

MACHANATIONS

www.machansbeach.net/machanations

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Machans Community moves

Well it is a busy time of year for the Santa and family and may even make a return visit on Christmas morning as per previous years – but he will need some assistance including transport as the sled is booked elsewhere that morning. Also Mrs. Klaus, who has come up especially from the Gold Coast, will be at Ebony and Ivory, Tuesday 8th December from 5 to 7pm so bring your kids and camera.

Farewell & Thank You Paul and Colleen

Looks like it is farewell to Paul and Colleen at the Servo as they are in the process of selling the lease for the business.

They have served our Community well over the last ten years – a good run. Thanks for everything including caretaking the key for our Community Hall. It won't seem the same without you. Thanks and farewell to all the staff, we will miss you all.

Thanks for all the years Judy

Welcome to the new owners who are believed to be local residents (more details in next issue). Remember that saying "Use it or Lose It" – in past years we lost our bakery, butcher and other small businesses. The Servo is vital for day to day life here – can you imagine what a pain it would be to have to drive to Stratford for the morning milk and bread - so full support for the Servo will be a win win for us all.

Thanks Editor "Mark"

Another farewell – Mark Herridge is determined to hand over the Editorship of Machanations to some else (it could be YOU).

Mark has been the editor of Machanations since taking over from Deryck in 2003 – so he has had a good six year run and now wants to get a life (hoho !!). Mark has added his own personal touch to Machanations – as all good editors do – and we are looking for someone with similar energy and drive.

Thanks for all your work Mark, the community appreciates all the work you have done and do.

Where Are You Ed / Edwina?

Machanations will be looking for a new editor to keep the publication going into 2010.

The editor sends out a reminder email to our regular contributors, peruses contributions for grammar and spelling mistakes, sometimes make comments on the contributions and often writes an editorial piece or two regarding current Machans events. I have found the position rewarding and a bit of fun, but after nearly six years a fresh face with fresh ideas will be the right tonic for our little newsletter.

This is not a standalone position. Machanations has a wide group of supporters and assistance is only as far as a phone call away. We are most fortunate to have our own local newsletter, but it doesn't run itself. All expressions of interest to Machanations please.

Love to hear from you.

Vegetation Warning

Cairns

WARNING signs will be erected on public reserves to raise awareness about the illegal clearing of vegetation.

Cairns Regional Council says trees and shrubs have been destroyed on a number of council reserves to create access or beachfront views for nearby houses. Members of the public will be asked to report cases of vegetation destruction. *Source The Sun*

Sports Club

The Sports Club will be closed for the school holidays and will re-open the first Saturday of February 2010. On behalf of the club, we wish all members and Machans residents a Merry Christmas and a prosperous new year. Drive safe, take care and we'll see you in 2010. *Dan Vowles*

SPECIAL VEGETARIAN DINNER

MENU WITH 2 COURSES, CHOICES AVAILABLE

AT "EBONY AND IVORY"

WEDNESDAY EVENING - 9TH DECEMBER

THE DINNER WILL BE SUBSIDISED BY MONEY FROM THE CLIMATE SMART GRANT. INSTEAD OF PAYING \$20.00 FOR A 2 COURSE MEAL, IT WILL COST \$15.00

PHONE : 4055 0398 TO BOOK

DATE CLAIMERS

Community Association	7.30pm in the Community Hall, Thursday 10 th December	(Al 0409 658 177)
Neighbourhood Watch	7.30pm in the Community Hall, Thursday 10 th December	(Al 0409 658 177)
Friends of Redden Island – FoRI.....	Contact Rob 0432 287 032	
SES	7.00pm at HQ, Keith Edwick Park, Every Wednesday	(Duty Officer 4055 9277)
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, Friday TBA see sign at roundabout	
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 st 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 – deryckt@hotmail.com

MACHANS BEACH STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE

SES Week Launch

Far Northern SES week 2009 was launched at Port Douglas. We participated in a flood boat exercise in a tidal creek behind Magazine Island in Dickson Inlet (Pt Douglas Harbour). This was followed by a BBQ, usual speeches and awards.

Information & Open Day

A BIG thank you to all who contributed to our Information and Open Day during SES Week. We welcome the new members; they have now completed Induction and by the time you read this, some will have completed the CMIT (at Innisfail) and Ladders.

Members upgraded their Chainsaw Qualifications, had a great BBQ and our brand new - anatomically correctly weighted! - Dummies (one adult and one youth) were on show. Plenty of Cyclone information left - Pick up a *free* - yes that's free - Cyclone Tracking Map and/or any other info from our HQ on any Wednesday night from 6.45pm.

Training

Training for this year will end on December 16 and begin again on January 13, 2010. Even though Training has ceased for this period, members are still on call 24/7. We look forward to seeing existing members and new members in 2010.



Operation Rudolph

It's on again, the recipient charity for this year is the Abused Child Trust. Rudolf will also encompass a Road safety message this year - "Be Here for Next Year" and "Crashes Kill Christmas". There will be the usual convoy of vehicles although it gets bigger every year. This year, Rudolph is promoting the idea of having a street party in streets along the Rudolph route. It will happen on December 19. Watch out for more info from the local media.

Merry Christmas

I would like to take this opportunity to wish members and their families and the community a Merry Christmas and a Happy disaster free New Year - cheers.



Support your local community SES

Be challenged, gain practical skills, First Aid training and self confidence, make new friends, have fun and help the community at the same time! Ring the Duty Officer on 4055 9277 to join the Team.

132 500 – Flood Storm Emergency

Blood Donation

2009 is the Year of the Blood Donor. This is a great opportunity to donate blood to support your local community and save lives. At www.donateblood.com.au, you can check that you're eligible and book in to donate.

Xmas Drinks: Thursday 10th December 7:30pm

Community Meeting

Neighbourhood Watch:

Members of the Smithfield Police attended.

September - A Mountain bike was stolen from Machans Beach Road
October - 4 matters of opportunistic graffiti. The "tag" is similar to a capital A with a circle around it. If anyone recognises this "tag" they can contact Smithfield Police.

November - There was a break-in to Circles Café by a couple of kids camping in the park.

Some people were reported as setting up a camp on Redden Island, their fire was put out and they were moved on.

MBCA Meeting

The meeting was held on 12th November. A few of the items discussed were:

Rubbish on the By-pass Road

2 or 3 loads of green rubbish with tyres and a computer have been dumped on the by-pass road. A request will go into Council to have it removed.

Bike Path

It was suggested that a public meeting of stakeholders be called by Council for all those interested in the outcome of the cycleway from Aeroglen to CBD.

Esplanade Development

Margaret Cochrane advised that the development applications for the 2 blocks on the Esplanade have been refused by Council. The Regional Plan now calls for 50m set-backs from the high tide mark. Other disputes are rock wall ownership, and erosion control. The DERM (formerly EPA) had already actually consented to the applications, but with conditions.

Wildlife Reflector Program:

A Work-In-Progress. Further information has been received from Sustainability Services, Townsville and will be passed to Council. A possible extra \$8000 will be involved due to having to put more guideposts in. The posts would need to be less than 10m apart.

**The next meeting is on Thursday 10th December at 7:30pm
with Christmas drinks and nibbles on the agenda,
All Welcome.**

We would all like to see some new faces, so please make time in the New Year to be a part of the Machans Community.

Cairns Council representative Margaret Cochrane

December and the end of the year is nigh! Where has it gone? I hope everyone took advantage of the free dumping of vegetation during November to clear your premises of vegetation which could cause problems if we encounter windy weather during the wet season, I am not mentioning the "c" word, but windy weather should be enough to get everyone thinking.

We must also be aware of the Dengue threat this year as Machans was such a hot spot last year with many very sick residents.

We will have to be aware of Redden Creek and the build up of sand and the need to open it up if we get really heavy rains so as to avoid flooding around in Christensen Street. So I will keep the depot on its toes with that one.

I have not yet picked up the comments book on the design of the shelter at Bert's site, but from comments at the meeting it is not being met favourably, so I guess it is back to the drawing board with this project, that is no problem. Whatever happens will have to have the approval of the community so we can address that next year after the holiday season. I will see if I can get some trees planted at the site to take advantage of the wet season.

As Christmas is a special time of the year, may I wish each and every one of you every blessing during this time. Cherish your time with your family and friends and recharge the batteries for another busy year next year. Council's contact number 4044 3044, 24/7, my mobile 0419 706 372, see you at the Association meeting,
Take care, Margaret

Holidays

We hope all Machanites have a great Xmas and New Year. Drive safe, play safe, don't drink too much and don't spend too much. Enjoy your family and friends and the great neck of the woods that we live in. No Machanations for January as per usual and we will be back in your letter box in February. All the best to the lot of you from all at
Machanations

Hall Activities

Kung Fu

Wednesdays 7pm to 8pm
Richard 0409 104 753

Tai Chi

Wednesday 6pm to 7pm
Richard 0409 104 753
Thursdays 10 - 11.15am
Kathryn 4055 0929

Playgroup

Thursdays 2.30 - 4.30pm
Rossi 0432 154 716

Kick Boxing

Mondays 6.30 - 7.30pm
Thursdays 6.30 - 7.30pm
Machans Young Guns
Thomas 0438 555 928

Cairns War Games

Saturdays 9am - 4pm
Owen 0400 970 997

Magnettes

10am 1st Sat of month
Pat/Fred 4055 9129

Can Can

Fridays 11am - 12.30pm
Jilly 0412 036 771

Ball Room Dancing

Fridays 7pm - 9pm
Owen 0417 722 763

Yoga

Fridays 5.30 - 6.30pm
Tuesdays 6.00 - 7.00am
Tuesdays 5.15 - 6.30pm
Martha 40559538

Rhythm Dancing

Thursday 5.00 - 6.30pm
Rose 0419 708 767

Community Association

2nd Thursday of month
Al 0409 658 177

Hall Bookings

Deryck 4055 9397
deryckt @ hotmail.com

Infant Assaulted in Machans

A man accused of breaking several bones in his infant niece's body and not taking her to a doctor will face trial for torture, cruelty to a child and grievous bodily harm.

The 41-year-old man, who cannot be named because it could identify the 14-month-old child, had the charges committed to the Cairns District Court yesterday. The man's wife, who was also caring for the little girl at the time of the alleged offences at Machans Beach, has also been charged.

Police allege the couple hit the toddler, including with a wooden spoon, breaking her bones, then failing to seek treatment so that the injuries became infected.

The charges of torture and two counts of cruelty to a child are alleged to have happened over three months starting in February.

The grievous bodily harm allegedly happened over three months starting in April.

Sourced from The Cairns Post

Member for Leichhardt Jim Turnour

It has been a very busy year and we've achieved a lot this year for the region.

Machans Beach State School has benefited from the government's economic stimulus with work well underway to build and modernise their facilities. It is an exciting time for the school as they progress their \$925,000 improvements and look forward to seeing the finished product.

Roundabouts on the north side are being upgraded. There have been some really serious accidents along the highway in the Northern Beaches this year, so it is pleasing to have work getting underway to improve their safety.

The announcement of a new \$5m GP Super Clinic is great news for Cairns. The clinic will have a hub-and-spoke structure; the hub will be in Edmonton and there will be an allied health spoke in Smithfield. Good progress has also been made by the Federal and State Governments to deliver cancer treatment services for Cairns. We've continued our commitment to taking action on climate change. When this government was elected we ratified Kyoto and increased the Mandatory Renewable Energy Target which will encourage the uptake of renewable energy sources such as wind and solar.

These are just some of the many achievements and I look forward to continuing deliver in 2010.

I would like to wish all Machans residents and businesses a very happy Christmas. If you have time off, be sure to enjoy your hard earned break, and please, take care over this holiday period.

My office is open until Christmas Eve and we'll be back on Monday 4th January.

Congratulations to the Machanations team on another great year and I look forward to working with you all next year.

Special Thanks to Mark Herridge for his 6 years of service as Editor of Machanations, a job well done.

Jim Turnour 4051 2220

G'day from Steve Wettenhall MP

Holiday and Wet Season Road Safety: 40 people have already died in road crashes this year in our region. This is 40 too many. As the holiday season and wet weather approaches, please make a conscious decision to drive safely and according to the conditions. The recent Road Safety Summit I initiated has generated a lot of discussion in the community about road safety issues. Now, we have to convert all the good ideas into action and the best place to start is behind the wheel or in the saddle. Speed has been a proven factor in 7 fatalities so far in 2009, and it has contributed to almost one in every four deaths on Queensland roads this year. That is why Transport Minister Rachel Nolan, chose to launch the State Government's new *Slow Down Stupid* campaign in Cairns at the Road Safety Summit. A new television commercial, 'Faces', is on now, reminding us of the impact on families who have lost loved ones in speed crashes.

SES and Cyclone Ready: Machans residents are fortunate to have a dedicated crew of SES volunteers at the ready in case of emergencies. Their services are often needed in extreme weather conditions over the coming months. On behalf of the community I would like to thank the members of the Machans Beach SES Unit for all their hard work during the year and for the months ahead. You can help reduce the demand on the SES by preparing thoroughly for the cyclone season. But, if you do require assistance from the SES, call **132 500**. To find out more about the SES, visit www.emergency.qld.gov.au/ses/default.asp

Thanks Mark: Congratulations to Mark Herridge who finally has a protégé willing to take over the Machanations reins.

Ed Note- Not quite Steve

Xmas: I hope that the festive season brings you happiness and that you are able to recharge your batteries for an exciting and rewarding 2010.

Steve Wettenhall MP, Ph: 4038 2800

Post Office

Well it was about this time last year that I was wishfully saying it was going to be my last newsletter. Along came the GFC and poof all our dreams out the window. Lovely dreams they were too, laying on a beach, drink in hand, rod in the water (hoping not to catch a fish) and taking life easy. This dream could still come true if you know someone looking for a fab job, easy lifestyle and good income to boot, to buy me out and let my dream continue.

Meanwhile lots of Chrissy stocking fillers of all kinds are available at the post office as well as larger gifts for your favourite person. Chrissy cards can go overseas for \$1.25 and within Oz for 50cents. And don't forget the soft toys at rather fantastic prices.

Have a very merry Christmas and a happy new year and if you are travelling go safely and return in one piece.

Bye for now. Russell, Wendy and Braydan

Climate Smart Competition

Thank you to those who entered the competition and offered their vegetarian recipes. I am proud to announce the winner, Una Stephenson, otherwise known as Mrs Possum, with her winning entry,

"The Whatever Pizza"

For chaotic cooks who shop erratically and never know what's in the pantry

Ingredients: - pizza base, or flatbreads from the freezer, or sliced bread, whatever onions, tomatoes, garlic - dried fresh pickled or squashed in little jars - whatever.... Tomato Paste, Pineapple tinned or fresh

Any Veggies Whatever - capsicum, zucchini, peas, baked beans ...whatever is lurking in the fridge

Herbs lurking at back of shelf ... shake out the ants or cockies , Salt and Pepper

Oil -olive or whatever...

Cheese - Parmesan is best but I used Mousetrap. I had to scrape off the mould but that is only an optional extra.

Fit bread to bottom of pizza plate, coat generously with Tomato Paste and start to cook in moderate oven while slicing and frying the onion and garlic then adding the tomatoes [sliced] , other veggies, herbs, salt pepper, but keep the cheese and pineapple aside. Stir fry the veggies fiercely; when part cooked bring pizza plate out, heap on the veggies, add more tomato paste if liked, top generously with chopped pineapple and sliced or grated cheese.

Return to oven fan force if available at 200C for about 20 minutes; check progress, cook a little more if necessary.

Serve with plenty of wine and everyone will be happy. Keeps well in fridge or freezer if any is left and makes a good cold snack next day.

Una is the proud owner of a worm farm -her prize!

Written by Michelle Milne.

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