



News from your Local Councillor

Cr Julie Talty



Making the most of our great trails

A new user group of mountain bikers and horse riders has been formed to provide feedback on shared recreational trails in the Redlands.

These community representatives will contribute their ideas and experiences towards improving the network of shared, multi-use trails across the Redlands.

Our area has a wealth of natural attractions, including great recreational trails that are popular with horse riders, mountain bikers and bush walkers, and Council is committed to ensuring multi-use trails are suitable for the needs of the entire community.

Regular visitors to the trails will have noticed Council has been mulching the shoulders of fire trails to provide a softer surface for horses and mountain bikers, which was undertaken following user feedback.

This new user group has been formed to facilitate community feedback and to ultimately improve the recreational experience for all those who use shared trails, irrespective of whether they visit by foot, bike or horseback.

Recent improvements at the Bayview Conservation Park, a 970 hectare public conservation estate at Redland Bay, has created an additional route for horse riders, mountain bikers and bush walkers to explore.

Following feedback from the community, an additional 2.5km of multi-use track linking Kidd Street to Mudlark has recently been completed at Bayview, providing a total of 28km of wide, shared tracks in the park.

Called "Kidds Corner", the new track is a serene trail with sweeping views across the rolling open plains to the east and provides extra loops for users to explore.



ENGAGED: The new trail user group is leading to best-practice design and improvements at our local trail parks.

This is particularly exciting for the horse-riding community.

Trail design and improvements have drawn on best practice in recreational parks across Australia, as well as feedback from those who use our local trails, and we look forward to further improvements based on the feedback from the new user group.

Council also has recently completed new horse

stiles at four sites at Mount Cotton and Redland Bay, including at Kidd Street.

An additional section of multi-use trail at the southern end of the reserve on the Crinklebush trail will also be extended, providing an extra 3km of multi-use trails and providing greater connectivity for horses and other users.

You can check out the recreational trail maps in the Redlands at www.redland.qld.gov.au.

Great new play area

Construction of the all-abilities under 7 playground in Mt Cotton Park is well under way and should be completed soon.



Christmas in our community

This year's **Mt Cotton Community Christmas Party** on 27 November will have a magical twist, as well as a great "Eat Street market" atmosphere. From 3.30pm-7.30pm at Mt Cotton Park, there also will be the usual rides, as well as a rock wall and a new bungee jump, plus a great line-up of local performers and, of course, Santa.

Christmas by Starlight 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, winding up at about 8pm with fireworks.



Dob in a dumper

Recent illegal asbestos dumping at Redland Bay and Sheldon has raised health and safety concerns and left ratepayers with a costly \$8000 clean-up bill.

The suspected asbestos material was dumped at Double Jump Road, Redland Bay, and West Mount Cotton Road, Sheldon, where residents could freely access it. While it beggars belief that people are willing to put the safety of others at risk, it brought to 10 the number of reported incidents in the past 10 months alone.

Council officers moved quickly to secure and clean up the sites to keep residents safe but we need your help to put an end to this problem.

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.

The penalty can be severe for those prosecuted, with fines of up to \$121,000.

Have your say on regional plan

With the State's draft SEQ Regional Plan now open for public comment, residents have an opportunity to make their views known. Written submissions on any aspect of the plan will be accepted until 3 March 2017. The State Government will be holding two consultation sessions in the Redlands - Tuesday 29 November, 4pm-7pm at Pacific Resort, Cleveland, and Wednesday 7 December, 10am-1pm, at Capalaba Place Hall, Noeleen Street, Capalaba. You can access the draft plan at www.qld.gov.au/shapingseq or by calling 13 74 68.

It's time to 'Get Ready'

Residents are invited to a public meeting on 4 December to further discuss the formation of a rural fire unit in our area.

The meeting, at 2pm at Mt Cotton Rainforest Gardens, 196 Mt View Road, Mt Cotton, will be attended by senior Queensland Fire and Emergency Service officers and is particularly important for Mt Cotton and Sheldon, which regularly face significant fire threats. It follows the highly successful meeting last year which agreed to form a local brigade. Please RSVP on 3829 8606 and watch Council's website for the latest details.

This year, the Bureau of Meteorology is expecting an active storm season, so it is important that residents also take the time now to ensure

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



their homes, family and neighbours are prepared.

The weather experts say the storm threat is higher than average and we can expect maybe four cyclones to cross the Queensland coast.

Heat waves are also likely, 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.

Check out www.redlanddisasterplan.com.au for information.

Helping the community



Through our Councillor Small Grants Program I have been pleased to help a number of community organisations and events. Grants so far this year have supported the purchase of a defibrillator for the Victoria Point Bowls Club (pictured), a screen for movies in the park at local events, a new ride-on mower for the Cage Youth Foundation, repairs at Mt Cotton Hall and our Mt Cotton Community Christmas Party.

Merry Christmas and stay in touch

I would like to wish all residents of Division 6 and their families a merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year. Please continue to stay in touch and feel free to email me at julie.talty@redland.qld.gov.au or call 3829 8606 or 0418 218 847 if I can be of assistance.

You can also keep up to date at

[facebook.com/CrJulieTalty](https://www.facebook.com/CrJulieTalty)

Cr Julie Talty
Division 6