



News from your local councillor Cr Peter Mitchell

Division 2: North Stradbroke Island/Minjerribah edition



Christmas 2024

Dear Straddie Resident

This time of the year offers us an opportunity to regroup and connect with what and who is important to us.

Let's show our appreciation for our own good fortune in a practical way. Please consider donating time or money to registered local charities and support services.

Another great way to celebrate and share the festive spirit is to drop over to the mainland for the lighting of the Christmas tree at Raby Bay Harbour Park, Cleveland, on Friday 22 November. A little earlier than previous years, it kicks off a four-week festival of activities right across our city.

One thing I like to remind us all of at this time of the year is to try and buy local and support our island businesses whenever possible. You'll find some unique and amazing Christmas gift ideas right here on Minjerribah.

As we enter our peak storm and bushfire risk season, the other thing we need to remember is to be proactive and take precautions now to ensure that our families and homes are prepared. Be fire and storm aware,



have evacuation kits prepared and brief everyone on your plans.

To ensure you can be best prepared, go to disaster.redland.qld.gov.au

Let's hope we have a safe and disaster-free holiday season, and please take care in all you do this season. I wish you all a safe and merry Christmas.

Cr Peter Mitchell
Division 2 – Island



Budgets made a little merrier

Christmas budgets were made a little easier for some not-for-profit groups when planning community festive events on Redlands Coast this year.

They were able to apply for a special round of funding from Council that offered an additional, early round of Village Events and Activation Grant (VEAG) funding this year to support community-led events.

Council introduced the VEAG program in 2022, offering one funding round in February each year to help activate 10 local centres across Redlands Coast but decided to allow an additional and early round of applications to give more community-led event organisers the opportunity to apply for funding.

This was in line with Council's decision to reimagine its Christmas program this year as a city-wide, four-week festival of activities rather than a single event. Applications closed 11 November.



Keeping koalas safe from dogs

With a number of koalas having been attacked by dogs on Minjerribah this year, Council is reminding dog owners what to do in such a situation.

If your dog has attacked or tried to physically play with a koala, even if you think it has gotten away unharmed, call Wildlife Rescue Minjerribah on 0448 466 556.

Due to a koala's thick fur, injuries can be hard to spot. Koalas can also easily suffer from internal injuries from crushing bites that have left no mark. If untreated, these injuries can be fatal.



Get ready for storm season

Residents are reminded to prepare for this year's summer storm season.

To keep your property and yourself safe, it is important to ensure your home is best prepared to handle an extreme weather event.

Some of the steps you can take to secure your property include clearing downpipes and gutters, and trimming overhanging branches, trees and shrubs.

Items around the yard that could become projectiles under high-wind conditions should be secured or stored

safely. Also, have a think about how to secure caravans, boats and trailers.

You can subscribe to Council's free emergency notification messaging service, Redlands Coast Alerts, via the Redlands Coast Disaster Dashboard at disaster.redland.qld.gov.au

During a disaster, the dashboard is continually updated with vital information on road closures, emergency contacts, Energex power outages, active evacuation centres and weather warnings.

Be on alert for fire ants

Take the time these holidays to check your yard for the red imported fire ant.

Since 1 July 2024, Council has been undertaking surveillance, suppression and treatment of fire ants on Council-owned or managed land, but please note that it is still your obligation to report any suspected fire ant nests.

Call Biosecurity Queensland in the first instance, whether the location is on private or public land. You can reach them at **13 25 23**.

Fire ants (pictured) are copper brown in colour with a darker abdomen and are quite small, 2-6mm. They exhibit aggressive behaviour, with hundreds of ants responding if a nest is disturbed. They swarm the threat, trying to sting over and over, causing the sensation of being on fire.

More information on Council's Fire Ant Management Program can be found at redland.qld.gov.au/FireAnts



Mozzie season is on its way

Our city-wide Mosquito Management Program is ready... are you?



✓ Check your insect screens



✓ Empty pooling water around your yard



✓ Cover up and wear repellent outdoors



Scan here for more tips

redland.qld.gov.au/mosquitoes 3829 8999