



MORNINGTON  
SHIRE COUNCIL

# MORNINGTON NEWS

ISSUE 3  
SEPT  
2024

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE



This is the first newsletter under the new Council. I'm very pleased about the way our Council is working together for the benefit of our community.

The financial position of the Council is in surplus. We have a significant program of projects and grants that will be of great benefit for the community as well.

For the first time, we have a \$16M approved forward roads program for the next 2 years. This means that there will not be any delays in commencing our road works straight after the wet.

We have a forward program of community house building which includes the 5 bedroom duplex houses in Lardil St, a number of plugins for the community, the single men's units, the 13 lot housing development opposite the airport.

We are close to completing the tavern with a liquor licence to open it everyday. A café will soon open at the airport, and our first footpath has been completed, with more on the way. Our new library will be completed prior to Christmas, and the youth hub is now operating. We also have \$4.5M to protect against erosion and to upgrade the barge area.

A great community improvement includes the free phone and internet currently being installed in every house and building in the township with Australian Government funding.

I am very proud to be trusted with the with the responsibility of being your mayor at a time when there are great things planned for the community.

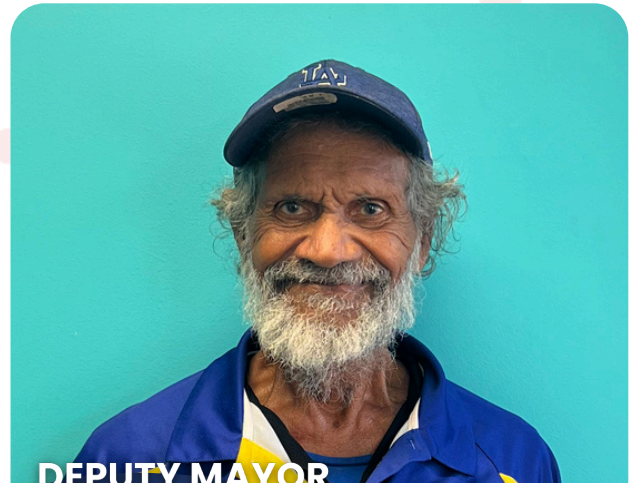
**MAYOR RICHARD SEWTER**

# MEET YOUR COUNCIL



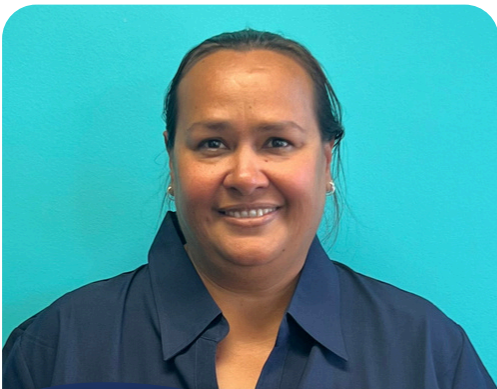
**MAYOR RICHARD SEWTER**

Health, Housing, Council Performance



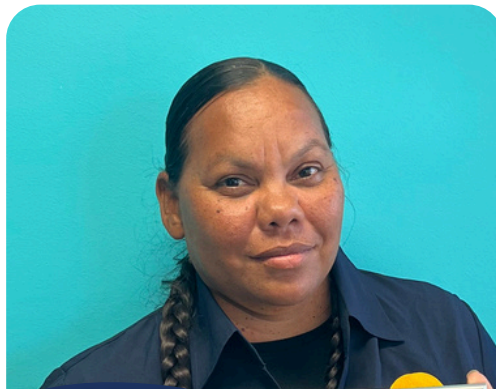
**DEPUTY MAYOR BOBBY THOMPSON**

Law, Lore, Justice, Men, Seniors, Youth, Disability Services, Roads



**CR FARRAH LINDEN**

Aged Care, Women, Children, Funeral, Community, Safety & History



**CR RENEE WILSON**

Education & Training, Events, Arts & Culture



**CR JANE AH KIT**

Economic Dev., Tourism, Small Business, Employment, Environment



## ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

Council's Animal Management Team will be out and about from the **23 September to 4 October** administering flea, tick and worming tablets to all dogs and cats.

Speak to the team when you see the out and about if you have a pet who needs this treatment, or if you have any other questions.

**PLEASE REMEMBER:** All animals should be properly secured at all times. Dangerous dogs can be surrendered to Council. Any animal incidents can be reported to Council, too.

Dogs should be kept in yards and not be roaming the streets.

Remember to always have fresh water available for your pets.



## TROPICAL VETS

The veterinarian from Tropical Vets will be back on Mornington Island this October.

**14 - 17 October**

If you'd like to book an appointment get in touch with our Tech Services team:

Text: 0427 193 687

Email: [animalcontrol@mornington.qld.gov.au](mailto:animalcontrol@mornington.qld.gov.au)



## VET DATES

**23 SEPT - 4 OCT | TREATMENTS by Animal Management Team**

**14 - 17 OCT | TROPICAL VETS - ISLAND VISIT**



# Interim Local Advisory Committee Expressions of Interest

Mornington Shire Council is calling for Expressions of Interest from upstanding community members to be part of this important Interim Local Advisory Committee (ILAC).

The aim of the ILAC is to provide a direct communication link between Council and the grassroots Mornington Shire Council community, enabling Council, Queensland Government and the Commonwealth Government to be better informed of the community's aspirations and expectations for the region.

3 to 6 non-Councillor Committee Members will be selected by Council. The Committee will meet every two months. Meetings will be up to two (2) hours in duration. Members will receive a meeting fee, plus expense reimbursement.

Meetings will occur in person in Gununa, Mornington Island (with videoconference available).

To be eligible for appointment to the Committee, you must:

- reside in the Mornington Shire; and
- identify as an Aboriginal person; and
- identify as representing one or more of the six (6) major family groups in the Shire.

If you think you meet all of the above criteria and would like to be part of the ILAC, please complete the self-nomination form, located at the front counter in the Council office or on Council's website

**[WWW.MORNINGTON.QLD.GOV.AU](http://WWW.MORNINGTON.QLD.GOV.AU)**

All applications can be submitted to MSC office (1 Mission Road, Gununa) or by email to [skye.price@mornington.qld.gov.au](mailto:skye.price@mornington.qld.gov.au)

**Applications close 4pm Thursday 31 October 2024**

# A WARM WELCOME FOR OUR NEWEST CITIZENS

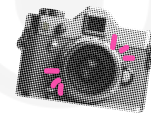
**THIS SEPTEMBER, MORNINGTON SHIRE COUNCIL HELD IT'S FIRST EVER CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY, WELCOMING OUR COUNTRY'S FOUR NEWEST CITIZENS**

Friday 13 September 2024, Mayor Richard Sewter was the presiding officer for a very special event. Four community members were conferees at a formal citizenship ceremony, endorsed by the Australian Government Department of Home Affairs.

Reverend Tau William originally from the Cook Islands, Daniel Udo originally from Nigeria, as well as Piyumi Athanuda and Vishwa Rathnayaka originally from Sri Lanka are all now Australian citizens following an exam and a formal pledge.

Family members, community members, Councillors and Council officers looked on as the Mayor presided over the formal proceedings and conferees recited their pledges to finalise the citizenship process. The ceremony was followed by photos and refreshments.

**Thank you for choosing Mornington Island to mark this wonderful milestone.**



**Photos by Peter Holling**



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[mornington.qld.gov.au](http://mornington.qld.gov.au)

# GREENING-UP MORNINGTON

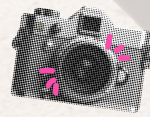


Residents came out in force for the special 'Greening-Up Mornington' activity on Saturday 10 August 2024. Sponsored by the NAB Foundation and Mornington Shire Council, the community planting day aimed to plant trees in locations around community to improve shade and soil stability, as well as adding vibrancy and greenery for Gununa.

There is a mix of flowering shrubs, native trees and fruiting trees, that we're looking forward to seeing thrive around community.

A very big thanks to everyone who came out on Saturday and joined the 'Greening-Up Mornington Island' event, made even better by seeing residents of ALL ages getting involved.

A special thanks to NAB Foundation for their support and making this event possible..



Photos by Peter Holling





# GREENING-UP MORNINGTON





**GRANTS, GRANTS, GRANTS**

## **SUCCESSFUL FUNDING APPLICATIONS DRIVING LOCAL PROJECTS**

Council has been working hard to secure additional funding for a range of projects which will improve the wellbeing and lifestyle for community members. Some projects include:

**NIAA NAIDOC week celebrations grant:** \$40,000 from the Australian Government National Indigenous Australians Agency for community activities including an elders' dinner, a range of activities for kids, adults and senior citizens, as well as breakfasts, barbeques, tee shirts and more!

**Queensland Government Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts Community Emergency Help Funds** which provided food and meat vouchers to the value of \$75 for each household.

**Gulf Trust (QLD Cares)** have provided \$11,000 for a new inflatable water slide for community youth which will ensure hours of water play and fun activities for children.

The **NAB-foundation** provided \$35,000 for greening-up Gununa, Mornington Island. Citrus trees, t-shirts and a barbeque was rolled out during August 2024. More trees with these funds will be planted around the community including at the school and at the Visitor Accommodation Centre, shortly.

The **Community Gambling Trust** has provided \$85,000 for a twelve seat bus. The bus will display local artist creations and is due to arrive on island by Christmas.

**Orange Sky Laundry** has arrived on island and will commence services with three washing machines and 3 dryers for community use. Orange Sky will be accessible at the Salvation Army opportunity shop location in Lardil Street, from October 2024.

**Get Ready Queensland Program** has provided \$6,780 for community and cyclone season preparation with tools and equipment including electric lawn mowers, brush cutters and leaf blowers.

The **Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal** has provided \$10,000 as a part of the strengthening Rural communities program to purchase library books for the new Library scheduled to open during early 2025.

**Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Fund** has provided \$709,000 for the important purchase of a 60,000L Opal fuel tank, as well as a back up freezer/fridge at barge landing with a generator to provide food and fuel security for up to 2 weeks during a cyclone or other natural disaster event.



# MORNINGTON ISLAND ORANGE SKY

**COMING SOON!!**

**Free washers & dryers  
for you to use and space for a yarn**



**MORNINGTON  
SHIRE COUNCIL**



**North West  
Hospital and  
Health Service**

**OrangeSky**  
— Australia —

## BUILDING AND WORKS AROUND GUNUNA

### HOUSING AND FACILITIES

Extensive house painting works continue to occur. More than twenty homes are now looking fresh, with modern colour schemes. More than twenty homes are a part of a painting works schedule, too.

### ENGINEERING

- Council now has \$6m in total from two different funding sources for a new water treatment plant. Until then, a boil water alert will remain in place for all tap water.
- Council will be cleaning all stormwater drains before the wet season.
- The team is also putting firebreaks in place at the moment.
- A sewage upgrade is happening on island at the moment to ensure better odour management.
- Footpath works will be extended east along Lardil Street to the hospital in the new year.
- Womald is on island this week servicing all of the fire extinguishers at Council sites and in Council vehicles.
- Waste management planning continues. In the new year new tip operations and an improved recycling centre will be rolled out.

### OTHER NEWS

- \$4.82 initial payment of a \$16 million roads funding through QRA received.
- This week Visitor Accommodation Centre and motel accommodation has been at 100% occupancy. This demonstrates the need for additional motel and Visitor Accommodation Centre rooms. Planning is underway for exciting pre-fabrication on the island of additional motel buildings. In time this will present training and professional development for locals related to construction and engineering.





# GET READY QUEENSLAND WEEK

8-13 OCTOBER 2024

[getready.qld.gov.au](http://getready.qld.gov.au)



Queensland Government

## GET READY QUEENSLAND WEEK IS COMING SOON!

Launching 8 October 2024, Get Ready Queensland Week is a year-round, all hazards, resilience building initiative encouraging Queenslanders to prepare now for any type of extreme weather. Local events will occur statewide across the week, encouraging Queenslanders to Get Ready. The Get Ready Queensland Week Events Page on the Get Ready Queensland website is a great place to find out what's on in your community. Get Ready with us!

This Get Ready Queensland Week, people all over the state are preparing for extreme weather, and you should too. Queensland is impacted by more natural disasters than anywhere else in Australia, so households need to be ready for anything.

It's easy to be prepared by following Get Ready Queensland's 3 Steps to Get Ready:

- Understand your risk
- Make a plan
- Pack a kit

Research shows people who are prepared for severe weather recover faster than those who rely solely on outside help.

Get Ready Queensland has plenty of helpful information, resources, and tips available at [www.getready.qld.gov.au](http://www.getready.qld.gov.au).



# GET READY QUEENSLAND WEEK

8-13 OCTOBER 2024

[getready.qld.gov.au](http://getready.qld.gov.au)



Queensland Government



# **BACKYARD FIRES ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY**

Thinking of having a small open fire? Have some garden waste to burn? Always **CONTACT MORNINGTON RFS** before lighting your fire.

You can contact Steve Williams directly 0474 304 347 or alternatively call the SES Hotline on 132500.

You should check the weather forecast prior to lighting to ensure the current and forecast conditions will not be outside those prescribed by the Rural Fire Service Warden. You cannot control the weather, but by checking the conditions, you have the best chance of adhering to the requirements RFS .

The fire cannot be lit if the wind exceeds 15 kph. These conditions must apply throughout the duration of the fire.

There are a number of useful weather sites on the internet, some of which provide daily forecasts (up to four days ahead) showing the temperature, relative humidity and wind strength and direction. A good site to obtain a general weather forecast for your area is [Bureau of Meteorology](#).

If your fire escapes from the planned boundaries of the fire or gets out of control in any way, your obligations (under the Act) are to:

- Take all reasonable steps to extinguish or control the fire; and
- As soon as is practicable, report the existence and location of the fire by calling 000 (triple zero).
- If you are at all concerned about the behaviour of the fire, act early.

It is your responsibility to ensure the fire you light does not affect other persons, properties or the environment.

## **How long do I supervise the fire?**

You need to supervise the fire for as long as necessary to ensure it doesn't escape. The Permit to Light Fire states: "After burning, the perimeter of the burn must be made safe and the fire patrolled until there is no longer any risk of the fire escaping" You can cease patrolling when the burnt area is cool, with no remaining heat source.



# ALCOHOL PRE-ORDERS

THE FOLLOWING PRE-ORDER ARRANGEMENTS  
EFFECTIVE MONDAY 30 SEPTEMBER:

Alcohol Preorders can be made at  
Carriage Limit **OR** the Council Office



## COUNCIL OFFICE PRE-ORDER TIMES

Monday to Thursday between 9 – 2pm  
same day collection

Friday before 12pm  
same day collection



## ORDERS FROM CARRIAGE LIMIT

as per normal carriage limit hours



- ▶ All orders can only be picked up by the person buying alcohol. ◀
- ▶ **NO ONE** will be allowed to collect on behalf of someone else. ◀

***\*Please note subject to change for Sorry Days.***

CARRIAGE LIMIT

CARRIAGE LIMIT

LOOKING  
MORE  
INFO? >

For more information:  
Director of Accommodation & Hospitality  
Claire Mousa  
[m] 07 4745 7813  
[e] [community@mornington.qld.gov.au](mailto:community@mornington.qld.gov.au)



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## CARRIAGE LIMIT QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Do you know how much alcohol you can have with you? What if you're in a car with other people? And where can it be consumed? It's also important to understand the conditions Council has abide by to meet licence conditions. Read this information to help answer these questions and more!

### **Carriage Limit**

- Carriage limit is 30 cans of mid strength alcohol, not more than 4%;
- The carriage limit is per person or per vehicle;
  - This means only one individual carriage limit in a vehicle, plane landing at the airport, boat landing onshore etc.
  - More than one person cannot get in a car with their carriage limit. The only exception is the Council bus with a restricted area permit that allows only that bus to carry adult passengers with their individual carriage limits;

### **Licence conditions**

- The licensee (Council) cannot:
  - charge more than the retail price for any alcohol ordered through the Barge Shed;
  - charge freight costs above the total freight costs incurred by council;
  - sell liquor to any person who has not paid for the alcohol;
- Barge Shed can only supply the carriage limit of liquor per person per day to a nominated person;
- You CANNOT drink at the Barge Shed;
- Council must organise monthly meetings with the Community Justice Group, the OIC of the Mornington Police Station and OLGR;
- Council must have a courtesy bus to take residents home;
- Council must ensure that home delivery is an option available where practical.

## CHECK OUT WHAT'S GOING ON AROUND TOWN

23 - 27 SEPT | SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

25 SEPT | ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

23 SEPT - 4 OCT | ANIMAL FLEA, TICK & WORM PROGRAM

4 OCT | DREAMTIME GUNUNA MUSIC VIDEO LAUNCH (@ the School)

4 OCT | 'READ AND FEED' - MORNINGTON ISLAND STATE SCHOOL

6 OCT | NRL GRANDFINAL AT THE TAVERN

EARLY OCTOBER | ORANGE SKY LAUNDRY OPENING

30 OCT | ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING



**SCAN TO  
WATCH THE  
VIDEO HERE!**

## GUNUNA DREAMING WORLDWIDE VIDEO RELEASE

This wonderful song, performance and video production is the result of One Vision working with young people from Mornington Island State School and Elders. The video was made possible with National Indigenous Australians Agency funds that Mornington Shire Council has received for on country programming, as well as life and learning activities.

Join the official launch at  
Mornington Island State School on  
Friday 4 October from 9am.

### LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH

*Follow us  
on Facebook*

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



*Email us*

[info@mornington.qld.gov.au](mailto:info@mornington.qld.gov.au)

[mornington.qld.gov.au](https://mornington.qld.gov.au)



# COUNCIL CONTACTS



**GARY UHLMANN**  
Chief Executive Officer

To get in contact with a member of our team:

**OFFICE HOURS & LOCATION**  
Corner Jinkiya St and Lardil Street, GUNUNA

Monday to Friday  
8am – 5pm

**EMAIL**  
[info@mornington.qld.gov.au](mailto:info@mornington.qld.gov.au)

**PHONE**  
07 4745 7811



## LOOKING FOR A CAREER WITH COUNCIL?

**Visit our website** or chat with our HR team about current vacancies and opportunities!

### HOW TO APPLY FOR A POSITION

Mornington Shire Council advertise employment opportunities in a variety of locations, depending on the role.

For positions that are only open to residents of Mornington Island, advertisements will be placed on Council's Notice Board at the store in Gununa, for a limited time as specified on the advertisement.

When applying from Mornington Island, the best way to ensure your application is considered for a role is to email it to **[hr@mornington.qld.gov.au](mailto:hr@mornington.qld.gov.au)**.

We are unable to track applications handed to Council staff, other than HR.

Please ensure you include your *current telephone number and email address*.

An application form is available from our Office for Mornington Island candidates who do not have a current CV, however please ensure you complete all details, even if you have previously been employed by Council.

**Welcome** to the third edition of your Council community newsletter highlighting all the news & 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](mailto:media@mornington.qld.gov.au)**



**MORNINGTON SHIRE COUNCIL**