

MACHANATIONS

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OUR DECLAN FROM HIS MOTHER

Declan first came to live in Machans Beach at four years of age. Like all the kids in Machans, he had an idyllic childhood, spending many hours at the beach with his friends, climbing the big tree in Keith Edwick Park, riding his bike or scooter around the Beach, and having fun at the bike park.

Declan loved our environment, sand, sea, flowers, trees, bush and wildlife. He was fascinated by the many species of bugs in our garden, if any came into the house, he would put them outside being very gentle so as not to hurt them. He was a staunch vegetarian and often discussed his beliefs with his friends. He was a deep thinker, was well read and had a wide vocabulary.

Dec loved climbing trees and for a couple of years whenever we couldn't find him, we would go out in the garden and look up.

As a teenager Declan became more interested in indoor pursuits, spending time on Facebook, watching Family Guy on the internet, listening to music, playing his PSP, reading and drawing. He was musical, playing piano and teaching himself guitar. He was a quiet person generally, though popular with the girls and made his friends laugh a lot. They would also bring their problems to him for hugs and advice. Dec was just a lovely kid and is missed very much.

The whole of Machans was involved in the search for Declan, and in supporting his family, and so it is fitting that there will be a 'Declan's Place' created in Keith Edwick Park. A plaque will be put on a tree or bench to give people somewhere to go to remember this special boy and thank the special caring community we live in.

Ruth Crouch

MOON OVER MACHANS Saturday 8th October 2011

MOON OVER MACHANS ART EXHIBITION

Our famed local community celebration, Moon Over Machans, falls this year on Saturday 8th October 2011. This allows creative residents time to prepare a work of art for an exhibition showcasing local talent. Moon Over Machans comprises the community market in Keith Edwick Park beginning mid afternoon and continuing into the evening when the music kicks off.

Chris from Ebony and Ivory kindly offered his restaurant walls for the exhibition and a sunset launch there before the music starts suggests a pleasant interlude.

More announcements will follow in August and September, but key exhibition guidelines are:

Format - all works should be one size, the traditional eight by ten inches (or 203 x 254mm), landscape or portrait.

Genre - photography, painting, assemblage, collage, fibre, relief or other.

Framing - framed or unframed. If framed please ensure the framed size remains as close as possible to the 8x10" format.

Price: a ceiling of \$50.00 per work.

All proceeds to the artists. Professional and amateur artists alike are invited to participate in a spirit of local cheer.

For further information, please contact Ingrid Hoffmann: 4037 0763.

Ingrid

Meeting with Deputy Premier Paul Lucas concerning the airport Draft Land Use Plan and the proposed Second Runway

Steve Wettenhall advocated allowing for individual submissions to the minister along the lines of our submissions at the MBCA organised meeting at Machans Beach. This was agreed to and all parties reiterated their positions and the minister listened without making any interruptions apart from requests for clarification or more information on certain points. Minister Lucas seemed to have a tenuous grasp on the issues particular to the Cairns airport. There followed a less formal discussion ranging over many subjects particular to the attendee's interests. I raised the issues of the noise, mangrove destruction, the necessity for a bund wall containment structure, the requirement for the nearby sand at Ellie Point to be used for fill and the dugong habitat which would be destroyed as well as the

necessary resumption of land at both ends of the runway. The fact that the larger planes would be able to land but not take off from the new runway was seen to bring its viability into question. Others raised their points of concern, including the introduction of a major new shopping precinct in an already glutted market and there was a considerable amount of overlapping of interest, particularly of noise reduction for the northern beaches in general and that there was seen to have been lip-service only paid to the requirement for community consultation. It was indicated strongly by the meeting attendees that the number of submissions received did not accurately reflect the level of concern in the community.

Continues inside

DATE CLAIMERS

Community Association	7.30pm in the Community Hall, Thursday 11 th August	(John 4055 0653)
Neighbourhood Watch	7.30pm in the Community Hall, Thursday 11 th August	(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)	
Machans School Permaculture Garden..	Contact the School to be involved. 4055 9410	
Sports Club - Drinks & Live Music.....	6.00 – 10.00pm, 2 nd Friday of the month	
Sports Club - Music Sessions & BBQ	3.00 - 10.00pm – 1 st Saturday of the month	(Dan 4055 0069)

Meeting with Deputy Premier Paul Lucas .. Continued from Page 1....

The possibility of moving the airport to Mareeba was canvassed but rejected outright as a possibility by the Minister. A detailed discussion was held between the Minister and Gareth Davey representing the General Aviation issues within the airport boundary. Gareth mentioned a similar shopping precinct driven expansion which was pushed through despite opposition in Canberra which was now seen to have been a mistake because of safety and operational concerns. The extension of the taxiways to alleviate any future congestion was discussed.

Steve Wettenhall suggested towards the end of the meeting that the onus of proof should be turned around in this instance and that the airport should be asked to justify in a more comprehensive and

detailed way why the second runway was needed rather than the community having to prove why it shouldn't go ahead. Steve advocated strongly for the community on this occasion and his input was received with general approval by the community attendees. Mr Wettenhall suggested that if, once detailed analysis had been performed, the second runway was seen to be unviable, the proposed second runway should be removed from the plan because of the unnecessary angst and general apprehension it was causing in the community, as represented by this group condensed from the attendance at the original meeting.

The minister was non-committal of his future direction on this issue in his summing up.

All community representatives presented a hard copy of their submissions to the minister's attendants. There were no revelations or breakthroughs at this meeting, but, it should not be thought that the meeting was unproductive. All attendees behaved in a considered and calm manner and it was a polite and formal event as befitting the attendance of the acting Premier (on the day) and the local political representative, as well as ourselves and the various political handlers scattered around the room.

No decision was made on the day, nor was one expected. We can only hope that our advocacy for our position has been strong enough to have an effect when the final decision is made. *Barry*

PETITION TO SAVE MACHANS BEACH AND THE MANGROVES

Thanks to Rob Williams and the others who have worked so hard to get our Petition out into the Community. Should the second runway proceed our house and land values would hit rock bottom. Machans Beach would become an unpalatable, audio polluted suburb. If you care for the Community's future please sign. Chris and Matty at Ebony and Ivory have one petition as well as Daiji and Wendy at the Machans Beach Convenience Store.

Did you know that one hectare of mangrove will take 100 kilos of carbon out of the air? Mangroves also filter water, if they are disturbed the Barron River will be much saltier further up stream. Mangroves sustain and nurture fish and crustaceans, they shelter birds and other wildlife. If mangroves are removed the coast will quickly erode, they protect the land from storm surge, and major weather events. Mangroves also have an excellent

ability to filter fertilisers, chemicals and other toxins that have washed into the River and the Sea. Mangroves also get rid of salts through their aerial roots and salt filtering leaves. Should you ever be stranded without pure fresh water, just sip on the water stored in a mangrove leaf!

The term Cyclone was first coined by the English Meteorologist, Mr Piddington, in 1848, he also advocated never destroying the Mangroves in tropical regions. In the Sunderban Islands his foreboding about a city being built on destroyed Mangrove wetlands came true. The entire city was demolished by a huge Cyclone and associated storm surge.

In the event of a second runway Redden Island (which already belongs to the Airport) would most likely be cleared for airport landing lights, and fenced off from the Public. What a horror of a thought. *Pippy*

July Community Association Meeting Notes

Gaming Funds grant has provided much needed upgrades to the Community Hall which has seen improvements over the last few weeks. Installation of solar power to the hall has been completed and is working efficiently.

What should we do with the Machans Beach Community Garden? Schools have become self sufficient sites and the Community Garden has become a matter of concern as it does not fit with the 'modern day classroom'. The Principal Ms Termaat is asking Machans Beach residents for input about the Garden:

- Does the Garden serve a purpose in the Community?
- What are the benefits?

The dog situation within Machans Beach Community has become a concern. At present there is a good deal of dogs roaming the streets of the beach causing havoc. A pack of dogs have been responsible for the cruel and brutal killing of wildlife in and around the beach. There have also been dogs wondering around without leashes and have either attacked people or harmed small animals. RSPCA and the Council have been contacted about dogs in the beach. Heavy penalties will be incurred if dog owners do not comply.

Next Meeting: Thursday 11 August at the Community Hall - 7:30pm

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE POST OFFICE

My front lawn seems to be a collective toilet for all of the dogs in the town. I thought that as caring responsible pet owners you would do the right thing and pick up your dog droppings and put them in the bin. Alas, it seems as though this is a pipe dream and we have no caring responsible dog owners in our town..... or so you would think, looking at and the smelling of my front lawn.

Anyway we only have four and a half months until HE arrives on our doorstep once again, so start getting organised. Sea mail for overseas at that time of year closes in mid September.

I have a new shipment of mobile phones just arrived and like the elephants they will go so quickly you won't believe your eyes. The elephants were walking out the door as quickly as I could unpack them. So chr.....(we are not allowed to say that word just yet) is approaching fast and I have been stocking up on all sorts of goodies just for that occasion.

I have a good range of printer cartridges in stock also, and can get the odd one that is not on the shelf in as required. *Russell*

**Green Paper for this issue provided by
Steve Wettenhall MP
State Member for Barron River**

An enormous brindle dog was caught in the act of tipping out the entire contents of a rubbish bin outside the Take Away last week. No ID and mess everywhere. Come on Dog owners, just a few irresponsible pet owners spoil the reputation of all. Control the dogs or expect to pay

MACHANS BEACH STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE

Local Training Some new members have completed Induction, CMIT (Community Member Initial Training), and are in the process of completing Communications training locally and attended a Land Search Course and Chainsaw Course. Two members have applied to become Peer Supporters for the Region with one having an interview and accepted on the Course, held in Brisbane.



summer's horrendous flood and cyclone disasters, the Department of Community Safety is ensuring that it has the resources on hand to continue to assist Queenslanders into the future. If you are keen to do something to benefit your community, the SES wants to hear from you.

SES is calling for new members A new state-wide recruitment campaign has just been launched. In the wake of last

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. *THE TEAM*

132 500 – Flood Storm Emergency

Greetings from Councillor Margaret Cochrane

Another month and the year is flying by. There has been resident activity about the Land Use Plan for the Airport in relation to the second runway, well done. This is an important part of this Land Use Plan in relation to the mangrove destruction and effects on the environmental value of the area. The proposed uses of the General Aviation section of the airport will have a detrimental effect on the small aircraft movements and economy in the city.

I have been able to access some funding to get the foreshore grass work completed recently. It would have been a total waste of previous funds spent if this work was not completed as the work would have been washed away during the times of our severe weather events at the beginning of next year.

I have arranged for the Engineer to attend the Community Association meeting in September to discuss the Report on the Rock wall and the proposed outcomes which can be considered to rectify the condition of the wall.

The contract has now been let for the work on the old dumpsite, with the work to begin shortly.

Unfortunately I missed the MBCA meeting last month, so will catch up this month. If you have an issue which needs attention from Council please ring the Call Centre 24/7, 4044 3044 and get your issue recorded. If you need to talk to me, my office is 4044 3080 or mobile 0419 706 372, please leave a message as I am not always at the end of the phone these days. *Margaret Cochrane*

G'Day from STEVE WETTENHALL MP

Sunbus. I am pleased that the changes to the Sunbus routes and timetables have been well received by Machanites and now mean a more efficient services between Machans and the City and direct services to JCU for the first time.

Cairns Airport Draft Land Use Plan. Following the public meeting held earlier this year at Machans Beach, I arranged for a delegation of traditional owners, business operators, residents and conservationist representatives to meet with the Planning Minister on 23rd of June 2011. A range of options were well put from these various perspectives. I fully understand resident concerns about the impact of living with a second runway, however remote a possibility that might be.

I also recognise that general aviation business operators and workers want certainty about their future on the airport. As well, I am particularly concerned about the environmental impacts associated with the clearing of large areas of Mangroves. Under the legislation, the Minister must be satisfied that the airport

lessee has taken appropriate account of issues raised in written submission, that local government does not have a substantial objection to the plan and that state interests will not be adversely affected by the plan.

There is no doubt that the airport plays a pivotal role in the economy of the region and that airport growth means jobs and prosperity.

I will be working to achieve a new land use plan that strikes a balance between the legitimate commercial interests of the airport, its users and tenants, the protection of the environment and the amenity and lifestyle of local residents.

Steve

SUSTAINABILITY AT MACHANS

The Sustainable Machans Group will hold its next meeting on Thu 11 Aug at 6pm at 48 Marshall St (upstairs). Last month we organised a petition against the second runway and discussed other ideas and projects.

All welcome. For more info call 0414 062 091 *Geoff*

SPORTS CLUB NEWS

August at the sports club sees some quality entertainment with JIM CADMAN performing on Saturday 6th August and BRAMO on Friday the 19th August. Members draw is now up to \$75 and you must be present to win.

As always there will be a BBQ and meat tray raffles and fun for the kids with tennis, basketball, playground and table soccer. New members are welcome as it is a great place to meet your fellow locals in a child friendly environment. So come along and enjoy. Machans Beach Sports and Rec Group.

See you at the club. Dan Vowles President

SAVE THE SNAIL

I wonder if any of our local residents would have a look for any snail shells in their yards and drop them off at my place with their address details. These can be either dead or living. Live ones can be later relocated into local areas not subject to fires or returned.

Apart from ascertaining which species usually inhabit this area, a large number of dead snails could indicate an infestation of an introduced species of flatworm which is a voracious predator of our native snails. *Barbara Collins.*

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Hall Activities August 2011

Tuesday

Yoga at Machans
5.15 - 6.30pm

Martha 40559 538

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

Ballroom Dancing

7.00 - 9.00pm

Chris 0447 74 4 723

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

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

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

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