New legislation has begun

A new era in Crown land management in NSW has begun with the commencement of the new Crown Land Management Act 2016 (the CLM Act) on 1 July this year. The reforms aim to improve the governance of Crown reserves whilst continuing to strengthen community involvement. It is a busy and exciting time at the NSW Department of Industry with much activity underway to embed the CLM Act.

As of 1 July, all existing community reserve trust managers are now known as Crown land managers (CLMs).


New resources

A range of new resources, such as templates, guides and fact sheets are progressively being made available to CLMs in line with the new CLM Act. These materials will be available on the NSW Department of Industry website (www.industry.nsw.gov.au/lands).

Most recently, new lease and license templates have been made available on the department’s website and will replace previous templates. CLMs are encouraged to access and use these templates when undertaking new agreements with users of Crown land. We will keep you updated on new resources as they become available.

Communications infrastructure on Crown land

The NSW Government provides access to Crown land to public and private organisations to install communications infrastructure and equipment.

The first Crown land management rule under the new CLM Act will continue the policy of the department authorising leases and licenses for communication infrastructure.

CLMs cannot, under any Act, grant any lease or licences relating to communications infrastructure.


Good roll-up to information sessions

Information sessions for CLMs were held across 10 NSW locations in May this year. Around 300 people attended the events and received information on preparing for the new legislation prior to its enactment on 1 July. The sessions also covered updates on the new Crown land Community Engagement Strategy and the new Crown Reserve Code of Conduct; as well as interactive sessions on how CLMs should manage conflict of interest scenarios.

Further information sessions will be held at 12 locations across NSW throughout November this year to continue to build the capacity of CLMs. Topics covered will support work, health and safety fundamentals as well as leases and licensing business practices. Invitations to the sessions have been sent via email to all non-council CLMs. The invitation is also attached to this newsletter.

Participants at the meetings worked on how CLMs should manage conflict of interest scenarios.
Consistent standards of behaviour

Good governance practices of Crown land reserves have been boosted with a new Crown Reserve Code of Conduct. The code provides a guide for a minimum standard of behaviour and ethical decision-making. The code applies to those who contribute to, and perform duties for, the management of Crown reserves in both paid and unpaid roles—as a board member, an employee or volunteer of a board/appointed corporation, administrator, consultant or contractor. All Crown reserve stakeholders are required to uphold these values and comply with the Code of Conduct as part of their roles. Local councils and NSW government agencies have their own specific legislative requirements relating to conduct and ethical behaviour and are exempt from complying with this code.

Share your story

Sharing stories is a great way to learn from each other and recognise the hard work and dedication of reserve managers.

If you would like to share your story, please send a one page word document (including any photos) to reserves@crownland.nsw.gov.au

After a period of working abroad, Caitlin returned to her hometown of Broken Hill, alongside her partner Daniel. Caitlin could see the opportunities offered by the Broken Earth Cafe and with the help of her father Jim, she and Daniel took over the licence to run the cafe.

Jim said the local community and tourists have shown great support and feedback has been fantastic.

Showgrounds on Crown reserves

Showgrounds on Crown land have been in focus recently with a number of stakeholder consultation activities held in June this year. Around 300 managers and users of showgrounds, as well as other stakeholders, were involved in focus groups, surveys and a roundtable event. Held at five locations across NSW, the consultations captured feedback on challenges and opportunities for the showgrounds sector. The Hon. Paul Toole, Minister for Lands, Forestry and Racing, attended the Agricultural Societies Council annual event in July to provide an overview of the stakeholders’ feedback. A more detailed update will be available in the next edition of the Crown Reserve Management newsletter.

Profile – Line of Lode Precinct, Broken Hill

The Broken Earth Cafe (foreground) with the iconic Miner’s Memorial (background far right) sits high above Broken Hill, perched on top of mining overburden that bisects the city.

The Line of Lode precinct is a Crown reserve located in Broken Hill in the far west of NSW. The precinct is part of the Crown’s portfolio of 1,200 reserves in the Western Division.

The reserve includes the iconic Miners’ Memorial complex and the commercially operated business, the Broken Earth Cafe. The precinct is very important to the Broken Hill community as the memorial provides a symbolic representation and tribute to the 800 plus miners who have tragically lost their lives working in Broken Hill mines since 1883.

After a number of idle years, the Broken Earth Cafe reopened in September 2017 with new licensees Daniel Powe, Caitlin Hickey and Jim Hickey operating a cafe offering a variety of foods, tea and coffee and home style lunches.

After a number of idle years, the Broken Earth Cafe reopened in September 2017 with new licensees Daniel Powe, Caitlin Hickey and Jim Hickey operating a cafe offering a variety of foods, tea and coffee and home style lunches.
Caitlin and Daniel have just started offering Sunset Wine and Cheese Platter evenings which are sure to be a real hit with locals and travellers.

The cafe has the best view of Broken Hill and surrounding landscape and is very popular with tour operators and travellers.

‘It has the best view of Broken Hill and surrounding landscape and it is very popular with tour operators and travellers who come to visit the Miners’ Memorial then have a light lunch or coffee and cake or glass of wine or their favourite beer’, he said.

Caitlin said that the trio are working constantly to increase the historical information available at the centre.

‘Tourists just love it,’ Jim said. ‘It just goes to show what good service and a bit of ingenuity in a remote part of western NSW can do.

‘It is a great example of public land being used in tandem with a local business to benefit the community and tourists, to service the area and make a return for the department to cover maintenance costs’, he said.

Line of Lode is supported by departmental staff based in Dubbo, such as Sharon Hawke and Natalie Ryan, who engage with CLMs across the region to support Crown reserve management.

Sharon loves the interaction with all the people, such as those at Line of Lode, who she has gotten to know well over the years.

‘As with many smaller and remote communities it is usually the same people doing most of the work for a number of reserves, whether it is managing the local hall, a precinct such as Line of Lode, or making sure the local aerodrome is in full operation to take flights for the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

‘Working in Crown lands is really rewarding and very diverse and I love the fact that we can play a part in helping landholders and communities connect in such a wonderful and yet fragile part of the state. And at present, we are very mindful of the drought and the impact this is having on CLMs and the community more broadly’, Sharon said.

Line of Lode Precinct Reserve has been a major highlight of Natalie’s work and a project she is passionate about.

‘The reserve is an iconic part of the landscape of Broken Hill. It sits on the edge of a large mound of mining overburden left over from a century of mining that bisects the city. Seeing the vision for this precinct come together with community input has been truly rewarding’, Natalie said.

To find out more visit www.brokenearthcafe.com

Updating your contact details

It is important that we have your most up-to-date contact details. To update your official Crown Land Manager contact details, please email reserves@crownland.nsw.gov.au or call the department on 1300 886 235 (option 1).

If you would like to unsubscribe to this newsletter please send an email to reserves@crownland.nsw.gov.au

For more information

Department of Industry—Lands & Water
Email: reserves@crownland.nsw.gov.au
Call the department on: 1300 886 235

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Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (August 2018). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the NSW Department of Industry—Lands & Water Division or the user’s independent advisor.

DOC18/206285
The NSW Department of Industry–Lands and Water is hosting a series of information sessions for non-council Crown Land Managers during November 2018.

The sessions are designed to support your role as an appointed Crown Land Manager. The aim is to provide you with information, guidelines and tools to help understand and comply with Crown Land Management legislation. The topics for this session include the fundamentals of work health and safety, including risk mitigation, and leasing and licensing of Crown reserves.

We encourage you to attend the sessions as they are a great networking opportunity. There will be plenty of time to connect with your fellow land managers, as well as having department staff on hand to answer your individual questions.

**Session details:**

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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<tr>
<td>Maitland</td>
<td>Monday 12 November 2018</td>
<td>Maitland Gaol</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parramatta</td>
<td>Tuesday 13 November 2018</td>
<td>Parramatta RSL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ballina</td>
<td>Wednesday 14 November 2018</td>
<td>Ballina Jockey Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Berry</td>
<td>Thursday 15 November 2018</td>
<td>Berry Showground</td>
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<td>Orange</td>
<td>Tuesday 20 November 2018</td>
<td>Towac Park Racecourse</td>
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<td>Wagga Wagga</td>
<td>Tuesday 20 November 2018</td>
<td>Murrumbidgee Turf Club</td>
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<td>Goulburn</td>
<td>Thursday 22 November 2018</td>
<td>Towrang Hall</td>
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<td>Coffs Harbour</td>
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<td>Gunnedah</td>
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<td>Taree</td>
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<td>Taree Racecourse</td>
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**Session times**

12pm to 3pm (includes light lunch)

**RSVP**

Please register your attendance at one of the sessions here by **29 October 2018**. Please note you will need an email address to register, so we can send you additional information required for the sessions. If you do not have an email address, or you wish to register multiple people, please contact the department on 1300 886 235 (Option 5) to complete your registration.
Note

Councils who manage Crown reserves are welcome to attend – however matters specific to council management of Crown land will not be the focus. Information relevant to council management of Crown land is available via the Office of Local Government website, www.olg.nsw.gov.au/crownland.

Should you require further information, please contact the department on 1300 886 235.

Yours sincerely

Crown Reserves Unit
Department of Industry
Email: reserves@crownland.nsw.gov.au