

Storm Boy Productions brings new possibilities to Woodburn region

Ask Storm Boy Productions Director, Wade Mackinnon to tell you a bit of his history, and you're in for a rollicking tale of adventure. From elite gymnast to intrepid snowboarder, to plumber, to fisherman, to youth worker, to film maker to events manager – the story will take you from the outer suburbs of Sydney, to the Northern Rivers, around the world, up to the remote aboriginal communities of Cape York and the Torres Straits, and finally to the peaceful surrounds of New Italy.

These days, Wade is in hot demand as a filmmaker and production manager – specialising in open-air cinema and the co-ordination of large-scale community programs and events.

“During the winter, I spend most of my time in the Far North, filming with Indigenous organisations in their dry season. During the summer I bounce between the Northern Rivers area and the larger cities, running outdoor cinema events and community engagement programs,” says Wade.

“This includes everything from live music to, large sports live feeds and live sites, guerilla marketing projections, to circus, large scale New Year's Eve & fireworks event, skate/surf comps – and everything in between,” he laughs.

This summer, Wade was instrumental in creating the Evan's Head Open Air Cinema program in partnership with several other local businesses, and the Richmond Valley Council. He is also passionate about the possibilities that can be created in his local Woodburn area.

“It's an exciting time for Woodburn at the moment, with the imminent diversion of the highway” continues Wade. “Without the constant thoroughfare of highway traffic to stimulate the local economy, Woodburn will have an opportunity and a responsibility to step up and create it's own events and image - to create a reason for people to choose to turn off the highway and come to visit”.

Storm Boy Productions, with its creative edge and breadth of experience in creating and facilitating large-scale events, could breathe the new life into Woodburn's economy as it makes this transition.

“I'm interested in creating business partnerships that will benefit everyone in the local area. I'm interested in thinking laterally about the future and engaging the community and tourism sector in new ways,” Wade concludes.

Connect with Wade at www.stormboyproductions.com.au.



President's message



This month the Chamber created a Facebook page to update members and the broader community with important news about Woodburn and the Chamber's activities. As we finalise this edition of **Woodburn NOW**, the page has 82 likes – let's make it a ton this month! See

www.facebook.com/woodburnchamber.

Daniel Simpson
President

Woodburn's community groups

Want to get out and about more in your community?

Country Women's Association (CWA) meets at 10am on the third Friday of the month in the CWA rooms in Woodburn. Contact Cate Field on 0429 434 742 or cwawoodburn@gmail.com.

Northern Rivers Water Ski Club meets at 7.30pm on the first Tuesday of the month at the Rod 'n' Reel and club days are at 7.30am on the third Sunday of the month at the Club House (the Ferryman's Cottage). Contact Marc on 0401 565 740 or northernriverswaterski@gmail.com.

Woodburn and District Garden Club Inc meets at 9.30am on the first Tuesday of the month at Caroon Village. Contact Chris Ryan on 0411 987 497.

Woodburn Event Team is a non-profit association organising events for the social benefit of the residents of Woodburn and surrounds. Membership open to interested individuals. Meetings as required for each project. For more info, contact the Secretary - Pam Bellingham 6682 2203 or 0414 953 879.

Woodburn Memorial Hall Committee is a s.355 committee of Richmond Valley Council looking after the day-to-day management of the Hall. Regular meetings quarterly, with occasional extra meetings. New members very welcome! For details contact the Secretary-Pam Bellingham 6682 2203 or 0414 953 879.

Woodburn Orchid Society meets at 1pm on the third Sunday of the month at the Woodburn Memorial Hall. Contact Mrs Merilyn Ensbey on 6682 6112 or merilyn.dude@bigpond.com.

Woodburn Pony Club has just had its sign-on day and will be active this year. Contact George Parker, President, on 6683 1903 for more information.

If your group is not listed, please email your group details to info@woodburnchamber.com.au to be included next time.

Don't miss a newsletter! For an electronic copy of future newsletters, email **SUBSCRIBE** to info@woodburnchamber.com.au

Woodburn NOW

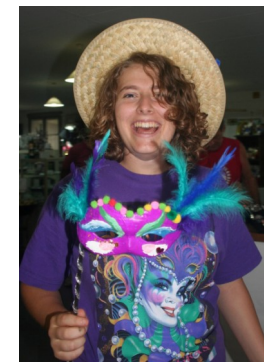
February 2016 Edition

In this edition:

2016 Carnevale Italiano—volunteering opportunities
Storm Boy Productions
Do towns survive being bypassed?
Thanks to Dianna Rice
Member update
Wakeboarding coaching clinic
Woodburn's community groups

Carnevale Italiano

On Sunday, 10 April, New Italy will hold its annual fundraiser and day of celebration, **Carnevale Italiano**. If you haven't been before, the day celebrates the original 50 pioneer families who made New Italy their home for over four decades and have since dispersed through the Northern Rivers and beyond. It is a day to taste, touch and participate in a day that celebrates "All Things Italian", with Italian food, music, wine and entertainment. It is also a great day to check out the museum and pavilion, attend mass and get together with the family for a fun day out.



A regular Carnevale Italiano volunteer

The organising committee gets together on a regular basis and we are always looking for interested members of the community to volunteer in the lead up to and during the day. We can promise an exciting day where you get to meet and work with other interesting people, plus we will shout you lunch and entry. If interested, please call Aliison on 0428 216 079.

Or just come along on the day and enjoy the carnival atmosphere. Entry fee \$8.00.

For more information, keep an eye on our Facebook page and website www.newitaly.com.au.

Text and photos courtesy of New Italy Museum Complex

Do towns survive being bypassed?



There's a recent literature review on the internet about the fate of communities impacted by highway bypasses. The overwhelming good news is that economic impacts are generally small overall and do not last long. However, small towns with <1,000 residents tend to have the greatest risk of negative impacts. One example at the bad end of the scale was Karuah, which saw about 15% of its businesses close by one year post-bypass and the others suffered decreased revenues.

The report states, "...the review highlights the importance of pre- and post- proactive planning to mitigate against any potential adverse losses is a necessary step in managing post-bypass change" (Parolin, 2011, p2). Woodburn has been waiting for the bypass for a long time. Now it's time to put thoughts into action and the Chamber is committed to making a positive contribution. In an upcoming edition of Woodburn NOW, the committee will put together a flow chart of the key stakeholders, their responsibilities and an anticipated approximate timeline of actions to clarify the process.

Reference:

Parolin, B (2011), "Economic Evaluation of Town Bypasses—Review of Literature", prepared for NSW RTA.

Thanks to Dianna Rice

Sadly, we have lost another committee member this month to distance, with the resignation of Dianna Rice. Dianna contributed to the Chamber in the role of minute secretary in 2013, President in 2014 and Treasurer (Casual) in 2015. When she moved south last year, she stayed on in latter role. Dianna's understanding of risk management and process was a valuable asset while the new committee found its feet. Her cautionary evaluation of actions was always a good reminder to reflect carefully on all decisions. On the other hand, take the time to chat with Dianna over a coffee and her commitment to, and enthusiasm for, the future of Woodburn could be engaging and infectious. We would like to thank Dianna for her work and commitment and wish her all the best in her new endeavours.

This newsletter is printed on 100% recycled paper.

Member update

The Committee had a busy first meeting of the year. Here are the more newsworthy outcomes of the meeting:

- Committee members discussed activities for 2016, in particular to re-invigorate activities after the holiday season, including sourcing funding for town upgrades and finding a new GP. Members also discussed the potential to employ someone half a day a week to undertake the role of secretary.
- Daniel introduced Ryan Gaiter, who has commenced in a newly-formed position of Manager, Evans Head for Richmond Valley Council. The role will function like an area manager. Ryan will be based in the Evans Head RVC office with a team of staff.



- Members finalised the revised draft Constitution ready for member consultation at the general meeting on 1 February.
- It was agreed it was important to create a Woodburn Chamber Facebook page as an additional means of communication with members and the broader community.
- Members started planning for the AGM in April, and discussed ways to promote Chamber membership prior to the AGM, such as a press release, radio interview and face-to-face.
- The committee agreed that the Chamber should consult with members regarding the opportunities and concerns arising from the temporary workers accommodation facility and make a submission on the DA before it closes on 3 February.

Some committee members also met with Mr Chris Gulaptis MP (Member for Clarence) and Mr Kevin Hogan MP (Member for Page) to discuss possibilities for funding. Key points were:

- It is important to have shovel-ready projects already prepared when funds become available.
- Council should develop the projects as they have the resources and expertise, and Regional Development Australia can assist.
- The most important role for the Chamber is to provide ideas for projects to Council, and to lobby Council to turn them into shovel-ready projects—stressing the importance of the town surviving the bypass.
- Funding opportunities arising from the sale of the poles and wires won't be available for another year. However, we should be active now to climb the ranks in priority for funding.
- Funding is available to help set up a GP and as an incentive for the GP to remain in a rural area, but not to fund a premises.

Recently, in Woodburn...

Wakeboarding coaching clinic

Northern Rivers Waterski club located on the banks of Richmond River, Woodburn held a wakeboarding coaching clinic on the 12th and 13th of December 2015. Malibu Boats and Axis Boats Australia attended with two coaching staff and two awesome boats.



26 local community riders including children attended the event with an abundance of smiles all around. The weekend was a huge success with many riders learning new skills and techniques to assist them with their riding.

Photos courtesy of the Northern Rivers Water Ski Club and text by Susan Winkler.

SAVE THE DATE

5.30pm, Monday, 14 March 2016—General Meeting

Special resolution to adopt a modified Constitution.

5.30pm, Monday, 11 April 2016—AGM

Details to come.

Woodburn NOW is compiled by
volunteers of the Woodburn Chamber



A voice for our community