

COMMUNITY CONNECT

One Coast - Cassowary Coast



MAR 10, 2023



Feast of the Senses

Celebrates 20 Years



IN 2023, Cassowary Coast is set to celebrate 20 years of its premier fruit festival, Feast of the Senses. From humble beginnings as a one-day event in 2003, the Feast has grown to be the biggest festival in the Cassowary Coast showcasing Queensland's tropical fruits.

Through the festival's growth, Cassowary Coast Regional Council has been a proud supporter and major sponsor of the event. In preparation for this year's event, Feast of the Senses was a successful recipient of the Regional Arts Development Funding within Council's Community Grant Program.

The funding will support the Festival to activate

the River Stage during the festival and promote local musicians and artists who will be performing throughout the market day.

Feast of the Senses 2023 has an array of events over the four days, kicking off on Thursday 23 March, including festival river cruises, food trails, the Taste of the Tropics Dinner, a fun fancy-dress trivia night and a cooking workshop.

The festival attracts visitors from all over Queensland and interstate, with over 5000 patrons in attendance at Sunday's Australian Bananas River Feast, where the Innisfail riverfront comes alive. Join in on the action on Sunday 26 March with stalls, entertain-

ment, river cruises, cooking demonstrations in Cane-cutter Court and the magnificent rare and tropical fruit display and tastings, with the fruit auction held later in the day.

"All of our ticketed events and stall bookings are now open. Check our website or Facebook for booking details. You can also put your name down to volunteer on the day," said President Rosi Jensen.

Don't miss on this event which captures the true essence of living in the tropics.

For more information on the festival please visit:
www.feastofthesenses.com.au

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Council officers will be holding sessions and be present at local markets on the following dates for the community to share their ideas on Council's Tully Banyan CBD Project and the Innisfail CBD Project. Come chat to us at the following sessions!

11 MARCH TULLY BANYAN PARK

Tully Library from 9:00am

The Tully Banyan Park Project Team will be at the Tully Library to discuss the Banyan Park Beautification Project with the community. Drop by to share your thoughts.

15 MARCH INNISFAIL CBD PROJECT

Community and Trader Workshop 1, Innisfail Library 4:00pm - 6:00pm

Everyone is invited to attend. Come along to meet the project team, hear about the project and get involved in our collaborative activities

26 MARCH INNISFAIL CBD PROJECT

Feast of the Senses Markets, Innisfail

The project team will be hosting a pop-up engagement session from 9:00am during the Feast of the Senses to gather ideas and aspirations of regular and first-time visitors to Innisfail. Drop in and say hello!

27 MARCH INNISFAIL CBD PROJECT

Community and Trader Workshop 2, Innisfail Library 7:00am - 9:00am

Following the completion of Workshop 1, the project team will provide you with an update on what we have heard to date.

YOURSAY.CASSOWARYCOAST.QLD.GOV.AU



COUNCIL ENDORSES ORGANISATIONAL REDESIGN

AT the Local Government Meeting of 23 February 2023 Cassowary Coast Regional Council endorsed the new Organisational Structure.

Chief executive officer Andrew Graffen said it has been an extensive process over the past seven plus months to get to this point and there is still a lot of work to be done.

"I would like to commend and thank the entire Council team for the level of engagement and honest feedback we received throughout this process," said Mr Graffen.

"I am extremely appreciative and proud of our team. We are all focused on delivering for the Cassowary Coast community and making our region the best place to live, work, play and invest.

"The organisational redesign is very much focused on delivering for our community, and the final outcome is a direct response to the Community Scorecard 2022 outcomes.

"The restructure will set the business of Council up for success with a real focus on 'growing our own' through increased internal delivery of services rather than engaging consultancies as just one example of structural improvements.

"For example, we currently have an over-reliance on external contractors and consultancies within delivery teams. Through this restructure, we aim to attract the right expertise which will ultimately have cost savings and a reduction in the level of risk that an over-reliance on consultancies brings with it.

"With ongoing consultation within Council's teams, the new structure encompasses realignment of positions, directorates and teams and the implementation of a stand-alone business unit for delivery of Commercial Services including water and wastewater, waste and resource

recovery," said Mr Graffen.

Mayor Mark Nolan said that the Commercial Services unit will operate in accordance with legislative requirements and will be underpinned by a value-for-money user-pays model to reduce the financial impost on our broader ratepayer base.

"The uniqueness of our location with two World Heritage Areas provides us with an enhanced quality of life and emergent opportunities that we can leverage, but also a responsibility to consider this unique environment in everything we do.

"The implementation of the organisational redesign, which also includes long-term Workforce Planning, provides the right environment for implementation of best practice systems and continual improvement focus within all service delivery areas.

"Our Council has listened to our community and the

new organisation structure will provide a fit-for-purpose structure firmly aimed on delivering our community's priorities as articulated

through the 2022 Community Scorecard," said Mayor Nolan.

As Council enters the implementation phase,

we will continue to fully engage with employees and relevant Unions throughout the organisation redesign process.



EMBRACING EQUITY INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

CASSOWARY Coast community members joined at the Innisfail Shire Hall in celebration of the contribution of women to our communities. International Women's Day is a time to reflect on the ongoing progress made, call for change still needed and celebrate acts of courage and determination.

We celebrated our local female community and

highlighted local artists Kirby Vascones from Vascones Art, Jaque Duffy from Jaque's Art and musician Ash Binello.

A special thanks to all who attended and those who donated products female hygiene products which will be distributed to local shelters.

Together, let's all #EmbraceEquity. Equity isn't just a nice to have, it's a must have.



COUNCIL CALLS FOR RATING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS



CASSOWARY Coast Regional Council (CCRC) is seeking 12 local community members to form part of the Rating Advisory Committee which will provide feedback and recommendations on Council's General Rates and Special Levies structure in advance of developing the 2024/25 Annual Budget.

Advisory Committee members will be appointed by Council following a review of applicants' suitability, including an assess-

ment to determine whether a representative sample of the CCRC community has been achieved.

Preference will be given to those residents who represent local organisations/interest/community groups and whose skills and experience will, in Council's opinion, most ably assist the objectives of the Committee.

To view the terms of reference, find out more or apply visit: www.yoursay.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/rates

HORSES ON BEACHES



RECENTLY, concerns have been raised with regard to interactions between horses and users on beaches and foreshores across the Cassowary Coast. Council would like to remind residents and visitors that following community consultation and adopted the new local laws, which have been in effect since October 2022, that the riding or taking of horses on all beaches and foreshores across the Cassowary Coast is prohibited, unless signed.

Subordinate Local Law No. 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas & Roads) 2022, Schedule 2 (10)(10) states that in all reserves it is prohibited to take or bring an

animal unless otherwise permitted by official sign.

Horse riding on the beach and foreshore may be considered as part of future planning, however at this stage, this activity remains prohibited. Community consultation will be undertaken as part of future planning.

Council has a number of local laws that apply across the region. For details on local laws, please visit:

www.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/local-laws

Council sincerely thanks community members for their adherence to the Local Laws as applicable.

www.cairnslocalnews.com.au

Port Hinchinbrook normalisation update



Port Hinchinbrook road maintenance

COUNCIL continues work in Port Hinchinbrook with construction underway on Keith Williams Drive, Foxtail Avenue, Carpentaria Drive and Commercial Drive.

Council is very mindful of the importance these roads have to the community and

the impact that repairing the sections will have as part of the ongoing process of the normalisation schedule for Port Hinchinbrook.

The work, which commenced prior to Christmas, involves removing and resealing damaged sections of the

roads with over 400 tonnes of asphalt. Council thank the Port Hinchinbrook community for their patience whilst we completed this work.

With dry weather forecast for the next few days, works should be completed by the weekend.

Council launches rating advisory committee

CASSOWARY Coast Regional Council is seeking expressions of interest from the community to be a part of its Rating Advisory Committee to inform the development of the 2024/2025 Annual Budget.

The purpose of the Advisory Committee is to create an opportunity for our community to review and provide feedback and recommendations on Council's General Rates and Special Levies structure.

Cassowary Coast Regional Council Mayor, Mark Nolan said Advisory Committees are an important part

of Council's commitment to community engagement.

"The Advisory Committee will provide a platform for the community to participate in the 2024/2025 Annual Budget process and contribute meaningfully in the decision-making process.

"Members will represent a range of local organisations, sectors and community groups with various interests and will bring their local knowledge, expertise and critical thinking to the table. Members will also share their opinions and perspectives, study issues, and provide judicious advice from

the community to Council".

"The process of establishing the Advisory Committee will be similar to the 2016 Rating Reference Group which was regarded as highly successful with Council having gained valuable insights into community expectations and ideas on its general rating structures at that time".

"I look forward to the establishment of the Committee and the recommendations they provide," said Mayor Nolan.

Expressions of interest will be open from Monday March 6, to Monday 10 April 2023.

Beach Furniture Clean Up Wongaling Beach

TOO often we take our World Heritage environment, oceans, and beaches for granted. For many of us, the beach is our happy place, a place we can turn to whenever we need it. It's a slice of paradise right on our doorstep.

Council has established the clean up program to clear unapproved structures, items and debris that is left behind, and ask residents to leave only footprints when visiting our beaches and foreshores. The program commenced in Wongaling Beach and other

beaches across the Cassowary Coast will be provided advance notice as the program progresses throughout the region.

Council's Local Law Officers recently identified unapproved structures and items left behind across Wongaling Beach and provided owners with 14 days to remove the items. Notification was in the form of placing a notice sticker on the item.

After the 14 day period, if the item has not been removed, Council will collect the item. Items will be taken

to a Council Depot and held for 30 days. If the item is not collected by the owner, at the end of this period, it will then be disposed of, auctioned or donated to a local charity.

Items that are held by Council will be subject to holding fees, which will be required to be paid before the item is released to the owner. The holding fee is \$63 per item.

Phase two of the program, which includes collection of the left behind items, will commence in early March.

For more information on the project, please visit: yoursay.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/beach-clean



BANYAN PARK BEAUTIFICATION

Cassowary Coast Regional Council is upgrading Banyan Park, including Lions Park, located at the entrance of Tully.

The Park currently has a combination of play equipment, a bus shelter, an undercover area, barbeque, seats and paths. Majority of the features within the Park require refurbishment or renewal. Whilst some assets of the park are iconic and will remain in place, such as the Golden Gumboot, Council wants your feedback to shape the future of Banyan and Lions Park.

Have your say

yoursay.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/banyan



Cassowary Coast
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Friendly reminder

BEACH FURNITURE CLEAN UP

COUNCIL WILL COMMENCE COLLECTING ITEMS LEFT BEHIND ON THE BEACH FROM EARLY MARCH

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:
YOURSAY.CASSOWARYCOAST.QLD.GOV.AU/BEACH-CLEAN



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Do you have an idea that will help us become a zero waste society?

NOW is the time to turn that idea into reality with Council's Environmentally Sustainable grants. **Examples include;**

- Composting workshops
- Zero Waste events
- Clothes swap day
- Learn to repair clothes sessions
- Waste education sessions for schools
- Community garden composting bays
- Making and distributing products to replace single use items
- Purchasing equipment to separate and store recyclables

If this sounds like something you or your community group is doing or an initiative you would like to kick start visit:
www.cassowarycoast.smartygrants.com.au/environmental for more information and apply today. Applications for Council's Community Grant Program close Friday 24 March 2023.

COMMUNITY GRANT INFORMATION SESSIONS

Let us give you a hand!



The community is encouraged to attend Council Libraries where a Council Officer will assist the public with annual grant applications, criteria and assist applicants on the process of using Council's new SmartyGrants online platform.

Drop in any time during one of the following sessions:

Mission Beach Library

- Wednesday 1 March 9:30am – 3:30pm
- Friday 10 March 12:00pm – 4:00pm

Innisfail Library

- Tuesday 28 February 9:30am – 4:00pm
- Monday 6 March 9:30am – 4:00pm

Tully Civic Centre

- Thursday 2 March 9:00am – 4:00pm
- Friday 17 March 9:00am – 4:00pm

Cardwell Library

- Friday 3 March 10:00am – 1:00pm
- Monday 20 March 10:00am – 3:00pm

Visit SmartyGrants via cassowarycoast.smartygrants.com.au/
For more information regarding Council's Community Grants program, www.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/funding-grants



ARE libraries quiet places for the lending of books? Well...sometimes! Modern libraries are evolving into open, busy, thriving spaces where in this digital age you can still experience the human. If someone wants to come in, do a jigsaw, read the paper or just sit and enjoy the air-conditioning that is fine – we are many things for many people! As Skye Patrick, director of the Los Angeles County Library system said, "Libraries are not about books they're about people."

Tully Library is a busy place with an average door count of 2830 per month. People come in for many reasons: from free use of computers and WIFI to scheduled activities such as Tech-Help, Lego Club, Scrabble, Mah Jong, Junior Steamers and Children's Morning.

Saturday mornings are also busy with many families using the space to spend quality time together. During school holidays there are different programs and Makerspace, Lego and Jigsaws are always available.

In response to the changing needs within our community, the Tully Library team has completely revamped the layout of the Library. Cleverly using existing furniture and shelving to re-create the space, there is now a much larger and vibrant Children's Area, a dedicated Youth Area, a beautiful sunny Reading Room and many more spots to study, do jigsaw puzzles or simply relax and enjoy the ambience.

"Since we finished this work, we've had nothing but positive responses from the public!"

"Bad libraries build collections, good libraries build services, great libraries build communities." - R. David Lankes

To celebrate the revamped space, several activities are on offer throughout the week of Monday 13 to Saturday 18 March:

- Monday 10.30-11.30am: **Tech Help Sessions**
- Monday 3.30-4.30pm: **Lego Club**
- Tuesday 9.30am-12 midday: **Scrabble Morning**
- Wednesday 9.30-12 midday: **Mah-Jong Morning**
- Wednesday 3.30-4.30pm: **Junior STEAMers**
- Thursday 10am-12 midday: **Children's Morning**
- Friday 10-11am **Guided Silent Meditation (Bookings Required)**
- Saturday 10am: **Celebration Open-Day - Morning Tea & Library Tours**

Please join us for the Celebrations – we'd love to see you. To register for any event, go to Cassowary Coast Libraries' website, call us on 1300 366 616 or see a staff member at any of our four branches.



Mah Jong players in new space



Junior Steamers in new space

KEY CONTACTS



Cassowary Coast Regional Council
Contact **1300 763 903**
Visit our website
www.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au



Write:
Please address all correspondence to:
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Visit Council

Cassowary Coast Regional Council has three Customer Service Centres across the region. Specially trained staff can provide information and advice on topics including:

- local laws and compliance
- rates enquiries
- account payments (EFTPOS facilities available)
- animal registration.

Customer Service Centres and Opening Hours

Innisfail Shire Hall

70 Rankin St. Innisfail
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
8:30am - 4:30pm
Wednesday 9:30am - 4:30pm

Tully

Tully Civic Centre, 38-40 Bryant St. Tully
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
8:30am - 4:30pm
Wednesday 9:30am - 4:30pm

Cardwell

Cardwell Library, 4 Balliol St. Cardwell
Monday - Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm

Cassowary Coast Libraries comprises of four branches located at Cardwell, Innisfail, Tully and Mission Beach. For locations, opening times or general enquiries, please call 1300 366 616 or visit www.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/libraries

Waste Transfer Stations locations and opening hours can be found by visiting: www.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/transfer-stations

Community Connect is a publication of the Cassowary Coast Regional Council. Supplied by Council and published within the Cairns Local News newspaper. All enquiries regarding content contained within this publication should be directed to Council.