

2016 memberships are DUE NOW!!

Why is membership important??

IMAGINE what we could do if every business and every resident joined the Chamber in 2016...



PEOPLE POWER! More members means...

- a greater chance of success when lobbying government for funding. We're a small town, but together we can have a loud voice!
- more brainpower—more ideas, more diversity, a clearer picture of Woodburn's future.
- more networking opportunities—for business and socially.
- more funds—whether to initiate new events or bring about new facilities, there's no doubt that more funds increases the Chamber's capacity. For example, we would love to employ a part-time worker to research and apply for grants and to facilitate the work of Chamber volunteers.

And on a personal level...

- You will be able to vote on the direction and activities that directly impact on our town.
- You will be eligible to run as a committee member.
- It can be fun and rewarding to be involved with your community!

Businesses...

- By joining the Woodburn Chamber, businesses automatically receive limited membership directly with the NSW Chamber. This means eligibility to the [Legal and Marketing Advice Line](#) and more.

Contact us at info@woodburnchamber.com.au for more information

Don't miss a newsletter! For an electronic copy of future newsletters, email [SUBSCRIBE to info@woodburnchamber.com.au](mailto:SUBSCRIBE@woodburnchamber.com.au)

President's message



I would like to take the opportunity to wish all our members and residents of Woodburn a very Happy New Year. I do hope the coming year brings good fortune and happiness to all. The start of a new year is a good time to reflect on what has happened in the past 12 months, look at the successes and shortcomings, and plot the course for the future.

This coming year is certainly an exciting one for Woodburn. The Bypass is no longer a pipe dream—it is now looming. Civeo Pty Ltd has lodged a DA for a temporary workers accommodation facility in town, which presents some unique challenges and opportunities for both our residents and businesses. The DA is on exhibition until 3 February and I would encourage all to have a look and make constructive comments on both the pros and cons of the development.

The Chamber will be working very hard this year to be a voice to all levels of government, to become more relevant to both businesses and residents, and is really looking to shape our future rather than just letting it happen.

You can help... Join and let us know what you think. We hope to see you at our next general meeting on 1 February.

Daniel Simpson
President



Woodburn 2016 Calendar

The Chamber Calendar is available now! This free, handy poster displays the contact number for many local businesses and other useful contacts such as Justices of the Peace and emergency services, and it highlights the school holidays and important dates such as the Orchid Society show dates, Woodburn Riverside Festival and Carols by Candlelight.

Pick up your copy from the Woodburn IGA, Rod 'n' Reel, Woodburn Newsagency, Woodburn Post Office or the Visitor Information Centre.



A voice for our community

January 2016 Edition

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Woodburn CWA competition

CRAFTY, creative people of all ages are being invited by the Woodburn Branch of the Country Women's Association to create something and enter it in the 2016 CWA Far North Coast Land Handicraft and Cooking Competition.



This is an annual competition, anyone can enter and could have their work shown with others at the state level.

Some of the creative items chosen to represent the Far North Coast at the 2015 State Handicraft Competition.

There are sections for Juniors up to Age 8, 9-13, and 14-18, and Sections for Men and Women.

If successful at Branch Competition, items go to the Competition Day on March 10 in Lismore.

Winning works then go on a NSW State Competition, to be held in Cowra in May 2016.

CWA take pride in promoting and passing on their love and knowledge of Creative Arts and Cooking - and this Competition is a major showcase of those skills and those of the people of the communities in which we live.

Local entries must be in by Friday February 5.

If you or your children would like to participate, please call Cate Field, Woodburn CWA Handicraft Officer, 0429 434 742 or email cwawoodburn@gmail.com for information.

Visions of Woodburn...

Here are two more ideas for Woodburn submitted by residents. **Please note** that these are “ideas in the raw” - any proposals will undergo thorough consultation with local businesses and residents.

Thanks to everyone who has submitted ideas so far.
Send your ideas to info@woodburnchamber.com.au.

Bob May submitted lots of ideas this month, from drone and kite flying demonstrations and skate-boarding competitions, to houseboat hire and river cruises. Here’s a little more information on two of his ideas...

Meet the local artist

How about a two-day “Meet the Local Artist” exhibition in the Woodburn Memorial Hall? Bob suggested ten or so local artists and craftspeople could each set up a “mini-exhibition and studio” in the hall.

Setting the scene, Bob thought that there could be an accompanying musician, while artists who wished to could demonstrate their skills at the easel as the day progresses.

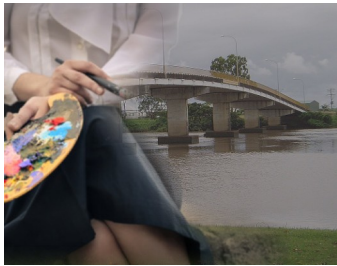
The artists could pay a nominal fee to participate and there could be a modest door charge --- just enough to cover the hall rental. Great idea, Bob!

Disc golf in the Riverside Park

Bob also mentioned that Ballina Council is proposing to establish a course for

“disc golf” in the Bicentennial Gardens. According to an article in the Ballina Advocate, the game is “like traditional Golf but played with Frisbees”. While he thought it may not quite work for

the Riverside Park, we agreed that it’s worth throwing around all ideas - it may spark the imagination and the best ideas of all!



Member update

The Chamber held its last general meeting for 2015 and its Christmas Party on Monday, 30 November at the Rod ‘n’ Reel. Members discussed a little business over yummy nibbles and stayed on afterwards for a thoroughly pleasant social chat.



- It was clarified that the Bypass Action Group’s focus is to help local communities survive and thrive post-bypass. It has a facilitative role, ie towns brainstorm ideas for infrastructure and events and bring them to meetings to see how ideas can be optimised, eg joint ventures or avoiding duplications/clashes.
- It was suggested the Chamber could interact more with the schools, eg the Chamber could provide a prize for a project on how students envisage the future of Woodburn.
- It was advised that John Walker supports building an orchid house in Woodburn and is open to Council contributing funds, if available. Members were also supportive of this initiative.
- Guest presenter, Brian O’Farrell, President of the Evans Head Chamber, shared the experience of his Chamber in 2015. It was a highly successful year, with many new members and the appointment of a dedicated tourism manager. It raised money through advertisements in the Evans Head tourism brochure. They are looking for joint tourism projects with neighbouring towns. Meetings are held at 7.30 pm on the third Wednesday of the month and are kept to one hour.
- Brian advised that the Evans Head Chamber would like the Trustums Hill interchange to be moved to Evans Head Road. Members discussed the pros and cons of each location.

Thanks to Melissa Kemp

We regret to advise that Melissa Kemp resigned from the Management Committee this month. Melissa stepped up to the task of Chamber Secretary in August 2014. She did a great job in this busy role over the following year, organising the regular general meetings and breakfast meetings with guest presenters, and helping to establish processes for the new Chamber Management Committee. She resigned from the role of Secretary in September last year, but stayed on the committee as an ordinary member while new members were brought up to speed. We take this opportunity to express our thanks to Melissa for her time and hard work over the past 18 months.

General Meeting, Monday, 1 February 2016

5.30pm Woodburn Chamber Constitution

At the AGM in 2015, the Chamber voted to adopt the 2010 Model Constitution on which to base a targeted constitution. The Management Committee then drafted changes to make it specific to the Woodburn Chamber. The changes in the draft were largely based on the constitution of Evans Head Chamber, which had a highly successful year in 2015 (see Member Update for more details). The draft was circulated for comment, updated and recirculated. The current Committee would like to acknowledge the significant amount of work that was undertaken in this process.

In order to adopt a revised constitution, support is required from at least three quarters of votes cast. Therefore, the Committee feels it is appropriate to undertake a further round of consultation. It is important that the constitution is adopted to provide clarity before the AGM in April, and so that the Chamber can get on with core business. The timeline and approach for the consultation will be:

- On Thursday, 28 January, members will be emailed supporting documentation for the meeting on 1 February.
- At the general meeting on Monday, 1 February, the Committee will present relevant sections for discussion.
- Feedback will be gathered at the meeting, and members can submit comments by email until 5pm on Friday, 12 February.
- The Committee will incorporate changes that further strengthen the constitution.
- On Friday, 19 February, the Committee will email out the final draft Constitution, along with 21 days notice of a general meeting on 14 March and the terms of a special resolution to adopt the targeted constitution.

Please email info@woodburnchamber.com.au if you have any questions regarding this process.

6.30pm Temporary workers accommodation facility

The Development Application for the Woodburn temporary workers accommodation facility is available on the Richmond Valley Council website and is open for comment until Wednesday, 3 February 2016. The Chamber will make a submission after consultation with members. Please come along and have your say. The Committee will be asking Civeo Pty Ltd to attend and will provide updates on our new Facebook page (www.facebook.com/woodburnchamber).