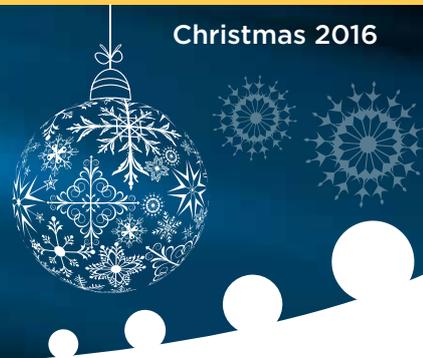




News from your Local Councillor

Cr Lance Hewlett



Dear resident of Division 4

It's hard to believe that another year is drawing to a close. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all residents a very joyous, blessed Christmas season and a safe and prosperous New Year.

It is the time of year we reconnect to enjoy time with family and friends and to take a well-earned break from our very busy lifestyles.

As always it has been a privilege for my wife, Sheena, and I to be involved with many of our local community groups throughout 2016, and I would like to personally thank them all for their invaluable contribution to our great city.

At this time of year, I especially enjoy attending the many school graduation and award ceremonies at our wonderful local schools and wish those students transitioning to further studies, jobs and careers the very best as they embrace an exciting new chapter in their lives.

As members of RedVic Lions, Sheena and I will again be on roster, enjoying wrapping presents at Victoria Point Shopping Centre at various times

throughout December. A gold coin donation for this service is appreciated and always goes to a very worthy cause.

In 2017, I intend to continue to be as accessible to the community as possible and will continue to keep you updated on what's happening in the local area via:

- My fortnightly Council information booths at local shopping centres;
- My quarterly Council newsletter;
- Regular updates on my Facebook page.

I am also happy to meet with you to discuss any issue, by appointment, in your home or at my office. Call 3829 8603 to organise.

Please enjoy the coming season and stay safe.

Cr Lance Hewlett
Division 4



Please connect with me on Facebook to stay posted on all local issues.



WRAPPED: RedVic Lions Sheena Hewlett and Denise Gall have been getting ready to spread Christmas cheer at Victoria Point Shopping Centre.

Wilson Esplanade update

I appreciate the strong participation of the community around the proposed foreshore protection works along the foreshore from 1-13 Wilson Esplanade.

The open day and online feedback I received and observed clearly identified the community's priority for the preservation and protection of the current natural aesthetic of the area, particularly the soft sandy beach and safe and easy access to the beach.

Other issues raised and discussed included alternatives to the proposed rock armour wall solution, the design and effects of any ramps, and the impacts on the ecosystem.



A comprehensive report will be brought to Council in the near future for due consideration on the proposed works at this popular Esplanade precinct.

Christmas spirit

Christmas by Starlight, our City's largest free community event, will be held on Sunday, 18 December at Mt Cotton's Sirromet Winery.

It will again feature exceptional local talent as well as some of Australia's finest performers. The all-age family-friendly event will begin at 3pm with free children's activities, with fireworks at about 8pm. Watch www.redland.qld.gov.au for updates and transport arrangements.



Pet rules make it safe for all

I would like to offer a friendly reminder that the Redlands values responsible pet ownership as well as supporting the rights of others who may be affected by straying and boisterous pets.

As a pet owner in the Redlands you are required to register your dog or cat at 12 weeks of age and have them microchipped.

Wandering cats can be quite a neighbourhood nuisance and it is important that cat owners understand that they have a responsibility to keep their pets confined to their properties at all times. Cats will hunt at night and can be very destructive in our natural environment. However, they can be happily kept inside or contained if you provide the right environment.

While many dog owners may believe their pet is well trained, friendly and no problem when walking off-lead, other people can become concerned and even fearful in the presence of an unrestrained dog, even if it is small. Check out Council's website at www.redland.qld.gov.au for advice. It's under "animals and pets".

Dob in a dumper

Recent illegal asbestos dumping in the Redland Bay and nearby areas has raised health and safety concerns and left ratepayers with a hefty clean-up bill. We need your help to put an end to this problem, so if you see any suspicious activity or have any information on illegal dumping, please contact Council or report it to the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection online or by calling 13 74 68.

Out and about supporting community



AWARDS: I was proud to present trophies to Pink Magic at the Redlands Netball Association's final carnival for the year.



WELL DONE: As patron of Victoria Point Volunteer Marine Rescue, I was honoured to present some very well-earned awards to our dedicated volunteers at their recent annual general meeting.



MARKET DAY: It was a pleasure to help out again at the recent Boaties Market at Victoria Point Primary School.



COMMUNITY: It was lovely to catch up with Barbara Chapman and Ada Lee at the recent Victoria Point Meals on Wheels AGM. Both have been volunteers for more than 40 years.



ROAD SAFETY: Attending the Attitudinal Driver Education Workshop at Sharks Sporting Club with local police and the director of the Trauma Unit at Gold Coast Hospital.



GREAT EXPERIENCE: I was privileged to inspect the new Health Hub at Faith Lutheran College, which offers students hands-on practical experience.

TOP FUN: I enjoyed joining in activities as part of the Seahorse disability program, provided through Coochiemudlo and North Stradbroke surf life saving clubs.



Council's holiday services

All non-essential Council services will be closed from 24 December, reopening Tuesday 2 January 2017. Our art galleries, libraries and Redland Performing Arts Centre (RPAC) will be closed from Christmas Day. RPAC tickets can still be purchased online during the closure.

For emergencies such as road repairs, fallen trees or water supply issues over the closure, please call 3829 8999.