A message from Lord Mayor Graham Quirk

With another successful Brisbane Festival behind us, I encourage you to take advantage of the many other great events happening around our city this month.

On 13 October, Council will host its final Green Heart Fair for 2013 at the Carindale Recreation Reserve. This free community event explores the issue of sustainable living through a host of fun, family-friendly displays, demonstrations and performances.

Brisbane Open House is also happening this year on 12-13 October and gives locals and visitors the opportunity to tour many of the city’s most historic buildings that are not usually open to the public.

Nominations for the 2014 Lord Mayor’s Australia Day Awards are now open. These annual awards pay tribute to our city’s unsung heroes and I encourage you to nominate someone in your local community who has made a difference to your life or to the lives of others. Visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au for more information.

Graham Quirk
LORD MAYOR

WANT TO START YOUR OWN BUSINESS?

Brisbane residents from a multicultural background with their own business, or aspirations to start a business, are encouraged to apply for the Lord Mayor’s Multicultural Business Scholarship.

For more information call Council on 3403 8888, email multiculturalunit@brisbane.qld.gov.au, or visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au and search for ‘multicultural business scholarship’.

Applications open late October 2013. Conditions apply.
Shorncliffe Pier design released

Residents can now view the detailed design for the $20 million restoration of Shorncliffe Pier.

The renovated pier will be the same length and width, and maintain the same look of the original structure built in 1882. Elements regularly exposed to salt water will now be cast in concrete and steel to ensure a more robust structure.

Features will include a platform at the end of the pier to provide easier access to the water and seating along the pier made from recycled timber. Construction is expected to commence in mid-2014.

To see the design, call 3403 8888 or visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au

Seniors celebrate Christmas

Council is inviting Brisbane’s seniors to celebrate the festive season this year with the Lord Mayor’s Seniors Christmas Parties.

These much loved, free parties will return to the beautiful surroundings of Brisbane City Hall, featuring twice daily variety concerts and seasonal refreshments.

The recent $215 million refurbishment of City Hall will provide the perfect backdrop for the parties, which will be held in the Main Auditorium. They will run from 2-6 December with morning tea at 9.15am for the 10am show, and afternoon tea at 12.45pm for the 1.30pm show.

Bookings are essential. To book your seat, call QTIX on 136 246 from Monday 21 October. For more information about the Lord Mayor’s Seniors Christmas Parties, visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/live or call 3403 8888.

Clean up for storm season

Cleaning up is easier with a green waste recycling bin, and right now if you order your new bin during October, we’ll waive the $30 establishment fee. Just $17.94 a quarter.

There’s never been a better time to get your garden into shape.


*Offer applies for orders received between 1-31 October 2013.

On the trail

Residents in the southern suburbs can head over to Brisbane’s biggest garage sale at Acacia Ridge Tip Shop on Saturday 26 October as part of the national Garage Sale Trail.

Residents and businesses are also encouraged to hold garage sales on the same day to connect with their local community and support sustainability. Brisbane’s Tip Shop at Acacia Ridge will be joining the trail, encouraging reuse and recycling for a cleaner, more sustainable Brisbane.

Come along and find a bargain at the Tip Shop, which sells quality recycled items including books, furniture, toys, sporting equipment and bric-a-brac diverted from Council’s transfer stations. To find out more, visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/waste and click on ‘Brisbane’s Tip Shops’.

To support the trail by holding your own garage sale, visit www.garagesaletrail.com.au
Unlock your city at Brisbane Open House

Brisbane locals will have the rare opportunity to explore 71 of the city’s most historic and architecturally unique buildings when doors open for the fourth annual Brisbane Open House on 12-13 October.

Brisbane Open House offers the chance to tour a wide range of buildings including several high-technology science facilities, three mid-century modernist residential homes and the contemporary, 42-story Brisbane Square. Residents can also get an inside look at the much loved Brisbane City Hall, the historic Windmill Tower and Howard Smith Wharves (pictured above).

The inaugural Art in Design Exhibition will be launched at this year’s event, which will also feature a program for children, speaker series and photography competition. Favourites such as the Masonic Memorial Temple, Mercy Heritage Centre, Queensland Maritime Museum and Queen Elizabeth II Courts of Law will again be opened.

To find out more, visit www.brisbaneopenhouse.com.au

Prepare for storm season

Storm season is upon us and residents are reminded of the importance of being prepared.

Thunderstorms, bushfires and flash floods are a common occurrence in Brisbane during the warmer months, and they can strike quickly and without warning. The 2011 Floods and this year’s Australia Day storms are a reminder of how severe South East Queensland’s weather can be. With this in mind, it’s important to prepare your family, pets and property.

Most storm damage to homes occurs from loose or broken roof materials, fallen trees and branches, and blocked gutters and down pipes. To prepare your home, trim tree branches, clean gutters and downpipes and check your roof and skylights are in good condition. If a storm is approaching, make sure there are no loose items in your yard that can become dangerous in strong winds.

For more information, visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/beprepared

Did you know...

The Brisbane Powerhouse at New Farm went into service as the first Council-operated power station and was built in June 1928.
Help with the weeding

Residents will be able to detect pest plants and weeds with more ease than ever before thanks to a new Council online weed identification tool.

The tool will empower residents to identify, manage and eradicate weeds by providing information about growth form, leaf arrangement, flower types and foliage colour.

Visual profiles of pest plants will also be continually added over the coming months so residents can learn about more than 400 invasive weed species in Brisbane.

With weeds providing a major threat to local native plants and animals, Council spends more than $5 million each year on weed management in natural areas, parks, waterways and road reserves.

The tool is an example of how Council is using technology to connect with residents and help protect local ecosystems.

To find out more about Council’s weed identification tool, visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/contact or phone 3403 8888.

River’s Edge Strategy launched

The River’s Edge Strategy has been launched to improve access and activity along the inner-city reaches of the Brisbane River.

The strategy incorporates comments from more than 2000 people who shared their thoughts and ideas about how to improve access and activation along the river’s edge throughout the consultation. It outlines a range of potential projects and strategies to encourage residents, businesses and tourists to make better use of the river’s edge from St Lucia and Yeronga to Bulimba and Hamilton.

Potential projects include creating more riverside dining opportunities and new RiverLoops – riverside paths for jogging and cycling. These projects will help enhance the river’s recreational and economic development opportunities over the next 10 years. To find out more, visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/riversedge

Open level crossing replacements

Work is progressing on both of Council’s open level crossing replacement projects, with milestones recently achieved at each site.

Project contractor Bielby Hull Joint Venture has now commenced construction on the Telegraph Road Open Level Crossing Replacement project in Bracken Ridge. This project will involve the construction of a four lane road-over-rail overpass, improving safety for motorists crossing the North Coast Rail Line.

The Geebung Overpass Alliance has completed major works on the structure for the road overpass to replace the Robinson Road Open Level Crossing. Concrete bridge girders for the overpass have been lifted into place over the Queensland Rail lines. Piling activity near Geebung Rail Station has also been completed.

Both projects are funded by Council and the Queensland Government, and are due for completion in late 2014.

Another way to enjoy the outdoors

Kick start your summer with Ben & Jerry’s Openair Cinemas, offering five weeks of bumper entertainment at South Bank from 20 October.

The movie program will offer a stellar line-up of cult classics, new releases, award-winning features, sneak previews and premieres. Ben & Jerry’s Sundae Sessions are also back by popular demand each Sunday with the best live bands and free ice cream for ticketholders.

With a huge 12 metre by six metre screen, guests can enjoy an alfresco cinema experience like no other. Local DJs will also perform from Tuesday to Friday, keeping crowds dancing while the sun sets over the river.

To find out more, visit www.openaircinemas.com.au
A new plan for our city centre

The Draft Brisbane City Centre Master Plan 2013 has been launched, providing residents and businesses with a blueprint for the city’s transformation into a thriving hub for business and innovation.

The plan has been developed to ensure Council capitalises on Brisbane’s vast potential as Australia’s New World City and gateway to Asia.

It sets out how Council will guide the future architectural, cultural and transport systems of Brisbane’s CBD over the next 20 years.

With the city centre growing at a rapid pace, including the need for 50 new buildings and a doubling of pedestrian trips in our CBD by 2031, the plan provides a vision for dealing with this growth.

The new plan will build on the success of the projects delivered by the 2006 City Centre Master Plan, including King George Square and Chinatown upgrades. It will also identify the transformational projects for Brisbane’s city centre.

To view the draft plan, visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au

Changes to the CityCat and ferry timetables

From Monday 21 October, CityCat and ferry timetables will be simplified to provide a more efficient network.

The simplification will see services running every 15 minutes during the day and 30 minutes in the early morning and evenings. This will change the frequency between journeys by two to five minutes.

Late night trips on Friday and Saturday evenings will remain unchanged. However the last trip from Sunday to Thursday will leave Riverside at 11.07pm for downstream services and 11.15pm for upstream services.

The CityHopper timetable will remain unchanged, while other cross-river ferries will have the same operational hours as the CityCats.

For timetable information, visit www.translink.com.au

Recognise a local hero

Residents can show their appreciation for someone who has made Brisbane a better place by nominating them for the Lord Mayor’s Australia Day Awards 2014.

The awards, which are now open for nominations, recognise those who significantly improve the community and contribute to Council’s vision for a diverse and friendly city.

There are many residents who make an extraordinary contribution, including those who protect the environment or work with people with disabilities. Your local hero could be a neighbour, friend or someone you have met through a school, community or sporting group.

Nominations close at 5pm on Friday 15 November 2013. To find out more, visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au or call 3403 8888.

Citizen of the Year 2013 Mr Lance Mergard

Did you know...

More than 90 per cent of Council’s bus fleet has low floor access allowing people with restricted mobility to get on and off easily.
Don’t miss the Green Heart Fair

Residents and visitors are invited to the Green Heart Fair at Carindale Recreation Reserve on 13 October.

The fair is Brisbane’s biggest free community event, exploring sustainable living in a fun, family-friendly environment. There is something for everyone at this month’s fair including displays, demonstrations and performances.

Come along for cooking tips from Jake and Elle from My Kitchen Rules, gardening advice from Annette McFarlane and kids’ performances by Dora the Explorer and dirtgirl. Music lovers can groove to live music from local Brisbane bands Halfway, Cheap Fakes and Danny Widdicombe.

Entry is free so make sure you come along to the last Green Heart Fair for 2013. To find out more, visit www.facebook.com/greenheartfair

Council reviewing submissions

More than 2500 submissions to the draft new City Plan are being tabulated by Council, following the closure of submissions on 30 July.

As part of this process, all submissions are being reviewed and Council will consider what changes may be required to the draft plan. This process will take a few months. Once the review process is finalised, the draft new City Plan will be submitted to the Queensland Government for its final review before Council will be able to formally adopt the plan.

The draft new City Plan is anticipated to be finalised in 2014. Residents can stay up to date on the progress of the plan by registering on Council’s website for updates, on Facebook at facebook.com/BrisbaneCityCouncil or Twitter at twitter.com/brisbanecityqld

Get connected

School students and tech-savvy residents have a new channel to connect with Council through the popular 3D design and construction game, Minecraft.

With an online community estimated at more than 40 million players worldwide, Minecraft allows users to design unique constructions and landscapes using stylised textured cubes.

Council recently launched a custom map for the game at the Ekka, which included scaled recreations of city icons such as City Hall, the Brisbane River, Brisbane Square, the Story Bridge and the Gabba stadium.

After an extremely positive response from residents, Council now plans to use the game platform to further engage with local school students who can use it for educational purposes.

To download the Brisbane City Minecraft Map, visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/schools

Your suburb

FAIRFIELD

Believed to be named after a property south of Dutton Park that was settled by W.D. Grimes in the 1850s and used for dairying.
Grow your business in Asia

Brisbane residents and businesses can book their place at Council’s final Doing Business in Asia forum for 2013 – Business Opportunities in Semarang and Central Java – from 2-5.30pm on Thursday 24 October.

This forum is a great opportunity for residents to learn more about expanding their businesses into Indonesia. Participants will also network with local Brisbane business owners already established in the region.

Special guests including several high profile government and industry leaders will present at the forum, which coincides with the 20th anniversary of the Brisbane-Semarang Sister City relationship.

To book, email internationalrelations@brisbane.qld.gov.au or call 3403 8888.

Brisbane’s island paradise

Moreton Island and all it has to offer is part of the greater Brisbane region, just a stone’s throw away for residents.

Famous for its white sandy beaches, turquoise waters and exhilarating outdoor activities, 98 per cent of the island is classified as national park. Activities offered on the third largest sand island in the world include quad biking, four-wheel driving, sand tobogginning, snorkelling, feeding wild dolphins and relaxing on the beach.

October is the last month of whale watching season and is a fantastic time to spot the majestic giants from the lighthouse at Cape Moreton. To find out more, visit www.visitbrisbane.com.au

Council unveils Brisbane Vision 2031

Our city will continue to be a safe, vibrant, green and prosperous place to live with the launch of the Brisbane Vision 2031 guiding Council’s work for the next 18 years.

Residents gave their feedback on the draft vision during community consultation in April and May. The resulting long-term vision reflects the priorities of residents. It will ensure planning in Brisbane is in keeping with changing economic and lifestyle trends.

The vision details the aspirations for our city’s future and outlines ideas for achieving them. The main priority is to provide an overarching plan of action for Council, its partners and the people of Brisbane. To find out more, visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au or call 3403 8888.

Less waste at Moorooka State School

Moorooka State School students have spent term three learning how to minimise waste for a cleaner, greener Brisbane.

As part of the trial intensive education program, students and staff at Moorooka State School have been working closely with Council to reduce the amount of waste they send to landfill by 80 per cent.

To achieve this goal, Council presented lessons to every class about recycling, organic waste, waste avoidance and nude food. Weekly challenges were set to help the students put their new knowledge into action. The program also introduced recycling bins, composting, nude food lunch boxes, worm farms and pet chickens, which eat the school’s food scraps.

Moorooka State School has embraced the program with enthusiasm and reduced its waste dramatically, showing just how much can be achieved with a coordinated approach to waste minimisation. To find out more, visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au
Get digital with a Council library

Tech-savvy residents have more ways to download free music and access information using Council’s online resources, Freegal and library. The number of songs available for download every week through Freegal has doubled, giving users even more to choose from.

High school students can enjoy a range of new and upgraded features on library, a tailored website providing study and recreation resources. The site is now available on Tumblr and users can share and re-blog content.

Library members can access these services for free. For more information, visit elibcat.library.brisbane.qld.gov.au or call 3403 8888.

Celebrate Diwali

The Diwali Festival is set to inspire with Bollywood dancing, fireworks, music, fire dancers, market stalls, henna tattoos and lights on 26 October from 5-10pm in Chinatown Mall.

Diwali is one of India’s most important celebrations and is traditionally a five day festival of lights symbolising the inner light that protects people from spiritual darkness. Residents are invited to see the festive lights while also enjoying energetic music and dance performances.

Traditionally, some celebrate to honour Rama’s return to his people after 14 years of exile during which he fought and won a battle against evil. Others celebrate it as the end of the harvest, where people seek the divine blessing of the goddess of wealth, Lakshmi. There are many different versions of the Diwali story, but in all interpretations one common thread rings true – the festival marks the victory of good over evil.

For more information, visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/valleymalls or call Council on 3403 8888.

WHAT’S ON

12 October Introduction to memoir writing, 9.30-11.30am, Coopers Plains Library, to book call 3403 8888, FREE

13 October Green Heart Fair – Brisbane’s biggest sustainability event, 9am-2pm, Carindale Recreation Reserve, FREE

13 October Brisbane Kite Festival – fantastic day for the family, 10am-4pm, Murrarie Recreation Reserve, Wynnum Road, Cannon Hill, FREE

18 October – 2 March Stephen Hart: Fellow Humans – 20 hand-carved sculptures, 10am-5pm daily, Museum of Brisbane, City Hall, FREE

20 October Children’s Week concert – with Brisbane Municipal Concert Band, 12.15-1.15pm, Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha, FREE

21 October Robots that draw – make a drawing robot, ages 6+, 1-2pm, Sunnybank Hills Library, to book call 3403 8888, FREE