

Agribusiness Newsletter

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June 2021 Newsletter

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As we continue to advocate on behalf of our local businesses through agency subcommittees in the wake of the flood disaster recovery we would like to know if there are any continuing or emerging issues as a result.

Please contact Ali Briggs directly with this information via ali.briggs@kempsey.nsw.gov.au

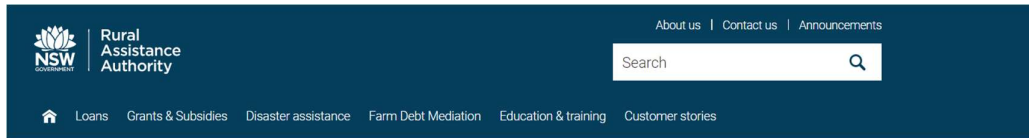
Update on Stuarts Point

Groundwater pumping operations within Stuarts Point ceased the week before last. Council informed Department of Primary Industries of this. The operations were in place since late March to ensure that properties were not further inundated allowing residents to return and stay in their properties, and to provide for effective operation of onsite sewage management systems. The pumping operations were initiated in close liaison with the EPA, NSW Health and the Local Emergency Operations Controller.

Throughout the pumping operations water quality testing was undertaken within the estuary at Stuarts Point. Negligible impact on water quality as a result of the ground water pumping operations was observed. Following flooding events periods of lower water quality may be expected.

GRANTS

Flood Recovery Grants



Recovery grants of up to \$75,000 are available for eligible primary producers and up to \$50,000 are available for eligible small business or not-for-profit organisations.

For information on available recovery assistance for primary producers, visit the [NSW Rural Assistance Authority website](#). For information on available recovery assistance for small business, visit the [Service NSW website](#).

Rural Property Numbering Program

Could the police, ambulance or fire brigade find your house in the event of an emergency?

As part of their ongoing Recovery efforts, Kempsey Shire Council is issuing and installing free property numbers to owners of eligible properties located outside the shire's towns and villages who apply through Council's Rural Property Numbering Program.

Residents should go to Council's website to check if their property is eligible via an interactive map and then submit an application.

Council's Recovery Coordinator, Jo McGoldrick, said the simple addition of property numbers which are easily visible from the road could make a difference between saving and losing lives and homes.

"During the Black Summer Bushfires it became apparent that emergency services, particularly the NSW RFS crews, were having trouble identifying people's properties due to no clear numbers being displayed," she said.

"Currently, rural addresses are made up from all different types of identification and descriptions that assume local knowledge.

"This causes confusion, delays and inconvenience for emergency services and the delivery of goods and services. A standardised means of locating rural properties with a system that is accurate, easy to understand, and easy to apply, can make all the difference in quickly locating your house or your neighbours' house in an emergency."

Council received funding under the Federal Government's Drought Communities Program to provide and install the numbers on a large number of properties.

"We're encouraging residents to check their eligibility and apply for a number. The program is free but there are a limited amount of numbers available so get in quick," Ms McGoldrick said.

For more information on the program and to find the interactive map and fill out an application form [click here](#).

Alternatively, phone Council's Customer Service Centre on 6566 3200.



Looking for partners: World-first yield forecasting technology offers avocado growers 93% accuracy

Accurate yield forecasts are essential for determining avocado harvest requirements. However, estimating how many fruit you will pull from a tree has been anything but easy. With the support of Hort Innovation, the University of New England (UNE) has developed an app that delivers far greater accuracy and makes it easier for avocado growers to do just that. UNE's CropCount team is now looking for partners to help scale CropCount to bring this advantage to other tree crop producers.

[More information here.](#)

Quad Bike Training



The advertisement features a yellow and blue color scheme. At the top left are the NSW Government and SafeWork NSW logos. At the top right is the Tocal College logo with RTO 91166. The main headline 'GET QUAD SAFE' is in large blue letters on a yellow background. A blue circular badge says 'FREE HELMET with training'. Below this is a photo of a person on a quad bike. To the right of the photo is a list of training dates for June 2021. At the bottom, there is a blue banner with 'Free training!' and a link to the college website. A table of contact information for various Tocal College campuses is also included.

NSW GOVERNMENT | SafeWork NSW

Tocal COLLEGE RTO 91166

GET QUAD SAFE

FREE HELMET with training

Upcoming training

JUNE 2021

- Grafton - 8 June 2021
- Coffs Harbour - 9 June 2021
- Kempsey - 10 June 2021
- Dorrigo - 11 June 2021

Free training!

Check your eligibility and register your interest now at tocal.nsw.edu.au

Tocal COLLEGE RTO 91166

Enquiries and registrations:

PATERSON HUNTER VALLEY AND GREATER SYDNEY 1800 025 520	TAMWORTH NORTHERN NSW 02 6763 1285	YAMCO SOUTHERN NSW 1800 626 422	TRANGLE CENTRAL AND WESTERN NSW 02 6580 8023
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For information on other upcoming courses see www.tocal.nsw.edu.au/courses

Trouble finding staff?

RDA Mid North Coast will be hosting an Industry Round Table on **Thursday 24th June**.

The round table is designed to hear directly from local employers to better understand your concerns and roadblocks surrounding workforce development.

[RSVP to the event today](#)

For further information, please contact Janine Culnane, Employment Facilitator via email on facilitatormnc@localjobs.net.au or by phone at 0409580741.

Rural Recovery Team - Hay Run - Kempsey



Rural Recovery Team (RRT) supported 75 Mid-North Coast farmers with more than 700 bales of hay and silage through the Farmers Community Connect event in Kempsey. Donated by Southern Highlands farmers and distributed through RRT, the relief will go towards the recovery and rebuilding process on the mid-north coast.

Designed to be a feel-good day for the farmers and local community, the events bring together mental health support, rural financial counselling, veterinary support and other local support providers all while the recipients share a bite to each, and a coffee with their neighbours.

RRT Director Lester Sharples said that the events were as much about bringing the community together as the hay donations.

“Farmers have done it tough these last few years as they’ve battled through a long-standing drought, bushfires and now to the other end of extremes; floods. Many farmers lost their fodder during this disaster, and as we enter the winter season, it is unlikely the fodder will replenish itself, so RRT stepped in to help.

“It’s been some operation pulling these events together, and when donating hay and silage, there is so much that can go wrong. After all these farmers have been through, we wanted to ensure they received only the best quality hay that meets the highest standard of nutrition,” Lester said.

“To give these farmers assurance, we had our expert team source high-quality hay and silage from the Southern Highlands and we engaged the NSW Department of Primary Industries to complete a standard nutritional fodder analysis, and test for nitrate, nitrite and prussic acid.”