



News from your Local Councillor

Cr Paul Gollè

Dear resident,

The winter lull in mosquitos and midges is the ideal time to begin preparing for summer.

As chair of the Regional Mosquito Management Committee, I can assure you that a lot of work is continuing behind the scenes to reduce mozzies and look for solutions to midge issues.

Council's efforts to tackle mozzies have included:

- 12 helicopter larvae sprays in five months, at an average cost of \$45,000 a flight, covering 8223ha.
- 659 ground treatments in known breeding sites, covering about 304ha.

- Rapid Surveillance for Vector Presence (RSVP) Ovi-trapping, with 55 traps set in a joint approach between Council and Queensland Health.

Thankfully, the board's Tweed Heads meeting - which included representatives from Redland, Logan, Tweed and Gold Coast councils, Biosecurity Queensland, Queensland Health, NSW Health and leading experts from the United States - heard that mosquito-borne disease notifications had decreased.

Last summer's increase in mozzie activity led to 188 requests for assistance to Council, up from

87 the previous year and this was reflected across South East Queensland. Council had 25 midge requests, down on the previous season.

There are two main mosquito species locally: salt marsh and freshwater.

Residents can assist in the mitigation of freshwater mosquitos by emptying water from containers such as pots and the like after rain. Water tanks should also be inspected regularly to ensure mosquito screens are serviceable.

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Parks keep getting better

It is always great to see local youngsters and their families enjoying our local parks.

This financial year, Council will continue its development of Thornlands Community Park, with the addition of an all-abilities play space.

This fully fenced area will be based on the principles of inclusive play, meaning children can play together with their friends, parents or individually. It will also have picnic facilities, shade and seating.

At Freshwater Park, a new dog off-leash area will be created near the recently constructed shelter.



PLAY TIME: An artist's concept of the new all-abilities play space coming to Thornlands Community Park.



Report hoons to get them off our roads

We can all help put the brakes on hoons and speeding drivers by reporting incidents to police.

There are a number of ways for residents to report offences such as street racing and burn-outs:

- If life or property is in immediate danger or the event is time critical, call Triple Zero (000);
- If it's non-urgent, not life threatening or there is little likelihood that the offenders are still in the area, call Policelink on 131 444;
- For hoon-specific information call the dedicated hoon hotline 13HOON (134 666), which goes to Policelink, or report online; or
- Contact your local police station.

By calling police when you see such behaviour, the chances of catching the offenders increases.

Residents should also remember to observe speed limits themselves and take care while on the road at all times. I am also working with Queensland Police to keep residents informed of pertinent topics through crime prevention messages, such as the one below.



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Residents and developers alike are urged not to plant low-lying shrubs that create dark, damp environments or gardens that can create breeding areas. Well ventilated, sunlit areas help reduce breeding sites.

While Council regularly sprays for mozzies in salt marsh areas, it cannot spray for midges.

If you have a midge problem, private midge treatments, such as barriers, are available.

Council spends about \$800,000 on controlling mosquitoes. Meanwhile I have met with local developers to discuss design processes to mitigate mosquito complaints, such as opting for landscaping which includes open, tree-lined breezeways rather than small garden beds that can become mozzie breeding sites.

I urge residents to start preparing for summer now by removing mosquito breeding sites from their properties and, in the case of midges, seeking guidance from a qualified private treatment company.

Cr Paul Gollé – Division 3

Connect with me at **Councillor Paul Golle**

Your elected advocate for Thornlands and Southern Cleveland.

“Because you matter”, “How can I help”

“Let’s work together”.

“Please don’t hesitate to get in touch, my door is always open”.



In an **EMERGENCY**
dial **TRIPLE ZERO**
(000)



For **NON-URGENT**
Police contact call
POLICELINK
131 444

Crime Prevention Corner

Six Most Commonly Breached Traffic Offences

If you drive a motor vehicle there are laws that ensure that you obey the road rules.

Driving involves risk and safe driving reduces the risk. By paying attention, making good decisions and taking responsibility for ones driving, the roads are safer for all road users.

As a driver you should consider the risks of unsafe driving every time you operate a motor vehicle.

The most commonly breached traffic offences so far this year (2019) within bayside patrol group are:

- Speeding
- Unregistered / uninsured vehicles
- Failure to stop at stop sign
- Using a mobile phone
- Driving a defective vehicle
- Failure to wear a seat belt

Road Safety is everyone’s responsibility – Don’t become a statistic.

Having a good attitude to driving is key!

A/Sgt Brendon Winslow - Bayside DCPC – ph: 07 33088180 - email DCPC.Wynnum@police.qld.gov.au - blog www.mypolice.qld.gov.au/bayside



Honouring Redlands citizens

I attended a small celebratory morning tea to acknowledge seven Redlands Coast residents who were recognised in the 2019 Queen’s Birthday Honours List. The recipients – Alexander Forrest, Paul Clauson, Louise Saunders, Colin Sutcliffe, Wayne Cole, Bill Corten and Jim Gable – were also presented with certificates of achievement.