SLADE POINT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

PROGRESS at the POINT

SPRING 2026 ISSUE 2

OUR COMMUNITY • OUR VOICE • OUR FUTURE

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Welcome!

Welcome to the Spring edition of **Progress at the Point**, your quarterly **newsletter from the** Slade Point **Progress Association.**

We're here to keep you informed, celebrate our community, and work together for a stronger, safer and more connected Slade Point.

Let's keep making progress together!

CONNECT
Bringing our community together through information and events.

ADVOCATE
Representing our residents and local issues.

SUPPORT
Supporting projects that improve our lifestyle and facilities.

SUSTAIN
Working for a safe, clean and sustainable Slade Point.

www.sladepointpa.com.au | sladepointprogress@gmail.com | Slade Point Progress Association

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President's Message

Dear Members and Friends,

Thank you for your fantastic support of our first edition of Progress at the Point. The positive feedback we received was overwhelming and has given our committee great motivation to continue sharing local news, celebrating our community and advocating for the things that matter most to Slade Point.

Working Together for a Better Slade Point

We have recently met with representatives from Mackay Regional Council and State Government members to discuss a number of important projects for Slade Point. These meetings were very positive, with strong support for upgrades to our local footpaths and improved security measures in the suburb. We will continue to advocate and keep the community updated as these projects progress.

Splash Fest a Huge Success

Our recent Splash Fest was an outstanding success! With perfect weather, a great atmosphere and strong attendance, it was wonderful to see so many of our residents, families and visitors coming together to enjoy a fantastic day. A big thank you to everyone who helped organise, volunteer, perform, stallholder, and attend – these events truly show what makes Slade Point such a special place.

Community Markets Continuing

Our much-loved Slade Point Community Markets are running each month and will continue through until November. The markets provide a great opportunity to shop local, support local businesses and enjoy our community gardens and surrounds. We look forward to seeing you there!

Thank You Leah

We sadly farewell one of our valued executive members, Leah Rogers, who has resigned due to personal reasons. Leah has been an incredibly active and passionate member of the SPPA, contributing so much to our events and activities. She will be greatly missed, and we wish her all the very best for the next chapter in her journey.



Thank you!

To all our members, volunteers, supporters and the wider community. Your involvement, ideas and encouragement make a real difference. Together, we can continue to make Slade Point an even better place to live, work and visit.

Warm regards,

Ken Fuller

President
Slade Point Progress Association

Let's keep making progress together!

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LOCAL NEWS & COMMUNITY UPDATES

What's happening in Slade Point

Community Spirit Shines at SplashFest and R U OK? Day

Our coastline came alive on **August 8** as the Slade Point Progress Association hosted **SplashFest Mackay 2026** at Ram Chandra Park. Locals gathered to enjoy live music, family activities, and celebrate the arrival of the humpback whale migration and upcoming turtle nesting seasons. The event was a fantastic success, with great weather, a wonderful atmosphere and positive feedback from across the community.

Continuing the focus on connection and wellbeing, locals also gathered at the park on **September 10** for **R U OK? Day**, with mental wellbeing resources, community organisations and activities. It was great to see so many residents coming together to check in on neighbours and support one another.

Local Property Market Hits Historic Highs

Real estate data released on September 1 shows Slade Point remains one of the region's most competitive markets. Suburb house prices surged with a **13.3%** annual increase. Property stock has dropped to a critical low of just **0.22%**, highlighting how highly sought-after our beachside suburb has become.

Port Access Road Progress

State planning updates this September continue to track Stage 1 of the Mackay Port Access project. The infrastructure plan will better connect the Bruce Highway to Mackay-Slade Point Road (Harbour Road) via a dedicated heavy vehicle route. This project will improve transport efficiency, support local industry and reduce heavy vehicle traffic through residential areas.

Town Hall Meeting Highlights

The Slade Point Progress Association opened August with a public meeting at the Community Hall, welcoming State Member for Mackay, Nigel Dalton, to discuss resident feedback and upcoming suburb initiatives. The meeting provided a valuable opportunity to raise local issues, including footpaths, safety and future development opportunities. We received positive responses and look forward to continuing these conversations with Council and State Government representatives.

CRIME REPORT

A SAFER, STRONGER SLADE POINT

The safety and wellbeing of our community remains a priority. Over the last two months, there has been an increase in drugs and weapons offences in Slade Point, and a reduction in property crime.

OFFENCE TRENDS (Last 2 Months)

Drug Offences ↑
Increase in Slade Point

Weapons Offences ↑
Increase in Slade Point

Property Crime ↓
Reduction in Slade Point

Recent Incident

Queensland Police successfully executed a targeted raid on Skylark Street on **August 2** following a POLAIR vehicle tracking operation. The dynamic action resulted in the seizure of an illegal firearm, dangerous drugs, and stolen property.

Working Together

The Slade Point Progress Association continues to work closely with Queensland Police, Mackay Regional Council and State Government representatives to advocate for visible policing, improved security measures and safer public spaces across our suburb. We encourage residents to report any suspicious activity and to look out for one another.

A safer Slade Point is a shared responsibility. If you see something, say something.

Stronger Together

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Community Spotlight

Thank You, Leah ♡

A lasting contribution to Slade Point

Written by Erin Safe, on behalf of the Slade Point Progress Association Committee



Many in our community will know **Leah Rogers** through the incredible amount of time, energy and heart she has poured into the Slade Point Progress Association over the past two years.

Leah has recently made the difficult decision to resign from the SPPA to focus on herself and her family, and while we completely support her decision, there is no denying that she leaves some very big shoes to fill.

For me personally, Leah has been so much more than a fellow committee member. Together, we have co-led the Events Committee, planning, organising and running so many of the events our community has enjoyed — from our monthly Community Markets and SplashFest to the many other ideas, activities and celebrations we've worked on behind the scenes.

Anyone who has been involved in community events knows just how much work happens that nobody ever sees. The phone calls, emails, meetings, applications, organising, problem solving, setting up, packing down and countless hours spent making sure everything comes together. Leah has given so much of herself to all of it.

But more importantly, she has done it because she genuinely cares about Slade Point. She has been passionate about creating opportunities for people to come together, building a stronger sense of community and showing just how proud we can be of the place we call home.

Our fellow committee members have described Leah as kind-hearted, caring, passionate and tireless in her efforts, and I couldn't agree more. Her contribution has made a lasting impression on both the SPPA and the wider Slade Point community.

On a personal level, I'm incredibly grateful that I got to work alongside you, Leah. We have shared a lot of laughs, a few stressful moments, plenty of crazy ideas and some pretty amazing achievements along the way. I am going to miss having my partner-in-crime beside me as we plan whatever comes next!



♡ Thank you, Leah.

You should be incredibly proud of what you have helped create and the impact you've made. From myself, the SPPA committee and I'm sure many within our community – we wish you and your family nothing but the very best for whatever comes next.

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LOCAL HISTORY CORNER

From Slade Point to Olympic Gold

A local place. A global champion. An inspiring story.

Cathy Freeman joined the Slade Point Amateur Athletics Club in 1984, beginning her formal athletics journey on local tracks. The recreation area on Wren Street, where she competed as a youngster in the 1980s, is now known as **Cathy Freeman Athletic Park**.

From these early beginnings in Slade Point, Cathy went on to become one of Australia's most inspiring athletes — a Commonwealth Games champion, multiple World Champion, Olympic silver medallist and, most famously, the 400m Olympic gold medallist at the Sydney 2000 Games, where she also had the honour of lighting the Olympic cauldron.

Cathy's story is a proud part of Slade Point's history — a reminder of what can be achieved from a small coastal community with big dreams.

> *"It just shows that a kid from a place like Slade Point can do anything."*
>
> **Cathy Freeman**



Cathy Freemam competing in the 400m final at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.
Photo: Ian Waldie / Getty Images

A REMARKABLE JOURNEY

1984 — Joins the Slade Point Amateur Athletics Club.

1990 — Commonwealth Games gold (400m) at just 16 years old.

1996 — Olympic silver medallist (400m) – Atlanta.

1997 & 1999 — World Champion (400m) – Athens 1997 and Seville 1999.

2000 — Lights the Olympic cauldron and wins gold (400m) – Sydney 2000.

Did You Know?

The recreation area on Wren Street where Cathy competed as a child is today known as **Cathy Freeman Athletic Park** — meaning part of Australian Olympic history sits right here in Slade Point.



A Precinct at the Heart of Our Community

The Wren Street sporting precinct continues to be a vital part of Slade Point today. Alongside Cathy Freeman Athletic Park you'll find the Slade Point Community Centre, which hosts a range of activities, programs, meetings and events, bringing people together through sport, recreation and community connection.

The same grounds that once saw a young Cathy Freeman chasing her dreams remain a place where our community comes together — proof that this precinct is, and always will be, at the heart of Slade Point.

Our history. Our community. Our future.

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LOCAL BUSINESS HIGHLIGHT

Local Quality. Local Service.

Slade Point Meats.

The meat & small goods specialist, right here in Slade Point.

There's something special about having a quality local butcher right in the heart of our community. Slade Point Meats has built its reputation on fresh, quality meat, traditional butchery and friendly local service.

From premium grass-fed beef and award-winning bacon to sausages, smallgoods, marinated favourites and easy family packs, Morgo and the team have plenty to keep the BBQ sizzling and the family fed.

Whether you're planning a weekend cook-up, stocking the freezer or looking for something special, you'll find great quality and great service at Slade Point Meats.

Support local, shop local.



Thank You!

SLADE POINT MEATS!

A huge thank you to Morgo and the team for generously donating a quality meat tray for the Slade Point Progress Association raffle. It's another great example of a local business getting behind our local community.





Why Locals Love It

Quality Fresh Cuts
Premium Australian meat, including grass-fed options.

Award-Winning Smallgoods
Famous for their bacon, sausages and traditional recipes.

BBQ & Family Packs
Great variety for easy, delicious meals.

Friendly Local Service
Morgo and the team are always happy to help.

Come in and meet Morgo & the Team

360 Slade Point Road, Slade Point
Phone: **07 4955 1009**
Email: **sladepointmeats@gmail.com**

Quality Meat. Stronger Community.

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COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR



SUNDAY
20 SEPTEMBER 2026
8:00 AM – 11:00 AM

SUNDAY
18 OCTOBER 2026
8:00 AM – 11:00 AM

BOWLS CLUB GROUNDS
30 WREN STREET, SLADE POINT

Enjoy a great morning, meet local stallholders and support our community!

DATE CLAIMER

SLADE POINT
Christmas Twilight Markets

SUNDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2026

More details coming soon!

SENIORS EVENT CANCELLED

Unfortunately, we need to cancel our planned Seniors Event in October due to logistical restraints. We apologise for any disappointment and appreciate your understanding.

We look forward to planning future events for our senior community.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Help make our community events happen!

We're looking for more volunteers to help with our markets and community events. Whether it's a few hours on the day, help with setup, pack down, or supporting behind the scenes — every bit of help makes a big difference.

If you'd like to get involved, please contact us at **sppaincorporated4740@gmail.com**

Many hands make a great community!

DONATE YOUR CANS & BOTTLES

Every container counts!

You can support the Slade Point Progress Association by donating your eligible containers using our member number below.

Thank you for helping us make Slade Point an even better place to live!

SPPA MEMBER NUMBER

C11770684

Use this member number at the refund point.

Talk to an NBN local at our Community Markets!

Have questions about NBN in Slade Point? Come and chat with an NBN local at our markets about your options, upgrades and eligibility.

Better connection. Stronger community.

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COMMUNITY INFORMATION & GET INVOLVED

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Our Community Notice Board is now up and ready to go!

Located near the butcher on Slade Point Road, the notice board will become a central hub for community information.

You'll find details about:

- Community events
- Local club information
- Community announcements
- Volunteer opportunities
- Casual day/market opportunities
- Emergency information
- General notices and more!



If you have something you wish to add to the board, please contact our Secretary Mary at **mcobbysppa@outlook.com**

Thank You

TO OUR AMAZING COMMUNITY!

The Slade Point Progress Association would like to say a huge thank you to our incredible community for making SplashFest 2026 such a success!

Thank you to everyone who turned up, got involved and supported our local businesses and vendors, community groups and artists. Your enthusiasm, participation and community spirit helped create a fantastic day and showcased what makes Slade Point such a special place to live.

Local people. Stronger together.

Support local. Celebrate community. Keep Slade Point thriving!

SHARE YOUR STORY

Do you have:

- Historic photographs?
- Local history?
- Community events?
- Good news stories?
- Local achievements?

We'd love to feature them in future editions of Progress at the Point.

Email us at: sppaincorporated4740@gmail.com

THANK YOU!

TO OUR AMAZING INKIND SPONSORS!

YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT HELPS MAKE SPLASHFEST MACKAY A FANTASTIC DAY FOR OUR COMMUNITY!

Nautical by Nature · Mackay & The Whitsundays Star · Mackay Regional Council · AE Anything Environmental · Shipwreck Solutions (Est 2015) · MAD Fitness Mackay

ON BEHALF OF THE SPPA, THANK YOU FOR BELIEVING IN OUR VISION. WE CAN'T WAIT TO CELEBRATE WITH YOU ON A BIGGER & BRIGHTER SPLASHFEST IN 2027!

JOIN THE SPPA

WE NEED YOU!

The Slade Point Progress Association only works because people from our community are willing to get involved.

With the recent departure of several key committee members, we need more local people to put their hands up so we can continue delivering markets, events, advocacy and community projects for Slade Point.

You don't need special experience, and you don't have to commit to everything. Whether you can help regularly, lend a hand at an event, contribute an idea or take on a small role — every bit of help makes a difference.

Many hands make light work!

Get involved. Meet people. Help shape our community.

- ✔ Support local events
- ✔ Build community connections
- ✔ Have a say
- ✔ Make a difference

To find out more or get involved, email us at: sppaincorporated4740@gmail.com

Everyone is welcome!

LOOKING AHEAD

ISSUE 3 – SUMMER EDITION

COMING DECEMBER 2026

We'll bring you more community news, local stories, events, project updates and stories celebrating everything that makes Slade Point a wonderful place to live.