

Focus on river and beach CBD areas

Council to begin community consultation on vision for future of waterfront areas near the City Centre

A VISION is being developed for waterfront areas in close proximity to Mackay's City Centre. And council wants the community's input.

Economic Development and Planning Committee chair Cr Amanda Camm said Mackay was fortunate to have both the riverfront and beachfront close to the CBD.

She said this presented a significant opportunity for council to explore the potential redevelopment and revitalisation of these areas.

"We have the bluewater Pioneer River bordering the City Centre," Cr Camm said.

"We then also have the beachfront area extending from the mouth of the river south along Binnington Esplanade," she said.

"Council is working with the State Government and stakeholders on a longer term vision for these waterfront areas on the river and beachfront close to our City Centre.

"There will be community

consultation on this kicking off next month."

Cr Camm said development possibilities along these areas could include a mixture of private and public projects.

"Townsville has The Strand and Mackay could have similar community spaces along the river and stretching around to the beachfront esplanade area," she said.

"There is potential to reconnect Mackay and its visitors to the waterfront.



An artist's impression of what a redeveloped Binnington Esplanade could look like.

"The riverfront and beachfront areas also provide opportunities to increase the city's tourism and inner-city living appeal, as well as cultural and recreational options to help improve liveability."

Cr Camm said there would be a display with information on the waterfront redevelopment project at the council pavilion at the Mackay Show from June 20 to 22.

"Show-goers will be able

to receive information on visions for these areas and provide their feedback," she said. "Residents will also be able to give feedback online during the community consultation."

>> Anyone wanting more information on the exciting Mackay waterfront redevelopment project can go online at mackay.qld.gov.au/mackaywaterfront



Checking out the new PayStay system in council's off-street parks are (from left) Kristie Brown and Tracey Browne.

Parking system explained

CITY Centre workers have been using PayStay for over a month to pay for their parking.

Health and Regulatory Manager Craig Shepherd said about 800 transactions were registered through the app every week.

"The overall response from those who use paid carparks in the region has been mostly positive," he said.

"We have received some negative comments online but most of the people we have

talked to who regularly park in these areas have been able to adapt to the changes quite easily.

"Anyone who is unfamiliar with the system and needs assistance is encouraged to call either council or the PayStay information line on 1300 322 111 and someone will walk them through the process.

"Library staff at Dudley Denny City Library are also available to help people with PayStay."

Council will be holding information sessions for anyone who wants to learn how to use PayStay on June 7 from 10am to 11am at Dudley Denny City Library. Places are limited. Phone 4961 9596 to reserve your spot.

Residents are also reminded that there are 2500 free, on-street carparks in the city centre for those who do not want to use paid parking, with half-hour, hour, two-hour, three-hour and all-day parking options available.

>> More details are available online at mackay.qld.gov.au/paystay

Sport and recreation on agenda

A NEW Sport and Recreation Advisory Committee is being set up to advise council.

Up to 10 community-minded members are being sought to be part of the advisory committee.

Cr Ross Gee, who will chair the committee, said sport and recreation was a high priority for council.

"We have a sport and recreation program within council, but this committee will include external stakeholders," he said.

"The new committee will provide advice to council on current and emerging sports and recreation issues and opportunities within the Mackay Regional Council area."

>> Expressions of interest open at mackay.qld.gov.au/sport until June 5



Last year's council display at the Mackay Show.

Show up for chance to win Origin III trip

STEPPING out at next month's Mackay Show could win you a trip to Game III of this year's rugby league State of Origin series.

Simply drop into council's show display for the chance to win a trip for two to the game at Brisbane's Suncorp Stadium on July 12.

Community Engagement Committee chair Cr Fran Mann said the Mackay Regional Council display had been a popular feature of the show in recent years.

>> More information at mackay.qld.gov.au/mackayshow

MACKAY will be painted maroon next month.

The champion Queensland State of Origin team, the mighty Maroons, will be in Mackay on June 14 for a fan day ahead of Game II of this year's series.

The Mackay Fan Day 2017, presented by Suncorp, will include a street parade in Gordon Street from 10.30am, a luncheon at the MECC and a junior coaching clinic at BB Print Stadium Mackay.

Council is supporting the Fan Day through its Invest Mackay Events Attraction Program.

Mayor Greg Williamson said Fan Days had become an important part of the Queensland Origin team's culture in recent years.

"Holding these Fan Days in regional areas right in the middle of the Origin series, is the Queensland team's way of giving back to the grassroots rugby league community," he said.



Queensland State of Origin legend Cameron Smith at a previous Fan Day event.

"But make no mistake, these days also help to inspire and pump up the players as they remind them who they are representing when they pull on that Origin jersey."

Last year's Fan Day was held

in Gladstone. In 2015, the Maroons visited just up the road at Proserpine for that year's Fan Day.

"It will be fantastic to have the Queensland team and coach Kevin Walters here

>> Tickets for the luncheon are \$130 each, which includes food and beverages. They must be purchased before June 9, at themecc.com.au

Fair serves up old-fashioned fun

THIS weekend's Greenmount Heritage Fair will unveil a pop-up museum reverently displaying heritage wedding dresses up to a century old.

In fact, the 36 metres of display space, a first for the Fair, will contain dresses representing every decade from 1917 through to 1979.

The dresses are just a small part of the Heritage Wedding theme of this year's Fair at Greenmount Homestead (5km past Walkerston), on Sunday, May 28.

Community Engagement Committee chair Cr Fran Mann said the region's museums had banded together to show off our rich wedding heritage with displays at the Fair.

Cr Mann also encouraged members of the public to suit up or dress up for the occasion.

"There will be a competition for those



Enjoying billy cart racing at last year's Heritage Fair are Reed Ryan and Hunter Coffey, of Seaforth.

who come dressed in wedding or traditional heritage attire," she said. "So make sure you dress up and don't forget to register on the day."

Of course, the Heritage Fair isn't just about weddings – it's all about what's quality, local and unique. Festivities run from 9am until 3pm and there will be something for the whole family, including:

- > Guest appearance by ABC's Gardening Guru Tom Wyatt
- > Billy cart racing
- > Horse and carriage rides
- > Live music on two stages, plus roving musicians and pipe band
- > Flash mobs
- > Children's activities and rides
- > Vintage working machinery, vintage cars, wood turning demos
- > Devonshire teas, local crafts and creations



Heritage dress-ups are all part of the fun!

Fair-goers are also invited to skip the queue and catch one of four shuttle buses that will be running continuously from the Park and Ride at Walkerston.

The Greenmount Heritage Fair is a council initiative and is supported by ABC Tropical North.

>> For further information on the Heritage Fair phone 1300 MACKAY (622 529) or follow Greenmount Homestead on Facebook

Maroons are heading to town



MEET THE MAROONS
10.30AM
GORDON STREET
MACKAY

LUNCH WITH
THE MAROONS
NOON AT THE MECC
- TO PURCHASE TICKETS -
VISIT WWW.THEMECC.COM.AU

MAROONS FOOTY CLINIC
AGES 6 - 16 YEARS
1.45PM AT BB PRINT STADIUM
FREE CLINIC - LIMITED SPACES
REGISTER TODAY AT
WWW.MACKAYCUTTERS.COM.AU

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COUNCIL - in brief -

Full Program

THIS year's 30th anniversary Mackay Mazda Festival of Arts will be a spectacle of music, food, arts, entertainment and comedy. Mark Seymour (of Hunters & Collectors fame), songstress Wendy Matthews, Aussie comic Dave Hughes, author/actor William McNnes and the cast of Rockwiz Live are just a few of the familiar faces who will be in town for the celebrations. The Festival will kick off on July 7 with a special Gala in the Gardens. The program is available now at www.themecc.com.au/ festivals and tickets are on sale. Every ticket you purchase to a Festival show (not including satellite events) gives you two entries in the draw for a Mazda 2 Neo manual.

QLD Day Fun

FREE fun for the whole family will be on offer on Queensland Day (Sunday, June 4) in Sarina's Field of Dreams Parklands. Running from 11am to 7pm, the day will have live music, food stalls, markets, activities for the kids, art displays, face painting, music workshops and will close with a lantern parade. The Mackay Region Visitor Information Centre and Field of Dreams Parkland capital project will also be officially launched on the day with a sod turning ceremony at 11am.

Councillor Visit

MACKAY councillors will meet with residents affected by the Sarina Range closure at a Council In Community Day tomorrow (Thursday, May 25). The range, closed due to damage caused by Cyclone Debbie, is a Department of Transport and Main Roads road. As such, the State Government will be handling repairs of this important road link. However, councillors are keen to meet with residents to check on issues arising from the extended road closure. The community catch-up will be held at the Nebo Sarina Range CWA Hall, Marlborough Road, from 9am to 10.30am.

Open Day

THE Botanic Gardens will host an Open Day on Saturday, June 3 from 9am to 1pm. Come along and learn gardening tips, enjoy botanic art and worm farm demonstrations or take part in a guided walk.