

Meet the candidates forum at Workers Club

A meet-the-candidates forum for the Lismore City Council elections will be held at the Lismore Workers Club from 6.30pm on Wednesday, August 22.

The forum has been organised by the Lismore Community Action Network to give the community an opportunity to meet candidates from each of the 10 tickets and the one individual candidate, Peter Larsen.

The forum will be hosted by retired Lismore High School careers adviser, Bill Goldie.

After each presentation, the audience will be given an opportunity to ask questions and will be given the opportunity to talk to candidates one-on-one over coffee.

Lismore CAN is a non-profit organisation without connection to any political party. It maintains an interest in good local governance.

NEWS



IT'S A GAS: ABC Heywire program coordinator Jono Atkins (front) with the Kadina High School students participating in the writing workshops.

Heywire at Kadina

By JAVIER ENCALADA

COAL seam gas companies have an unlikely defender in a 17 year-old Kadina High School student who declares himself "pro-CSG".

Taylor McBeath attended an ABC Heywire writing workshop last week and chose to write about his pro-CSG stance.

The Year 11 student from Broadwater said the coal seam gas industry should be "a huge part of our economic future".

"A lot of people are taking up opinions without looking at some of the studies done by universities or the corporate world on the issue," he said.

"A lot of our cars are now fuelled with Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), which is derived from petrol. We could be fuelling our cars with coal seam gas instead."

Mr McBeath has been a member of the NSW Youth Parliament in Sydney since last April.

"Youth Parliament was fairly



PRO-CSG: Taylor McBeath.

balanced. Some of the people from rural NSW were anti CSG, but there were some city people that had not been as exposed to the publicity campaign and wanted a more balanced point of view", he explained.

The two-day Heywire workshop at Kadina involved a dozen students from year 10 and 11 and was run by ABC online journalist Jono Atkins.

As the national facilitator for Heywire, Mr Atkins assists

young people aged 16 to 22 to tell their stories about living in regional Australia. Every year, the best stories are selected and published or recorded by the ABC, "but the main goal is to get young people writing and expressing themselves," Mr Atkins said.

Josh Tulloch from Goonellabah wrote a story called *The best road in Lismore*, about his experiences while learning to drive.

Josh's story will be published on the Heywire website. He said he would like to take up car mechanics as a hobby in the future.

Jordan Lees' story is about music. The Goonellabah student plays a number of instruments and is part of Kadina High School's Irish band, called Beltane. His story narrates his experiences in Sydney last year, when Beltane featured in the Schools Spectacular.

For more information about Heywire, go to abc.net.au/heywire.

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