



# Cassowary Coast Community Connect E-News

27 May 2024

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## **Now More Than Ever: Cassowary Coast Partners with Mamu Health Services in Support of Reconciliation**

To recognise the significance of National Reconciliation Week, Cassowary Coast Regional

Council has partnered with Mamu Health Services Limited to host a reconciliation event at the Innisfail Share Hall today.

This year's theme **Now More Than Ever** is a reminder that work continues towards reconciliation and the need to connect, respect, action, and change. In treaty-making, truth-telling, understanding Australia's history, education, and tackling racism, the Cassowary Coast came closer to reconciliation over morning tea attended by special guests Terell Mara, Tania Ramsey, Alice Sands and Teneisha Ah Kee.

The Welcome to Country was delivered by Aunty Tracey Dickman who said reconciliation is about the non-indigenous groups walking in the same direction as indigenous groups.

"Reconciliation must begin with us before non-indigenous groups can understand our journey. They will walk with us if they can see us walk together," said Aunty Tracey.

"As we open this door during National Reconciliation Week, understand to walk with a heart that is going to heal reconciliation."

Councillor Jeff Baines invited everyone on the Cassowary Coast to join the journey of reconciliation.

"Let us foster a region where we bond, grow, and have mutual respect for our First Nations peoples," said Cr. Baines

"Each of us bears the responsibility to contribute to this vital process, weaving together relationships and communities within our region that honour the rich heritage and promising futures of Australia's First Nations peoples."

"I'm pleased to see our Council playing an important role in reconciliation through our Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan. to understand and respect the histories and the cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

[Read Council's RAP](#)

### **Cassowary Coast to Accelerate Road Grading to Address Flood Damage**

Damage to Cassowary Coast roads and infrastructure caused by ex-TC Jasper and subsequent flooding is estimated to reach \$40 million, with Councillors endorsing a new round of assessments to support recovery funding applications.

While the process of seeking approval for recovery funding is underway, Council remains committed to a patrol grading program on its unsealed road network to provide short-term relief for users of the extensively damaged road network.

Cassowary Coast Mayor Teresa Millwood said close to 40% of the region's roads were damaged in the extraordinary weather events following Jasper, and ongoing wet weather this year has impeded Council's ability to conduct restoration works.

"By April 2024 we'd already seen 3,500mm of rain this year alone, with some records suggesting that this is the most disruptive wet season that we've seen since 1974," Mayor

Millwood said.

“Floods and ongoing rain events have damaged almost half of our roads, and while we wait for reconstruction funding from the State and Federal governments, Council remains committed to an intense short-term patrol grading program to provide relief to road users.”

Mayor Millwood explained how patrol grading is a quick pass over the road surface to remove minor defects and fill potholes.

“In the best window of works available to our crews this year, six grading crews were able to cover close to 80km and a similar effort will be applied in the future. At that rate we’ll have 60% of the network patrol graded within four weeks of fine weather.

“The long-term solution will be to conduct heavy grading and to repair structural issues on these damaged roads through an intense works schedule using recovery funding.”

Contractors Shepherd Services were engaged by Council to manage damage assessments immediately following Ex-TC Jasper in December 2023.

Current estimates for the total cost of completing the reconstruction works are expected to be in the vicinity of \$30 - \$40 million.

[Read the full media release](#)

### **Cassowary Coast Nominated for Small Business Friendly Award**

Cassowary Coast Regional Council is pleased to be a finalist for the Queensland Small Business Friendly Award 2024 in the category of Regional Member of the Year.

Nominated in this category for Council’s commitment to creating an attractive place to do business for the 3,174 small businesses within the region, Cassowary Coast Regional Council is recognised for initiatives that enhance the operating environment for small local enterprises.

Through the Cassowary Coast Small Business Friendly Annual Report 2024, Council celebrates small businesses as vital contributors to regional prosperity and recognises the impact small businesses have in region. Did you know Small Businesses in Cassowary Coast generate over 8,000 local jobs?

Announcement of winning nominees for the Queensland Small Business Friendly Awards will be made at this year's Small Business Friendly Conference in Cairns on Thursday 30 May 2024.

[Discover investment and Business Resources](#)

### **Embark on the Journey to Enhance Innisfail's Walking Network**

Innisfail community members are invited to have their say on a more pedestrian-friendly

township through the development of a walking network plan with the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads.

Public consultation for input towards a new Innisfail Walking Network is open until Sunday 9 June 2024, with community members invited to attend one of two information workshops being held on Thursday 30 May 2024.

Cassowary Coast Councillor for Development, Planning, and Environment, Jeff Baines said that as the town evolves through future planning and the Innisfail CBD Master Plan, alignment to the community's needs in pedestrian connectivity is vitally important.

"This is an opportunity to ensure our walking infrastructure is accessible and safe, and effectively connects our community with their destinations across short and long trips, on foot and with mobility aids," said Councillor Baines.

"The Innisfail Walking Network aims to plan for walking routes in the local area so that when funding becomes available, we know where to spend our money first to support community needs.

"Tell us about your current walking routes, highlight areas of concern, and map out your desired pathways for the future. Whether you're on foot, skateboard, bicycle, or any other mode of transportation, your feedback matters."

[Provide Your Feedback Here](#)

### **Community Scorecard closes 7 June**

Cassowary Coast Regional Council is planning for the future. You are invited to complete this scorecard to tell us about your needs and rate local services, facilities and programs.

All community members aged 14 years or older are invited to take part. Please submit one response per person by 7 June 2024.

The scorecard generally takes 5 to 10 minutes to complete or may be slightly longer if you wish to expand on some of your written answers. We value your time and comments greatly.

[Complete the Scorecard now](#)

### **Youth Inspired for the Future at Cassowary Coast Careers Day 2024**

A collaborative event sponsored by Cassowary Coast Regional Council, the

Cassowary Coast Careers Day attracted forty-seven stallholders representing a range of vocations from public sector and defence through to veterinary, agriculture and trades as well as education pathways.

Cassowary Coast Councillor for Community, Culture and Liveability Trudy Tschui was delighted with the event's turnout.

"Yesterday's turnout truly underscores the immense success of the Cassowary Coast Careers Day." Cr Tschui said.

"The Careers Day started as a way to 'grow our own' so that we can show our youth the amazing local career pathways right here in the Cassowary Coast.

Year ten student from Tully High School Haylee Mills said it was eye opening to see all the opportunities at the Careers Day.

"There's so much to do through university, TAFE or a trade it's really good to look at all the options."

[See Facebook Post](#)

### **Construction of Port Hinchinbrook STP Injects \$2.6M into Local Economy**

Construction of the Port Hinchinbrook Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) has surpassed 70% completion, accumulating a direct spend with Cassowary Coast businesses worth over \$2.6 million.

In Cardwell, almost \$1 million has been spent on the procurement of goods and services for the project including electrical and plumbing services, earthworks and quarry materials.

Cassowary Coast subcontractors to the project include:

- CCUS Tully (earthworks)
- IMEC, Innisfail (earthworks)
- Absolute Electrical, Cardwell (minor electrical)
- Century Cranes, Innisfail
- Cassowary Coast Sheds, Mission Beach
- Plumbers Underground Pipework -Andrew Vaugh, Innisfail
- Kane Plumbing & Irrigation, Innisfail
- All Painting Specialists, Cardwell

Procurement of local supplies have been provided by:

- Bonassi, Cardwell (quarry materials)
- Shamrock, Tully (quarry materials)
- Holcim, Tully (concrete)
- OzPoly, Innisfail (temp irrigation tanks)
- Wide Span Sheds, Innisfail (temp shelter)
- Mitre 10, Cardwell

Throughout the project which commenced in August 2023, 105 people have been employed to work across 24,200 cumulative hours.

Construction is due for completion in August 2024 (subject to delays).

The Port Hinchinbrook STP and Normalisation project is funded by the Australian

Government, Queensland Government and the Cassowary Coast Regional Council.

### [Port Hinchinbrook \(Cardwell\) STP Project Page](#)

[There's something for everyone thanks to these amazing volunteers!](#)

The theme for Volunteer Week 2024 is “Something for Everyone” and on the Cassowary Coast we are proud to host a variety of community groups and organisations who run on the strength of their volunteers.

From sporting committees and coaches, historical societies, environmental and animal welfare groups, arts and culture and youth and community support, there's always room for more volunteers. So, is it time to put your hand up?

This year Cassowary Coast Regional Council would like to give a special shout out to our dedicated and hard working volunteers at our Council Nurseries!

For over 20 years the Innisfail Nursery has been home to anywhere between 20 to 50 volunteers at any given time. They come together every Thursday morning, working to sow native seeds and pot the plants and trees, many of which you see and enjoy around our local CBD, parks and open spaces.

Council's natural environment and tree management team recognises that their jobs would be much more difficult without ongoing support from the amazing group of volunteers, and sincerely thanks each and everyone for their hard work, time and commitment.

[See Facebook Post](#)

### **Notice of bridge works at Warrubullen Road**

Commencing Monday 27 May 2024 to 30 June 2024

TEMPORARY IMPACTS: A temporary road closure will be in place from 20 May 2024 with the road reopening upon completion of maintenance works. Construction traffic impacts along Warrubullen Road are expected, requiring a temporary road closure. Residents and landowners are requested to detour via Cowley Creek Road.

We understand these changes may inconvenience you, and we apologise for any disruption to your daily routines. Please observe traffic signs and follow directions for your safety.



### **Tangaroa Blue and ReefClean - Beach Clean Up and Marine Debris Removal Events**

Cassowary Coast Regional Council is thrilled to announce that [Tangaroa Blue](#) and [ReefClean](#) have four upcoming events dedicated to marine debris removal and beach clean-ups.

- Thursday 6 June at Hull Heads
- Tuesday 11 Jne at Tully Heads Googarra Beach
- Wednesday 12 June at Coconuts Beach
- Thursday 13 June at Flying Fish Point

These events are not just about tidying up our shores, they're about making a tangible difference in the health of our marine ecosystems.

[Clean Up Events Calendar](#)

### **Morning Melodies - Some Enchanted Evening**



[BOOK NOW](#)

[The Best of West End - Paul Tabone \(The Tenor from Oz\)](#)



[BOOK NOW](#)

[MARKYT® COMMUNITY SCORECARD](#)





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### *Acknowledgement*

Cassowary Coast Regional Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land and sea on which we operate, the Mamu, Djiru, Girramay, Gulngay, Warrgamay, Jirrbal and Bandjin Peoples. We wish to acknowledge our respect for their current and emerging leaders and those in the dreaming. We thank all First Nations people for the contributions they make in building this community.

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