

## Maroochydore | Electorate News

E-NEWSLETTER

**Fiona Simpson MP**

MEMBER FOR MAROOCHYDORE

## March 2016

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### Sunshine Coast shapes up for the 2016 Aussies

Our local tourism industry is gearing up for a major boost this April with 7000 Surf Life Savers from 313 surf clubs flocking to the Sunshine Coast to participate in the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships.

For the first time in over 35 years, the iconic Aussies will return to the Sunshine Coast with over 400 events taking place across 9 action-packed days from 16-24 April. Jointly hosted by Alexandra Headland, Maroochydore and Mooloolaba Surf Life Saving Clubs, there will be plenty of excitement and free activities available for all the family.

This will be a fantastic opportunity to show-case our beautiful beaches and breath-taking natural beauty to a national and international audience and the flow-on benefits will be a great post-Easter bonus for the regional economy.

Council's sand pumping and beach replenishment programs are in full-swing to ensure our beaches are in top condition and the parklands and beach viewing areas around all three surf clubs have been given a make-over.

Local roads are also receiving some attention with work to repair potholes and kerbs taking place along Horton Parade, Aerodrome Road, Alexandra Parade and Bradman Avenue.

Let's pull out the stops to welcome our visitors and show-off our beautiful region to the world.

### Council Election Results

Congratulations to Mayor Mark Jamieson and all returning Councillors on their successful re-election.

I am especially pleased to be able to continue to work with Cr Steve Robinson (Division 9) and Cr Jason OPray (Division 8) on their successful re-election to the Sunshine Coast Council.

Both these Councillors have worked extremely hard to get some good wins for their areas and I look forward to also working with the newly elected Cr John Connolly (Division 4).

### Important reminder to update your address

Just a friendly reminder about the importance of updating your personal address details - it could save you a lot of unintended costs.

Election times are a good reminder to ensure that your address details are up to date with the Australian Electoral Commission and other government agencies like Queensland Transport.

Unfortunately not updating your address is not a valid reason for failing to vote. If you did not vote at the local government elections an “**apparent failure to vote**” notice will be sent to the address you are enrolled at. If you do not respond to this notice with a valid explanation, you will be issued with an infringement notice.

It is also important to remember that you must update your address on your driving licence **within 14 days**. Failure to do so is an offence. Click on *READ MORE* for useful contact information.

[READ MORE:](#)

## Fighting Labor's infrastructure freeze

The Labor Government's infrastructure freeze has seen a billion dollars a year stripped from the State's infrastructure spend meaning we're not only fighting for a fairer share of the pie, but a bigger pie as these state-wide cuts are unsustainable.

However, we will keep fighting with one united voice, speaking up for the region and the plan we took to the last election to deliver the biggest infrastructure spend for the Sunshine Coast.

The Sunshine Coast LNP MPs took a record infrastructure plan to the electorate in 2015, a plan whose priorities had the endorsement of the local council and backing of business to support the future needs and jobs of the Coast. This was on top of the largest hospital project in the Southern Hemisphere being built at Kawana for \$1.6 billion and major Bruce Highway upgrades largely funded by the Federal Government.

[READ MORE](#)

## Better access to North Shore Community Centre

Local residents will soon enjoy safer pedestrian access to the North Shore Community Centre thanks to a new footpath and pedestrian refuge across the David Low Way.

When completed, this will help provide safer access for many more people arriving on foot, bike, pram, or mobility scooter to the great programs and facilities available at our fabulous community centre. Special thanks to Cr Jason OPray who has worked hard to bring this project forward.



## Ocean Street World Festival

Congratulations to the Maroochydore Revitalisation Association for their outstanding success in hosting the fifth Ocean Street World Festival held on 27th March.

Thousands flocked to Maroochydore's entertainment precinct on Easter Sunday to enjoy the international flavours of music, dancing, food, shopping and cultural events.



## Winners announced for inaugural Sunshine Coast Inspiring Women Awards

I was delighted to recognise four amazing Award Winners at a glittering Gala Dinner in Kawana recently for the Sunshine Coast Inspiring Women Awards.

The judges found selecting the winners from over 100 nominees had been a difficult job and it was good to take time to honour these special women who are dedicated to serving others as carers, volunteers and leaders in our local community.

The Award winners are:

**Berenice Pembleton,  
Community Leadership Award Winner  
Sponsored by Think Money.**

A Sunshine Coast Speech Pathologist since 1979 and Acting Director at the Children's Therapy Centre, Berenice has raised funds and worked tirelessly to provide a place for local children with disabilities to improve their communication skills.



**Susan Stanley  
Community Volunteer Award Winner  
Sponsored by White's IGA.**

Serving as a volunteer in the field of disability sport for 22 years, Sue was recognised as the 2013 Sunshine Coast Sports Volunteer of the Year and a Finalist in the Queensland Sport Volunteer of the Year.



**Brigette Seymour  
Young Leader Award Winner  
Sponsored by Suncoast Christian College.**

A passionate advocate for females and youth within surf lifesaving and an active member of Alexandra Headland Surf L

ifesaving Club for 15 years, Brigette is involved in all facets of the Club as patrol captain, female liaison officer and cadet officer.



**Bertha Jansen  
Carer Award  
Sponsored by Sundale.**

At age 91, Bertha has cared for her severely disabled son for over 35 years and she also cared for her husband with dementia for two years. Bertha was instrumental in the establishment of the Graceville Centre in Nambour to support people with mental health illness from 1969-1976.



## MY Police Sunshine Coast

Help our local police get crime alerts and important news out more effectively to our community by subscribing to the mypolice Sunshine Coast blog.

<http://mypolice.qld.gov.au/sunshinecoast/>

## Could you be a Street Angel?

Sunshine Coast Street Angels are looking for volunteers who can work with experienced Team Leaders for a couple of nights a month.

Supported by Community Solutions Inc., Street Angels is a volunteer based public safety service for individuals in need due to homelessness, intoxication, substance abuse, personal distress or at risk of causing physical harm to themselves or others.

Street Angels provide a valuable service to our local community by patrolling the Mooloolaba and Maroochydore entertainment precincts during the hours of 10:30pm-2:30am on Friday and Saturday nights.

[READ MORE:](#)

**Nominate now for Volunteering Queensland Awards**

Nominations are now open for these inaugural volunteering awards and I would like to encourage you to nominate someone you know who deserves recognition. **Nominations close 31 March 2016.**

The categories are:

Youth Volunteering Award  
Lifetime contribution to Volunteering Award  
Volunteering Impact Award  
Corporate Volunteering Award

For more information go to: <https://www.volunteeringqld.org.au/news-media/queensland-volunteering-awards>.

## Apply now for Get Playing Plus Funding

Councils, clubs and not-for-profit groups can apply now for funding of between \$300,000 and \$1.5m for major sporting facility upgrades. Applications close 29 April 2016.

Projects must be a new or major upgrade to an existing place or space that supports participation in sport and recreation activities.

For information go to: <https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding/getinthegame/getplayingplus/>

## Seniors Week Grants

Apply now for funding to support events to be held during Seniors Week (13-21 August). Applications close 31 March 2016. For more information go to: <http://cotaqld.org.au/>

## IRT Community Grants

Applications are now open for local initiatives which aim to improve the lives of older Australians through the IRT Foundation Community Grants Program.

Community groups and not-for-profit organisations are invited to apply for grants of between \$1,000 and \$20,000 for projects which seek to improve the mind, mobility and lifestyle of older Australians.

For more information please go to <http://www.irtfoundation.org.au/> or call 1800 024 915. Applications close 20 April 2016.



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