



News from your Local Councillor

Cr Paul Gleeson



Dear resident of Capalaba

As your Councillor, part of my role is to report problems in Division 9 back to Council staff for action. This can range from requests for the repair of potholes or the trimming of trees, to collecting dumped rubbish.

I'd like to thank those residents who contact me to let me know of local issues, as you are my extra eyes and ears in the community. If you have an issue that needs Council's attention, please email me or give me a call.



TOP SHOW: At the Blues Festival with Mojo Webb from the Mojo Webb Band and Mike Frost of the Icemen fame.

Best Bayside Blues Festival

I'd like to thank residents who came along to the third Bayside Blues Festival in October. With 5000 people attending and nine bands playing over eight hours, it again proved to be the best free, family friendly festival in the Redlands.

I'd also like to thank the following sponsors who made this event possible: Redland City Council, JJ Richards, Capalaba Sports Club, Brisbane Refrigerated Couriers and the Blues Association of South East Queensland.

Solar plan can save residents millions

Council is investigating building a local solar farm to reduce power costs and provide greater energy efficiency.

It follows the adoption of a feasibility study I called for last year which shows there is the potential to save more than \$10 million over 20 years through harnessing solar technology.

We will be looking into several renewable energy projects, with the most significant being a 1-1.5MW solar farm at Council's Cleveland wastewater treatment plant, which has the potential to save between \$4.4 million and \$6.1 million over the next two decades.

We will also look at the possibility of local solar sites not only offsetting electricity use but also potentially generating power in the future, which can then be sold to generate revenue.

Council is being open-minded in its search for options to save on power costs and I believe it is important that we start planning now for the future.

Modelling suggests these solar facilities could significantly reduce costs to ratepayers, so it makes sense to at least investigate ways to reduce our dependency on the power grid.

This is an example of Council's commitment to constant

improvement and looking for ways to reduce costs for ratepayers.

The next step will be for a business case to be put to Council identifying the final sites, costs and timeframes for construction.

Council will then look to test the concept before we progress to a larger project.





It's time to 'Get Ready'

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

While the bushfire threat appears lower 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 we can expect the formation of about 11 cyclones in and around the Coral Sea this season, with maybe four of them crossing the Queensland coast.

Heat waves - classified as three or more days of high temperatures - are also likely this summer, so remember to keep an eye on more vulnerable family

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



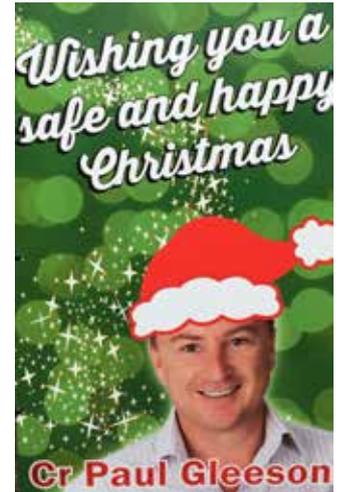
and friends. If you have an elderly family member or neighbour make sure they are also prepared, especially for the heat.

To ensure you can be best prepared, information for all residents and visitors to the Redlands is available

at www.redlanddisasterplan.com.au.

Above are the basics of an emergency evacuation kit that you should have at the ready.

Preparation now may prevent a lot of heartache later.



Christmas Wishes

This will be the last newsletter before Christmas so I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a wonderful and safe Christmas.

To keep in touch throughout the festive season, please 'Like' my Facebook page at



Pet-friendly neighbourhoods

In the interests of public safety and community wellbeing, 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".



Helping hand

Sgt Graham Pearce and the Redlands PCYC (Capalaba) do a great job and I was pleased to be able to support them with a grant to go towards new gym equipment.

Cr Paul Gleeson
Division 9