

September 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

Letter

Folks,

We were so touched by all the wishes from people on the mountain and their support at Ted's service and function afterwards.

He is now resting at Samford cemetery so he is not far from us in Nebo.

We are too flat out in our travels to respond for the next edition of MN but Stephen will supply something for the next one.

All the very best to all,

Helen Wallace

Dear Editor

Where is "Vic's Tip Bits"? Hopefully not in the cardboard skip. I have missed reading the Tip Bits and would love to find it included again. Recycling and waste management is (after waste reduction at source) really important. Plus — I seem to remember the Bits were usually quite humorous...

Sarah Lowe

Mt Nebo and Mt Glorious
ENVIRONMENT
PROTECTION
ASSOCIATION inc.
(MEPA)

Annual General Meeting

Saturday, September 13th
4:30 - 5.30pm

Mt Nebo Hall, Mt Nebo

Tea, coffee, biscuits to finish

Secretary: Andrea Mitchell
3289 8184

REMEMBER IN CASE OF FIRE:

Telephone 000

then Terry Bradford: 3289 8181 or

Bob Snowdon: 3289 0150

D'Aguilar Range National Park News

Illegal vehicle use in the D'Aguilar Range

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rangers have been active during recent patrols in the D'Aguilar Range targeting unauthorised and unsafe vehicle use in our protected area estate. Multiple fines have been issued to the drivers of vehicles found travelling on walking tracks, restricted access roads and in other areas where vehicle access is prohibited.

If you see any unauthorised activities occurring in the park please contact the rangers on 3289 2644.

Trapping programs in the park proving successful

One of the advantages of living on the D'Aguilar Range is the wealth of native wildlife so close to home. Unfortunately for wildlife though, this can mean an increase in devastating threats associated with living in more urbanised areas.

EPA rangers have successfully trapped three feral cats this month as a result of recent trapping programs in the Mount Nebo and Mount Glorious sections of park. The traps were put in place to control populations of both feral cats and foxes after monitoring detected signs of both in June.

Feral cats breed mainly from spring to summer and females can have up to three litters each year! The feral cat is a well-developed predator which can have huge impacts in natural areas. The Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries estimates that up to 4 billion native mammals, reptiles and birds are killed in Australia every year by feral cats. Examination of cats' stomach contents has shown that they will also eat spiders, insects, amphibians and fish.

Pet owners, particularly those who live close to natural areas, are strongly advised to keep their cats and dogs indoors especially at night and attach bells to their collars. Please refer to the Moreton Bay Regional Council website, www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au, for information on local by-laws.

Spring Go Bush Program

The spring go bush season is just around the corner! Don't miss out on the exciting activities running throughout September, October and November. Visit http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/parks_and_forests or call us on 1300 723 684 if you would like to make a booking or be added to the Go Bush email list.

Think B4U Print

- 1 ream of paper = 6% of a tree and
- 5.4kg CO2 in the atmosphere
- 3 sheets of A4 paper = 1 litre of water

2nd Annual

"Mountain Idol" and Square Dance

6.30 pm Saturday

6 September

Mt Nebo Hall

**Fabulously popular annual
Mountain Idol contest returns.**

*"A poem, a dance, a song, some jokes
For young and old, for girls and blokes
Come join the fun and help the Hall
Live a long life and benefit all."*

Mountain Idol is a great community event helping to pay for the upkeep and insurance of your community hall.

Come along and 'do your thing'
or just watch the show.

A 'non-competitive' contest with
mystery famous judges and
prizes for all.

Food, drinks, music, dancing,
entertainment.

Presented by Mt Nebo Residents
Association

To book in your act in or to let us know if
you can help on the bar, with food etc.
please contact Rob Lachowicz - 3289 8250



Weed 'em out and whip 'em in!

Part 10 in a series: September 2008

The D'Aguilar Range is a beautiful natural region, and is a very important reservoir of a particular type of biodiversity: subtropical rainforests and wet and dry eucalypt forests — as well as many other different types of vegetation. But there are certain well-recognised threats to the area, and one is invasion by weeds. Happily, this community is already making very active efforts to 'weed 'em out'! Please see what you can achieve in your backyard and nearby street frontage.

Each month MEPA (Mt Glorious/Mt Nebo Environment Protection Association) will present a short profile of a problem weed and also details about a native plant that could replace it in the same habitat.

This month's profile features two species of that wonderfully fragrant genus *Jasminum*, (family Oleaceae: the olive family) which is flowering at the moment. The flowers open at night and their perfume can scent the night air beautifully, to a fair distance from the plant. Oils from Jasmine are harvested commercially for perfumes, oils, soaps and shampoos, as well as to perfume jasmine tea. There are many different species globally, and some have evocative names such as 'Poet's jasmine' (*Jasminum officinale*, which is native to a range stretching between Iran and China).

There is a species that is both native to Australia and local to the Greater Brisbane area: *Jasminum didymium*, but it is such a tiny, straggly plant that nobody sells it commercially, so it would be problematic to recommend it as a replacement native plant.

PROBLEM WEED: JASMINUM POLYANTHUM – white jasmine, pink jasmine, climbing jasmine

['*Jasminum*' is a Late Medieval Latin version of the Persian name *Yasmin*, which means 'gift from God'; 'polyanthum' is from Greek words 'polys' ('much', 'many', 'frequent', 'heavy', 'large') and 'anthos', ('flower'). Hence: 'many-flowered gift from God'.]

This common species of Jasmine is a climber. It is of Chinese origin, and has naturalised in Australia and New Zealand, where it is invasive. It has 5-petalled, reddish-pink, star-like flowers in late winter and early spring, and can grow to about six metres if it is supported. Foliage may range from semi-deciduous to evergreen — depending on local climate. The species has an ability to shoot from any small fragment of stem, and the new stems then layer profusely and runners grow rapidly. In addition, it is tolerant of deep shade and able to flower under a dense forest canopy — to the extent that it smothers other ground covers as well as other vegetation it has climbed, sometimes to as far as half way up the canopy.

To control this species, dig it out. This is quite a lot of work as the stems lying on the ground are many.

PROBLEM WEED: JASMINUM MESNYI – primrose jasmine, yellow jasmine

['*mesnyi*' is named after an English adventurer, who was also a general in the Chinese army and plant collector: William Mesny (1842-1919).]

This weed has thick, shiny, three-lobed leaflets and bright yellow-gold flowers with a darker centre. The stem is square. It is a scrambling evergreen shrub, with a weeping, cane-like habit, and is native to China. When you smell its beautiful fragrance, think of young William Mesny, an adventurer from Jersey in the Channel Islands who spent much of his life in China. This vigorous plant was named after him, and both seem to share a similar character. In between busy periods as a mercenary, plant collector and more, he managed to fit in the writing of extensive accounts (see: www.mesny.com) of his years in China. He produced a newsletter, 'Mesny's Chinese Miscellany' for which he had "...made arrangements with the printers to produce One Thousand Copies of every number each week for one year, a fact which proves my determination to give the public an opportunity of seeing what I have been doing in my spare time, during the past thirty years".

He saw interesting sights: "When I arrived in Shanghai at the latter end of 1860, the times were stirring. China had a gigantic rebellion on hand, and had only just got clear of a foreign war. ... In those days there were from two to three hundred sailing ships lying in the Shanghai river whose crews numbered between five and six thousand men, all Europeans or Americans, many of whom had served as naval seamen, gunners and so on, and were glad of an opportunity to join a fighting force like that of Ward's by which they could make not only more money than by sea-faring, but could also win for themselves a name and possibly a distinguished reputation." He became a general in the Chinese national army, but this didn't make him immune from travel mishaps. A photograph of him on the front page of his April 1905 'Miscellany' shows him "in Chinese ordinary costume" and beneath it the text continues ominously: "As he was for eleven years after having lost his baggage at Tai-yuan Fu, Shan-Si on his return from Kashgaria in 1881."

A garden advice website gives the following information in reference to *J. mesnyi*: "It tends to root wherever the tip of a branch touches the ground. Left to itself, it grows like a fountain-shaped shrub . . . and will soon become a thicket. As your plant grows older, you may have to prune it to keep it from taking over your garden! *Jasminum mesnyi* is often recommended for erosion control because it roots so easily. In some parts of the southern US it has grown into flowering hedges along the highways where it was originally planted. . . . This is an easygoing plant. . ." ([HYPERLINK "http://garden.lovetoknow.com/wiki/Ask_the_Expert"](http://garden.lovetoknow.com/wiki/Ask_the_Expert) http://garden.lovetoknow.com/wiki/Ask_the_Expert). All these observations should set off alarm bells — they indicate that this species is likely to become an invasive.

To control this plant, cut each stem and dab it with herbicide.

DESIRABLE NATIVE: PANDOREA JASMINOIDES – Bower of Beauty, Bower Vine

[The Australian National Botanic Garden website writes in reference to the name of this genus that the fruits of 'Pandorea' reminded the scientific name's author of Pandora's Box, or, alternatively, that there may be some link to a plague of insects on Norfolk Island; 'jasminoides' means 'jasmine-like'.]

Pandorea is a genus in the Bignonia family, and three of its six species occur in Australia. This evergreen climber is suitable for replacing *Jasminum polyanthum*, but is not shrubby like *Jasminum mesnyi*. Bower Vine has large white or pink flowers of a trumpet shape for much of the year, and these are framed by glossy green leaves. Plant it in moist, well-drained soil, and give it a support to climb until it reaches its standard 2–4 metres height. Full sun is best, but filtered sunlight is suitable, and the plants are frost-tolerant. This species is native to Queensland and New South Wales.

Note on control methods: this newsletter column gives only rudimentary advice on control of weeds. Please seek further information from various authoritative sources (such as DPI, EPA, CSIRO and Councils) and use herbicides with great environmental and personal care.

For further information about local weeds, call MEPA: 3289-0093

© Sarah Lowe 2008

From the Fossa archives



Who remembers this little produce stall and where was it on the main road in the village?

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 " Boomajarril"
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



School News

Soccer 2008

We have completed our interschool soccer season for another year. Our school soccer team was very competitive in the Year 6 Boys competition this year even though our team consists of boys and girls from Year 4-7. Teams played included Ashgrove, Rainworth, Bardon, Payne Road, The Gap and Ithaca Creek State Schools. I was extremely proud of the players, their sportsmanship and team spirit as they travelled each week to various grounds, often having to play on grounds with no goals. Thank you our inspirational coach, Steve Wenck, for the hours spent training the team and refereeing the games each Friday. Our school community has many wonderful volunteers



who enrich the students' education with the skills they share.

Mountain Buddies

Every Thursday afternoon our two classes join together for Buddy Groups. This is a wonderful initiative that brings the whole school together as well as serving as a professional sharing time for our teachers. Activities this year have included reading, drawing, an experiment with marshmallows, computer activities, ball skills, making dinosaurs, collage, board games, cooperative games, singing and learning some Chinese words.



Prep 2009

An understanding of young children and how they approach their world is essential for all teachers engaging with Prep children. What are the characteristics of preparatory year children?

Generally children in the Prep year are:

- * curious and inquisitive – they seek to clarify their understandings through asking questions
- * investigative – they look for multiple solutions to problems and approach questions in various ways
- * active and energetic – they like to explore their environment and need plenty of opportunities to move as part of their learning experiences
- * impulsive – they react quickly to situations
- * visual – they relate to visual stimulus, preferring experiences that involve visual representations
- * 'hands-on' – they prefer experiences where they can use materials to support thinking and expression of ideas and feelings
- * complex and active thinkers – they draw on their own experiences to shape their ideas and responses
- * social and interactive – they learn through social interactions with peers and adults
- * implicit users of knowledge – so they often need support to apply their existing skills and knowledge across a range of learning situations
- * shaped by their social and cultural backgrounds – they approach problems, social situations and learning in different ways. Their responses to learning contexts vary according to their backgrounds.

Come along to our Prep Information Night on Wednesday 5 November at 6.00pm to hear how we guide our Preppies through their first, exciting year of schooling. Please RSVP to the school by Monday 3 November to enable us to adequately cater for the evening.

Mr Kerry Lofgren,
Principal Mount Nebo State School
P: (07) 3289 8162 F: (07) 3289 8318
E: klofg1@eq.edu.au



Old Art Gallery

It's time for another update on what's happening at the Queensland Art Gallery.

You are all probably aware of the Picasso Exhibition being held in GoMA, but perhaps you are not aware that there is also an exhibition worth seeing in the older QAG building. "Sidney Nolan, A New Retrospective" has previously been shown in Victoria and NSW state galleries. Visitors from interstate are surprised to find that the associated costs with viewing this exhibition have been waived in Queensland, a generous gesture by our gallery director Tony Ellwood.

This is the first major retrospective exhibition to be held since Sidney Nolan's death. Many of us are aware of Nolan's Ned Kelly series, but will be surprised that there is much more to this man. The exhibition covers work as diverse as both his first and second Ned Kelly series, his explorer series, his 'Leda and Swan' series as well as work which predates these. Nolan's over-sized self portrait which was painted later in his life and which his wife donated to the Royal Academy in London after Nolan's death is a wonderful addition to the exhibition. The piece de resistance however is a circular walled room within the exhibition which contains two semi-circular paintings of nine panels each, entitled 'Riverbend'. The Goulburn River near his parent's property was the basis for these paintings. The exhibition is completed with Nolan's 'Antarctica' series.

This exhibition is a wonderful counterbalance to the Picasso exhibition as well worth seeing before it closes on 28th September

Keep potting painting printing drawing sculpting and just generally making a mess.

Janette



Road Raves

The Road's Not Getting Safer

A public meeting about road safety at Mt Nebo Hall on 6 August was well attended by locals very passionate about this vital issue. Also attending were Cr Bob Millar from Moreton Regional Council, Sgt Peter Kennedy from Ferny Grove police and Alan Meares who is doing road safety research for Moreton Council. Cr Geraldine Knapp from The Gap ward sent her apologies. The meeting was held by the Mountain Traffic group in collaboration with the Mt Nebo Residents' Association.

The meeting heard an overview of the current situation and then broke into small groups to look at ways to tackle the increasing traffic, danger and noise on the roads. Points raised and responses from our guests included:

- o More passing bays are needed and road signage to indicate they are coming up.
- o Fixed speed cameras may work. There's ongoing discussion as to their effectiveness. Identification of motorcycle plates is a problem.
- o Make the road less enticing. Changing the surface along some parts would have an affect.
- o Cobble stones or some other rough surface was suggested. Noise and resistance by some locals to this option was mentioned as a problem.
- o Audible lines in the middle and sides of road may alert drivers. Noise again was seen as an issue.
- o Increased police presence has been proven to reduce speed.
- o Hoons night racing is a major problem. Police need to respond whenever possible. Police need information on when it is happening. Some people have had problems getting through to police. Locals should complain to Officer in Charge if this happens. Police need to come up and check out the hoons. Some hoons use false number plates.
- o The 50 km speed limit at Nebo could be pushed out further. There have been many accidents near the Goat Track entrance.
- o The change to 50 km/hour through Mt Glorious has not yet happened. This should be followed up.
- o The number of armour-guard barriers can be a problem. These can be more dangerous to motor bike riders. They can cause a barrier to animals.
- o The need for mirrors for concealed driveways. Council's view is that mirrors are unsuitable if the road traffic is at speed as the mirrors can misrepresent the situation. This is a case by case issue.
- o Previous workshops on the Mountain discussed the traffic calming strategy of increasing intrigue for drivers.

Alan Meares, who is doing a road safety project for Moreton Council, was very encouraged to see a community so interested in road safety. Our level of participation is much higher than other communities he has contacted. This is a reflection of the serious issues we face on the Mountain roads. It also reflects our position and responsibility as residents and caretakers within this important national park so uniquely close to a capital city.

The traffic group will be following up these issues. We are, however, very stretched for time and are always looking for supporters to help. Please phone Rob Lachowicz (3289 8250) or Ann Bateson (3289 3939) for more information and meeting times.

BUSH FIRE **WARNING SIREN TESTING**

1ST WEDNESDAY
EACH MONTH
7.00 - 7.30PM

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.

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

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

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

cheap flyers and postcards too!

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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

WANTED - CRAFT STALLS and a **FACE PAINTER** for The Spring Fairy Festival at The Lyell Deer Farm 4th. and 5th. October from 11am to 4pm. For more information ph. Maureen 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 you need a hook...

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.

Date: August 6 2008

Council selected for pet-friendly trial

Moreton Bay Regional Council has been selected to participate in a new State Government trial program that aims to reduce the number of unwanted cats and dogs being killed each year.

The two year trial will allow council to try a number of methods to curb the increasing number of cats and dogs being left at animal collection centres across the region.

Deputy Mayor Greg Chippendale said council was investigating a number of ways to protect domestic cats and dogs from being euthanased.

"As part of this joint program with the State Government, we are interested in all measures to tackle this problem," he said.

"But before we implement any 'big stick' approach, we intend to roll out a suite of 'carrot' options - incentives - for people to take up.

"Council is looking at several different projects to reduce the number of cats and dogs being destroyed at our animal collection centres.

"We'll be working closely with animal welfare organisations, conducting education programs about pet ownership, encouraging identification and desexing as well as collecting data to monitor the number of animals being euthanased."

Local Government Minister Warren Pitt commended Moreton Bay Regional Council and other participating councils on taking part in the trial.

"The Government will support these councils in trialling these new programs and has committed \$380,000 to help councils do so."

The other councils participating in the trial program are Gold Coast City Council, Logan City Council and Townsville City Council.

ENDS

Robert Draycott
Media, Marketing and Communications Unit
Tel: 3283 0291

19 August, 2008

Digitised cemetery records

CEMETERY records throughout the whole of the Moreton Bay region could be digitised and archived on the Internet.

The Moreton Bay Regional Council has expressed an interest in the process through the State Government's Community Memorial Restoration Program grant scheme.

Mayor Allan Sutherland said current cemetery records across the Pine Rivers, Caboolture and Redcliffe districts were varied and some were still in manual systems.

"A fully digitised listing through the Council's website would provide an enhanced archive of valuable historic data and an upgraded service for family historians," he said.

The Lawnton cemetery shelter, a historic walk at Sanford and the restoration of the Wylie Gates at Mathieson Park, Petrie are other projects that have been submitted under the program.

Each project would be funded on an equal share basis between the council and the State Government.

Matthew Hendry
Media, Marketing and Communications Unit
Tel: 3283 0209
Fax: 5420 0388

August 20, 2008

From the office of the Mayor

MBRC dog registration renewal date set for July 1

Moreton Bay Regional Council has set its annual dog registration renewal date to July 1, in an effort to further align the dog registration process.

The move brings the Pine Rivers district in to line with Caboolture and Redcliffe districts, with all dog registrations across the region expiring on June 30 each year.

Aligning the registration renewal date will offer pet owners seamless inter-district transfers and simplify the system across council.

Residents will receive a letter explaining the changes with their renewals issued until June 30, 2009.

ENDS

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

Date: August 26, 2008

From the office of the Mayor

'All aboard!' for official opening of John Scott Park

Reminisce about the clickety-clack of the railroad tracks while enjoying the upgraded facilities at the official opening of John Scott Park, Samford, on Saturday September 6.

Moreton Bay Regional Council Mayor Allan Sutherland will declare the newly revamped park open at 1pm, followed by an afternoon of free activities for the family to enjoy.

The rejuvenated park, which was once home to a railway station, features walkways with sleeper inlays and shelters similar to historic railway station buildings.

The \$450,000 council-funded project includes the installation of a new playground with a train for children to play on and picnic facilities for families to use.

Landscaping works and drainage improvements have created an open space ideal for community events and markets.

Additional picnic facilities are planned for future stages of the project.

Division 11 Councillor Bob Millar said council had worked closely with residents, the Samford District Progress Association, the Samford Museum and Historical Society in planning the park's upgrade.

"John Scott Park is an important recreational area for the residents of Samford and an excellent destination for visitors," Councillor Millar said.

"In addition to this fantastic project, council has also carried out streetscaping works at Main Street and created new public spaces such as Kupidabin Park. This demonstrates council's ongoing support for the growing community of Samford."

Residents are invited to celebrate the opening of John Scott Park at 35 Main Street, Samford, on Saturday September 6 from 1pm to 3pm. There will be a Rotary Club sausage sizzle, a jumping castle and a special performance by the Pine Rivers Municipal Brass Band.

The museum, which adjoins the park and the Art Collective's slab hut in the park, will be welcoming visitors during the afternoon.

ENDS

Donna Sawyer
Media, Marketing and Communications Unit
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Date: September 1, 2008

Council to ask government for revaluations

The State Government will be asked to value all Moreton Bay Regional Council rateable properties by July 2009 to aid council's amalgamation process.

Mayor Allan Sutherland said council could not implement a consolidated differential rating policy until a uniform revaluation has been completed.

Caboolture and Redcliffe district properties have not been valued since July 2005, but the latest unimproved capital valuations for Pine Rivers district properties came into effect in July 2007.

Updated valuations for Redcliffe and Caboolture districts must be completed before July 2010 under the Valuation of Land Act, which stipulates that valuations must be carried out if the most recent valuation of the land was made more than four years ago.

The Department Of Natural Resources and Water charges councils each year for the valuation service regardless of whether it is performed and the cost to council this year is \$683,000.

"We need the Department of Natural Resources and Water to undertake a complete calculation of all rateable property across the entire Moreton Bay region as soon as possible so that our residents are on a more equal footing," Cr Sutherland said.

"Ratepayers should be aware of this situation, because the department's decision on whether to reassess unimproved capital valuations will impact directly on the determination of their rates."

ENDS

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Date: 8 August, 2008

Council commits to clean-up Australia

THE Moreton Bay Regional Council will support Clean-Up Australia Day throughout the entire region next year and it has committed more than \$15,000 to the project.

Commercial Enterprises Committee chairman, Cr Brian Battersby, said last year's project was held just before amalgamation.

"The annual event is a valuable tool for education and promotion of litter and waste management throughout the whole of the region and next year will be a co-ordinated campaign across the Moreton Bay Regional Council area," he said.

Cr Battersby said the March 2008 event saw 59 cubic metres of rubbish collected in the Pine Rivers area and another 151.5 cubic metres collected from the Caboolture area. The Redcliffe district yielded about 15 cubic metres of rubbish.

He said about 1200 volunteers registered for the clean-up and he hoped even more would attend next year.

"It's going to be much bigger event and even if volunteers gave up one hour of their time it would be appreciated," he said.

Cr Battersby said a council workshop would be held in the near future to discuss next year's clean-up event.

ENDS

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