



# HIBISCUS HERALD

## **SEAFORTH PROGRESS & SPORTS ASSOCIATION**

### **President's Report**

The last monthly **General Meeting** for 2014 is on Wednesday 17th December, 2014 at the Seaforth Bowls Club at 7.30pm.

#### **Seaforth to Mt Ossa Rd**

The petition, to have the 8km of gravel road sealed, has been submitted to the Queensland Government on 28th October, 2014. Our local member, Jason Costigan, is continuing to support this project and is attempting to organise a meeting with the Minister on site before the Xmas break. This is critical so the present Government understands the importance and the passion of the community, to have this road **sealed and safe**. Thank you again for your positive support.

This is a high priority campaign and **will continue until a successful outcome is achieved**. We will keep you informed of all outcomes.

#### **Surveillance Camera and light at Victor Creek Boat Ramp**

This project to install a security camera on the light pole at the boat ramp is in conjunction with Seaforth Boating Club. Still waiting on Council to sort out final approvals. There has been some confusion with Council regarding who is responsible for this project. As this becomes a Council asset as part of the Boat Ramp area, the camera and equipment would be the responsibility of Council. Representatives of the Boat Club have been attempting to get this finalised for some weeks.

We will have the additional information required by Council and attend a meeting in the next week or so. I will keep you informed of the outcome of this meeting. The Boat Club has everything ready to have this project completed.

#### **Beach Erosion Sub Committee**

Additional stabilisation and regeneration work is yet to be finalised. Plants for the stabilising of the work done have been ordered.

The committee will be looking for help with the planting and watering of these plants. Further stages of this project won't start until the end of the wet season. We will keep you informed.

#### **Sunday Markets**

The usual markets are still held each Sunday. Our next Mega Markets are on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December and 4th January.

Come along and join us for the **Seaforth Christmas Party on Sunday 14th December from 6.00pm**.

Wishing you all a safe and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

**Terry Richards**—President  
Seaforth Progress & Sports Association Inc.

Seaforth Progress & Sports Association  
Proudly presents:



# Seaforth Christmas Party!

Bring a chair or a rug, sit back, relax and enjoy the fun!

**When:** Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December from 6.00pm (7.30pm for movie)  
**Where:** Join in, or just watch and enjoy the carollers as they travel from the Service Station to the Post Office Shop, then to the Sports oval, near the tennis courts.  
**Entry fee:** Gold coin donation  
**What's Happening:** Carols followed by the movie 'Arthur Christmas'. Raffle tickets, novelties, BBQ, popcorn and soft drinks available for purchase. Prize for best Christmas Outfit (boy and girl). Please do not bring any glass. And most importantly, a visit from SANTA!

Special thanks to our sponsors:



## Christmas Carols at the Community Hall

Community Carols with a Christmas Message will be hosted by the SEAFORTH UNITING CHURCH at the Seaforth Community Hall on **CHRISTMAS EVE** starting at **7.00pm**.

Everyone is most welcome to come along - locals, visitors and holiday makers.

Stay for a cuppa and a chat afterwards.

This is always a friendly enjoyable informal evening, and all denominations are cordially invited to attend.

## SEAFORTH POLICE BEAT NEWS

Non urgent service: 131 444 In an emergency please call 000

Police Beat 4959 0056

(Provided by Officer in Charge—Senior Constable Adam McLoughlin)

Hello all, we are coming into that time of year again with school holidays not far away and that means there will be the usual increase of holiday traffic on our roads. It's a notorious time of year for fatalities on our roads and Police enforcement strategies will focus on offences that have been found to be the primary cause of fatal and serious injury road crashes. Analysis of serious road crashes consistently identifies the following factors (known as the 'Fatal Five').

These include:

- Speeding
- Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Failing to wear seatbelts and child restraints
- Fatigue
- Inattention (including the use of mobile phones)

As a result of the extra traffic, there will be an increase in the policing presence on our roads. Expect to see police and don't be surprised if you get intercepted for a Random Breath Test, especially around the Christmas and New Year period. There will be no leeway given to persons committing the above offences regardless of who you are!

With the influx of people from out of town it's also time to remind you all again to lock and secure your houses, vehicles and general property. You just never know what type of people will be visiting the area....criminals take holidays too!

Drive safe and to the prevailing weather and road conditions and I hope you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Cheers Adam

## Community Organisations/Clubs Contact List

Police/Fire/Ambulance	
Emergencies	000
Non-Urgent	131 444
Police Beat	4959 0056

Fire Wardens	
Seaforth Town—Bert Benson	4959 0668
Seaforth District—Steve Smith	0417 731 569
Chris Fredrickson	4959 0886 0429 067 134

Emergency Liaison Officers	
Charlie Symons (Seaforth Town)	0408 776 564
Jessica Newton (School area)	0409 587 128
Dwayne Shea (Cape Hillsborough Rd, Ball Bay & Haliday Bay)	0407 647 166

Seaforth Progress & Sports Association	
• Terry Richards (President)	0402 456 534
<i>gtrichos@bigpond.net.au</i>	
• Shellee Denigan (VP)	0410 551 967
<i>shelldenigan@hotmail.com</i>	
• Len Turvey (Secretary)	0429 897 045
<i>lturvey5@bigpond.com</i>	
• Tracie Johnson (Treasurer)	0417 706 025
<i>traciejohnson3@bigpond.com</i>	
• Elleasha Johnson	0400 453 523
<i>elleashaj@hotmail.com</i>	
• Carolyn Martin (Editor Hibiscus Herald)	0409 400249
<i>editor.hibiscusherald@gmail.com</i>	
• Kym Neven (Assist Editor)	0457 817 767
• Allison Jensen (Market Co-ord)	0400 191 345

Seaforth Community Hall/Sports Areas	
Maralyn Ross	0407 640 135

Mackay & District Bowmen	
Mike Beard (President)	0439 677 293
Debbie Lamb (Secretary)	0407 022 906

QCWA Seaforth	
Mary Vassallo (President)	4954 0961
Carolyn Martin (Secretary)	0409 400249
Josie Hammond (Cottage)	4959 0108

*If you would like to add your Club/Organisation contact details to this list, please phone Carolyn 0409 400249 or send details to editor.hibiscusherald@gmail.com*



Well it's almost that time of year where we look forward to sharing Christmas with family, listen to the squeals from the kids when they open their presents and eat way too much at Christmas lunch. It really is a lovely time of year. This year my family and I will be counting our blessings and we will be sharing those blessings by donating to the QCWA Public Rural Crisis Fund in a hope that those of us doing it tough might be able to enjoy Christmas just a little bit this year.

Our annual big Christmas Raffle tickets will be on sale from December 14<sup>th</sup> available from our market stall, or please contact us if you would like to purchase and are unable to make it to our stall. The QCWA Seaforth Branch members have really been super busy this year.

- Making cushions for oncology patients, assembling crisis bags, collecting donations for PNG, markets stall every Sunday (even heading into town for the Handmade Boutique Market)
- Cent sales
- "Celebrating Women Market Day" to raise funds for the QCWA Public Rural Crisis Fund
- Knitting teeny beanies for the preemie bubbas
- Whipping up refreshments for the fire crews who attended the bushfires in Seaforth recently
- Being there for each other and the endless chats and cuppas. Phew what a year! Just wait until 2015 everyone, keep your eyes peeled for the QCWA Seaforth Branch ladies out and about in the community. What will they do next?

First up for the New Year in 2015 will be a Cent Sale held on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> January at "The Shed" at 1.30pm. For further details please email [qcwaseaforth@gmail.com](mailto:qcwaseaforth@gmail.com).

Thank you to our new editor of the Hibiscus Herald for doing a wonderful job and here is wishing everyone a wonderful, safe and happy Christmas and New Year from the QCWA Seaforth Branch Ladies.



*Louise Cowan—Press Secretary (QCWA Seaforth Branch)  
Email: qcwaseaforth@gmail.com or Phone: 0411 267 277*

## Tai Chi for Health Classes

**FRIDAYS: 9am to 10am**

*on break during school holiday*

*start back on 30 Jan, 2015*

Seaforth School Library

Cost: \$5.00

For more information please contact

**Carol on 49590 755**



## KUNDALINI YOGA CLASSES

**Tuesday nights - 6.15pm**

**Last 2014 class Dec 16 —restart Jan 27**

SEAFORTH COMMUNITY HALL

*Bring a friend and each receive 25% off*

*for a month.*

Phone Merrilyn on **49664 065**

## AQUA AEROBICS

CAPE HILLSBOROUGH NATURE RESORT POOL

**TUESDAYS: 9am to 10am - \$5.00/class**

**Last class Dec 16 and resumes Jan 13, 2015**

Enquiries to **Sandy** on **4959 0821**

## GENTLE EXERCISE CLASS

at the SEAFORTH COMMUNITY HALL -

**EVERY WEDNESDAY** with Shaneen **8.30 to 9.30am**

\*\* No classes from Dec 24 to Jan 21 \*\*

Cost is only \$5.00 per class

Phone Narelle on **49 590 976** or just rock up.

# CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS 2014/2015

# REGULAR HAPPENINGS in the COMMUNITY



Month	Date	Event
DEC	7 Sun	Mega Market
	10 Wed	Hibiscus Coast Community Groups Meeting 7pm at Seaforth Bowls Club for info ring Len Turvey 0429 897045
	14 Sun	SPSA Christmas Party 6pm Carollers; 7.30pm Movie at Sports Oval
	24 Wed	Christmas Carols at the Community Hall at 7.00 pm
JAN	4 Sun	SPSA Mega Market
	17 Sat	QCWA Cent Sale at "The Shed" at 1.30pm
FEB	1 Sun	SPSA Mega Market
	21 Sat	Hibiscus Coast Community Groups "Come and Try" Day at Ball Bay - Groups & Organisations wishing to take part, please register your interest by phoning Carolyn on 0409 400249
MAR	1 Sun	SPSA Mega Market
APR	2 Thu	Free Jukebox—Seaforth Bowls Club
	4 Sat	Easter Saturday—"Misconception" band at Seaforth Bowls Club
	5 Sun	Easter Sunday—Seaforth Bowls Club Fun Day and SPSA Mega Market
	18 Sat	SPSA Trivia Night—Community Hall
	TBA	SPSA Fun Run
TBA	School holiday Kids' activities—to be confirmed	
MAY	3 Sun	SPSA Mega Market
JUN	7 Sun	SPSA Mega Market
JUL	4 Sat / 5 Sun	Mky & District Bowmen Zone B Invitational
	5 Sun	SPSA Mega Market
	11 Sat	SPSA Trivia Night—Community Hall
AUG	2 Sun	SPSA Mega Market
	8 Sat / 9 Sun	SPSA Car Show
SEP	6 Sun	SPSA Mega Market
	13 Sun	13th Annual Health & Lifestyle Expo
	26 Sat	SPSA Trivia Night—Community Hall
OCT	4 Sun	SPSA Community Fun Day & Mega Market
NOV	1 Sun	SPSA Mega Market
DEC	6 Sun	SPSA Mega Market

Day	Time	Event	Contact Name	Contact Number
MON	9.00am	Hibiscus Dieters Club	Shirley	4959 0452 *
TUE	9.00am	QCWA Meeting—2nd Tues every month at "The Shed"	Josie	4959 0108 *
	9.00am	QCWA Activity/Craft 1st, 3rd, 4th Tues at "The Shed"	Josie	4959 0108 *
	9.00am	Aqua Aerobics (see ad pg 2)	Sandy	4959 0821 *
WED	6.15pm	Kundalini Yoga Classes	Merrilyn	4966 4065 1
	8.30am	Gentle Exercise Class (with Shaneen)	Narelle	4959 0976 1
THU	9.30am	Health & Welfare Group - Dec 11th Xmas breakup lunch; Group resumes Feb 5th	Maralyn	4959 0332 1
FRI	9.00am	Tai Chi at Seaforth School Library	Carol	4959 0755 *
	SAT	8.30am	Seaforth Town Brigade (Training 1st Saturday each month)	Ross
4.00pm		Seaforth District Rural Fire Brigade (Members' Training 1st Saturday each month)	Wade	0419 510 198 *
SUN	8.30am	Seaforth Markets	Allison	4959 0173 *
	8.30am	Ball Bay/Holiday Bay Fire Brigade (Training 1st Sun each month)	Frank	4959 0532 2
	9.00am	Mky & District Bowmen Shoot (1st & 3rd Sunday each month)	Mick	0439 677 293 *
	2.00pm	Garden Club (Last Sunday each month)	Sandy	4959 0821 *

1. Community Hall - 2. Holiday Bay Fire Shed -  
\* Contact the individual for venue information

## FRIDAY IS PIZZA NIGHT OUT at the OLD STATION TEA HOUSE

Enjoy SOUP, Wood Fired PIZZA, SALAD & SWEETS \$35 per person (BYO Alcohol welcome) BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL - Phone 49590 528 (before 5pm on the Friday, please)



**The Seaforth Ambulance Station will be manned from Tues 23 Dec, 2014 until Thurs 29 Jan, 2015.** The Officers will be working on a roster system and will have rostered days off during this period.

**In case of emergency, please call 000**

### Need a Christmas gift idea?

The History of Seaforth book is available at the following outlets. Books \$25 / DVD \$20

- SPSA Stall at the Sunday Markets
- Seaforth Post Office Store
- Seaforth General Store



**LG Doggy Day Care** Seaforth Area  
Your dog cared for in my home at reasonable rates  
Daily walks and exercise + healthy food provided  
Day and overnight stays, in a safe and friendly environment  
**Phone Louise 4966 4152 or 0429 799 097**



To add your Group or Organisation's Community Event or Regular Happening to these calendars, please send details to the Editor at email editor.hibiscusherald@gmail.com or phone 0409 400249

LOCAL SERVICES

**MOBILE LIBRARY**  
 WED Dec 3 & 17; Jan 28  
**Ball Bay**  
 10:30 am-11:30 am  
**School**  
 12:30-2:00 pm  
**Seaforth**  
 2:30 pm- 4:15 pm  
**RECYCLE BIN DAYS**  
 WED Dec 3 & 17; Jan 28

**SEAFORTH WASTE TRANSFER STATION (The Tip)**  
 Open Thurs, Fri, Sat and Sun from **7am to 5pm**



Seaforth BOWLS CLUB



NEWS

Phone 49590 201

**TACKLES RESTAURANT**

Lunch Wed to Sun 12.00pm—2.00pm  
 Dinner Wed to Sat 6.00pm—8.00pm

Due to "Tackles Restaurant" being extremely popular it would be advisable to **book a table** to avoid disappointment. For restaurant bookings or **Take Away Meals** phone **0458 109 361**.  
*Member Discounts*

*COURTESY BUS: FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHTS*

*During the Xmas & New Year period bus bookings are essential*

**All Day/Every Day Pizzas \$12.00 (Members) / \$14.00 (Non-members)**  
**Byrnes Pies \$4.50 (Members)** Available from the bar

What's On

**Raffles** Friday nights from 5.30pm to 7.00pm  
**Entertainment** Fri, Dec 5 2 Harvs Fri, Jan 2 Free Jukebox  
 Fri, Dec 12 EJay Fri, Jan 9 Jay C  
 Fri, Dec 19 Scratch Fri, Jan 16 Hardrive  
 Fri, Dec 26 Karaoki Sat, Jan 17 Twilight Bowls  
 Wed, Dec 31 2 Harvs Fri, Jan 23 2 Harvs

**NEW YEARS EVE**

**Open until 2.00am**  
**Meals available 6.00pm to 8.00pm**  
 2 courtesy buses running

**Twilight Bowls**

**Sat 17th Jan at 6pm**  
 No experience necessary  
 Casual dress/flat soled shoes  
 Names on board by 5.30pm

**AUSTRALIA DAY**

**Sunday 25th Jan**  
 Sunday sesh midday until 5pm - Live Band  
 Prizes for Best Dressed Aussie  
 Sunday Roast 12—2pm

**Mug of the Week**—buy a drink on Mon, Tue, Wed between 4-7pm to go into the draw on Wednesday at 7pm. 10 pot cards to be won. Jackpots.

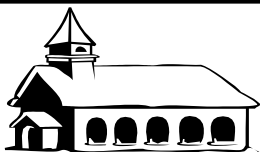
**Punters Challenge** every Saturday from 12 noon. (New punters welcome)  
**Friday Membership** drawn 7.00pm to 7.30pm  
**Saturday Goose Club** drawn at 3.00pm. (Tickets available all week)

Playing Days

**Every Wednesday:** Social Bowls 1.00pm start (names on board)  
**Friday:** Medley Pairs 1.30pm start (Names on the board. Mufti dress)  
**Every Sunday:** Social Bowls 1.30pm start (names on board)

**\*\*CHECK the BOARD for MIXED BOWLS on FIRST SUNDAY\*\***

Seaforth CHURCH SERVICES



Uniting Church - 9.00 am  
 1st & 3rd Sunday each month  
Anglican Service at Uniting Church - 5.00 pm 2nd & 4th Saturday  
Catholic Church - 7.00 am every Sunday

**Do you need the services of a JP ?**

We thank the following Commissioner for Declarations and/or Justices of the Peace who have made their names available for this newsletter. Please phone them to arrange a convenient time.

Debbie Roberts	Seaforth	4959 0229
Doug Scells JP (Qual)	Haliday Bay	4959 0241
Maxine Bradshaw JP(Qual)	Ball Bay	4966 4128
Vicki McGuren JP (Qual)	Ball Bay	4959 0074
Jennifer Borg	Kuttabul area	4954 0487
Mavis Gibson JP (Qual)	Mt Jukes area	4959 0447

Some of the above volunteers work during the day and may not be available at the time of your choosing. Please show some consideration when arranging a time suitable to both parties to avail yourself of this service. Should you be new to our area and have these qualifications and would like to be included on the list, please contact the Editor (editor.hibiscusherard@gmail.com)

**SEAFORTH COMMUNITY HALL, SPORTS GROUND AREA & EVENING COURT HIRE**

For bookings and enquiries contact

Maralyn Ross 49590 332 or 0407 640 135

**Seaforth Pines Outdoor Education and Conference Centre is Open**

Leanne Conoley, the owner and director of School Camps QLD is delighted to announce the reopening of **Seaforth Pines Outdoor Education and Conference Centre**. The local community have been waiting with bated breath to hear what is happening with the Center since its closure in 2006. You can now breathe easy knowing that it is in good hands.

School Camps Qld have been organizing school camps and conferences since 2008 with great success hence the addition of two new venues within the last year.

"We provide outdoor education programs for schools and corporate groups, focusing on Leadership and Team Building in our activities", said Leanne who talks with complete dedication about her role as an educator and of the quality of her facilitators who implement the programs.

You can obtain information for your school, local club or business by visiting our website [www.schoolcampsqld.com.au](http://www.schoolcampsqld.com.au) or calling the office on 1800 448 462 for a brochure.



## SEAFORTH DISTRICT DISASTER PLANNING GROUP

### LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY

The events in our area in the last few years has highlighted the need once again for our community and the residents in this district to have in place a "plan of action" in the event of future disasters. We are a "Semi-Rural" area and we need to get to know those around us.

We have recently had a meeting of the local Disaster Management committee, and we are now endeavoring to update our information database. Our aim for this is to minimize the effect to our local area of such an event. Cyclone Ului and subsequent other disasters has helped highlight our vulnerabilities and strengths and so it is now we should act to create a strong and potent base to work from should the need arise. Most importantly, it is you who has to prepare for an emergency. This group will be there for you after the event has happened, but if at all possible you must be prepared.

Our committee needs to have information supplied by the general community to be able to fulfill its commitment to the community as a whole. The information supplied by you would be of a confidential nature and treated with due respect. This information is needed to compile lists of those people willing and able to be called upon in an emergency, those people who have special needs in our community, those people who have equipment we could call upon should it be needed and specialist people whose professional abilities will prove invaluable in times of need. It is acknowledged that some of you will be reluctant to supply this information and that is accepted, but please bear in mind that we can only be of assistance to those we know are in need of our services. This will be the first update of information you have supplied to us. If you are new to the area, please forward to us the relevant information we require so you will be included in this valuable tool.

The questionnaire asking you to supply us with this information is on the reverse side of this newsletter page, and also available at the Post Office Store, Seaforth Service Station and the Police Beat Office. Please read the attached questionnaire, cut it out of the newsletter and take the time to complete this as it will prove to be an important tool to help us in the maintenance of the service we have put in place for the benefit of you, our community. **Put your completed questionnaire in a sealed envelope addressed to the "Seaforth District Disaster Planning Group" and drop it off at the Seaforth Post Office store or Seaforth General Store.**

Once again, please note that all information supplied to us will be treated with the utmost confidentiality.

Regards

**Seaforth District Disaster Planning Group**

C/- Post Office, Seaforth Qld 4741

Phone 07 4959 0056



### **COSTO'S CORNER**

An update from JASON COSTIGAN MP  
Member for Whitsunday Electorate Office 4945 3343  
whitsunday@parliament.qld.gov.au

THE proposed net-free zone between Cape Hillsborough and St Helens Beach has my support, as per a submission I made recently to a comprehensive review into fisheries in Queensland.

The review was announced back in July by the State's Fisheries Minister Dr

John McVeigh, who at my invitation, met with proponents of the net-free zone on September 4 at Cape Hillsborough - a place where the Minister had previously holidayed with his family. The proponents walked Dr McVeigh through their proposal which I know has strong community support along the Hibiscus Coast and across the greater Mackay-Whitsunday region where there is great potential to grow our tourism industry via recreational fishing.

I now look forward to the next stage in this process and congratulate all stakeholders locally who have put their views forward in the hope of seeing a better outcome for our tourism industry and the local community in general

SPEAKING of the community, thanks to everyone who signed our petition to seal the Mt Ossa Seaforth Road. Almost 2200 people put pen to paper and I now look forward to the response of Scott Emerson, Minister for Transport and Main Roads, who has been invited up here to see the road for himself and why we need that section sealed all the way.

Special thanks to Terry Richards from the Progress Association for personally handing over the pages and pages of signatures at Mackay Airport before I boarded my flight south to State Parliament.

ANYONE wishing to see me to discuss a local issue can do so by making an appointment via my electorate office on 4945 3343.

**I'll be back in Seaforth on Thursday, December 4 from 1.30pm** and there are also appointments available at The Leap on the same day from 9.30am, as well as Mt Ossa on Tuesday, December 2 from 1.30pm.

That's all for this year so on that note, I would like to wish you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you all again in 2015, if not beforehand!

*Best wishes, Costo.*



## SEAFORTH DISTRICT DISASTER PLANNING GROUP—QUESTIONNAIRE

We are updating our database to aid and assist you in the event of a disaster. We understand that some of you may be reluctant to supply us with some information, but you must understand, if we don't know of you, we cannot help you. Please cut out the questionnaire, fill it in forward it back to us as soon as possible. Our database will remain confidential and not accessible unless in time of disaster, and then only to the relevant Authorities. Please return this form to the Post Office or to the General Store in a sealed envelope addressed to the "Seaforth District Disaster Planning Group".

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Residential Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Other forms of Comms: (eg Sat Phone, etc) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of persons in residence: Under age 15: \_\_\_\_\_ 15-20: \_\_\_\_\_ 20-30: \_\_\_\_\_ 30-45: \_\_\_\_\_ 45-60: \_\_\_\_\_ 60+: \_\_\_\_\_

- Does anyone in your residence have any special medical condition/s? Eg *insulin dependence, hearing/vision impaired, heart condition.*

Circle: YES / NO If Yes, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

- In a disaster would anyone in your residence require assistance with their conditions? Eg wheelchairs, allergy, vehicle, keeping medications refrigerated, etc.

Circle YES / NO If Yes, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

- In the event of a disaster would anyone in your residence have a special skill or equipment which could assist the Community: eg *Medical, emergency response, electrician, builder, generator, earthmoving equip?*

Circle YES / NO If yes, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

- Do you have a second language and would you be available to assist us with this in times of disaster?

Circle YES / NO If yes, please specify which language/s \_\_\_\_\_

If you are willing to assist us, have any questions or suggestions regarding this matter please contact us:  
John O'Hara 49590156, Judi Fredrickson 49590886, Adam 49590056.

## LOCAL EMERGENCY LIAISON OFFICERS ARE READY

Seaforth district has EMERGENCY LIAISON OFFICERS (ELO's) trained and ready in case Seaforth and surrounding areas experience a cyclone or storm that requires emergency response.

Their role is to be the local point of contact for the Mackay Regional Council's Local Disaster Management Group. If there is a disaster, the local ELO's will have direct contact with the Disaster Coordination Centre in Mackay. The ELO's will provide a rapid impact assessment and daily situation reports to the Local Disaster Coordination Centre so that our Community has what is needed as quickly as possible.

The local ELO's are:	Charlie Symons 0408 776 564 Jessica Newton 0409 587 128 Dwayne Shea 0407 647 166	Seaforth township area Seaforth School area Cape Hillsborough Road, Ball Bay & Holiday Bay
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Community Emergency Noticeboards, including the above ELO contact details, have been erected at three locations to keep everyone informed. Assuming that it is safe, ELO's will post pre and post disaster information as soon as it becomes available. These noticeboards are located at: Anzac Park (*opposite the Seaforth PO Shop*); Seaforth State School; The Old Station Tea House.

Mackay Regional Council has strategies in place should there be a total communication loss by:

- the installation of a 20kva generator and base station for UHF at the Seaforth Community Hall and
- supplying all possible equipment to allow ELO's to maintain a direct line of communication to the Local Disaster Management Group in the event of medical evacuations or SES assistance for major dwelling or infrastructure damage.

Adam McLoughlin our Police Beat Officer has liaised with the owners of Seaforth Pines and should it be necessary to utilise the Conference Centre as a "Recovery" centre, it will be only be after approval from the Disaster Management Group and the Seaforth Pines Outdoor and Recreation Centre management has been obtained, and then it will be at your own risk. The Seaforth Pines Outdoor Education & Conference Centre IS NOT A CYCLONE SHELTER.

In the meantime, as the storm season approaches, please get your emergency kits ready and ensure that you have a portable radio and batteries.

*Charlie Symons*

**It's Christmas!**

WITH the festive season now upon us, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. As I look back on the events of 2014, one thing which gives me a real sense of achievement is seeing \$6.7 billion committed to Fixing the Bruce Highway, and you will see that work going on around you over the next few years. Roadworks can be inconvenient but please remember that we are moving towards a vastly improved major thoroughfare, and this work is long overdue. I wish you safe travels over the Christmas/New Year period.



**New ways to reach me**

I now have a new website up and running and you can take a look at [www.georgechristensen.com.au](http://www.georgechristensen.com.au). The site's blog will provide daily updates on what's happening in the political world and there are easy options for contacting me on various matters. There are also useful links to information on anniversaries, grants funding, veterans' certificates and enrolling to vote. Most importantly, it gives you an opportunity to share your concerns on issues. Look for the red **HAVE YOUR SAY** button on the menu bar.

**Remember the troops**

WITH more than 2,200 Australian Defence Force personnel deployed overseas on operations, the folks at home are being asked to spare a thought for our troops and send a message of support. Federal Member for Dawson George Christensen said the most effective way to do this is to send an email message to [supportthetroops@defence.gov.au](mailto:supportthetroops@defence.gov.au) "Messages are always appreciated by ADF personnel and simply saying 'thank you for your service' can have a tremendous positive impact," Mr Christensen said.



If time permits, you can also send a care package. Postage is free for packages of less than 2kg sent before December 8. "Be thoughtful about what you send. Magazines, packaged lollies, Anzac biscuits and DVDs are good options. You may also wish to consider making a donation to the RSL's Australian Forces Overseas Fund, to Legacy or the charity Soldier On."

**Do it once**

ENDING the onslaught of unwanted telemarketing calls is now easier, thanks to a Red Tape Repeal day initiative from the Liberal National Government. "You now only have to place a phone number on the Do Not Call Register once to end unwanted calls. Previously, you had to re-register after eight years," Mr Christensen said. Contact the free Do Not Call Register via [www.donotcall.gov.au](http://www.donotcall.gov.au) or phone 1300 792 958.

Authorised by Federal Member for Dawson George Christensen, 2/21 Milton St, Mackay Qld 4740. PH: 4944 0662 [www.georgechristensen.com.au](http://www.georgechristensen.com.au)

**Seaforth Town Rural Fire Brigade**

The town of Seaforth now has good protection from wild fires, after recent events. In early November we had a crew tasked twice to Midge Point and once to Laguna Quays to help control three fires.

SO NOW, THINK ABOUT A FIRE IN YOUR HOME. Do you have a plan to evacuate your home? Records show a small fire can become uncontrollable in just 30 seconds. During that time, huge volumes of toxic smoke are generated. If you are in your home for that time, you will quickly be overcome by smoke inhalation. Get your family, pets and yourself out as soon as possible. You and/or your neighbours will phone 000. Once safely out, don't go back in for your treasured photos etc.

So from Seaforth Town Rural Fire, have a Safe and Merry Christmas!

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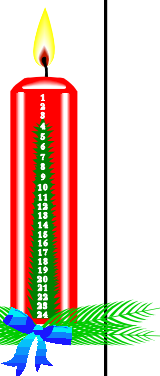
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