

MACHANATIONS

www.machansbeach.net/machanations

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Contact - 4037 0102

OMBies

Sports Club

Saturday 10 April

The Order of Machans Beach awards will be presented at the Sports Club on Saturday 10th April. This is a week later than usual because of the Easter break.

It will be a day of music, fun and frivolity where the BBQ is hot, the beer is cold and the company is warm and engaging.

Presentations will be around 3pm. Organisers have decided to have our OMB celebrations on biennial basis after this year. The next awards being presented in 2012.

See you at the Sporties. Mark

But what can ya do?

There's plenty of human suffering and environmental mismanagement. A delicate person could understandably become despondent and look away-not my fault- not my problem. Some legends do an incredible amount of work for worthwhile causes. Other people throw in a bit of cash or do a bit of volunteer work and feel happy with their contribution.

Luckily it is incredibly easy to find a way to make a difference. Concerned about human suffering? Fred Hollows Foundation-\$25 pays for surgery to give a person sight. Wow -so easy!

Environmental mismanagement? Plant some trees on your footpath or join Tree Force and plant heaps. If you've got time -give time as a volunteer.

If you are time poor maybe you can donate money to a cause instead. Give some money to one of the many organizations that specialize in making a difference.

Cairns and Far North Environment Centre and The Fred Hollows Foundation do some great work for me. They are experts in their field and I feel they use my money wisely. I buy time from them, because I pay them to do work I couldn't do. As experts I believe they do a better job than I could.

I enjoy my life because people before me have fought to conserve nature and reduce human injustice and suffering. I want to share that joy, and I can do that by giving someone sight to see how beautiful the world is. That's what I can do!

Rob

Machans Beach Community Association

Discussion items at next Community Association Meeting - Thursday 8th April at 7:30pm

Esplanade Rock Wall The meeting was advised that the rock wall is a "dumped" wall, originally placed around 1974. With slumping and sand movement it has had the angle changed to the on-coming seas. Council is looking at an interim measure of placing structures at an angle to the wall to break up some of the energy off the waves and thereby reduce the forces on the wall. This is still on the agenda for update and discussion.

Dengue Prevention Project A small working group has been formed to co-ordinate the placement and collection of skips around the community to facilitate a clean-up of unwanted rubbish. There will be notices in Machanations as the program develops. The issue will be on the agenda at the next monthly Community Association meeting.

Join in If you live in Machans or own property here then you are eligible to be a member of the Community Association. The cost for this privilege is \$5 per annum. Come to the next meeting and have a say in your Community - there is regularly Council representation there.

Annual General Meeting

Notice of The Annual General Meeting is given. This will be held prior to the Ordinary Meeting on 13th May.

DATE CLAIMERS

Community Association	7.30pm in the Community Hall, Thursday 8 th April	(Al 0409 658 177)
Neighbourhood Watch.....	7.30pm in the Community Hall, Thursday 8 th April	(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 23rd April see sign at roundabout	
Sports Club - Music Sessions & BBQ	3.00 - 10.00pm - Saturday 10th April	(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

Welcome We would like to welcome our newest 5 members who have completed Induction and the recently held weekend course – Community Member Initial Training course. We look forward to your participation and contribution.



Cyclone Ului Three members offered to participate in a FNR Task force to assist the Mackay area after the event. The 40 member Task force has been directed to the Whitsunday Shire area. More than 60 members have volunteered to assist. Cyclones are terrible as their outcomes are always unknown. I understand there were minor injuries, no deaths and appears to be no widespread destruction.

Training - Requests For Assistance (RFA Online) Three members have completed Level 1 of this Course. They are currently in the process of completing assignments to enable assessment to take place and be classed as competent and given access to the 'live' system. This will provide the basic skills and knowledge to use the RFA Online software for the entry of RFA's to help

manage and monitor SES operations. It will enable them take the calls, manage the response, manage the teams, collect data, complete sitreps and enter the data into the RFA Online Program. RFA Online is not a Web-based product, it is software loaded onto an individual computer. It is not reliant on the internet (other than uploading data to the State server) to be operational. There are two systems, a 'Live' Operational system and a Training system on which you can practise and do no damage. We look forward to having our own operators instead of having to complete hard copies and 'phone-in' the information from allocated tasks.

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! For general enquiries, ring 4055 9277.

132 500

Flood Storm Emergency

Sports Club News

Order of Machans Beach Awards (OMBIES) is to held at the Sports Club on Saturday 10th April. Bar opens at 3pm with awards at 5:30pm to be presented by one of our local dignitaries. Mayor Val Schier & Deputy Mayor Margaret Cochrane are planning to attend, schedule permitting. State Member Steve Wettenhall and Federal Member Jim Turnour have also been invited,(unconfirmed). The awards will be followed by a BBQ and live band.

The Next Friday opening will be on 23rd April. Happy hour drinks (\$1 off standard prices) from 6 - 7:30pm (Fridays only, excludes Saturdays) with a live soloist.

The Sports Club will be closed Saturday 1st May due to the Cairns Blues Festival. For discount(cash only) tickets for the Blues Festival, please contact me on 0427 666 661 or Pauline on 40 559 665. Otherwise tickets are available through Ticketlink or at the gate.

The Tennis court is available to the community free of charge and now has a keyless switch for the lights. If you use the court please make sure the lights are off by 10pm in consideration for the neighbours. We have asked the CRC to have the courts water blasted and hopefully a new net and drainage works. A shade cover is currently being erected over the playground and should be completed prior to the OMBIES.

See you at the club. Dan

School News

Thank you to everyone who supported the collection of the Cairns Post mastheads for our school. At present count we have 1529 which is fantastic for a small school of 108 students. I am not sure when we will hear if we have been successful but we will be sure to let you know the result as soon as we know. If we are successful, we intend to use the money towards a multi purpose court which the whole community will be able to access.

With the holidays fast approaching, we need you to look out for after-hours crime in our school. If you see anything suspicious, please remember to **call the School Watch number – 13 17 88**. The School Watch Program is a partnership between Education Queensland, the Queensland Police Service and the State Government Protective Service. It aims to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in Queensland schools. If you do see something suspicious, please don't attempt to intervene. Call the School Watch number and let the local police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter. Keep the number handy – **13 17 88** – and let's work together to help create a safer school community.

School resumes on Tuesday 13th of April. I hope you all have a safe and happy holiday. *Cheers Jane*

Post Office

As I write this the rain has been pouring down all day and the chance of us getting flooded in is growing more and more remote as the day passes. So I will just have to plan the weekend to include trips into town as per normal. Unless of course I can get the gear I need at the local post office. They have all sorts of office equipment, office supplies, printer cartridges as well as mobile phones (including recharges) without having to leave the beach. How's that. Pity we don't have a takeaway (for drinks) on the beach as that would make life real easy.

Anyway enjoy your Easter break and we can send those last minute eggs in express parcels or bag.

Russell

Our Councillor Margaret Cochrane

Another month and Easter is already upon us. Time for a little R n R , although traditionally it will be raining, so good weather to catch up on some reading.

Last month I indicated that the cover would be over the kids playground down at School Park, my apologies, just a couple of days after I received the info I received further notice that there were issues with the fittings and that new ones had to be sourced and that would take about a month, so this shade should be erected in the not too distant future.

The rains have not caused us too many issues thankfully, I have had another look at the retention of the water "in the dip" and will try to reopen talks on how we can drain this area. Council has commenced our Budget discussions already and there are about 8 or 9 sessions booked, all quite long sessions, so plenty of headaches to come over the next few months. I will placing on the table a consultative Rock Wall Audit request as a matter of urgency to address the issues which are appearing regularly now with the wall.

I will not be able to attend the meeting this month, please accept my apologies. I am very involved with the NQ Games which commence that weekend and as Chair of the North Queensland Sports Foundation who run the Games it is our Opening dinner night which I have to attend. That weekend there will be approximately 3500 athletes competing in 43 sports in the Cairns Region. The athletes are coming from all over the State with some international competitors, quite something. It will certainly be a boost for the city at a time when things are still really tough for many businesses.

If you require attention from Council please ring the Call Centre 4044 3044, 24/7 or send a request through to Council's website www.cairns@qld.gov.au and go to "contact us" and place your request. If you need to speak with me, my office number 4044 3080 or my mobile 0419 706 372, always leave a message as with workshops and meetings I am not always available to answer my calls immediately. See you at the May Community Association meeting, *Stay safe, Margaret*

Steve Wettenhall MP State Member for Barron River

Have a say in your children's future I will be holding a public forum for parents, teachers, P&Cs and interested Machans Beach residents at Yorkeys Knob State School from **7.00pm on Wednesday April 21**. In February a Green Paper was released, entitled *A Flying Start for Queensland Children*, which is intended to be the basis for public discussion on education reform. I believe it is vital that school communities are fully informed about what is being planned, and that you get the opportunity to have your say. Information about the Green paper can be obtained on my web site, www.steve.wettenhall.com by clicking on the Parent / Carer Resources link in the Flying Start for Queensland Children item. If you would like to come along, please RSVP to my office on 4038-2800 or email barron.river@parliament.qld.gov.au

New suite of Sports Funding An entirely new Queensland Government sport and recreation funding program is designed to broaden the range of eligible groups that can apply for funding, boost participation, recruit volunteers, and encourage disadvantaged communities to participate in sport. The new programs, providing funding over a three year period, include:

- \$38 million for the Local Sport and Recreation Jobs plan, to help employ local sport and recreation coordinators.
- \$51.5 million for the Sport and Recreation Infrastructure program.
- \$27.6 million for the State Sport and Recreation Organisation Development Program,
- \$18 million for the Active Inclusion Program.

More information is available by calling 1300 656 191 or visit www.sportrec.qld.gov.au *Steve*

Jim Turnour MP Federal Member for Leichhardt

When I'm door knocking and running mobile offices in the Northern Beaches, people often tell me that the Federal Government needs to take more responsibility for hospitals and that our community needs a real say in how these services are run.

The Federal Government recently announced major health reforms - the biggest change in Australia's health and hospital system since the introduction of Medicare around 30 years ago.

The Australian Government will take majority funding control of public hospitals and take full financial and policy responsibility for GP and primary care services.

Public hospitals will be run locally; local doctors and nurses with local expertise will make the important decisions for our local hospitals.

This is no doubt a major undertaking but we need health reform, particularly given our ageing population and the rise of preventative diseases which continues to put pressure on our health system.

We're also acting to address doctor shortages. It has been announced that \$632 million will be invested to train a record number of doctors which will result in around 6000 extra GPs practicing or in training in the next 10 years. In the Far North, I know there are ongoing issues with doctor shortages and I'll be lobbying to ensure we benefit from this increased capacity. By improving access to our local GPs, it helps to take pressure off the Cairns Base Hospital.

Health is an issue that impacts everyone. I want the government to get on with the job of delivering this national reform and I'm interested in hearing from local residents think about it.

Jim Turnour Ph 4051 2220 Email: jim.turnour.mp@aph.gov.au

Hall Activities

Kung Fu

Wednesdays 7pm to 8pm

Richard 0409 104 753

Tai Chi

Wednesday 6pm to 7pm

Richard 0409 104 753

Thursdays 10am to

11.15am

Kathryn 4055 0929

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

Ball Room Dancing

Fridays 7pm - 9pm

Chris 0415 956 923

Yoga

Tuesdays 5.15pm to

6.30pm

Fridays 5.30pm - 6.30pm

Martha 4055 9538

Community Association

2nd Thursday in every

month

Carol 0428 326 813

Hall Bookings

Deryck 4055 9397

deryckt@hotmail.com

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Must have References

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