



The Connector

June Volume 2016

for the Bellvista & Bells Reach Community Association

Issue 4

Possible "New" Safety Crossing

At the recent Public Meeting, Unity College P&F President Peter Baxter announced that Unity College was in the process of having second Safety Crossing funding approved for a new proposed school crossing at the Bellvista Blvd/Bells Reach Drive roundabout. It was hoped funding would become available at the 'next release of funds'.

Supervised Safety Crossings have a "Lollyop Person" with a funded salary present to assist school children and families crossing the road during the busy school drop off and pickup times. In the current economic climate, "possibly funded" is no guarantee that the funding will definitely be allocated.

Supervised Safety crossings must meet certain criteria. One such criteria point is a set distance of clear line of sight from the nearest intersection and the crossing itself. If the prescribed line of sight is set at around 70 metres, any new supervised crossing would need to be constructed some distance south of the roundabout. This would require a footpath to be provided on the eastern side of the Bellvista Blvd extension from Bells Reach Drive.

All local groups including Council and our MP are exploring a range of options to help provide funding sooner rather than later. One consideration is that some short term interim funding be found until any official ongoing government funding is approved.



With the recent rise in concern over the behaviour of some drivers around Bells Reach and Bellvista, BeCA wishes to advise everyone of the Police Link Contact Number and their website.

BeCA is an organisation manned by 8 local residents. It does not have any powers and cannot tell people what to do or what not to do.

So if you spot a noisy motorist driving erratically or in a manner which could endanger a life, please don't contact BeCA with the a report, even if you have a vehicle registration number.

Call 131444 with any video you may have taken with your phone or a registration number you have noted. If you have problems getting through because the lines may be congested, try again later or check out the Policelink website. <https://www.police.qld.gov.au/programs/policelink/>

There are even Policelink apps for your phone or other online avenues for you to make a report if you wish. There may not be an individual response to your report

but that doesn't matter. If Policelink receives numerous reports about the erratic driving behaviour of one registration number, action will follow.

Police resources are limited across all regions and unfortunately there isn't the manpower to respond to each and every call or online report.

But if enough people utilize the Policelink website and contact number, serial offenders will be caught, removed from our roads and make it safer for all Bells Reach and Bellvista families.

Road Safety Public Meeting



Just under 40 people were in attendance at Monday's Road Safety Public Meeting, despite very cool conditions outside.

Despite it being cool outside, it was anything but cool inside where a spirited discussion took place attended by a good crowd including several disgruntled residents only too ready to voice their concerns.

Hannah Richardson from the Sunshine Coast Council presented the results of several 'tube' counters set up along Indigo Rd in the few weeks following the recent accident where a young child ran out in front of a truck and was severely injured.

Continued over page

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Continued from Page 1

With reports of numerous speeding incidents along Indigo Rd, the tube counter results indicated the opposite when compared on average across the region. There will always be speeding motorists, drivers who openly defy the speed limit.

Tube counter figures indicated that 85% of drivers along Indigo Rd are within the speed limit and travel at an average speed of around 39kph. This means there are 15% of drivers who wantonly ignore the speed limit. Regrettably this is 'average' for tube counter results across the Sunshine Coast.

Road design follow ups indicated that the roads in question met all requirements within all State Government guidelines. Several residents did not agree and cited occasions when larger trucks experienced difficulty manoeuvring around tight bends, especially the Indigo Rd/Bells Reach Blvd intersection.

It was explained that these intersections are within regulations and that the newly introduced traffic islands are designed to slow vehicles down and help make the area safer for all.

Many trucks and cars can make this turn safely by slowing down and taking care as they complete the turn.

Neither road design nor traffic signs will stop some drivers speeding, using their phones, or driving irresponsibly.

There is a range of strategies which can be employed by residents and these will be further investigated by BeCA, Council and Stockland.

These include stickers for rubbish bins, programs for parents to explore with their children and programs for schools. One program for schools is the "Road Safety Matters" program and more details can be found online.

There are activities for home use as well, check the post on the BeCA website for links.

One parent asked for suggestions from others in attendance on what can be done to improve safety around the estate.

Greg Osborne from Queensland Police requested that residents who note inappropriate driving behaviour which endangers public safety should report this behaviour via the Police Link phone number 131444.

Footage of an incident taken on a mobile phone or even a registration number can provide some extra information police need for follow up action. A verbal report that a motorist was speeding along Indigo Rd may not be enough for police to prosecute, but several such reports of the one motorist can be enough to provoke a police visit.

Unity College P & F President, Peter Baxter, provided a time line for the introduction of a supervised crossing outside the school. It was a long and patient process. Unity College has been investigating a second supervised crossing at the Bells Reach Blvd/Bellvista Blvd roundabout and has been told that approval could be expected in the next round of funding.

Local MP Mark McArdle spoke strongly and incisively about the situation. He summed the situation up as a four pronged issue. If all four were addressed, there would be much improved road safety for all.

1. Roads needed to be designed safely and within all government planning regulations.
2. Driver behaviour had to be such that drivers obeyed the road laws and behaved responsibly and attentively.
3. Parents have a responsibility to fully educate their children on basic road safety and safety outdoors. How many people (children and adults) do we see who are riding their bike or skateboard and not wearing a helmet?

4. Schools provide effective follow up with Road Safety programs for students.

When all four points are observed, road safety is improved for everyone. BeCA thanked all the parties involved for their participation in the meeting.

Peter Hovey, from the Australian Bureau of Statistics spoke on the upcoming Census Night due for August 9th. This year it is expected that 65% of all Census returns will be made 'online', up from around 30% last time.

Most areas will receive a letter informing them of the upcoming Census. The letter will ask residents to choose between completing the Census online or via a form. Those wishing a form will be forwarded one after they make a request.

An 'arbitrary' line has been drawn through our area and Bells Reach has been included with other communities to the south such as Bells Creek etc. These people will receive a Census form but will still have the option of completing the Census online if they wish.

The Census will count every resident in a dwelling any where in Australia on August 9th. The figures will be used by Government, Local Councils and businesses to better plan for the future.

Some interesting facts for the Sunshine Coast arising from the last census showed that almost 60% of Coast residents were aged 50 or more, 20% had been born overseas, that German is the second language behind English and that 13% of dwellings here are unoccupied. This high unoccupied rate is probably due to there being a large holiday rental market here. Peter also explained that they have a 97% accuracy when compared with other like countries.

The Meeting concluded at 8.30 with some shared views and refreshments.

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State Land Management Recent Burnoff!

The State Land Management Dept. advised BeCA that it was planning a hazard reduction burn sometime in the last week of June and that smoke could be present in an area surrounding the Caloundra Airport and Pelican Waters.

This sort of warning is greatly appreciated by all members of the community.

If you require any further information please contact Andrew Greenwood, State Land Management Team, on 0475 805 966.

BeCA thanks the local MP Mark McArdle for generously allowing us to print this newsletter at his offices.

New Adventure Park begins to take shape

One of the final projects of the Bells Reach development is currently entering the final phase of construction.

It is an Adventure Park situated on the eastern boundary of the Bells Reach development surrounded by Violet and Capri Streets.

The park's major focus is on activities for older children and young teens.

So one expects activities such as basketball facilities, soccer goals and the like which are of interest to young teens will be the major focus.

Don't let the photo on the website fool you into believing completion of this great activity based facility is still some way off. BeCA understands it is expected to be completed sooner rather than later.

This park will be accessible via the walk/cycle pathway which covers the whole boundary of Bells Reach. It is also out of the way of major through roads which should ensure safe access for all.

Elysian Meraki

Elite Brow Artistry & Holistic Therapy



Welcome to ELYSIAN MERAKI-Elite Brow Artistry & Holistic Therapy. Bellvista's newest and most exciting specialised beauty niche. After being in the beauty industry for the past 16 years and having lived in Bellvista and now Bellsreach since moving to the Sunshine Coast 4 years ago I have decided to open a business to cater and specialise in my most adored areas of the beauty industry: BROWS & HOLISTIC THERAPY.

I specialise in the Natural Brow Restoration & Design System™. What is this? It's the process of recovering your brows to

their fullest and most beautiful potential, naturally. You will be amazed at what is possible, using your very own brows, regardless of the state they are currently in. No tricks, serums, wigs, extensions or permanent make-up. I am a Natural Brow Restoration Expert who specialises in Natural Brow Restoration.

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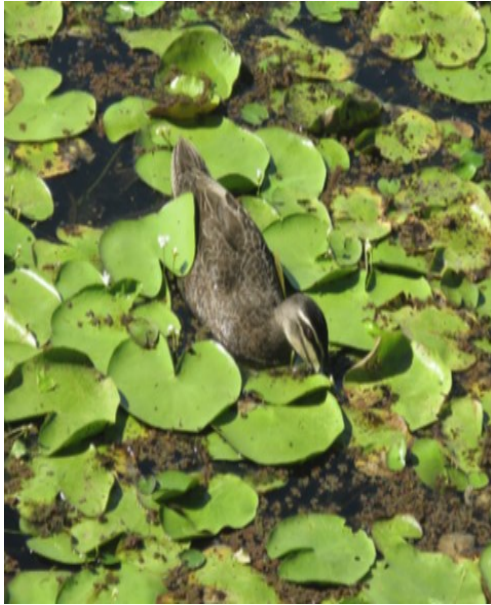
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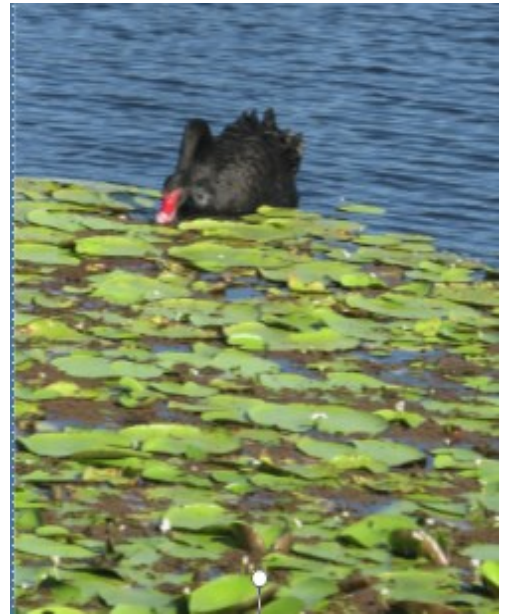
Our Lakes Before and After

Every two or three years, Sunshine Coast Council arranges for all lakes under its control to have the lilies and other plant life removed and harvested to help prevent the waterways becoming clogged.

The growth of lilies slows flushing during heavy rain and can cause the lakes to become polluted. Removing growth also helps to disperse the 'red azolla'.

The photos left and right show the growth on the two lakes prior to cleaning. Both lakes have now been cleaned with most of the plant growth removed, though they may still be a little muddy right now.

The photo below shows the top lake after its recent 'clean'.



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