



News from your Local Councillor

Cr Lance Hewlett

Dear resident

It is hard to believe that Christmas is just around the corner, so I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

This is the time of year when we reconnect with family and friends in the true spirit of the season. It's also the time of year when my calendar is full of many end-of-year celebrations and ceremonies at our local schools.

These are especially exciting for senior students who are leaving their school communities to begin their careers or to undertake further studies and for Year 6 students who will be transitioning to secondary school in 2019.

One of the highlights for me, as it is every year, was participating in the 2019 school leaders interviews at Victoria Point State High School, during which I was highly impressed by the calibre of all candidates.



HIGHLIGHT: With Victoria Point State High School P&C past president Stephanie Morris and principal Scott Steinhardt during the school leader interviews.

All will make wonderful leaders in the future. I have been a member of the Victoria Point High School P&C for seven years and it has been a privilege to be a small part of the journey of these fine young adults.

More than 300 new students will start Year 7 at the school next year, so best of luck to them all as they start a new and important chapter in their lives.

Landcare in focus

Delegates attending the National Landcare Conference in Brisbane recently were treated to a field trip to Coochie.

The full-day program hosted by Coochiemudlo Island Coastcare showcased the saturated steam weeding project funded by the State Government, as well as the Landcare

interpretive signage project in the Melaleuca Wetlands.

Both projects were undertaken in collaboration with Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation and rangers Brandon Martin and Elijah Addley were on hand to assist.

Weedtechnics Australia CEO Jeremy Winer helped with technical queries, while trained volunteers demonstrated the success of saturated steam to reduce noxious weeds in coastal zones.

A highlight of the day was a walk along Coochie's trademark sandy bush beaches, pictured, to inspect restoration works following the storm surge from ex-Tropical Cyclone Oswald in 2013.

The works, a collaborative project between SEQ Catchments, Redland City Council and Coastcare cover almost a kilometre of shoreline from the Melaleuca Wetlands north to Main Beach east.

Council is currently developing a Shoreline Erosion Management Plan led by consultancy, BMT Global and supported by the local community.





REFLECTION: With Member for Redlands Kim Richards at the nearly completed Coochiemudlo Island War Memorial.

Honouring our heroes

It has become evident in recent years that Redlands Coast's residents are embracing the various war memorial services across the city.

We are turning out in our thousands for Anzac Day services, as well as the other special days of reverence such as Remembrance Day and Long Tan Day, where we have the opportunity to honour, remember and pay respects to Australia's fallen and returned service men, women and even animals of war.

Although many residents attend the services at Cleveland and Redland Bay, the services at the Coochiemudlo Island War Memorial are indeed special and very moving experiences.

I was pleased this financial year to seize the opportunity to combine

funding from my Community Infrastructure Fund and the State Government's Queensland Anzac Centenary grants program to enhance the Coochiemudlo War Memorial with the inclusion of a "reflection" space with engraved sandstone seating to complement the existing memorial. There is also now a walkway which provides disability access to the memorial.

I sincerely appreciated the support of Member for Redlands Kim Richards, Mayor Karen Williams, Council officers, the Coochie Heritage Society, Coochiemudlo Progress Association and Coochiemudlo Coastcare, in delivering this great project for the residents of the island and the broader Redland's Coast.

New structure plan for emerging community

Council has resolved to prepare a structure plan for a new emerging community south of Victoria Point.

The plan, covering land to the south-west of Victoria Point that is currently included within the emerging community zone of the adopted Redlands Coast City Plan, will be led by Council and informed by community consultation.

Communication and a commitment from the State Government on road upgrades and transport infrastructure are vital to the outcome, ensuring adequate

infrastructure is planned to support future growth in this area.

We will be engaging the community following the formulation of the draft land-use plan and once we have ministerial approval to start detailed consultation. This is expected to happen in the second half of next year.

With congestion the biggest transport issue in the southern Redlands, this area needs to be properly planned with guarantees in place before development can be supported.

Council has deferred decisions on development applications in the area - which has been earmarked for a number of years for growth by the State Government and incorporated into its urban footprint - until the structure plan is in place to ensure growth is managed appropriately.

In the meantime, Council will ask the State Government to outline what work it is planning on roads in the area, including Cleveland-Redland Bay Road and the recently announced planning on roads associated with a proposed Victoria Point bypass.

Market day

**Mark down Sunday
2 December for Coochie's
Christmas market.**

It promises to be a great day next to the beach with a variety of stalls, plenty of food and information outlets. There is always live music plus plenty of activities for visitors to beautiful Coochiemudlo Island.

Merry Christmas to all

In 2019, I intend to 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 Councillor 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.

Please enjoy the coming season and stay safe.

Cr Lance Hewlett Division 4



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