



# News from your Local Councillor

## Cr Craig Ogilvie

### Be bushfire ready this season

Dear Resident,

With the fire which devastated much of Straddie last year still at the forefront of our minds, it is imperative all island residents are ready for this summer's fire and storm season.

A short time ago we had another reminder that fire can strike at any time and the latest forecasting by the Public Safety Business Agency, prepared in conjunction with Council and the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service, shows islanders continue to face a very high fire threat.

Council's Disaster Management Plan, available online at [www.redlandsdisasterplan.com.au](http://www.redlandsdisasterplan.com.au), is a great source of information on how to prepare for a disaster, as well as evacuation routes. It offers detailed hazard assessments, safety information and potentially life-saving tips at this time of heightened fire risk. Island residents should familiarise themselves with the necessary information and prepare their homes and families now rather than waiting until a fire to make the preparations.

I sincerely hope we do not face another event like in December-January but, just in case, I have provided a checklist, *right*, for an emergency kit to help you, as preparation will make all the difference should there be a major bushfire event.

Make sure you check the bushfire risk map online and sign up to Council's social media services so you can get the latest information directly when bushfire threatens.



### Assembling an emergency kit

Your emergency kit should contain -

- a portable radio with spare batteries
- a torch with spare batteries
- a first aid kit
- candles and waterproof matches
- a waterproof bag for valuables
- important documents including emergency contact numbers



If evacuation is likely or required -

- a good supply of any prescribed medications
- any special requirements for babies, the disabled, infirm or elderly
- strong shoes and protective clothing
- food and drinking water

### Get ready for the Vibe

I'm looking forward to Island Vibe from October 31 - November 2 on the Redlands' festival island, Straddie.

This year it will feature soul phenomenon Finley Quaye from the UK and legendary songman Archie Roach among many other top-class acts.

There also will be two local music showcases to show off the island's considerable musical talent.

There will be three stages - the more intimate Coconut Lounge, the Bamboo Bass and the iconic Island Vibe Main Stage, where you will see the international acts. The event follows the Straddie Salute Triathlon Festival and Straddie Assault in showing off beautiful Straddie.



### Dunwich main street toilet - going, going, gone?

Recent renovations to the North Stradbroke Island Rugby League and Allsports Club included new toilet facilities on the ground floor of the club.

Council and the Allsports Club are currently running a trial to use these toilets as public facilities. During this trial the current public toilet block (between the club and Ballow Road, Dunwich) will be closed to encourage use of the new facilities.

If the trial is successful, Council will investigate removing the current toilet block to open up the space at the front of the club. We would like to hear community views before we make a final decision, so please contact me if you have any concerns or otherwise.

## Dealing with coastal erosion

Council has endorsed the establishment of a senior-level Coastal Adaptation Steering Committee to help respond to coastal erosion issues.

The new committee is designed to provide clear high-level policy direction for coastal management, particularly at Amity Point, which is one of Queensland's highest coastal erosion risk areas.

At meetings between Council and Amity Point residents this year, it was agreed that the State Government had a central role in responding to coastal erosion management measures such as the construction of sea walls to defend individual properties. Local knowledge will be a key to its success.

I have been lobbying for some time for the easing of approvals necessary for residents to defend their properties through the construction of rock seawalls. Straddie residents arguably know what works best and what doesn't.



## Recognition for Myora Springs management

QYAC' and SEQ Catchment's wonderful work at Capembah Creek (Myora Springs), *pictured*, continues to earn it well-deserved accolades. It has now received the 2013 Queensland Landcare Award for Indigenous Land Management and the 2014 Healthy Waterways Award in the Indigenous category, and was a finalist in the Indigenous Land Management category at the 2014 National Landcare Awards.

Anyone who heads over to Straddie should call into Myora and check it out. Besides being a beautiful and significant spot, you will find it very informative. Council was proud to provide financial support for this project.

## Report to look at Amity Basin access

Council has agreed to my call for a report into possible alternative access routes to Amity Basin.

It follows feedback from locals who are keen to use the popular Basin beach to launch kayaks and small boats, as well as go fishing.

While the ban on driving vehicles through Straddie Camping's Amity Point campsite to the Basin remains, the report will canvas whether there are options for vehicle access which will not compromise public safety.


Since vehicle access to the site was closed in April, pedestrians have been welcome to walk to the beach through the campsite.



TOP SPOT: The view at Amity.

The original track was not gazetted and was part of the camping ground lease. I will keep residents posted on developments.

## Keep in touch

-  If you want to follow Island news and my activities, please like the Straddie Futures page.
-  You can also follow me on Twitter @CouncilCraig.

If you have any further questions about any issues please contact me at any time.

Warm regards



**Cr Craig Ogilvie**  
Division 2 – Island