

Working Together



Kaya!

Welcome to Mookaroo season! This is the coldest and wettest time of the year with more frequent rain, gales and storms. It is also known as Fertility Season!

Working Together and the South West Aboriginal Workforce Development Centre are seeking expressions of interest from employers who are looking to offer employment opportunities to local job seekers to come along and hear about the new Australian Government Youth Jobs PaTH initiative. The Employers Forum will be held on August 22, 12noon - 1.30pm.

The focus of the Forum is on 'real jobs' and we encourage all of our employers who can offer current and projected opportunities to local job seekers to come along and listen to the incentives available to employers wishing to recruit local job seekers into their workforce.

Seats are limited, and employers will be selected on the basis of the 'real jobs' they have on offer across a variety of industry sectors. There is no cost for this event. For more information contact Naomi on 0403137031 or email wt@bccci.asn.au by Friday 4th August 2017.

National Aborigines Day: On July 12, 1971 the Aboriginal Flag was flown for the first time at Victoria Square, Adelaide, on National Aborigines Day! The flag was designed by artist Harold Thomas. After public consultation, the flag was proclaimed a 'Flag of Australia' in July 1995.

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Council Budget Brekkie

The City of Bunbury presented details of its \$90.8 million Budget for 2017 / 2018 to Chamber members at a breakfast in July hosted by Commercial Realty.

This year's budget includes a rate rise of 4.5% and a 1% to boost to the asset replacement fund, which is reported as being \$20m behind.

Mike Jenkins from Commercial Realty who hosted the event, in his introduction, referred to a number of new developments currently underway in the CBD.

These include Trilogy in Carey Street, Victoria Square in Victoria Street, 32 Clifton Street on the Casuarina roundabout and the soon to be refurbished ex-Boulters Menswear store, also in Victoria Street.

Mike advised that Lone Star Rib House are soon to start their fit out in Victoria Square and confirmed that commercial terms have been agreed for a national group to take 1200m² in the adjoining 32 Clifton Street development which, subject to planning approval, will see the tenant investing over \$2m into their fit out and hopefully be in operation prior to Christmas this year.

The biggest expenditure in this year's City Budget is on a new \$8m Council Depot, using \$3m in borrowings, on a block bought by Council for \$2.4m on Sutherland Way in Picton.

Mayor Gary Brennan and Acting CEO Mal Osborne spoke of the Council's desire to "run more like a business", describing actions such as last year's underspend on wages and a restructure which will

free up one whole floor of the Council's Administration Building.

Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre (BREC) will get \$426,000 and Stirling Street Arts Centre has an allocation of about \$900,000 for a start to a significant planned redevelopment.

Another \$1m has been set aside for a much-discussed water playground, and the outcome of negotiations underway with potential private investors should be announced this year.

Council is in discussions with Main Roads to enhance the main entrances to the city and will spend \$426,000 on parks and gardens throughout the city.

Seed funding has been provided for community groups to run events and Council is working on establishing a group which can advise on encouraging people back into the CBD.

Council is continuing to offer land assets for sale in order to boost its coffers and hopes to acquire the site used by Council staff on Nuysia Avenue from the State Government, which could then go on the market.

The City Council is using Colliers International to attract buyers for five prime waterfront and CBD sites including Lot 891 Clifton Street near the Quality Hotel Lighthouse, a portion of Lot 3 Blair Street - adjoining the BREC and earmarked for a hotel, Lot 1881 on Koombana Drive and two Ocean Drive sites, Lot 66 (2872sqm) and Lot 497 (4447sqm).



President David Kerr welcomes guests to the Bunbury City Council Budget Breakfast.