



November 2019

News from your **Local Councillor** Cr Julie Talty

Dear resident,

A formal request has been made to the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner for the establishment of a local rural fire brigade in our area and also for a Local Fire Management Committee to be established.

It followed another Fire Risk and Rural Fire Meeting recently at which about 150 committed residents from Mt Cotton and surrounding areas re-confirmed strong community support for the establishment of a rural fire brigade for the Mt Cotton, Sheldon and Redland Bay areas.

We outlined to senior QFES officers our community's need for local resources to assist with fire prevention and fuel-load reduction so we can proactively manage and reduce fire risk.

I was pleased to see so many committed people registering their interest in volunteering and in being part of the new local committee.

Residents will know that I have been working with the State Government and Council for the past four years for a local rural fire service and, while

there has been recent progress, I am certainly not going to take the foot off the accelerator. I will continue working with QFES and will keep the community updated on the progress of the brigade application and on the new committee as it starts to take shape.

In the meantime, it is important that everyone plays their role in reducing fire risk across our community. Please take a moment to head to the Council and QFES website to read how you can prepare your property and family for the fire season.



Popular park upgrades

The last of the three phases of the project to add exercise equipment to the circuit track in Mt Cotton Community Park has now been completed. The equipment is proving extremely popular with both young and older park users. The next phase of the path lighting has been funded through Council's budget and will be rolled out in coming months.

Grant for our local hall

Mt Cotton Community Hall is now the only community-owned and managed hall in Redlands Coast and I am pleased to report that the hall committee has been successful in securing a Council grants to help repair the roof, facias and guttering.

The hall was built by community funds in the early 1930s from timber milled locally by the Benfer family and it is great to see it being so well cared for and still serving its community.



Christmas fun

The fun of Mt Cotton Christmas in the Park will be on Sunday, 24 November from 3.30pm in the community park. Car parking will be limited so walk if you can or park off Hardwood Drive (no parking in Bohemia Court). This is always a great event which Council is proud to support.





Boost for community events

I was also pleased to support a grant for Community Connections to buy mobile security fencing and other equipment to enable them to more safely run free community events in support of local community organisations.

Most recently, Community Connections volunteers have run free movies in the park events showing *Jurassic*

Park in Mt Cotton and *Jumanji* in G.J. Walter Park at Cleveland, with planning underway for a Christmas movie event for Redland Bay soon. These fun family events are free to attend and provide a fundraising opportunity for local groups such as school P&Cs, Rotary and Scouts. Any local group wishing to participate can contact Community Connections.

All go for community garden

It's great to see the Redlands Coast Salad Bowl group forging ahead with the new community garden at Redland Bay's Fielding Park now they have Council approval.

I am also pleased to report the group has been granted a \$6000 boost through the Mayor and Councillors' Community Benefit Fund to buy an irrigation system for the community garden, including water tanks and pumps.

I have no doubt the community garden, which will develop over time, will be something special for the southern Redlands Coast community.

We will soon see the garden become a place where the community can

gather to grow fresh food, relax and forge new friendships.

It will include areas for both communal and private plots, and will allow families and individuals who may not have land of their own an opportunity to enjoy the benefits of growing and harvesting their own produce.

It will also be a great place for locals to unwind, enjoy family time, recover from illness and connect with others.

Well done to the members of the Salad Bowl group for their efforts in making the garden a reality and thank you to my neighbouring colleague Cr Mark Edwards for his considerable support for this project.



CATCH UP: Look out for my community chat listening post at Redland Bay and Mt Cotton.

Best wishes for the season

I would like to wish you and your family a merry Christmas and good tidings for the New Year.

As we approach 2020, we can look back on some great achievements with more on the horizon.

Please continue to stay in touch and feel free to email me at julie.talty@redland.qld.gov.au or call 3829 8606 or 0418 218 847 if I can be of assistance.

You will find me at my next community chats on Saturday 30 November at Redland Bay, corner of Donald and School of Arts roads, from 9am-10am and at Mt Cotton Village from 10.30am-11.30am.

You can also keep up to date at



facebook.com/CrJulieTalty

Julie Talty

Cr Julie Talty Division 6



READY TO PLANT: With Redlands Coast Salad Bowl representatives at the site of the new Redland Bay community garden.