

Welcome to the first edition of the Mornington Shire Council Community Newsletter.



Mayor's Message

Excited to bring you a brand new Council newsletter. Everyone should be proud of the great things happening in our community and this newsletter will share some highlights.

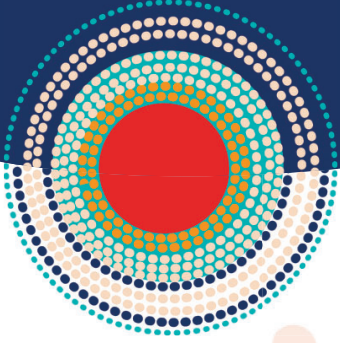
Council has had big financial and operational challenges for many years. We have been focussed on fixing them. Recently we recruited our new, highly experienced CEO and Executive Team to turn Council operations around; and we are on target to make the first budget surplus in a long time

We're focussed on improving operations and services, hiring locals and growing our workforce. Trainees, trades assistants and apprentices recruitment is happening. We are working with the school to include training opportunities for students as well.

There are lots of building activities going on; two 5 bedroom community houses; single men's accommodation; and a subdivision for future housing. We'll soon have a new youth drop-in centre for kids to call their own; a million-dollar painting program; and a \$4 million upgrade program for community houses. We are working on upgrading our water, sewerage and waste systems, as well as renewing our fleet, plant and equipment too.

A big thank you for the deadly work being done by our local roads team. Thanks too to everyone involved with the recent cruise ship visit including our Elders, dancers, Arts Centre team and guides. The Silver Explorer cruise ship passengers loved their day on Mornington Island. Council is keen to develop cultural and eco-tourism activities and there will be lots of work, as well as economic development opportunities for local community members.

I am very proud to be Mayor of our community and of the direction that we are now taking.



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CONVERSATIONS WITH THE CEO

“

This is my first formal message to community since I arrived on Mornington Island. I would like to thank everyone for the warm welcome I have since I have arrived, and I have been struck by how beautiful the Island is and how friendly and helpful everyone has been.

In the last couple of months we have assembled a top class Executive Team and we have focussed our initial energies on the financial and operational challenges facing Council. We are already making significant progress in improving the financial stability of Council and the efficiency of existing operations.

Our objective as a team is to help create the best Council in the Gulf and Cape region, which in turn will deliver top class services and maximise the benefits to our Community and all people within it.

We see this Newsletter as an important part of the future journey we are taking together and an important mechanism in the communication of our priorities, projects, activities, achievements and the benefits we are delivering for community.

We will be looking to continually improve this Newsletter in the future and we look forward to any feedback on how we might achieve this.

”

CEO, GARY UHLMANN



SILVER EXPLORER WELCOMED TO GUNUNA

THIS MAY, SILVERSEA CRUISES 'SILVER EXPLORER' DOCKED FOR THE FIRST TIME ON MORNINGTON ISLAND WITH PASSENGERS EXPLORING OUR BEAUTIFUL ISLAND.

Silversea Cruises Ltd approached Council during late April 2023 suggesting their passengers travelling from Cairns to the Kimberley would like to have a stopover at Mornington Island. With little lead time, on Thursday 18 May 2023, approximately 120 passengers arrived on zodiac boats at Mornington Island.

They enjoyed a Welcome to Country and dance performances. Passengers also visited the Arts Centre (Mirndiyan Gununa Art and Cultural Centre), took guided walks with Traditional Owners to learn about local flora, fauna, and customs, and explored the

surrounding landscapes on a four-wheel-drive adventure. Council thanks everyone involved who worked hard to ensure that the passengers had a great time. The passengers were really thankful for their experiences and passed on their congratulations related to the dancing, quality of the artwork and the beautiful Mornington Island scenery.

There is massive potential for tourism on the island, creating employment, engaging local young people; and showcasing what the island has to offer. ***Council is now exploring ways to schedule more cruise ship visits and other eco-tourism options.***

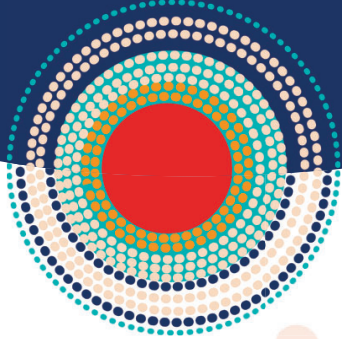


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Mornington dancers welcoming Silversea Cruises to the island



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ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

During the vet visit at the end of June, Council's Animal Management team worked with Hannah from Burton Veterinary Contracting, and stockman Nathan Garlick, to stop roaming horses in the community.

All horses were mustered to the rodeo grounds. Horses that were identified with brands or other unique markings have been through a formal ownership process with different community members. All horses have now had health checks, and branding and registration processes completed. The vet visit was a success and Hannah will be back as a part of another routine vet visit, during October 2023.



WHAT'S ON

CHECK OUT WHAT'S GOING ON AROUND TOWN

26 - 30 JUNE | PCYC SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM WEEK 1

3 - 7 JULY | PCYC SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM WEEK 2

2 - 9 JULY | NAIDOC WEEK - 'For Our Elders'

12 - 13 JULY | DEADLY EARS

17 - 20 JULY | SERVICES AUSTRALIA (CENTRELINK)

19 JULY | ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

24 JULY | ABC MEDIA VISIT TO ISLAND

let's keep in touch

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on Facebook

 [/morningtonshirecouncil](https://www.facebook.com/morningtonshirecouncil)



Email us

info@mornington.qld.gov.au

mornington.qld.gov.au

COUNCIL ROADS PROGRAM

Funded by the Queensland Reconstruction Authority

Council's Civil team have been improving the road network on the island and ensuring that they're in good condition before the next wet season.

Roads where recent works have occurred:

- Airport Circuit Road
- Gold Cliffs Road
- Batching Plant Road
- Dadrigun Road
- Gee Wee Road
- Bidgigun Road

Roads underway with vegetation clearing:

- Dwendi Road
- Gunbah Road
- Barrakiah Road
- Ballaleah Road

The Civil team have been working incredibly well to ensure that the roads are accessible and safe.



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BIN DAYS



Remember to get your bins out, facing the curb, ready for collection by our deadly Waste Team.

MONDAYS

WEDNESDAYS

FRIDAYS

Do your bit to help keep Gununa tidy.

LOOKING FOR A CAREER WITH COUNCIL?

Visit our [website](#) or chat with our HR team about current vacancies and opportunities!

WASTE MANAGEMENT NEWS



RUBBISH BIN WASTE AUDIT

Council has engaged an organisation called EC Sustainable to conduct a full waste audit across the Island.

The team will be looking at different types of waste streams and the information will be used to determine the best solutions to minimise the volume of waste that goes into landfill.

A waste audit involves selecting bins at random and categorising all the different types of rubbish that is found in there.

The information will also provide information related to potential recycling options like processing plastic to become garden pavers. Information from the audit will also help with the planning and design of a waste transfer station, ensuring that it suits the community's needs. ***The audit will begin during July.***



YOUR COUNCILLORS

Reach out and say hello. Your Councillors are here to represent the interests of Mornington Island residents.



Deputy Mayor
Cr David Barnes
0407619728



Cr Roxanne
Thomas
0407628173



Cr Bobby
Thompson
0472837294



Cr Dwayne
Rogers
0407677619

WAREHOUSE ACTIVITIES

The warehouse team work to ensure that weekly barge deliveries are unloaded each Wednesday morning, quickly and safely.

There are a range of items including vehicles, demountable buildings, hardware, tools, shop food and variety items that are distributed throughout the community.

A stocktake of all warehouse items was recently undertaken, for End of Financial Year requirements. Council will be progressively reviewing the items that are available for purchase in the warehouse and improving our procurement processes, to ensure value for money, as well as formal Local Buy approaches.



FAREWELL TO CLAIRE (CECILY) FARRELL



Claire has worked at Mornington Shire Council for more than forty years. Claire has also been a Councillor at different times.

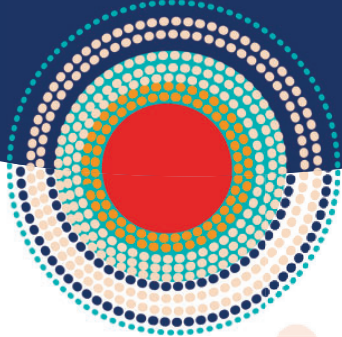
After working in several different administration roles across almost all Council departments, Claire has decided to retire. Claire looks forward to holidays and spending much deserved time with family.

Council thanks Claire for her dedication and professionalism during her long-term work contribution.



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MORNINGTON ISLAND AIRPORT RUNWAY LINEMARKING & CIVIL WORKS

Council completed upgrade works at the airport during May 2023. New line marking occurred on the runway to ensure that it is compliant with mandatory aviation standards.

An important electrical and lighting inspection also occurred and aircraft passengers might also notice new drainage works at the passenger walkway, designed to reduce localised flooding.

There has also been significant upgraded drainage works around the runway strip, to prevent any water from pooling and flooding on the runway apron.

Council now looks forward to other airport improvements and projects.



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS



26 - 30 JUNE | PCYC SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM WEEK 1

3 - 7 JULY | PCYC SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM WEEK 2

2 - 9 JULY | NAIDOC WEEK EVENTS

Keep an eye on Facebook for the full program!



COUNCIL CONTACTS



Ian McCarthy
Chief Financial Officer



Dan Dixon
Director Engineering



Geoffrey Rewald
Director Housing & Facilities



Skye Price
Director Corporate &
Community

To get in contact with a member
of our team:

info@mornington.qld.gov.au

07 4745 7811



NAME THIS NEWSLETTER!

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Council wants you to help us name
this newsletter.

Sharing the great things going on around
community, Council news and highlights, and
upcoming events, the newsletter needs a name that
celebrates the beautiful place we live and work.

Send your suggestions to:
info@mornington.qld.gov.au
OR

drop us a message on Facebook!

The winning entry will receive a \$100 voucher.

*winner selected by Council Elected Members

ENTRIES CLOSE 5PM, 31 JULY 2023



Welcome to the first edition of your Council
community newsletter highlighting all the news
and achievements happening across
Mornington Island.

Your feedback and input will help us make this
a great read for community!

If you would like to suggest stories for the next
edition, email **media@mornington.qld.gov.au**