



Flights to the mines survey



Facebook Emergency page



Maryborough City Heart branding



Light up the Fraser Coast

Our Festive Fraser Coast

Add a whole lot of sparkle to your festive season and join us at one of the four Festive Fraser Coast events to celebrate the spirit of Christmas.

Pop on your Santa hat, warm up your singing voices and mark Sunday, November 27 on your calendar to hop on down to **Carols in Queens Park**, Maryborough from 6pm to 8pm.

The free family event will bring in the festive season with a celebration showcasing some of the community's finest performers, choirs, carols as well as the Apex Santa Fair, MELSA steam trains and magical Angel Garden.

In Hervey Bay, the celebrations will start at 4pm on Saturday December 17 for the **Hervey Bay RSL Carols by Candlelight** at Seafront Oval.

The ever popular sand artistry will also keep the kids entertained until Santa arrives at around 5.30pm and joins Urangan State High School on stage to present carols of a different beat.

The traditional Carols by Candlelight program, presented by the Bayside Christian Church band and choir will start at 7pm.

This year's programs include a very special Angel Garden packed with fantastic activities for everyone to enjoy.

Write a wish on the Christmas wishing mural, have your face painted, make a friendship bracelet or personalised gift tag for that very special present.

You can draw an angel at the Chalk Art station or make your very own angel wand to wave into the night.

There will be a surprise ending to close the

events but you'll have to be there to find out what it is!

Both events are alcohol free and there will be no designated canteen area.

Additional Christmas celebrations supported by Council across the region include:

- Tiaro Lions and District Annual Children's Christmas Party, 26 November, 5pm to 9pm at the Tiaro Recreation Grounds.
- Howard Community Christmas, 10 December, 3.30pm to 8.30pm at the Community Centre Oval, Steley Street, Howard.

A full entertainment program will be available at www.festivefrasercoast.com.au

From the Mayor



The Fraser Coast is firmly positioned to become a hub for the aviation industry specialising in aircraft maintenance and refurbishment.

The region is very attractive to the aviation industry; it is only a 30 minute flight from Brisbane, the airport can accommodate jets, there is land with access to the runway, which is very rare, and there is room for development.

Council believes that if the airport precinct was developed fully it would generate 1,432 jobs and inject \$71 million into the local economy stimulating the construction industry; creating jobs; attracting new, technology based businesses to the region; and positioning the Fraser Coast as a front runner in regional development initiatives.

The draft Maryborough Airport Master Plan will be considered by Council in February.

Council has been firmly focused on forming partnerships with business to drive the region forward.

I am heartened by the response from businesses which joined with Council to create the Small Business Package and offer help to new business establishing on the Fraser Coast.

Council's efforts to ensure the region is recognised as a service centre for the booming mining industry are progressing. The region's capacity was showcased to mining executives during the Mining and Gas Expo held at the Brolga in October.

In closing I wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Cr Mick Kruger
Mayor
Fraser Coast Regional Council

Project updates



Major projects continue to shape the Fraser Coast.

Fraser Coast Cultural Centre

Work has started on stage one of the Fraser Coast Cultural Centre in Old Maryborough Road, Hervey Bay.

The 1,400m² building will house the Fraser Coast Discovery Centre, café, administration area, toilets and art gallery with 33 car parks.

The centre will be a boost for tourism by providing an all weather attraction that will use interactive technology and activities to interpret all aspects of the region's unique environment and humpback whales experience.

Maria Creek Bridge

The timber bridge over Maria Creek at Howard will be replaced with a concrete bridge with a shared footpath/cycleway.

The \$1.2 million project will be undertaken by Sunstate Group Queensland and is expected to start in November with completion in March 2012, weather permitting.

Roads projects

Council approved \$4.4 million worth of road works at its September and October meetings.

The works include \$3.7 million for the 2011-12 Resurfacing Program. Preliminary work to repair potholes is underway and resurfacing work is expected to start before Christmas.

Arborthree Road in Glenwood is one of several that will be improved under the \$696,000 Roads Additional Investment Program.

Projects include: kerb and channel and pavement reconstruction for a 220 metre section of Pallas Street in Maryborough; a 1150 metre pavement overlay and bitumen seal in Arborthree Road, Glenwood and a 1100 metre pavement overlay and bitumen seal on Pioneer Road.

Council has also allocated \$125,000 to seal a 605m section of Allerton Road, Booral this financial year.

Bauple RV

Drive tourists are being enticed to linger longer. The State Government has allocated \$50,000 towards Council's \$100,000 project to develop an overnight stop for RVs and self-contained caravans in Bauple.

Facilities will include a transit stop for bus passengers, interpretive signage on Bauple's history, waste management facilities and shaded picnic areas.

The site is in the centre of the village so visitors can easily explore nearby attractions, including the museum, arts and craft gallery and national park.

For a list of completed projects, see page 8.

Changes to airport car parking



Changes have been made to the Hervey Bay airport car park drop off zones as a result of public feedback.

Designated drop off zones for taxis, shuttle buses and the public have been created while maintaining the required vehicle exclusion zone next to the entrance of the terminal.

Drivers dropping off friends must stay with their vehicle while passengers alight and then move their vehicle to the car park. Time limits will be strictly monitored in accordance with aviation security legislation.

Friends and families taking passengers to meet flights can park in the short-term public car park for up to two hours for free.

Survey to establish flights to the mines



Do you work in the mines, live on the Fraser Coast and would like to fly to work?

Council is working with aviation businesses to establish flight services.

The first step is to find out how many people would use flights, and where those flights should go.

The outcome of the survey will assist the aviation industry to talk with mining companies to develop viable routes.

Council has been working hard to ensure the region will benefit from the booming resource industry.

Hundreds of potential workers were able to

see the jobs available in the industry at the Work for Queensland Mining and Gas Jobs Expo at the Broilga in October.

The expo was also an opportunity for the region to show mining company executives its capacity to service the resource sector.

It was organised by the Queensland Government in partnership with Council and major mining and gas industry employers.

Visit www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au to complete an online flight services survey or hard copies are available at the Hervey Bay Airport Visitor Information Centre.

Fraser Coast Opportunities Small Business Package



As part of the Fraser Coast Small Business Package, Council asked businesses to offer services to new and established small business to ensure they succeeded.

Services available include accounting, legal, advertising, financial and banking, business coaching and mentoring.

The Small Business Package is part of the Fraser Coast Opportunities partnership to collectively market "Doing Business

on the Fraser Coast" by promoting our unique, enviable lifestyle and the region's extensive business, employment and learning opportunities.

A full list of the offers available is at www.frasercoastopportunities.com.au

If you would like to be a part of the package, or you are a new business operator and would like more information, please email opportunities@frasercoast.qld.gov.au

Job skills for the Fraser Coast



Jobs and Skills Development Officers Nicole McBride and Matthew Clark have been recruited to boost the Fraser Coast's long-term recovery efforts following the summer of disasters in Queensland.

The Jobs and Skills Package is part of Skills Queensland's ongoing commitment to working with industries and businesses to address the skills and workforce

development issues facing our state.

Nicole and Matthew will co-ordinate local employment and skills assistance available through the package and support industries and businesses with workforce planning and development during the post recovery period.

Contact Nicole on 0409 741 427 or Matthew on 0409 741 315 for more information.

Let's Talk



Take the opportunity to Have your Say on the following topics.

Floods and Employment Survey

Council is interested in hearing how the 2010/11 floods have affected employment in the community. Have you lost employment as a result? Are you looking for work?

Local Business Survey

How has your business been impacted by the 2010/2011 floods? Are you being affected by the Resource Sector? What assistance do you require to grow your business?

Online surveys are available at www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au

Council offers many avenues for you - to provide feedback and share your ideas to help shape our future - or stay informed on projects.

Enews - Get the latest news and community consultation topics delivered direct to your desktop.

Twitter - Follow us on www.twitter.com/frasercoastrc

Community Consultation - Have your Say on proposed projects.

Report an issue - Submit an online form to report potholes, litter or maintenance issues.

Complaints - Submit an online form or contact a Customer Service Centre.

Community Chats - Meet with Councillors and senior staff.

Web Chats - Chat online to a Council Customer Service Officer via www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au

Contact us -

M PO Box 1943, Hervey Bay, Q, 4655

W www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au

P 1300 79 49 29 **F** 4197 4455

E enquiry@frasercoast.qld.gov.au

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Disclaimer: Every effort was taken to ensure the information in this newsletter was correct at the time of printing.

Councillor Updates

Drive safely on our roads

IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR again when more than ever we need to take care on the roads.

The last year has been tough for most, but in true Australian spirit, we have pulled through together.

As for Council, it has been a wonderful year with staff delivering many great outcomes.

I have no doubt that many people will agree with me on this, but for those who don't agree, I say please be patient, we have not forgotten you.

I also thank those who have supported me since I was elected Deputy Mayor.

While it has been very demanding, I have thoroughly enjoyed the extra responsibilities and the opportunity to serve our community in this role.

I wish all a merry Christmas and a blessed and prosperous new year.



Cr David Dagleish
Deputy Mayor
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Prepare for storms

SUMMER IS THE TIME OF YEAR when we as a community need to be storm-ready.

The Bureau of Meteorology is predicting cyclones, prospects of flooding, high fire risk and higher level of thunderstorm activities.

There is obviously no room for complacency - so preparation is the key.

To assist with your preparation, Council has produced an Emergency Action Guide that was sent out to residents last season.

Please take the time to read it and prepare.

The Guide includes numbers for the SES and other emergency services, and information on putting together an emergency kit.

If you do not have a copy of the Emergency Action Guide, it is available on Council's website.

May you and your families enjoy a happy and holy Christmas.



Cr Julie Arthur
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Strong community spirit

AT THIS TIME OF THE YEAR, amid all the rush preparing for Christmas, it is nice to take time and quietly reflect on the year that is drawing to a close.

This year has been very busy. Many roads have been repaired (with many more to do), buildings constructed, playgrounds and parks preened, contracts completed, events enjoyed and swimming pools signed off.

Council has strived continually to find better ways to save money and look after you more efficiently.

It is so easy to whine and grumble when things annoy us but we really do have so much for which to be grateful.

We are a happy community that is willing to help those in need without asking for anything in return.

I wish each and every one of you a peaceful, happy and healthy holiday season.

Take care and look after each other.



Cr Sue Brooks
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Processes a priority

RESIDENTS SHOULD FEEL SAFE when they go out at night. The installation by Council of closed circuit television cameras (CCTV) throughout the region has been a real asset, however more are needed. Council is applying for funding to expand this network.

Streamlining planning processes has been a major priority of Council. Officers have vigorously applied themselves and the results, when benchmarked against the rest of the state, speak for themselves:

- Fifth fastest Council
- Median assessment time 12 days; State average - 17
- 65% applications assessed in statutory timeframes; State average - 41%
- 59% applications decided within 40 days of lodgement; State average - 51%
- 27% applications had a decision period of less than 6 days

Christmas blessings to all.



Cr Barb Hovard
M: 0418 797 165
E: barbara.hovard@frasercoast.qld.gov.au

Garage Sale Trail

WHO DOESN'T LOVE A GARAGE SALE? Council has agreed to be part of the "Garage Sale Trail" in 2012.

This should be a great community event where households and groups across Australia all have garage sales on the same day.

The creators decided that the Garage Sale Trail would also help reduce landfill by recycling household items.

This will be a fantastic opportunity for clubs, churches, sporting groups and other community organisations to join in and do some fundraising.

So mark Saturday 5 May 2012 in your calendar and start cleaning out those cupboards.

What's trash to you may be someone else's treasure - and earn you a few extra dollars at the same time.

I wish you all a happy Christmas with your families and friends and a safe, relaxing holiday.



Cr Belinda McNeven
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Representation as a whole

INDICATIONS ARE THAT THE STATE GOVERNMENT will introduce Council divisions to our region.

Divisions will allow each Councillor to provide focused representation for his or her area and hopefully this will not reduce their obligation or desire to represent the region as a whole.

Most residents and businesses are now thinking regionally and want to move forward as a larger community.

We have lately experienced the benefits of being part of a larger region first-hand with several government Ministers coming here following a visit to Brisbane by Council and industry representatives seeking support for our progress initiatives.

No matter what the outcome with divisions, we will still power ahead as the solid and progressive region that we have become.

Best wishes for a happy Christmas and safe holidays.



Cr Les Muckan
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E: les.muckan@frasercoast.qld.gov.au

Projects keep on rolling

CONTRACTS FOR COUNCIL'S CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS are being advertised and approved each month, while normal work programs are progressing well.

While rain is always welcome at this time of year, we can only hope that we do not get the deluges of last year's rainy season.

I hope everyone is ready for the storm season and I encourage all residents to dispose of their pre-storm clean up rubbish for free at Council's recycling centres, transfer stations and landfills on 19 and 20 November.

Council is making sound progress in the development of the new Town Plan which will sit under the recently released Wide Bay Burnett Regional Plan. The Fraser Coast Community Plan has also been recently adopted by Council.

I wish everyone a blessed and safe Christmas and holiday season and thank you for your continued support.



Cr Linda Harris
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Create an opportunity

FRASER COAST OPPORTUNITIES is a newly formed collaborative marketing business unit of Council which aims to encourage new businesses to relocate to the Fraser Coast and help existing businesses explore new markets.

Our reliance on tourism and development means in tough times, everyone in the region suffers.

By combining tourism, economic development and business development into one cohesive unit, we are all hoping to make business on the Fraser Coast easier to do!

Fraser Coast Opportunities has the support of the chambers of commerce, UDIA, State Government departments, Tourism Fraser Coast and local business partners - I encourage you to contact us for further information on Fraser Coast Opportunities.

My sincere wishes to all for a happy and holy festive season. Stay safe and live life happy.



Cr Anne Nioa
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Pest Survey Plan

A WARM HELLO to everyone!

I am pleased to say Council recently approved a Pest Survey Plan for 2011-2012 and agreed to the activities in the Annual Action Plan for Pest Plants and Animals for the same period.

These plans fulfil the objectives of our Pest Management Plan 2010-2014.

This year's unusually wet season not only caused havoc to our roads but also produced prolific problems with weeds and pests across the whole Fraser Coast. I would ask everyone to keep an eye out for giant rat's tail grass and fireweed in particular and if you spot them, alert the Council so these class 2 weeds can be eradicated.

A huge thank you to our rural fire brigades who have been volunteering long hours, playing a vital role in our community, performing control burns and managing fire outbreaks.

A thought to leave you with - 'Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration!' (Thomas Edison).



Cr Debbie Hawes
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E: debbie.hawes@frasercoast.qld.gov.au

Our region's greatest asset

WHAT A YEAR IT HAS BEEN! In terms of economic development much has been achieved.

There has been continued work on improving our region's infrastructure, the planning and building of a Community Centre and Cultural Centre, increasing business in the aviation sector, capitalising on the growing resource/mining sector, successful career expos and jobmarts, commencing the aquatic centre refurbishment, forging partnerships with industry and businesses to attract and improve development and job growth, just to name a few.

However I believe economic development is not just building and business, it's also about our region's greatest asset, people.

That's why I also salute and thank community organisations such as Neighbourhood Centres, Hervey Bay Youthcare, Fraser Coast Housing Action Group and others for their excellent work.

Best wishes for a happy and safe Christmas.



Cr Gerard O'Connell
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E: gerard.oconnell@frasercoast.qld.gov.au



Xmas closures

The following services will be provided over the Christmas holiday period.

- **Council offices** - will be closed from 2pm Friday 23 December 2011 until 8.15am Tuesday 3 January 2012.
- **Waste services** - there will be no changes to household rubbish collection or transfer stations' operating hours.
- **Libraries**
Hervey Bay
23 December: 9am - 2pm
24 - 27 December: CLOSED
28 - 30 December: 9am - 3pm
31 December - 2 January: CLOSED
3 January: normal open hours

Maryborough

23 December: 9.30am - 2pm
24 - 27 December: CLOSED
28 - 30 December: 9.30am - 3pm
31 December - 2 January: CLOSED
3 January: normal open hours

Tiaro

23 December: 8.30am - 2pm
24 - 27 December: CLOSED
28 - 30 December: 8.30am - 12noon
31 - 2 January: CLOSED
3 January: normal open hours

Howard and Burrum Heads

Libraries will be closed from 2pm Friday 23 December 2011 until Tuesday 3 January 2012.

- **Hervey Bay Aquatic Centre** - will be closed on Christmas Day. Hours will be reduced over other public holidays during the Christmas period.
- **Gatakers Artspace** - will be closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and News Years Day only.
- **Hervey Bay Regional Gallery** - will be closed from Wednesday 21 December 2011 to Tuesday 3 January 2012.
- **Maryborough Showgrounds and Equestrian Park** - will be closed from Friday 23 December 2011 to Tuesday 3 January 2012.

Are you ready for storm season?



How to prepare for a severe storm

- Trim trees, remove overhanging branches (check with Council for planning requirements) and clear gutters and downpipes, clear yard of loose materials and rubbish;
- Secure loose roof tiles or sheets;
- Protect sky lights with wire mesh and fit glass windows and doors with shutters or insect screens;
- Prepare an emergency kit;
- Check boats are securely moored, or protected on land; and
- Check home insurance is current and adequate (include building debris clean up/disposal costs).

As the storm approaches

- Listen to a local radio station for severe storm advice and warnings;
- Shelter and secure animals;

- Put loose garden furniture, toys inside;
- Park vehicles under solid shelter or cover with firmly tied tarpaulins/blankets;
- Secure all external doors and windows and draw curtains;
- Keep valuables, medications, spare clothing in plastic bags and your emergency kit handy, and;
- Disconnect all electrical items, external TV/radio aerials and computer modems.

What to do when a severe storm strikes

- Listen to your (portable) radio for severe storm updates;
- Stay inside and shelter well clear of windows, doors and skylights;
- If the building starts to break up, shelter in the strongest part (internal room, hallway or built-in wardrobe) under a mattress, doona or a strong table or bench; If outdoors, seek solid enclosed shelter;

- If driving, stop clear of trees, powerlines and streams, and;
- Don't use a fixed telephone during a severe storm due to lightning danger.

What to do after a severe storm

- Listen to your local radio station for official advices and warnings;
- Check for structural property damage and cover with plastic sheeting and nailed on wood strips;
- For life threatening emergencies call 000, for storm assistance refer to your emergency phone numbers or contact the SES on 132 500;
- Beware of fallen powerlines and trees, damaged buildings and flooded watercourses; and
- Don't go sight-seeing.



Emergency Facebook page

Follow emergency updates and information on Facebook.

Residents will be able to keep up to date with information during an emergency from Council's Facebook page – Fraser Coast Disaster Coordination Centre.

The pages provide helpful hints on how to prepare for a natural disaster.

We encourage you to become a follower on Facebook now to ensure that you are ready to receive information and warnings during a disaster or emergency.

Visit www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au (Services / Emergency Management) to become a follower and click on the Facebook link.



Guide your actions

An Emergency Action Guide was delivered to every household in November last year to help residents prepare for the storm and cyclone season.

The guide, compiled by Council, includes tips on what to do during a natural disaster such as storm or cyclone.

The guide contains phone numbers for emergency services as well as the SES, hospitals, marine rescue and RACQ.

There are also tips on how to prepare an emergency kit, basic first aid kit and a 72-hour evacuation pack.

Visit www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au (Services / Emergency Management) to download a copy of the guide.



Evacuation Zone Maps

If you live within one of the evacuation zones you may be at risk in the event of a storm tide or tsunami. You should identify your evacuation route to a safer location.

If an evacuation is declared, authorities will advise residents who need to evacuate.

If you feel threatened then make the decision to go early.

Now is a good time to think about where you would go if you had to evacuate; what you would take in the way of important documents and if you have a pet, what you would do with it.

Detailed maps are available at the Council administration centres and libraries.

Council Assisted Evacuation Plan

Residents who do not have sufficient transport or who can no longer drive can register with Council for assistance during an evacuation.

We are asking residents who will need help during an evacuation to register now so we can plan ahead.

Visit www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au (Services / Emergency Management / Council Assisted Evacuation Plan) for a registration form.

HARDEN UP QUEENSLAND

To help prepare for severe weather events Green Cross Australia has launched the Harden Up.org website.

Using the website Queenslanders can search 150 years of local severe weather history and look at population, rainfall and sea level trends to identify their exposure to cyclone, severe storm and storm surge events.

You can use the information to create a personal resilience plan and take practical steps to protect homes, families and communities. You can also share your plan using social media.

The site was launched on October 20 and is funded by the National Disaster Resilience Program and in partnership with a wide range of organisations including the Queensland Government, CSIRO and Bureau of Meteorology.

Visit www.hardenup.org for more information.

Ordinary people doing extraordinary things



SES Units are made up of local people who have volunteered to prepare themselves and their communities to minimise the effects of a disaster.

Under the motto, Be Aware, the basic concept of the SES is to encourage self-help and mutual assistance within each community. SES Groups support Police, Fire and Ambulance during an emergency or disaster.

Local SES units are located in: Burrum Heads, Hevey Bay, Howard, Maryborough, Sandy Strait (Boonooroo), Tiaro, Woocoo (FCRC Oakhurst depot) and Glenwood (FCRC depot).

Visit www.emergency.qld.gov.au/ses for more information on the SES, the tasks volunteers perform and other essential information.

Tips for evacuation

Based on predicted wind speeds and storm surge heights, self-evacuation may be necessary.

Decide as early as possible whether you are going to self-evacuate. Official advice will be given on local radio / TV regarding safe routes and when to move.

Follow the advice of local authorities in regards to appropriate actions during each stage of the cyclone.

If you are going to be asked to self-evacuate, you will be given as much warning as possible.

Warnings will be issued through the broadcasts on local radio stations and, if possible, TV.

Do not delay your evacuation as roads may become congested or closed.

As you evacuate you should:

- Act quickly and remain calm;
- Decide where you are going and take appropriate maps for your journey;
- Advise family and friends where you are going;
- Ensure your vehicle has fuel for the journey;
- Advise your neighbours that you are leaving;
- Switch off electricity, gas and water at the mains;
- Collect your 72-hour evacuation pack;
- Take your pet and pet pack with you;
- Dress appropriately;
- Load your car;
- Lock up your house;
- Continue to listen to your radio;

DO NOT IGNORE OFFICIAL WARNINGS OR ADVICE

- Beware of fallen power lines;
- Drive to your pre-arranged location;
- Follow the directions of Police and State Emergency Service personnel.

Visit www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au (Services / Emergency Management) for further information.

Contact information

SES Request for Assistance phone number - 132 500

General phone number - 1300 369 003

Future Planning

Fraser Coast Community Plan

After two years of development, and more than 4,000 responses from residents, the Fraser Coast Community Plan has been adopted.

The feedback ensured that the aspirations and uniqueness of the region's distinct communities were reflected in the plan.

The plan provides the foundation for residents, businesses, organisations and Council to work together to enhance the region.

It will guide Council as it develops its five-year corporate plan, long-term goals, financial and operational plans.

Fraser Coast Sustainable Growth Strategy

A draft region-wide planning scheme should be released for public comment early next year.

In September Council adopted the Fraser Coast 2031: Sustainable Growth Strategy which will guide growth across the region and the development of the first regional planning scheme.

Visit www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au to view copies of both plans.

Hard copies are available at Council's administration centres and libraries.



Completed projects

- Hervey Bay Community Centre
- Yerra Bridge
- Tiaro Medical Centre
- Queens Park rejuvenation
- Harland Car Park drainage
- Maryborough Pound and Kennels
- Anzac Park play equipment
- Jumbo Creek Bridge
- Burrum Skate Park

Our Libraries win prestigious award

Fraser Coast libraries have won the 2011 Public Library Achievement of the Year Award for their provision of computers for public access.

The Queensland Public Libraries Association award recognises outstanding community service, creativity and innovation in developing a service or program.

The judges said the award confirmed the benefits and relevance of providing a reliable, efficient and cost-effective public computer network to the diverse community. They were impressed by the library staff's forward thinking in delivering the service to meet increasing consumer demands while keeping costs to a minimum.

The \$1000 prize will go towards a special library project.

Local Laws review 2011



One set of Local Laws for the region has been adopted by Council after almost two years of work and 10 months of public consultation.

The new Local Laws, which were amended after a second round of public consultation in July and August, were adopted by Council in October and sent to

the State Government for review.

If the Minister for Local Government and Planning accepts the local laws they should be in operation by the end of the year.

Visit www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au (Council/Local Laws) to view copies of the proposed local laws.

Tell us what you think...

We'd like to know your opinion, especially on what types of stories you like read in our publication. Fill in the questionnaire below and you could win one of two Christmas hampers valued at \$250 each.

I like:

Project updates	Councillor columns
Our Fraser Coast	Events
Other:	

I would like to read more stories on:

Events	Libraries
Our Fraser Coast	Events
Council meetings	Youth
Seniors programs	Environment
Other:	

Name:

Address:

Phone:

To enter, fill in the coupon and mail it to Tell us what you think, PO Box 1943, Hervey Bay, Qld, 4655; drop into a Customer Service Centre or Library; or complete online. Entries close 5pm November 30.

*Privacy Notice: By completing this form you are providing personal information such as contact details. This information will be used for the purpose of processing your feedback and competition entry and will only be accessed by persons who have been authorised to do so. Your personal information is handled in accordance with the Information Privacy Act 2009.

Year in review



Liberty Swing opening, All Abilities Playground, Pialba



Mobility Scooter Convoy - Guinness World Record Attempt



Beautiful Bay Day, Esplanade Foreshore



RACQ Technology Challenge, Maryborough



Halloween Batty Ball



Dog's Day Out Pet Walk, Dayman Park



January Floods, Maryborough



Mary Poppins Festival



CBD Cleanup, Maryborough



Urangan Pier restoration



In Brief...

War on weeds

Keep a look out for Declared Class 2 weeds giant rat's tail and fireweed.

While giant rat's tail is often found on the Fraser Coast, fireweed is less common but potentially a major problem if infestations are not controlled.

If you spot either of these weeds contact the Council's Land Protection Officers on 1300 79 49 29.

Visit www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au (Services/Pest Management/Weeds) for more information, identification clues and photographs.

Disability beach access

Three new disability access points will be built across Hervey Bay beaches.

The ramps will replace beach access boardwalks at Torquay and Scarness that failed during storms and a new access will be provided near the All Abilities Playground in Pialba.

Detailed designs for the new ramps are now being developed and Council has allocated funds in its current budget to undertake the work.

Community grants

Applications for the Council's Community and Events Support Grants Scheme open on 28 November 2011.

Groups can apply for up to \$5,000 to assist with community projects and events taking place between May and October 2012.

Applications close on 11 February 2012 and successful applicants will be notified in April 2012.

Visit www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au for application forms.

All enquiries should be directed to Council's Grants Officer on 1300 79 49 29 or to grants@frasercoast.qld.gov.au.

Qld's friendliest town



It's official! Maryborough is the friendliest town in Queensland according to the Keep Australia Beautiful Queensland's Tidiest Towns Awards.

It is the second time that the city has won the Friendliest Town Award.

The projects entered in the Friendliest Town category were the Mary Poppins Festival in the Park, the Staycations Scheme and Discovery Trails.

The judges were impressed by the way visitors were welcomed and that they could download Maryborough's inner-city tour on a smart phone or tablet to get highlights, history and attractions of the historic township.

The win reinforces Council's regional marketing efforts, especially the development of discovery trails to entice visitors away from the coast to experience what the region has to offer.

Digging up the Maryborough Township



An exhibition of artefacts from an archaeological excavation at the site of the first European township in the Wide Bay is on display at the Customs House Museum in Wharf Street, Maryborough.

Wide Bay Village, the original township of Maryborough, was settled for a short period from 1848 to 1856, before people moved to the current location where the river was easier to navigate.

Before Europeans the Butchulla people lived in the area which has fresh water lagoons, fish, oysters and other food sources.

The display was funded by Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF), a partnership between the Queensland Government, through Arts Queensland, and Council.

The Customs House Museum is open Monday to Friday from 10am to 4pm and Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 1pm.

Start planning your garage sale now



If you are having a clean out during the Christmas break, don't dump the bric-a-brac you no longer need.

Save it for the Fraser Coast's Garage Sale Trail on Saturday May 5 – a nation-wide chain of thousands of garage sales, all held on the same day.

It's all about sustainability, community and fun.

Get together with your neighbours, family and friends and start planning your massive May 5 garage sale.

Visit www.garagesaletrail.com.au for more information.

Our Fraser Coast



Thinking of ways to spend your Christmas holidays this year – why not consider a Fraser Coast festive season?

The Fraser Coast is the perfect playground, offering a host of interactive natural experiences and outstanding attractions.

And the idea of staying at home offers attractions of its own – no battling the Christmas traffic snarls, saving time and money, helping bolster the local economy and enjoying the wonderful experiences in your own backyard.

To make the idea of a Fraser Coast Christmas even more appealing residents can take advantage of the Staycations campaign, a Council initiative which rewards residents for spending locally with discounts and deals from local business and attractions.

You can also explore one of the 16 Discovery Trails, designed to take you to some of the region's most popular attractions.

Among them are the Hervey Bay Discovery Trail and the Esplanade Walk and Cycle Loop.

The 14km stretch of shared pathway stretches from the Urangan Harbour at the eastern end of the city to Gatakers Bay in the west.

Do the trail at your own pace – enjoying mouth-watering seafood, try canoeing or jet skiing, take a stroll on the iconic Urangan Pier or make a splash at the WetSide Water Education Park.

The Fraser Coast has so much to offer and, in the words of Dorothy Gale in the movie classic *The Wizard of Oz*, remember “There’s no place like home”.

Old meets new ... Sean and Keisha Wrigley take time out from their visit to the CBD to read information on the Kent Street mural.

Maryborough City Heart campaign

A major marketing campaign has begun to promote one of the heritage gems of the Fraser Coast.

The Maryborough City Heart campaign will be launched from 13 November with a number of marketing initiatives to promote the the unique experiences Maryborough's historic shopping precinct offers.

It includes an “I love Maryborough” Facebook drive, Maryborough City Heart branding, shopping directory signage, window sticker decorations and a “way finding” heritage sign project – combining history with the latest technology.

The project is a partnership between Council, the Maryborough Chamber of Commerce and the local business community.

Daniel Sanderson, Chair of the Maryborough CBD Renewal Group, said the launch and marketing campaign was a great sign of belief in the city, which also benefited the whole region.

The launch will begin with a “CBD Clean Up Day” on 13 November.

For the rest of the month Fraser Coast residents will be encouraged to visit the Facebook site to tell “why they love Maryborough City Heart” to go in the draw to win a \$500 shopping voucher donated by local retailers.

Light up the Fraser Coast

Soon thousands of fairy lights will light up the Fraser Coast.

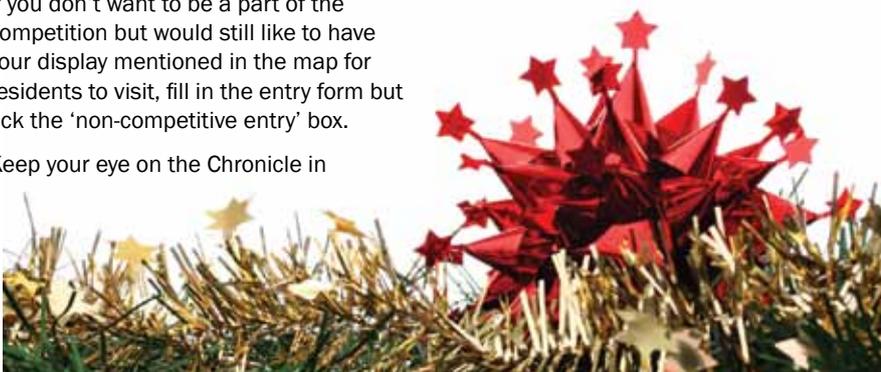
The annual Light Up Fraser Coast Christmas display competition will open in late November.

If you don't want to be a part of the competition but would still like to have your display mentioned in the map for residents to visit, fill in the entry form but tick the 'non-competitive entry' box.

Keep your eye on the Chronicle in

December for the maps outlining the locations of the light displays.

Visit www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au to download an entry form. It will also be available in the Fraser Coast Chronicle.



For all your information about what's on in the region

NOVEMBER

18 November - 10 December	Where Do I Make the Mark exhibition, Hervey Bay Regional Gallery, Pialba
19 - 20 November	Hervey Bay Crafters Annual Xmas Fair, Hervey Bay RSL, Pialba
22 - 25 November	Art Affair, City Hall, Maryborough
26 November	Lions Club of Tiaro Children's Christmas Party
27 November	Apex Santa Fair, Queens Park, Maryborough (from 3pm-6pm)
27 November	Carols in Queens Park, Maryborough (from 6pm-8pm)

DECEMBER

3 - 5 December	Art Affair, Urangan Community Centre, Hervey Bay
3 December	Christmas Scrapbooking, Cardmaking Workshop, Pensioner's Hall, Maryborough
10 December	Burrum District Community Christmas Carnival, Howard
10 December	Youth Christmas Concert in the Park, Esplanade, Scarness
11 December	Dingo Day, Apex Park, Hervey Bay
17 December	RSL Carols by Candlelight, Hervey Bay (from 4pm)
17 December - 7 January	Hervey Bay Ambulance Committee Annual Goods Wheel, Scarness Foreshore
31 December	New Year's Eve celebrations (see www.frasercoastevents.com.au)

JANUARY

26 January	Australia Day celebrations
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REGULAR EVENTS AND MARKETS

Sunday in the Park	Queens Park, Maryborough - last Sunday of every month
Music in the Park	Pier Park, Urangan - every Sunday
Heritage Markets	Maryborough - every Thursday
Koala Markets	Urangan, Hervey Bay - 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month
Nikenbah Markets	Nikenbah, Hervey Bay - 1st and 3rd Sunday of every month
Howard Country Markets	Burrum District Community Centre, 1st Saturday of every month
Harbour View Twilight Markets	Hervey Bay - every Friday, 4pm - 8pm
Creative Showcase	Hervey Bay - third Sunday of every month
Burrum Heads Markets	Howard Street, Burrum Heads - 2nd Saturday of every month
Poona Markets	Poona Community Hall - 2nd Saturday of every month



**New Years Eve events
Saturday 31 December**

How are you going to spend New Year's Eve this year?

Council is about to announce the community groups who were successful in applying for grants to organise events to see in the new year.

Visit www.frasercoastevents.com.au to find out what events have been planned across the region.

Are you planning an event on the Fraser Coast?

An Events Toolkit has been recently developed which includes a series of checklists to provide prompts and support for organisers to plan and execute their events successfully.

Visit www.frasercoastevents.com.au for a copy of the Toolkit. Hard copies are available from Customer Service Centres.



Australia Day Awards Nominations

If you know an outstanding Aussie or community group then nominate them for an Australia Day Award.

Australia Day awards on the Fraser Coast will be given in the following categories in Hervey Bay, Maryborough, Tiaro and Woocoo:

- Citizen of the Year
- Junior Citizen of the Year
- Senior Sportsperson of the Year
- Junior Sportsperson of the Year
- Senior Cultural Award
- Junior Cultural Award
- Community Event

Completed forms should be returned to Council as soon as possible.

The successful candidates will be presented with their awards at Australia Day celebrations across the region on January 26, 2012.

Completed nomination forms should be posted to:

Australia Day Awards
Fraser Coast Regional Council
PO Box 1943

HERVEY BAY Q 4655

or emailed to: enquiry@frasercoast.qld.gov.au

Visit www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au for nomination forms.