



# News from your Local Councillor

## Cr Lance Hewlett Deputy Mayor

Dear Coochie resident,

As Deputy Mayor I have been honoured to take on greater responsibility in steering the future of our city.

I look forward to supporting Mayor Karen Williams and Councillors in delivering important outcomes for the Redlands at a higher level.

I was humbled that my fellow Councillors saw fit to entrust me with the position of Deputy Mayor and I will work above and beyond to meet their and your expectations.

I believe strong and united leadership is in the best interests of our city and during my 12-month tenure I am intent on building and strengthening the leadership partnership developed by Cr Williams and former deputy Cr Wendy Boglary.

As part of my professional development in the role, I recently attended a council meeting at Sunshine Coast Regional Council at Nambour to gain an insight into their meeting procedures and the issues they manage within their local government area.

As members of the Local Government Association of Queensland, I believe that it is important that we maintain good relationships with other councils in our region.

My appointment, however, does not diminish my capacity to listen to and deal with your concerns and needs.



*LEARNING: With Sunshine Coast Mayor Mark Jamieson during a recent professional development visit to study his council's handling of community issues.*

I continue to be as accessible to the community as possible and will keep you updated on what's happening in the local area via:

- My fortnightly Council information booths at local shopping centres;
- My regular Council newsletter;
- Regular updates on my Facebook page.

I am also happy to meet with you to discuss any issue, by appointment, in your home or at my office. Call 3829 8603 to organise a meeting.

**Cr Lance Hewlett** Division 4

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



### Ramp well received

I have been getting positive feedback about the new barge ramp, with some residents saying it has never been in better shape.

More than \$1 million has been spent on the project to provide a safer and better barge facility which will make it easier to land in high winds.

The old ramp, pictured, which had been patched up over 50 years, was in poor shape so I am delighted that such a vital facility for Coochie has been brought up to standard.





## Great day for community

At the fantastic Flinders Day event on Coochiemudlo Island in July, Council sponsored a very well supported “Coffee with a Cop” initiative, pictured, at the Red Rock Cafe.

Volunteers in Policing and representatives from Crime Stoppers were also on hand to assist with information and advice.

Community safety is becoming a growing concern locally and in response I, along with Member for Redlands Kim Richards, local police and Council officers will be conducting a Community Safety Forum at Victoria Point and on Coochiemudlo Island at dates and venues to be advised.

I hope to provide locals with important data, statistics and information on how, as a community, we can all be part of the solution. Please keep in touch with me, via Facebook or email/phone for further information.



## Boost for war memorial project

Council has been successful in its funding bid for the Coochiemudlo Island War Memorial: Connecting Pathway and Reflection Space.

I also have been able to provide community infrastructure funding for the project, which has been scheduled for the 2018-19 capital program.

## Local projects improving our area

I am pleased to report that there have been significant local projects started and delivered by Council in recent months, including the Poinciana Avenue Park upgrade; Thompson’s Beach restoration and groyne construction; Bayview Conservation Area; Liriope Place dog off-leash dog area; Coochiemudlo playground equipment installation; and multiple shelter and seating upgrades. We have also seen progress on the Thornlands Regional Park and

Coochiemudlo’s new barge and recreational boat ramp projects.

This financial year, Council projects will include: a new playground installation at Cascade Gardens, Colburn Avenue, along with landscaping and beautification works around the fountain/water feature with gazebo upgrades; upgrades and new revetment wall at Masters Avenue, Victoria Point Reserve, including footpath widening;

construction of a new barge ramp at Victoria Point Reserve, which will include resurfacing of the adjacent carpark; revetment works on Wilson’s Esplanade; Coochiemudlo community shed; Coochiemudlo’s Main Beach public toilet upgrade.; and the island’s war memorial and pathway upgrade.

Council is continuing its accelerated road resurfacing program. Of note, both School Road and Bunker Road will be resurfaced this financial year.



## High-tech history

I was pleased to be able to help the Coochiemudlo Island Heritage Society with a grant for computer equipment so it can digitalise its records and photographs.

The grant also funded the software that will enable the society to scan historical documents for content.

Society president Keith Stebbins says the group looks forward to the time when they can make their records available through the Redlands Library and the Redlands Museum collections.

*NEW ERA: Coochiemudlo Historical Society president Keith Stebbins with the new computer equipment.*