

MACHANATIONS

www.machansbeach.net/machanations

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Contact – 4037 0102

Dungarra Redden Island

The islands lagoons are topped up with water- some with rainwater, and others have received a flow of saltwater from the tides.

The saltwater lagoons often trap inquisitive mullet which follow the tide in but forget to leave on time. The birds feast on these fish as the water level drops.

I noticed a lot of dead cane toads around the lagoons so it's good to see the water rat is doing its job.

The keel back snake eats the toads too and I'm sure we'd notice a difference in the toad population if these two weren't keen toad snackers.

A large fat goanna which I often see must be a female full of eggs as its gut has increased noticeably in size.

Then again it could be from all the rainbow bee-eater's eggs I've seen it digging up.

I wish her well and hope to see some little ones getting about. The native grapes have their fruit at the moment, but be careful, as some people get a slight prickly sensation in their throat after eating them.

The giant tubers are also edible but I'm not sure how much preparation is involved. George Skeene could probably help us with that.

Good to see so many people tracks on the island. We are very lucky to have such a beautiful place so close to home.

Thanks to concerned citizens, Conservation Volunteers Australia and Cairns Airport Pty Ltd. for keeping up the good management.

Rob Williams -0432287032
robwillmono@yahoo.com.au

OMBies

As I write, news of the winners of the Australia Day honours are being digested over breakfast around the country. A timely reminder that we have our own movers and shakers in our community.

The Order of Machans Beach will be presented to Machans Beach people who make a difference to the lives of those around them. It can be in the smallest of ways, or on a grand scale. It's your choice.

Please send your nominations to machanations@machansbeach.net or phone 0438 760 861 or drop your nominations at the post office. Closing date for nominations will be Saturday 28th March. Every year without fail we get nominations after the due date and some we can accommodate, but most we can't due to processing time of recipient's award.

**Order of Machans Beach awards will be presented at the Sports Club
Saturday 3rd April**

Welcome Wendy, Daiji and Kai

In the December issue we bid farewell to Paul and Colleen and staff at the Servo and we would now like to welcome the new proprietors Wendy and Daiji (pronounced Dai gee).

Wendy grew up here at Machans and went to Machans Primary School and later Cairns High. She then went off travelling and ended up spending five years in Japan where she met Daiji.

They recently returned to Cairns with young son Kai and are awaiting the birth of their next child in the next week or so.

Wendy and Daiji would like to thank everyone for being so understanding as they learn the ropes of running a small business. They both welcome any suggestions as to how to improve stock and service.

Deryck

Dengue Fever

Thank you to all the Machans Beach residents that came to the Dengue Fever Prevention meeting last Thursday evening and for your interest in aiming for a dengue free 2010. There were many great ideas discussed on how the community would like to prevent dengue this year. The next step from here is to establish a group of members of the community that are interested in working on this issue in conjunction with QLD Health and re-group on the evening of 16th February to discuss the details of the Machans Beach plan of action. It's not too late to get involved so please contact myself if you are interest in joining the project.

**Next Meeting- Tuesday 16th February 6.30 pm at the Machans Beach
Community Hall, Tucker Street.** Tea, Coffee and Sandwiches will be provided.

*Regards, Leah Stevenson, Health Promotion, Cairns Public Health Unit.
Leah_Stevenson@health.qld.gov.au. 4019 6427*

DATE CLAIMERS

Community Association	7.30pm in the Community Hall, Thursday 11 th February	(AI 0409 658 177)
Neighbourhood Watch.....	7.30pm in the Community Hall, Thursday 11 th February	(AI 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

Christmas 09 First of all, a big thank you to those who supplied decorations, organised a quiet generator to power two Christmas light sets, (Steve who loaned the generator-thank you), helped decorate our vehicle to get into the spirit of Operation Rudolph to help raise money for abused kids and generally bring good cheer to all.



2009 also saw SES escorting Santa Claus around Machans Beach. Thank you to those who gave up part of their Christmas Day celebrations with their families, to help Santa visit the whole community. A special Thank you to Florie who was instrumental in both.

Emergency Alert warning system A new national Emergency Alert warning system has just been launched. Emergency Alert can send text messages to mobile phones and automated voice messages to landlines warning people of severe and imminent emergencies, such as bushfires and cyclones. Messages will contain basic details of the threat, clear recommended actions and advice on where to go for further information. Traditional methods like local radio broadcasts and door knocking will continue to be used. Emergency Alert is only a warning, and does not reduce the need for people to be prepared with their own emergency plans.

Being Prepared Remember, we are still in the Cyclone/wet season until April - as Cyclone Neville and Olga have just reminded us. If you need assistance, ring the **SES hotline – 132500** to have your request logged and attended to. We still have Cyclone plotting maps available to track those pesky cyclones – come and get one before they run out – introductory offer - free.

Training Training has begun with the emphasis on getting new members to Field Operations Level to enable them to follow any career path they choose. It is not too late if you are thinking of joining the SES to gain new skills and to be prepared to help the community if needed. Many Courses are Nationally recognised and everyone should do a First Aid Course – who knows you

may even save the life of a member of your own family with the knowledge gained.

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 4044 9277.

132 500 – Flood Storm Emergency

Cairns Council representative Margaret Cochrane

Happy New Year to all the Machanites, I hope your Christmas/New Year break was restful and your batteries are now charged for 2010.

It is difficult to think that we actually had a holiday period as things seem to have got back into full swing quite quickly.

We have had one cyclone trial this year and guess there will be more as we can expect them at this time of the year. Let's be very aware of the residual water in containers around the house which could turn into Dengue breeding sites. I cannot repeat it often enough to be most vigilant with this matter this year, as there were too many very sick residents of the beach last year and the last thing needed at the beach is another outbreak of dengue like last year.

Can I express my thanks to Mark for his efforts in producing Machanations over the past few years. This newsletter is a fantastic vehicle to keep the community in touch and the various editors over the years have made a wonderful contribution to the Machans Beach Community.

It is very easy to take this newsletter for granted but the few who have shouldered the load need commending and probably help!!!! I am sure if you have some spare time do not be shy but have a chat to James who seems to be the emergency back stop over the years ---- good on you James for your ongoing commitment.

If you require contact with Council, ring the Call Centre, 4044 3044 at any time, 24/7, and get your problem logged. If I can be of assistance, my mobile is 0419 706 372, remembering during the day the call centre is best to ring if there is something you require quick action from Council as I am often in meetings and am not able to answer my phone. I will be at the Community Association meeting at Machans on Thursday, so see you then,

Take care, Margaret

Fishing at Machans Beach

As another beautiful day was expected in Machans Beach my family and I decided to take advantage of the high tide and settle down to do some serious fishing on the esplanade a couple of days after Christmas.

Whilst enjoying ourselves we were soon confronted by a very angry resident who was annoyed with us being in front of her house.

She stated that our presence was disturbing her dogs and questioned why we chose to "PARK in front of her place to fish".

Whilst her point was clear, her approach was vicious and disrespectful.

As we were under the impression that we were allowed to fish along Machans Beach esplanade as it is the property of the Cairns City Council, we attempted to reason our right but this appeared impossible at that time.

So in the best interest of our children who were with us, we avoided further drama, gathered up and moved on.

I've lived in Machans for the past ten years and am also an active member of our community and school, but never have I experienced this kind of rude behaviour from anyone.

It's disheartening to witness such arrogance to the spirit of the wonderful beach we call home.

She clearly lacks the kind and friendly nature of us Machanites. Fishing is for one and all...

Long live the Machans Spirit.

Lois

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

Community Association

A short meeting only was held in December, with no new business being discussed. The meeting closed at 8:30pm when those attending repaired to Christmas drinks and nibbles and wide-ranging discussions.

Next Meeting Thursday 11th Feb

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

Dance for the Young

Tuesdays 3.30 - 4.45pm
Sarah 0401 758 188

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

Fridays 5.30 - 6.30pm
Tuesdays 5.15 - 6.30pm
Martha 40559538

Community Association

2nd Thursday of month
Al 0409 658 177

Hall Bookings

Deryck 4055 9397
deryckt @ hotmail.com

School News

Happy New 2010 to all of you. Machans Beach State School is looking forward to another terrific year working with the parents and the community to ensure we are able to deliver the best possible learning experiences for our students. During the holidays we had some major work done to the school including the removal of the Demountable building. This was the last one to be removed from all schools in Queensland.

The school has been repainted, new white boards have been installed and new carpet has been laid in a number of rooms. This was all funded under the National School Pride program. Once the rainy season stops the building of the new Resource Centre will commence (April?) with a *rough* completion date of October. (No promises!)

On Friday the 5th of Feb the school will host a community breakfast for the cost of two gold coins. All donations are to be given to the Haiti appeal.

Your support will be appreciated!

Cheers Jane Termaat/Principal

Member for Leichhardt Jim Turnour

It's hard to believe we're already well into 2010. I trust those of you who were able to have some time off over Christmas and New Year enjoyed the well earned break.

Kids are now back to school and I'm sure the teachers, parents and students of Machans State School are looking forward to the year ahead as new facilities will be constructed when

the wet is over as part of the government's economic stimulus plan. 2009 was undoubtedly a tough year with the global recession impacting many businesses and families, but we've started to see some positive signs in recent months. For example, Jetstar's new flights between Cairns and Osaka and the doubling of Melbourne-Cairns services will bring more international and domestic visitors to our region, which is a huge boost for the local tourism industry and the region's economy. And during the Prime Minister's visit to Cairns recently, he announced that the government will offer foreign airlines greater access to our major gateways for flights that first stopover in Cairns. This is a major breakthrough for the region; industry and community leaders have been campaigning for this aviation reform for over a decade. And of course the government's economic stimulus continues to roll out in the region which will be particularly helpful for our local building industry that is still doing it tough. I encourage you to get in touch with me if you have an issue, concern or idea - my office number is 4051 2220 and my email is jim.turnour.mp@aph.gov.au. *Regards, Jim Turnour*

G'day from Steve Wettenhall MP

More roundabout upgrades

Work on the upgrade of the Machans Beach roundabout is due for completion mid-February. Please take care during the roadworks. As a result of the Road Safety Summit I convened last year, I have secured an additional \$1.5 million to fund safety upgrades on Captain Cook Highway roundabouts so all nine will be completed by the end of the year.

Facelift for school

Machans Beach Primary School is looking terrific after being freshly painted over the holidays. It's great when residents can have their kids educated in their local community, and the growing enrolments in 2010 reflect well on the school and the school community.

Illegal to smoke in cars with children

Police now have the power to issue on the spot fines of \$200 for people who smoke in a car with a child under 16 on board. Information and support to stop smoking is available by calling Quitline, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on 13 QUIT (13 7848).

Are you a volunteer?

I am encouraging the community to make volunteering part of their life and lend a helping hand in 2010. To get involved in volunteering visit www.volqld.org.au

Tourism

Work has begun on the \$11.2 million Cairns cruise ship terminal redevelopment. This project will create about 84 jobs and continue to provide economic benefits to the community, while creating an impressive entry point for visitors to Cairns.

Steve Wettenhall MP, Ph: 4038 2800

Post Office

Hi and welcome back to those that travelled over Christmas and the New Year.

I have changed the emphasis of the post office from local craft (too many markets these days) to mobile phones and computer and printing accessories. Also for those of you who are working from home, I have a fine selection of office needs just for you and will stock just about any of your requirements if you let me know what you need.

Post office boxes are due for renewal at this time of year and I normally have 1 or 2 spare for letting but you have to be quick. Anyone who has not paid by the end of April will lose their post office box.

And.....don't forget your valentine (14 Feb), I just happen to have a small selection of the cutest valentine dolls just for you.

Bye for now. Russell, Wendy and Braydan

FNQ REGIONAL ROAD GROUP MINUTES held on Monday 9 November 2009

Machans and Holloways Beach – Cairns Regional Council Amendment Request 1

Cr Cochrane expressed dismay in deletion of project funding for Machans and Holloways beach flood immunity works with funding going towards a Yorkeys Knob project. Mr Gerard Read provided background information regarding these projects and the reasons for the amendment request.

MOVED: Cr Peter Scott


SECOND: Cr Bill Shannon

“That the 2009/10 funding from both the Holloway's Beach Road project (\$160,000) and Machans Beach Road project (\$555,000) be transferred to the Yorkeys Knob Road project, bringing it to a total project value of \$2,370,500. Both the Holloway's Beach Road project and

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