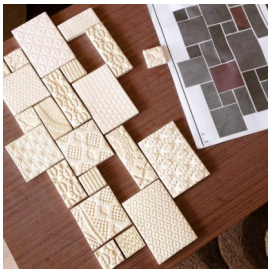


Happy 1st anniversary, Brony!

It's the first anniversary of Brony's Studio and Shop, and Brony has plans. She's shifting focus to bespoke handmade tiles. Brony has an eye for colours, shapes and textures that is simply stunning. At the moment, she's experimenting on her TV cabinet, but she sees the potential for splashbacks and walls. Ambitiously, she dreams of tiling the toilet block if she could secure a grant.



Changing focus comes with a steep learning curve, but Brony is brave. She feels it's better to move forward and risk failure than do nothing.

Bespoke tiles will appeal to a different market to jewellery, which has been

the mainstay of her business to date. She has ideas to tailor the layout of the shop and it'll be exciting to watch the developments in the coming months.

Brony's optimistic about Woodburn post-bypass. She's witnessed people stop in Woodburn specifically to buy a pie from the shop where she works part time. Nonetheless, she sees that we have to make the right impression now to attract people off the highway in the future. Today, visitors to Woodburn may be tired and stressed from travel and traffic and parking. She believes that, if we make an impact now and make people welcome, there's a greater chance they'll visit again.

On brainstorming ideas for Woodburn, Brony had some great suggestions. One idea is more seating and planter boxes in front of the shops. She said visitors often ask why there aren't more seats for people who don't want to or can't cross to the park. However, Brony's studio overlooks the Woodburn bridge and this has sparked a bold idea. She pictures the bridge painted with a cool theme, perhaps inspired by Bundjalung - now that would be worth pulling off the highway to visit!

To see the range of Brony's beautiful work and support one of our local businesses, visit Brony's shop and like her page at www.facebook.com/bronystudioandshop.



Know your town...



Did you know that Richmond Valley Radio 88.9fm now has its studio right here in Woodburn?

You can request a song, advertise and even volunteer to be involved. They don't charge for community announcements and promote any community event in the Richmond Valley. For more information, check out their website at <https://www.radio889.org.au>



9am-3pm, Sunday, 13 March 2016

Trash & Treasure Sale, Woodburn Memorial Hall

For enquiries and books, please phone:

Glenn Crawford: 6682 2032 / Pam Bellingham: 0414 953 879

5.30pm, Monday, 14 March 2016

Woodburn Chamber General Meeting

Members will vote on two special resolutions:

- Change the name of the Woodburn Chamber of Commerce to the Woodburn Business and Community Chamber Inc.
- Adopt a modified Constitution specific to the Chamber.

We'll also be discussing "projects and activities that offer clear public benefit" that the Chamber could apply for under the FRRR Small Grants for Rural Communities program (up to \$5,000). Ideas so far include setting up a landcare group, encouraging recycling in town and fencing for the park. If you have ideas or can contribute, please come along to the meeting.

9.30am, Sunday, 10 April 2016

2016 Carnevale Italiano—New Italy Museum Complex

5.30pm, Monday, 11 April 2016

Woodburn Chamber AGM/General Meeting—details to come.

Woodburn NOW is compiled by volunteers of the Woodburn Chamber and printing is sponsored by local business



A voice for our community

Woodburn NOW

March 2016 Edition

In this edition:

President's message

Submission on the temporary workers village

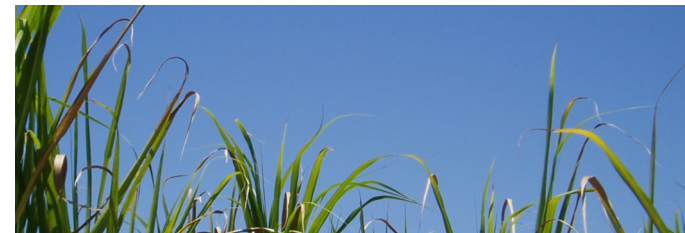
New time for CWA meetings

Happy 1st anniversary, Brony!

Member update

Know your town—88.9fm

Coming soon



New time for CWA meetings!

Ok, grab your calendars! Check your availability! Woodburn CWA has decided to change our Meeting Day! We will now meet the 2nd Monday each month from 10.00am in the CWA Rooms.

CWA stands for Country Women's Association. Country as in the great country we live in - not that you have to live in, or live a 'country' life. So any woman over 18 can join and become part of an organisation that has lobbied for changes that have enhanced the lives of all of us in Australia for over 90 years, and has been there to support and bolster women's confidence and skills on many levels. Many Branches have generational members, how fabulous is that? These women recognise the role CWA can play in their lives, and in local, state, country and worldwide communities.

Why not come and find out what CWA can do for you, and what you can do through CWA for the world around you? So, if Fridays just didn't work for you, but Mondays will, please contact Fiona on 0403 841 330 or email cwawoodburn@gmail.com.



President's message



As you will read in this newsletter, the Chamber made a submission to Council about the temporary workers village development application. Members are generally supportive, as long as key issues are addressed. The DA is due to go before Council soon and the Chamber will post relevant updates that we receive on Facebook. If the village is approved, the Chamber will strive to influence all stages of the development to optimise the benefits for Woodburn's residents and businesses and be responsive to issues as they arise.

Daniel Simpson

President

Temporary workers accommodation

Chamber submission on the DA (10 February 2016)

The Chamber made the following submission to Council on the temporary workers accommodation facility:

The Woodburn Chamber of Commerce held an information meeting at the Rod 'n' Reel Hotel on Monday, 1st February 2016 regarding the Development Application for a Temporary Workers Village. Present at this meeting were representatives of Civeo who presented information on the proposed development and answered questions from the floor of approximately 25 people, including over a dozen Chamber members. Following this, the Chamber resolved by consensus to make a submission on the proposed development.

A draft submission was circulated to the chamber's 26 business members and 6 individual members for comment prior to final submission.

The Members of the Woodburn Chamber of Commerce present at the meeting expressed a view that they support the proposed development, with some reservation. It was the view of those present that Council should place conditions on the development to address the concerns listed below. In addition, it was the view of the meeting that whilst it is evident businesses will benefit from the proposed development, the community at large should also see benefits and that any contributions paid to Council should be spent directly back in the town.

1) Parking - Concern was raised about offsite parking. It was agreed that members would not like to see parking in Cedar and Duke Streets. The view of the meeting was that alternate arrangements should be made for overflow parking and that the responsibility for this should be Civeo's. One possible location discussed was near the oval.

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2) Flood management - The developer should have a plan of management in place to deal with a potential flood. Arrangements should be in place that see all vehicles and people are removed from town once notification is received that a flood is likely.

3) Traffic movements during school zone times - It was the view of the meeting that traffic movements should be undertaken on routes that do not pass through school zones and/or are outside of school zone times.

4) Noise - Concern was raised in regards to additional noise levels, especially for people residing adjacent to the village. Civeo should be required to put in place appropriate noise mitigation measures that would manage these concerns. An open and transparent process for residents to make complaints and have them dealt with should be in place. It was suggested that the site should have a single point of contact for residents and that this should be advertised by way of a large sign at the site about how residents can raise concerns.

5) Stormwater - There was some concern that the current stormwater plan may not be adequate and that Council should ensure that excess stormwater run-off was not simply put into the streets, as the current drainage is already insufficient.

6) Redwood Lane - The current condition of Redwood Lane connecting Cedar Street and Duke Street is poor. It is feared that traffic movements associated with this development could negatively impact its already poor condition and that Civeo should be required to "make good" redwood lane.

7) Anti-social behaviour - While it was understood that workers will go home during extended rainy periods, there was concern about the lack of recreational facilities for 278 people.

8) Pressure on resources - There was significant concern about the pressure on local resources, especially with a significant elderly population in town. In particular, there was concern about the availability of local doctors.

If the above concerns are addressed, members felt that it would be preferable to have a village operated by an organisation experienced in managing a temporary village, rather than workers being dispersed in individual rental accommodation. They could see the benefit of workers abiding by an appropriate plan of management and code of conduct, and that the village could reduce the pressure on rental accommodation and other local resources.

Yours sincerely

Daniel Simpson

President

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This newsletter is printed on 100% recycled paper.



Member update

by Pam McGeary

The Chamber held its first general meeting of 2016 on 1 February and there was a great turnout, despite the heat. For the first hour, members discussed the Chamber's Constitution and it was inspiring to hear the robust and respectful debate. The committee was grateful for the constructive input and a revised Constitution was drafted and circulated. Members will vote on its adoption by special resolution at the next general meeting.

Next on the agenda was the proposed temporary workers village for Woodburn. Three representatives from Civeo gave a presentation and took questions regarding the village. Chamber members stayed behind to discuss the pros and cons of the development. A submission was drafted based on the discussion and circulated to members for comment. The final submission is included in this newsletter.

On 11 February, I attended a Digital Activation Plan workshop to represent the Woodburn Chamber. It was conducted by the Digital Economy Group on behalf of Regional Development Australia. The main aim of workshop was to identify priorities for the region. The top three identified at the workshop were lobbying for funding to address reception black spots, finding community leaders to champion the digital economy, and education/training for small business.

The key idea I received from the workshop was that we must face reality—we are living in the "age of disruption". If we equip ourselves with the relevant skills, there are great opportunities in the new environment. If we don't, others will take those opportunities. More details included in the electronic copy of Woodburn NOW.

On 19 February, the committee approved sponsorship for the Woodburn-Evans Head District Orchid & Foliage Society of \$100 for each of its May and September Orchid Shows in 2016.

On 25 February, I attended the NR Local Chamber Forum in Ballina. Key messages that I gained from the Forum include:

- NORTEC provides some excellent 1-on-1 and group advisory and mentoring services and tools for businesses at a reasonable cost.
- NSW Business Chamber services such as the various advice lines are underutilised. The Woodburn Chamber can look at better explaining the relevant benefits to its members.
- The 21st Commonwealth Games 2018 at the Gold Coast is a significant tourism opportunity for the Northern Rivers.
- Actions are being taken to market the Northern Rivers as the "Green Coast" to give the region a strong identity. I think this is a very smart idea—with Australia's colours being green and gold, it ties in with our neighbours at the "Gold Coast", and simultaneously reflects the rural and environmental dimensions of the region. More details included in the electronic copy of Woodburn NOW. Last but not least, this month we put the Chamber accounts into MYOB dating back to 2015 to help streamline financial reporting.

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