

MACHANATIONS

February 2012

www.machansbeach.net/machanations

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Bouquets to Excellence

James Crawford has decided to step down from his role of Editor and Coordinator of the Machanations. James lifted the bar extremely high, his perfectionism raising the standard of the newsletter enormously. His was over a decade of dedicated voluntary service to our wonderful Community. . Thank you so very much James. (What an act to attempt to follow).

It was also James Crawford who engineered the brand new web site for the Barron River Delta Mangrove Protection web site. Fancy having such a clever person amongst us. Thanks to James yet again.

Please view online at www.mangroveprotect.com.au

MESSAGE FROM OUR MAYOR

Am back on deck after a couple of lovely weeks in my home state (Tassie) revitalising. All the best for 2012, the year of the Dragon.

Machans is looking good with palm trees and beach almonds having recovered from Cyclone Yasi a year ago; let's hope we can avoid one this year and don't get too wet when the monsoon finally arrives.

I was reflecting on the Machans Street re-seal, the turf along the northern part of the Esplanade, the old dump being capped, new water pipes and kerbing in Cinderella St; all the maintenance things that improve our little community.

Make sure you go to the next Community Association meeting to see what's being proposed for the rock wall.

People have been telling me recently how much they like it that Council has increased the funding for events and festivals. This time 4 years ago we didn't have Challenge Cairns or the Adventure Festival, the Blues Festival (well done Dan Vowles and team), the Ukelele Festival, the Great Barrier Reef marathon at Port, the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair, AFL Premiership Games, rugby pre-season games. All of these attract people to spend their dollars in businesses in the region . . . and of course we get to have fun watching or participating in them - as so many people did with the Australia Day free events.

The kids are back at school and we need to take care driving past in the morning and afternoon.

May 2012 be a good one for you.

Val

Wildcare

Many thanks to all those who donated to my Wildlife Care at the local store in 2011. I released 5 wallabies, some locally in a secure area, 2 Kestrels, 15 Torres Strait Pigeons a Wompoo pigeon amongst others. This nesting season has produced a few Peewees who had been kicked out of their nests and who have grown and been released and more Torres Strait Pigeons soon to head north for the winter. I was privileged to have an adult Peregrine Falcon in care for about 5 weeks and when she was released, it was very exciting to see her realising her freedom and picking up her speed. They are the fastest birds on earth and have a real presence.

With respect to our wildlife, many thanks for your support.

Cathie

SHOULD WE BE KIND TO OUR MOZZIES THIS YEAR AND TRY NOT TO SWAT THE EXPENSIVE ONES???????

With the rain, the Season is upon us; the Dwarf Treefrogs are singing and pairing, and the Brown Striped Marsh Frogs are plonking and laying; if you've got ponds or water containers, see to your Cane Toads and get rid of any long black STRINGS of eggs. If you are interested in raising some tadpoles, contact Una or Cathie in David Street.

So far we have had less luck with the Big Green Frogs though there are some calling. Keep your garden damp if the rain doesn't oblige, and avoid pesticides. Scatter some fruit peelings or over-ripe fruit to encourage the fruitflies. *Una*

DATE CLAIMERS

Community Association.....	7.30pm in the Community Hall, Thursday 9th February	(John 4055 0653)
Neighbourhood Watch.....	7.30pm in the Community Hall, Thursday 9th February	(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

Welcome back to another school year. We have had a very positive start to the year with 123 students enrolled at our school. While 128 students would have seen us attain another teacher we are very happy not to lose one. Thank you to all the families who have chosen to support our school. We have an outstanding team of teachers here who focus on ensuring each child works to their full potential. Our school data supports this and is positively comparable to many of the larger schools in the area.

This year sees the introduction of the National Curriculum. All the teachers in our school are using the C2C materials (Curriculum to the Classroom) which are quality assured units of work that have been released by Education Queensland. Most of the units are covered in a 5 week period, though some are planned for a full term. Units of works have been designed for multi-aged classes, ensuring that all students learn the required concepts. It is essential that all students attend school every day as the timetables are very tight this year with not a lot of room to "catch up" on missed concepts.

We have a number of exciting events planned this year with the usual Student Council and P&C fund raisers. Students will be participating in community and charity action plans, excursions and camps. Our first Student Council fund raiser for the year will be kicking off a few weeks before Easter.

For more information about our school, please visit our school website at www.machbeacs.eq.edu.au where you will also find copies of our weekly newsletters. I hope you all have a terrific new year.

Thank you. *Ms Jane Termaat, Principal*



MACHANS BEACH STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE

Social. Members ended 2011 with a

Team Building experience by Rainforest Surfing at Daintree to celebrate the end of the year. As a surprise, one member also organised a visit to the Daintree Eco Lodge. Great time had by Papa Smurf, Cinderella, Tinkerbelle, Phantom, Rambo, Darth Vader, Homer, Lara Croft, Indiana Jones and Stifler's Mum.

Get Disaster-ready online.

Volunteering Queensland has launched an interactive, online checklist to help Queenslanders get prepared for natural disasters ahead of the cyclone, storm and flood season. The Disaster Readiness Index (DRI) is an online tool designed to measure an individual's level of preparedness and generate a personalised improvement guide or list of steps they need to take to become more emergency-ready. To promote the DRI, Volunteering Queensland has also launched Queensland's One Million Stars Challenge. As individuals complete the DRI checklist, a star rating is generated and added to the state's total. Volunteering Queensland

aims to have Queenslanders complete the Disaster Readiness Index and collectively reach a target of a million stars across the state.

Contribute to the Million Stars Challenge by taking the Disaster Readiness Index: www.emergencyvolunteering.com.au/home/knowledge/readiness-index

Help your community by becoming a volunteer. If your New Year's resolution is to take a greater role in your local community and support others in their time of need, then becoming an emergency service volunteer could be for you. The State Emergency Service (SES) offers a valuable service to the community in times of emergency. The functions of the SES include search and rescue operations as well as assisting communities prepare for, respond to and recover from an event or a disaster.

Contacts. For assistance, ring 132 500; for other enquiries or to join the local Team, ring the Duty Officer on 4055 9277. *From the MB SES Team*

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWS

Hello all, and Happy New Year.

Rock Wall Drilling has started at the rock wall and Council are very much on track with their time line of having geotech investigations, design and documentation, and applications for approvals ready by end of March.

Next meeting is at the hall in Tucker Street on **Thursday 9th February at 7:30pm**. We invite you to come to that meeting to hear a report on progress. Attending will be:

- Council Engineer, Tim Smith;
- a rep from GHD, the engineering firm undertaking the geotech investigations;
- a Project Officer from Cairns Regional Council; and
- Division 8 Councillor/Deputy Mayor, Cr Margaret Cochrane.

With Council elections coming up, the resultant uncertainty about who will next represent Machans Beach, and any change in the prioritising of funds by new management, we want everyone to be abundantly clear that the rock wall upgrade is of major importance to this community. Please show your support by showing your interest.

Put the date in your diary, and we look forward to seeing there. *Carol*

And more thanks with our kids in great hands

As my son enters high school I'd like to thank all the teachers and parents involved at Machans Beach State School. Thanks for all the thoughtful ways you contribute to our youngsters lives: the interesting lessons, fun games, playful connections between you and each individual child, and your diverse expressions of care. Having the opportunity to send our boy to a local school has given him and all his classmates the chance to be nurtured and learn in a space in which all the adults know all the kids, the big kids look out for the little kids and parents are passionately involved. We also appreciated being able to walk, ride or scooter to school every day. Thanks MBSS for the last 7 years.

Beth Shorter (Zeni's mum)

HALL ACTIVITIES February 2012

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

Dengue Field Trial Update

By Professor Scott O'Neill, Program Leader

30th January 2012



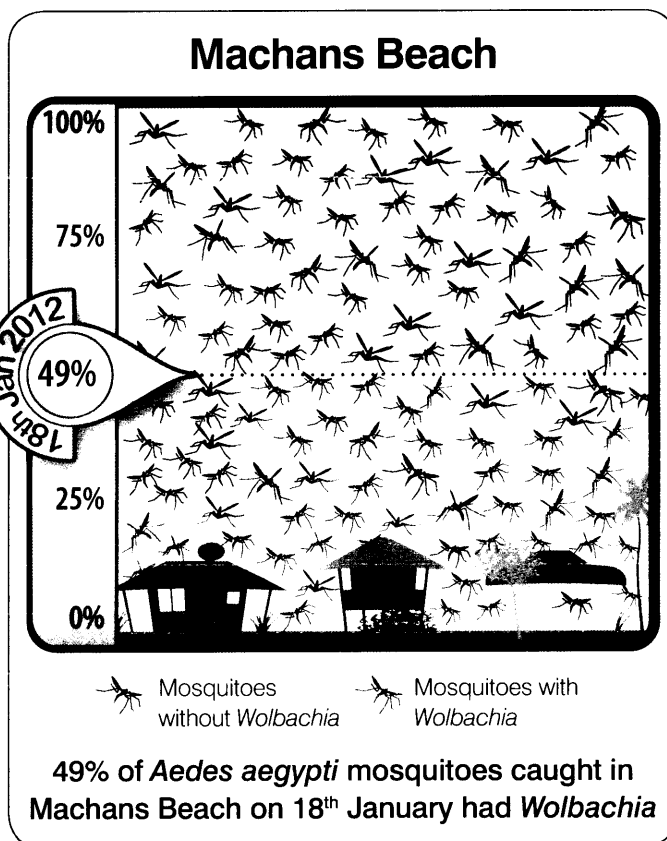
Mosquito Field trial – *Wolbachia* is a naturally occurring bacterium already present in many different insects that live in the Machans Beach area but not in the mosquito that transmits dengue between people – known as *Aedes aegypti*. We have introduced *Wolbachia* into this mosquito and found that it reduces the mosquito's ability to transmit dengue virus.

With the support of Machans Beach residents we began releasing *Wolbachia* infected *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes in the community on 4th January and have been releasing weekly every Wednesday since then, and will continue to do so until April.

Our goal – The goal of this field trial is to see if the wMelPop strain of *Wolbachia* will spread into the wild population of *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes in the area over the course of the wet season and then remain there after releases stop. The *Wolbachia* mosquitoes we release will pass the bacterium onto the wild mosquitoes when they breed with them. If *Wolbachia* spreads into the wild mosquito population we expect it will be very difficult for dengue to be transmitted between people living in Machans Beach.

First results – At the same time as we release the adult mosquitoes we set small traps to collect the eggs which we then check to see if they have *Wolbachia* – as the bacterium is passed from mother to offspring through the eggs - and our first measurement has just come in after two weeks of releases. These results show that, at the time the traps were collected on 18th January, **49%** of the *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes we caught in Machans Beach had *Wolbachia*.

This is a promising result for the beginning of the trial but it is still early days. It does tell us however that the numbers of mosquitoes we are releasing are appropriate and that the material is surviving in the field. We will continue to monitor the eggs and report the results to you each month – hopefully the proportion of *Wolbachia* infected mosquitoes will continue to rise.



Contact us:

If you have any questions about the project please call the Cairns team on free phone **1800 811 054** or visit the Machans Beach Convenience Store and pick up project Fact Sheets and Updates.

Mosquito activity in Machans Beach



In talking to residents in Machans Beach we have been hearing that some people have noticed more mosquitoes around and are wondering if this is due to our trial. Our releases will have temporarily increased the numbers of *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes in the area but it is important to realise that there are many different types of mosquitoes living in Machans.

The most common mosquitoes are salt-water breeders and our monitoring traps, that have been placed around the suburb in people's homes, are telling us

that the number of these mosquitoes has risen dramatically in the last month and we believe this is due to heavy rain and high tides.

These mosquitoes will bite people during the night as well as the day and usually only bite you outside. *Aedes aegypti* nearly always bites during the day and commonly inside houses.

So while numbers of mosquitoes are high at the moment in Machans Beach our trapping indicates that this is mainly due to salt-water mosquito activity.

CR MARGARET COCHRANE DEPUTY MAYOR DIVISION 8 COUNCILLOR

Happy New Year to all at Machans Beach and welcome to 2012! This time last year we had a visit for Yasi, so all good so far.

Lots of action around the beach currently with both the Rock Wall Project and Eliminate Dengue programme happening.

The Rock Wall Study and project documentation is on time and there will be a full report by the Consultants and Council Staff at the next meeting.

I am extremely pleased with the response from the staff and the progress to date. Am looking forward to seeing the Report as I know you all will be. I am very pleased to have been able to activate this project so quickly.

Lots of action around with the Eliminate Dengue programme

and it is great to see the full co-operation by the community with this programme, as it was extremely successful in Yorkeys Knob last year.

If you have a problem which requires reporting, please always contact Council direct as I am not always at the end of the phone and could be that way for some time. I have had some incidents recently when Councils attention was required fairly swiftly and I did not get to the phone for some hours. Always contact the Call Centre 4044 3044 , 24/7, and get your problem attended to quickly. I certainly can be contacted by mobile 0419 706 372, if you require my help.

See you at the meeting.

Margaret

TO MACHANS BEACH RESIDENTS FROM STEVE WETTENHALL MP

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

I would like to wish all parents and students well as they settle into the new school year.

Kindy has recently become more accessible for Queenslanders with the Premier announcing increased subsidies for low income families including more than doubling the Health Care Card subsidy for those most in need. Present your Health Care card or equivalent to access these reduced kindy costs. More information is available on www.qld.gov.au/kindy

The Cairns Region Economic Future 2012-15 Plan

The Premier Anna Bligh was in Cairns on 16th January to release the final Cairns Region Economic Future 2012-2015 plan following 10 weeks of community and industry consultation. In my role as Parliamentary Secretary Assisting the Premier on Economic Development in the Far North I have worked closely with the Premier and the Treasurer

to achieve this great outcome for our region.

The Plan commits more than \$2.2 million across 15 new projects and charts a course for the region's prosperity over the next four years. It is all about making the most of what the far north has to offer. For more details go to www.regions.qld.gov.au or alternatively contact my office on **4038 2800**

Considering solar?

Thinking of harnessing clean energy from the sun? With rebates and incentives available from the Queensland Government, now is the time to consider solar to save on your energy bills.

For more information about solar, visit www.qld.gov.au/solar

Steve

The Wealthy Have Responsibilities Too...

Following is a statement from Elizabeth Warren who is trying to reclaim Teddy Kennedy's seat lost to the Republicans. This demonstrates why wealthy people have the responsibility to pay their fair share of taxes.

"There is nobody in this country who got rich on his own. Nobody.

You built a factory out there—good for you! But it should be clear.

You moved your goods to market on the roads the rest of us paid for.

You hired workers the rest of us paid to educate.

You were safe in your factory because of police forces and fire forces that the rest of us paid for.

You didn't have to worry that marauding bands would come and seize everything at your factory, and hire someone to protect against this, because of the work the rest of us did.

Now look, you built a factory and it turned into something terrific, or a great idea—God bless. Keep a big hunk of it.

But part of the underlying social contract is you take a hunk of that and pay forward for the next kid who comes along."

Forwarded by Concerned Citizen

Realfood in Machans

There are now a number of people in Machans Beach subscribing to RealFood.

The RealFood Network is based at Redlynch State College. Food is sourced locally and is organic wherever possible (most of it, it seems now).

A box of food costs \$40 but it is well worth it. Here in Machans we divide up boxes, so for single person you can pay as little as \$10 for 1/4 of a box. If you are interested in ordering a box or sharing in a box, or just want to find out more, ring JahFe on 0414 062 091.

JahFe

POST OFFICE NEWS

Well, here we sit in the middle of a non existent wet season, sweltering and wishing it would rain. Just life as normal in tropical north queensland. And so we are back at work and school ready for the new year to show us what is in store for us this year. Which leads nicely into the line of umbrellas available in the shop, cheap too.

I am going to close down the book library at the end of February as it is taking up valued space in the PO. So I am going to sell off what books are on the shelves now, by the bag full, until they are all gone.

I have found out who was pulling my plants out of the ground. And a doctor friend of mine says that it is a true sign of deep affection. But I am sorry, but I am just not available. I wish I was, but then also I might get myself into serious trouble too. Sorry, but it has to end now. Thank you to those who helped save the plant that is left, and to the young fellow who came and apologised for taking one of the plants away.

Russell

HIP HOPPING UKULELLES

An informal get together at Ebony and Ivory saw 8 fabulous and upbeat performers last Wednesday at 7pm.

Call Gaby on 0405 619 026 for further information.

The plan at present is to meet at Ebony and Ivory on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday each month for an informal jam session. Participants at all levels are encouraged. The group come from all over Cairns. On the 2nd and 4th Wednesday they meet at Billys Coffee (otherwise known as Crate59) in Sheridan St. They certainly had me up and dancing.

Go Machans Beach Go.

HOLIDAY RENTAL

Espanade house for holiday rental from
May 1st for 3 weeks. Ideal for family
and friends coming to visit
from down south!!! Everything
available! Very reasonable price.

Call 0424 193 342



CLAMIDIA'S Monthly

ARIES

These often misunderstood souls will gain full understanding, peace, money and total admiration by all those who cross their path.

TAURUS

The galaxy is yours this month - go with your natural vanity, lift your game and sit in front of a mirror and drink champagne.

GEMINI

Sybil is in Jupiter this month so we suggest daily doses of lithium for the duration of this cycle.

CANCER

These people are just truly amazing! Their wit, beauty and charm deserve yet another lot of gifts from all of their friends.

LEO

Are you still alive? A pat on the back for you - your egos must still be inflated - try something for flatulence.

VIRGO

Your obsession with details can only lead to suppression which leads to repression, then only can there be depression.

LIBRA

Install a see-saw in your back yard. That up and down feeling could be just the thing missing in your life.

SCORPIO

The zip has obviously rusted and a gaping wound appears - try spak filler this time!

SAGITTARIUS

You may think God is with you - don't worry it is only an illusion - you've still got quite a huge journey ahead.

CAPRICORN

It's time to sink or swim - your only option is to inflate those floaties and look out for sharp objects.

AQUARIUS

For those of you that are still having trouble communicating, we suggest a colonic irrigation.






PISCES

Whoops! Those swimming lessons didn't work. Come up for air and take a prozac.

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

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Ads Co-ordinators: Midge, Russell, James. Photocopying is done at Machans Beach Post Office. Distribution: Chrissie (Carlene, Carol, Deryck, Eugene, Fred, Howard, Tully, David, Cindy and Liz). This newsletter is produced with the assistance of Senator Jan McLucas, Federal Senator for Queensland, Steve Wettenhall MP, State Member for Barron River, Cr Margaret Cochrane, Cairns Division 8 Councillor, Warren Entsch, Federal Member for Leichhardt.

<p>Machans Beach TAKE - AWAY <i>Marshall St</i> 4055 0539 <i>Fish & Chips - Burgers - Drinks</i></p>	<p>EBONY & IVORY <i>BY THE SEA</i> <i>Licensed Restaurant & Cafe / Take-Away</i> Bookings : 4055 0398 Cnr O'Shea Esp. & Machan St, Machans Beach</p>	<p>MACHANS BEACH STORE Fuel - Groceries Fruit & Veg - Ice Cream Confectionery Open 7.00 - 8.00 7 days 4055 9357</p> 	<p>Mad About Dogs <i>Pets cared for while you're away</i> James 4037 0102</p>	<p>Coconut Dundee <i>Tree Sculptor</i> <i>And when he's done he's Dun Dee coconut</i> Leon & Jack 0412 734 058</p>
<p>Mechanical Repairs GANES Ian Ganes - A1 Mechanic 4055 9324 / 0400 667 466 39 Christensen St</p> 	<p>MardArts GRAPHIC DESIGN FOR ALL YOUR ADVERTISING NEEDS Mardi McDornan m 0424 193 342 e mcdornanm@gmail.com</p>	<p>Painter and Decorator Harry Collins PH: 07 40559 385 0418 185 953 219 O'Shea Esplanade Machans Beach C/O 4878</p> 	<p>S & J's Electrical For all your electrical needs Nothing too BIG or small After hours call out locals Discount Joe 0417794465 Sonya 0409848092 sandjelectrical@westnet.com.au</p>	<p>UNIQUE JEWELLERY  BEUSAIC DESIGN 0407 374684 www.beusaicdesign.com www.facebook.com/beusaicdesign Beau Haywood</p>
<p>VARITEK Colin Amos sales@varitek.com.au 0405 740 640</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer Sales • Maintenance and Repairs • Digital Video Surveillance 	<p>Tropic Towers Apartments <i>4 Star, Fully Self-contained Holiday Apartments</i> <i>The ideal location for private and business who need convenient, comfortable and secure accommodation.</i> 294-298 Skendian Street, Cairns Phone: 031-3955 enquiries@tropic-towers.com.au</p> 	<p>Green Frog Signs Vehicle Signs - Booth Marquee - A Frames - Banners - Graphics - Displays - Parting 0416 972 581 www.frogsigns.com.au</p> 	<p>Osho Rebalancing Deep Tissue Massage Dhyana Diekmann ph 4055 9631 41 Marshall Street 0407 204 334</p>	<p>Green Paper for this issue provided by Margaret Cochrane Division 8 Councillor</p>
<p>ROBYN'S LEARN TO SEW STUDIO MACHANS BEACH Class Dates & Times PH: 4055 9226</p> 	<p>It's Your Space INTERIORS Soft Furnishings, Blinds and Drapes Panelglides, Upholstery, Wall Paper, Decor Advice, Furniture Craig Ramsay 4055 0017 0437 643 031</p>	<p>Puri Damai Massage <i>Specialising in Traditional Balinese, Relaxation, Aromatherapy, Remedial, Deep Tissue & Sports Massage</i> Relax Unwind Rejuvenate Enjoy David O'Donnell (Dip RM) 4055 0980 or 0414 897 512 www.puridamaimassage.com.au</p>	<p>RealEstate Chris Marsh <i>Proven #1 Agent for Machans Beach</i> 0427 278 473 Free Appraisals & Advice 34 Seaside Street</p>	<p>Green Paper for this issue provided by Margaret Cochrane Division 8 Councillor</p>
<p>Wyatt Communications -Broadcast Technical Services - studio installations - Multimedia and professional audio product sales -Specialised computer systems 0408 615 749 - evan@wyattcom.com.au</p>	<p>Stratford PIZZA 4058 2002 WED to SUN 5pm to 9pm Deliveries \$5 mobile EFTPOS www.stratfordpizza.com.au</p>	<p>Puri Damai Massage <i>Specialising in Traditional Balinese, Relaxation, Aromatherapy, Remedial, Deep Tissue & Sports Massage</i> Relax Unwind Rejuvenate Enjoy David O'Donnell (Dip RM) 4055 0980 or 0414 897 512 www.puridamaimassage.com.au</p>	<p>RealEstate Chris Marsh <i>Proven #1 Agent for Machans Beach</i> 0427 278 473 Free Appraisals & Advice 34 Seaside Street</p>	<p>Green Paper for this issue provided by Margaret Cochrane Division 8 Councillor</p>

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