

# MACHANATIONS

[www.machansbeach.net/machanations](http://www.machansbeach.net/machanations)

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Editor – Mark 0438 760 861

## PICTURES IN THE PARK

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December – 7.00pm

Our next Pictures in the Park will be the first Trinity movie which I think is called “Trinity is My Name.” The Trinity movies are great comedy westerns suitable for all the family. Movie night is Saturday the 13th December in Keith Edwick Park at 7pm. There will be no BBQ or drinks sold this time as everybody seems to bring their own, which is great. So remember BYO!!!

Everything, including chairs, rugs, food, drink and kids. The Take Away will provide movie packs for those who want the night off. There will be a small number of chairs available for the seniors. This movie is sponsored by Suzanne Gibson and Deb Fisher from O’Shea Esplanade. Aren’t they wonderful? Set up will start about 4.30pm so if you can give a hand, come on down.

## MACHANS SCHOOL NEWS

The school year has just about come to a close and as always it has been a very busy and productive year at Machans Beach State School. Our successes and achievements to the school and community with our environmental focus has been very effective, with our students becoming very active eco-citizens. Our School Wide Positive Behaviour Program has seen important and effective improvements in our behaviour management with data showing a huge increase in positive behaviours. The changes we have implemented to our curriculum delivery has seen our students performing very well across the district and state. Our inaugural P&C Trivia Night was also a great success with many people commenting that they would like to attend another next year.

Our enrolment figures for next year are looking positive but as always it would be great if we can increase our student numbers. If you know of any families moving to the area please encourage them to attend our school. With great staff, great students and great results our school should be the first option.

With the holidays almost upon us, I would also like to urge everyone to continue their vigilant and positive neighbourhood watch around the school. Please report any concerns to the School Watch number 13 17 88.

On behalf of the school and the P&C I would also like to thank everyone who has supported the school in so many ways throughout the year. It is this support and help that has contributed to making this school the great school that it is. Last of all I would like to wish everyone in the community a safe and relaxing holiday. *Jane*

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## SPORTS CLUB NEWS

Sports Club Christmas Party  
Saturday 20th December

We will be holding our annual Christmas party on Saturday 20th December from 3PM. There will be free rides for the kids, a BBQ and live music jam from the Cairns Muso's Club. We are also expecting a visit from the great man in red himself. So kids make sure you are on the nice list so as not to miss out. In the meantime, the club will be closed from Friday 28 November until the Christmas Party. See you there. Dan



## GARDEN NEWS

First of all we need to say thanks to Geoff Holland who was our inaugural garden coordinator. Unfortunately since his sudden departure from Machans in September the gardens have had very little attention. It seems general interest had faded to the point where there was not enough manpower to maintain the irrigation system and the large

number of individual garden beds. In an attempt to keep the garden going, a small group of us has decided to re-structure the gardens, so that all plots are communal with gardening done as group projects. The main focus will be to enjoy each other's company. One of the first projects is to establish a meeting place which we envision will one day be surrounded by a lush flowering garden. If anyone has sturdy outdoor furniture they could donate it would be greatly appreciated. Anyone interested in joining the group or just having a chat about gardening is welcome to attend. We still meet on Saturdays between 4 and 6 pm.

For more information contact Katherine on 4055- 0929 or Chrissy on 4055-0941.

# POST OFFICE NEWS

This is the last notes for this year and hasn't this year gone fast.

I would like to wish one and all a very merry Christmas and a wonderful new year. I hope that all goes well for you and your family over the festive season and that your travels are safe and you return in fine form.

For all of your last minute gifts with a difference come and see what is left in the shop. From stocking fillers to heartfelt gifts they are all waiting for you, and I only keep small quantities of each item. If you are moving, please remember that the library in the PO always has donations of good quality books (novels, not technical books as they invariably only get thrown out). The money from the sale of these books goes to a charity. So from my family to your family, have a merry Christmas and we will see you all next year.

Bye for now. Russell

## Machans Beach Community Association – 13 November 2008.

### Association Christmas Party Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December, All Welcome!

**Members** in attendance – 4 plus 3, Visitors 2

**Tree planting** in Keith Edwick Park went well, a good turn out and thanks to all who turned up. Council supplied over 200 trees. Cathie is organising a roster to water the plants – volunteers needed – contact Cathie Archer.

**Police Report** - Bike stolen from fenced back yard, Theft of mobile phone, Drug operations, Random breath testing, Noise complaints related to Sports Club on Friday and Sat nights. Recent assault at Machans discussed – in absence of formal complaint, Police can't respond – can only retain the information for intelligence.

**Wildlife** - Barry has done census of wildlife killed on access road – 24 Oct, 3 Nov and 7 Nov - total of three wallabies. Also 2 bandicoots in that same time plus others. Request Council consider options – Speed humps, Speed limits, Better lighting, Something flashing at night, Signage. Bodies are recovered by Council same day which is good but means that that it is less visible.

**Wildlife eating Hall** – Pest control to be contacted.

**Hall** - Insurance – Quotes to be sought.

**Maintenance** - Cracked stumps & timber damage. Need to list and prioritise maintenance issues. Sign over door deteriorating – Richard suggests that a new base is needed. Floor is deteriorating needs to be re-sealed. If necessary pay someone to write an application to the Gambling Benefit Fund. Council will provide in-kind assistance up to \$2000 per year. Can apply to Council at any time but better to do it sooner rather than later.

**Margaret's notes** - Fire lit under playground equipment in Keith Edwick Park. Surprised at all the "50" Speed Limit signs at round-a-bout and elsewhere. Council trying to establish footpath between shops and School. Bully the bull has had its horn clipped, **Bert's house** will probably be gone by Christmas but mulberry tree to stay – Margaret will let us know so that the Community can farewell the house. Margaret has commissioned Eve Walker to paint a picture of the house. Consultation will be carried out about what will replace it and also any issues with neighbours. Some people want a gazebo. Council Officers are concerned with possible noise. New steel access gate behind the SES shed – what is it for – Margaret not sure and will inquire.

**Next meeting will be on 11 December 2008**

**Association will supply drinks and nibbles**

## MACHANS BEACH STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE



**Machans helps Brisbane.** Storms, described by authorities, as the worst in 25 years hit Brisbane and suburbs in November. Two members of our Group who have chainsaw, height safety and tarping skills gave up 5 days to help in the affected areas around Brisbane. These members were not paid for this and have received no reward – other than personal satisfaction. Well done guys.

**Training.** In addition to Group training, a member has completed an Emergency Operations Centre Course. Other members had nominated for this course but elected to go to Brisbane to help out with dealing with the storm aftermath. This Course will be held again in the New Year.

**Skyrail Exercise.** This exercise will be held in late November (after submitting this) and will involve floodboat operations, casualties (to be lowered from the Gondolas), Emergency Operation Centre staffing and assistance to carry equipment packs (abt. 30Kgs each) to area of operations. Many members have nominated to participate in this.

**Christmas/New Year break.** While SES is available for response 24/7, training is suspended over the Christmas-New Year period to allow members a break and to celebrate with their families and loved ones. For Machans Beach SES, the last meet for 2008 will be on December 17 with training again resuming on the 1st. Wednesday in January 2009. On behalf of the MB SES, I would like to wish, not only the members of SES, but the whole community a Merry Christmas and a Happy disaster free New Year. We look forward to seeing existing members and new members in 2009.

### **Get involved - be part of SES.**

Be challenged, gain new skills and self confidence, make new friends, have fun and help the community at the same time! Ring the Duty Officer on 4055 9277 for information about becoming an SES volunteer.



**Flood Storm Emergency – 132500 Machans Beach SES – Caring for the Community**

### DATE CLAIMERS

Community Association .....	7.30pm in the Community Hall, Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	(Russell 4055 9402)
Neighbourhood Watch .....	7.30pm in the Community Hall, Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	(Russell 4055 9402)
Friends of Redden Island – FoRI.....	Contact Rob 0432 287 032	
SES .....	7.00pm at HQ, Keith Edwick Park, Every Wednesday	(John 0417 365 323)
MAGS.....	Coordinator wanted	
Machans Organic Community Garden.....	4.00 – 6.00, Saturdays & Wednesdays, west side of School	
Sports Club - Drinks & Live Music.....	6.00 – 10.00pm at the Sports Club, every Friday	
Sports Club - Music Sessions & BBQ .....	3.00 - 10.00pm – First Saturday of the month	(Dan 4055 0069)
Magnets Morning Tea .....	10am in the Community Hall, 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month	(Fred 4055 9129)
School P & C.....	At the school, for date and time see School newsletter	(Dave 4055 0365)

**For Hall Bookings contact Deryck – 4055 9397 – [deryck@machansbeach.net](mailto:deryck@machansbeach.net)**

## GREETINGS FROM COUNCILLOR MARGARET COCHRANE

*The little man in the red suit is almost on our doorstep, where did the year go?*

I understand that Council has circulated residents within the proposed Character Precincts some documents for comments and concerns. There are sessions arranged as per the hand-out which residents can attend and discuss their concerns. I am arranging another session at Aeroglen hall for 10th Dec, commencing at 8.00pm. I can understand how residents would have concerns about development and redevelopment of their home sites so please get to a session to have your concerns heard as this is the consultant process time when changes can be addressed if they need to be.

The playground equipment "accident" has been addressed, with little residual damage which is really good. This equipment is made of recycled rubber and was stated in the sales brochure "to be fire resistant", has been put to

the test and I would say passed that test. There will be further new equipment placed in the School park in the near future if it is not already in place by now.

Please take care over the holiday break, be aware of the weather and what it can present to us over this time of the year.

Council will have customer contact available 24/7 over the holiday period, so if you have a difficulty please phone 4044 3044, if you need me at any time my mobile is 0419 706 372 and I will be available over the whole of the holiday break.

May I take this opportunity to wish each and every one of the residents and their families all the very best for Christmas and New Year. Christmas is a special time to cherish families. Merry Christmas and God Bless,

*Margaret*

## Xmas Message from Steve Wettenhall State Member for Barron River

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all at Machans Beach a happy Christmas and New Year. As Christmas time also heralds the storm season, don't forget to check your insurance is up to date and your valuations are realistic. Now is the time to get yourself and your family prepared in the event of a cyclone. While you're at it, do you have an elderly or disabled neighbour? Why not check to see if they need a hand preparing for the storm season.

### Carbon Challenge – Month 2

This month we talk "Green power" - renewable energy sourced from the sun, wind, water and waste, which produces no greenhouse gas emissions. It is bought by your energy provider on your behalf from accredited, renewable energy generators. Green Power options are available from Origin, Ergon and most other energy providers – purchased in different amounts to suit your budget. If you choose to have 100 per cent of your home's electricity come from Green Power – you are offsetting all of your household's electricity consumption with renewable energy. It would cost around \$300 each year which is added to your electricity bill if you choose. More details on the website [www.greenpower.gov.au](http://www.greenpower.gov.au)

- . Raise your air-conditioner by one degree C in summer and you will save around \$33 each year.
- . Hang more loads of washing on the clothes line instead of using a dryer.
- . Use cold-wash on your washing machine/ run the dishwasher less times a week.
- . Replace 8 incandescent lights with CFLs in frequently used rooms – save about \$115 each year
- . Register for the home service audit where you will get these lights free by phoning 1300 130 372 for a minimal \$50.
- . Reduce your pool pump running time by one hour a day and save about \$45 a year.
- . Turn off stand-by power on appliances to result in about \$66 saving in a year.

**Volunteer and reap the benefits** International Volunteer Day 2008 is celebrated on December 5. Visit [www.getinvolved.qld.gov.au](http://www.getinvolved.qld.gov.au) or phone (07) 3002 7600.

## Update from Jim Turnour MP Federal Member for Leichhardt

**Tourism Update** - The Federal Tourism Minister visited Cairns in late November; his third trip in a matter a months. He announced the third instalment of the Rudd Government's \$4m tourism support package, delivered in response to the Qantas cuts that will take effect this month. \$1.25 million will be spent through Tourism Australia on marketing initiatives in Asia, Europe, and New Zealand to generate demand among overseas visitors for tourism experiences in Tropical North Queensland. Importantly, we are already seeing the results of the money spent in the first instalment. So far it has resulted in five airlines announcing they will fly charters into Cairns. These charters will see more than 6,500 additional tourists arriving in Cairns Airport in the coming months. This demonstrates that spending has been well targeted, maximising the economic benefit for Tropical North Queensland.

### Another Health Boost for Cairns

The Minister for Ageing Justine Elliot and I were pleased to announce recently that another two transition care places in Cairns will be operational from January 2009. These places will mean another 15 older people a year will be able to go home from hospital earlier. Transition care provides older people with appropriate services or therapy for up to 12 weeks to help them regain their independence before making a decision about their possible longer term care needs.

### Christmas Time!

I would like to wish the residents and businesses of the Machans Beach community a safe and happy Christmas. My office is open until Christmas Eve and we'll be back on Monday 5th January. Thank you Machanations for a great year! *Jim*

## Hall Activities

### Can Can Dancing

Fridays 12 – 2pm  
Jilly 0412 036 771

### Kung Fu

Wednesdays 6.00 - 7pm  
Richard 4057 7237

### Tai Chi

Wednesdays 7.00 - 8pm  
Richard 4057 7237  
Thursdays 10 - 11.15am  
Catherine – 4055 0929

### Wu Tao Dance Class for Mums and Bubs

Wednesdays 10 – 11.30am  
Ardyn 0409 268 262

### Belly Dancing

Thursdays 5.30 – 6.30pm  
Bobbin 0427 719 565

### Cairns War Games

Saturdays 10.00am – 6.00pm  
Owen 0400 970 997  
(except Magnets Saturday)

Hall Bookings

Contact: Deryck 4055 9397  
[Deryck@machansbeach.net](mailto:Deryck@machansbeach.net)

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Machanations is an independent newsletter for the community of Machans Beach and is published every month except January.  
Editor: Mark, Sub Editor: Deryck, Layout: Inga, Ads Coordinator: James, Deryck, Russell, Distribution: Deryck & David. (James, Carlene, Carol, Deryck, Eugene, Fred, Howard, Tully, Cindy & Liz). This newsletter is produced with the assistance of Senator Jan McLucas, Federal Senator for Queensland, Steve Wettenhall MP, State Member for Barron River, Cr Margaret Cochrane, Cairns Division 8 Councillor, Jim Turnour MP, Federal Member for Leichhardt. Photocopying done at Machans Beach Post Office.

**Green Paper for this issue provided by Senator Jan McLucas**