



News from your Local Councillor

Cr Tracey Huges

Neighbours supporting each other

Christmas shopping was such a long time ago but I would like to take this opportunity to share with you the generosity, spirit of workmanship and pure kindness shown to your inspirational neighbour Johaan Kaa by the talented ladies of Cleveland Gardens.

They dedicated their entire sales from their Christmas craft stall to Johaan, who lost his hands and feet after contracting meningococcal sepsis, with a cheque for \$1050 presented to him at a special morning tea.

There were some tears shed at what was an emotional time for all concerned.

The ladies had worked all year to see their treasurers sold and then come together to shower Johaan with so much care and love.

We are all looking forward to Johaan's bionic hand becoming a reality. Please consider any help you can continue to give this special family. You can find out more by looking up Johaan on Facebook.



COMMUNITY SPIRIT: The talented Cleveland Gardens crew have helped neighbour Johaan Kaa along the road to realising his dream of a bionic hand.



PARTY TIME: Congratulations to Bill Cann, who recently celebrated his 103rd birthday.

Volunteering with our most vulnerable

Sylvan Woods Aged Care Facility at 500 Old Cleveland Road, East Birkdale, and Wellington Park Private Care at Balmoral Street, Wellington Point, have both shared their need for more volunteers.

Sylvan Woods has also made a special call out for men to join with the male residents each week for an hour to establish a Men's Group.

It is also a privilege to acknowledge the special celebration with resident Bill Cann, who recently turned 103.

Family, residents and staff at Sylvan Woods enjoyed a beautiful morning tea and Bill was happy to share that he puts his longevity down to a small nip of whisky, red meat and being active.

JP services & shopping centre dates

Again this year I am delighted to have an opportunity to meet with residents at three local shopping centres. I am also going to offer my services as a JP at these shopping centre listening posts. Please know that you can contact me at any time and I will try to help you. I understand that it can be time consuming tracking down a JP, so I hope that I may be able to relieve some of that pressure.

My next sessions will be:

April Friday 20th 3 - 4.30pm
Bluebell Street, Alexandra Hills Foodworks

Saturday 21th 9-11am
Alexandra Hills Shopping Centre

Saturday 28th 9-11am
Wellington Point Horizon Shopping Centre

May Friday 11th 3 - 4.30pm
Bluebell Street, Alexandra Hills Foodworks

Saturday 12th 9-11am
Wellington Point Horizon Shopping Centre

Saturday 19th 9-11am
Alexandra Hills Shopping Centre

Dog off-leash areas

While it is great to see residents out and about walking their dogs and using our local dog off-leash areas, there has been growing concern about some dog owners using local parks to let their puppies run free. Those who do so risk a \$252 fine per offence per dog.

There are plenty of off-leash areas available, including:

- Hilliards Creek Park, Sturgeon Street, Ormiston, near the Softball fields.
- Three Paddocks Park, off Birkdale Road, Wellington Point.
- George Street Park, entrances off William, Edward, Garter and George streets, Alexandra Hills.
- Valentine Road Park, Alexandra Hills, with the closest entrance off Abelia Street.
- Lachlan Street Park, off Collingwood Road, Birkdale.



Park upgrades a boost for families

Three parks across Division 8 have been recently upgraded, with more work to follow at Montgomery Park. Please enjoy these facilities with pride and help keep the areas clean.

The parks include Babiana Street and Snowdon Street play areas at Alexandra Hills and Bailey Road Park at Birkdale, where a uni-sex toilet has been completed. This is a much-

needed facility for this very popular spot. I would like to sincerely thank the 100-plus local residents who engaged with me during the consultation period to ensure that the facility has been installed in the best possible location for residents living close to the park and users of the park. Your input was invaluable, leading to a great result for everyone.



MATESHIP: Local Men's Shed members at a Wednesday cards session.

Mates at the Men's Shed

Our local Men's Shed is open on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 8am-1pm, with a social get-together on Wednesdays from 9am-noon.

The shed offers a range of both wood and metal-working tools, including lathes, welders, bench saws, an oxy set and other power and hand tools, all in a safe and friendly environment.

Members are involved in a range of community projects for schools, sporting clubs and other organisations, such as building benches for playgrounds.

Any male over the age of 18 years can join and do their own or shed project, or just pop in for a chat.



ABOVE: Snowdon Street Park at Alexandra Hills.

LEFT: Montgomery Drive Park at Wellington Point.

BELOW: Babiana Street Park at Alexandra Hills.



T. Hughes.

Cr Tracey Hughes
Division 8