

MACHANATIONS

www.machansbeach.net/machanations

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MACHANS BEACH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION APRIL 2011 MEETING

The public meeting regarding the Cairns Airport Draft Land Use Plan was held in the hall in place of April's ordinary meeting. There were in excess of 135 attendees.

In conclusion, Mr Steve Wettenhall MP summed up the salient points and undertook to broker a meeting between the Minister for Infrastructure, Hon Paul Lucas and up to 6 delegates chosen by the meeting.

It was moved that the Minister be invited to a public meeting in the hall at Machans Beach.

Moved by Martin Anton

Seconded by Geoff Holland

It was moved that a delegation of 6 people, representing 6 groups including traditional owners, meet with the Minister.

Moved by Russell King

Seconded by Allan Callington

The 6 delegates chosen were:

1. Machans Beach - Barry Fitzsimmons
2. Aust Aviation Group - Gareth Davey
3. Traditional Owners - Lyndal Singleton
4. Yorkeys Knob - Wendy Dowsett
5. Holloways Beach
6. CAFNEC

**NEXT MEETING IS THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
THURSDAY 12TH MAY AT 7:30PM**

Carol

Thanks from Declan's Mum

Hello to everyone in our wonderful community.

Peter and I would like to say a big thank you for your patience, your time and your understanding in helping the police look for our son.

I know some of you have been interviewed three times, and the last lot of door knocking was I believe very demanding. Your cooperation is much appreciated by our family. Every crumb of information you have been able to give may help.

Thank you to the Machans Beach SES (and members from all over Cairns) for the searches you have been involved with, in very unfriendly conditions.

Thanks too, to a number of Machanites who have sent cards wishing us well, or dropped by, and especially to Pauline, your support and good wishes help us get through the day.

Ruth

Second Runway proposal and threat to Mangroves

In 2009 the State Government sold Cairns Airport for \$530m. The new owners, CAPL, comprising JP Morgan and Westpac as the largest shareholders, have spent another \$300m. This means they need to make about \$80m in profit or more each year to justify their investment. There is strong pressure to expand the airport including building a second runway which will pass straight over Machans, as well as a shopping complex etc.

Current plans are to clear about 85 hectares of mangrove forest for the second runway as well as another 40 hectares for other infrastructure. The very thought of clearing mangroves, one of the most valuable and vulnerable natural habitats around the world, is unconscionable. Australia is party to the international Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and regularly preaches to developing countries how they need to protect their mangrove forests. The destruction of natural habitat is the major cause of extinction rates of 5 - 50 species per day according to the UN. But what difference will the clearing of just 145 more hectares of mangrove forest make? It's death by a 1000 cuts, otherwise known as the Tragedy of the Commons.

For anyone interested in keeping up to date with the campaign to protect the mangrove forests surrounding Cairns Airport (including mangroves between Machans and the airport), which are under threat from plans for expansion of Cairns Airport (now privatised), as well as related issues such as relocating General Aviation to make way for a shopping complex (bad city planning), we have an online forum with a good number of Machanites already participating.

Ring Geoff on 0414 062 091 or send an email to GeoffHolland007@gmail.com to be included. (You can self-unsubscribe at any time and there is, of course, no cost).

Geoff

DATE CLAIMERS

Community Association	7.30pm in the Community Hall, Thursday 12 th May	(John 4055 0653)
Neighbourhood Watch	7.30pm in the Community Hall, Thursday 12 th May	(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)
School P & C.....	At the school, for date and time see School newsletter	(Dave 4055 0365)

Bert's Lucky Travelling Tree

I try to avoid interfering with nature but knew that eventually some time during the wet season Redden Creek would be opened up by flood waters from the tableland, shovels from Marshall Street or a helpful backhoe.

Being the interfering type I decided to transplant some of the little Casuarinas that were growing hopefully in the sand that was soon to become a water course. I planted them amongst the rocks to the north of the creek.

The trees took well and I was telling James about them when he mentioned a tree he had rescued that needed a home. "Not Happy" had poisoned old Bert's Casuarinas trees. Council had replaced them with more Casuarinas, but one of the new little trees was found plucked and tossed into the sea. Rescued from the sea the little tree was potted and sat for a few months in his shady back yard where it recovered and was again ready for an outing.

I planted this little battler down at Redden with the others and hope it gets a fair go this time. The little tree was transplanted several times in its youth but luckily only once by "Not Happy".

Trees - cut one, plant three.

Rob.

Machans Beach State Emergency Service

Search for Declan - Members again participated in a land search of cane fields, scrub and mangroves around Machans Beach - with assistance from Yorkeys Knob, Trinity Beach, Buchans Point, Cairns, Mossman, Atherton and Kuranda. Declan still has not been located. Please notify Police if you are able to help in any way.

SES Offers - Members who have participated in the recovery efforts were offered free tickets to Taipan's Games and half price trips to the outer Barrier Reef by Ocean Free.

SES Assistance Hotline - There are still some members of the community who are unaware of the National Hotline number for SES assistance. It is 132 500. For whatever SES assistance you require, ring this number and have your call logged at the Call-centre. Do not ring the local Unit direct as it ties up personnel (and we are only a small number of volunteers giving up our time to help the greater community - more volunteers are always welcome), who then have to log your call on to the system. Only qualified RFA operators are able to enter data - we have two;



during the critical time, one was absent. Those that did ring the number for assistance - thank you. If you had problems with the 132500 number, please set out the problem, lodge it at the P.O. (P.O. Box 16) or email to sesmachansbeachlc@dcs,qld.gov.au and we will follow this up.

Vacancy - We have vacancies for Flood Boat Operators. If you have experience in boats or would like to be involved in Boating operations, please contact the number below.

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

RECYCLE BINS

Did you know that plastic bags labelled "Recyclable" are not able to be recycled by the Cairns Waste Management Depot?

The Council have excellent guidelines for their Recycling Plant on their web site.

Steps to Good Recycling

Step 1. Be Aware - Please be aware that if you put non-recyclables or incorrect items into your Recycle Bin it becomes "contaminated", and can make your entire neighbourhood's collection unable to be processed, which then ends up in landfill.

Step 2 Prepare - Take time to prepare your recycling. Remove lids, rinse and flatten articles to make more space in your recycle bin. Please do not put plastic bags in your recycle bin!

Step 3 Recycle - Place your bin on the kerbside of your property on your pickup date. Your recyclable waste may be collected as early as 6:00AM so put it out early. Ensure that your bin is removed from your kerbside within 12 hours of collection.

Take care when separating your waste!

If you are unsure if a particular plastic is accepted please Call Cairns Regional Water & Waste on 4044 3044

Plastic Bags - Plastic bags can be recycled by dropping them off at major grocery store chains. Look for the plastic bag recycling bin near the check out areas. *Please do not put Plastic Bags into your Recycling Bin! Alternatively: Pop those recyclable plastic bags into the green lidded bin for non recyclables!!! Reuse them, Or even better don't accept plastic bags when shopping and bring your own reusable ones.*



The (Machans) Beach Boys

Pete, Bob, Neil & Erik
are playing at
Ebony & Ivory

O'Shea Esplanade, Machans Beach
Sunday 15th May

4:30pm till 8:00pm

Take a walk on the wild
side... do da do da

SPORTS CLUB

will not be open on Saturday 7th May due to the Cairns Blues Festival, The next Friday event will be on Friday 13th May with live music from Darren Leonard to which we haven't had at the club for a long time and we look forward to hearing his great music. Members draw is now up to \$100 and you need to be there to win. To become a member is only \$5. See you at the club Dan

Betta Chris Marsh 0427 278 473	EBONY & IVORY 0422 927 111	MACHANS BEACH STORE 0422 927 111	Med 45 year Dog 0422 927 111	Cocobee Dubbe 0422 927 111
GANES 0422 927 111	MACHANS SHEET METAL 0422 927 111	Paint and Decorating 0422 927 111	S & J's Electrical 0422 927 111	
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The Back Page
Remember to look at
the Back Page of
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Find Out How Your Beaches, Bays, Creeks and Rivers Interact

Many Machans Beach residents have told me they want to learn more about the coastal processes that shape our beaches, bays, creeks and rivers and how best to manage them. That's why I have arranged for two of the State's foremost experts from the Department of Environment and Resource Management to join us for a Coastal Processes forum. You are invited to this event to discuss issues such as:

- Shore erosion / beach replenishment
- The role of mangroves in the ecosystem
- Aquatic life in Trinity Bay
- The impacts of human activity
- Water quality

I welcome your suggestions for discussion topics, so please send through your ideas to barron.river@parliament.qld.gov.au or phone 4038 2800. The forum will be held right on the beachfront and a light lunch will be provided so you can enjoy your Sunday whilst learning more about how to keep the beaches we all treasure in their best possible condition. Come for the whole day or part of the day. RSVP is necessary to the above email address for catering purposes but is not essential.

Location: Holloways Beach Environmental Education Centre, Poinsettia Street, Holloways Beach

Date: **Sunday May 15, 2011**

Time: 10am to 2pm

Steve Wettenhall MP

PO News

What a wonderful time of year this. With the cooler days and nights life is so much more pleasant all round. And with the holidays abounding it is a time to go and explore this wonderful area in which we live. Don't forget, while you are travelling, to send off all of the birthday and mother's day cards and presents. It just so happens that I have some very nice presents in the shop for all occasions, so drop in and have a look.

I am seeking someone to make cards for the shop, this is an ongoing project that won't make you rich but will give some pocket money and self satisfaction for a job well done. All you need is a camera and card making program and off you go.

There are several post boxes available for renting, including small medium and large sizes. The mail is sorted into these boxes by 9 am each day and then you can pick it up at your leisure.

I have banking services to suit most banks, c, with the only limit on withdrawals being your daily limit set by you or the bank. *Russell*

FOOD TREES FOR WILDLIFE

If you are considering any new plants or palms for your garden, there are several species which attract birds and butterflies. Here is a small sample

- Carpentaria and Alexander palms (self cleaning and neat and look good in clusters of 3) are food for Torres Strait Pigeons, Metallic Starlings (natives not pests), Figbirds, Oriels, Koels, Wompoo Fruit Doves, Rose Crowned Fruit Doves, Superb Fruit Doves and Emerald Doves. The flowers attract Lorikeets and fruit bats.
- Aristalochia vines (native variety only) attract the Cairns Birdwing Butterfly.
- Euodia trees feed the Blue Ulysses Butterfly Caterpillar.
- Grevillea shrubs attract the Honey Eaters including Sunbirds, Friarbirds, Lewins, Brown and Yellow Honeyeaters.
- Callistemons (Bottle Brush) attract and feed the Rainbow Lorikeets.
- The Golden Canes attract the Scaly Breasted Lorikeet and the Fruit Bats which love their nectar.

All these plants are readily available at your local nursery at Freshwater which I hear is possibly closing down in spring so get in early.

Cathie

WORK BEGINS ON TEMPORARY RADAR SITE

Airservices Australia, the national air traffic control service provider, has begun site preparation work for a temporary radar facility at Machans Beach. At the far northern end of the "Radar Field" opposite the School.

The radar will maintain the current levels of flight safety in the region while the permanent Cairns Terminal Area Radar is upgraded. Airservices project manager Bruce Arnold said the \$5.5m upgrade was part of an \$80m nationwide infrastructure modernisation program to ensure the safe and efficient movement of air traffic in Australian airspace. "We have been meticulous in our planning, particularly to minimise disruptions to our neighbours, the residents of Machans Beach," he said.

The Machans Beach site is already owned by Airservices and was chosen to host the temporary radar because it is ideally located to accurately track aircraft approaching and departing Cairns Airport during the period the permanent radar is out of service. Other locations were considered but technically unacceptable due to interference from buildings or the topography around Cairns airport.

A transportable radar previously used in Sydney and Melbourne is being shipped to Cairns and will be used for up to

12 months while the upgrade is carried out. It consists of a 10 metre tall tower with primary and secondary radar mounted on top. Other facilities on site will include an equipment shelter the size of a shipping container, a small demountable office and power supply equipment.

Airservices has also carried out a comprehensive safety assessment to ensure there are no risks to the environment or residents, the nearest of whom live more than 175m from the site.

At the end of the works Airservices will remove all equipment from the Machans Beach site.

For media enquiries contact Airservices Media on 02 6257 2828 or email media@airservicesaustralia.com

Hall Activities

May 2011

Kung Fu Junior

Wednesdays 5pm to 6pm
Richard 0409 104 753

Kung Fu Adult

Wednesdays 7pm to 8pm
Richard 0409 104 753

Tai Chi

Wednesday 6 - 7pm
Richard 0409 104 753
Thursday 10 - 11.15 am
Kathryn 4055 0929

Cairns War Games

Saturdays 9am - 4pm
Connor 0429 820 971

Ball Room Dancing

Fridays 7pm - 9pm
Chris 0415 956 923

Can Can Dancing

Fridays 11am - 1pm
Bobin 0427719565

Yoga

Tuesdays 5.15 to 6.30pm
Martha 4055 9538

Community Association Meeting

Thursday 12th 7.30pm
Carol 0428 326 813

Hall Bookings

Bob: 4037 0240



Chris Marsh

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