

NORTH QUEENSLAND **BULK PORTS CORPORATION**

PORTLIFE



CARNIVAL SPIRIT



Weipa • Abbot Point • Mackay • Hay Point

August 2019



Cheers to 80 years

Port of Mackay set to celebrate milestone on Sunday 25 August

Grant helps schools to grow

Ten schools awarded a \$1000 EcoPorts grant

Improved access to popular beach

A new road linking Edmund Casey Drive to Slade Point Road

Out and about

At the heart of our ports are our communities



Message from the CEO



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER NICOLAS FERTIN

Welcome to this commemorative edition of PortLife, celebrating the 80th birthday of the Port of Mackay.

In the following pages, you will read about the history of the Port of Mackay, as well as details of the Port of Mackay's 80th Anniversary Maritime Carnival to be held in Old Mulherin Park in Mackay on Sunday 25 August 2019.

We pride ourselves on the role we play in the Mackay community and would love for you to join us in celebrating this important milestone.

Since it was officially opened on 26 August 1939, the Port of Mackay has grown into Queensland's fourth largest multi-commodity port by throughput and hosts one of the world's largest bulk sugar terminals.

More recently, the Port of Mackay has become a major destination for roll-on roll-off (RORO) vessels, transporting large mining equipment to the region.

This is a major achievement for both NQBP and the State of Queensland, and follows two years of perseverance and investment, which ultimately demonstrated that this type of trade should come directly through the Port of Mackay rather than travelling along the Bruce Highway from Townsville or Brisbane.

In the 2018-19 financial year, seven RORO vessels called into the port, with 188 ships in total visiting and almost 3 million tonnes of trade passing through.

This, along with the contributions of our other ports, Abbot Point, Hay Point and Weipa, resulted in a strong performance for NQBP.

We have safely and successfully completed essential maintenance dredging at the Port of Hay Point and the Port of Weipa.

These are important projects that are critical for maintaining port infrastructure.

Maintenance dredging involves relocating natural sediment, which travels along the coast and accumulates where our shipping operations occur.

It is very important to us that we minimise the impact any of our operations have on the environment while preserving the reliability and certainty of our supply chain.

Our maintenance dredging plans are based on years of industry-leading marine research and, throughout both the Port of Hay Point and Port of Weipa dredging programs, there were a range of environmental monitoring and control measures in place.

I am pleased to say that no environmental incidents occurred during either dredging program.

In addition to our port operations, in recent months we have supported some major events in our communities, including the inaugural Cruisn' the Coast Fun Run in Sarina, the Mackay Marina Run, the Weipa Fishing Classic and Weipa Running Festival and the Bowen Superboats.

We also staged Cowboys Bulk Port Blitzes across our four port communities.

Our people have been out and about sharing their industry knowledge and presenting at a range of conferences.

I recently attended the Developing Northern Australia Conference in Western Australia, where I presented on the future of the Port of Weipa.

The sustainability of our port communities is important to us so it was great to see that all our Northern regions have the same goal to work closely with their regional communities, preserve the environment and diversify their economy to generate employment.

We are looking forward to an exciting finish to 2019, starting with our Port of Mackay 80th Anniversary Maritime Carnival. ■

Port of Mackay historical highlights

1935

- The placing of the foundation stone in the southern breakwater commenced on 3 July and was set in position by the Premier, the Hon. W. Forgan-Smith on 14 September.



1939

- Official opening of Mackay Harbour on 26 August with the Blue Star Line "Sydney Star" arriving for the Official Ceremony.
- First shipment of raw sugar shipped from the new harbour on the MV Mundalla (1318 tons) – 22 September 1939.



1954-1977

- Construction of the Port's Tank Farm – ANPA, Caltex, Mobil, Shell and Amoco.



1954

- Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and HRH the Duke of Edinburgh arrived at the Port on 15 March 1954.
- Commencement of the construction of the Bulk Sugar Terminal (the first constructed in Queensland).

1957

- Establishment of Mulherin Park in memory of the contribution by the late JM Mulherin.
- Official opening of the Bulk Sugar Terminal on 27 July. At the time of its opening it was the world's largest sugar storage shed.



1999-2000

- The Small Craft Harbour officially opened on 1 June 1999 and the Raw Sugar Wharf on 3 November 1999.

2018-2019

- First Roll-on, Roll-off vessel berths, with eighth arriving in July 2019.



Celebrating 80 years

GET READY TO ROCK, BOP AND SHAKE WITH THE DOO WOP DOLLS.

The Port of Mackay is turning 80 and to celebrate NQBP is inviting you to the party on Sunday 25 August.

From 10am to 3pm, Old Mulherin Park will come alive with good old-fashioned fun for the whole family.

Chief Executive Officer Nicolas Fertin said, to mark the milestone, NQBP is hosting the Port of Mackay's 80th Anniversary Maritime Carnival.

"The day will recreate the initial opening of the port in 1939 with live entertainment and maritime-themed,

free, family friendly activities," Mr Fertin said.

The community can step back in time and rock, bop and shake to The Doo Wop Dolls, as they perform hits from the 40s, 50s and 60s.

Crowd favourites such as free face-painting, children's rides, sack races, fairy floss and popcorn will be offer.

Mr Fertin said community members are also invited to learn more about the Port of Mackay's history by booking a free guided bus tour.

"We enjoy working with our port community and this anniversary is a great way to bring the region together," Mr Fertin said.

Mr Fertin said the Mackay Harbour was officially opened on 26 August 1939 by the Honourable W. Forgan Smith, the then Premier of Queensland and Member for Mackay.

"The opening of the port marked a new era for Mackay," Mr Fertin said.

"The port has since grown into an essential multi-commodity port and hosts one of the world's largest bulk sugar terminals."

"Ports such as Mackay play an integral part in Queensland's prosperity."

"The Port of Mackay supports 3,100 trade jobs with goods to the value of \$1.5 billion passing through the port each year."

For more details on the event, visit facebook.com/nqbpc. ■



CARNIVAL SPIRIT

Grant helps schools to grow sustainable practices

Eradicating pest plants, building a native beehive and a soil rejuvenation project are among ten school projects awarded an EcoPorts grant for 2019.

NQBP's annual environmental grants provide ten schools with \$1000 each to assist with sustainability projects.

Chief Executive Officer Nicolas Fertin said all the successful projects positively contributed to developing a sustainable environment at their schools.

"Among the successful recipients this year, grants will help establish a multi-functional garden space, allow students to participate in Tree Day celebrations and assist with learnings around sustainability," Mr Fertin said.

"We are proud to support grassroots projects that engage young people in our port communities to help create awareness and appreciation for the environment.

"Each year we look forward to seeing what kind of projects local students are wanting to undertake to help make their community a better place to live."

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School principal Bianca Hodges said the school was grateful for the support from NQBP.

"As a recipient in 2017, our school was able to build a sensory herb and vegetable garden as part of our learning in Prep," Ms Hodges said.

"This was the start of more sustainable practices which have been expanded this year to include more sustainable waste management processes.

"We are excited to be a recipient again in 2019 and will use our grant this year to expand on our Sustainability Project to include two new vegetable gardens and a chicken coop.

"Our small school appreciates the support of NQBP for these important sustainability initiatives."

NQBP's EcoPorts grants are open annually to schools located in one of NQBP's port communities: Hay Point, Mackay, Bowen and Weipa.

Successful schools:

Mackay

- Farleigh State School – Multi-functional gardening space used to teach various classes, including science.
- Pioneer State High School – Help remove the pest plant *Salvinia* in the school's pond.
- St Francis Xavier Kindergarten – Building a chicken coop and native beehive to assist learnings about life cycles.
- St Joseph's Catholic Primary – The creation of a kitchen garden and chicken run used to assist the teaching of sustainable practices.
- Mackay North State School – Refurbishment of the old vegetable garden by renewing timber around the edging of the garden.
- Whitsunday Anglican School – Vegetable garden and fruit orchard to be established and maintained by students.
- Carlisle Adventist Christian College – Grant to go towards the purchase of a drone to help survey the health of local reefs.
- Mackay State High School – Rejuvenate the soil quality of the farm plot using improved composting practices and worm farm production.

Hay Point

- Alligator Creek State School – Participation in Tree Day celebrations by planting saplings and small trees on the main oval and planting native grasses, bushes and small trees at the creek.

Abbot Point

- Queens Beach State School – Work in conjunction with Bowen Pastoral Show Society, Stackleroth Farms and HM Clause to encourage children to grow veggies and enter them into the Bowen Show. ■



Every corner of Australia benefits from our country's ports

From the coast to the outback, from our cities to regional towns, our ports help Australia to be more than just an island – connecting us with the rest of the world.

TRADE IN REVIEW 2018-2019



MACKAY

No. of ships: 188
Throughput in tonnes: 2,910,525



HAY POINT

No. of ships: 1195
Throughput in tonnes: 118,317,132



ABBOT POINT

No. of ships: 348
Throughput in tonnes: 28,943,291



WEIPA

No. of ships: 504
Throughput in tonnes: 27,338,102



Maintenance dredging campaigns completed at two of our ports



TSHD BRISBANE AT THE PORT OF HAY POINT



THE PORT OF WEIPA

Hay Point

From 31 March to 2 May, the Trailing Suction Hopper Dredger (TSHD) Brisbane safely and successfully completed essential maintenance dredging, relocating natural sediment from shipping channels to approved placement areas at sea.

This was the first maintenance dredging at the Port of Hay Point in 10 years.

To keep the public informed throughout the dredging campaign, a water quality monitoring dashboard was available on NQBP's website, providing real-time data, as well as the location of the TSHD Brisbane.

Weipa

Dredge vessels TSHD Brisbane and Oranje recently completed a five-week (3 June to 17 July) dredging campaign at the Port of Weipa and Amrun.

Chief Executive Officer Nicolas Fertin said this year's maintenance dredging program was more extensive than previous years due to several significant weather events.

"Cyclones Owen, Penny and Trevor, combined with a large monsoonal event this year had contributed to an increase in siltation at the Port of Weipa," Mr Fertin said.

"As a result, this year's maintenance dredging program was longer in duration and used two dredge vessels."

Mr Fertin said maintenance dredging works are an integral part of the port's operations.

"In the same way we maintain roads and rail lines for freight transport, we need to look after our port infrastructure to keep trade flowing.

"NQBP manages the annual maintenance dredging program at the Port of Weipa - a program that has run for more than 30 years.

"Regular maintenance dredging ensures efficient, navigable shipping depths for our port users.

"It's undertaken by port authorities around the world and is critical for maintaining port infrastructure."

The dredging campaign continues to be undertaken as per the long-term environmental management plan. However, due to the higher than average dredge volumes this year, NQBP undertook a supplementary environmental risk assessment and introduced a range of additional environmental control measures to minimize the risk of any potential impact on the marine environment.

Some of these measures included real-time water quality monitoring, including daily assessments of logger data and satellite imagery; pre and post-dredge seagrass monitoring; and the placement of dredge material as far north as is safely and operationally practical. ■



Port of Mackay extension of Edmund Casey Drive

Motorists will soon have easier access to North Wall beach with works set to begin on a new road linking Edmund Casey Drive to Slade Point Road.

Construction is expected to commence later this year. The new road is expected to:

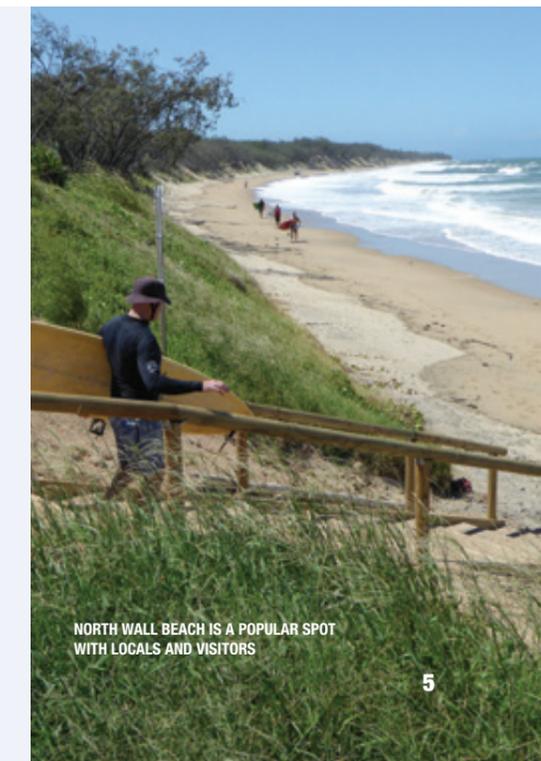
- Provide a secondary access to the port and emergency evacuation route
- Provide access from Slade Point Road into North Wall beach
- Minimise interactions and improve safety of commercial and public users along Spiller Avenue

- Improve supply chain connectivity to facilitate future trade
- Unlock future developable land in northern parts of the port

For everyone's safety, please slow down around roadworks and follow all signs and directions given by traffic controllers.

The project team will make every effort to keep disruptions to a minimum and would like to thank the community for their patience during these important road works.

For more details visit, nqbp.com.au. ■



NORTH WALL BEACH IS A POPULAR SPOT WITH LOCALS AND VISITORS

Port Community Reference Groups award grants

Mackay and Hay Point communities will soon benefit from two \$5,000 sponsorships awarded by their local Port Communities Reference Groups (CRGs).

NQBP provides each CRG with an opportunity to nominate initiatives that will benefit their communities environmentally, cultural or socially.

Chief Executive Officer Nicolas Fertin said this year's sponsorships will see a boost to education for young anglers and an all-weather PA system for community events.

"The Mackay CRG voted to support the Mackay Recreational Fishers Alliance (MRFA) annual education program," Mr Fertin said.

"Volunteers educate local children about sustainable and responsible fishing practices through education programs, community events and excursions.

The Hay Point CRG unanimously supported the sponsorship of an all-weather PA system for the Half Tide Radio Base and Social Club.

"NQBP is proud to support grassroots projects that engage and benefit our port communities."

Mackay CRG Recreational Fishers representative Alison Jones said the MRFA was grateful for the support.

"It will enable us to update some of our ageing and well used equipment that is used in the school fish programme to educate our younger future anglers," Ms Jones said.

Hay Point CRG Community Representative Tom Andrews said the PA system will be used by the local community for community events.

"It will be used for commemorative services such as the Half Tide dawn service for ANZAC day and our community Christmas functions," Mr Andrews said.

The CRGs bring together a range of representatives from Mackay Regional Council, local business, port industry, indigenous, community and recreational groups.

For CRG Terms of Reference, Agendas and Minutes, visit nqbp.com.au.



ONE OF THE ARTISTS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BEAUTIFUL SLADE POINT WATER TOWER MURAL PROJECT, CARA SANDERS.

Out and about

At the heart of our ports are our communities. See some of the smiling faces captured across a range of local events held over the past few months. We are proud to play an active role in shaping vibrant North Queensland communities.

May

- Cruisin' the Coast Fun Run
- Weipa Cowboys Bulk Port Blitz
- Bowen Business Awards

June

- Mackay Marina Run
- Weipa Fishing Classic
- Hay Point Cowboys Blitz
- NAIDOC week – Jumbo in Bowen
- Slade Point Water Tower

July

- Paddock to Port tour at the Port of Mackay
- Hoegh Trapper RORO Vessel tour
- Bowen Superboats
- Weipa Running Festival
- Whitsunday Mayor's Charity Ball



THOUSANDS TURNED OUT FOR THE 2019 MACKAY MARINA RUN.

Apply for support through our Port Communities Program

Whether it's a local event, school project or community cause, we're proud to support our local port communities.

From Weipa to Hay Point, we look to get involved in many and varied initiatives that benefit the wider community and relate to areas of port community interests such as community health and well-being, environment, education and training, regional sustainability and culture and communities.

In 2018-19, these were some of the events supported through our program:

Weipa

- Weipa Fishing Classic
- Weipa Running Festival
- Cape 2 Corrugations Mental Health Awareness Walk
- Weipa RSL Sub-Branch

Bowen

- Bowen Superboats
- Whitsunday Mayor's Charity Ball
- Fundraising Gala Event
- Bowen Business Awards

Mackay

- Queensland Training Awards
- Outside the Locker Room - AFL Mackay
- Zonta International Women's Day Luncheon
- 2018 Nude Lunch
- Eimeo Surf Lifesaving Club
- Magpies United
- Mackay Region Tourism Awards and Conference
- Slade Point Water Tower mural project

Hay Point

- 2018 Sarina Coconut Festival
- 2019 Cruisin' The Coast Run Fun
- Inclusive Learning Centre at Sarina State High School

To apply for sponsorship, visit our website nqbp.com.au.



PAUL DOWLING FROM CENTRAL HIGHLANDS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, PAUL COOMER FROM NQBP AND GREG CONDON FROM LINFOX INTERMODAL AT THE PADDOCK TO PORT TOUR AT THE PORT OF MACKAY.



NQBP EMPLOYEES JAMES MILLER AND KELVIN POWER PARTICIPATED IN NAIDOC CELEBRATIONS AT BOWEN STATE HIGH SCHOOL.



OVER 35 CHILDREN PARTICIPATED IN THE PORT OF HAY POINT'S BULK PORT BLITZ JRL SESSION HELD IN SARINA.



FLASHBACK GALLERY:

The Great Day



CARNIVAL SPIRIT



1

Mackay was en fete for the great occasion, the official opening of the outer harbour. The date was 26 August, 1939.

Special trains took jubilant citizens to the harbour and Harbour Road was crammed with decorated vehicles containing joyous sightseers.

There were shouts of joy when the Blue Star liner the m.v. "Sydney Star", carrying official guests from Brisbane, was sighted approaching the breakwaters.

As the vessel, flying her house flags and bedecked from mast to mast, nosed through the harbour entrance the crowd cheered tumultuously.

The "Sydney Star" under the command of Captain Tom Horn, drew up to the wharf, and the then Premier, The Hon. W. Forgan Smith and other State and Federal representatives were piped ashore.

It was a proud moment for Mackay, and for those who had worked so hard over the years for the fulfilment of the harbour project, when the Premier mounted the dais to declare the Mackay Harbour officially open. ■

(The Mackay Harbour Story, by H. A. Moore, p.39)



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3



4



5

1. First stone 1: The scene at the harbour site when the first stone of the formation of the southern breakwater was placed. The Highland band piped the Hon.W. Forgan Smith to the scene.
2. First stone 2: The Hon. W. Forgan Smith, then Premier of Queensland and Member for Mackay, addressing the gathering on the occasion of placing the harbour foundation stone on 14 September, 1935.
3. 1937 – 1939 - Workers move a suspended pile into position, during construction of a shed at the Mackay Harbour.
4. The Sydney Star was the first official vessel to enter the Mackay Harbour on 26 August, 1939 for the opening ceremony. The ship carried the Premier, Mr. W. Forgan Smith and other officials to the opening ceremony.
5. An excited crowd gathers at the arrival of the Sydney Star, of the Blue Star line, at Mackay's newly opened Harbour. Image Acknowledgement: State Library of Queensland.

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