



News from your Local Councillor

Cr Mark Edwards

ISLANDS
EDITION

Getting the DV message across

Council is throwing its support behind WAVSS Across the Redlands, the first domestic violence support service to operate in the Redlands for 20 years.

The not-for-profit organisation, which launched its Redlands operations last September, offers free information, support and counselling, predominantly for women and children experiencing domestic and family violence.

To coincide with Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month in May, signs were posted on Council bus shelters, waste collection trucks and other vehicles to send a clear message that domestic and family violence will not be tolerated.

As an organisation, we've also introduced a 10-day leave allowance for Council staff members who might be affected by domestic violence.

On behalf of WAVSS, we're also including a bumper sticker with this newsletter to help kick off their "Non-violence is contagious ... give it to your friends!" campaign.



For information or to seek support, visit www.wavss.org.

The service offers a range of support, including free information, court support, counselling, crisis response and perpetrator intervention programs.

Dear resident of the islands

The new term of Council has begun and I am honoured to have been re-elected as your Councillor.

With three new Councillors joining our ranks, the first few months are focusing on daily training and review workshops on the wide variety of areas that make up the works of Council. In forming our new team, there has been a commitment to working together in the best interests of the whole of the Redlands.

Redland Bay and the Bay Islands have some particularly challenging issues that require a "whole of Council" approach and the Councillors' commitment to resolve long-standing problems is most welcome.

In Redland Bay, the flow of traffic in peak periods is constrained where Council roads meet State roads.

Council will be challenging the State Government to work with us to resolve congested roads. We also need a renewed commitment to plan and provide more sporting fields, boat ramp facilities, footpaths and cycleways throughout the City.

On the Southern Moreton Bay Islands, I see an opportunity to progress the infrastructure such as green sealing all the roads, planning and delivering

adequate ferry terminal parking and upgrading waterfront infrastructure. These three items alone are not only achievable but will remove a lot of the disparity between island and mainland living.

Of all the challenges, Weinam Creek is to me the most pressing and hardest to resolve. It is an area which affects both the islands and Redland Bay residents, with the surging sprawl of parking impacting beyond the transport precinct and into the nearby neighbourhoods and shopping centre. While the Priority Development Area process will eventually transform the area into a functional transport hub and public waterfront space, interim actions will need to be taken to improve parking availability and ease the current pressures until redevelopment is complete.

The next term of Council will be a challenging one for all Councillors but I am sure that in working together to address the areas of greatest need, we will deliver great results for our City.

Cr Mark Edwards
Division 5 – Islands

Weinam Creek update

Council has agreed to give the Walker Group another three months to complete its proposal for the Weinam Creek Priority Development Area. The extension will enable Walker's proposal to accommodate feedback provided by the new Council, particularly relating to parking and strengthening public access to the foreshore.

It is important the community remains patient while the necessary steps occur to make this multi-million dollar project a reality.

Once the Request for Proposal phase is completed on 1 August, a panel of Council and State Government representatives will evaluate Walker Group's proposal.





Sculpture event to celebrate our natural beauty

Australia's richest sculpture competition will put the focus on the Bay Islands over two separate events in June and August.

The event, named Girt by Sea Sculpture Exhibition, will be run as two distinct events to take advantage of the funding that has been made available by Redland City Council.

I was proud to announce last year that \$35,000 would be made available annually to hold this top-class event designed to celebrate the natural beauty of Redland Bay and the Bay Islands.

As the money had to be expended before June 30, it was decided to run two events within three months of each other to take advantage of the 4 Islands Festival program in August.

Artists from both the emerging and established sculpture communities have been encouraged to enter the events, which will run from June 3-10 and in conjunction with the 4 Islands Festival from August 5-14.



Coming up on Macleay

Infinite EarthFest will be held on Macleay island on Saturday 25 June, the winter solstice, to celebrate "creativity, green living and sustainability". This event, a partnership between The Organic Farm and Running Wild youth organisation, will include market stalls, activities and workshops.

ANZAC spirit alive and well in the Redlands

Of all the days we come together as a community, ANZAC Day is one held in the highest regard.

My family, like many others, had relatives serve our country over the years and some who made the ultimate sacrifice. ANZAC Day is a day to remember all men and women of the Australian Defence Force, regardless of the time or place they served.

When I attended the Redland Bay State and Victoria Point High ANZAC Day ceremonies, it reinforced to me that the future of this special day is in good hands

with our youth. They understand and embrace the ANZAC spirit.

At every event I attended on ANZAC Day - the dawn service at Redland Bay, the 11am commemorative service on Russell Island and the dusk service on Karragarra Island - the community involvement was very strong, as I believe it was at other services in the City. A fundamental message I take away from ANZAC Day is that in paying homage to our veterans and those who gave their lives in serving our nation, we recognise that peace and freedom have always required a sacrifice that should never be forgotten.



LEST WE FORGET: The ANZAC Day commemorations on Russell, left, and Karragarra islands was very strong, reflecting the spirit across the Redlands.

Illegal dumping a significant impost

Dumping garden waste in bushland is more than an eyesore - it has the potential to destroy our natural environment and introduce invasive weeds.

It has become a bit of a problem across the City, with lawn clippings, garden prunings and fallen palm fronds discarded in bushland rather than being taken to the tip or put in greenwaste bins.

Illegal dumping is a significant financial burden for ratepayers, as it is a costly exercise to clean up illegally dumped waste of any kind.

You can visit www.redland.qld.gov.au to order a greenwaste bin to responsibly dispose of garden waste.

Letterbox placement

The postal contractor on Russell Island has asked whether residents can choose to move their letter boxes so there is no need to drive on the footpath, which can be a problem when it is wet as the mail is delivered by car.

Council officers are looking at the issue. Safety is a prime concern, so letterboxes would have to be a minimum 300mm behind the kerb or guidepost line and fixed on a breakable post, say 75mm x 50mm and made of wood, driven into the ground without obstructing utility services. The maximum box size would have to be limited to 400mm x 300mm with no adornments that could be a spear hazard in the event of an accident. The owner would have to accept liability and would be obliged to move the letterbox if it was considered to be a safety hazard by Council. Pardon the pun but I will keep you posted.