



Sarina
May 2010

NEW COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES PORTFOLIO COUNCILLOR CR KAREN MAY



A review of the Deputy Mayoralty and portfolio structure has resulted in most positions remaining unchanged, with two councillors agreeing to swap portfolios.

The two-year review, as per a council resolution, will see Cr Darryl Camilleri remain Deputy Mayor, while Cr George Christensen takes on the Parks, Environment, Sustainability portfolio and Cr Karen May

assuming the Community Services and Facilities portfolio. "It provides a new challenge for the two councillors as we look to deliver for our community," said Mayor Col Meng.

"Crs May and Christensen have done a tremendous job and both were keen to expand their knowledge and experience of the different areas of council and continue to work with staff and the community."

The change came into effect from March 1.

Cr Meng said both councillors have worked together over the past few months to ensure a smooth transition into their respective portfolios.

"Cr May will retain an involvement in the development of the eight Mackay Beach Plans" the Mayor said.

Cr Meng praised the efforts of all councillors and applauded the work of Cr May and Cr Christensen in their respective portfolios.

"They have both been involved in numerous projects for example Cr May played a lead role in the Beach Plans and the shade covering of 29 parks and playgrounds across the region, while Cr Christensen was a key driver in the formation of the Mackay Regional Housing Company and the creation of the Disability Discrimination Action Plan." Cr Meng said.

"The portfolio system has worked well and allowed councillor to become key advocates for specific services council delivers." Cr Meng said the community now had a specific person to turn to, which I believe delivers a better service.

Expressions Of Interest

Mackay Regional Council now has a new Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) Action Plan and an Equitable Access Policy. These tools will provide guidance and strategies to ensure equity of access to council provided services, facilities, information, buildings and places for all residents and visitors. As well, council has committed to work towards a more inclusive community.

Expressions of Interest are being called for membership of council's Equitable Access Advisory Committee which is being established to provide advice to council and monitor implementation of the Action Plan. The committee will cover a broad range of interest areas, and key needs, issues and target groups have been identified with regard to membership.

Through the committee, members will have the opportunity to

influence change for the benefit of people with a disability both from within council and in the community by providing input and advice on future planning, training, transport, budget priorities with regard to access and inclusion and partnerships with key service agencies.

It is also expected that committee members will also participate in strategizing activities to resolve issues and/or develop projects pertaining to disability, inclusion and access and serve as information links between community members/groups and Mackay Regional Council.

The committee will meet every three months and be chaired by Cr Karen May. For selection criteria for committee membership and any other enquires please contact Jan Hansen on phone 4961 9536 or Email: jan.hansen@mackay.qld.gov.au

Party!!

Sarina Bendigo Bank is having a party.....

AND YOUR INVITED!!

Sarina Community Bank Branch is turning 5 years old and is having a party to celebrate, all welcome to attend.

When: 5 June 2010

Where: Sarina Cultural Hall

Cost: \$20 a head

3 Course Meal
Live Band - Geiger Boys
Licenced Bar

Limited seating so be quick!



Duke of Edinburgh Awards - Sarina



From left: Sabrina Dunkerley, Jake Patroni with James Bidgood.

Three young people have recently been presented with their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Awards from Sarina. The young people participated in a range activities such as Community Service in their communities, Physical Recreation, Learn a new Skill and go on an Adventurous Journey.

The three young people that got presented with their Award are Sabrina Dunkerley, Jake Patroni and Kerri-Anne Howland. The Sarina Youth Centre looks forward to all of these participants going on to achieve their Silver and Gold Awards.

Post Separation Cooperative Parenting Program

Post Separation Cooperative Parenting (PSCP) is the name of a post-separation parenting program for regional areas which is federally funded and operates under the Family Law Act. Separated parents who are not talking, who can't communicate without arguing, can attend the Post Separation Cooperative Parenting service. The PSCP service will always arrange for parents to attend at separate times so they don't have to meet. The program is aimed at both parents individually and is helpful even if only one parent attends.

The PSCP service provides short term counselling, support, information, referrals, and a 3 to 4 hour group educational seminar. This service can help parents understand how parental conflict affects children, and understand why it is important for them to be supportive of their child's relationship with the other parent. This service can help separated parents to stay focused on the needs of their children instead of their own conflict.

The court may encourage or order parents to attend a Post Separation Cooperative Parenting service. A referral to this service can also be made through a Children's Contact Service, Family Relationships Centre, or any other service helping a family after separation. Sometimes a separated parent makes their own decision to contact and attend a PSCP service.

Further enquiries about the Post Separation Cooperative Parenting service can be directed to:
PSCP Team, Lifeline Counselling Centre, Mackay Qld Ph: (07) 4944 2300 Fax: (07) 4944 0254
Email: lifeline.mackay-whitsunday@lccq.org.au

Wongabeena - Sarina & District Aged Peoples Housing Settlement Society

Wongabeena located in Hoey Street, Sarina is a complex of budget housing for Sarina pensioners. The complex consists of twenty-six units both double and single dwellings.

The committee that operates and governs the complex are all volunteers with a member of Mackay Regional Council attending most of the monthly meetings.



Member for Mirani Ted Malone officially opened the last six double units in August 2009 at a cost in excess of \$800,000 with ongoing costs for landscaping.

As with all committees they have a wish list that consists of improvements to the grounds and the upgrading and maintenance of the older units.

The committee was very thankful for a recent donation made by the Sarina Basketball Association that enabled them to purchase a gazebo that will be placed in the grounds for residents to enjoy sitting outside, funding is now being sought for its erection and landscaping to compliment this garden feature. It is hoped a second gazebo can be purchased shortly.

The committee is constantly seeking funding/grants/donations to complete and improve the complex. The committee is currently seeking a treasurer and any interested persons to become members to be friends of Wongabeena. If you are able to assist with our wish list please contact our secretary Cath Hutton 4956 6588.

Sarina Historical Centre's Christmas Spirit



The volunteers from the Sarina Historical Centre for the last three years have donated food to the Mackay Regional Council Christmas Appeal.

This is collected at the Historical Centres' Christmas break-up where members instead of a buying each other a secret Santa gift, they make a food donation.

Donations are then collected and given to Cr Karen May, their Patron, to add to the Mackay Regional Council Christmas Appeal.

Sarina Community Bank® Branch News

At our recent AGM the board of directors was pleased to hand over to the Sarina Police two Navman satellite navigational units and three units to the Sarina Fire & Rural Dept for their vehicles.

Towards the end of the last footy season, the Community Bank® purchased four goal post pads for the Junior Rugby League players. To date the Community Bank® has returned to the community over \$96,000 supporting local events from the Sarina Mud Trials, Arts Extravaganza, the Sarina Show Society as well as every

graduation year 7 student for schools from Alligator Creek to St Lawrence receiving a \$25. bank account.

Shareholders own the Community Bank® that are mainly from our region, with profits, after operating costs being returned to the community. By banking at this bank we earn profit that we can return to the benefit of our region.

We are now 5 years old and are having a party where we will again distribute funds to the communities not for profit organisations.

Our party is open to every one who wishes to attend (see details on page 2).



From left: David Bella, Junior Rugby League with Bendio Bank

Sarina Art Extravaganza

After four years as the chair and three as the coordinator of the Sarina Art Extravaganza, Marilyn Bliss has decided that this year's exhibition will be her last.

Marilyn has been responsible for a re-energizing of the annual art exhibition and is leaving with the organisation in great shape.

Marilyn said, "I am leaving because we are going on an extended holiday, for a year or more, to Central America."

A visual artist herself Marilyn has been central to the event's success in attracting volunteers, entries and audience.

The volunteers have worked hard in a range of areas including gaining great sponsorship, unpacking and hanging the works and in the cafe. She has worked tirelessly to ensure that the event remained one of the biggest and most prestigious in regional Australia

"In recent years the extravaganza has attracted over five hundred pieces from across the state and the country. We are very much looking forward to seeing this year's entries," Marilyn said.

With Marilyn's departure a unique opportunity exists for a likeminded individual to take over the reins of the exhibition. The committee is seeking a new chair who has the skills and experience to steer the organisation over the next few years. A paid coordinator supports the position of Chair.

Marilyn said "this is a great opportunity because it is a very rewarding position, the infrastructure is in place and the volunteers are a great bunch. As with all volunteer organizations more volunteers overall would be good. People do not have to attend meetings just help with the tasks. This could entail anything from three hours plus, depending on the time the volunteer has available."

The 2010 exhibition opens on Friday night May 21 and continues until Saturday May 29 at the Cultural Hall, Anzac St, Sarina

Categories include painting, drawing, pottery, sculpture and photography. This is an extraordinary opportunity for regional artists, in particular, to show their work to a large and appreciative audience As well as each category attracting prize money all works will also be for sale. Make the most of this chance to begin or add to your personal collection or, acquire a piece of outstanding work to add to the atmosphere of your work place.

This community celebration of creativity is a favorite amongst locals and guests to the region. Get in early to snap up the best pieces the Sarina Art Extravaganza has to offer

Once again this event could not happen if it was not for the sponsors. Most sponsors are local Sarina businesses, which is fantastic. We thank them all for being so generous.

For enquiries, especially about the chair position please call Extravaganza Co-ordinator Angela Chaplin on 0412321248.



Michael Wardell and Marilyn Bliss

Sarina Art Extravaganza Photos



Maree Angus (1st Prize Watercolours)



Patricia Hourn (Highly Commended Pottery and Sculpture)



Jo Mitchell (Highly Commended Open Section)



Kim Kirkman