



News from your local councillor

Cr Tracey Huges

Division 8: Birkdale/Alexandra Hills/Capalaba/Wellington Point



Dear resident,

School is out for summer, Christmas and end-of-year get-togethers fill our calendar, shopping is on everyone's mind and we are all so busy.

December is an amazing month of activity, change, family time, hugs and giving thanks for our family, friends, neighbours and work colleagues.

This year has seen our grandson Max start day care and all the sickness and angst that comes with that; our daughter now a working mum; my mother going into full-time care with dementia; and our strong support to our community remaining our focus.

We are so lucky to live in such a beautiful city and each one of us has a story to share.

From my family to yours, I truly wish you all many Christmas blessings as we reflect on the



year that has been, focus on the year that is to come, celebrate our family milestones and remember those we have lost.

Please know I am always available to you as a Justice of the Peace; simply call me and know I will help wherever I can.

T. Huges.

Cr Tracey Huges – Division 8

Christmas is a time for community

Here are a few of the wonderful events happening in our community this Christmas season:

- **Salvation Army Church** (cnr MacArthur Street and McDonald Road, Alexandra Hills) – A free Christmas Day lunch will be held from midday for families and individuals who may be alone at Christmas, including those sleeping rough or families facing crisis. Again this year, in partnership with the Kmart Wishing Tree Appeal, Salvos Bayside will support Redlands Coast and bayside families who are doing it tough with toys and/or food hampers, assessed on a case-by-case needs basis.
- **Redlands Church of Christ** (cnr McMillan and Allenby roads Alexandra Hills) – Join others in your neighbourhood for a night of singing, fun, great coffee and delicious food on 17 December from 5pm to 7.30pm. Members of the Redlands City Bands will provide the music for the night and there'll be prizes for the best Christmas costumes.
- **Redlands Community Centre** (Loraine Street, Capalaba) – The centre's Christmas Project is tailored for Redlands Coast families facing hardship and seeks to bring cheer to children under 16 years. The centre will also host a Christmas Community Lunch in December and will be supporting school students with the Backpack To School Project in the new year. Details for all these projects will be on the centre's Facebook page.

Busy time at Birkdale Recycling and Waste Centre

The holidays are always a popular time to do some work in the garden, finally clean out that shed, or spruce things up before friends or family drop over.

This will often result in a trip to the Birkdale Recycling and Waste Centre up the hill on Old Cleveland Road East.

If you haven't been for a while, new operating hours came into effect on 1 September this year – gates are open daily, seven days a week, from 7am to 4.30pm (last vehicle entry 4.15pm). The only days the centre is closed are Christmas Day and Good Friday.

With December being the busiest time of the year, expect that there may be some delays when you visit. There also will be changed traffic conditions.

Please be patient while waiting your turn and please remember to show respect to the hardworking staff at the centre.

Here are a few tips on how you can make the most of your trip to the recycling and waste centre:

- Plan your visit – save time by separating and sorting materials correctly before arriving.
- Maximise your load – try to hold off visiting until you have a full load.
- Put your wheelie bins to good use – smaller, lighter loads can be managed through your kerbside bin service, including an optional kerbside green waste collection, with multiple bins allowed.

For more information on recycling and waste centres, visit redland.qld.gov.au

Swing by and check out the park upgrades



Goodge Court Park's new play equipment gets a tick of approval from some youngsters.

There is some great news about our Division 8 parks with a newly upgraded one getting plenty of use, another park upgrade about to open, and one due for a new year makeover.

The park at Goodge Court, Birkdale, was recently upgraded with new play equipment, seating and shade sails, and is perfect for prams, scooters and little bikes.

Goodge Court Park is situated along the beautiful tree-lined and popular walkway that starts at the Valentine Park playground off MacKay Court, Alexandra Hills, and meanders up to Bailey Road, Birkdale, finishing at the Robinson Park playground.

This flat and easy walk has four playgrounds along the way and passes a nine-hole disc golf course. With picnic areas at either end of the walk, it is a perfect school holiday outing. You can also take your puppy as the Valentine Park Dog Off-Leash area is part of the walk.

Over in Capalaba, John Frederick Park situated next to the Capalaba Bulldogs Football Club on Old Cleveland Road will hopefully have its upgrade finished in time for Christmas, weather permitting.

Playground equipment being installed includes a play unit, soccer ball rocker, Z balance beam and noughts and crosses play panel. It will also have a sand and rubber soft-fall area, sandstone block retaining wall seating, and other landscape features such as turf, topsoil and forest mulch.

In the new year, it will be the turn of Babiana Street Park, Alexandra Hills, for an upgrade.

Starting late February, the park will be getting some additional play equipment including a noughts and crosses toddler play unit, slide and climbing elements, double swing, butterfly and flower explorer play panel, ladybug rocker, flipper and a two-seat totter.

ARE YOU READY REDLANDS COAST?

STORM AND BUSHFIRE SEASON IS HERE

Take the steps now to keep you, your loved ones and your property safe.

- 1. Know the risk – everyone's disaster risk is different. Find out what disasters may happen in our area and how they might affect you. Take actions to reduce your risk.**
- 2. Have a plan – extreme weather can happen quickly. A plan means everyone in your household knows what to do, saving precious time.**
- 3. Have an emergency kit – store your kit somewhere safe so you have the things you need when the weather turns bad.**



disaster.redland.qld.gov.au
getready.qld.gov.au

Christmas back under the stars

A Christmas tradition on Redlands Coast returns to its original format and location this year.

Christmas by Starlight will be held on Saturday 16 December 2023, from 3pm to 8.30pm, at Norm Price Park – Redland Showgrounds, Cleveland.

For the past three years, the event had been subject to restrictions brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and had been a ticketed event held over five days at Raby Bay Harbour Park.

This year it returns to its original popular location at the showgrounds and will be free to all with no tickets required.

There will be live entertainment, free rides, Christmas merchandise stalls, food trucks, a visit from Santa Claus and Christmas carolling.

Meanwhile, the annual Redlands Coast Lighting of the Christmas Tree will be held from 5pm to 8.30pm on Friday 1 December at Raby Bay Harbour Park, Cleveland. It is also a free event with no tickets required.

Closure times

All non-essential Redland City Council services will shut from close of business on Friday 22 December 2023 and will reopen on Tuesday 2 January 2024. This includes Customer Service Centres and Council's Contact Centre.

Council's emergency service will operate during the closure period for Council-related emergencies.

For more information on operating hours, visit redland.qld.gov.au

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