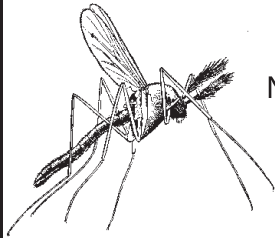


MACHANATIONS

November 2011

www.machansbeach.net/machanations

Email : machanations@machansbeach.net Mail: C/Post Office Machans Beach 4878 Contact – Pippy 4055 0907



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWS

Notes from the Guest Speakers at the Community Association Meeting 8th October
– Eliminate Dengue Program

The *Eliminate* Dengue Program is a private sector enterprise mainly funded by Bill and Melissa Gates' Microsoft Foundation. The object of the team's visit here is to start the process to gain community consent to use Machans Beach as a trial area for a release of *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes carrying *Wolbachia*, a bacterium.

The CSIRO have given this research the lowest possible risk rating in terms of people or environment. The time line is to begin now by informing Machans residents via meetings, face-to-face doorknocks, information in Machanations, and availability to have questions answered by phone and email. Flora Zigterman is the contact and is also a Machans resident. How quickly and how well the resident *Aedes aegypti* population is converted to *Wolbachia*-carrying insects is the thrust of the research, as this release will be a different strain of the *Wolbachia* bacterium from that used in the successful releases at Yorkeys Knob and Gordonvale.

The team can be contacted as follows: Email: eliminatedengue@uq.edu.au or Phone: 4042 1630

Cairns Regional Council representatives - future for the rock wall

Engineer Tim Smith gave a brief history of the rock wall here at Machans, and of the current rebuild in progress on the wall at Flying Fish Point where conditions are very similar. Cyclone Yasi has highlighted the damage that can occur along the coast, and with Machans being a high density residential area, it has been the catalyst to escalate the priority here in Council's view.

The current assessment is:

- The wall is far too steep so the waves break closer to the Esplanade.
- It is at an angle to facilitate lifting of rocks in wild conditions.
- The mix of rock in terms of stable grading is poor.
- Ground levels are reasonable and this, plus the existing wall, has helped repel surges during bad conditions and averted any catastrophic changes so far.

The options are:

1. Engineering a 1.2Km stretch of new wall from a point at Barrs Creek end to Reddan Creek and in-filling. **Cost \$15.5M**
2. Dismantling and rebuilding using some of the existing rock material to correct grading, trying for a uniform width of foreshore of around 5m, and possibly incorporating a footpath. **Cost \$7.5M**
3. Lesser job and not as wide. **Cost \$5.1M**
4. A small repair job which would do for a while but not stand up to a weather event such as Cyclone Yasi. **Cost \$100,000**

Option 2 is the engineer's preferred option and will be put to

Council in a bid to have it included in the next financial year's budget. Cinderella Street would not be included in works at this point. In the meantime Tim Smith will have machinery in to do some tidy up work around the access stairs and to place rocks into the worse sections, interlocking them as best as possible. John Burton is the CRC Project Officer and his plan is to get as much feedback from the community as possible on what is wanted by residents. All thoughts or ideas on what would be desirable can be communicated to Council by emailing feedback@cairns.qld.gov.au or by phoning Margaret Lowrie at Council on 4044 3303.

John will draw up a Terms of Reference for the work and invite 3 suitably qualified consultant companies to quote on the work, with a consultant on board by end of November. These detailed designs and costings would then be submitted in time for consideration for the next Council budget. The work would take approx 16 weeks or more to complete, and the permit process could take up to 6 months although this could be less as DERM have been involved in the rock wall inspection and discussions so far.

Council are responsible for the maintenance of the rock wall at Machans Beach as it protects the infrastructure of the roadway. This was not the case with Holloways Beach where residents must repay the cost of their rock wall as it is all protecting private property. This repayment is in the order of \$20M over 7 years.

Carol

DATE CLAIMERS

Community Association.....	7.30pm in the Community Hall, Thursday 10th November	(John 4055 0653)
Neighbourhood Watch.....	7.30pm in the Community Hall, Thursday 10th November	(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 EMERGENCY SERVICE

ARE YOU DISASTER READY? The Disaster Readiness Index Checklist is a short 9-question checklist which focus on the things you need to know, the actions you should be taking, and your understanding of your environment before and during a disaster. The result of the checklist is your very own Disaster Readiness Index, measured upon a base score of 100.

Check it out at <http://www.emergencyvolunteering.com.au/home/>

BEING PREPARED. Being psychologically prepared is also important. It can assist people to feel more in control, think more clearly, and effectively enact their cyclone plan, thereby reducing the risk of serious injury and loss of life or property. Psychological preparation can be achieved through three simple steps, which are outlined in a new series of brochures available from the Australian Psychological Society. It involves people running through likely scenarios and imagining how they might feel and having strategies to calm themselves down when they are under threat. A special version of their brochure details how children can be helped as they face the frightening prospect of a cyclone. Samples of these brochures can be downloaded online at www.psychology.org.au. Please prepare yourselves and your loved ones ahead of the cyclone season.

Queensland Flood and Cyclone Citation. Many members who participated in this year's flood/cyclone operations, both local and deployment (that is members who took part in responding to Cyclone Yasi and that formed part of the deployments from this Region that helped in the floods in Central and Southern Queensland – yes we have some members that not only helped locally but gave up time to help in other areas around Emerald), have received a citation/medal presented personally by the Regional Director, Wayne Coutts.

Local Training. A member was selected to attend the Peer Support Program. After an intensive training program, we now have a Peer Supporter that is available to support members, not just in our area but state wide. There are only a few Peer Supporters in this Region – not even one in Cairns.

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

From The Team.

132 500 – Flood Storm Emergency

Sports Club NEWS

SPORTS CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY SATURDAY 3rd DECEMBER 3 - 10PM

FREE RIDES FOR THE KIDS 3 - 5PM, SANTA, ADULTS vs KIDS BASKETBALL MATCH, INDOOR CRICKET ON THE TENNIS COURT, FIRE TWIRLERS, SKY DIVERS, LIVE MUSIC, RAFFLES, SCHOOL KIDS CHRISTMAS CAROLS PERFORMANCE, HOT FOOD - COLD DRINKS – SWEETS, LICENSED BAR - NO BYO !

Machans Beach Sports & Rec Group Inc is a non-profit organisation raising funds for sports and activities for the youth of Machans Beach. The club is located at School Street Park (behind school) Everyone is welcome - (non members need to sign in as a guest should they wish to purchase alcohol or join for \$5)If you require any further information, please call Dan on 0427 666 661

SEE YOU AT THE PARTY!!!!
HO HO HO (DAN)

INVITATION TO CYCLE TIBET 2012

For those cycling enthusiasts with a bent for adventure, this trip may interest you. In September next year, a group of local cyclists will be heading to Tibet where they will spend three days acclimatising in Lhasa before beginning a 21 day ride from Lhasa to Kathmandu. A feature of the ride will be calling into Everest Base Camp in addition to experiencing some magical scenery, culture and cuisine. The price for the ride, accommodation, food and other items is AUS \$2984 for

a minimum of 5 and the cost reduces to AUS \$2563.00 for 14 or more. The ride is also in support of Friends of Himalayan Children organisation in Cairns and any money raised will be used to assist the community of Batase in Nepal to establish a school and educational resources. If you would like to know more about this fantastic opportunity or check the itinerary, you can call **Peter: 0401 537 092, Paul: 0422 153 019, or Som: 0439 782 563.**



Butterfly Planting 13 December

Help create a Butterfly Garden at Machans Beach. Want to know more about attracting butterflies to your garden? Why not come along and learn some tips? We will be planting caterpillar fodder and butterfly nectar shrubs and trees to turn Keith Edwick Park into a veritable paradise.

Sylvia Conway sylvia@terrain.org.au 0407 166 234

WATER RESTRICTIONS

Hand held hoses, watering cans and buckets can be used at any time. The water conservation measures restrict the use of sprinklers and hoses being left on.

If your residence is an odd number you may leave the sprinklers on between 5am and 9am and in the afternoon from 5pm and 9pm on TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS AND SATURDAYS.

If your residence is an even number you may leave the hoses on between 5am and 9am and in the afternoon from 5pm until 9pm on WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY.

HALL ACTIVITIES November 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

HELLO TO ALL AT MACHANS BEACH From Margaret Cochrane

One can hardly believe that we are into November and talking about the “C” season, that is Christmas and Cyclones!!! Let’s talk cyclones first, Council is offering free GREEN WASTE (vegetation) dumping this month for the period from 12th November to 20th November, this includes two weekends and the full week in between. Portsmouth Transfer Station is open 7 days 8.30am to 5.15pm, with Smithfield Transfer Station open Mon – Sat 7am – 5.15pm and Sunday 9 am to 5.15pm . Great to hear that the Eliminate Dengue team is offering the trial to extend to Machans Beach.

The Rock Wall project is progressing with a briefing being given to the meeting last month. Staff will continue to develop options to be presented to the community with consultation to be undertaken as the project develops. I have requested some work on the wall prior to the rough weather this year to stabilise some spots which have lost integrity.

Let us talk Christmas, a wonderful time for families and special time together. Enjoy the Festive season and take care. It has been a difficult year for most people and now is the time to prepare to have some fun!!

If you require the services of Council remember the Call Centre 4044 3044 is available 24/7, or log onto the website and go to “contact us” and log your “request for service”. If you wish to speak with 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, take care and see you at the meeting.

Margaret

STEVE WETTENHALLS NEWS

It was lovely to join the people of Machan’s enjoying the music and moonlight at Moon over Machan’s. It’s great time of year to hold a celebration and a great way to bring the community together. Well done to Mark Herridge and the organisers.

Wet Season Preparation. Now we have been reminded of the imminent wet season, its timely to remember to rid your house and yard of mosquito breeding areas and prepare for the cyclone season by cleaning up lose items in the yard. And don’t forget to check that your insurance is up to date and that you understand what risks your policy covers.

Petition. I have received a petition regarding the Cairns Airport Draft Land Use Plan delivered by the Machan’s Beach Residents Association which I will table at the next sitting of Parliament beginning November 15. Thank you to the committee for all the hours and commitment that have gone into putting this together and to those who have signed the petition to participate in public affairs.

Solar Energy and Fair Trading. My office has been alerted to an energy company, not located in this region, who have been cold calling households offering deals on solar panel systems and failing to deliver. Our office and the Office of Fair Trading are looking into this matter, if you believe you may be a victim of this possible scam, please contact my office on 4038 2800 or barron.river@parliament.qld.gov.au

Steve Wettenhall MP Member for Barron River

CLAMIDIA'S Monthly

ARIES

These generous personalities are so in touch with life that everything they wish for this month will come to them on a golden platter.

TAURUS

Your stubbornness will not hold you in good stead this month. Melbourne Bitter is just as good as VB.

GEMINI

If you could possibly work out whether you’re Arthur or Martha then you might realise that you’re actually Sybil.

CANCER

These wonderful fun-loving people will have no trouble having a superbly fulfilling month. They really deserve a small gift from each of their friends.

LEO

Obviously you should have been drowned at birth. Let’s hope next time around that life is easier. Put that mirror down for the time being anyway.

VIRGO

You’ll have such an organised day. You’ll have such an organised month and most likely an organised life! Try something different.

LIBRA

Maybe if you spent a bit of time being unbalanced you may fit in to the community of Machans Beach a bit better.

SCORPIO

Try not to cut your nose off to spite your face. That extra lip service could ruin your month. Zips are on special at Woolies.

SAGITTARIUS

You must remember to keep your feet planted firmly on the earthly plain. You haven’t quite reached those heavenly peaks yet.

CAPRICORN

Just remember you’re not always right. Stop being a big head and get in touchy with your mothering image. Perhaps take up knitting.

AQUARIUS

Let’s just try to touch down just this once. You’ll be amazed at what the art of communication can do for you.

PISCES

If only you could swim properly you would keep out of those whirlpools! Extra lessons at Tobruk Pool for you!



Christmas Holiday Rental

Esplanade house for holiday rent from mid December to mid January. Ideal for family and friends coming to visit from down south!!! Everything available! Very reasonable price. Call 0424 193 342

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Green Paper for this issue provided by
Warren Entsch MP
 Federal Member for Leichhardt

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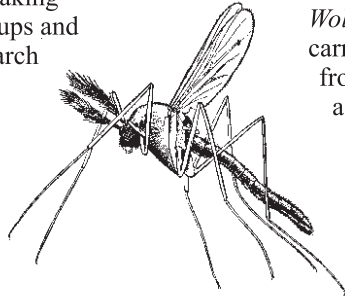
REGISTER YOUR SUPPORT TO ELIMINATE SCOURGE OF DENGUE

It is encouraging to hear the support we are already receiving for a possible release of *Wolbachia Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes in Machans Beach this coming wet season.

Flora Zigterman, Community Engagement Officer and Brian Montgomery, Cairns Field Trial Manager are making contact with as many residents, community groups and business owners as possible to explain our research program and our aim to develop a new way to control dengue. If you would like to hear more about the project or register your support for the release please contact Flora on free phone 1800 811 054.

In brief, our goal for Machans Beach trial is to 'seed' *Wolbachia*, a natural bacterium, into the wild mosquito population. When *Wolbachia* is introduced into the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito it acts like a 'vaccine' for the mosquito and reduces its ability to pass the dengue virus to people.

We plan to release mosquitoes that carry *Wolbachia* so they can mate with wild mosquitoes and spread the *Wolbachia*



bacterium into the wild mosquito population. In the 2011 trial we released on average 10 *Wolbachia* mosquitoes per household per week in Yorkeys Knob and Gordonvale for 10 weeks. In May monitoring of mosquito eggs (*Wolbachia* is passed from mother to offspring through the eggs) told us that *Wolbachia* was present in over 90% of the dengue-carrying mosquito in these two locations. Monitoring from September tells us *Wolbachia* is still present after the dry season.

The 2012 trial will be very similar but with a different strain of *Wolbachia*. We believe this second strain will be more effective at blocking dengue virus than the first but we need to see how well it will establish. If it establishes as well as the first did this trial will help determine what the best strain should be for a future roll out of this dengue control method more generally in Cairns and in other countries where dengue is a major problem. Read more about the project at www.eliminatedengue.com or call the Cairns office on freephone 1800 811 054 Professor Scott O'Neill *Eliminate Dengue Program Leader*

News about Real Estate at Machans Beach

The large sugar cane block on the right hand side when you turn into Machans Beach at the roundabout has been sold to the Federal Police for dog training. It will have a building and fence and be well maintained, obviously!

Carla

HELP SOMEONE LEARN

Student midwife available to support any women expecting a baby. I will join you for your appointments, labour, birth and see you post-natally too. Contact Beth on 40550301.

Beth

BARRON DELTA PROJECT

Thank you to Machans Community for hosting our October Steering Committee at the community hall.

There has been a lot going on in Machans since I was last here.

In August the Traditional Owners of Dungarra Island (Redden) removed a Midden Site that was falling into the Barron River due to erosion issues. It was moved to another location on Dungarra Is. This part of history will be preserved for the Irukandji people and all of our future generations.

On August 27 we had a Weedbuster activity on the Foreshore at Cinderella St, I advertised this for quite sometime & unfortunately only one person showed up, we pulled out a lot of sicklepod and centro vines, also rubbish was removed.

In September The Airport had a Great Northern Clean Up activity on Redden Is and removed rubbish, weeds and also mulched a lot of trees.

We are still in process of contacting relevant property owners about the radar field, melaleuca swamp site. Council have advised we can plant small species that will not attract big birds and bats on their side of the fence and now we are just waiting for Air Services to give us the green light. I am meeting with them soon.

Sylvia Conway sylvia@terrain.org.au 0407 166 234

Mulching on Redden

Date to be advised - if you are interested in getting involved with any of these conservation activities or have any ideas for Machans Beach feel free to contact me.

I will send you an email when we have confirmed dates for mulching. "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful people can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has"

Sylvia Conway sylvia@terrain.org.au 0407 166 234

A CHILLI SOLUTION... SHUDDER THE GREEN ANTS

...welcome rain ended the drought. The first litter of tadpoles - Striped Marsh Frogs are safe in their rearing tank; the Water Rat is back on duty cleaning up the odd Cane Toad. Now's the time to set up your own garden 'pond' - paddling pool, old bath or large basin etc in a shady spot out of toad reach to invite the local Frogs to find a safe place for their babies.

Advice? - ask Una or Cathie.

The little Dwarf Treefrogs are singing Rik-a-tik Rik-a-tik each night but I haven't heard the big Greens' Squawk Squawk yet. Oddly enough ... my friend who lives right in town - in Digger Street - describes much frog activity around his flat - much more than we are yet seeing in David Street. Gardening note - Green Ants started eating my Hoya flowers. I made a strong solution of Chilli in water... I don't think the Ants liked it one bit. Hoya is flowering again .

Una

Moon Over Machans

Keith Edwick Park was a hive of bustling, vibrant splendour for Moon over Machans. The sight of the small community of hawkers and punters that sprang up under the trees on the day, confirmed for many that our beautiful park is a natural venue for a market.

And not bad for a raucous debate either. Debate participants, Derek Tipper, Al Harris, Gavin McFadzean, Val Schier, Ellen Webber and Kier Shorey were well researched, well primed and a lot of fun. Moderator par excellence, Suzanne Gibson and the audience, pronounced the topic "Have we gone around the bend with the invention of the wheel?" a draw.

Bouquets to Machans Beach State School P&C, who with four days notice, catered for hundreds of people over 7 hours in grand style. Brickbats to commercial food van "Flavours of India" who pulled out giving us 5 days notice and renegeing on an agreement established two weeks previous.

Added extras to this years MOM were the Far Pavilion wine bar and the Kids Bike Comp which will both be back by popular demand. Congratulations to the tireless drumming from the Cairns Pan Stars.

The entertainment was wonderful. First act, the Machans school kids were a delight to behold. Then we had the beautiful harmonies of a cappella choir, Woyaya. Our first band was the fabulous Reggae Bliss, the gorgeous Sassy

Cats followed. Next up the fine duo, Fingerprint, . Last band for the evening was the Flying Libidos who were a great finale .

Thanks to Cr Margaret Cochrane, SES John and our sponsors, Ebony and Ivory, Machans Beach Store, Val Schier, Arnell Fencing, Martin Anton , security consultant Bob Hoult and NQ Container Services who have lent us a truck/stage for four MOM now. A special mention to Sportie Dan for obtaining a sweetheart deal from Pacific Music for sound and lights for Sports Club, then donating to us, then giving us 12 hours setting up, operating, being MC, then packing up when everybody had gone home. And a big good on ya to the two dozen volunteers who made it happen.

Moon over Machans is an initiative of the Machans Beach Community Association. Mark

MAYOR VAL: It was great to attend Moon over Machans and to experience the great feel of a relaxed community-based event that connected people and gave us an excuse to be out in the park. I applaud the debate initiative and think that element will grow in future events; I think I drew the wrong side of the debate though! Congratulations to all involved in helping to make our community links stronger; a connected community is the foundation of a healthy society.

Creek Liberated!

Council has done some earthworks at the old dumpsite on Lot 101. The dumpsite has been capped to help contain the toxic contents, hopefully preventing them from leaching out into the surrounding mangroves and waterways. A small watercourse about twenty meters upstream of the Gundy Anton Bridge used to flow around the old dumpsite. An earth dam however, constructed across the watercourse, has for decades severely restricted the tidal flow. Council was asked to reinstate the original flow pattern and has removed the offending obstruction. This little creek can now once again become an integral part of our complex ecosystem. Thanks to council for ensuring this work was carried out. I watched as the water flowed into the mangrove wetlands through the natural creek line for the first time in about thirty years. The newly invigorated wetland was restocked with fingerlings as the evening tide flowed in. I saw mullet, herring and tiny prawns flicking and racing through the freshly opened channel to explore the new breeding and feeding grounds and an egret and a night heron admiring the tasty morsels flowing past. With so much pressure on mangrove wetlands in our region with our ever expanding footprint it was good to see a change that put a smile on my face and strengthened the hope in my heart.

Rob

OUR BULLY BOY

My name is Karen Williams and I am a resident of Machans Beach, my friend Karen Davies and I have been trying to organise to have the horn growing into Bully, the local bull's skull cut back. We took the opportunity to ask Dr Chis, aka Dr Hottie, the Bondi Vet to have a look at Bully while he was up here recently. He did try to do something but as soon as Bully was given a needle he went bush.

Dr Chris has organised with Dr Rob Gilbert from Marlin Coast Vets to assist. The plan is to put a portable yard into the area where Bully is fed and to get him used to eating in there. I am writing to Machanations to request assistance from the residents of Machans to start feeding Bully in this pen only. This will be going ahead in the next few weeks. He is a lovely old Bull, and he knows the people who feed him and even recognises their cars. If the horn is not cut soon it will start impacting on his health and make his life absolutely miserable. I hope you can help by publishing this so everyone is aware of what is happening.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to call me on **0409 578 119 or Karen Davis on 0402654138.**



A SPARE FEW HOURS TO HELP?

The petition launched by the Machans Beach Community Association expressing concerns about the Cairns Airport Draft Land Use Plan managed to attract about 1,500 signatures and was presented to Steve Wettenhall on Wednesday 26 November. Steve will pass the petition on to Hon Paul Lucas who will take our concerns into account when he makes his final decision on the land use plan.

A contact list of the petitioners who are keen to be updated on the issue is being compiled. As there are about 1,000 addresses to be recorded any help with data processing would be appreciated. If you are familiar with spread sheets and can offer some help call **Rob 0432 287 032 or rbwil42@yahoo.com.au**