

Division 8



Flyer 29

*A Newsletter
from your local
Councillor*

Feb – Mar 2012

Cr. Mick Gillam

Well I would have liked to have started this Flyer by saying what a fantastic day we had for Aussie Arvo down in Pine Rivers Park on Australia Day but unfortunately it was rained out for the second time in four years. Could be another good reason to move the Australia Day concert to a finer part of the year - who knows. I was really looking forward to Wikety Wak whom I first heard on new year's eve back in 1977. Our next big event will be the Pine Rivers Festival in May/June with the Rodz, Rock 'n' Roll and Revivin' Drive-In down in the park.

The minor flood two weeks ago flooded Samsonvale Road at 4 Mile Creek, flooded Youngs Xing and damaged the newly repaired work on Leis Parade. As this was fixed under disaster funding arrangements we could only replace like with like. Council has now replaced the road and we will be adding concrete sidewalls to hopefully ensure this won't happen again.

Our new disaster communication systems commenced since the big 2011 flood had a little trouble coping with the over 20,000 hits on our website. We have now been on to our providers to increase the capability of the servers so this shouldn't happen next time. Our Facebook friends went from about 40 to over 3500 overnight. One of the other new systems we have begun is Moreton Alert. I have put another article about it on the back page.

Mossies

Mosquito numbers are going to increase across the region this week due to the extensive rainfall that the region has experienced. The current conditions make it very difficult to effectively treat the mosquitoes but with warm temperatures and extensive areas holding water, conditions are ideal for mosquitoes to breed quickly.



Council's vector team has been out whenever possible over the last week monitoring and treating areas across the region. This will continue over the coming weeks but there are large areas holding water which are inaccessible including those on private properties and therefore residents will experience an increase in mosquito numbers. Residents are advised that it is important to use repellents and wear long sleeve shirts and trousers if they are going to be outside especially at sunset and sunrise. It is also important that containers holding water around the house are emptied and if possible removed, as they will produce large numbers of mosquitoes over the coming days.

NEW ELECTION DATE



As you are all no doubt aware the Queensland State election will now be called for 24th March this year. Council elections were scheduled to be held on the 31st March. They will now be postponed until the 28th April. Some Moreton Bay Council Divisions have had their boundaries changed due to changes in number of enrolments across the region but Division 8 has remained unchanged. I will put a map of the Division in my first election flyer for your information.

Footpaths

I have received quite a few phone calls, emails and letters since the last Flyer with requests for a footpath or maintenance to footpaths. I've put them all on a list and if surplus funds are available in the Div 8 Works budget this year I will be making a start on them. The rest will have to wait until the new financial year. If you would like to have your street investigated and added please let me know. These are now on the list: Peter St completion, Lockyer Dr missing link, Samsonvale Rd west Ira Buckby to Forgan which would also include a bridge, Irula St 330 m from Sovereign on eastern side, Leis Pd from rail bridge to Gympie Rd, Paramount Dr missing link, Latona/Norland missing link, Ulmarra Cr full length, Gloucester/Nottingham/Dover/Ronald link, Gympie Rd replace muddy section near Pine Rivers High, Youngs Xing link to bus stop, Pine Valley Dr link to park, Sparkes Rd replace sloping section, Gordons Xing West to Daimler through bush, Cahill St missing link. I've also ordered a toilet for the dog lead free area in Les Hughes.

Strathpine Gateway Project

HAVE YOUR SAY

I mentioned the Gateway Project in my last Flyer. Now is the chance for residents to have their say on what this building should look like and contain. People have contacted me and the officers in charge following the newspaper articles and now staff will be manning displays as follows for you to come in, have a chat and make a contribution. Displays are also in the Strathpine Foyer and Library.

Strathpine Westfield Shopping Centre
Display From 16 to 18 February

This display will be staffed:

- Thursday, 16 February 4pm – 8pm
- Friday, 17 February 9am – 1pm
- Saturday, 18 February 9am – 1pm

Strathpine Train Station

Staff will be available to give information and collect input at the following times:

- Thursday, 23 February 7am – 10am
- Saturday, 25 February 8am – 11am

Road Reseals & Potholes

The recent rain has once again played havoc with potholes in our roads. Staff are only just catching up with the damage caused last year. I do a lot of driving and regularly report potholes. I can't be everywhere so please call 3205 0555, Council's Call Centre, to report holes so they can be fixed as soon as possible. The longer they hold water the more long term damage is done to the road.

Recently, rehabilitation work has taken place on two sections of Samsonvale Rd with the section east of Youngs Xing to be done next financial year. Kremzow Rd from Lilley to Brisbane will also receive a similar treatment in the April (weather permitting). PEET have now constructed the intersection at Brisbane Rd and Council staff have now started planning for the rest of the road to Old North. They will be eliminating the sharp bend near the sandblaster. CSR will be making a contribution to the work as they will be having an entry from the old quarry site on to Kremzow Rd. Planning will also include future development in the Boral quarry and sandblaster area.

11 to 14 year old girls - sitting at home doing nothing? Have you ever thought of playing soccer?



Pine Rivers United Sports Club on Samsonvale Rd at Strathpine is looking for YOU in 2012. They offer skill development, fresh air, exercise and good social times. Please call Julie on 0479 085 517 for more information.

Parks

Parks mowing crews had just started to get on top of the Christmas growth and our parks were looking good when down it poured. In the last few weeks parks crews have been unable to mow some of the wetter parks and low lying areas. Instead, they have been out removing leaf litter and unblocking drains.

BUS ROUTES

After numerous calls from residents I've been working with Pine Rivers State Member, Carolyn Male, (3205 6779) to try to change some of the new routes.

We have had one session with Translink already who have given us undertakings to look at their changes and adjust them where possible. The new routes now cover a lot of Warner which never had any service before which is a huge benefit but have left some residents who used to have a service without one. We mentioned The Groves, Slater Ave, Gordons Xing Rd and Sparkes Rd concerns. If anyone else has problems please let us know as soon as possible.



Let us WHISPIR in your ear!

Moreton Bay Regional Council is the first Council in Queensland to launch into the new form of disaster alert. It will provide warnings to registered local residents. The new system is called Whispir.

Whispir, or **MORETON ALERT** as we have called it, will have the potential to provide warnings about possible dam releases from North Pine dam, alert residents about flash flooding and provide storm and wild weather warnings. It is capable of high speed delivery of text messages, voice messages, web and social media alerts. The system is leading edge as it allows message delivery to be tracked and has the capability to send messages to multiple communication channels, simultaneously. It even has the capability to respond to multiple communications during a disaster event. It works by sending its messages to the person's mobile or home phone. Even if you are on holidays, Whispir can send its message to your mobile phone wherever you are in Australia 24/7.

Residents in vulnerable areas are encouraged to sign up to receive alerts. As you can see from the table, Div 8 residents have so far been the best respondents to the scheme. The new system will complement existing warning mechanisms including weather warnings issued via the radio by the Bureau of Meteorology and other alerts distributed by emergency service agencies.

In launching the system, council implemented another of the recommendations from the Queensland Floods Commission of Inquiry interim report.

Div.	Number of Registrations
1	71
2	79
3	76
4	117
5	72
6	53
7	257
8	372
9	102
10	124
11	193
12	119
Total	1635

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Till next time,