Sarina Neighbourhood Centre

The Sarina Neighbourhood Centre is a Mackay Regional Council service which receives funding from the State Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disabilities through the Neighbourhood Centre’s Initiative.

Services available:
- Information, advice and referral
- Community information directories
- Community newsletters and notice board
- Sarina events calendar
- Community education activities
- Emergency relief funding

Facilities available:
- A meeting room for community members and groups to utilise during the centre’s operating hours
- An office for visiting services to meet with clients during the centre’s operating hours
- Centrelink access point for self services

The Sarina Neighbourhood Centre is located next to Mackay Regional Council Client Services Centre, 65 Broad Street, Sarina.
Phone: 4961 9290 or 4961 9283
Email: margaret.mcdowall@mackay.qld.gov.au

Australia Day Awards

Nominate today! Mackay Regional Council Australia Day Awards pay tribute to individuals and groups who have made significant contributions to their local community and/or achieved exceptional results in sporting, or cultural endeavours. Visit www.mackay.qld.gov.au/australiaday to fill out the form on our website to nominate an individual or group for an Australia Day Award.

You can also download a hardcopy version of the form and return it to one of our client service centres.
2015 has ended on an exciting note with the Sarina Sugar Shed receiving three State Awards (two gold and one bronze) in the recent Queensland Tourism Awards for 2015. This is an incredible achievement to win Gold Awards against all tourism operators in Queensland. Well done to staff and volunteers.

Sadly we farewell Phil Taylor, Production Officer, who is retiring from his role at the Sugar Shed in early 2016. We will miss his service and excellent distilling skills. Congratulations on a job well done.

Council is proud of its efforts to upgrade and improve various facilities in the Sarina area. This year has also seen playground upgrades, stairs installed to have better beach access, fencing, park improvements and a new walk/bike pathway.

As the year draws to a close and we stop and reflect over the events of the last twelve months and, in particular, the recent tragedy in Paris, we see what a sense of community can do in times of need to overcome adversity.

We have seen it in our own community during times of natural disasters. Thank you to all the volunteer groups who make up our diverse community and enrich the lives of others.

Christmas is a time when we also come together with family and friends and our broader community to celebrate. Stay safe, enjoy Christmas and may peace be with you all in 2016.

Deirdre Comerford – Mayor

Mackay Community Visitors Association

> Making a difference in your community

People find themselves socially isolated and lonely for many reasons. Ageing, frailty, disability and sometimes just having no friends or family can have a huge impact on an individual’s quality of life.

Mackay Community Visitors is a state and federal funded program based in Mackay which has a volunteer base who provide one-on-one friendship to lonely and isolated clients.

For home based clients, our service region expands from Mackay to Bowen in the north, Sarina in the south and Clermont in the west.

Our organisation takes great pride in our dedicated community volunteers who become an integral person in the life of their designated friend.

Often the community visitor is the only social contact a client may have and to watch the genuine friendship develop between the two is quite remarkable.

Visitors and their friends do what usual friends do, have a chat, go for a drive, have coffee or lunch, go to a movie, shopping or accompany each other to other social outings.

Community visitors in the aged care homes often spend time reading to their friend, playing board games or cards or participating in outings.

MCVA is seeking volunteers in the Sarina area. Please contact Tracey Geaghan on 4953 4878 if you want to make a difference in the life of another person.

Sarina Tourist Art & Craft Markets

Come along to the markets on the first and third Saturday of every month from 8am to 12 noon for fresh produce, homemade soap, plants and craft.

To find us, just drive south through Sarina, look to your right for the “i” sign at the last set of lights. Hours of business are 9am to 5pm, 7 days a week, excluding Good Friday, Christmas Day, New Year’s Day and half of day Anzac Day.

For any enquiries, please phone 4956 2251 or 0488 772 493 or email sarinainfo@easynet.net.au.
Community Christmas

Sarina is kicking off the festive season with a Christmas Celebration for the community on Saturday, December 5 from 5pm – 8pm at Sarina Cultural Hall and Anzac Park Precinct in Sarina.

The Mackay Regional Council Sarina Neighbourhood Centre is once again partnering with the Combined Churches of Sarina to bring the Christmas Celebration to our community.

The purpose of the event is for the community of Sarina to celebrate Christmas together, acknowledging the true meaning of Christmas in a safe family friendly environment and for the event to be affordable for everyone. Those who attend will be able to explore a replica of the City of Bethlehem presented by the Combined Churches of Sarina.

The event is free and will feature singing of Christmas Carols, lighting of the Mackay Regional Council Christmas Tree, Santa photos, a sausage sizzle plus more. Children will be able to help decorate a tree and learn the meaning of all the decorations that are put onto the tree.

The Christmas Tree lights will be officially switched on by Cr Greg Martin with Santa arriving on a fire truck after the lighting of the tree.

This is also an opportunity to have photos taken with Santa throughout the night. Photos will be available for collection at the end of the evening.

Sarina Fibre Arts Group Inc. News

Sarina Fibre Arts Group Inc. held its Annual General Meeting in September and elected the new committee.

New Executive President - Mary Whitaker
Correspondence Secretary - Celia Gutschlag
Minutes Secretary - Dorne Cawte
Treasurer - Afra Hauwert

Recently, the group moved from the Sarina High School Library, where they had been meeting for quite a long time. They greatly appreciated being able to use this facility and have now taken a lease on the former Band Hut in Lee Street.

They look forward to being able to meet there on Wednesday and Saturday mornings and any other time we choose. As well, we are able to store all of our equipment and records in one place.

When Sarina Fibre Arts Group was formed in 1992, it was the group's aim to one day have our own meeting place and we're thrilled to be able set up ourselves there.

The group will close after December 19 and start again on the January 9, 2016. Anyone interested in joining is welcome to contact Mary Whitaker on 4956 4594 or Celia Gutschlag on 4943 1426.

Sarina Shop front Christmas lights Competition

Show your #MackayPride and get in to the spirit of Christmas by decorating your shop fronts!

Terms & conditions apply. See website for full details www.mackay.qld.gov.au

Win one of two Sarina prizes

In preparation for the Sarina Community Christmas Celebration on December 5 we are encouraging all businesses to get into the festive spirit by decorating their shop fronts.

To enter the competition register your decorated business with the Sarina Neighbourhood Centre on 4961 9283 before Friday, December 4, 5pm and go into the draw to WIN one of two Sarina cash vouchers! Judges will select the most festive decorated businesses on Saturday, December 5.

First Prize
$300 voucher to a Sarina Business of your choice.

Second Prize
$200 voucher to a Sarina Business of your choice.
The Mackay Women's Centre provides a range of free counselling and support services for women in the city of Mackay and surrounding region. Our counsellor visits Sarina every Thursday morning at the Sarina Neighbourhood Centre, 65 Broad Street. Appointments can be made by calling the Women's Centre office, 4953 1788.

We are delighted to announce that in December we will commence a Colouring Group. Mackay's own illustrator and designer of "Other Worlds Colouring Book", Celese Heward will be facilitating the group. All you need to do is bring along your colouring books and pencils/felts and Cesese will be able to give demonstrations and advice during the classes. Please note, if you don't have any colouring books/pens, we do have some here at the centre for use during classes.

The Colouring Group will go for three weeks in December and hopefully we can start again after the New Year. Classes will be held on Tuesday, December 8 and 15, at the Women's Centre from 9.30am-10.30am. Cost will be members $7 and non-members $10.

Also available is the Parenting and Pregnancy Support Program that offers support for families, as well as Emergency Relief for babies and toddlers. This includes counselling and support around these issues as well as being able to supply nappies, formula and prescriptions in times of need. Thanks to the kind donations from the public, we are also able to supply baby goods such as prams, cots and clothing, free of charge, when available.

Other weekly activities include Zumba Gold, Australian Breastfeeding Association Meetings, Walking Group, Cooking Classes, Tai Chi, Mackay Active Women's Group and Yoga and Meditation.

Our Centre will be closing over the Christmas break from Wednesday, December 23, reopening on Monday, January 4, 2016. If you need assistance during this time, please contact Lifeline on 131 114 or Salvos Connect on 1300 371 288.

Mackay Women's Centre would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe, prosperous New Year. For further information please call the office on 4953 1788 between 8.30am and 4.30pm, find us on Facebook or visit mackaywomenscentre.com.au.
Carols by Candlelight

Hosted by SEA FM’s Jay & Dave

Sarina Beach
Sat 19 December
from 5.30pm

Twilight Markets
from 3pm

Food
Drinks
Lucky Hams
Glow Products
Santa Photos
Local Musicians
Family Fun
BYO chairs/rug

Supported by the following

For further information:
Mel 0458 030 975 or theblenzfamily@hotmail.com
FACEBOOK – Sarina Beach Markets
Nippers recognised

Three Sarina Nippers have been chosen for the Queensland country team from a strong field of beach competitors from Darwin to Hervey Bay.

The three Nippers competed at the recent North Australian Championships, where their gold and silver winning performances secured their spots in the team.

The three competitors competed in a top eight final in an inter branch competition on November 28 at Alexander Headlands on the Sunshine Coast.

Under 13 Bethany Bierton was chosen for her strong performance of winning gold in the beach flags and silver in the sprints. Under 15 competitors Angelina Bierton and Callum Street also made the team, both for their gold and silver performances on the beach.

This is the third year Callum has made the team, last year winning silver in both the sprints and flags.

All competitors are in training and will also be looking for selection for the branch state team in March next year.

Did you know?

We are a bit of a social butterfly these days. Find us on Facebook to keep up to date with upcoming events, opportunities and more!

> facebook.com/SarinaNeighbourhoodCentre
> facebook.com/mackayregionalcouncil
Youth Empowerment and Support Service

The program will be delivered in the Mackay, Isaac and Whitsunday Regions.

The YESS program can support and assist young people 12 - 18 years who present as disadvantaged, vulnerable and/or at risk. Support and assistance where appropriate can be provided in consultation with their families or significant others.

Services and support will include individual case management in the Mackay area and an integrated response for Young People in the outer areas of Mackay, Isaac and Whitsunday areas.

The YESS Approach

- Confidential support and assistance.
- Person centred, strengths based focus.
- Non-intrusive, respectful approach of support.
- Encourage and support, cultural connections.
- Flexible, individual, responsive, collaborative case management process.
- Provide opportunities for Young People and their families to participate in decision making.
- Facilitate cross-agency referral and maintain inter-agency links.
- Share/exchange information between services with consent.
- Encourage transparent, efficient service delivery, in the aim of moving toward positive outcomes for young people and their families.

Eligibility

To be eligible

A young person must reside within the Geographical Catchment Area of the Whitsunday, Isaac, or Mackay Regions. The Youth Empowerment and Support Service is available to assist Young People aged 12 to 18 years, who are experiencing issues with:

Education and Employment, Health, Substance Issues, Housing and Transport, Mental Health Issues, Family Issues, Community Connections and other barriers.

For more Information and to request a referral package please contact MADEC Youth Services Coordinator Tania Atkins.
Phone: 4951 1233 - Mobile: 0429 877 003 - Fax: 4951 3471 - Email: tania.atkins@madec.org.au
15 Peel Street Mackay P.O. Box 11038 Caneland, Mackay 4740
What's on...

> at the Sarina Library

School Holiday Activities at Sarina Library, Friday, 15/1/2016

- **Mini Makerspaces (6 – 12yrs) 10am – 11.30am**
  Come enjoy our first ever Mini Makerspaces, utilising imagination to explore Lego, Ozobots and Science experiments.

- **Makerspaces (12 – 18yrs) 1pm – 3pm**
  Young adults are invited to participate in a robotics workshop. Working in small groups, teens will create and conquer challenges with EV3 Lego Mindstorm robots, along the way they will be developing skills in engineering, problem solving, communication and programming.

Bookings are essential. Please contact 4961 9297.

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**DATE CLAIMER**

The Sarina Events Calendar is displayed at the front of the Sarina Neighbourhood Centre.

To have your event added to the Sarina Events Calendar, contact the Sarina Neighbourhood Centre by phoning 4961 9290 or 4961 9283 or emailing margaret.mcdowall@mackay.qld.gov.au.

**DECEMBER**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>&lt; 6pm Zumba Fitness, New Life Church, Leslie St</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>&lt; 6:15pm Get Out, Get Active 8/20 Training &amp; Fitness, Anzac Park</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>&gt; 8am Sarina Tourist Art &amp; Craft Market, Field of Dreams</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>&gt; 8am Sarina Men's Shed Group, Lee St</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>&gt; 9am Sarina Fibre Arts Group, Band Hut, Lee St</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>&gt; 9am Get Out, Get Active Aqua Zumba, Sarina Pool</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>&gt; 5pm Sarina Christmas Celebration, Culture Hall and Anzac Park Precinct</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>&gt; 12pm Monster Cent Sale, Culture Hall</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>&gt; 6pm Zumba Fitness, St Luke’s Hall</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>&gt; 9:30am Baby Bounce, Sarina Library</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>&gt; 8am Sarina Men’s Shed Group, Lee St</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>&gt; 9am Sarina Fibre Arts Group, Band Hut, Lee St</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>&gt; 10am Storytime, Sarina Library</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>&gt; 6pm Zumba Fitness, New Life Church Leslie St</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>&gt; 8am Sarina Beach Markets</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>&gt; 8am Sarina Tourist Art &amp; Craft Market, Field of Dreams</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>&gt; 7am Sarina Showgrounds Markets</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>&gt; 6pm Zumba Fitness, St Luke’s Hall</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>&gt; Christmas Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>&gt; Boxing Day Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>29/31</td>
<td>&gt; Neighbourhood Centre &amp; Council Office Closed</td>
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Food for fines

> Do you have overdue library fines?

Donate Christmas hamper food until Saturday, December 12, 2015 and Mackay Regional Council Libraries will waive your overdue fines. All donations will be distributed to those in need in the Mackay region.

Food items must be non-perishable, new and within the use-by date, at least of equal value to the overdue fines being waived. Ask our friendly staff for a list of ideas.