

Newsletter



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

First of all, Thank You for your faith in us on election day. It is always a very humbling experience to be chosen as your representative and I'm sure the rest of the team feel the same way. I'm looking forward to working with the new members and am sure they feel the same way. Thanks also to our past councillors for all your efforts. I'm sure we won't have heard the last of you. You can sit back and smile now when the training on all the "can and cant's" begin. Fun times coming and a very busy construction season looming.

We finally got to do Australia day on the weekend and there was a good turn up in Karumba. Congratulations to all the nominees and winners. As I always say, just being nominated makes you a winner because you are receiving recognition and acknowledgement for your past efforts. All in all, it was a good day mainly due to the efforts of Anne and Amanda, and our trusty old camp cook. Thanks Jockey. (Thanks also to our flagpole consultants Tia and Cynthia).

I was told by a couple of people that my speech was a good one so at the risk of being lazy I'll share the main part of it again in this newsletter because I think it's time, we as a nation started calling bad behaviour and a whole host of other things out for what they are. I have tried to condense it a bit so it won't be exactly the same. It went something like this.



Today I'd like to talk about wokeism. What does "woke" mean? I thought I knew but to be sure I looked it up and did a bit of research. Woke is an American term adopted back in the 1940's or somewhere around then by African/Americans to define someone who was well informed on issues of social injustice.....and in those days it was mainly racism. So, in its original use, it meant being alert to the systematic harm suffered by African Americans.

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Unfortunately, recent years has seen it being adopted as a universal watchword for pretty much all varieties of social movements including LGBTQ issues, feminism, climate change, the “green” culture and anything else that may sell. It is flogged to death by both the left and right of politics as well as the media and instead of being a welcoming creed as it once was, it has now become a toxic and divisive term.

John Howard, who has a habit of quoting Bob Hawke at different times said, “You are defined as being Australian by your commitment to Australia”. Bob also said that “Australia can no longer keep going down the road of confrontation and fragmentation which has embittered and disfigured many aspects of the national life”. Most of us here today can relate to those words and the “lucky country” dream because for us it is reality. Our forefathers (of all backgrounds and cultures) would have a different view. They were the ones who went through 2 World Wars and The Great Depression among other events and they did it proper tough. I might add, they did it because they wanted to, to preserve freedom as we know it today. It is well known that hard times breed tough people and good times breed soft people. Unfortunately, we fit into the soft category and our younger generations are the same except we can now add “entitled” into the fold.

Australia is a true multicultural country, and we need to be united to continue the Australian way of life or it will be gone while we are left wondering how it all went wrong. Just here at home in Carpentaria we have Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islanders, European (Covering Germans, French, British, Scots, Irish, Croatians and more), Chinese, Philippine, Vietnamese, Indian, Fijians and last but not least our cousins from over the ditch the New Zealanders. If I’ve forgotten someone, I apologise but you are a hard bunch to keep tabs on.

In a country of “political correctness” it is becoming harder and harder to crack a joke, be critical or even work productively with all the relative rules and regulations forced on us by a bureaucracy gone mad. It seems, we are not allowed to think for ourselves anymore because we may upset somebody or some group who haven’t done anything with their lives except to moan about having less than their neighbour or family and friends. Of course, it has nothing to do with not being willing to help ourselves. No child is born with racism running through his or her veins. It is something that is learnt from others, whether it be family, friends or dare I say it, woke groups including media and governments who are caught up in a world of unrealistic values, concentrating on drama and upheaval instead of working towards a sensible “common sense” approach to fair solutions.

To me all the talk of lost culture is fact, but it doesn’t stop with one group. All our cultures are being lost by changing times.... it’s called evolution. Pretty much like climate change. Carbon Dioxide levels from agriculture and industry have pitifully small impacts on the big picture of evolution. What we need to do is to learn to mitigate, and stop being told by the United Nations and other countries what is right and what is wrong. As time moves on so do our standards, sayings and languages etc. We must evolve with all these changes, or we are lost. I don’t think anyone here will disagree that our cultures have been dramatically changed by the internet also. The passing on of life’s experiences with stories from the oldies has been swallowed up by a screen on a device that is full of games, movies, YouTube, TikTok and my old favourite, not, “Bookface”. Again, this is evolution and something that we as the older generation need to come to terms with, and work with somehow. I don’t think that I could come to terms with one of mine “identifying as a dog or a cat” though, which is happening. Where does this come from?

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Australia is sitting at the door of Southeast Asia and while we are being “woke” and worried about who is going to be upset if we say something out of line, China is strengthening its armies and countries such as Taiwan, are bringing back conscription. Taiwan has always had conscription, but the period is now 12 months instead of 4. Whether or not we stand a chance in nuclear warfare, we need to know how to try and survive, administer first aid and a whole host of other things, like treating others with respect, following instruction, getting up, going hard and believing in ourselves because you can guarantee our neighbours are doing it now. Other countries in the world have been growing their defences for ages and Australia needs to make a herculean effort and investment to catch up. Unfortunately, to our fearless leaders War is something like a football game. They have no idea of the realities of life, which is a real worry for us.

Once again, I say, here in Carpentaria, we don't have racism and bigotry as such. This is a reflection of all the people here and for this reason I'll always be proud to be a “Carpentarian”. State and Federal Government policies are slowly but surely whittling away at our existence and idealistic lifestyle here in the Gulf and we as a group need to keep putting things back together regardless, because we know that we depend on each other to keep our world turning. Whatever our differences, we have proven time and again that we can and will work together. As I have said before, we are family, which means we can fight among ourselves, but woe betide an outsider sticking his bib in where it's not wanted or called for. As time goes on it is becoming more and more important that we pull and work together. Maybe Carpentaria can show the rest of Australia how to do it.

Thanks for listening and have a great 2024.

I'll leave it there for this month and will play catch up next time so keep safe,

Jack Bawden.

DECLARATION OF OFFICE

The election has now concluded with the declaration of the poll on Thursday 4th April 2024.

We welcome back Mayor Jack Bawden, Councillor Bradley Hawkins, and Councillor Andrew Murphy, and welcome our new Councillors, Councillor Cherie Schafer, Councillor Johnty O'Brien, Councillor Glenn Smerdon and Councillor Leslie Henry.

We wish them well as they serve the Carpentaria Shire Council communities over the next four years.



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AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

The Australia Day Awards were held in Karumba over the weekend, celebrating the outstanding contributions of individuals and groups to our community.

Let's give a round of applause to all our nominees for their remarkable efforts!

Arts/Cultural Award

Normanton Neighbourhood Centre

Community Event/Organisation of the Year

K150

Junior Sports Person of the Year

Blake Gregory & Ella Gallagher

Senior Sports Person of the Year

Angeline Pascoe

Volunteer Administrator/s of the Year

Tia Young

Volunteer of the Year

Bronwyn Milne

Young Citizen of the Year

Bianca Gofton

Citizen of the Year

Jake Daniels

Congratulations to all our deserving winners!

This event wouldn't have been possible without the efforts of our Australia Day Committee and volunteers. Thank you for making it all possible!



Arts/ Cultural Award – Normanton Neighbourhood Centre
Accepted by Sandra Goodman on behalf of Sascha Bee of Normanton Neighbourhood Centre



Community Event/Organisation of the Year – K150
Accepted by Rose Bouwens



Junior Sports Person of the Year – Ella Gallagher
Accepted by Nola Gallagher on behalf of Ella Gallagher

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AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS



Junior Sports Person of the Year – Blake Gregory
Accepted by Jake Daniels on behalf of Blake



Volunteer of the Year – Bronwyn Milne



Senior Sports Person of the Year – Angeline Pascoe



Young Citizen of the Year – Bianca Gofton



Volunteer Administrator/s of the Year – Tia Young



Citizen of the Year – Jake Daniels

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OUTBACK BY THE SEA FESTIVAL

The Outback By The Sea Festival is a week-long annual event held in the Gulf of Carpentaria celebrating the legendary barramundi, seafood, live music, Indigenous culture, and arts and crafts.

The festival kicks off with a film festival and a range of workshops and activities for people of all ages and interests that bring participants closer to nature, food and adventure in this destination of contrasts.

The closing concert at the Karumba Recreation Centre features a great lineup of well-known Australiana artists including Fanny Lumsden, Shane Howard and local band Split Image.

Tickets are now on sale via @Oztix.



COVERAGE OF THE GULF BY REX AIRLINES

Check out the coverage of the Gulf by Rex Airlines Magazine (Truly Aus), showcasing the beauty of our region!

This piece highlights the upcoming 'Outback by the Sea Festival' and the 'Ocean & Outback Film Festival' events that Carpentaria Shire Council, in collaboration with our affiliated partners, is actively supporting.

As we gear up for the new tourism season, the Carpentaria Shire Council is taking proactive steps to promote local businesses and ensure the community is well-prepared to welcome visitors.



<https://rex.trulyaus.com/destinations/normanton/gulf-of-carpentaria-2>

GET INVOLVED - CALL FOR WORKSHOP HOSTS AND EVENT ORGANISERS

Council is calling on Expressions of Interest from individuals and organisations interested in hosting workshops, events and exhibitions.

If you are interested or have an idea, contact the Community Development Team on 4745 2200 or email: festival@carpentaria.qld.gov.au

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

For the



Council is seeking sponsorship partners to join them in hosting the annual Outback by the Sea Festival

Festival Naming Rights - \$10,000

Naming rights for the festival,
20 x Concert tickets, Breakfast with the Stars,
Free guided tour of the Barramundi Discovery Centre
Prominent space for logo on advertising, Acknowledgement in all advertising,
Prominent recognition by Emcee during the event.

Concert Sponsor - \$5,000

Naming rights for the concert, 10 x Concert tickets,
Prominent space for logo on advertising, Acknowledgement in all advertising,
Prominent recognition by Emcee during the event.

Friends of the Festival - \$500

Logo on all digital marketing

Other sponsorship opportunities exist to provide services for vehicles & transport for performing artists, accommodation for performing artists and crew, meal packages for performing artists and crew, Festival program of events book/brochure. All sponsors will be recognised on logos and banners at the concert and will have an opportunity to meet with the performers.

For further information please contact Council's Community Development team on 47452200 or email amanda.farraway@carpentaria.qld.gov.au



CARPENTARIA SHIRE
Outback by the Sea®

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YOUTH WEEK

Carpentaria Shire Council teamed up with local support services and sporting groups to celebrate Queensland Youth Week, which is the annual celebration of young people aged 12 to 25 years and the positive contributions they make to Queensland.

A number of successful events were held during the 7th to 13th of April to celebrate. Below are some snapshots of each event. A huge thanks to the Volunteers, Local agencies, sporting groups & most importantly the Youth.



Mon 8th of April

Paint and Pizza with Sascha



Tue 9th of April

Nibbles and Nails with Kym



Wed 10th of April

Gidgee Healing Healthy Hearts



Thur 11th of April

Normanton Stingers Thursday Night Touch + Talk is tough with ADA and 54 Reasons



ADA Support service team who addressed the young ladies at Talk is tough Touch event.

Fri 12th of April

Disco with Jake and the Little Athletics Team



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PROJECT UPDATES

- Opening grades in progress on accessible Shire roads - Iffley Road / 10 Mile / Wondoola Bypass and 89B are not yet accessible.
- All State Controlled roads open
- Slashing program starts 29/4/24
- Donors Hill Camp out 24/4/24 and Augustus Camp out 26/4/24. Both Camps working on the Donors Hill to Augustus section DRFA works.
- Stabilizer crew had started repairs on the Corduroy.



Gilbert sand



Completed shoulder edge repairs on the Old Croydon Road



89B



A new Grader arrived last week to assist with road works

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FOGGING

Some concerns have been raised about mosquitoes in the area. Council has undertaken a round of fogging in both Normanton and Karumba. This service will be available upon demand and not otherwise provided.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Anzac Day - Thursday 25th of April

Please refer to the poster attached for the schedule in Normanton and Karumba.

MEETING DATES FOR MAY

The Council's Ordinary Meeting for May 2024 is scheduled to take place on Wednesday the 15th, starting at 9:00am in the Council's Boardroom located at Haig Street, Normanton.

To have a matter considered at the meeting, items must be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer by Tuesday of the week prior to the meeting.



Wednesday, 15th May

Thursday, 16th May



CONTACT US

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 Postal: PO Box 31, Normanton QLD 4890
 Email: council@carpentaria.qld.gov.au
 Website: www.carpentaria.qld.gov.au

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

Cr Jack Bawden - Mayor	0427 459 424
Cr Brad Hawkins – Deputy Mayor	0418 451 688
Cr Andrew Murphy	0428 451 085
Cr Cherie Schafer	0448 324 911
Cr Glenn Smerdon	0429 451 784
Cr Johnty O'Brien	0427 186 939
Cr Leslie Henry	0407 600 024

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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Anne Andrews Director Community Development, Tourism & Regional Prosperity	0417 306 412
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ANZAC DAY



CARPENTARIA SHIRE
Outback by the Sea®

LEST WE FORGET

THURSDAY 25TH APRIL 2024

Normanton

Karumba

DAWN SERVICE

Traditional Rum &
Milk
Albion Hotel
5am

March to Cenotaph
6am

Breakfast
Albion Hotel
immediately after
Service

MORNING SERVICE

Assemble for March
Normanton State School
9:45am

March to Cenotaph
10am

Morning Tea
Normanton Shire Hall
immediately after
Service

DAWN SERVICE

Sunderland Park
6am

Breakfast
Karumba Rec Club
immediately after
Service

CARPENTARIA SHIRE COUNCIL PRESENTS



Outback by the Sea


FESTIVAL

Starring

Fanny Lumsden

Shane Howard

Split Image

**KARUMBA RECREATION CENTRE
SATURDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2024**

TICKETS FROM OZTIX