



Mount Isa Mail

February 9 – February 23, 2024 | FREE

The Wet Season is well and truly upon us, and of course with that comes challenges many from this region would be familiar with.

While Mount Isa was spared from the worst of the flooding in the past few weeks, we all here still felt its effects, with highway closures at Julia Creek and Winton affecting the normal delivery of groceries to Mount Isa for several days.

Fortunately a workaround was found. With the Barkly Highway to Camooweal still open, one major supermarket was able to get fresh produce and groceries up to Mount Isa, via its distribution centre in



Council Acting GEO Tim Rose

South Australia, earlier this month. Council, like the rest of the community, is grateful for the hard work that was put in to ensure fresh food and groceries were back on Mount Isa shelves as quickly as possible.

Thank you to everyone who attended and took part in the Sign On Expo earlier this month, as well as the Mount Isa

Australia Day Awards morning on January 26.

You'll find a full list of the award winners and more information about each recipient on the other side of this newsletter.

Despite the rainy weather during the Sign On Expo on February 3, a lot of people came through the gates of the Mount Isa Mines Entertainment Centre at Buchanan Park to attend this fantastic annual community event.

A reminder that Local Government elections are being held on Saturday, March 16.

Early voting will be available from Monday, March 4, or you

can vote on election day. The early-voting booth in Mount Isa will be located at the Mount Isa Civic Centre from March 4. It will be open from Monday to Friday, from 9am to 5pm, except on Friday, March 15, when it will be open until 6pm.

For a full list of voting locations and times, visit www.ecq.qld.gov.au.

If you're enrolled to vote, look out for a maroon-coloured voting card in the post. You can take this card with you when you go to vote to help you get in and out of the booth quickly.

Voting is compulsory for all Australian citizens aged 18 years or older.

What's Happening in The Isa?



Back at MITS Open Day

Date: Saturday 10 February 2024

Time: 7pm

Where: MITS Theatre, 16 Transmission Street



Mount Isa Community Markets

Date: Sunday 11 February 2024

Time: 8am-12 noon

Where: Isa Square, Simpson Street



BYO Community Craft Night

Date: Monday 12 February 2024

Time: 5.30pm-7.30pm

Where: QCWA Hall, 3 Isa Street



Beach Race Day

Date: Saturday 24 February 2024

Time: From 11am

Where: Mount Isa Race Club, 108 Simpson Street

Fires From Batteries

Council is urging residents to keep car batteries out of general rubbish, following several recent fires at the Waste Management Facility believed to be caused by car batteries disposed of improperly.

The most recent fire occurred in late November 2023, with Council requiring the assistance of Queensland Fire and Emergency Services to extinguish the blaze.

The fire broke out in one of the landfill cells about 6am and was extinguished by 2pm, and was caused by a spark emanating from a discarded battery within the refuse pile.

There were two more fires, on September 12 and 13, 2023.

In the September 12 incident, a fire in the landfill was sparked by a discarded car battery in the refuse pile. In the September 13 incident, a fire broke out in a rubbish-collection truck, believed to be due to a spark within the contents of the truck. Council urges residents to separate batteries from their household waste, in order for the batteries to be disposed of properly. Car batteries can be left in designated areas at the Waste Management Facility, and will be sent to Brisbane for recycling.

Did You Know?

- Home-security subsidies are available for Mount Isa seniors, thanks to the Queensland Government. Homeowners aged over 60 in Mount Isa may be eligible for subsidies for practical home security improvements. Find out more at www.qld.gov.au/housing/buying-owning-home/maintenance-modifications/maintenance-assistance/safer-homes. Eligible customers can apply by calling 13 74 68.

Multiple ARIA Award-winning Australian band **Eskimo Joe** are performing in Mount Isa for one night only, and tickets are on sale now. Purchase your tickets at www.eventbrite.com.au/e/eskimo-joe-tickets-823218668197. The concert will be held in the Civic Centre on Friday, July 26, from 7.30pm. The trio's hits include "Black Fingernails, Red Wine" and "From The Sea". Don't miss out – secure your tickets today.



Would you like to receive this free fortnightly newsletter straight to your email inbox? Scan this QR code with your smartphone camera to join Council's mailing list and keep up to date!

Latest Council News

Great Citizens Recognised

Rick Leeman is Mount Isa's Citizen of the Year for 2024. The announcement was made at the 2024 Mount Isa Australia Day Awards, which were held at the Civic Centre auditorium on Friday, February 26.

Mr Leeman is a proud member of the local Army reservists and a local snake handler, and is the epitome of the type of person who makes Mount Isa special.

He is always prepared to go out of his way to help people in a sticky situation, and the first to put his hand up to support all Gecko Outdoor Sports events. You will always see Rick at commemorative services held throughout the region, for example for Anzac Day, Veterans' Day, or Remembrance Day. He's always prepared to go above and beyond for anyone in need.

The Senior Citizen of the Year is **Pastor Keith Christie**. Every day, Pastor Keith runs and motivates a team of dedicated staff to try to involve as many members of the community as possible in Christian Outreach Centre Mount Isa's activities, such as its weekly youth outreach program, young adults' outreach, men's meetings, and social barbecues. His dedication to, and the work he does for and within, the Mount Isa community every single day is inspirational and commendable.



The Young Citizen of the Year is **Lianna Woodsbey**. Lianna is an inspirational young woman who has achieved amazing success and recognition over the past 12 months, receiving multiple awards and representing her school, workplace, Mount Isa, and the region with honour and pride.

She is undertaking a fulltime heavy diesel mechanical apprenticeship at local business Sandvik and has become a well-established and welcome part of the team. She is working towards her goal of becoming a dual qualified tradesperson.

The Senior Sports Award recipient is **Katelyn Hankin**. Katelyn was born and raised in Mount Isa and is an amateur boxer. She has competed in the sport for almost three years. She has achieved so much in this short period of time, thanks to all of the hard work and dedication she has put into the sport. Katelyn is a great role model to young people in Mount Isa.

The Junior Sports Award recipient is **Maleya Raitava**.

Now aged 11, at the age of 10, Maleya became the youngest nationally accredited netball umpire in Queensland, and possibly Australia. Maleya started her umpiring journey in 2022 aged just 9, when she was identified by her coach as having the maturity and knowledge of the rules to commence mentoring. She gained her national accreditation in 2023.

Maleya's long-term aspiration in umpiring netball is to umpire as high as the Suncorp Super Netball level, or the Olympics.

The Community Event of the Year is the **2023 Mount Isa Show**. The two-day annual event, which is run by a team of volunteers, was held in June and played a vital role in helping Mount Isa celebrate its 100th year, providing an opportunity for residents to showcase our amazing community.

The 2023 event had record-high entries in the pavilion categories of arts, photography, cooking and horticulture.

The Arts and Culture Award recipient is **Brian Adamson**.

A born-and-raised Mount Isa, Brian has a passion for photography and local history that started at a young age.

Waiting to preserve Mount Isa's history, he started collecting photos and memorabilia in 1988 and established the North Queensland History Collection. Now with more than 30,000 images and 207 items, each year Brian exhibits his collection at the Mount Isa Show and the Mount Isa Multicultural Festival. Brian is also a member of the Mount Isa Underground Hospital and Museum volunteer team and plays an important role photographing and cataloguing the collection.

The Spirit of Mount Isa Award recipients are **Erica Shaw, Chris Pocock, Jacob Takurit, and James Derrick**.

The Sarus Crane 2024 Award recipient is the **Sundowners Kalkatungu Dancers**. This group has dedicated their time to learning the traditional dance of their ancestors and continues to share and preserve their culture and heritage with their youth.

They also showcased their culture on a national stage at DanceRite 2023, an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander dance competition held in at the Sydney Opera House in November 2023.

Out and About and Council Updates

FREE PLANTS: Free Plant Day is back for 2024, and registrations are now open.

You can register to secure your own native plants by signing up at www.surveymonkey.com/r/Freeplantday2024.

Registrations will be open until Friday, March 22.

The Free Plant Day collection day will be held on Saturday, May 25, from 8am-5pm at Buchanan Park.

Participants are kindly asked to ensure they are available to pick up their plants on that day, or that a family member is available to collect them on their behalf. Camooweal residents will be contacted separately regarding pick-up times and locations.



DECORATIVE: Have you seen the new skins that are covering the bins in the CBD? The design was completed by artist Renae Carson. The skins also feature contact information for local and national domestic and family violence organisations, including 1800RESPECT, Kids Helpline, Centacare North Queensland, and the North Queensland Domestic Violence Resource Centre.

The bin skins are the result of an art project run with the PCYC Mount Isa and thanks to the TRACC (Tackling Regional Adversity through Connected Communities) program.

Fridge magnets with the same information were also created and will be distributed in the community, providing residents with easier access to contact information for support resources.

Council's focus was to address domestic and family violence issues in Mount Isa.