



# News from your Local Councillor Cr Peter Mitchell

November 2019

ISLAND  
EDITION

## Dear Straddie resident,

The approaching holiday season is always a special time for Straddie.

Fingers are crossed for weather that matches Straddie's reputation as the jewel in Redlands Coast's crown and that we will be spared from damaging storms or bushfires this summer. On the back of this newsletter you will find some useful tips on being prepared for such eventualities.

With the end of sand mining, this year brought many challenges and I am hopeful that 2020 will see tangible results from the State Government's economic transition strategy, Minjerribah Futures, to generate a prosperous and sensitive new economy for the island centred on sustainable tourism.

Council will continue to do the grass-roots work and also seek improvements to transport and other infrastructure to benefit all islanders.

Open communication is vital and, as such, I look forward to continuing my joint efforts with you all to ensure island residents are better informed and that your needs and wishes are understood.

I am happy that my own township-based Councillor listening posts are still well received by residents and that Council officers have supported the Straddie community with information sessions on a number of occasions. Keep watching noticeboards and Council media for these meetings.

For operational matters, please contact Council direct on 3829 8999 or at [rcc@redland.qld.gov.au](mailto:rcc@redland.qld.gov.au).

I would like to take this opportunity to especially thank all who have taken the time to offer me their ideas and constructive feedback, working with me to ensure a bright future for the island.

I wish you all a wonderful festive season. Keep happy and safe!

**Cr Peter Mitchell**  
Division 2 – Island

## Helping community

One of the great privileges as your Councillor is to help the many worthy local groups important to residents through the Mayor and Councillors' Community Benefit Fund Program.

More than \$15,000 has been distributed so far this financial year to support locals who give their time and skills to help our community, whether through sport, cultural endeavours or caring for others. They include:

- Redlands Touch Association
- RATS Cycling Club
- Redland City Bands
- Calvary Family Church
- JOII Community Ltd
- Bayside Off-Roaders Club
- Rotary Club of Cleveland
- Redlands United Football Club
- North Stradbroke Island Golf Club
- Star Community Service
- Yulu-Burri-Ba Aboriginal Corporation
- Redland Malayali Association
- Redland Museum
- Redland Scouts Group
- Soroptimist International Bayside
- Redlands Creative Alliance
- Cleveland Air Magic Association
- Horizon Foundation.



## Breakwater extension good for Straddie

Cleveland's William Street breakwater is being extended for boating safety. This is good news for boaties and Straddie residents and visitors who may need a medical evacuation by one of our fabulous Volunteer Marine Rescue (VMR) crews.

The work is on track for completion by the end of the year. Jointly funded by Council and the State Government, it will provide protection from extreme weather, including the recreational boat ramps, pontoons as well as the VMR facilities. The next phase is the placement of the armour rock on the core structure.

All going well, the breakwater is expected to be completed by the busy Christmas period, with some finishing touches likely in the New Year.

## Division 2 leading the way in sustainability

I know how important waste reduction and recycling are to island residents and I am proud that our Council is leading the way representing your wishes.

We are currently trialling a process that turns plastic bottles and other waste into new, high-quality roads. In a Queensland first, Council has teamed with leading recycler Alex Fraser and Suncoast Asphalt to resurface a 1km stretch of Princess Street, Cleveland, with an innovative, high-performance asphalt product containing reclaimed plastics such as milk bottles. It is hoped the pilot project will lead to many more roads being built and resurfaced using reclaimed materials.

This is very much part of Council's vision for city. The resealing of part of Cleveland's Princess Street used about 933 tonnes of reclaimed asphalt and about 90,000 hard plastics - the equivalent of about nine months of kerbside recycling collected from the street. I thank residents for their patience during the work - they now live on one of the "greenest" sealed streets in Australia as a result.



## Point Lookout sewer update

The first stage of the sewer system extension at Point Lookout is underway, with the second stage now in the pre-tender phase.

Residents may see the preliminary stages of work in "Area 1" to connect residents there to the recently completed waste water treatment plant.

In the next few months you will see underground boring and open trench excavation, which has been scheduled outside of peak holiday periods.

The contract for work on the second stage, known as "Area 2", is expected to be awarded soon with

construction planned for February-June next year.

Areas 1 and 2 will be gravity fed to the sewerage treatment plant. Council is continuing to research the best way to sewer the remaining topographically challenging areas of Point Lookout. I will keep you posted on the progress.

# TIME TO 'GET READY' AND BE A CHAMPION



Council is keen to activate its award-winning Community Champions program on Straddie, so why not get involved. The program recently earned a Resilient Australia Award for its role in helping Redlands Coast Southern Moreton Bay Island communities help themselves in times of potential emergencies, such as fires.

Through the program, you can provide assistance in evacuation centres during disasters/events such as the recent bushfires, help with community engagement and education and be involved in keeping your community informed. There is also the opportunity to get involved as a volunteer in other parts of the state hit by disasters. Champions undergo training provided by Red Cross in evacuation centre management and psychological first aid. If you are interested, contact Redland City Council's Disaster Planning and Operations Team at [emergency@redland.qld.gov.au](mailto:emergency@redland.qld.gov.au).

As we all know, summer regularly brings significant weather events and bushfires, so I urge all islanders to ensure they are ready. To ensure you can be best prepared, information for all residents and visitors to Redlands Coast is available at [disaster.redland.qld.gov.au](http://disaster.redland.qld.gov.au)

Meanwhile, the Redland Local Disaster Management Group will continue to be vigilant and provide information through Council's website, social media, 612 ABC radio and Bay FM 100.3 radio. Council's news and social media feeds are well worth following to stay up to date with the latest information.

I trust you will find the information here useful.

### Prepare your home

- Clean gutters and downpipes
- Secure loose items around your property
- Trim trees around the house (check with Council first), install metal screens and ensure LPG cylinder relief valves point away from the house to minimise fire risk

### Make a household emergency plan

- Prepare an emergency kit with essentials such as medications, legal papers, first aid, a battery operated radio, batteries, pet food, money and a torch
- Identify a safe place to evacuate to in a bushfire and decide how you'd look after your pets
- Decide whether to go early or stay and defend in bushfire situations
- Make sure everyone in your household knows the plan
- Have your bushfire survival plan ready.

Visit [ruralfire.qld.gov.au](http://ruralfire.qld.gov.au) for more information.

### Know your neighbours

- Your neighbours can be a source of support during emergencies
- If you don't know who owns the property next door contact Council on 3829 8999 for their details
- Those without family or friends close by who would like more social contact can organise for a Red Cross check-in call by phoning 1300 885 698

### Be Informed

Visit [disaster.redland.qld.gov.au](http://disaster.redland.qld.gov.au) for information on how to prepare, respond and recover from natural disasters. For weather and warning updates:

Bureau of Meteorology [bom.gov.au/qld](http://bom.gov.au/qld)