

Residents' Christmas Report

Message from your Councillor



Merry Christmas

I hope you will have the opportunity to relax and appreciate all that we have to be thankful for here in our beautiful part of the world during this festive season.

For my part I will be looking forward to a chance to spend some quality time with the family and friends that I have perhaps not seen enough throughout the year as a result of the busy schedule of Council. I sincerely hope that you will have a peaceful and joyous Christmas with those who are dear.

It has been a busy year for Council as we have tried to ensure that services such as roads maintenance and parks facilities and mowing have improved while continuing to keep movements in our rates levels to the lowest level in SEQ. I am very pleased to note that we have doubled our expenditure for roadworks this financial year. Road crews have been busy across the city and the improvements are obvious. We plan to continue the improvements next year.

There are also plans for improvements in parks and bikeways for Redland Bay and Mount Cotton with the new dog off-lead facility in the regional park now completed and plans for two age-appropriate playgrounds in the Mount Cotton area.

Please ensure you have a safe holiday period.

I look forward to enjoying a new and more prosperous year with you in 2014.

Warm best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Cr Julie Talty

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Get Ready for anything

Storms and bushfires are all part of summer in Australia but there are steps we can all take to make sure we are prepared:

- **Be informed** – stay tuned to local media for emergency updates
- **Make a plan** – talk with your family about how you would survive a disaster
- **Prepare an emergency kit** – include a torch, batteries, water, important phone numbers, medicine and documents
- **Know your neighbours** – exchange numbers and think about any neighbours who may need help such as the elderly.

Redland City Council has released the first two parts of its Disaster Management Plan and also recently distributed the Australian Red Cross emergency REDiPlan and the Department of Community Safety's Bushfire Survival Plan.

These plans and much more handy information are available at the Disaster Hub on Council's website at www.redland.qld.gov.au.



Come and enjoy Christmas by Starlight

Saturday 7 December 2013
Norm Price Park - Redland Showgrounds



FREE festivities for the family

Preparations are in full swing ahead of Christmas by Starlight – a huge FREE family event on Saturday 7 December to celebrate this special time of year in the Redlands.

There is a host of local talent lined up to perform, including headline act Connor Crawford of *Jersey Boys* fame who will incorporate a selection of Frankie Valli's greatest hits into the program.

Redland City Mayor Karen Williams said Christmas by Starlight, at Norm Price Park – Redland Showgrounds in Long Street, Cleveland – would be one to remember.

"Christmas is a very special time of year for families and we will have something for everyone," said Cr Williams. "There will be children's entertainment from 3pm, a special children's concert from 5.30pm, and traditional twilight carols from 6.15pm.

"Add to that food stalls, roving entertainers, children's rides and static displays as well as a spectacular fireworks finale (and even a special visit from Santa himself) and Christmas by Starlight will certainly be a highlight of the festive season."

Cr Williams said the stage and equipment would be weatherproof so nothing would dampen the spirits of performers, community groups and residents.

Christmas by Starlight is an alcohol-free event.

Proudly supported by



Shop local and win

Buying locally has a lot more to offer than just a boost to our local economy in terms of jobs – those who shop at retailers participating in the 100% Redlands Christmas Challenge will also be in the running

to win loads of prizes, including a Holden Barina, a Straddie holiday or a 32" Samsung LED HD TV. The final prize draw is 17 December. Simply register at participating stores or online at www.100percentredlands.com.au.



Fantastic future for our ferry facilities

Toondah Harbour and Weinam Creek are on the brink of an exciting period of transformation. From mid January 2014 you will be invited

to have your say on the proposed development schemes for these Priority Development Areas. The plans will be based on ideas from the community, technical studies as well as feedback and interest from potential investors. The development schemes for both sites will be finalised by June next year (2014). Visit www.redland.qld.gov.au.



Rethink your rubbish this Christmas

Just as Christmas is a time of giving, Boxing Day is a time of disposing. Extend your goodwill to our environment this festive season by choosing gifts with less packaging or reusing shopping bags.

During the Christmas clean-up, keep plastic bags out of your yellow-lidded recycling bin – they belong in the general waste bin. Better still, take them to selected supermarkets for recycling.



Council Christmas closures

Redland City Council's Customer Service Centres (Cleveland and Capalaba) will be closed during Christmas-New Year from Wednesday 25 December 2013 up to and including Wednesday 1 January 2014.

This includes the Cleveland Administration Building and the Capalaba Place Building, as well as Redland Libraries. During this period, only essential Council services will be available in a limited capacity.

Fallen trees, urgent road repairs, water supply and other emergencies can be reported on Council's After Hours Emergency Service number 3829 8999.

The IndigiScapes Centre and Redland waste transfer stations will be closed Christmas Day only. Waste collection services will continue as normal.