

Kogarah City Council

27 January 2016

COUNCIL COMMUNITY SERVICES WORKING PARTY

Council will hold its next Council Community Services Working Party in the Council Chambers, 2 Belgrave Street, Kogarah on Monday, 1 February 2016, commencing at 6:00pm.

I enclose your Agenda for the Meeting.



Paul Woods
General Manager

AGENDA:

A. Apologies

B. Disclosures of Interest

C. Reports from Officers

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Members of the Working Party

Cr George Katsabaris (Chairperson)
Cr Nick Aroney
Cr Nick Katris
Cr Kathryn Landsberry
Cr Jacinta Petroni
Cr Annie Tang (Deputy Mayor)

Paul Woods (General Manager)
Alison Murphy (Executive Manager
Community Services)

Kogarah City Council

To attend as required

Nicole Rogan (Coordinator Integrated Planning)
Bridget Keating (Events Coordinator)
Wilma Bancroft (Manager Library and Cultural Services)
Marisa Rodriguez (Manager Children's Services)
Daniella Cvetkovski (Minute Secretary)

Item C1: Events Report**Author:** Paul Woods - General Manager (BK)**Reason for report:** To provide a quarterly update on the progress of events.**Recommendation:**

That the report on recent and upcoming events (November 2015- February 2016) be received and noted.

Background

1. During the last quarter, the following events were held:

- Citizenship Ceremony;
- Mayoral Christmas Cheer;
- Magic of Christmas; and
- Australia Day celebrations.

Citizenship Ceremony

2. Council conducted a Citizenship Ceremony on Wednesday, 18 November 2015 at Council Chambers. Forty three new citizens were conferred.

Mayoral Christmas Cheer

3. On Thursday, 10 December 2015 members of the Kogarah community were invited to celebrate the Christmas season with the Mayor at the Captain's Lounge of Jubilee Stadium. The evening was an opportunity to thank those that contribute to the Kogarah community and Kogarah events.

Magic of Christmas

4. On Saturday, 12 December 2015 Council hosted the Magic of Christmas at Carss Bush Park between 5pm-8pm. The free children's entertainment was enjoyed by young families. Performers included The Minions, The Avengers including Spiderman and Iron Man, as well as traditional Christmas characters such as Santa, Mrs. Claus and Rudolph. Local performers included Endeavour Harmony Chorus, Harlow School of Dance and Kermond Creative Performers. Art & craft and food stalls also contributed to the success of the event.
5. Sponsors for the event included: Platinum Sponsor - Club Central Hurstville and Club Central Menai; Media Partners, ecoDesign ecoPrint and St George and Sutherland Shire Leader; Silver Sponsors – 3Bridges and Bexley Dental and In-Kind Supporters– Sizzler and NicePak. The State Emergency Service and St John Ambulance volunteers also contributed to the smooth running of the Magic of Christmas. Approximately 3,000 attendees participated in the event.

Item C1 (cont.)**Australia Day Celebrations**

6. On Tuesday, 26 January 2016 Council hosted annual Australia Day celebrations at Carss Bush Park between 10am – 9pm. The official proceedings began with an Acknowledgement to Country by Walangari Karntawarra. This was followed by the Australian Anthem sung by Endeavour Harmony Chorus and a flag raising ceremony by 1st Kyle Bay Sea Scouts. Councillor Stephen Agius (Mayor) hosted the official ceremony, introducing and presenting certificates to the Kogarah Australia Day Ambassador, Chef, Mr David Bitton and Citizen of the Year, Mrs Beverley Earnshaw. A traditional Citizenship Ceremony then took place for fifty new Australian Citizens.
7. Free entertainment was provided including performances by Hot Potato Band, Nickelodeon's Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Pasion Flamenco, Chiz Watson Singers, Ilinden Macedonian Dancers, TK Dancestars, Da Hong Martial Arts, Camille and Stuie, Matchbox Band and rock 'n' roll dancers, Tee Trio and Party Agents. Some of the activities on the day included 7D Interactive Mobile Cinema, multicultural food stalls, art and craft stalls and amusements. The evening finished with a spectacular fireworks display over Kogarah Bay.
8. Sponsors and contributors for this event included: Platinum Sponsor – Level 33 Pty Ltd; Media Sponsors - St George and Sutherland Shire Leader and Club Central Hurstville and Club Central Menai; Bronze Sponsors - Bexley Dental. Volunteer groups responsible for the further success of the event included the State Emergency Service, St John Ambulance, Botany Bay Yacht Club and 1st Kyle Bay Sea Scouts.

Future Events

The following events are planned for the next quarter:

- Citizenship Ceremonies:
 - Wednesday, 23 March 2016 (including Harmony Day Celebrations);
 - Wednesday, 4 May 2016;
 - Wednesday, 20 July 2016; and
- Music at Twilight Concert 1 – Wednesday, 13 April 2016.

Operational Plan Budget

9. Within budget allocation.

Attachments/Annexures

Nil.

End of Report

Item C2: Children's Services**Author:** Alison Murphy - Executive Manager Community Services (MR)**Reason for report:** To provide a quarterly update on Children's Services activities and programs.**Recommendation:**

That the report on Children's Services activities and programs for the period November 2015 to January 2016 be received and noted.

Background

1. Kogarah City Council's Children's Services is committed to the provision of a range of high quality services, as well as support for families and children in the broader community. The following report is an update on Children's Services activities and programs for the period November 2015 to January 2016.

Program Activities

2. Council's Children's Services have organised a number of activities that demonstrate our commitment to providing events that are significant to the families attending our Children's Services.
3. The following celebrations that have occurred to date include:
 - On 11 November 2015 Children's Services honoured Remembrance Day with one minute's silence. Teachers and children discussed the reason for the silence in the days prior to the event. Children and their families spoke about the significance of the day in the days following the event.
 - In the weeks commencing 7 and 14 December 2015, end of year celebrations and graduation ceremonies occurred across Children's Services. Small performances were conducted by the children across all age groups. This was an opportunity for families and educators to get together, share some food and discuss the events of the year. Parent feedback indicated a high level of satisfaction with these events.

Events and Activities

4. Children's Services continues to provide a range of activities, information and educational sessions that support families.
5. On 16 March 2016, the annual *Transition to School* information night will be held at Kogarah Library. The evening provides a range of information that aims to assist families to make decisions in regard to sending their child to primary school, how to best prepare children for school and details of services and support available for school aged children and their families.

Item C2 (cont.)

6. The presenters will be representatives from Carlton South Public School and St Raphael's Catholic Primary School, South Hurstville. Representatives from other local primary schools, local child care services, as well as support services such as the Kogarah Diagnostic and Assessment Service and Kogarah Before and After School Care will also be on hand to provide information and answer questions.

Operational Plan Budget Impact

7. Within budget allocation.

Attachments/Annexures

Nil.

End of Report

Item C3: Library Programs and Events**Author:** Alison Murphy - Executive Manager Community Services (WB)**Reason for report:** To provide an update on programs and events delivered to the community across the Council's three libraries.**Recommendation:**

That the report on the activities provided by Kogarah Library and Cultural Services from 1 November 2015 to 31 January 2016 be received and noted.

Background

1. Kogarah City Council libraries offer a range of services to the community and are a venue for a range of programs and events. The programs and events held in Council's libraries have been varied in content and style and primarily relate to literacy, lifelong learning and the development of creativity.

Programs and Events

2. On Thursday, 5 November 2015 author Tim Griffiths presented a talk about his book *'Endurance'* at Kogarah Library. *'Endurance'* is the incredible story of wartime photographer, adventurer and pioneer Frank Hurley, one of Australia's most fascinating heroes. Tim outlined his four years of research and how he brought Hurley to life in an evocative, revealing portrait, using fiction to explore the questions raised by his research. Forty people attended this author talk.
3. On Friday, 6 November 2015 Chinese author, Lanzi visited Kogarah Library and spoke to our Chinese speaking community about her book *'Songs of the Chu'* telling stories full of tears, happiness, families and careers. Nine people attended this discussion.
4. On Wednesday, 11 November 2015 the library's Local Studies Librarian led a Remembrance Day Walking Tour. The walk focused on places in Kogarah which were connected to the First World War, including the hall used for conscription debates, the site of the Kogarah Drill Hall and the places where troops were welcomed home after the War. The Kogarah War Memorial was also visited and participants learnt why there are no names on it. Eleven people attended the walking tour.
5. On Wednesday, 18 November 2015 authors Isaac Bacirongo and Michael Nest discussed their book *'Still a Pygmy'*. The book is a story of love, pride and prejudices that traces the journey of Ba Tembo Pygmy, Isaac Bacirongo from Central Africa to his settlement in Australia. This is the first memoir by a Pygmy author ever published. Twelve people attended this event.
6. On Wednesday, 18 November 2015 the Wednesday Youth Group celebrated International Gaming Day. Southern Battle Gamers set up a demonstration of games such as X-Wing and Zombicide. Participants also played Dungeons & Dragons. Twenty four young people attended this event.

Item C3 (cont.)

7. On Monday, 23 November 2015 library staff held an Australian Family History Research Workshop. The workshop focused on Australian information sources including convict and shipping records, newspapers, births, deaths, marriages, cemeteries and war service records. Nine people attended this workshop.
8. On Monday, 23 November 2015 and Tuesday 24 November 2015 Christmas eCard Workshops took place at Kogarah and Oatley libraries. Participants utilised tablet PCs and a range of mobile apps to design personalised Christmas greeting cards. The aim of the workshops was to help attendees gain new skills when using mobile devices and to raise awareness of the wide range of mobile apps and online tools available for designing creative content. The participants at both sessions found the presentation and content to be engaging and enjoyable. Seven people attended the workshops.
9. On Thursday, 26 November 2015 Kogarah Library and Cultural Centre celebrated its 10th birthday. Several events took place during the day. In the library foyer all library visitors were able to take part in a community art project. Local artist Don Kibble created a montage of the library that was coloured-in over the day. The completed montage is now displayed in the library. A special birthday story time took place with special birthday stories and a special birthday cake craft. Fifty people attended the story time. During the day the library's 3D Printer produced a 3D model birthday cake, and the local Book Chat group, International Games group, Oatley Writers group and Quilting group showcased their group's activities in the foyer. Eighty people shared the day's celebrations with library staff.
10. On Thursday, 3 December 2015 the Triple P Seminar, the Power of Positive Parenting, was held. Hosted by 3Bridges Community Centre this seminar was for parents of children aged two to twelve years and provided information on creating a safe, interesting and positive environment for children. Twenty seven people attended this seminar.
11. On Saturday, 28 November 2015, and Saturday, 5 December 2015 Kogarah Library and Oatley Library hosted Christmas Gift Wrapping sessions. Participants made Christmas bows and decorated Christmas gift bags. Twelve people attended these sessions.
12. On Friday, 11 December 2015 artist Marion Chapman presented a Watercolour Workshop. Marion taught the class how to create watercolour landscapes. The participants enjoyed being creative and watching their piece come together. Nineteen people attended the workshop.
13. On Friday 8, Wednesday 13 and Monday, 18 January 2016 at Kogarah, Oatley and South Hurstville libraries, young adults took part in LED postcard workshops where they learned about the history of postcards, discussed design principles and then utilised a range of collage materials, coloured pens, and simple electronics to decorate and transform postcards into small pieces of art. Nineteen young people attended the workshops.
14. On Monday, 11 January 2016, a screening of the movie '*Paper Planes*' was held at Kogarah Library. Afterwards, children were given their very own paper plane to take home and fold. Fifteen people attended this movie event.

Item C3 (cont.)

15. On Tuesday 12, Friday 15 and Friday 22 January 2016, 'Lost Worlds' story times were held at Kogarah, South Hurstville, and Oatley branches respectively, to promote the Summer Reading Club. The stories focused on the theme of dinosaurs and were aimed at young children. Afterwards, children enjoyed making a simple dinosaur craft. Sixty seven people attended these story times.
16. On Tuesday, 19 January 2015, library staff presented the art of weaving workshops at Kogarah and South Hurstville libraries. Children had fun engaging their fine motor skills to decorate baskets using different coloured ribbons to create unique designs. Thirty six children attended the workshops.
17. On Wednesday, 20 January 2015 the Library foyer came alive with children taking part in a World Dance Workshop. The participants learned a variety of international dances and enjoyed playing rhythms with percussion instruments. Twenty three children participated in this workshop.

Exhibitions

18. From Tuesday, 26 October to Sunday, 15 November 2015 the Kogarah Library Community Quilting Group held their annual exhibition at Kogarah Library. The group has been making quilts to be donated to local community organisations and charities for five years. The exhibition was launched on Tuesday, 27 October at 7pm and approximately fifteen people attended.
19. From Monday, 16 November 2015 to Sunday, 3 January 2016 local artist Susan Severino exhibited a collection of landscape works in oil and ink at Kogarah Library. Painted in far-western NSW, the exhibition entitled "Arid Presence", was a highly personal exploration of the physical and sensory phenomena encountered within Australia's arid zones. The exhibition was launched on Tuesday, 17 November 2015 at 6.30pm and approximately thirty five people attended.
20. From Monday, 4 January to Monday, 25 January 2016 the Chinese Australian Services Society (CASS) exhibited a collection of children's art in a variety of media. The artworks were produced by students from classes held in Kogarah by CASS.

Operational Plan Budget

21. Within budget allocation.

Attachments/Annexures

Nil.

End of Report

Item C4: Economic Development**Author:** Paul Woods - General Manager (AM)**Reason for report:** To provide an update on current Economic Development projects.**Recommendation:**

That the report on Economic Development projects for the period of December 2015 to February 2016 be received and noted.

Background

1. As part of Council's ongoing commitment to encouraging economic development and employment growth in Kogarah, the following activities have been undertaken to support businesses operating in the area.

Small Biz Bus

2. On Tuesday, 16 February 2016 the Small Biz Bus (facilitated by the NSW Small Business Commissioner) will be visiting Kogarah. The bus will be present at Montgomery Street, Kogarah (outside the St George Bank building) and operating from 8:30am to 3:30pm.
3. The Small Biz Bus is a mobile information and advisory service for small businesses. It's part of the Small Biz Connect business advisory program, funded by the NSW Government. The bus travels across NSW, connecting small business owners with advisors and services in their local community at no cost to them.
4. The bus will facilitate 45 minute business advisory sessions on-board at no cost to local small businesses. Advisors on board will be from the Business Enterprise Centre (BEC) Southern Sydney and will deliver the Small Biz Connect program in the Kogarah region on behalf of the Office of the NSW Small Business Commissioner along with the driver/host.
5. As part of Council's support for the Small Biz Bus, promotion of the event will be through the following methods:
 - Event listed on Council's website and events calendar;
 - Notification sent to local surrounding businesses prior to the event date; and
 - Promotion through Council's Economic Development database and stakeholder network.

BEC Starting a Business-Kogarah Workshops

6. On Tuesday, 22 March 2016, Tuesday, 5 July 2016 and Thursday, 20 October 2016 Council is supporting the BEC with their 'Starting a Business' workshops.

Item C4 (cont.)

7. The workshops will be held at the Jubilee Community Centre and facilitated by Geoff Silk, Business Advisor from the BEC Southern Sydney. This training is partially subsidised by the NSW Government and costs \$75 per participant. Council provides the training facility at no cost to the BEC.
8. These comprehensive workshops are suitable for anyone thinking about starting a new business or those who have been in business for less than six months and want to know more about starting their business on the right foot.

Economic Development – Business e-Newsletter and Database/Mailing List

9. Kogarah City Council recognises the importance that local businesses play in the community by contributing to economic development and employment growth for the City. Council aims to support local businesses by assisting in the effective distribution of information relevant to businesses in the local area through regular business e-Newsletters and business updates.
10. A Kogarah City Council business e-Newsletter is currently in the development stage.
11. On Tuesday, 8 December 2015 the first Economic Development – Business Update was e-mailed to current Business Mailing List subscribers, highlighting some of the latest news, information and events for businesses in the local area.
12. Council is currently working with the Australian Business Register (ABR) to extract business data in order to build a Kogarah City Council Economic Development Business Database/Mailing List. This database is currently in development.

Operational Plan Budget

13. Within budget allocation.

Attachments/Annexures

Nil.

End of Report