THE FORTNIGHTLY FOCUS

25 SEPTEMBER 2020

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COUNCIL NEWS

Australia Day Awards open

Nominations for the Australia Day Awards are open! The following awards recognise the contribution of individuals, events, organisations and businesses to our community:

- · Citizen of the Year
- · Young Citizen of the Year
- · Young Sportsperson of the Year
- Community Event/ Community Organisation of the Year
- · Business of the Year
- · Employee of the Year

Download a nomination form and the guidelines from Council's website. Nominations close at 5pm, 30 November.

Dead timber removal trial on hold

Council has put on hold any further removal of dead timber along the Oyster Walk and Coffin Bay foreshore area after seeking the views of Department of Environment and Water following completion of the three trial sites.

After inspecting the trial site, the Department has raised the following concerns:

- Considerable damage had occurred to the understory of the remaining vegetation.
- For two thirds of the sites there had been an increase in the weedy growth when compared to photos taken before the trial.
- The removal of the surface cover has left the sites more prone to erosion.
- There was minimal native vegetation regeneration observance since the trial.
- The removal of standing dead timber removed the potential for nesting hollow development.
- The trial left the remaining vegetation more exposed to the elements.
- Some of the standing trees showed signs they may have been alive when removed.
- The trial resulted in a decrease in the habitat quality, quantity and diversity for native species.

There are also concerns that if the work continues it may see an increase in weed cover across the coastal zone, reduced germination and recruitment of native species, potential for increased erosion, removal of critical habitat for native species.

Council has now deferred any further dead timber removal works until at least Spring 2021 to assess if the concerns raised by the Department of Environment and Water are realised.

For more information, refer to Agenda Item W&I/55/20 of the September Agenda/ Minutes.

Community Grants closing soon!

Council's two grant programs are open for applications.

Community Capital Support Grants - \$25,000 pool

To assist community and sporting clubs in the Council area to develop or upgrade their facilities for the benefit of members.

Community Reserves Support Grants - \$25,000 pool

To assist community groups to undertake suitable projects on Council reserves.

Full grant criteria and an application form can be downloaded from Council's website. Applications close 5pm, Thursday, October 1.

Need advice with grant writing? Economic Community Development Officer Julie Crettenden is available Monday to Wednesdays - call 8676 0400 or email juliec@dclep.sa.gov.au

Patrol grading

Roads due to be graded in the fortnight from September 28 (weather permitting and subject to change if priority occurs): Mena Road, Green Patch Road, Roberts Road, Grubbed Road, Ashman Road and Koppio Road.

drumMUSTER

The next DrumMuster will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, 27 – 28 October. Bookings are essential and can be made by contacting the Cummins Council Office and speaking to Works Admin on 8676 0400.

Council Minutes

Minutes are now available for the ordinary Council meeting held on 18 September – visit lowereyrepeninsula.sa.gov.au/home to view or download.

COMMUNITY

Ag Town of the Year

Cummins has been nominated for the Primary Industries and Regions SA 2020 Agricultural Town of the Year.

The award recognises South Australian towns that are excelling in agricultural practices and the flow on effect they have on communities.

All nominated towns will be added to an online voting platform from 6 October.

An independent judging panel will also review the nominated towns and provide their independent scores. The results from both voting elements will then be used to determine the Top 5 finalists for the 2020 award. More information to come on how to vote!

Business survey

Local businesses are encouraged to voice issues and opportunities for regional businesses via the Business SA 2020 Regional Voice survey.

The Regional Voice survey, will ensure our community can play a pivotal role in the decision-making processes of both State and Federal Governments.

For about 10-15 minutes of your time, please help us to help your business, and our region, by filling out the survey via the link www.surveymonkey.com/r/SARegional Voice2020

First aid awareness

A free non-accredited first aid workshop with a focus on supporting parents to manager first aid emergencies for babies and children will be held at the Kirton Point Children's Centre on 4 November from 1pm to 2.30pm. Free creche available – please phone 8682 5969 to secure your booking.

Child safe training

Centacare Catholic Country SA will deliver online Safe Environments for Children and Young People training over the next few months.

Seven-hour sessions will be held on September 23, October 20, November 20 and December 8.

Three-hour refresher sessions will be held on October 2, and November 17. Courses cover values and attitudes, legislation, abuse-related trauma, sexual abuse, disclosure, safe organisations and reporting. To please register contact hwebb@cccsa.org.au

SA Young Entrepreneur Scheme

Business SA's Regional South Entrepreneur Australian Young Scheme has opened for 2020 applications. The program is a business mentoring and learning program designed to help young regional entrepreneurs aged between 18 to 35 vears to establish or further develop and grow their business. For more information call 8300 0114 or email sayes@business-sa.com