



News from your Local Councillor

Cr Lance Hewlett

Budget boosts community assets

Redland City's 2017-18 budget invests heavily in community infrastructure.

We are spending \$82 million across the city to cater for priorities identified by residents and the business community.

Nearly half of that is committed to improving the road network, renewing marine transport infrastructure and upgrading footpaths, bikeways, carparks and bus shelters.

More than \$23.6 million has been earmarked for road projects alone, while transport

infrastructure such as footpaths, bikeways and bus shelters will account for another \$6.5 million.

Money has been set aside to upgrade Victoria Point's Yeo Park, along with Cascades Gardens and Poinciana Avenue parks. It also includes funding for the Moreton Bay Cycleway to Point O'Halloran, the seawall at Masters Avenue and upgrades for Victoria Point Community Hall.

Marine infrastructure and foreshores will benefit from a \$14.5 million allocation, with \$14.39 million set aside for open space and conservation projects.

Guides celebrate 50 years

Councillor Paul Golle and I were recently pleased to present a cheque from Council's Small Grants Program to Fran Burns ("Kirra") of Victoria Point Girl Guides (pictured) to fund the purchase of special badges to celebrate their 50th anniversary.

Established in 1967, a special day of celebration was held in July at the Victoria Point hut.



All the Guides' activities - from weekly meetings to camps, expeditions and hikes - are driven by the Guides themselves, with input and assistance from their leaders, and are planned to match the Guides' abilities. As part of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), each Guide is a privileged member of a sisterhood of 10 million Guides worldwide, the world's largest voluntary organisation for girls and young women.

Easier access to council services

Residents now have improved access to Council services thanks to the opening of a customer service centre at Victoria Point.

The new centre at Victoria Point library, next to the shopping precinct, recognises the challenges residents face in travelling to Cleveland to visit Council's main customer service centre branch.

The new branch offers all services, with the exception of building and development, which are only available at the main Cleveland branch because of the need to access specialist planning officers located at the Cleveland Administration building. It is open from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays).



HELPING HAND: My wife Sheena assisting on one of my Meals on Wheels runs.

Victoria Point Meals On Wheels ... we do more than just deliver

As patron of Meals On Wheels at Victoria Point, it is wonderful to work with and support the volunteers who prepare and deliver meals, as well as provide administrative support and keep the building and other assets maintained.

The recent working bee at the base was also a tremendous success.

While I have been delivering meals with them for just over five years, there are members who have supported this vital community organisation for more than 40 years.

If you would like to benefit from this great, value-for-money service, please call the office on **3207 7126**, Monday to Friday between 7am and 12pm.

You also can call the same number if you would like to volunteer.

We're always looking for deliverers and kitchen helpers for a few hours a month.



CLEAN UP: Collecting rubbish with fellow Lion Allison Ferguson.

Do the right thing

Litter and irresponsible dumping of rubbish continues to be an issue in our city, much of which radiates from our shopping centres and fast-food outlets.

While Council responds to the problem, it is an operational cost that is borne by ratepayers.

The Redland Bay Victoria Point Lions Club, of which my wife and I are members, have stepped up under the Keep Queensland Beautiful "Adopt a Spot" program and regularly organise rubbish collection on the eastern side of Cleveland-Redland Bay Road between Benfer Road and Colburn Avenue.

Apart from being unsightly, the environmental damage caused by littering is far reaching, with much of it ending up in our beautiful bay.

If you're interested in taking part in a Keep Queensland Beautiful initiative, go to its website. The organisation can provide the resources to get you started. Every little bit helps.

Junior rangers head to Coochie

Coastcare will again welcome the Tangalooma EcoMarines to Coochiemudlo to celebrate the Quandamooka Festival event "Care4Country" on Sunday, 10 September.

This year's event promises to be even bigger and better, with ambassadors from 28 schools from throughout South-East Queensland, including Victoria Point State School and St Rita's Primary School, to be involved. Our junior rangers will join their EcoMarine cousins in cultural heritage and environmental activities, mainly at Carolyn Brammer's beautiful property "Mudlo", with educational mangrove tours along Curlew Creek as well as beach plantings of casuarinas with the support of Council's IndigiScapes environmental team.

Fun of the fete

The St Rita's Springfest has become a fun, exciting and eagerly anticipated biannual event on the local community calendar. The fete committee of St Rita's School and Parish is working to raise much-needed funds for both the school and church. There will be great rides, food, prizes and entertainment at this year's event from 10am-4pm on Saturday, 2 September at the school on Benfer Road.



ACHIEVER: With Alice Chamberlain and proud parents Julie and Lee.



Scout presentation

It was a privilege recently to attend the presentation of the prestigious Australian Scout Medallion to Victoria Point's Alice Chamberlain.

Alice's journey to achieve this special accolade started three years ago and involved attaining a range of activity, proficiency, leadership and camp craft badges through the three Scout cords: Pioneer, Explorer and Adventurer.

During the final course involving a 30km hike, Alice injured her ankle and had to repeat the course. She is certainly a remarkable young lady.

Keep in touch

As part of my commitment to communicate and get feedback from local residents, I conduct regular Council information booths at Victoria Point Shopping Centre and Pelican's Nest.

I post times and dates on my Facebook page. Just send me a friend request to get updates on many local issues and events.

I am also more than happy to meet with you in person at your home or in my Council office - please phone **3829 8603** or **0421 880 371** to organise an appointment.

Cr Lance Hewlett
Division 4



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