



Eumundi Combined Community Organisation Ltd

www.eumundicco.com.au

## Eumundi community bus weekly services – New! New! New!

ECCO is pleased to be trialling not one but two NEW services.

Need to go to the “little” shops or just for an outing? Starting on Thursday 5 May 2011, a trial Eumundi community bus weekly service will complement the “big shops” outing in the morning. The bus will leave from the town bus stop outside Discover Eumundi Heritage & Visitors Centre at 1pm on Thursdays and terminate at the bus stop in Cooroy outside the IGA. The return will leave the same bus stop at 3.30pm.

Want to go to the Markets but can never find a park? Starting on Saturday, 7 May 2011, a trial Eumundi community bus service will leave from the bus stop outside IGA in Cooroy at 8.15am for the bus stop in Eumundi and will return at 10.30am. A complementary service will leave from the bus stop in Yandina at 9.15am for the bus stop in Eumundi returning at 11.30am.

**Bookings are essential** so please call the bus booking mobile **0488 322 323** to book your ride. Please also let us know ahead if you need mobility assistance and the bus will pick you up.



## The vexed issue of market day parking

ECCO recognises that it has a clear responsibility to manage the car parks under its lease with Council. It is enabled by its constitution to undertake a wide range of other actions. However, it is not automatically responsible for providing traffic management, overflow parking or transport of people to and from overflow parking areas. These are responsibilities which it may or may not choose to take on. There is an on-going and growing issue with parking in Eumundi every day but particularly on market days. This needs a workable solution. And so ECCO is offering to partner other stakeholders in a bold attempt to address the vexed issue of parking in Eumundi on market days. We are asking the Eumundi Markets Operators Group (EMOG) and all stallholders to become part of the solution. The outcome we are aiming for is a happy shopping experience for each and every visitor to our town and respect for the local community. EMOG is being asked to arrange effective control of traffic management particularly on Napier Road.

### ECCO is encouraging stallholders:

→ to park in the dead-end roadways beyond Strawberry Fields, John Street (just east through the railway underpass on the by-pass) and in Strong Lane on the western side of the Bruce Highway opposite the Eumundi Winery.

→ **NOT** to use any parking within the town precinct but to make this parking available to customers of the markets.

We are aware that some stallholders use their vehicles as on-site storage and will not be able to co-operate easily. A voluntary solution will cater for this need where any change may disadvantage this small group. As its contribution to the solution, ECCO will provide transportation to and from the nominated overflow parking sites at times agreed with EMOG and provide traffic management there. If take up is significant (and we hope it will be), ECCO will hire the appropriate size coach to meet the urgency of the incoming demand at around 5am to ensure that stallholders return to their stalls in the shortest time possible.

## Our wonderful volunteers

ECCO is enormously proud of its “vollies.” The volunteer groups which fulfill the role as “front-of house” ambassadors for Eumundi, at the same time, are earning valuable money to sustain the objectives of their favourite community group. They are living proof of the underpinning principle of a “hand-up” rather than a “hand-out.” They are integral to the thinking which led Eumundi as a community to seek the lease to operate the Council-owned car parks on market days and to stimulate the Eumundi and district micro-economy.

So when one of our “vollie” groups has something to celebrate, ECCO celebrates with them as a partner in their joy. Jerry Gwynn (right) a regular volunteer and team leader of the Australian Naval Cadets after the presentation of a ceremonial sword to Lieutenant Commander Warren Blee of the Sunshine Coast flotilla on behalf of the cadets and staff of Noosa’s Navy cadets. The ceremonial sword was presented by Right Worshipful Brother John Measor from Tewantin Masonic Lodge. John was a stoker in the Royal Australian Navy during WWII.



## Our prime asset: our best intentions

The ECCO Board initiated discussions with officers of the Sunshine Coast Regional Council shortly after the board was elected in September 2010. These discussions related to developing solutions to the problem of flooding of the two Council-owned, ECCO-operated car parks adjacent to Napier Road and in-kind support which Council might be able to provide for remediation. Those discussions are ongoing.

Simultaneously, other discussions were also held with the owners of and agents for the proposed golf course east of the rail line who share much the same difficulties as ECCO for flood management. We intend to partner them in implementing the final solution.

ECCO is also seeking additional off-road all-weather parking and will consider offering a complementary shuttle bus service to users. This solution would best suit use by stallholders so as to free all car parking in the CBD area for short term parking by visitors and local residents and enable us to guarantee an appropriate level of transport to and from the Markets. We seek their respect for our town and their co-operation in solving a common problem. Currently, Strawberry Fields is subject to becoming sodden in very wet weather.

The ECCO-operated car parks are the lowest point within the Eumundi township area and are the end point for all runoff from the CBD and the northern end of the township. In addition, the Napier Rd/Albert St car park is almost flat. There is very little fall by which to drain excess water finally into the river with a significant number of obstacles to this flow all of which are beyond ECCO’s control. Major rainfall events which have been all too common over the past record year of rainfall regularly inundate the site and leave it sodden.

ECCO also commissioned its own engineer’s report in December 2010; that report was received very recently. The Board is considering it together with the engineer and will progressively implement proven solutions consistent with prudent financial management. We expect progressively to minimise the worst aspects of our common predicament to the advantage of all stakeholders in Eumundi. There is simply no single easy solution. However, the Board has received endorsement of its recommendation to its three Members, the Chamber of Commerce, EDCA and EHA, that remediation of the car parks be its priority for 2011/2012 following the extreme weather of the last summer.

## STOP PRESS: Eumundi Family Medical Centre

The Eumundi Family Medical Centre will open at 6 Etheridge St to deliver quality community medical care to patients on 9 May 2011. Our doctor will be Dr Carlos Sanchez and our practice manager will be Suzie Dempsey.

Make an appointment from 3 May. Spread the word - your patronage is needed now.

