

MACHANATIONS

December 2011

www.machansbeach.net/machanations

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OUR VALUED COMMUNITY SPIRIT !

Last night at the opening of the Siam Steamboat it was great to see Machanites out in force to support a new business in our community. Nana not only produces good food, she has brightened up the corner of Machans and Marshall Streets with her flowers, fruit and herbs. The pride that many people take in their gardens and nature strips contributes to making our built environment complement the stunning natural environment in which we are privileged to live.

At the end of a long year which started off with a series of disasters in Queensland and the worry and uncertainty of Cyclone Yasi I would like to urge you to make sure that you are ready for this year's cyclone season. Keep the Storm and Cyclone Guide in a safe place with your cyclone kit and the Storm Tide Evacuation Guide which council distributed a few months back. If you can't locate yours, then go to council's website – www.cairns.qld.gov.au – or check your meter box where Ergon officers have place stickers.

Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year period. It's that time of the year when we reach out to family, friends and community members, give gifts - or our time – find a space for kindness, and take time out to reflect on what's happened over the past year and our hopes and dreams for the future.

Mayor Val



MACHANS BEACH STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE

SES Week. Held in early November, members of the Far North Region met at Dundee Park, Mission Beach for a day of fun, challenges and presentations. Members participated in abseiling down the skull's head, chainsaw skills, knots, boat making and racing, boat knowledge and forensic search skills. Machan's SES won all boating events – fastest boat, best decorated and best boat knowledge. Members constructed their boat from materials supplied and added embellishments.

Don't forget your pets this storm and cyclone season. For many people, pets are a part of their extended family so their needs must be included in household preparedness planning. It is important to remember not all Evacuation Centres may be able to accept animals. You must also consider how your pet may react to a range of emergency scenarios such as lightning, thunderstorms, wind or storms and if you would be able to find them if they run away in fright and hide. Finally, ensure you have a special emergency kit for your pet which includes their medications, sufficient food, familiar bedding and toys, a secure pet carrier, leash or harness, sanitation requirements, important documents and a current photograph for identification purposes.

Welcome New Members. We would also like to welcome five new members; three have just completed all the compulsory units of training in the SES – Induction and Community Member Initial Training. Welcome aboard – you will get more out of it then you put in.

Christmas-New Year Break. Members will take a break from training during this period. Last training will be on December 14, 2011 and begin again on January 11, 2012. Should anyone need assistance at any time, they should contact the SES Hotline number – 132500. We wish members and their families and all the community a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and a happy, disaster free New Year.

Enquiries. To join the local Team, ring the Duty Officer on 4055 9277.

From the Team

Professor Scott O'Neill

I would like to thank all those Machans Beach residents who have already registered as a participant in a planned trial of our method to control dengue transmission.

We hope to begin the trial in January but before we release any mosquitoes the Cairns Field Team will first manually reduce the overall number of mosquitoes at each participant's house. So if you have registered look out for a visit by the field team in the coming weeks.

If you have not yet registered or would like to know more about the project please contact Flora Zigterman on 1800 811 054. Or if you're heading to the Machans Beach Christmas party on 3rd December look out for the team there. Participation Forms can also be collected from the Post Office.

Thank you again for your support.

Professor Scott O'Neill

DATE CLAIMERS

Community Association.....	7.30pm in the Community Hall, Thursday 8th December	(John 4055 0653)
Neighbourhood Watch.....	7.30pm in the Community Hall, Thursday 8th December	(John 4055 0653)
Friends of Dungarra / Redden Island	Contact Rob 0432 287 032	
SES	7.30pm at HQ, Keith Edwick Park, Every Wednesday	(Duty Officer 4055 9277)
Sports Club - Drinks & Live Music.....	6.00 – 10.00pm, 2nd Friday of the month	
Sports Club - Music Sessions & BBQ.....	3.00 - 10.00pm – 1st Saturday of the month	(Dan 4055 0069)



MACHANS BEACH STATE SCHOOL

A busy year is drawing to a close and a well-deserved holiday is fast approaching for our hard working students and staff. We have been fortunate this year in winning a number of major awards. We won the Showcase of Excellence Award for Learning Innovations in the Cairns Region. This was followed by the Green and Healthy Schools Award for the State earlier this month for "Spirituality and Values". This award reflects the charity work our school has undertaken this year which has helped to instill in students compassion and understanding for families and communities which were hit by disasters, not just in North Queensland, but across the globe. One of our teachers was nominated for the National Educators Institute of Teachers Award (NEITA) and while she did not make it to the State finals, she did win the Noreen Wilcox Award for outstanding practice as a beginning phase teacher. We have had some terrific results in our NAPLAN data this year and the programs that we are now using will continue to demonstrate high academic achievements across the school. With all this in mind you might want to consider enrolling your child in our great little school.

Enrolment application packages for 2012 are available from the school office. Anyone who is thinking about enrolling their child/children at Machans Beach State School is advised to contact the office as soon as possible on 40559410 so that we can include them in our count for next year. Children born between 1st July 2006 and 30th June 2007 are eligible to enrol now for Prep at our School. Birth certificates and immunisation records must be supplied upon enrolment. Thank you all for your continued support of the school.

The office will be closed from the 12 of December until the 18th of January 2012.

Until next year, thanks for your continued community support. All the best for the holiday season. Stay safe, please keep our school safe too, and we will see you all again in the New Year,

Cheers

Jane Termaat, Principal, Machans Beach State School.

SPORTS CLUB AGM

TUESDAY 13th DECEMBER 5:30 PM

The Sport club committee invite all current members to attend the Annual General Meeting.

The meeting will commence at 5:30pm and committee nominations will be accepted from 5:00pm.

Complimentary drinks will follow and the meeting is scheduled to take only one hour.

We encourage all members to attend this important meeting in order to keep the club going and to discuss current important issues at hand.

A BIG thank you to all the volunteers who helped make the Christmas Party a success once again and thank you to all who attended.

The club will now be closed for the duration of the school holidays and will re-open on the first Saturday of February 2012. On behalf of the Sports Club Committee, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Dan

GROW UP VANDALS!

Well once again, under the cover of darkness, some mono neurone has ripped the plants out of the ground from beside the post office. I would like your help to find out who is doing this so I can compliment them on their completeness on the job they are doing. Now, there was a group of Machans boys riding around during the blackout on Friday night who did the deed or I suspect know who did the deed, and I would like their help to collar these criminals.

I spend a lot of time and effort to help make Machans a greener and nicer looking place, so I do not appreciate some mono neurone coming along and destroying my efforts. I am in the process of developing a painful remedy for this wanton destruction, which will fit the level of destruction most aptly. *Russell*

CHRISTMAS AT THE POST OFFICE

Well, I told you it would come quickly and, sure enough here it is. By the time you read this Christmas will be well and truly upon us. The best way to send your Christmas gifts could be by express post, we do have 5kg bags (big things) that are really economical. And if the shop has not been bought out of Chrissy presents I should still have a good range of stocking fillers left.

Bubble blowers are the ever present best thing and come in small, medium and large (really big bubbles).

I may also have left a range of high quality photographs of Machans for sale and these can be enlarged to suit the space you need filling. So drop in and have a browse and see just what it is that you need. They are also good for sending south, gloating about where you live too.

So the only thing left to do is to wish everyone a very merry Christmas, a happy new year and please travel safely wherever you go.

Russell and Wendy

BARRON DELTA PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR NOTES

I would like to thank our representatives, Rob Williams, Cathie Archer and the rest of your Machans Beach Community for being a part of the Barron Delta Community Engagement Project. I hope the new year brings togetherness and more of that awesome community spirit that this here Western culture needs to harness.

I wish you all a safe and happy holiday break from the Barron Delta Crew. I look forward to catching up with you all in the new year for some more fun in the sun. Remember Xmas is about presence not presents. Show your planet you care, shop less and love more.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed people can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has." *Sylvia Conway*

HALL ACTIVITIES December 2011

TUESDAY	Yoga at Machans	5.30 - 6.30pm	Martha 4055 9538
WEDNESDAY	Tai Chun Academy	5.00 - 8.00pm	Darcy 0412 027 216
THURSDAY	Tai Chi	10.00 - 11.30am	Kathryn 4093 0466
FRIDAY	Sassy Catz Dancing	12.30 - 2.30pm	Jillian 0412 036 771
SATURDAY	Cairns War Games	9.00am - 5.00pm	Connor 0429 820 971

Community Association Meeting

2nd Thursday of the month
7.30pm - Carol 0428 326 813

Hall Bookings
Bob: 4037 0240

COUNCILLOR COCHRANE'S CHRISTMAS WISHES

Here we are in December and the year has gone. I was talking to a retired gentleman only this week and he tells me that time flies even quicker when you retire!!

Just where does the time go?

I have noticed that the tree at the end of O'Shea Esplanade had not been replaced when I was at the beach recently have asked for this to happen sooner rather than later.

Hope everyone took advantage of the free vegetation dumping, I saw many trailers going out of all the areas on the weekends, so well done to those who have done their clean-ups! You can place green vegetation into the green bin at any time if you have some cuttings to go to the tip.

Rainy days and the mossies will be breeding, let's keep those Dengue mossies to a minimum and join in to the Eliminate Dengue campaign which will be undertaken at the beach this season.

At this point may I wish each and everyone of you a Happy and Enjoyable Christmas, thanking you all for your support over the year. This time of the year is time to reflect on your past year and refresh for the new year and what challenges are likely to be presented to us!!

I will be around over the break and contactable on mobile if you require any assistance.

See you at the meeting, and take care, *Margaret*

From the Member for Barron River and Parliamentary Secretary assisting the Premier on Economic Development in the Far North

Fishing Petition Recreational fishers tell me that catching a fish off the beaches, rivers and estuaries between Trinity Inlet and Taylor Point has become much harder over the years. That's why I have sponsored a petition to gauge support for restricting commercial net fishing in the inshore waters of Trinity Bay. As competition for the resource, particularly barramundi, increases, maybe we need to reconsider how the fishery is allocated and whether under the current arrangements the fishery is sustainable. I will be tabling the paper and online petition on the last sitting day of Parliament.

Eliminate Dengue Machans Beach is to be the next trial site for the Eliminate Dengue project. Yorkeys Knob was selected to be the first trial site last year so it is great to have this research continuing, which has the potential to provide public health benefits throughout the tropical world.

Barron Gorge Hydro Boost Our very own clean green machine at Barron Gorge Hydro has just received a \$10 million upgrade boosting capacity by 10% to 66 megawatts, enough to power our entire city! Barron River Hydro makes greenhouse gas savings of around 260,000 tonnes a year and is a certified green generator.

Machans Beach Community Association Petition I will be tabling this petition of over 1500 signatures in the Parliament in the last sitting week for 2011. The petition demonstrates strong support in the local community for protecting the mangroves of Cairns Airport from future development.

To all Machanites, Merry Christmas and Happy 2012, I look forward to again working with your community. Stay safe.

Steve

Machanations is an independent newsletter for the community of Machans Beach, published every month except January.
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CLAMIDIA'S Monthly

ARIES There is a difference between a homemaker and a home breaker. Keep restraints on your partner this festive season or they might give you a Christmas present you didn't bargain for.

TAURUS Eat, drink and be merry, but just remember that the burning sensation you are feeling between your legs is not Santa coming down the chimney.

GEMINI Even though you may be in two minds this festive season, don't stand still, action is required. Give yourself another personality for Christmas.

CANCER Presents, presents, presents. This is what's in store for the most generous of the zodiacs.

LEO Santa is coming and so is the back lash from your negative outlook on life. You must realise you can't have your Christmas pudding and eat it too.

VIRGO Taking something that does not belong to you is not the festive way. Fortunately Jesus love all beasts.

LIBRA Check your stocking for a compass this Christmas because even though your life is going nowhere, this little device is your only salvation.

SCORPIO You may think that age wins wisdom, but take heed of what the Three Wise Men said to Jesus on the 7th day - grow up!

SAGITTARIUS Don't feel overshadowed by Jesus' birthday this Christmas. Your ultimate beauty and extraordinary talents will keep you from being nailed to the cross.

CAPRICORN Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the course your life's taking will leave you half dead.

AQUARIUS Uncle Scrooge please open your heart and your wallet. You won't find Christmas spirit at your local public toilet.

PISCES You may think you've received your ultimate Christmas gift. But alas common sense is a virtue, not a gift.

SUMMARY OF THE MACHANS BEACH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MINUTES (Meeting on Thursday 10 November 2011)

Association members are keen to know more about the revised Cairns Airport Land Use Plan and will be following up with the office of the Minister Paul Lucas for more information.

A letter was received from Cairns Regional Council suggesting that the community hall is eligible for heritage listing but it was decided to decline this offer. Members felt that the community built the hall and has been doing a good job in caring for the hall for over 50 years and so there is no need to change the current arrangements.


The meeting was pleased to hear updates from Councillor Cochrane on the completed work on the old dump site and the proposed work on the O'Shea Esplanade rock wall. Russell King presented the Association with a fine photographic portrait of Bully to hang in the hall - Thanks Russ! Russell also passed on a request from the vet asking that people stop feeding Bully bread - it is not good for him!

Dympna

Machans Beach
TAKE - AWAY
 Marshall St
4055 0539
Fish & Chips - Burgers - Drinks

EBONY & IVORY
BY THE SEA
 Licensed Restaurant & Cafe / Take-Away
Bookings : 4055 0398
 Cnr O'Shea Esp. & Machan St, Machans Beach

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Green Paper for this issue provided by
Margaret Cochrane
 Division 8 Councillor

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