



News from your Local Councillor

Cr Peter Mitchell

MAINLAND
EDITION

Dear resident

Business engagement is an important part of any CBD revitalisation. It is a key initiative of mine and I am happy to say that it has been well supported by Council.

The initial CBD business engagement breakfast late last year was a great success, with almost 100 people attending. This early energetic input clearly identified some preferred ideas to get things moving forward. The top four ideas were:

- More events to bring people in;
- Better tourism information and promotion;
- Placemaking and maintenance; and
- Partnerships and facilitation with Council.

I am pleased to report that from the very first meeting there have been a number of early wins. Ongoing hard work by all of us, and a little luck, should build on the momentum and deliver the results that Cleveland deserves. Engagement with Council by



FRUITFUL: Engagement with the Cleveland business community is vital if we are to breathe new life into our CBD.

both large and small CBD businesses is up as a result of our efforts. A second breakfast was held on 1 March.

Raby Bay Harbour has had some much needed TLC recently. This has included painting and lighting repairs and an upgrade to the boardwalk, with 600 metres of boards replaced. Council teams have also been inspecting the CBD to identify areas which need work. Deckchairs have been provided in Bloomfield Street Park for your

enjoyment and relaxation, with work to install new shade sails likely to have started by the time you read this.

I will continue to push for the resources necessary to revitalise our city's heart. Most importantly, I am urging business owners and residents to get behind local efforts to build a vibrant and exciting Cleveland city centre. I'm keen to hear your ideas and encourage you to spend your shopping dollars locally.

Staying connected

Transport and connectivity has been agreed by all Councillors as one of five key focus areas for this Council term. How we choose to tackle this has implications for recreation, family life, health, commerce and more.

I hear my community loud and clear, and share your concerns. Hot topics currently include parking, commuting, school drop-offs and pick-ups, travelling to and from work, infrastructure and public transport needs, and coping with increasing density of population.

I will this year be pushing for accurate data on our current and future parking demands to inform

a mature conversation around necessary infrastructure.

I also will continue to encourage and lead behaviour change by example. I already give up my allotted carpark to other staff as often as possible and suggest residents ride a bicycle or motorcycle, car pool or ride share where practical.

I encourage people without disability to enjoy a short walk by parking the car up to 500m from their destination where parking is more plentiful. I invite you all to join in with sensible change where you can.

I am very enthusiastic for our Council and city to trial new ideas and

technologies that suit our needs and lifestyles, and have encouraged Council and local businesses to look at trialling electric vehicles and to install charge points.

A bicycle, possibly electric, share program is currently being researched.

Council trialled a bus service over Christmas from Redland Bay, with more shuttle trials in key areas now also in the "possible" column.

It is not far fetched to think that self-driving cars or buses will be the norm by 2030. I want our city to be ready to exploit the best of these possibilities.



AHOY: The visit of The Notorious was a popular event at Raby Bay Harbour recently, with youngsters relishing the chance to board a re-creation of a pirate ship.



ON A ROLL: The Gatorade Triathlon Series had Raby Bay buzzing again this year.



POPULAR: The free yoga in Bloomfield Street Park has been well attended.

Events building our city

Tourism promotional opportunities are being pursued through the work of the Redlands Tourism Subcommittee, a partnership between Council and local operators. Council also has adopted a comprehensive events strategy to support local businesses and help create jobs.

Watch out for great local attractions on TV, social media and online, as well as in print media and cross-promotions. The CBD has recently hosted several events, including the Kozi Ironkids Challenge at Raby Bay, the visit of The Notorious "pirate ship" and the Snakes Alive reptile show at Cleveland Library. We have just seen the return of the Gatorade Triathlon Series, with the free Yoga in the Park trial in Bloomfield Street Park also well attended. There are also some top events on the calendar for the next few months.

Save the date

- **Monday 17 April, 10am-3pm:** Head to Cleveland Showgrounds for the **free Redlands Easter Family Festival**. This is a great day out for families with plenty of food and fun.
- **Saturday from 3pm and Sunday, 29-30 April:** Cleveland Showgrounds is the venue for this year's **Redland City Relay for Life**.
- **Sunday 7 May: The Redlands and Bay islands Cultural Festival** comes to Cleveland's Raby Bay Harbour Park. It's free.

Funding assured for coastal plan

The development of Council's comprehensive Coastal Adaptation Strategy has been backed with \$195,650 in funding from the State Government's QCoast2100 Program.

It will support phases 1-5 of our strategy to identify and develop management plans for erosion-prone areas.

This strategy will put the Redlands on the front foot in tackling coastal erosion and recognises that we face significant issues as a relatively small council with about 220km of coast to manage. When finalised, the overall strategy will provide a consistent and transparent approach to managing existing and emerging coastal hazards, as well as informing future planning.

Council is now about to begin community engagement as part of Phase 2, which looks at emerging risks. This will address long-term concerns for areas of our coast, as well as community expectations.

I will keep you posted.

Catch up for a chat

I am always keen to hear your ideas and discuss your concerns, so please stop for a chat if you see me at my regular "pop up" consultations in Cleveland.

Keep an eye on my Facebook page for details of where and when.

I am also available by phone and email seven days a week, so don't hesitate to get in touch.

Cr Peter Mitchell

Division 2 – Mainland