



Alstonville High School Newsletter

Developing future citizens and leaders of the community – life long learning!

Cawley Close Alstonville

Phone: (02) 6628 5222

Fax: (02) 6628 1223

Web: alstonvill-h.schools.nsw.gov.au

Email: alstonvill-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Issue 18

05 December 2018

Alstonville High School

Our community values integrity
in all aspects of life

We value and support:

- A positive, healthy and safe learning environment
- Respectful attitudes and actions
- Diversity
- Pursuit of personal excellence
- Service to community
- Team work
- Quality learning and teaching
- Initiative, leadership and self-discipline

We aspire to be:

- Life-long learners
- Creative and critical thinkers
- Effective communicators
- Skilled in literacy and numeracy
- Independent and organised
- Competent and innovative with technology
- Environmentally, socially and culturally informed
- Caring and compassionate

REMINDER

ALSTONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL 2018 AWARDS PRESENTATION

**ASSEMBLY – YEARS 7, 8, 9,
10 AND 11**

WHEN: MONDAY

17 DECEMBER

TIME: 9:15am to 11:00am

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

17 December	Monday	2018 Awards Presentation Assembly – 9:15am – 11:00am
18 December	Tuesday	All students Alstonville Pool Activities
19 December	Wednesday	Last Day Term 4
2019		
29 January	Tuesday	Term 1 First day Staff
30 January	Wednesday	Term 1 First day Year 7, 11 and 12
31 January	Thursday	Term 1 First day Year 8, 9 and 10
6 February	Wednesday	Alstonville High School Swimming Carnival
8 February	Friday	Whole school photos
15 February	Friday	Catch up school photos

Our strategic guiding question:

- How can we ensure that our students achieve at least one year's worth of learning growth from one year's worth of teaching?

Final Newsletter for 2018

It is hard to believe that we are coming to the end of another school year. 2018 has been a big year for Alstonville High School. Over the year we have seen:

- The completion of the front of school project – a sometimes contentious project but now that it is finished the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.
- We have had a significant upgrade to other school facilities including new roofing on about one third of the school, upgrades to the science lab, prep rooms and darkroom. This work will continue in 2019 with further major works planned.
- We have introduced Steps to Success, the Alstonville Certificate of Excellence and new syllabuses in Year 11.
- We have continued our focus on improving the way we use assessment, with a particular focus on formative assessment (understanding student learning as they go about the task of learning new material rather than waiting until the end). We have surveyed students about the quality of feedback and looked at how we can respond to this information.
- We introduced a senior conference for our 2019 Year 12 students and aim to develop this initiative even further.
- We changed our 6 into 7 transition experience and the feedback has been very positive.
- We have continued our emphasis on consistent classroom practice – welcoming students to the start of each lesson, providing clear learning intentions and success criteria.
- Our literacy and numeracy team has worked hard all year to develop strategies that our teachers can use to continue to build the skills and knowledge of our students.

Our students have achieved marvellously well at national, state and local levels in the areas of Creative and Performing Arts, public speaking and debating, community service, sports and academic achievement. Our staff have demonstrated a single minded commitment to continuous growth, engaging with many hours of professional learning, opening classrooms to students before and after school, on weekends and over the holidays. Our data on students meeting school expectations has shown strong growth over 2018. Interest in enrolment continues to be strong and we are working with an increasing number of community partners so provide a diverse range of support for our students.

I would like to thank all of our students for being part of another great year. I would also like to thank our many, many school partners for all your support. These partners include other government agencies, cleaning companies, building companies, community groups and non-profit organisations. We have many local businesses who support our students in numerous ways as well. We also cannot forget the vital role our local service and community groups such as Rotary, SES, RSL, Lions, churches, Southern Cross University and sporting clubs play in supporting the school.

I would like to thank all our staff for another year of stellar performance. Our cleaning staff, maintenance staff, student support staff, administrative staff, teaching staff, executive team and volunteers have collaborated to try and ensure that we work in the best interests of all of our students. They have worked hard and your efforts are appreciated.

Finally I would like to thank our families. Without your faith in our school we wouldn't exist. Without your trust to work with you to steer our young people towards successful lives beyond school, our impact would be significantly reduced. Partnerships take commitment and hard work to succeed and we are privileged to have enjoyed the support we receive on a daily basis.

It takes a village to raise a child and the extended village of Alstonville, and beyond, is working hard to be that village. I wish you all the best for the remainder of 2018, the upcoming festive season and new year. We look forward to continuing the journey in 2019.

Year 6 Transition

Yesterday we held our welcome to Year 6 students and families. This is a continuation of the shorter experiences that we have been hosting all this term. It was exciting to have most of the 2019 year 7 class all together for the first time.

Thank you to our P&C for 2018

Last week our P&C held their final meeting for 2018. At that meeting they indicated that a donation of funds would be made to the school to enable us to purchase another class set of laptops and associated charging trolley. This will allow us to continue to extend access to laptops for students in addition to the access provided to students who bring in their own devices to use in class. Another possible project that was discussed with the P&C was the possibility of us setting up a gym within the school. They were very supportive of this idea so the school will continue to explore the logistical options and costs with a view to determining the viability early in 2019.

On behalf of the wider school community, I would like to thank the P&C for all their hard work during the year. They have provided good advice around school policy and operational matters. They supported us during the large building program. They helped us

with the significant task of hosting the North Coast Dance Festival and they continue to operate two vital school services, the uniform shop and the canteen. They have also provided support for staffing decisions during the year. All of these activities make a direct positive impact on the lives of students who attend Alstonville High School. This kind of support requires donations of time, effort and goodwill to the school and this kind of commitment to our young people and to our community is greatly appreciated. I look forward to continuing our partnership in 2019.

Best Wishes

A number of our staff are moving on from full time employment at the end of this year and I would like to briefly acknowledge the amazing contribution they have made to Alstonville High School and to public education in general.

Leone Chapman will be taking long service leave starting in 2019. Most recently, Leone has been Deputy Principal but prior to this she has been Head Teacher Teaching and Learning, ICT teacher extraordinaire, chief timetable and passionate educator. Leone is a long term member of the school community and her enthusiasm, humour, innovative mind and constant concern for the wellbeing of students will be missed.

Craig Groves will also be moving to long service leave from the start of 2019. Craig is passionate about his subject area, TAS, and is an excellent practitioner, having produced many wonderful items for the school and community. Craig has taken on many whole school roles over his time at the school including the co-ordination of ICT growth, WH&S and most recently, Vocational Learning. As a member of the executive team, Craig has always provided considered advice and has been strongly committed to the success of our students and the school as a whole. His experience, skills and knowledge will also be missed.

Geoff Timms is also moving on from the start of 2019. Geoff is a master craftsman in his own right and has inspired generations of students to share his passion. He gets to know his students very well and demonstrates amazing patience and commitment to trying to showcase student potential. Geoff has been a year adviser and most recently computer co-ordinator for the school, a task he has done quietly without fuss or bother in an environment of almost constant change. Geoff's humour, commitment and quiet determination to do the best for our students will be missed.

We wish Leone, Craig and Geoff all the best for life after Alstonville High School. I am sure we will see them around from time to time.

2019 School Uniform Information

For 2019 the P&C is working with the school to simplify some of the school uniform requirements.

We are moving towards one polo shirt for everyday wear, PE and sport for students in years 7 to 10. Likewise we are moving to having the same white blouse for girls 7 to 12. Our sports short will change design slightly as will the more formal grey shorts. We currently do not have a final price for the new grey shorts. There are no changes planned for the skirts at this stage.

There will be a change-over period whilst we sell remaining old stock and introduce the new items. Students can continue to wear previous uniform designs in this transition period.

We expect our students to wear our school uniform with pride – displaying a desire to be a part of a successful team!

More detailed information about our uniform and prices can be found later in this newsletter.

Canteen Volunteers

Remember:



David Silcock
Principal

North Coast Junior State Debating

Congratulations to Jessica Chate, Year 10 who was selected as a member of the North Coast Junior State Debating team. Jessica was the only student chosen from all schools on the North Coast. She has attended two training days at Coffs Harbour and will go on to the State Finals in early December at the Sydney University.

The team has been in Sydney for the past four days. Students involved have come from Alstonville, Toormina, Maclean and Forster. There were five debates and North Coast won two and lost three.

School Lockers Renewal for 2019

If your child has a school locker they must cleaned out before the end of the year. **If they wish to keep the locker for 2019 payment of \$25 needs to be paid to the office by Wednesday 19 December 2018.** If payment is not made by this time the locker will be emptied by the General Assistant and offered to another student.



- **Ebooks** After careful consideration, we will not be renewing our subscription to Wheelers Ebooks and Audiobooks in 2019. You can always sign up to the Richmond-Tweed Public Library and access ebooks and audiobooks here: <http://tinyurl.com/y6u96zvn> Until the end of the year, please keep using this link with your DEC login for our collection: <https://alstonvillehighschool.wheelers.co/> You can download the free app and read and listen on your ipad or smartphone.
- **Hour of Code** The Hour of Code started as a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify "code", to show that anybody can learn the basics, and to broaden participation in the field of computer science. It has since become a worldwide effort to celebrate computer science, starting with 1-hour coding activities but expanding to all sorts of community efforts. [Check out the tutorials and activities.](#)
- **School Holiday Borrowing** Did you know that at AHS you can borrow library books for the school holidays? We have many new releases and best sellers, as well as loads of Classics. Any books you borrow from today can be returned in February 2019! But please remember to take good care of them and don't leave them at that camp ground/Nan's house/tropical resort you'll be visiting. New books are listed regularly on the Sentral or OLIVER homepage.
- **Borrower of the Month** Award winning (!) English and HSIE teacher, Ms Knee is an ex-student of AHS. She is a legend. Her superior organisation is a demonstration of her compassion and care for students plus she is unflappable! We are very lucky to have her.



Rachel Varela / Librarian

Riggers Camp 2019

On Monday 30 November a group of 24 boys packed up Mr Larrescy's trailer with their camping gear and headed south to Nymboida. Once in Nymboida and established in our cabins, we headed down to the Nymboida River to learn swift water rescue and paddling skills for the Canadian canoes.

After learning the essentials for the following day on the river navigating rapids, the boys developed their communication, problem solving and team work skills by working through a series of low ropes courses led by Mr Larrescy.

The boys prepared their own dinners; as you can imagine it was your basics – sausages, noodles and pasta.

The following morning the boys packed their lunches for a day on the river. Off we went down the Nymboida River through 15 or so rapids of varying difficulty. Capsizing canoes, crashing into rocks, water fights and zigzagging down the river was our day. It was filled with lots of laughs. We paddled for 17 km, stopping at Backarumbing Bridge for a welcomed ride back to camp in the mini bus.

After dinner, the boys settled into bed or enjoyed entertainment provided by Levi Maxwell, playing the guitar and singing by the campfire.

The following morning, while waiting for the girls to arrive, the boys completed some team challenges relying heavily on their ability to work in a group and communicate clearly.

Mrs Crethar brought the girls in around lunchtime. A quick change over and the boys were off home and the girls settled into camp and got organised for an afternoon on the river. Learning the same set of skills and completing the same set of low ropes course.

Mr Larrescy and Grace Turner completed a low ropes course together – pure trust and strength allowed Grace to successfully complete the course with Mr Larrescy. The girls' meals were often more elaborate and possibly more nutritious. They were eager for the infamous Riggers spotlight/44 home game where Miss Smith couldn't help herself but to play.

The girls completed the same 17km canoe trip. Again, we had water fights, capsizing (thanks Amy Bransgrove) and crashing into rocks or trees. The day was full of laughter, the overcoming of fears and a strong sense of accomplishment when arriving at Backarumbing Bridge.

The last day of Riggers was spent with more team challenges completed by tired girls who stayed up too late playing cards and enjoying the clear night sky.

It was a fantastic trip where new friendships were formed, courage was called on, communication was developed, trust was built and new personal strengths were discovered.

Thank you to Mr Larrescy for driving the bus and leading us through activities, Nymboida camping and canoe centre, parents for letting the students go, the SASS staff and other teachers who took extras during the week.



Kathryn Smith / Riggers Camp Coordinator

Agriculture News

Students have been closely monitoring our breeding herd, as our new calves are due on the 10 December. We have been providing a small supplementary ration to support their health at this time.

Our bulls are being calmed with the use of low stress cattle handling techniques and Year 10 have been introduced to the work of Temple Grandin who has dramatically improved the cattle industry in terms of animal welfare.

As part of our school's commitment to the environment and sustainable best practice we have installed two habitat boxes (one Rosella and another sugar glider) in our riparian revegetation zone on Maguires Creek.



Ben Holmes / Agriculture

Year 7 Food Technology

Year 7 have enjoyed their major practical lesson for 2018 in the area of nutrition and healthy snacks. They are producing 'healthy bytes' and a recipe book.



More from Year 7 Food. They continue to cook up a feast and the pictures below show there great designs from a recent practical, choc chip cookies. Excellent results all round.



Mrs Christmas / TAS

Year 9 Textiles Technology

The textile students have just completed a project to create a backpack. They have achieved wonderful and varied designs.



Mrs Christmas / TAS

Celebrating our outstanding Speak Off winners

On Thursday the 29 November, three of the Alstonville High School Speak Off Competition winners presented at an Alstonville Probus Club morning tea event. The three students involved were: Charlie Mudge-McCall (Year 7), Levi Maxwell (Year 8) and Maggie McGrath (Year 10). Unfortunately, our Year 9 winner could not attend.

All three students presented an engaging and articulate speech in a confident manner. They represented the school to the highest standard. I am extremely proud of their effort and congratulate Charlie, Levi and Maggie.

Each student was presented with a certificate. Alstonville Probus Club also kindly donated a cheque to the English Department.

Kelsey Knee - English Faculty / Speak Off Competition Coordinator



Left to Right: Levi, Charlie and Maggie

Careers Communication Corner

- TAFE/TVET Offers 2019 - This process is ongoing from this Term into Week 1 of Term 1 2019. Offers will be made from the eVET Funding organisation, if spaces become available and students - particularly Year 10 2019 - need to show appropriate attendance and behaviour from now and into 2019 to get approved at school executive level. If you have been made an offer return your letter to Ms Beattie in the Careers Office as a matter of urgency. We can then send your information to TAFE to upload before next year. I am still on leave for rest of Term 4.
- ADVANCE Notice - Year 12 2019 Students and Parents - We have just found out that the Annual University and TAFE Roadshow visit will be occurring in the Alstonville High Hall - COMPULSORY for ALL of Year 12 and optional for any parents who wish to attend, on Thursday 28 February Period 5 – 2:20 – 3:20pm. Details to follow in early 2019.
- Parents and Students - Particularly Years 10/11/12 2019 - Due to feedback from Parents/Carers, I am listing some useful websites for parents to also guide your child in areas relating to Careers and post school information/planning below, as we move into 2019:
 - <https://www.skillsroad.com.au/SR/files/a9/a9e83b58-c465-4fd2-a2f2-5941a3ffea9.pdf>
 - <https://myfuture.edu.au/footer/assist-others>
 - <https://alstonvillehighcareers.com/>
 - <https://sbatinnsw.info/> for information on paid School-based part time apprentice and traineeships that can commence in Year 10 with school approval.
 - <https://www.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au/scholarships>
 - <https://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au/> for school leavers
 - <https://www.tafensw.edu.au/>

Karen Horne/ Careers Adviser / Contact Email: karen.horne@det.nsw.edu.au

Wanted Second Hand Uniforms

Our Uniform Shop is in need of any second hand uniforms. If your child has outgrown any of their uniform could you please donate to our Uniform Shop.

Alstonville High School

Uniform

The wearing of school uniform at all times is official school policy.

The standard uniform is as indicated below. Items can be purchased from the School Uniform sales area, located on the southern side of the Canteen.

Our school is particularly concerned that our students present well and meet WHS requirements. Canvas and cloth shoes are **not** allowed. **Shoes must have fully covered leather or heavy vinyl uppers.** They should be predominantly black. Sports shoes should be predominantly white.

Uniform policy

No midriff, bare flesh or underwear to be exposed at any time.

Junior Years 7 - 10

Summer

The everyday uniform consists of a check skirt or grey badged shorts and a white blouse with school logo or maroon polo, white socks. An approved school hat and spray jacket is optional to wear. Grey shorts for sports.

Winter

Students may wear summer uniform or tailored grey trousers, or grey tracksuit pants and a maroon fleecy jumper. Black stockings/tights can be worn under skirts or shorts.

Senior Years 11 - 12

Summer

The senior uniform consists of a school badged maroon skirt or grey badged shorts and a white blouse/shirt with school logo or white polo shirt.

Winter

The seniors may wear black stockings, grey jumpers (fleecy,) grey tailored slacks or grey track pants during the winter months as well as the Year 12 jersey.

All Students Official Occasions

For occasions such as presentations, debating, media interviews, and the choir the uniform **must** be check or maroon skirt or grey badged shorts and white blouse or shirt with school tie, white socks. Blazers are available from the Front Office as required.

All items can be purchased from the School Uniform sales area, located on the southern side of the Canteen.

Sun hat policy

Alstonville High School encourages students to wear a hat for all outdoor activities.

We sell one style of hat through the uniform shop. Alternatively students may wear a brimmed hat of their choice in the colours - grey, maroon, black or white. We encourage all students to take responsibility for their own skin protection.

Uniform shop trading hours

Please check school website for the current times. Uniforms are sold in the last week of January. See the school website for holiday opening times.

Uniform Price List

Trading Hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday – 8.00am to 10.00am. If the canteen staff are available uniforms can be purchased on other days as well. Please check school website for holiday trading hours. Prices may vary from time to time.

Telephone: (02) 6628 1797

Payment can be made by cash, cheque or EFTPOS – Lay-by is available Prices GST inclusive.

UNISEX	Sizes	Price	Buy 3	Save
School Polo Junior	6-24	\$28.00	\$75	\$9
School Polo Senior	8-24	\$28.00	\$75	\$9
Sports Polo	6-24	\$28.00	\$75	\$9
Sports Shorts	28-48	\$28.00	\$75	\$9
Zip Jacket	12-16, S-L	\$31.00		
Grey Microfibre Shorts	10-28	\$20.00	\$55	\$5

Junior girls

	Sizes	Price	Buy 3	Save
Skirt, checked	2-24	\$35.00	\$98	\$7
White Blouse	4-22	\$22.00	\$60	\$6
Shorts	Limited sizes	\$30.00		

Junior boys

	Sizes	Price	Buy 3	Save
Grey Shorts (old stock)	10 –XXL	\$12.50		
Grey Microfibre Shorts	10-28	\$20.00	\$55	\$5

Senior girls and boys

	Sizes	Price	Buy 3	Save
Maroon Skirt	4-22	\$35.00	\$98	\$7
White Blouse - Girls	6-22	\$22.00	\$60	\$6
White Cotton Shirt - Boys	14-28	\$28.00	\$75	\$9
Grey Shorts	10-28	\$20.00	\$55	\$5
Tie		\$13.00		
Senior White Polo Boys/Girls	8-24	\$28.00	\$75	\$9

Miscellaneous

	Sizes	Price
Maroon Bucket Hat	57 -59	\$6.00
Aprons		\$15.00
Good quality second hand uniforms		From \$5.00 per item
We stock a range of stationery including exercise books, maths grid books, report folders, display folders, A4 sheet protectors, pens, pencils, glue sticks and rubbers.		

ALSTONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
UNIFORM SHOP OPENING TIMES 2019

8AM TO 12 NOON

THURSDAY 17 JANUARY

FRIDAY 18 JANUARY

THURSDAY 24 JANUARY

FRIDAY 25 JANUARY



YOUR COMPUTER WIZZARD

Suite 2, 88a Main Street, ALSTONVILLE, NSW • 02 6628 0099 • info@ycw.com.au
ABN 57 627 736 441



Repair • Reuse • Recycle • Reduce • Replace

Reduce ewaste & landfill • Refurbished, new & customised systems • Onsite visits
Speed up your system with an upgrade • Virus/Malware cleanup • Remote fixes
Hardware repairs • Mobile phone issues • Personalised set up • Latest updates



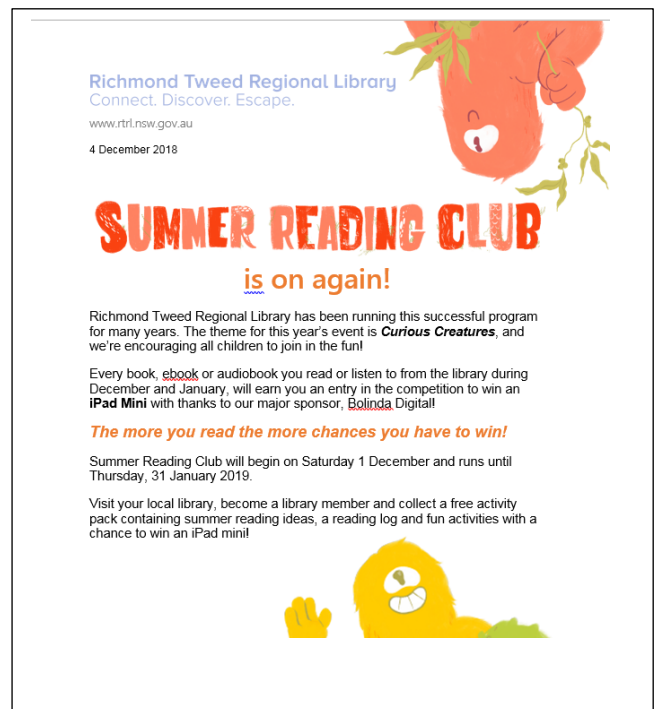
A COMBINED CHURCHES
ON THE PLATEAU
FREE FAMILY EVENT

**CHRISTMAS
ON THE PLATEAU**
CHRISTMASONTHEPLATEAU.ORG.AU

**FRIDAY, 14TH DECEMBER
4PM - 8PM
ELIZABETH ANN BROWN PARK**

- CLIMBING WALL
- SAUSAGE SIZZLE
- FARM ANIMALS
- CAROLS
- JUMPING CASTLE
- LIVING NATIVITY
- PERFORMANCES
- CRAFTS + MORE ...

A DRUG & ALCOHOL FREE EVENT



Richmond Tweed Regional Library
Connect. Discover. Escape.
www.rtrl.nsw.gov.au
4 December 2018

SUMMER READING CLUB
is on again!

Richmond Tweed Regional Library has been running this successful program for many years. The theme for this year's event is *Curious Creatures*, and we're encouraging all children to join in the fun!

Every book, ebook or audiobook you read or listen to from the library during December and January, will earn you an entry in the competition to win an iPad Mini with thanks to our major sponsor, *Bolinda Digital*!

The more you read the more chances you have to win!

Summer Reading Club will begin on Saturday 1 December and runs until Thursday, 31 January 2019.

Visit your local library, become a library member and collect a free activity pack containing summer reading ideas, a reading log and fun activities with a chance to win an iPad mini!



north coast
community college

ORDER HERE

Summer Jobs

LOOKING FOR A JOB THIS SUMMER?

Are you a recent school leaver? Do you need a summer job? Have you been struggling with your job search for too long now? Are there people in your life hessing you to 'just go get a job'?

Well, we've got you covered! For a limited time only, we are offering two fantastic Summer Jobs packages. Get qualified for Summer Jobs Café or Summer Jobs Bar & Gaming.

After completing either of these packages you will be ready to take your job search to an exciting new level, along with having three new Skill Sets to make your resume stand out.

ENROL TODAY TO SECURE ONE OF OUR LIMITED PLACES.

Phone 02 6628 5426 or head to our website
www.northcoastcc.edu.au

for more info and other courses visit
www.northcoastcc.edu.au

ENROL NOW

IT'S EASY TO ENROL

ENROL NOW
ONLINE
www.northcoastcc.edu.au

PHONE
Alstonville (H): 02 6628 5426
Yamba - (H): 6628 5426

EMAIL
enrol@northcoastcc.edu.au

WEIR
494 Batters Way, Alstonville
4173 Yamba St, Yamba

CONNECT
@NorthCoastCC
@NorthCoastCC

IGNITE YOUR FUTURE.
ENRICH YOUR LIFE.



**LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT CAREERS
INFORMATION SESSION**

Learn to lead.

As an Officer within the Australian Defence Force you'll have access to world-class leadership institutions, providing you with the skills to help you progress in your career. Become an accomplished leader, mentor and decision-maker as an Officer in the Australian Defence Force. And if a full time role doesn't sound right for you, there are many roles to choose from in the Reserves.

Leadership & Management Careers Information Session
Time: 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Date: Tuesday 29th January, 2019
Location: North Burleigh Surf Life Saving Supporters Club,
293 The Esplanade, Miami QLD 4220
RSVP: <http://www.defencejobs.com.au/events/2132554>
or cptgoldcoast@dfr.com.au

Who will benefit from this information session?

- High school students in years 10-12
- Job seekers looking for new opportunities
- Parents, educators and mentors who support and work with these groups

CALL 13 19 01 OR VISIT DEFENCEJOBS.GOV.AU

Recycle Right

Did you know that Council has a new recycling campaign called Recycle Right? Recent changes to the recycling industry have meant the level of contamination in our recycling can no longer be accepted so we're going back to basics! Recycle Right was developed in collaboration with neighbouring councils and North East Waste. Key changes to recycling are:

- 'Keep it simple' by only recycling glass bottle and jars, hard plastics bottles and containers, steel and aluminium cans and paper and cardboard;
- Resource recovery collection satchels can still be filled, sealed and placed in the recycling bin. Collect a satchel from Council offices, the Waste Management Centre or your local library;

- Bagged soft plastics can no longer go in the recycling bin, however residents can continue collecting and bagging their soft plastics and taking them to Coles or Woolworths stores who have their own courtesy soft plastics recycling collection bins;
- Polystyrene, meat trays and biscuit trays must go in the red waste bin.
- Coffee cups and lids cannot go in the recycling bin. Residents are encouraged to use reusable cups at their favourite café.

For further information, check out Council's website at www.ballina.nsw.gov.au or phone Customer Service on 1300 864 444

