

In and around Barcaldine • January 2009



A message from the Regional Director

I hope all staff and families had a good New Year break. In particular I hope everyone travelling during the holidays does so safely. 2008 has been a significant year for the Central West Region. Work has begun on the Tree of Knowledge project which Main Roads is proud to be a part of.



Construction commences on the Tree of Knowledge project

We have delivered our roads program in cooperation with local governments and RoadTek. This has been a particularly good achievement as we had some important staff and organisational changes during the year.

Eric Melville went on preretirement leave after 11 years as Manager (Infrastructure Delivery/Manager (PD&D)) Eric made a great contribution to the Central West during his time in Barcaldine. Manager (RSC) Brett Whitbread also moved on to a position in the private sector. We also transitioned to the new Central West Region and were able to smoothly incorporate the old Jericho Shire into the region. I would like to thank everyone for their contribution in 2008. I look forward to new challenges in 2009 as we move towards a more consistent state-wide approach to our business.



Kennedy Developmental Road (Winton - Boulia)

It is also great that we generally have a good situation with our staffing and we are able to capitalise on this next year. All the best for the New Year.

Eric Denham
Regional Director
Barcaldine District Office
Central West Region



Main Roads enters historical agreement

Main Roads Central West Region is working with local indigenous groups to help preserve their cultural heritage, while maintaining roads in the outback.

Minister for Main Roads Warren Pitt said the agreement would provide the Central West Region with a more effective mechanism to manage its cultural heritage activities.

“The Central West Region has excellent relationships with native title claimants and Aboriginal parties.” Road corridor agreements will provide an opportunity for Main Roads to formalise relationships with traditional owners.

RoadTek rewarded

A RoadTek crew who spent 10 days in remote Queensland working in extreme conditions have been praised for their efforts. The main crew of six, along with additional support staff, were rewarded with torches for their hard work in a paving of the Diamantina and Boulia Shire boundaries.

Regional Director Eric Denham said the project, which is divided into four stages, should improve road conditions.

“It’s important to the communities living in out in these areas that it becomes easier to travel and stakeholders can have access to supplies.

Each stage of the project, which began in 2007, is sealing nearly 10km of road. It is expected to be completed next year.”

At the end of October, RoadTek decided to show appreciation for their hard work by awarding the torch to those involved in the project. “By awarding these torches, we are demonstrating our commitment to people who work on these projects. This is especially the case for the times when they are away from their family, working in remote and rural conditions.”

Stage two began in February 11 and was completed on July 17.



RoadTek project engineer Vishal Gandhi was a staff member who worked on sealing the road between Diamantina and Boulia Shires

Farewell Eric Melville

Barcaldine District Office said goodbye to Eric Melville in November. Eric has worked with Main Roads all his working life. He and his wife Kerri are moving to Toogoolawah in the Brisbane Valley. Eric started work in 1966 as cadet draftsman and has had a career in Metropolitan and Central West regions. We wish him and his wife the best of luck.



Regional Director Eric Denham congratulates Eric Melville on his 42 years of service in Main Roads.

Contact

For more information you can:

- » contact the Barcaldine district office on +61 7 4651 2777
- » email barcaldine.office@mainroads.qld.gov.au
- » visit www.mainroads.qld.gov.au

For information on current road closures and traffic incidents:

- » visit www.racq.com.au