



YOUR COMMUNITY REPORT

STREET PARTY TO KICK OFF FESTIVE SEASON

RICHMOND Valley Council is planning the biggest Christmas Street Party to date with the second annual event taking place on Thursday 5 December, kicking off at 4.30pm.

Last year's carnival was a huge success with hundreds of people turning up to enjoy the markets, entertainment, a visit from Santa and the lighting of the community Christmas tree.

This year we have added Pooches on Parade, a primary school colouring-in competition, Old McDonalds Farm, a choir sing off and a great line up of entertainment.

Council's General Manager John Walker is encouraging participation from the entire Richmond Valley community, calling on local businesses and retailers, community groups, local schools and dance and music groups to get involved.

John said the Council-run Christmas Street Party would offer enough entertainment to have everyone dancing in the street, as well as ensuring many hours of fun rolling on into the night.

"The Christmas Street Party is the perfect way for the community to come together to celebrate the end of a busy year and welcome in the new one with plenty of spirit," he said.

POOCHES ON PARADE

FESTIVE furry friends will be lining up to enter this year's inaugural Pooches on Parade event at the Christmas Street Party. Council is inviting dog-loving families to dress their pets up as elves, presents, reindeers, in Santa hats or in the festive colours of red and green.

Owners will walk their festive pets around a small section of Walker Street as they are judged with a chance of winning some delicious doggy treats.

Entry is free and registration is available on the day from 4pm with the parade being held at 5.30pm. As long as your dog is of a friendly nature, socially adjusted with other animals and on a leash, you can be apart of Pooches on Parade.

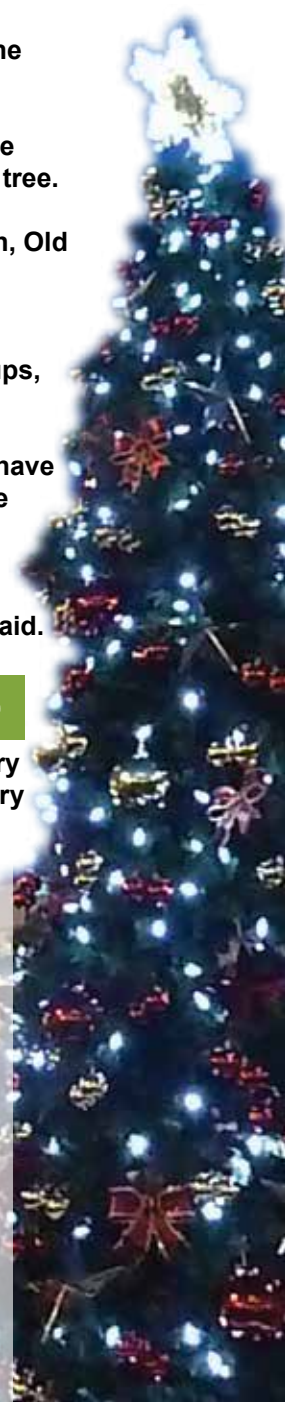
COLOUR OUR WORLD

PLANS are in full swing with each primary school in Casino and surrounding country areas receiving the Richmond Valley Council Colouring in Competition.

Students from kindergarten to year six have the opportunity to colour in a triangle in festive colours or themes and return their entries to school offices by Friday 29 November.

The triangles will be cut out and hung along Walker Street as bunting at the Christmas Street Party.

All entries will be judged on the day with two winners receiving a family pass to Currumbin Bird Sanctuary.





MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

I am thoroughly enjoying the privilege of leading this wonderful region.

While the past year has been challenging from the point of view of finances and budgets, it is also a year where progress was made on a variety of fronts. None of this would have been possible without the direction provided by the Council executive and the efforts of employees at all levels.

Challenges will remain in the coming year as we continue to work on major issues and priorities in an environment of limited resources and uncertainties about future support from both the State and Federal governments.

Richmond Valley Mayor
Cr Ernie Bennett

At the same time, such challenges should not deter us from actively pursuing the priorities established by Council and meeting the service demands of the community.

I look forward to continuing to work with you in the coming year to address these challenges and continue to move the Richmond Valley forward.

I wish you all a happy and holy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

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COUNCIL BRIEFS Short and interesting news in your area

Graffiti Removal Day



Casino Rotary recently worked with Council to repaint the toilet block at Crawford Square, covering graffiti and giving it a fresh look. The day was part of a nation-wide initiative by Rotary to reduce graffiti vandalism.

Men's Shed Assistance



Thanks to the volunteers of the Casino Men's Shed, the train in the toddler playground at Crawford Square has had a facelift with new paint. The Men's Shed also donated a rostrum to the Casino Community & Cultural Centre.

Cleanest Beaches



Evans Head's beaches were standout winners in the annual State of the Beaches report, getting top marks for the fourth year in a row. We received a combined top score of 100% for water quality.

COUNCIL TACKLES LOCAL ROADS PROJECTS

YOU may have noticed a lot of activity taking place on our local roads network over the past few weeks.

Council is committed to ensuring the Richmond Valley's road infrastructure is maintained to a high standard to facilitate safe, unrestricted travel and to provide enhanced longevity for our assets.

General Manager John Walker said maintenance alone costs Council more than \$15.2 million a year and proposed capital improvements up to \$3 million.

John said in addition to routine maintenance activities such as pothole repairs, patching and crack-sealing, Council had budgetary allocations within its annual capital works program for major road works such as:

- road resurfacing;
- road reconstruction;
- road construction; and
- road widening.

"These specific capital works allocations, in conjunction with ongoing maintenance activities, ensure the continual development and ongoing renewal associated with the safety and condition of our local roads network," he said.



West Street Casino is just one of many local roads to undergo significant reconstruction.

Other roads receiving attention include Busbys Flat Road, Old Tenterfield Road, Broadwater Evans Head Road, Stratheden Road and Sextonville Road.

Bridge works have also been carried out at Rambaldinis Road, Naughtons Gap, and Droneys Bridge Road, Fairy Hill.

Rural grading has taken place at: Vidlers and Gores roads, Springrove; Rambaldinis Road, Naughtons Gap; and Myall Creek Road, Bora Ridge.

LOCAL BUSINESSES URGED TO CLIMB ABOARD SMALL BIZ BUS

COUNCIL successfully negotiated with the Office of the NSW Small Business Commissioner to have Casino included in the Small Biz Bus program and we strongly encourage all local businesses to take advantage of the services on offer.

The Bus will be giving local small business operators the chance to get personalised advice from business experts at no cost to them.

The Bus will be at The Casino Community and Cultural Centre on Monday 9 December from 9am to 3pm.

To book an appointment on the Bus or to speak to your local Small Biz Connect adviser, call NORTEC on 1300 134 359 or visit www.smallbusiness.nsw.gov.au/hop-on-the-small-biz-bus.



General Manager John Walker said it was really important for small business operators to take a step back occasionally to reassess what they were doing and think about where they were heading. "It's great to have the Small Biz Bus visiting our town and I would encourage all small business people to make the most of this opportunity and visit the Bus while it is here," he said.



COUNCIL INVESTS IN WORKFORCE

RICHMOND Valley Council has embarked on the single biggest recruitment drive in more than a decade, offering more than 20 new permanent full-time positions.

General Manager John Walker is calling it a “back-to-the-future” strategy, saying it is a proactive response to today’s challenging economic climate.

John said it made perfect sense to invest money in the Council workforce, therefore its future.

He said he did not want Richmond Valley Council to be an organisation with no clear vision of what its future looked like, nor to be starved of quality employee resources.



Whether its working in our Coraki Fabrication Plant (above) or one of our community libraries, the key is having pride in our work.



“I want all our employees to feel confident about the future and secure in their jobs,” John said.

All available positions and an information pack for applicants can be found at www.richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au/page/Your_Council/Positions_Vacant/

VOLUNTEERING - A COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

VOLUNTEERISM is not only a way to resource some Council operations, it’s also a way for members of the community to give back to their local area, while at the same time learning valuable skills which can be used for future employment.

Some volunteers are also able to have a direct influence on improving their area, through mowing sporting fields and planting trees, to Clean Up Australia Day and providing excellent customer service at Council outlets.

Volunteer positions are always available at the Casino, Coraki and Evans Head libraries, the Casino and Woodburn visitor information centres and the Casino Community and Cultural Centre but now new positions are being reviewed with interest expressed from the community in Casino Pound, community events and general office administration.

Council is reviewing its induction program to ensure all volunteers are given the very best start to their experience working with Council, but also is exploring how we can work with community organisations to develop a register of volunteers which can be

accessed for assistance outside Council, such as volunteering for neighbourhood groups, emergency services and special interest not for profits.

To express your interest in volunteering with these community organisations, use the contact details below.

Lifeline - retail store Casino	6662 1323
Lifeline - crisis support hotline	Niall Mulligan 6622 4133
Casino Scouts	Daniel Parker 0466 064 639
Evans Head Country Women's Association	Sue Ramsay 6682 4432
Coraki Australia Day	George Thompson thompson159@ozemail.com.au
Evans Head Community Garden	Clayton Brady 6682 4344
Woodburn Visitor Information Centre	Glenn Crawford 6682 2032
Broadwater, Casino, Coraki, Woodburn SES	1800 201 000
St John Ambulance	Barbara Veling 0414 866 200

VOLUNTEER WITH COUNCIL

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact Customer Service on **6660 0300** or visit one of our information centres, or the Casino Community and Cultural Centre.



FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER'S DESK

AS you may be aware, Richmond Valley Council is seeking to increase residential, business and farmland rates over the next five years. Whilst we are mindful of the cost of living pressures being felt by all of our ratepayers we, as a community, need to invest in our assets and our future as we agreed in our current Community Strategic Plan (CSP).

As the local government area grows, we are faced with many necessary changes and challenges and your Council will lead and respond. However, the Council is determined not to continue on the path of financial non sustainability we are currently on. We must meet our operational spend with appropriate rating levels and our current rating levels are comparatively low and insufficient.

Council is seeking an increase of 12.5 percent in the first year, followed by an estimated 5.5 percent for each of the following four years on general rates only, not on water, sewerage or garbage rates. While this percentage seems high, in real dollar terms we believe it is manageable for most people.

The very real possibility if we are not successful in this endeavour is that we will be forced to amalgamate with another council, likely to be Lismore, whose rates are already 68 percent higher than ours for residential lots and 130 percent for businesses.

The rate variation is expected to raise an additional \$7.6 million over the five years to begin to address our infrastructure backlog in roads, bridges, parks, buildings and drainage, as well as increase Council's levels of service and capacity in line with the CSP.

Council will spend a total of \$13.03 million over five years, including \$5 million on our local roads network. The additional funds will also be used to stimulate economic development, pay for all unfunded priority projects, as identified by the community, and place Council on a path to long-term financial sustainability.

At Richmond Valley Council we are committed to delivering excellent services for our communities. Please take the time to read the attached report. Your feedback is important and Council would appreciate hearing your thoughts.



**General Manager
John Walker**

HAVE YOUR SAY ON RICHMOND VALLEY'S FUTURE

BE involved in shaping the Richmond Valley by attending Council meetings. Business papers for all meetings are available from the Meetings page of www.richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au on Thursday prior to the meeting.

Council's policy is to be inclusive; discussing issues together helps build trust and mutual respect, as well as offering the opportunity for differences to be aired directly. Those who wish to address the Council on any listed matter, or ask a question, will be able to do so by submitting a request before 4.30pm the day prior to the meeting. The public sessions will be conducted at the start of the meeting. A time limit of five minutes per address will apply.



All Richmond Valley Council meetings are conducted in accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice.

Tue 3 December 5pm	<p>Strategic Finance Committee Meeting Committee Room, Casino Administration Centre</p> <p>Members of the public are welcome to address the Council prior to each discussion item. Matters for consideration are forwarded to the next Ordinary Meeting as recommendations.</p>
Tue 17 December 5pm	<p>Ordinary Council Meeting Chambers, Casino Administration Centre</p> <p>Members of the public may apply to address Council on agenda items and/or ask any questions on issues of interest to the community by 4.30pm on the day before the meeting.</p> <p>Email council@richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au or call 6660 0300 to apply. All members of the public are welcome to observe proceedings during the meeting.</p>



ACHIEVEMENTS 2012/2013

The following achievements are a selection from our Annual Report for 2012/2013. To view the report, visit the Annual Reports page of www.richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au or ask to view a copy at our Evans Head or Casino offices, or at libraries throughout the Richmond Valley.

Recreation & Open Spaces

Coraki Skate Park enhancements including new ramps and slides

New pontoon and fish cleaning table installed at Evans Head

Completed Evans Head CBD beautification and implemented safer 40km speed zone

Built new transport hub in Casino's Canterbury Street including undercover bus shelter and taxi rank

Installed new bollards on Coraki jetty and improved public toilet facilities

Community & Culture

Staged the following community events:

- Theatre Royale (Seniors Week)
- Australia Day at Evans Head
- Co-Opera's Die Fledermaus
- Multicultural March festival
- NAIDOC week
- International Women's Day awards
- Casino Christmas Tree party

Supported financially through the Section 356 Funding Pool these community organisations:

- Casino & District Brass Band
- Casino & District Family History Group
- Casino Neighbourhood Watch
- Casino Playgroup
- Evans River K-12 School
- Lions Club of Coraki Inc
- Riley's Hill Community Centre
- Sporting Shooters Association Aust.
- The Bentley Hall Trust
- Uniting Care Casino
- Westpac Rescue Helicopter
- Windara Communities Ltd
- Woodburn Amateur Boxing Club
- Woodburn Chamber of Commerce

Provided direct financial support through the events funding scheme to:

- Casino Agricultural Show
- Coraki Art Prize workshops
- Crankfest Xtreme
- Evans Head Malibu Classic
- Evans Head Ocean Swim
- Evans Head Fishing Classic
- Primex
- Summerland Drags
- Woodburn Riverside Festival

Transport & Infrastructure

Street sweeper machine purchased to improve appearance of towns and village business precincts

Revalued roads, bridges and footpath assets to decrease the infrastructure backlog by \$53 million



Maintenance crews break in the new street cleaner at the Civic Hall in Casino.



Kids at Crankfest Xtreme got a kick out of learning hip hop at the popular dance stage.



Co-Opera's Die Fledermaus at Windara was well attended by opera lovers in April.



ACHIEVEMENTS 2012/2013



A Salty Lagoon contractor pumps silt out of the channel in preparation for closure.



Staff at the Casino saleyards oversee the new pneumatic drafting facility in action.



The inaugural economic development luncheon was hailed a success by attendees.

Rural & Urban Developments

Improved local heritage through grants to individuals and businesses totalling \$24,000

Natural Environment

Salty Lagoon's artificial channel closed after extensive remediation of the wetlands area

Fitted all street lighting with energy efficient bulbs

Stabilised Ocean Drive embankment and cycleway following flood damage

Evans Head Coastal Zone Management Plan drafted, consulted with community and adopted by Council

Commenced regular green waste collections from Richmond Valley residents

Local Economy

Created a new Aboriginal-designated role through the Elsa Dixon Scholarship Scheme and employed a further six school-based trainees

Established the Industry Advisory Panel to inform and advise Council's economic development strategy

Slashed developer charges to only \$8000 per tenement to encourage building investment

Installed pneumatic drafting facility and improved signage at Northern Rivers Livestock exchange as the first stage of improvements to modernise the facility

Launched a new economic development vision with a luncheon attended by 250 business people

Closed the bridge products section stemming a \$1 million loss

Signed off an agreement with Northern Co-operative Meat Company to an in perpetuity water price

Launched volunteerism at the Casino Community and Cultural Centre and Casino Visitor Information Centre

Governance & Process

Launched the Strategic Finance Committee to enable Council to consider strategic projects and priorities more efficiently

Embedded organisational restructure with the appointment of two executives to head up the Infrastructure and Environment and the Corporate and Community divisions.

Removed barriers at Casino administration office and extended office hours to suit business customers

Hosted ordinary Council meetings in Evans Head, Woodburn and Coraki to better reach lower river residents

Consulted with committees and community groups, ran telephone and online surveys and held public meetings to identify community priorities for the Community Strategic Plan



RESIDENTS URGED TO BE VIGILANT THIS SUMMER

RICHMOND Valley residents are being urged to consider swim safety as people flock to beaches and backyard pools to find relief from the searing heat.

Council's General Manager John Walker said with more than 900 backyard swimming pools in the Valley, pool safety was a vital issue which affected the whole community.

John said while parents might think they know the basics of pool safety, like not taking your eyes off your children, it was important to consider the bigger picture.

He said adults should stay within an arm's length of young children when in the vicinity of water and make sure they had approved pool safety fencing.

"There is no substitute for constant adult supervision of children in and around swimming pools to prevent drownings and other accidents," John said.

"Pool safety isn't just learning to swim; it's about safety around the pool as well. It's the little things which end up making the big difference, like tying a bell to your pool gate in order to hear when it is being opened.

"I also urged parents to remove toys from pools when not in use to stop kids jumping in to retrieve them. Children can also use outdoor furniture to boost themselves over pool safety fences."

John said parents also needed to consider the risks around resort pools, creeks and dams. He said home owners should be aware Council's pool barrier requirements applied to inground, aboveground and other portable pools capable of being filled with water to a depth of 300mm or more.



Casino pool goers will this summer have a shiny new slide to have fun on. Swimming lessons are available at our local pools by contacting Freney Aquatic Enterprises on 6682 5885.

"Inspections can be arranged and a compliance certificate issued by Council if your pool meets government requirements," John said.

Home swimming safety brochures are available in the reception area at the Casino Administration Centre and Evans Head office. They can also be downloaded from Council's website.

There are some fantastic swimming classes on offer at all Richmond Valley public pools, plus bookings are now open for the NSW Government Department of Sports and Recreation 2013/2014 summer program with intensive training available in coming months. To see where and when the courses are offered, visit www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/swimandsurvive

'TIS THE SEASON TO BE READY FOR STORMS AND FLOODS

IT'S that time of year again and that means you should be prepared for storms and floods. There are eight simple things that you can do now to prepare your home and family for the storm season. For emergency help in flood, storm and tsunami call the SES on 132 500.

- Maintain your yard and balcony. Secure or store items which could blow around in strong winds.
- Clean your gutters, downpipes and drains regularly to prevent blockages.
- Trim trees and branches which could potentially fall on your home or property.
- Fix any damage to your roof, including broken or missing tiles.
- Check your insurance policy is current and adequate.
- Make a Home Emergency Plan which outlines what you would do in an emergency, including knowing the routes you need to take to evacuate should streets be cut by debris or flood.
- Prepare an emergency kit with essential items in case you lose power or need to leave home in an emergency.
- Listen to your local ABC radio station and other media for weather warnings, such as Richmond Valley Radio 88.9 or COW FM 107.9.



MEET LOUISE AMEY *Ranger*

It takes a strong personality to be a Council ranger as they are often the target of heavy criticism.

Ranger Louise Amey attends to the animals in the Casino pound, follows up reports of straying stock, uses her investigative skills in identifying illegal dumpers, notifies residents with overgrown lawns and talks to dog walkers, handing out leashes for those whose animals are without.

Louise often encounters community members who have a misconception about her job, leading her to explain the State Government legislation dictating her procedures.

Did you know...

161 dogs and cats found new homes after a stay at the Casino Pound in 2012/2013 thanks to the efforts of rangers. The rangers work with animal rescue associations from Coffs Harbour to Brisbane to find places for lost or abandoned animals, rather than have them euthanized.

On call nights and weekends, Louise is available to help when animals are attacking, hurt or are straying across roads and railways. She's also busy most days working with animal welfare groups trying to find homes for the dogs and cats awaiting adoption at the pound.

Louise has been known to drive to the Gold Coast if a shelter has offered to take a dog, especially if it means she won't need to have the dog euthanized.

"Just like humans, all animals deserve a fighting chance at life," Louise said.

"I decided a long time ago that being a ranger meant I could make a difference for so many."

Louise is adamant the best way to deal with the community is to help them become better owners through education, discussion and compromise.



Ranger Louise Amey cares for the animals awaiting rehoming at the Casino Pound.

Her approach is little understood and she adds "you don't really meet me until there is a problem".

If you think you can give a pet the care it needs, please make an appointment to view animals with a ranger on **6660 0290**.

MICROCHIPPING ... A DOG'S BEST ASSET

RECENTLY a cattle dog by the name of Bimbi was returned to her owner some seven months after first being reported missing.

Because Bimbi (pictured below) had no microchip, her owner was unable to be found through the NSW-wide vet/Council registration database.

It was only when recently her carers could no longer look after Bimbi that she was surrendered to Council, sparking the search through the missing dogs database and identifying her as the cattle dog listed as missing in April.



Her story is a good outcome for Bimbi and her owner, but sadly is a regular occurrence for the rangers.

and Council rangers the ability to match missing dogs with their owners. It is also a requirement for every dog (some exemptions apply for working dogs) with fines applicable for dogs found wandering and unregistered or not wearing identification on their collars. Fines also apply for failing to update a change of address for an owner. To notify Council of your change of address, download the form available on the Responsible Dog Ownership page of www.richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au

Enquire with your local vet about microchipping services, or take advantage of these free microchipping promotions sponsored by Richmond Valley Council in coming months. All you need do is bring your dog to the microchipping tent at each event for a ranger to implant your dog for free, a value of \$40:

- **Casino's Christmas Street Party**, Pooches on Parade arena, Thursday 5 December from 4.30pm to 8.30pm.
- **Coraki Australia Day**, Dog Show Arena, Richmond Terrace Sunday 26 January from midday to 4pm.

Microchipping is essential in giving veterinarians

9 | Your community report



KIDS' PAGE

Hey kids! Are you a great owner? How many words can you find about taking care of dogs and cats in the puzzle below?

Q	C	O	L	L	A	R	P	E	T
F	L	E	A	S	B	O	N	E	Z
A	V	E	T	L	I	T	T	E	R
M	I	C	R	O	C	H	I	P	T
B	W	A	T	E	R	O	D	R	I
A	E	T	B	O	W	L	U	L	C
L	B	S	H	A	D	E	D	E	K
L	S	H	A	M	P	O	O	A	S
Q	W	O	R	M	I	N	G	D	P
P	A	R	V	O	V	I	R	U	S

- | | |
|--------|------------|
| BALL | MICROCHIP |
| BONE | PARVOVIRUS |
| BOWL | PET |
| CAT | SHADE |
| COLLAR | SHAMPOO |
| DOG | TICKS |
| FLEAS | WATER |
| LEAD | WORMING |
| LITTER | VET |

Going on holidays?

Make sure your pets are well cared for if you plan to leave them at home:

- have someone responsible house sit or at least check on animals twice a day
- ensure plenty of water, shade and fresh air are available on hot days
- make sure your pet is microchipped as firecrackers and storm noise can often be the cause of lost animals

If your animal goes missing or you find a lost animal, call Council on 6660 0300.

JOKE: If one side of a barn's roof is red and the other is blue, a rooster will come and lay an egg on the top. Which side does the egg roll down?

Neither - roosters don't lay eggs!



Hey kids! Be sun safe this summer and slip on a shirt, slop on sunscreen and slap on a hat. Then colour in these Sid the seagull pictures from the NSW Cancer Council for extra summertime fun.



LIBRARY NEWS

These summer holidays the library is a perfect place to escape the heat with the kids in air-conditioned comfort with free computer access, wifi and kids activity tables. Enjoy a cuppa and catch up on local or national news while the kids explore the huge range of picture books, early readers through to teen novels.

Plus, the Casino library is a great place for picking up a new skill with these free events.

Tuesday 28 November & 12 December 10.30am start

Ring in the season with free craft workshops that will help your house, table, gifts and cards to be positively festive.

Tuesdays and Wednesdays until 11 December 9am to 10am

Tech Savvy Seniors can learn on the library computers or bring along your tablet or phone and get help with email, e-books, using the Internet, social media, Internet security and much more.

Bookings are highly recommended for events at Casino Library, call **6660 0250** to reserve your place.

For more library events visit: www.richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au/library.

POOL NEWS

Public pools in the Richmond Valley are a great way to cool off and are now even better with great ride additions just in time for summer.

Casino Memorial Pool	Featuring a brand new superslide to complement the volleyball courts, BBQs, picnic tables and toddler pool.
Evans Head Aquatic Centre	Kids will love the inflatable obstacle course, plus the toddler splash pool, BBQs and picnic tables.
Woodburn Public Pool	Take a ride on the tube slide or waddle in the baby pool with plenty of undercover seating.
Coraki Public Pool	The new mini slide opening soon will be as much a hit as the baby pool and two splash pools.

Public pools are open everyday including public holidays. For locations and opening hours, visit the Public Swimming Pools page of www.richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au.

Opening times of inflatable and slide rides vary. For more information visit www.evansheadaquaticcentre.com.



COUNCIL TAKES 24-HOUR POLICING FIGHT TO MINISTER

RICHMOND Valley Council has vowed to continue the fight for 24-hour policing in Casino.

Mayor Ernie Bennett said the Council was responding to the concerns of local residents.

Mayor Bennett said Casino was a great country town with a fantastic lifestyle but the people and the businesses were fed up with rising crime.



Mayor Ernie Bennett is pictured here with Page MP Kevin Hogan and Justice Minister Michael Ferguson.

He said the Council's renewed push for a stronger police presence was in response to the immediate need in the community.

"We don't need more reviews into police numbers, everyone knows what is needed," Mayor Bennett said.

"Our local police officers work

incredibly hard to protect the community but there needs to be more of them and they need to be better resourced."

Mayor Bennett and General Manager John Walker were part of a recent NOROC delegation which met with a number of State Ministers in Sydney, including NSW Police Minister Michael Gallacher.

"Minister Gallacher was receptive to our ideas and knows the area well from his days as a police officer in Casino," he said.

"He brought to my attention a review of policing currently underway by Northern Region Assistant Commissioner Jeff Loy, which seeks to uncover better resourcing in our area.

"The Police Association is also pursuing additional resources, seeking 200 more officers for the North Coast as a whole."

Mr Walker said while Council had been successful in securing funding for CCTV in Casino - and this would be a great deterrent, it was not a solution and should not be seen as replacing the need for additional policing.

AUSTRALIA DAY EXTRAVAGANZA AT CORAKI

RICHMOND Valley residents should plan a grand Australia Day out at Coraki for all ages with preparations underway for a full program of spectacular events.

As in past years, a community committee has been formed to host the day on behalf of Richmond Valley Council as the official Australia Day celebrations.

Committee chairperson George Thompson said planned events included Show N Shine, a quirky dog show, markets, all-day bands on the river stage, plus a 000 arena and youth arena with skating demonstrations, Rhee Tae Kwon Do demonstrations and dances performed by Richmond Valley Just Dance.

Other competitions planned include fancy costumes with prizes for best dressed, best Aussie pie competition in both professional and amateur categories, a Coraki Art Prize Australia Day art show, plus beach volleyball on Coraki's recently extended riverfront beach. Organisers have also scheduled rabbit races, kindi farm, novelty games, circus workshops and thrilling fire extinguishing demonstrations by local firemen.

Programs and maps will be available shortly on the Australia Day page of www.richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au.



Australia Day in the Richmond Valley is always a spectacular showing of national pride.

NOMINATIONS for Richmond Valley Council's 2014 Australia Day Awards are now open. The awards are a wonderful opportunity to publicly acknowledge the contribution a friend, family member, community leader or colleague makes to the region.

All nominations must be submitted by 4pm on Wednesday 4 December. For further information visit the Australia Day Awards page of www.richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au or contact the Events officers at Richmond Valley Council on **6660 0300**.



SIGN UP FOR OUR E-NEWSLETTERS

If you would like to stay up to date with all of the latest events and activities in the Richmond Valley, simply scan the QR code here with your smart phone or visit the Email Subscriptions page of www.richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au.



You can sign up to these e-newsletters:

- Community
- Economy, events and tourism industry
- Have your say opportunities

Each month, you'll receive an email from us packed full of information on upcoming events, activities, Council services you might not know about, ways you can get involved and much more.

You can also find us on Facebook:



[/RichmondValleyCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/RichmondValleyCouncil)



[/RichmondValleyAustraliaDay](https://www.facebook.com/RichmondValleyAustraliaDay)



[/Richmond-Upper-Clarence-Regional-Library](https://www.facebook.com/Richmond-Upper-Clarence-Regional-Library)

CONTACT YOUR COUNCIL

Casino Administration Centre
Corner Walker Street & Graham Place

Phone: (02) 6660 0300
Fax: (02) 6660 1300
Office hours: 8.30am to 5pm Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays

Evans Head Administration Office
Corner Woodburn Street & School Lane

Phone: (02) 6682 4392
Fax: (02) 6682 4252
Office hours: 9am to 4pm Monday to Thursday, excluding public holidays (closed daily from 12 noon to 1pm)

Mail: Locked Bag 10, Casino NSW 2470
Email: council@richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au
Website: www.richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au

After hours emergencies: (02) 6660 0300

YOUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES



Mayor
Cr Ernie Bennett



Deputy Mayor
Cr Sandra Humphrys



Cr Robert Mustow



Cr Robert Hayes



Cr Steve Morrissey



Cr Daniel Simpson



Cr Col Sullivan

Your elected Councillors are available to listen to your concerns and can be contacted on the following details:

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You can have your say anytime by filling out a feedback form on the Contact Us section of www.richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au or email council@richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au.

