



News from your Local Councillor

Cr Mark Edwards



MAINLAND
EDITION

Dear resident of Redland Bay

Weinam Creek is a hive of building activity as Translink delivers the new ferry terminal office.

This disruption will most likely be a prelude to the future redevelopment work in and around this Priority Development Area.

We are at the final stage of the extension granted to the Walker Group to present their proposed designs for the area.

The Walker Group deals primarily with the State Government before presenting to Councillors.

We expected that the plans would be before Council in August, however the timeframe has been extended, although it appears that the final proposal will be presented before the end of the year.

While it has been a long process, it is important that the key design elements for the community are delivered.

The aim is to create a highly efficient transport hub which also caters for private parking demand and utilisation of public transport.

It also needs to appeal to the community, both mainland and island, as well as provide public foreshore space for the use and enjoyment of everyone.

We all look forward to moving ahead with the plans for this area next year.



ACTIVITY: Work is progressing to transform Weinam Creek into a highly efficient transport hub and public space.



Sel Outridge Park footpath upgrade

Sel Outridge Park is one of the most popular and well-used parks in our city.

Sporting clubs use the facility throughout the year and the number of joggers and walkers who enjoy it continues to increase.

To better serve park users, a new footpath from the Redland Bay Police Station and extending around the park towards the toilet facilities will be designed and constructed in 2017.

A pedestrian footbridge will be built across the tidal creek.

This improvement will be in addition to upgraded seating at parks throughout Division 5.

Christmas goodwill

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 an afternoon of free children's activities, including jumping castles and face painting. There will be a variety of stalls hosted by local not-for-profit community groups and licensed commercial operators. The show will wrap up at about 8pm with a fireworks display. Watch www.redland.qld.gov.au for updates and transport arrangements.



How we manage biting midges

Biting midges are quite a nuisance but unfortunately there is little that can be done about them.

This is due to a number of reasons, not the least being that they predominately breed in natural coastal habitats which we are not allowed by law to spray with insecticides. The fact is that there are no approved chemicals to treat biting midge larvae in their prime breeding grounds.

As biting midge larvae live in mud and wet soils in tidal zones, unlike mozzies which breed in water, they are also difficult to access for control treatments. Chemical sprays for adult biting midges, if used, would harm insects and creatures that are important to our ecosystem.

You can find more detailed information about midges at www.redland.qld.gov.au.

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.

While it beggars belief that people are willing to put the safety of others at risk, these latest incidents have brought to 10 the number of reported cases in the past 10 months alone. Investigations are continuing.

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.

It's time to 'Get Ready'

While we were relatively unscathed by last year's storm season, we should not become complacent.

As the few summers before that showed, the Redlands is not immune to significant and damaging weather events and bushfires.

This year, the Bureau of Meteorology is expecting an active storm season, so it is important that residents take the time now to ensure their homes, family and neighbours are prepared.

The weather experts say the storm threat is higher than average and we can expect the formation of about 11 cyclones in and around the Coral Sea this season, with maybe four crossing the Queensland coast.

Preparing an emergency kit

Your emergency kit should contain:

- a portable radio with spare batteries
- a torch with spare batteries
- a first-aid kit
- candles and waterproof matches
- a waterproof bag for valuables
- important documents, including emergency contact numbers

If evacuation is likely or required:

- a good supply of any prescribed medications
- any special requirements for babies, the disabled, infirm or elderly
- strong shoes and protective clothing
- food and drinking water



Heat waves – classified as three or more days of high maximum and minimum temperatures – are also likely this summer, so remember to keep an eye on more vulnerable family and friends.

If you have an elderly family member or neighbour make sure they are also prepared, especially for the heat.

To ensure you can be best prepared, check out www.redlanddisasterplan.com.au.

Girt By Sea a boost for local art

The Girt by Sea Sculpture Exhibition is one of Australia's richest sculpture acquisition events. It comes with a stunning \$74,000 in prize acquisition money and follows the inaugural Girt by Sea sculpture event that was held in June last year.

The purpose of the Girt By Sea event is to engage artists, particularly locals, in creating interesting outdoor sculptures that can be installed in our parks. The five acquired sculptures from the inaugural event reflect in different ways our unique community and lifestyle. The outdoor sculptures will be progressively installed through parks in Division 5 and will create an artistic walking trail for the community to enjoy and engage with. They also will add to the points of interest in the Redlands for students and visitors.

This event, from 11-19 March, 2017, is open to all and I encourage local artists, both emerging and established, to submit a sculpture. There will be up to four acquisitive prizes of \$8000 each and three of \$14,000 each. Application forms can be downloaded from www.thebayislandsgetaway.com. Entry is \$30. Completed forms can be emailed to mark.edwards@redland.qld.gov.au or posted to Redland City Council, PO Box 21, Cleveland, Queensland 4163 and marked "attention Cr Mark Edwards".

Merry Christmas

I would like to wish all residents of Redland Bay and their families a great Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

Please don't hesitate to contact me for help if you need it.

You can email me anytime at mark.edwards@redland.qld.gov.au or call me on 0407 695 667.

Warm regards,

Cr Mark Edwards
Division 5 – Islands