

# Newsletter

AUGUST 2023



## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

I'm probably not the only one to be thinking it but finally K150, Golfmasters and the Charity Ball are behind us at long last. All the events had their own challenges but all in all they were successful. The Ronald McDonald House Charity Ball managed to raise a cool 30,000 bucks, thanks to the generosity of the sponsors and the bidders on the night. Thanks to Wayne's talent the bidding was kept lively and moved quickly so Thank you Mr Auctioneer. It did strike me though that a certain "Uncle Pat" seemed to kick off the bidding via telephone on quite a few occasions. A quick run through of the sponsors about now would be fitting I think. They are.

Diamond... TUTT BRYANT HIRE

Platinum... ERSCON ENGINEERING, RRETS and THURIBA

Gold..... NORMANTON STOP SHOP, ALBION HOTEL and PEAK SERVICES/LOCAL BUY

Silver..... TOM'S TONKAS,SUNSET TAVERN, FLEET CREW and PRESTON LAW

Copper... JT and SJ MURRIHY (and Peta)

Thank You to these businesses and it's always good to see companies putting a bit back into places where they make a lot

of their dollars. Thanks also to Carol and the Nomanton Bowls Club for their efforts with the catering and bar.

Ronald McDonald House has only been going since 2004 in Townsville but the numbers of families with sick children they have helped in the North West and Gulf is astounding.

To quote them once more. "Giving seriously ill children the best gift of all – Their families".

There has been some movement around the Tafe College in town but they are having trouble recruiting for the Admin position. We are on our third try now and if they can't get interest from someone locally based, I don't know where we will end up. There has got to be a local person out there with the office skills required. There are new computers and equipment on the way up, so it'd be a shame to see it all go back to the Coast or Mount Isa. When you



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look at the advantages of having your apprentices put through their blocks locally while still adding value to their boss's operation and the Properties in the Gulf having ringers put through maintenance and care courses for machinery and vehicles. The list is endless, computer courses, even hospitality. All we need is for a local to put up their hand to run the office. Of course, accommodation is the challenge, hence the need for a local so let's cash in on it and apply for the job.

Around the traps we are still jumping from job to job and then back again trying to keep up with the Flood Damage programme. This year is proving to be a lot more topsy turvy than previous years. All that can be done though is to keep moving forward, whittling away as we go. To compound things even more, other funding packages have to be addressed before time runs out also. The Mitchell Crossing shouldn't be far from being crossable soon and the Geotechs are up there now measuring and testing sand depths etc for the new bridge. Apparently the one in Mareeba has had its fair share of setbacks as all new projects do, so for once there may be some good come out of being second on the list.

Some good news is the Fish Attracting Devices for Karumba are waiting to be dropped in the water as soon as our crane owner can organise slings for the job. No surprise to be told that he won't put a certified wire rope into salt water. The fact that these structures can be added to as well is good news all round. They (the structures) aren't too expensive either so the tourism operators could band together and grow the size of the "fun paddocks" increasing catch rates and client numbers as the word spreads.

Another bit of good news is the announcement of a Freight Subsidy coming into effect for The Torres, Peninsula and Gulf Regions. It has been in the making for quite awhile with the biggest hurdle being to make sure that it goes to the end user, i.e., Consumer. I have to say that it's a TMR initiative and they are putting a lot of effort into getting it right

so we should see our communities paying a more respectable price for grocery items at least. Not sure of the nuts and bolts yet and what else will be put on the list apart from groceries but even if it remains as groceries only there will be a noticeable drop in food prices.

It's probably not the place to mention it but Councillors are aware of the issues with the Columbarium here in Normanton and we have vowed to fix the problem, whichever way it must be done. On behalf of all of us I apologise for any angst caused by its shortfall or more correctly its short capacity.

We did a drive to all the properties North and South over the weekend and while they were big days it was worthwhile. The West missed out this time around and apologies were made but we are locking Wednesday 30th August into our calendars so phone calls will be made asap. One of the big surprises was the general condition of the roads, particularly the Northern Road. The patch jobs on the blow outs are doing great and holding up so our guys and contractors up there can give themselves a pat on the back. There is a lot of work planned for 89b but nothing is locked in yet so "Mums" the word for the time being. South of us are begging for the promised gravel resheet over the black soil in Iffley and this is definitely going to happen. It was good to catch up with old and new faces on the properties. In all honesty I think to do the visits properly we need to allow 2 full days for each trip which would be spread over 2 weekends.

On that note I'll sign off and remind all and sundry that there are still bad sections of road out there that need proper attention when driving. Whether they be shoulders or wash outs, drive to conditions and be on the lookout for road trains. You can pull up a lot quicker than they can so treat them with the respect they deserve. Stay safe.

Jack Bawden

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## SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSIONER VISIT

Ms. Dominique Lamb, the Queensland Small Business Commissioner, undertook a visit to Carpentaria Shire from Monday, August 14th, to Wednesday, August 16th. During her visit, the Commissioner met with small business operators across Karumba, Karumba Point and Normanton.

The Carpentaria Shire Council Small Business Friendly Program Charter was signed between the Mayor, the Commissioner and CEO on the 16th of August 2023.

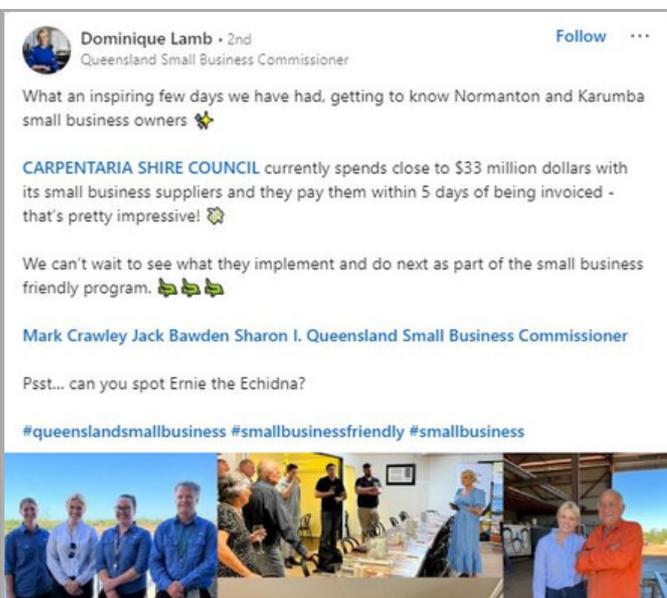


The Small Business Friendly (SBF) Program brings people together around a common goal to enhance the operating environment for small businesses and provide the opportunities they need to thrive.

As part of this visit, the Council arranged two special dinners for local business owners featuring the Queensland Small Business Commissioner at Karumba Sunset Tavern and Normanton Central Hotel.



A statement shared by the Commissioner on her LinkedIn page reads:



The Small Business Friendly (SBF) Program functions as a supportive framework, equipping organisations with tools and resources to enhance their interactions with and support for small businesses across Queensland. This program strives to unite everyone under a shared objective, fostering a thriving environment for small businesses and unlocking remarkable opportunities.

<https://qsbq.qld.gov.au/>



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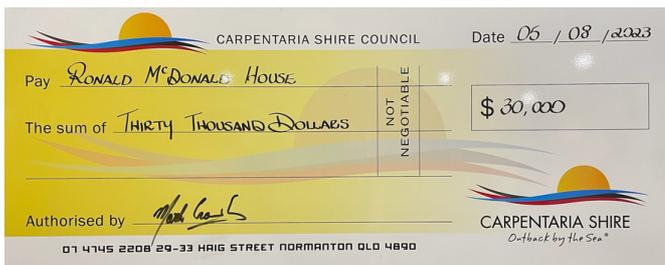


## CARPENTARIA SHIRE CHARITY BALL

The evening of August 5th marked a memorable occasion at the Carpentaria Shire Charity Ball. A substantial sum of thirty thousand dollars was successfully collected in support of the Ronald McDonald House. Heartfelt gratitude is extended to all those who generously contributed to this commendable cause.

The Ronald McDonald House plays a significant role in assisting less privileged children and their families during challenging periods of illness. The funds gathered from the event will remain within the northern region, specifically benefiting the Townsville branch situated on the Townsville Hospital Campus.

The Community Engagement Manager from Ronald McDonald House Charities has expressed their appreciation in these words: "Mark, we extend our heartfelt thanks! Your collective accomplishment is truly remarkable and will significantly transform the lives of those families who are most in need."



## HOUSING STRATEGY

Council wishes to receive comment from the community in relation to the development of the Carpentaria Shire Council Housing Strategy.

The development of a Carpentaria Shire Council Housing Strategy was identified in the Local Housing Action Plan (LHAP) and this Strategy has been developed to capture and monitor the outcomes and actions needed from the Carpentaria Shire Council to address the housing issues that face the Carpentaria Region.

A copy of the proposed strategy can be downloaded on our website. Kindly provide your feedback to the council by September 22nd.

<https://www.carpentaria.qld.gov.au/council/have-your-say>



## COUNCIL EMPLOYEE GUIDELINES IN THE 2024 MARCH LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION

Council has prepared and adopted a set of Election Guidelines for staff, contractors, and volunteers (Council) and a Election Management Plan to assist those staff, contractors and volunteers that are considering nominating in the 2024 Local Government Election.

Interested staff, contractors, and volunteers are encouraged to contact your immediate supervisor or the Chief Executive Officer and request a copy of the Guidelines and the Election Management Plan.

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## ATTENTION TO PROPER NET DISPOSAL

Ensuring the proper disposal of nets is of utmost importance. Lately, there has been a noticeable rise in the improper disposal of nets. It has come to our attention that nets are being disposed of outside the allocated area within the waste sites. This situation is presenting significant difficulties for the equipment, as these nets require separate sorting. Your cooperation in disposing of nets correctly is greatly appreciated.



## PROJECT UPDATES

### ROAD SEALING



*Armstrong Creek sealed.*



*Thompson St Kerb and Channel project sealed.*



*Lilyvale entrance sealed.*



*Burketown Road patch repairs.*

### NEW FOOTPATH

New footpath constructed at tidal areas from Karumba Town to Karumba Point.



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## COUNCIL POSITIONS VACANT

- Educators & Assistant Educators  
*Normanton Child Care Centre*



- Senior Water Treatment Plant Operator  
*Normanton*



- Centre Coordinator  
*Les Wilson Barramundi Discovery Centre, Karumba*
- Plant Operator / Truck Driver  
*Normanton*

For full details please visit our website.

## MEETING DATES FOR SEPTEMBER

The Council's Ordinary Meeting for September 2023 is scheduled to take place on Wednesday the 20th, starting at 9:00am in the Council's Boardroom located at Haig Street, Normanton.



Wednesday 20th September  
Thursday 21st September



## CONTACT US

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Normanton Office

Telephone: (07) 4745 2200  
Fax: (07) 4745 1340

Karumba Library/Service Centre

Telephone: (07) 4747 7522  
Fax: (07) 4747 7566

Visitor Information Centre

Normanton (07) 4747 8444  
Karumba (07) 4745 2211

After Hours Emergencies

Telephone: (07) 4745 2200

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 [instagram.com/carpentariashirecouncil](https://www.instagram.com/carpentariashirecouncil)

Cr Jack Bawden - Mayor	0427 459 424
Cr Brad Hawkins – Deputy Mayor	0418 451 688
Cr Craig Young	0417 918 760
Cr Andrew Murphy	0428 451 085
Cr Amanda Scott	0417 630 333
Cr Doug Thomas	0417 747 685
Cr Ashley Gallagher	0427 453 412

Mark Crawley Chief Executive Officer	0417 996 567
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Michael Wanrooy Director Engineering Services	0428 131 289
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Julianne Meier Director Corporate Services	0417 337 547
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