



# News from your Local Councillor

## Cr Lance Hewlett



### Helping hand for community groups

It has been my pleasure again this year to support as many of our wonderful local community groups as possible through the Councillors' Community Grants Program.

Needless to say, the demands are high and funds are limited but this year the program has assisted a diverse range of community organisations with financial support.

Some of the groups Council has helped with their work and new equipment include:

- Victoria Point Volunteer Marine Rescue;
- St Rita's Student and Parent Network;
- Victoria Point State School P&C;



*SUPPORT: I was pleased to present Redland Sharks Junior Cricket Club committee members Brendan St Hill, president Nick Egan, secretary Joy Brewster and Tony Norton with a grant for new marquees.*

- Run for Redlands - 48 Hour Charity Festival;
- Victoria Point Seniors;
- Redlands Food Relief;
- Coochiemudlo Coastcare;
- Coochiemudlo Small Island Stories Inc;
- Redlands Sharks Junior Cricket Club;
- Redland City Bands;
- Redlands Special Olympics;
- Old School House Gallery, Cleveland, and
- Isle of Coochie Golf Club.



### Residents help design new park

Big things are on the way for South East Thornlands Park, pictured above.

Following feedback from residents, a range of features are being considered for the park, including a multi-age playground, small skate park and BMX track, basketball court and fitness station. There has also been support for a picnic area which can

cater for large groups and an open grass area, along with the usual amenities.

A dog off-leash area and community garden may also be provided for in a future stage, pending community interest and funding. Community feedback will shape the final design, so please let me know your ideas for this space.

### Do you have time to help?

As a volunteer for more than four years now I can certainly vouch for the wonderful services provided by Victoria Point Meals on Wheels.

The not-for-profit organisation delivers nutritious, affordable and freshly cooked meals to about 90 customers in the Victoria Point, Redland Bay, Thornlands and Bay Islands areas.

Our customers include elderly people who can no longer prepare their own food, as well as those who might be recovering from surgery or illness and just a need a hand for a few weeks.

There is no means testing or waiting lists. Frozen meals are also available for weekends.

The amazing team of volunteers provide a smile, a quick chat and a regular check-in on our customers' general wellbeing, which is why we believe we are more than just a meal service.





## Caring for our four-legged friends

Our animal rehoming team has been doing a wonderful job finding loving families for unwanted dogs, cats and other animals.

As the councillor responsible for animal management and the adoption program, I have been very heartened by the community's response to their efforts since Council took over the rehoming of animals in May after the RSPCA was no longer in a position to accept our unclaimed animals.

It was determined that we should establish our own program to find new homes for these pets and we created extra accommodation for dogs and new cat enclosures.

A Facebook page was established and the adoption team formed, along with a volunteer program. Staff are also working on a foster care program. In that time our dedicated animal adoption staff have found new homes for 36 cats and 37 dogs, with another 23 animals going to rescue agencies.



*TAKE THE LEAD: Council's animal shelter is looking for new homes for the four-legged friends in its care.*

We have lots of potential furry friends at the shelter looking for new homes, so if you are looking for a new pet please check out the shelter and the loveable lot featured on its website. You will also find information on how you can volunteer.

All of our animals have had health and behaviour checks, are desexed

or come with a desexing voucher if too young, and are vaccinated, wormed, treated for fleas and tested for heartworm (dogs) and FIV (cats). See if you can find your new friend at [www.facebook.com/RedlandAnimalShelter](https://www.facebook.com/RedlandAnimalShelter)

The shelter is now open from 9am to noon on Saturdays and Sundays.



## Help is now at hand

Those impacted by domestic and family violence have a new support base with the opening of the first-ever Redlands regional domestic and family violence service – WAVSS Across The Redlands.

The service offers a range of support, including free information, court support, counselling, crisis response and perpetrator intervention programs for domestic and family violence.

More information is available at [www.wavss.org](http://www.wavss.org).



## Merry Christmas and stay in touch

As we draw close to the end of another year, I take this opportunity to wish all the residents of Division 4 a merry Christmas and a prosperous and healthy new year.

I also want to thank the many locals who have provided continued support in my role as your local Councillor. I look forward to seeing many of you while I am out and about in my division.

As we do every year my wife, Sheena, and I will be on the Christmas gift-

wrapping roster with the RedVic Lions at Victoria Point Shopping Centre in December. And, as always, I am happy to visit you at home or arrange a meeting in Council to discuss any issue you have. Just call 3829 8603.

**Cr Lance Hewlett**  
Division 4