

The Bellvista and Bells Reach Community Association wishes all residents a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.



www.bellvista.com.au

Email: beca.secretary@gmail.com

The Connector



November Volume 5, 2022

for the Bellvista & Bells Reach Community Association

Issue 5

AGM and Public Meeting 7/11/22

The last meeting for 2022 was conducted with a small number of residents in attendance. The President welcomed residents and the Guest speakers to the meeting. The AGM was completed for the year with BeCA Financial report and Presidents Reports delivered to all attending. Please see back page for President Report overview for 2022. This was followed by Election of the 2023 BeCA Committee with the current Committee members agreeing to stand again in 2023.

2023 Nominations & elected Committee

- Mike Smith President
- Nathan Hill Secretary
- Paul Monaghan Treasurer
- Bob Smith Committee
- Debbi Pidgeon Committee
- Liz Ellis Committee
- Ian McLaughlin Committee
- Kevin Baty Committee

General Business – Update from President on current issues

- Mobile Phone Signal Survey – President signed letter asking for review of phone coverage for the area to Federal Communications minister. Awaiting Response.
- Bellvista Blvd. Upgrade – Awaiting Council approval.
- Death of the Black Swan – swan is going to have an autopsy through the Australia Zoo. SCC has investigated. Waiting on results from the autopsy in due course.

- Surveys – Lighting and Noise surveys were conducted by BeCA and sent to SCC for actions where required.

Guest Speaker – Jason Hunt MP – Video Presentation

Due to parliamentary commitments, Jason made a video presentation to the meeting.

- Congratulations was given on the Halloween activities in the area and the Caloundra West Lions for the BBQ.
- Bells Creek Arterial Road – early access for emergency services underway
- Extra police for the area at Aura.
- Premier opened new school at Nimimba. All of the new schools in the area are very well resourced and state of the art. New performing arts complex at Baringa Secondary College.
- MP office to close in mid-December. Jason congratulated his staff on their hard work during the year.
- Christmas markets recommenced at Bulcock Beach.
- New Year's Eve festivities at King's Beach to recommence this year after Covid. Get along and enjoy the excitement.
- International Women's Day function coming up in March 2023.
- Wished everyone all the best for the festive season and New Year

Items/Questions arising from Jason's video were logged and will be presented to Jason by the BeCA Committee for responses.

Guest Speaker - QLD Police – Inspector John Van Egmond -Sunshine Coast

- New Police presence coming to area especially the new Aura station in the near future.
- Police watchhouse will be reopened in Caloundra in 2023.
- Domestic Violence rates are up as well as road toll on the Sunshine Coast. Concerning signs for Police.
- New rules and fines out with Escooters – fines for speeding etc. from 1/11/22.
- President asked about youth crime in the area in particular the Canavan Gracie Park (destroying of property and smashing of bins etc.). The QPS aren't getting reports on youth crime in the area. Residents need to make reports. However, the Inspector will look at some police patrols in the area around Canavan Gracie park.

Attendees asked about the following issues:

- Frustration with hooning in the area and Escooters in the area being an ongoing issue. Report incidences is the advice.
- Youth on loud petrol powered bikes. These can and must be reported so a pattern of this behaviour can be tracked for future action.
- Noise complaints. The process was explained about what happens when a complaint is made regarding noise. BeCA will keep advising residents of the process through Social media.
- Car parking in the area. QPS are not receiving reports on car parking issues in the area, but this really a council matter.
- An unsatisfactory experience with Police Link. The Inspector explained how Police Link works and the need to keep using it.



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Caloundra West

Overall message from Inspector John Van Egmond was to report matters that concern residents so action can be taken. As a suggestion, the Mobile Police facility is at Baringa on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week. Please use this facility for face to face contact with Police or Caloundra station weekdays.

The meeting was very appreciative of the presentation and concluded with warm applause.

**Guest Speaker - Cr Rick Baberowski
(Deputy Mayor)**

- Vegetation control is expected to happen in the areas this week (weather permitting). Residents mentioned grass between footpath and veloway needs to be mowed. Cr. Rick Baberowski to investigate.
- Canavan Gracie youth disturbance issues – it is essential to report to police when you see these situations happen (use Police Link to document all details so action can commence).
- Lighting for basketball court at Canavan Gracie park – November newsletter will include instructions on how to provide feedback to Council.
- Aura – Area growing at a rapid pace and expected to continue.
- Aerodrome Masterplan – Masterplan will be put to council to approve at next meeting in 2022.
- Healthy Ageing Forum – Forum with university and SCUH on November 26th. Get involved where you can.
- Beerwah Street Party on this Saturday and Cr. Baberowski attending. All are welcome
- Upgrading the energy grid in the Aura area. Announcement will be made soon. More information to come.

Meeting formally closed 8.39pm

The President closed the meeting that we (BeCA) thank all for attending and listening to the guest speakers and sharing their thoughts and ideas at the meeting.



Jason Hunt MP Caloundra

Well here we are... two years in as the Member for Caloundra and it's a good a time as any to reflect on all the great work we have all achieved in that time.

I've lived in Caloundra for 50 years, so going into this job I thought I knew our community well - boy was I pleasantly surprised! There are community groups for all sorts including writers, athletes, environmentalists, entrepreneurs, artists and more - all meeting regularly and strengthening our social fabric.

In the last two years, I have come to understand our community on a whole new level. After meeting people who are community minded and working for the more vulnerable parts of our community, I've come to love Caloundra and our Hinterland even more than I thought possible.

Community Centres are hubs of activity and a great place to organise and connect all sorts of people. I'm very excited to announce the Baringa Community Centre has been successful in securing a significant grant - meaning they'll be able to run a Diverse Learning program for families new to Australia. It's important to me that we welcome all families into our community and foster a respectful and diverse community. Our community now hosts festivals like Diwali/Deepavali, ONAM, Holi and Lunar New Year. Unimaginable in the

Caloundra of my youth - if you've never attended an event like this, I highly recommend you head along.

As the Member for Caloundra, I head down to Brisbane each sitting week to represent Caloundra in Queensland Parliament. I've made more speeches over the last two years than in my entire working life up to 2020. Although I still get nervous, and sometimes emotional when talking about topics close to my heart, I find it comfortable to stand up for Caloundra because it's where I'm from. One of the most special speeches I've had the pleasure to deliver to the House was on the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021. It was very emotional, as I spoke about my late parents, I still miss them and talking about them reminds me of their passing and sadly that still hurts.

Like a lot of locals I'm very excited about the completion of the Bells Creek Arterial Road - partly for the traffic relief but also because the completed road will unlock our new Emergency Services Precinct which will be 6000m² dedicated to new Police, Fire and Ambulance facilities.

I've been a supporter of BeCA for a very long time and I'm hoping to have a regular column in this newsletter to let you know all the great things happening across the electorate, specifically in the Bellvista/Bells Reach area.

Of course, if you have questions about what's going on around the Electorate, big or small, feel free to contact my office and join my Facebook page: Jason Hunt MP.

The Office is staffed by our great team Charli and Ash on (07) 5329 4100. Or you can email

caloundra@parliament.qld.gov.au

From the team and myself, our very best wishes for the season and the new year.



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Cr. Rick Baberowski Division 1

Light for new basketball court

Residents have hopefully noticed the recently completed basketball half court project at Canavan Gracie Park. The point was to separate the tennis/ basketball court at the same time as renewing the cricket pitch, install more park seats, link paths and enhance the trees and garden beds. Now it's been available for a while, we have received a request that the basketball court should have lighting for safety reasons. Whilst Council normally wouldn't support lighting of basketball courts, regular users would have adapted to having a lighting option in the past when it was situated within the tennis courts. On that basis, I'd like to canvas community feedback to test the pros and cons of this proposal. The specific proposal would be to install a new LED light pole sufficient to light the court. The light would have a 5 minute timed supply by pressing a button on the pole (with the timer turning off completely at a certain hour as the tennis court lighting does). What do you think? Please share your feedback to my office via email- division1@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au or phone [54208987](tel:54208987).

Mobile office

I'm pleased to say that these will recommence with locations rotating through the large Division 1 locality. Keep an eye on my Facebook page for future dates and locations. As always though, as your local

government representative, you can make contact with me at any time as needed.

Storm season

If not already done, it's time to prepare our homes and loved-ones for the storm season. We have all heard by now that a La Niña typically increases the chance of above-average rainfall during spring and summer – and we all know too well how it can impact our locality. I encourage you to better understand your storm risks, prepare a household emergency plan, and pack an emergency kit with enough supplies to last at least three days in case you lose access to power, water and gas, or you become cut off from shops and services. For helpful tips on how you can prepare, visit getready.qld.gov.au.

Your neighbours in Aura

Have you taken a drive through Baringa lately and onto the new suburbs of Nirimba and Banya? These localities are literally bursting up from the ground. It's important to note that the fantastic Baringa Community Centre is a district level Council facility which means Bellvista, Bells Reach and Arbour communities are included in its catchment; it is run by the Caloundra Community Centre and they have an excellent broad program of activities with all kinds of social gatherings such as morning tea, young parents' groups, book clubs and craft activities to name a few. Why not consider taking a walk, cycle or drive to check it out or go online to their Facebook page for more information.

In closing, despite being another confronting and busy year, we are largely doing well as a region and that is more likely to continue than not! Sincere best wishes to you and yours for a terrific Christmas/New Year and hope that you can take a step back, celebrate all the good bits and take some personal time to re-charge ready for a brighter 2023.



E-Scooter Penalties in Queensland

From the 1st November 2022 ticket costs will come in with new speeding laws that limit riders to 12 kph on footpaths and 25 kph on bike paths and suburban roads.





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Presidents 2022 report.

Firstly, I wish to take this opportunity to thank each BeCA committee member for their dedication and support of our Community Organisation. The same Committee members will continue in 2023. We cannot forget our volunteers (delivering the "Connector" newsletter) as they are a very loyal group and without them we would not be able to bring our news in paper form to the 2,500 local residents. **Thank you again Volunteers.**

So what have we focused on this year:

- The upgrade of Canavan Gracie park (tennis/ basketball courts and cricket pitch).
- Our representation on the Airport Forum continued, which allowed us to advise residents of updated information which may affect them. My thanks to past President Les Thomas for his continued support on the forum.
- We continued to maintain a strong independent, informed voice, to lobby, liaise and advocate for our Community, with all levels of Government and other involved parties.
- We focused on improvements to our Social Media platforms (Website and Facebook sites) with some

great changes which we hope will add value to our BeCA members and Residents.

Special thanks again to the following government/council representatives-

Qld MP for Caloundra Jason Hunt for his support and service. The office team for their ongoing support of the BeCA Community and printing of our Newsletter.

Cr. Rick Baberowski SCC Division 1 for his service to our BeCA community. His prompt action with our requests and his attendance each month at our committee meetings.

Our advertisers continue to support us and we hope you have been able to use their services during the year. They are local businesses who provide great services. Thank you advertisers.

We continue to work on the following projects externally and internally-

Bellvista Boulevard upgrade -a major project by Stockland and this work will continue through 2022/23.

BeCA surveys – Noise and Lighting and Mobile phone signal issues. Completed August/September/October 2022.

Sunshine Coast Council service requests- approximately 20+ requests were made through the year relative to maintenance of parks/ lighting/ playgrounds/signage- Defensive Bird territory rules and dogs in park rules etc.

Our Website has received a well deserved facelift/ upgrade through a lot of hard work and initiative from our Committee member Paul Monaghan. Thank you Paul.

Our Facebook site is more visible to our members and residents and we have had a huge focus on Human/local interest stories including Crimestoppers and Neighbourhood Watch articles.

QR Code signage- we used this means of communication this year for the first time with some good success especially with our surveys.

The "Connector" Newsletter was produced 5 times this year. The good news is we will be continuing this in 2023 and it will be in colour.

It was great to see the Bells Reach Garden increase their membership and volunteers through the efforts of a local resident (Jo)- well done the garden is looking great again.

BeCA has in the past been a Community organisation with a low but effective profile and were recognised for this, therefore this should be maintained going forward.

The BeCA committee thanks all members and residents for the ongoing support and may you all have a safe and enjoyable end of 2022 and into 2023.

Thank you.

Mike Smith
BeCA President 2022

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