

MACHANATIONS

www.machansbeach.net/machanations

Email : machanations@hotmail.com Mail: C/Post Office Machans Beach 4878

Editor – Mark 0438 760 861

The community association needs you

The Association will hold its AGM on Thursday 14th May 7.30pm

All executive positions will be vacated and fresh faces with fresh ideas are needed. President Russell, has his property for sale and can no longer commit himself to the job. The vice president and secretary role have been vacated for months with temps filling in. We will not have a rerun of the usual scenario where the incumbents stay on because nobody else puts up their hand. Come on Machanites. These roles can be challenging, rewarding and a bit of fun. Two hours once a month is not a lot to put into Machans Beach. It's your turn.

Painting the school fence

As many of you notice as you drive past, our school fence looks less than attractive. No, it is not rusty, just stained due to the bore water we use. A group of parents have volunteered to paint our fence, the beginnings of which can be seen on the corner near the round about.

Carla Hourn and Mark Winterbotham have approached Bunnings Warehouse who have generously provided us with donations of paint, brushes, rollers etc to paint the fence.

It is a LONG fence and our school needs some help. We are hoping that there may be some community members who might like to pitch in.

CAN YOU HELP? It is estimated that with 15 to 20 people, the job will be done in a relatively short time. The more the merrier. DATE: weekend of 9th and 10th of May 2009.

If you are able to help please contact Carla on 0414695957 or leave your name and contact details at the School office – 0740559410 Your community school appreciates your support.

Jane Termaat Principal

Climate Smart

Machans School Kids Rule

Hi Machanites. As you are probably aware, Machans Community Association has been successful in gaining a 'Climate Smart' grant to reduce our carbon emissions.

A competition was held at Machans Beach State School.

The pupils were asked how they would reduce their carbon emissions. 4 pupils have been awarded with certificates and computer games. Their names are: - Reef Mauger (Prep-year 1), Brooklyn Stewart (year 2-3), Louis Tipper (year 4-5) and Benjamin Orwell (year 6-7).

The next meeting for "Reducing Carbon Emissions" will be held at Deryck and Dymnys', 63 Marshall Street, on the 10th May, Sunday afternoon at 4pm, to view their photovoltaic panels.

We will try and have a professional present to share their knowledge about the PV system and the savings ... carbon emissions and financial. Hope to see you all there.

Michelle

A love of reading is one of the greatest gifts we can give our kids and the earlier we get them involved, the better. Because we know it also helps get better results in the classroom, improving literacy among Queensland kids is one of the Bligh Government's key aims, which is why I am urging local schools, parents and students to get involved in the 2009 Premier's Reading Challenge.

The challenge involves students in both state and non-state schools reading 20 books between Monday, 11 May and Friday, 21 August – about one book every five days. All students who complete the challenge receive a signed certificate from the Premier. More information is available at: <http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/readngchallenge/>

We currently have use of the MAGS drum kit, but our son, Josh, no longer uses it. It is available for a young up and coming drummer in Machans.

My contact numbers are either: Home: 4055 0447 Mob: 0407 228 305 Cheers, Kerry Balsdon 34 Saw Street

Editor's Note Whoever ends up with the drum kit should call Peter Johnson, a MAGS bloke on 40370290, so we can keep tabs on you and you have until the first Saturday in Sept to get a band together to play at Moon over Machans

DATE CLAIMERS

| | | |
|--|---|--------------------------|
| Community Association | 7.30pm in the Community Hall, Thursday 14 May | (Russell 4055 9402) |
| Neighbourhood Watch | 7.30pm in the Community Hall, Thursday 14 May | (Russell 4055 9402) |
| 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 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 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

Bert's old house

Dear old Bert,
what a dear little house - a reminder of yesteryear when the location was full of locals. Or as local as you can get in Far North Queensland. I would vote for a piece of public art - but I don't live in Machans anymore - shame that his house has to be pulled down. Perhaps a contemporary memorial/public artwork in the park would be a fitting object to remember old Bert by. Lovingly looked after by newer locals to the beach. There are artists about, and locally in Machans who may be able to utilise a photo of Bert within the artwork itself.

This can be done re: Jill Chism's artwork Tropic or Cairns in City Place. She used etched photographs into steel - quite a stunning contemporary design picturing history. A local community organisation could apply to the RADF Program to engage a public artist to create this work; providing there is community ownership and input into the overall theme and design. It may not be this year or the next.. but RADF could always be considered a pond of funds to attract for this kind of art work in what remains a unique part of the Far North Queensland landscape.
Kind Regards,
Ruby (Red) J. Wingrove

Servo's gratitude

Paul and Colleen at the servo would like to thank Machanites for their kind words and support for Colleen during her hospitalisation and recovery period. Colleen is back doing a few hours at the Servo again. We all wish her well.

G'day from Steve Wettenhall MP

State Member for Barron River

2009 Queensland Day Awards

If you know someone whose efforts deserve to be recognised, let Steve Wettenhall know. A nomination form can be downloaded from www.stevewettenhall.com.au or contact Barron River Electorate Office on 4038 2800

Farm gate market

A local produce market has opened at the Pier. Anything that can be grown, caught, made or baked in our local area.. Fruit, vegetables, wine, meat, fish, dairy, bread, pasta and plants are on offer every Saturday, 7.30am to 2pm, at the Pier.

Roundabouts now 60km

All Captain Cook H/way roundabouts will require motorists to reduce from 80km/h to 60km/h, before slowing to the advisory 40km/h speed at the roundabout, this measure is aimed at improving the safety of *all* road users, including cyclists.

MACHANS BEACH SES



BCF (Boating Camping & Fishing)

SES have entered into a community sponsorship agreement with leading outdoor retailer BCF - Boating, Camping and Fishing. Now through simply shopping at BCF, every customer can show appreciation for the work of the SES by simply rounding up their transactions as a donation to the Service. It is a small donation, but with the hundreds of thousands of BCF customers, the financial aid will certainly add up. BCF will ask customers if they wish to "round up" the cost of their purchases with all proceeds going to the SES. The theme is "Imagine what you could save at BCF - Round up and save lives!"

Insurance Discount. NRMA Insurance is now offering a "Hero Discount" to all active volunteers for Comprehensive Car Insurance, Home Insurance, Home Contents Insurance and incentive for switching your CTP to NRMA Insurance. Another benefit of being an active SES member. I would like to officially welcome the five new members who have just completed their *Community Member Initial Training* which included Safety and Provide Basic Emergency Life Support (which includes the compulsory CPR component) over a weekend.

It is great to see more community minded people joining our SES unit. More members are welcome to come along to training.

Get involved - be part of SES. Ring the Duty Officer on 4055 9277 for information about becoming an SES volunteer.

Flood Storm Emergency - 132500.

Flooding of the Machans Access Road

At the last Community Association meeting Councillor Margaret Cochrane reported that the draft 2009/2010 budget includes funding to reduce flooding of the access road into Machans Beach.

There are two distinct sections of the road that flood - one section is the low spot near the landing lights which usually has water across it to one degree or another for 10 to 15 days per year. However, the by pass road allows traffic to pass uninterrupted. The other section starts at the first bend and continues to the Cook Highway and flooding here prevents vehicle access for a day or two every second year on average.

The reality is that we live on a tropical floodplain and to "flood proof" our access road would cost millions of dollars and even then, in peak floods like March 2008, we would not be able to get into Cairns or Smithfield because the Cook Highway

goes under and is closed to all traffic. Most of us do not mind being cut off for a day or two and in the event of emergencies there is always a tinnie available.

There are other areas that also require money spent on them - like the local flooding in Phillips and Marshall Streets and not to mention the rock wall and our disappearing sand - at the moment the sand at the foot of the steps at the Poles is the lowest for at least 15 years.

Perhaps the Community Association could co-ordinate a brain storming session to come up with a priority list for Council to work off. It might help if there was some clear direction from the community - and make it easier for Councillor Cochrane to deal with those abusive phone calls she receives when the access road is flooded.

Deryck and Dymrna

OMBies

Congratulations to the recipients of this years Order of Machans Beach awards. They were Kazia Stewart for services to Machans School, Cathy Archer for services to all wounded animals and her efforts in treescaping communal areas and Dave Sterling for many hours donated to the Sports Club's renovation. Dave Sterling's nomination was particularly pleasing as the Sporties had been lamenting that they had neglected to nominate Dave. On the day, they took the problem in hand and came up with an impromptu trophy. The bottle of rum was as good as a trophy, but won't last as long. Thankyou to Jim Turnour for donating the awards, (but he may have got off lightly on the rum,) and assisting with the presentations Thanks to Val Schier and to Steve Wettenhall for also assisting with presentations and their support. Margaret Cochrane couldn't make it, but was supportive as always.

Moon Over Machans

With the wet season drawing to a close and the temperature starting to drop a little, it's the time of year when we get ready to experience tropical living at its best. Also at about this time of the year a small band of people start coming together to organise an event to celebrate the special place we call Machans Beach.

MOON OVER MACHANS will be held this year on Saturday 5th September. The event aims to provide a safe, family atmosphere offering "something for everyone" whilst providing an opportunity to meet with friends and neighbours and enjoy our unique surroundings.

To make this annual event even better we are seeking input from the community to find out what they think about the event, what is liked and what could be done differently.

Over the next couple of months a survey will be undertaken to seek community input that will be used to plan the next 3 years. At the moment, if you would like to have input or if you could help as a volunteer on the day or leading up to this year's event, please call Mark on 0438 760 861 or email machanations@hotmail.com

Erik Oates

Electric Ant Infestation Spreads

The detection of a new outbreak of electric ants in Cairns is a great example of cooperation between the community and a government agency. Planning for an upcoming community event led to the detection of electric ants on five properties in Caravonica. This area is outside the existing Restricted Area comprising Smithfield and Kewarra Beach.

I'm urging all residents to keep an eye out in their yards and homes and report suspicious ants on 13 25 23 before they get a chance to sting you, your family or your pets.

Electric ants are tiny, golden brown in colour and only about 1.5mm long. They are slow moving and rather than form nests, they congregate under rocks, leaves or litter or in the forks of trees and tropical garden plants.

EXERCISE FOR SENIORS

I am a JCU student doing placement at the Marlin Coast Neighbourhood Centre & am facilitating an exercise program for people 60 & over to prevent falls by developing strength & balance. The program runs over 6 weeks - starting on 25th May. As numbers are limited expressions of interest need to be in by 18th May. To do this contact Dot on 4038 1644. The cost is FREE with lunch provided after all sessions. Exercises include yoga, water aerobics, pilates, gym with the last session having a guest speaker talking about diet, falls prevention, strength & balance. Contact- Dot McLellan 40381644

CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS AUSTRALIA

LOCAL THURSDAY AND FRIDAY PROJECTS

Conservation Volunteers Australia run weekly projects and all are welcome to attend. Come join our team of 10 and team leader to nurture the Barron River, Cattana Wetlands and Cairns Central Swamp. Activities include tree planting, mulching, weeding and experiencing the opportunity to share with like minded people. Every hand helps. Contact, Joanne Mills Ph. 40320844 email jmills@cva.org.au

PO News

I would like to take this opportunity to explain how the post boxes are supposed to work. When you rent a postbox, it comes with 6 months free redirection, during this time you are supposed contact people or companies you deal with and let them know your new PO box address. If you did not want mail to go to your PO box, it would then be delivered to your street address as per normal. Over the years there has been a lot of free redirection of your street mail, into your PO box, by the mail sorters as a matter of course.

Unfortunately this will be coming to an end. Australia Post is about to start a campaign to have mail addressed to your PO box sent to your PO box, and street addressed mail will go to the street address.

What does this mean to you? Over the next 12 months you will be contacted by Australia Post to see if you qualify for an exemption to your mail (that is it will keep going where it is going now) if not, then box mail will go to the PO box and street mail will go to the street address.

If you do not want to change your addresses and you want all your mail to go to the PO box, you will have to fill in and pay for a redirection of your mail. Russell

Hall Activities

Kung Fu

Wednesdays 6 – 7pm

Richard 4057 7237

Tai Chi

Wednesdays 7 – 8pm

Richard 4057 7237

Thursdays 10 am – 11.15am

Kathryn – 4055 0929

Play Group

Thursday 2.30pm to 4.30pm

Rossi 0432 154 716

Kick Boxing

Monday - 6.30 – 7.30pm

Thursday - 6.30pm to 7.30pm

Cairns War Games

Saturdays - 9am to 4pm

Owen - 0400 970 997

(except Marnettes Saturday)

Can Can and Belly Dancing

Fridays 11am – 12.30pm

Jilly – 0412 036 771

Hall Bookings

Contact Deryck 4055 9397

deryckt@hotmail.com

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*Encouraging and Supporting Young
 People in our Community*



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 community is in a real need for
 positive male and female role
 models to mentor young people
(07) 4041 5844
cyms@centacarecairns.org

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help with
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|----------|---------|-----------|
| Books | Debtors | Contracts |
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Eugene - 0419 688 398

www.machansbeach.net

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