



News from your Local Councillor

Cr Lance Hewlett

Well done to our local heroes

Every year that I attend the Redland City Australia Day Awards, I am reminded how blessed we are to live in a community with so many outstanding individuals and community organisations who contribute their time, talents and resources to benefit others in our community.

This year's ceremony had very special relevance as local Victoria Point singing sensation, Leah Lever, won the Young Citizen of the Year 2017 Award.

At just 14, Leah volunteers her time to help dementia patients at the Redland Hospital Aged Care Unit and recently released her debut EP *Dreamcatcher*.

The daughter of family friends Debbie and Graeme Lever, she is very fortunate to be mentored and managed by acclaimed soprano Mirusia Louwerse.

I sincerely believe the sky is the limit for young Leah.



TALENT: With outstanding young Redlander Leah Lever and her mentor, internationally acclaimed soprano Mirusia Louwerse.

Luring events

Council has endorsed a comprehensive events strategy and action plan as part of a range of measures to support local businesses and help create jobs.

The Redland City Events Strategy and Action Plan 2017-2022 will help make our city a great destination for a range of unique events, while also providing top-class shows and entertainment for locals. This plan will support existing events, while attracting new events that fit with our vision for the City as a worthy cultural and arts destination.



COMMUNITY: Welcoming Faith's new principal Shane Altmann with Cr Paul Golle and head of junior school Eloise Beveridge.

Welcome to Faith's new principal

It was my privilege recently to officially greet Faith Lutheran College's new principal Shane Altmann at his installation service.

Shane, who brings experience and knowledge from his role as principal at St James Lutheran College in Hervey Bay, has been very warmly received by the Faith community.

Coastal plan gets funding

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 Council's strategy to identify and develop management plans for erosion-prone areas.

This 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.





Adventure park to bring local benefits



Council has approved the application for an adventure theme park within the Victoria Point Scout's Eprapah Reserve.

Tree Tops Challenge already has established facilities at Mt Tamborine and Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary and the company looks forward to providing some exciting courses through our local natural bushland, combining rope and wire challenges for all ages.

Councillor Paul Golle and I visited the Mt Tamborine facility in late 2016,

pictured, and were impressed by the professionalism and safety standards. I was amazed by how far visitors had travelled to enjoy the challenges of the various courses.

As well as the benefits it will provide to our economy through eco-tourism, it will provide healthy, outdoor recreation and will greatly assist with the sustainability of this important conservation area. It also will generate long-term employment opportunities. It is due to be operating by the end of the year.

Save the date

- **Monday 17 April, 10am-3pm:** Head to Cleveland Showgrounds for the **free Redlands Easter Family Festival**. This annual event is a great day out for families with plenty of food, fun and fellowship.
- **Tuesday, 25 April: Anzac Day**
- **Saturday from 3pm and Sunday, 29-30 April:** Cleveland Showgrounds is the venue for **Redland City Relay for Life**, a fun overnight experience that raises vital funds for the Cancer Council.
- **Sunday 13 August:** The iconic **Koala Fun Run** is on at Cascade Gardens, Colburn Avenue, Victoria Point. Local community-minded running group Bayside Runners and Walkers is organising this year's event for all ages and fitness levels.

Focus on parks and infrastructure

As more and more people are moving to the bayside to enjoy our wonderful lifestyle, Council's focus will continue to be on upgrading and renewing local infrastructure.

We will accelerate our road resurfacing, footpath and cycleway programs and ensure our beaches and foreshores are upgraded, protected and maintained.

I'm especially excited that over the next few years I will be seeking, subject to budget approval, to upgrade many of our local parks with new equipment, including Bassil Avenue Park, Bill Scudamore-Smith Park, Victoria Point Reserve Park, Duncan Jenkins Eucalypt Park, Poinciana Avenue Park, Sycamore Parade Park, Sandy Drive Park,



COMMUNITY: Upgrading local parks and renewing community infrastructure is a priority.

Penrose Avenue Park and Coochiemudlo Island parks.

Additionally, Cascade Gardens on Colburn Avenue will get significant upgrades over the coming years to make it a multi-functioning destination/event park.

New cricket nets will be the first step this year across the road at Ern Dowling Park, which will also get seating upgrades and water bubbler installations this year.

Watch this space - I will keep you posted.

Keep in touch

As part of my commitment to communicate and get feedback from local residents, I conduct regular Council information booths at Victoria Point Shopping Centre and Pelican's Nest.

I post times and dates on my Facebook Page. Just send me a friend request to get updates on many local issues and events.

I am also more than happy to meet with you in person at your home or in my Council office - phone 3829 8603 or 0421 880 371 to organise an appointment.

Cr Lance Hewlett
Division 4



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