

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

March has been an interesting month to say the least, with the crazy weather we've been having.

Some places south of us have recorded higher totals than in 1974 so the Central West is a good place to stay away from at the moment.

Fortunately for the Gulf, all the big falls are in the Lake Eyre catchments, which means we don't see the water in our patch.

Locally, Karumba seems to be trumping Normanton consistently with rain fall but they may be putting their rain gauges under the downpipes too (that's my story anyway).

We attempted to start some work crews earlier than normal this month but in true old "damned if you do and damned if you don't" fashion it started raining the day they were supposed to start and hasn't stopped since.

Council would like to thank those affected for their understanding and patience during this last week or so. Hopefully it is the "rainman's" last hoorah and we can knuckle down into this year's program asap.

Weather permitting, the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and CEO will be in Brisbane this coming week for the NWQROC meeting in Parliament House so it would be fair to say there will be a fair number of ministers being part of our discussions during the 2 days.



As per usual, "red tape", housing or lack of, postcode discrimination with finance and our fishing industry will be among the many and varied discussions.

The Mayor and CEO have had one visit to Brisbane this year and found that whilst the ministers are willing to engage there seems to be a common theme of the previous government leaving us broke which doesn't hold water with me. My view is to suck it up and get on with looking after ALL your constituents. Sometimes all that's needed is a policy change (red tape) to encourage growth and wealth.

We have also invited one of the NHVR representatives to attend our Roads Group meeting to try and get them to have a better understanding of the snowball effect of their hardline approach to petty faults such as stoplights and the fact that after repairing, the issue needs to be signed off by an inspection station/person.

MAYOR'S MESSAGE CONT.....

The regulators seem to have no knowledge of geography, remoteness and or distances travelled over shocking roads that destroy lights and wiring etc. on trucks and trailers. No one will argue the point of safety first but there has to be a reality check sooner rather than later.

Around about the 14th-16th of April we are going to have a visit from the CEO of NAIF (Northern Australian Infrastructure Fund).

Neil O'Brien from GSD has organised the visit and will undoubtably be looking to get input from our local businesses regarding lack of finance and incentives to promote small business in the Gulf.

Just keep in mind, these guys are not the enemy but rather, maybe the answer, so treat them with the respect they deserve and save your frustration for the banks and other financial institutions.

One message we have to get them to understand is that for Northern Australia to develop they need to support and look after existing businesses which also means financing the younger generation allowing the old dudes to retire.

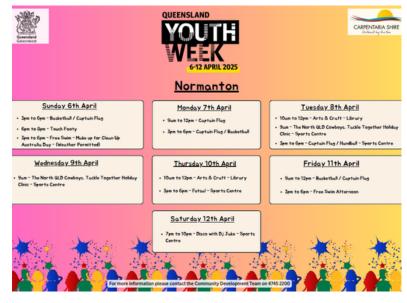
On that note I'll sign off and hope that there are no "old dudes" out there with no intention of ever retiring.

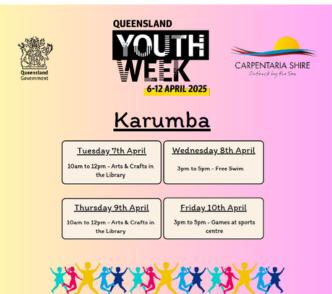
Until next month stay safe and dry.

Jack Bawden.









NORMANTON & KARUMBA LIBRARY UPCOMING EVENTS



School Holidays 5/4- - 23/4

Join us every Tuesday & Thursday of the school holidays for arts & crafts at the library

NORMANTON & KARUMBA 10am - 12pm



First 5 forever Thursday's

Come along for singing , dancing ,reading and craft (not run over school holidays)

NORMANTON & KARUMBA 10am - 11pm



Book Club *It's never too late to ioin*

Our first book club meeting was held on Saturday, March 15th, with a wonderful turnout along with an exciting array of books chosen.

WE MEET MONTHLY NORMANTON LIBRARY



Other Library services offered include:

WI-FI

Access to Computers
Printing/Scanning/Copying Services

ANZAC DAY

25 APRIL

Normanton

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

Karumba

DAWN SERVICE

Sunderland Park 6am

Breakfast Karumba Rec Club immediately after Service



LEST WE FORGET



No Excuse for Abuse

In recent months, some employees at Carpentaria Shire have experienced abuse and harassment.

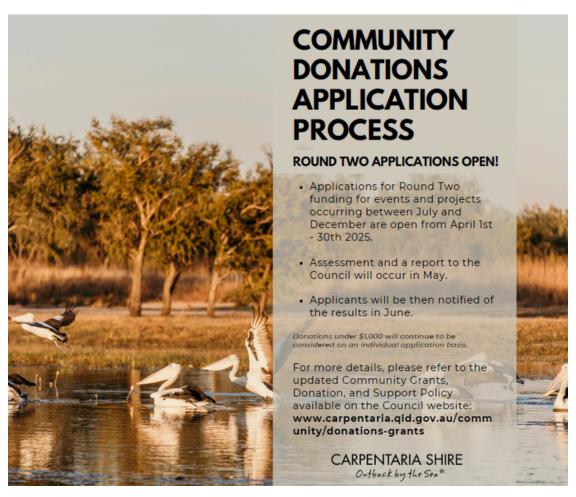
Whether this has been across the front counter, on the phone, in one of our community facilities or in our outdoor workforce spaces, Council does not tolerate the abuse of the members of our team.

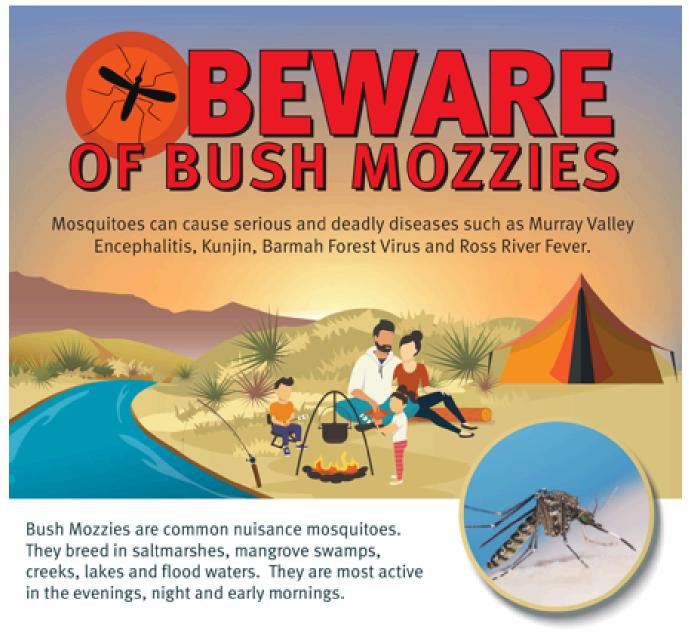


Carpentaria Shire Council staff are brothers and sisters, uncles and aunts, mums, and dads, some are even grandparents; they are members of the community, they often help with sporting and community groups, volunteer and are part of the community they live in. Our staff don't deserve to be treated with aggression, abuse, and disrespect.

If you are unhappy with a decision of Council, or feel that you are not being heard, please use the appropriate channels to communicate. There are several points of contact listed at the end of the newsletter.

This includes asking to speak to a supervisor, the director of the Department, the HR Manager or the CEO. If you do not feel your complaint is heard, then there are proper processes for a complaint to be heard including through the Mayor.





Protect yourself from Bush Mozzies:



Ensure flyscreens are in good order



If camping, sleep under a mosquito net



Use insect repellent containing DEET or Picaridin when outdoors and reapply regularly



Wear loose-fitting, full length clothing and cover your feet



Use mosquito coils when outside

For more information:

Townsville Public Health Unit - 4433 6900 Tropical Public Health Services (Cairns) - 4226 5555 www.health.qld.gov.au Mount Isa Public Health Unit - 4744 7186 Mackay Public Health Unit - 4885 5800



DISASTER DASHBOARD

Carpentaria Shire Council's disaster dashboard is where you find local information before, during and after extreme weather, like storms and floods.

It has essential information including:

- Emergency News
- Road Conditions
- Power Outages
- Emergency Contacts
- River Heights
- Telstra Outages
- Current Fire Bans etc.

https://disaster.carpentaria.qld.gov.au/





MEETING DATES FOR APRIL 2025

Council's Ordinary Meeting for April 2025 is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 16 April, starting at 9:00am in the conference room at the Les Wilson Barramundi Discovery Centre.



Wednesday, 16 April, 2025



CONTACT US

Address: 29-33 Haig Street, Normanton QLD 4890 Postal: PO Box 31, Normanton QLD 4890 Email: council@carpentaria.gld.gov.au		Cr Jack Bawden - Mayor Cr Brad Hawkins – Deputy Mayor Cr Andrew Murphy	0427 459 424 0418 451 688 0428 451 085
Website: www.carpentaria.qld.gov.au		Cr Cherie Schafer	0448 324 911
		Cr Glenn Smerdon	0429 451 784
Normanton Office	(07) 4745 2200	Cr Johnty O'Brien	0427 186 939
Telephone:	(07) 4745 1340	Cr Leslie Henry	0407 600 024
Karumba Library/Service Centre	(07) 4747 7522	Anne Andrews	0417 306 412
Telephone:	(07) 4747 7566	Chief Executive Officer	
Visitor Information Centre	(07) 4747 8444	Michael Wanrooy	0428 131 289
Normanton	(07) 4745 2211	Director Engineering Services	
Karumba		01: (0 % 05)	0447.005.440
After Hours Emergencies Telephone:	(07) 4745 2200	Chief Operations Officer Andrew Shaw	0417 625 113
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