

# It's easy being green



[ksc.pub/being-green](http://ksc.pub/being-green)

## There's a new invader in town, Long Leaf Willow Primrose!

The invasive aquatic weed has made its way into the shire and is causing quite a stir. Residents are asked to be on the lookout for this weed and other high priority weeds to do their part in preventing its spread. This includes not using machinery involved in cleaning drains in areas where the weed exists until it has been thoroughly cleaned on site.

Remember, you can report any infestations of weeds to Council's Weed Officers who can assist in managing and preventing them from spreading.

**Call Council on 6566 3200**



## No go in the FOGO

The NSW EPA has changed what can go in your green and kitchen caddy bins, sometimes called the Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) bins.

Only food waste, organic garden waste, and the supplied corn starch kitchen caddy bags are allowed.

Sorry, cardboard, shredded paper and pizza boxes, you'll have to find a new home. If the green bin is contaminated we have to put the whole lot in landfill... what a waste of good waste!

This may seem a bit inconvenient, but it's all for the greater good of reducing contamination in the green bin and keeping harmful nasties out of the environment.

**Check what goes in which bin at [ksc.pub/a-z](http://ksc.pub/a-z) or on the KSC Waste App.**



Let your phone **sort your bins**

[ksc.pub/wasteapp](http://ksc.pub/wasteapp)



## Meet Maria River Road Jan How can YOU keep Jan and his mates safe?

Jan, pronounced Yarn, the little joey was lucky to have been saved by a kind-hearted driver who saw him just in time to avoid a serious accident on Maria River Road. Thanks to the driver's quick action, Jan was given a second chance at life. Although he was in a bad way, the staff at the Koala Hospital were able to nurse him back to health with their expert care and attention. He has thrived under the care of his new family at the Koala Hospital, spending his day basking in the sunshine. In his early days, he was known as the little koala with the big belly because of his love for fresh leaves and tasty treats.

Jan's story shows we can all make a difference in the lives of animals by taking simple precautions on the road.

To reduce the likelihood of koala vehicle strikes, drivers should:

- Slow down, especially at dawn and dusk
- Be more vigilant when driving through known koala areas
- Take note of roadside warning signs
- Be aware that wildlife can be hidden by road crests and corners
- Always obey speed limits
- Take extra care between August and February when males are moving around in search of new territory and mates



Photo courtesy of Koala Conservation Australia Ltd.

If you do hit an animal or see a sick or injured one, call WIRES on 1300 094 737, FAWNA on 02 6581 4141, or Port Macquarie Koala Hospital on 02 6584 1522.

By taking it easy and remaining vigilant, we can help Jan and friends stay safe and happy in the beautiful Macleay Valley.

## Water for Willa for good

Council is constructing a new water treatment plant in Willawarrin, set to provide safe and clean drinking water for residents. The \$4 million plant is expected to be completed in 2024 and is funded by Council and the NSW Government's Safe and Secure Water Program.

## No more woes with river flows: Bellbrook river gauge upgraded

The river gauge at Bellbrook has been successfully upgraded and is fully operational. The new gauge uses water pressure to measure the river's height and can transmit data more efficiently thanks to new communications wiring.

This is part of the extensive network of gauges monitoring river levels in our shire.

Manly Hydraulics Lab service the river gauge network to ensure it remains in working order.

Residents can read river heights on the Bureau of Meteorology and Manly Hydraulics Lab websites.

**Head to [ksc.pub/river-level](http://ksc.pub/river-level)**

Message from the General Manager

# Keeping the Macleay green, clean and pristine



Craig Milburn

Despite the challenges we've faced over the past few years, I am proud of the progress made to help our environment thrive.

We've had natural disasters impact our shire more frequently, and this has had a significant impact on both our community and our environment. But our shire has made great strides in rehabilitation and preparing for the future.

This progress hasn't just been the result of Council's hard-working staff, but also due to the support from our community. We share the same environmental vision, and we're all working together to ensure that the Macleay Valley can be enjoyed by future generations. Council has adopted both a Biodiversity Strategy and a Sustainability and Resilience Strategy, which prioritise working with the community and businesses to protect and conserve the environment for years to come.

We've been working on activities like switching to energy-efficient LED street and sports fields lighting, working with the Koala Recovery Partnership to conserve and protect koala habitat, and rehabilitating degraded lands to become havens for wildlife.

**I really recommend you make the trip to Boyters Lane Wetland at Jerseyville - you'll see it is a haven for wildlife.**

When Council purchased this land to turn it into sports fields, it was a degraded dairy farm but it was soon discovered to contain three Ecological Endangered Communities.

Council with the help of South West Rocks Dune Care has rehabilitated this land. It now boasts over 15,000 native trees and shrubs, 2 km of walkways, and a bird hide and environmental information hut.

With the community's continued support, I'm sure there will be more initiatives like this in future..



## Save money Save the environment

- ✓ Replace lights in high use areas with LED globes
- ✓ Adjust air con to 19°C in winter, 24°C in summer
- ✓ Plan meals and shopping lists to limit waste
- ✓ Go solar for hot water and energy supply
- ✓ Close curtains and doors to stop draughts
- ✓ Wash full loads of laundry using cold water only
- ✓ Always turn off lights and unused appliances
- ✓ Install water efficient shower heads and fix leaks
- ✓ Shut off unused rooms when heating or cooling
- ✓ Remember reusable bags, store them in the car
- ✓ Reduce waste, reuse what you can and recycle

Find out more at [ksc.pub/sustainability](http://ksc.pub/sustainability)

Cut me out and stick me on your fridge



## Take 5 to understand your energy bill

Knowing the charges on your energy bill can help you save money and energy.

Your bill is calculated using a supply charge which is a fixed cost per day and a usage or consumption charge, calculated by how much electricity you use and when you use this energy. Together, these charges form your tariff.

You can save money can be picking the best times of day to use energy. For example, running your dishwasher in off peak hours costs less so it really pays to know when the peak times are. Check your plan to see if it offers off peak usage.

Another tip is to shop around for a cheaper energy contract.

Remember, the supply charge stays the same even if you use less energy, but you can search for a provider that charges less for consumption.

If you notice your bill is higher than the last, it could be due to:

- Increased use of heating or cooling
- Moving to a house that is less efficient
- Using appliances that use more energy.

With a little effort, you can save money and help protect the planet.

## On the road to EV charging

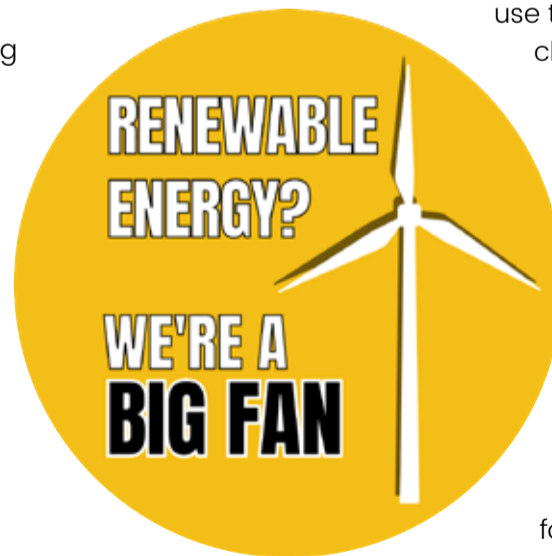
Those visiting the Slim Dusty Centre can not only enjoy the rich cultural exhibits and Slim Dusty Museum, but they can also charge up their electric vehicles.

The Slim Dusty Centre is now on the map as an electric vehicle charging destination,

with many travellers and residents stopping in to power up.

This addition comes following the installation of solar panels to power the centre.

In just a month, analytics showed that the panels produce enough energy to watch 56,499 episodes of a television series. You can find out how to make your home or business more sustainable, and what grants and rebates are available to do this at [ksc.pub/sustainability](http://ksc.pub/sustainability).



Want to know more about living sustainably?  
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