

# Residents' Christmas Report

## Message from your Councillor



Throughout 2013, I have met many people throughout Redland Bay and the Southern Moreton Bay Islands who have made an enormous commitment and contribution in building a stronger and safer local community. As Christmas approaches and we reflect upon our past achievements and our future hopes and aspirations, it is important that we continue to foster this community spirit.

The past year has not only seen a number of improvements to our local infrastructure but has also seen the achievement of obtaining a Priority Development Area status for the Weinam Creek transport hub. This PDA is more than bricks and mortar, it is about community. It is building a waterfront precinct that will not only provide for the varied community needs but will also create a civic space that will attract and engage our community from the islands, Redland Bay and the wider City.

Christmas is also a time when we need to reach out to those less fortunate around us. It can be a difficult time for many and even the smallest gesture of kindness can make a difference.

I wish all of you a safe and comforting Christmas and a New Year that will bring the best to you and your families. I look forward to our Council continuing to serve you the best we can and contributing to help build the best place in the world to live, work and play.

Merry Christmas everyone

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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](http://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.**

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## 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](http://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](http://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.