



Community News

Brought to you by Cr Yvonne Barlow, Division 7



Turning up the fun at free community events

*Free events, local
talent and family fun
across our vibrant city*

Moreton Bay is set to shine with a year full of colour, creativity and connection. From major festivals to neighbourhood favourites, there are more free and low-cost ways than ever to connect locally and enjoy memorable experiences close to home.

Much-loved events such as PrideFest, Hills Carnivale, Cruisin' Caboolture and Moreton Kids Festival return this year, alongside fresh experiences including Groovin' in the Green and Taste the Bay. These events bring together live music, arts, food and family fun, while supporting local talent and small businesses, and helping our city thrive.

Our cultural spaces are also buzzing throughout the year. Moreton Bay's libraries, galleries, museums, and cultural activation programs offer a variety of workshops, exhibitions, performances, and interactive experiences for all ages. Highlights this year include Make Music Month, Craftival, the Moreton Bay Art Prize, and the always surprising Anywhere Festival.

Not to be missed is Council's Phlipping the Pages Library Program, delivered in partnership with the Dolphins NRL, which builds community pride through storytelling and sport.

To find out what's on near you, visit moretonbay.qld.gov.au/Community-Events-Calendar, and subscribe to Council newsletters at moretonbay.link/Newsletters for the latest updates.



Read this
newsletter online

Issue 10 April 2026



THE LIVING CITY UPDATE With Mayor Peter Flannery

City of Moreton Bay is becoming one of Australia's most exciting places to live, work and play, and our future is being shaped with purpose. As we continue to grow, Council is taking a proactive, long-term approach to ensure our city remains liveable, connected and thriving for generations to come.

This year, Council has made the important decision to commence the process to replace our current planning scheme to better shape the future of our city. A new planning scheme will enable us to use more contemporary approaches to planning to support current residents and future population growth and help ensure our community can continue to enjoy the Moreton Bay lifestyle we all love.

This work is about planning ahead; balancing housing, jobs, infrastructure and services, while protecting the character, environment and liveability we all value. Community and stakeholder input will be central to developing the new planning scheme, with opportunities for residents and industry to help shape how our city grows.

Alongside this long-term vision, Council continues to invest in the everyday experiences that bring our city to life. From free and low-cost live music and markets to arts programs and family-friendly events, Council is helping bring residents and the places we love together. These events and experiences also support local businesses, celebrate creativity and strengthen community pride and belonging.

Take a look at our new community events program to find an event happening near you. By planning boldly and investing in our people and our places, we're shaping a vibrant, inclusive and prosperous City of Moreton Bay today and for the future.

New Planning Scheme on the horizon

City of Moreton Bay has taken its first steps towards the creation of a new planning scheme, by resolving to replace the Moreton Bay Regional Council Planning Scheme 2016.

With the changing needs of our growing city, Moreton Bay now needs a more contemporary planning framework to take us through the next chapter.

A new planning scheme will help our city harness population growth so we can continue to build a polycentric city that supports housing, jobs, infrastructure and the environment.

The current planning scheme will remain in place until a new planning scheme is approved.



Don't miss bin day!

Kerbside bin collections can occur anytime between 6 am and 6 pm on your scheduled day. To avoid a missed collection, put your bins out the night before.

Once they've been emptied, please bring them back onto your property to keep footpaths clear and accessible for everyone.

**Check your bin day at
moretonbay.qld.gov.au/waste**



Div 7 Mobile office

Keep an eye out for my mobile office. This is an opportunity to come and introduce yourself in person and discuss any concerns, suggestions or feedback you may have. My assistant, Donna, is always happy to speak with you over the phone or via email. Come and say hi and enjoy a coffee and a chat. We would love to meet you.

Norths Leagues and Services Club

Anzac Avenue, Kallangur | Thursday 9 April, 3 pm to 4 pm



Blue Gum Park – Fitness equipment

Blue Gum Park, located at 5 Nigella Street, Dakabin, is the ideal place to enjoy being surrounded by nature. The children’s playground features climbing structures, swings, and slides, all equipped with shade sails to keep the space cool during the hotter months. The open space areas are perfect for a picnic or kicking a ball around beneath beautiful shady trees.

Blue Gum Park now has new fitness equipment installed and it looks fantastic. Thank you to all the team for providing such a great space for our community.



Australia Day Aussie Arvo

Aussie Arvo 2026 was a great success. The Queensland weather did not disappoint, delivering a balmy summers day.

Thank you to Belgravia Leisure, Cr Cath Tonks and Cr Jim Moloney for organising a great event. Families flocked to Lawnton Pool to enjoy the cool water, music and some traditional Aussie games. Plenty of nice, icy cold ice cream was consumed too! Thank you to everyone who came along and enjoyed the afternoon; all the planning is worthwhile when we see the smiles and joy it brings to the community.



DIVISION 7 UPDATE With Cr Yvonne Barlow

It’s been great meeting up with residents at our mobile office that we have been holding. We’ve found that many residents prefer meeting in the air-conditioning at Norths Leagues and Services Club due to the extreme heat we have been having. This is a good chance for you to catch up with my PA and I, and to meet other residents enquiring about issues in our Division 7 area - and coffee is on me! There is so much happening across City of Moreton Bay, and this is a great opportunity to hear all the details first-hand.

Budget sessions will play a huge role as Olympic organisers decide what sports will be added or removed.

I look forward to the role City of Moreton Bay will play on the world stage as part of the greater Brisbane area and how the Olympics 2032 can benefit our future generations. This is all about creating a legacy for the future.

Pine Rivers Cricket Club

Thank you, Pine Rivers Cricket Club, for inviting me to your Pink Stumps Day, and for the opportunity to present the pink caps to the players. Congratulations on raising \$944 for the club. Bob Brock Park looks fabulous, and well done to the committee for supporting young players and creating an enjoyable experience for all. This is a valued sporting facility for our community.



Celebrating 25 years of dedicated service

It was great to catch up with Rick, who has worked at Council for 25 years. He takes great pride in ensuring the grounds at Bob Brock Park are kept in pristine condition. Gavin Steele, President of the North Pine Sports Club, has nothing but praise for Rick's care and attention. Congratulations Rick – well done!



Unlock free sports fun

Looking for a fun and free way to stay active? SportsBox is a smart, community-minded initiative offering free access to sports equipment in local parks, perfect for family outings these school holidays.

A SportsBox locker is now available at **Blatchford Sporting and Recreation Reserve, Murrumba Downs.**

This solar-powered locker is stocked with sports equipment tailored to local needs, including inclusive and accessible options. Simply download the SportsBox app, unlock a locker, and start playing; no cost and no booking required.

Find your nearest locker and get active today at **sportsbox.app**

Proudly supported by the Queensland Government through the ActiveKIT Super Round.

Kallangur Lions

I am proud to have sponsored the Seniors Christmas Lunch for the Lions Club of Kallangur. This event has been running for many years, and it was such a pleasure to be asked to sing with the Red Hot Mummies for the seniors. I have been doing this for over 25 years now, but this time we had an extra special guest - new federal member, Ali France, who joined us for the fun. Well done Kallangur Lions.





Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony

It was a huge pleasure to congratulate Ronald "Ron" Aquilina, a long serving State Emergency Service (SES) volunteer who was recently presented with our Mayor's Community Spirit Award in the City of Moreton Bay 2026 Australia Day Awards for his outstanding service before, during and after disasters. Ron is also a resident of Murrumba Downs.

He has more than a decade of SES service, building on earlier experience with Volunteer Marine Rescue, and serves as Flood Boat Coordinator and Trainer for the Moreton Bay Region, responsible for multiple flood boats and crews.

In this role, he has developed training and mentor-mentee programs that improve flood boat crew capability, safety and confidence. His efforts have earned SES Week awards and Commissioner's commendations for enhancing disaster response across our country.

Congratulations Ron!

Old Gympie Road

I want to let you all know that Budget sessions are in full swing, and rising costs over the last 5 years certainly have impacted many transport projects. If there is an accident on the M1, traffic is congested and 20 minute trips can take hours to clear. My focus is on completing the four-lane concept of Old Gympie Road from Anzac Avenue to Boundary Road.

You may be aware that the Boundary Road intersection and service relocations between Viney Avenue and Hight Street have been completed, but works stalled while awaiting works by Energex, Telstra and Unitywater. Council has requested that these works need to be done more urgently and performed in a coordinated manner in the future, so this four-lane thoroughfare can be finalised efficiently. If the M1 reaches choke point, Old Gympie Road will play a major role in helping motorists reach their destination without severe delays. As City of Moreton Bay prepares for the Olympics, we need to prioritise projects like this to support travel. As Councillor for Division 7, I have been strongly advocating for this project to be completed as a matter of urgency.

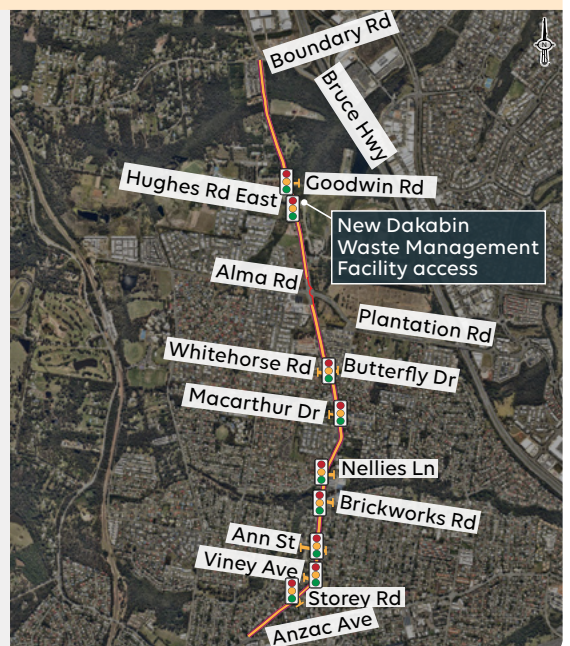
I've lived in City of Moreton Bay (Pine Rivers area and beyond) for over 55 years and have seen how the area has evolved. We are now the third largest council in Australia, and we even have our own University at Moreton Bay Central (formerly known as the Mill site) next to Division 7. Transformation shouldn't create congestion. Construction costs are rising rapidly and create havoc when planning budgets. Roadworks must remain a key focus to move people safely and efficiently from one area to another.

To follow project progress, subscribe to updates at moretonbay.qld.gov.au/Old-Gympie-Road-Upgrade

LEGEND

- Old Gympie Road four lane upgrade
- New active transport connections
- Project area
- Upgrade to traffic signals

Map indicative only.
Project is subject to change.



Moreton Bay PrideFest

Celebrate love, pride and community with live music, drag performances, great food and the vibrant One Love Zone featuring local organisations – now a free event!

Saturday 18 April | 10 am – 4 pm
Pine Rivers Park, Strathpine
[moretonbay.qld.gov.au/
community-events-calendar](https://moretonbay.qld.gov.au/community-events-calendar)



FREE

Groovin' in the Green: Rocks the State of Origin

Join us at The Mill Oval for a lively music event to celebrate the Origin season, filled with sound, creativity and community spirit.

Wednesday 27 May | 6 pm – 10.30 pm
The Mill, Petrie
[moretonbay.qld.gov.au/
community-events-calendar](https://moretonbay.qld.gov.au/community-events-calendar)



Moreton Kids Festival

Get ready for five worlds of fun as Pine Rivers Park transforms into a huge kids' wonderland! Enjoy hours of free entertainment, activities and adventure for little ones of all ages.

Sunday 14 June | 8 am – 3 pm
Pine Rivers Park, Strathpine
[moretonbay.qld.gov.au/
community-events-calendar](https://moretonbay.qld.gov.au/community-events-calendar)



FREE

Anywhere Festival

Get together for low-cost, high-quality shows close to home. Performances will be held in local businesses and community halls over three thrilling weeks.

Various locations | 7-24 May
Festival Finale | Redcliffe Entertainment Centre | 24 May
moretonbay.qld.gov.au/Anywhere-Festival



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WHAT'S ON

Craftival

Enjoy a day of creative fun at Craftival, returning in 2026 with stalls, demos, workshops and family-friendly activities plus a new Youth Market space. Celebrate all things handmade, crafty and imaginative, with food trucks on site throughout the day. Free. No bookings required.

Sat 30 May | 9 am to 2 pm
Redcliffe Library
moretonbay.qld.gov.au/libraries

Make Music Month

Turn up the volume this June as galleries, museums and libraries across the city come alive with free music events. Enjoy live performances, jam sessions, workshops and more as venues transform into vibrant hubs for music lovers and makers of all ages. From rock to reggae and classical to contemporary, there's something for every taste.

Various venues
[moretonbay.qld.gov.au/
make-music-month](https://moretonbay.qld.gov.au/make-music-month)