo), Queen Elizabeth Park (ParkGlo) and Main Street (ShopGlo).

On behalf of Council, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

Major Projects will Protect the Environment



View of the Hartley Valley from Hassans Walls Lookout.

Farmers Creek Flood Study Review

Council has engaged Lyall and Associates to undertake a review of the Farmers Creek Flood Study which will provide Council with updated information on the flood levels of Farmers Creek in the urban area.

This review will include a revision of all current information and documentation, and provide Council with information to complete a Floodplain Risk Management Study and a Floodplain Risk Management Plan.

This study identify the flood behaviour under historical and existing floodplain conditions in the urban area, and provide Council with options to manage any possible future variations in flood behaviour.

The capacity of the current stormwater networks and identification of any overland flow resulting from a backlog of stormwater in flood events plus the impact of the discharge location into Farmers Creek of the

existing stormwater network also forms part of this review. This information will enable Council to have accurate information regarding flooding behaviour in the area, and enable suitable measures to be implemented to reduce the impacts of flooding in the area.

Hassans Walls Lookout Boardwalk

Installation of the new fully accessible elevated boardwalk and associated viewing platform at Hassans Walls Lookout is expected to result in additional visitor attraction, increased amenity and improved safety.

The boardwalk consists of a series of elevated platforms, a viewing platform and stairway components, together with handrails for the full length of the structure, starting near the existing car parking area through to Padley's Pedestal.

A number of different route options were considered, as well as varying materials to be utilised in the construction, with the final route choice being made after consideration

- Public amenity
- Flora and Fauna impacts
- Existing track usage
- Bushfire affects
- Structure longevity
- Visual aesthetics

This boardwalk replaces the previous natural track that had developed over time, and counteracts the extensive impacts the high levels of pedestrian usage have had on the area, through scouring and erosion (particularly along the main track route).

Side railings have incorporated into the structure to restrict public usage to within the constraints of the walkway for the full length, allowing the surrounding vegetation to flourish naturally.

Works are anticipated to commence in January 2014.

Renaming of Hassans Walls Lookout

At a recent meeting Council resolved to rename Hassans Walls Lookout and Boardwalk the Sir Joseph Cook Lookout and Boardwalk.

Sir Joseph Cook settled in Lithgow in 1887 and worked in the mines here as a pit boy. He began his political career in the area when elected to the seat of Hartley in 1891 in the Legislative Assembly elections. He went on to become Prime Minister of Australia on 24th June 1913, remaining in the position until 17th September 1914. He was knighted in 1918 and retired from politics in 1921.

A launch of the new lookout and boardwalk will be held early in the new year.



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www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au

Lithgow Visitors Centre
Tel: 02 6350 3230
tourism@lithgow.nsw.gov.au
www.tourism.lithgow.com

Follow Lithgow City Council on www.facebook.com/LithgowCityCouncil

Eskbank House Museum
Tel: 02 6351 3557
eskbank@lithgow.nsw.gov.au
www.lithgow.com/eskbank

Lithgow Library Learning Centre
Tel: 02 6352 9100
lithgow.library@lithgow.nsw.gov.au
www.learningcentre.lithgow.com



Council Meeting Dates
Monday 16 December

Rate instalment Due
28 February 2014
31 May 2014



Farmers Creek



Hassans Walls Boardwalk Concept Plan



Images from LithGlo 2013 - ArchGlo, HoskinsGlo, FurnaceGlo and UnionGlo.

Loud Shirt Day at the Library

On 18th October, Staff at the Lithgow Library Learning Centre "Got Loud to Support Deaf Children".

Coordinated by Library Officer, Robert Lindsay the staff at the Lithgow Library Learning Centre raised \$202 on the day to be donated to the Shepherd Centre to support their work with hearing impaired children.

House bound Library Service

The Lithgow Library Learning Centre offers a Housebound Library Service to residents of Portland and Wallerawang.

This service enables those who are housebound to access a wide range of library services.

Whether due to illness, permanent or temporary disability, or being a full-time carer the Home Library Service will meet with you to discuss your needs and will deliver books and other materials to you at home.

If you, or someone you know, qualifies for this service please contact **Kellie Drenenberg or Maureen Breckell on 02 6352 9100**

Weekly Activities

at Lithgow Library Learning Centre

- Children's Storytime - Wednesday and Thursday at 10.30am.
- Home Work Zone - Monday to Thursday 3.30 - 5.30pm
- Knitting Group - Thursday 9.30am

Lithgow Aquatic Centre

Monday - Friday 7am - 7pm
Saturday & Sunday 8am - 7pm

For information phone: 02 6350 3200

Children's Splash Park,
Giant Jumping Pillow,
50m Olympic Pool,
Café,
Swimming Club!

Upcoming Exhibitions at Eskbank House & Museum

Wallerawang Primary School Pottery Exhibition



Wheel thrown and hand thrown pottery by Blake Theobald-Galvin in the Wallerawang Public School Exhibition 2013.

An exhibition of pottery works created by students from Wallerawang Primary School throughout 2013 will be on display in the Pottery Museum during January.

Eskbank Ceramics Collection

Ceramic treasures from the store rooms of Eskbank House & Museum will be on display in the foyer from January to March.

Lithgow Landscapes



"Mist Rolling in Over McKellar Park" by Leslie Chew

An exhibition showcasing art works of people and places in the Lithgow area from the Lithgow City Council Art Collection will be on display in the Courtyard Gallery during February.

International Women's Day Exhibition

A collection of art by local women artists coordinated by Lithgow Community Projects will be on display in the Courtyard Gallery during March.

Lithgow City Council Presents The Wizard of Oz Christmas Show



Santa meets The Wizard of Oz Gang for a rocking Christmas celebration filled with interactive fun, popular Christmas songs, dancing and colourful costumes.

Children will have heaps of fun and excitement with Santa's elves, Rudolph, a talking Christmas Tree and the Snow Fairy. Sharing in the true Christmas spirit, everyone gets to sing-along to lots of their favourites like Jingle Bells, Rudolph, Silent Night and a thumping dance remix of 'O' Christmas Tree.

There will be two performances on Sunday 15th December 2013:

- 10.30am performance at Lithgow Civic Ballroom, off Barton Street Lithgow
- 3.00pm performance at Crystal Theatre, Wolgan St Portland

Councillor Maree Statham, Mayor of Lithgow will be the guest of honour.

Children are invited to come dressed as a fairy, munchkin, or a favourite Oz character and have a fun time.

The Wizard of Oz Gang have thrilled audiences through 3,800 shows worldwide and have been billed by the media as "one of Australia's top children's shows". They have just returned after headlining an international eyecare campaign and are proud ambassadors of the 24 Hour Fight Against Cancer.

**ENTRY FREE!
ALL ARE WELCOME!
Ring 1300 76 02 76 to book
More details at
www.thewizardofozshow.com**

Lithgow Visitor Information Centre

Your one stop shop for everything to see and do in the Lithgow Region

Need to know about any upcoming events? Or are you looking at hosting an event? Contact the friendly staff at the Centre and they will be able to assist you. Heading overseas and want to buy a loved one or friend a gift from Lithgow? Call in! We have a variety of Lithgow merchandise and local produce. Open everyday (except Christmas Day) 9am - 5pm.

School Holiday Activities at the Lithgow Library Learning Centre

Join in the school holiday activities at the Lithgow Library Learning Centre this December/January.



The Mystery of the Missing Lithgow Panther

The Lithgow Panther was spotted entering the Lithgow Library on Halloween, but he hasn't been seen since.

Can you solve the Mystery of the Missing Lithgow Panther? Library staff have found many clues to his hiding spot but need your help to locate him.

From Thursday 2nd until Friday 24th January, children can follow the clues and solve the Mystery of the Missing Lithgow

Panther, to go into the draw to win prizes. This activity is available anytime during library open hours and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. Begin at the circulation desk of Lithgow, Portland or Wallerawang Libraries and follow the clues to solve the Mystery of the Missing Lithgow Panther.

Summer Reading Challenge Investigate!

During the summer holidays Lithgow Library Learning Centre will be holding a Summer Reading Challenge.

This year the theme is Investigate! Discover the crime and mystery genres. Read lots of books, fill in your reading logs and return them to the library to go into the draw to win prizes.

Start reading Friday 20th December 2013 and finish Friday 24th January 2014. Return your book logs by Thursday 30th January. Prizes and winners will be announced on 31st January.

Children's Storytime 2014

Children's Storytime will be taking a two week break over the Christmas/New Year period and will resume on Wednesday 8th January 2014.

Children's Holiday Craft Sessions

Children's craft sessions will be held at 10.30am on Friday the 10th, 17th and 24th of January. The sessions are free and open to children of all ages, however younger children may require parental assistance.

Dead Bone's Society Investigate: BOYS ONLY!

A free creative writing workshop with author Paul Stafford Thursday as part of the Dead Bones Society will be held on 23rd January 2014 at 2pm. Great for boys interested in Dinosaurs, mysteries and creative writing.

Bookings essential on 02 6352 9100. For boys only aged 7-14.

Australia Day Festivities 2014

Sunday 26th January

Lithgow City Council is planning a fun-filled day of festivities for Australia Day.

Aquatic Centre Family Fun Day

Free entry to the Aquatic Centre. Giant Slide, Splash Park, the new Jumping Pillow and more. Details will be advertised in January.

Queen Elizabeth Park

Commencing at 4pm with the Official Australia Day Ceremony; Australia Day Awards, meet the Ambassador and citizenship Ceremony followed by a rock concert in the park and night markets.

Lithgow City Council and Westfund Proudly present LithGlo 2013



Hoskins Church will again come alive with the magic of Christmas; Enjoy a beautiful lighting display, shop at the night markets, hear the church bells ring and peruse the art exhibition in the Church Hall.

A brand new experience for Lithglo this year!

Planning is nearing completion for this years Christmas Lithglo event and we are pleased to announce that Westfund is again the major event sponsor for 2013.

Lithglo is taking place over 3 nights: Thursday 12th December, Friday 13th December, and Saturday 14th December.

The overall theme for Lithglo this year will be a "Christmas Wonderland" and will be about sharing traditional seasonal experiences and stories. Expect to see beautiful Christmas trees, sparkling decorations, and even snow in summer combined with spectacular lighting displays!

There will be 3 locations to experience Lithglo this year:

ShopGlo along Main St Lithgow

Main St will be a key experience for this years Lithglo. Expect to see decorated Christmas shop windows along with some of Main Street's iconic buildings dressed up for Christmas. A particular feature will be a light show on the John Joseph building which may include an unusual fall of summer snow!

Pioneer Park will also be another place to be with an installation of snow men being a particular drawcard.

In addition Council is working with many business operators along Main St to include a special pre-Christmas sale event so why not buy your Christmas gifts during the Main St Shopglo sale?

ParkGlo in Queen Elizabeth Park

A new addition to the Lithglo experience this year will be Queen Elizabeth Park. Why not take an evening promenade along the central walkway lit with sparkling fairy lights, see the illuminated Christmas trees emerge at dusk, spread out a picnic and watch an evening performance in the bandstand rotunda beautifully lit for the occasion.

Churchglo at Hoskins Church

A favourite destination from last year, visit Hoskins Church again this year to see a new inspiring light show on the Church's façade. On the evening of Saturday 14th December there will be the opportunity to experience Lithgow's first night market from 6pm. The Uniting Church is also presenting a themed exhibition of artwork entitled "Light into Darkness"

www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au



Take a stroll along Inch Street to Blast Furnace Park and learn about Lithgow Industrial Heritage interpreted through the Lithgow History Avenue Sculptures.



Explore the ruins of Blast Furnace Park overlooking Lake Pillans Wetlands.



Get out and get healthy! Enjoy the tranquility of Lake Pillans Wetlands, stroll around the boardwalk, picnic by the lake or enjoy a spot of bird watching.



At the Lake Wallace Recreation Area there is something for everyone, sail boating on the lake, walking or jogging tracks, fishing or baseball.



Incorporate a strength and stamina workout into your daily walk or jog around the lake foreshores.



Or just relax with family and friends at the children's playground and have a picnic or BBQ.