

Project Newsletter

February 2024

Keep Burleigh's Lower Gold Coast Highway Buzzing

The Lower Gold Coast Highway business precinct in northern Burleigh has something for everyone packed into about a one-block space.

Bordered by Burleigh Heads State School in the south – home to the popular weekend markets – and Ferny Fairway to its north, the Lower Gold Coast Highway area continues to evolve as light rail construction moves ahead. Locals have long supported their hidden-gem favourites and visitors continue to uncover the cafes, restaurants and bespoke retailers.

The strip and its surrounds offer both places to enjoy a meal and various services, ranging from dental to beauty. The Lower Gold Coast Highway is home to **Commune Café** and **Street Corner Espresso**, which specialise in quality coffee and tasty breakfasts, and are some of the long standing and most popular spots with locals. **Mex Cartel** and **Crispy Italian Bar** are great choices for dinner and drinks, offering friendly service with a smile.

You can drop into **Bird on a Wire** to grab a beautiful summer dress from the fashion retailer, or pop round the corner onto Deodar Drive to explore bespoke handmade jewellery at **The Loop Store**. Deodar Drive is also home to two of the Coast's fine-dining restaurants, **The Little Plate** and **La Bella Cellar**. This busy little precinct is packed with retail and hospitality options, including vegan café **PIKNIK**.

The Lower Gold Coast Highway will soon be accessible via a new light rail station at Second Avenue for Gold Coast locals and visitors.

Throughout construction of Stage 3, continue to Love Your Local Lower Gold Coast Highway businesses and take extra time to plan your trip, taking traffic and parking changes into account.

Spotlight: PIKNIK

PIKNIK owner and founder Maddi Turner has the recipe to combine healthy ingredients and turn them into something tasty.

It seems simple, but Maddi was inspired to open **PIKNIK** because she felt it was hard to “just find a good salad sandwich on the Coast”. Maddi opened the café in April last year, transiting from the sports and wellness industry to her cosy café with a completely vegan menu.

“The Burleigh Basic is definitely a favourite, and the Tofu Schnitzel is pretty unique,” Maddi said of the jam-packed sandwiches.

Maddi saw the opportunity to establish her business in the special and separate Lower Gold Coast Highway precinct, which was close enough to Burleigh's hustle and bustle and famous beaches.

Located at 7/3 Deodar Drive and open 7am-2.30pm, Tuesday to Friday, and 7.30am-2.30pm Saturday, locals love **PIKNIK** for its quality, plant-based menu and good coffee.



Australian Government

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GoldlinQ
Gold Coast Light Rail



Queensland Government

Sustainable solar powering light rail construction sites

Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 3 incorporates smart solutions to address daily engineering challenges and promote sustainable infrastructure for the Gold Coast. The project team has implemented a Queensland-first re-deployable solar initiative to power construction sites at Broadbeach and Miami. A total of 140 panels were installed, providing 115,500 kilowatts of total annual solar generation. This represents a replacement of up to 55 per cent of grid energy, lowering the project's construction electricity footprint and its reliance on community power.

The sustainable SolPod solution means when construction is complete on Stage 3, the prefabricated modular solar system can be re-deployed and installed elsewhere.

Other sustainable solutions implemented on Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 3 include using drones and remote-controlled boats for water sampling (eliminating the requirement for fuelled boats), fully-electric fleet vehicles, and compact concrete barriers – improving safety as well as mitigating noise.



Image: Sustainable solar infrastructure being installed at the Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 3 Broadbeach site.



Shop Local and Win - \$5,000 monthly prize pool

The Shop Local and Win competition is continuing in 2024 and we're pleased to announce the \$5,000 per month prize pool will be on offer until the end of June.

All you need to do is spend \$10 at a small business along the project alignment and upload your receipt to gclr3.com.au/loveyourlocal

In 2023, the project received more than 500 entries with 98 prizes awarded, all purchased from businesses located along the Stage 3 alignment between Broadbeach and Burleigh Heads.

DECEMBER PRIZE WINNERS:

Congratulations to our December Shop Local and Win prize winners!

James L	won a \$1000 voucher to Ride n Roll
Daniel B, David A and Orazia C	each won a \$100 dining voucher to Osteria Del Mare
Dino M and Courtney Z	each won \$150 voucher to Marlo Lane Beauty
Lauren B, Karen P and Catherine C	each won a \$100 voucher to Empowering Wellness
Matthew C and Eme B	each won a \$100 voucher to Your Neighbourhood Studio
Sandy T and Panaiya L	each won a \$150 dining voucher to Bonita Bonita
Tanya J and Josh B	each won a \$50 voucher to Bam Bam Bakehouse



Image: Tanya and family collecting a Love Your Local Shop Local and Win voucher to Bam Bam Bakehouse, which she won on her birthday!

Community Fund for Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 3

Grassroots groups on the Gold Coast delivering valuable initiatives between Broadbeach south and Burleigh Heads are encouraged to apply for funds under a new \$30,000 Community Fund.

The fund, associated with Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 3, opened for applications in late January and will remain open until Friday 1 March 2024.

Grants of up to \$3,000 each are up for grabs for initiatives benefitting the community along the project's alignment.

Funds will be distributed from mid-2024, so, it is a quick turnaround from application to delivery.

The fund is designed to give back to the community during Stage 3 works.

Organisations located outside the Broadbeach south to Burleigh Heads alignment can apply if their submission benefits the community in areas along the alignment.

To apply, or for more information, visit the Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 3 website's Community Fund section at gclr3.com.au/communityfund



The underground city future-proofing our coast life

As part of Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 3, the project is installing kilometres of new and upgraded utilities including water, gas, power, telecommunications, drainage and sewer infrastructure. The upgraded services will significantly improve our city's ability to cope with the forecasted population growth over the next 100 years.

In total, 19 kilometres of utilities are being identified, relocated and upgraded as part of the important utilities phase that has been underway since September 2022.

Works include overhead power lines currently crossing the Gold Coast Highway being relocated moved to beneath the road surface, improving reliability and safety.

GoldlinQ CEO Phil Mumford said there would be major legacy benefits for the city from this important phase of works.

"The Gold Coast is a growth centre, and work needs to be done now before it expands further to ensure we have the critical infrastructure needed to support the anticipated increase in residents and businesses," he said.

"It is the right time to conduct the works before the light rail tracks and stations go down and it becomes harder and more expensive to access the water mains, sewer, gas and telecommunications infrastructure below the ground."



Image: A side-by-side image showing the complexity of utilities identified, relocated and upgraded through Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 3 works at Broadbeach



Local Business Spotlight: Miss Jane Boutique + Lifestyle, Mermaid Beach

Beachside living and community collaboration inspired Jane Firkin to open her coastal fashion retail store **Miss Jane Boutique + Lifestyle** in Mermaid Beach in August 2023.

The opportunity to expand from market stalls to her own bricks-and-mortar shopfront was too good to give up after having successfully sold her Miss Jane Designs products across the Gold Coast and northern New South Wales.

Jane knows it's crucial to listen to customers when creating timeless and affordable, comfortable coastal fashion. Her own brand, Miss Jane Designs, specialises in premium cotton and linen clothing.

"I design fashion for everyone, so it's about creating high-quality clothing with good prices that people will wear and love for years," she said.

"I love that customers can come into the store, enjoy the experience and service, and leave feeling great about themselves."

Miss Jane Boutique + Lifestyle also stocks an array of clothing, accessories and jewellery from other local designers and manufacturers – a collaborative approach Jane is also enthusiastic about.

"I love the community feel to the area – there's cafés, retailers, salons – and we all work together to make Mermaid Beach a great place to visit," she said.

Jane also ensures all her products are sourced via ethical manufacturing practices.

Open seven days a week at 2387 Gold Coast Highway, Mermaid Beach, make sure you stop by Miss Jane Boutique + Lifestyle. Follow on Instagram via **@missjane.boutique**

Love Your Local businesses like Miss Jane Boutique + Lifestyle. Gold Coasters who shop, eat, drink and stay along the alignment have the chance to enter the Shop Local and Win competition every time they spend \$10, with a monthly prize pool of \$5,000 in vouchers from local businesses available until June 2024.



Image: Miss Jane Boutique + Lifestyle owner Jane Firkin showcasing the fashion and accessories available at her Mermaid Beach store

Have you visited our interactive map?

The GCLR3 interactive map is the number one source of information on project works in your area. The 'current works' map has been refreshed and now provides more information on the 25+ different work activities across the alignment. Click on any icon to find out the detail about what to expect, timing, local traffic and parking changes and notes about different construction methods.

The map is regularly updated with the latest information, so check back often to keep up to date with GCLR3.



To stay up to date with all works, visit our interactive current works map at: **gclr3.com.au/currentworks**

Trader Directory

Did you know?

Our local **Trader Directory** is available to view on the GCLR3 interactive map. The directory highlights a variety of local businesses along the stage 3 alignment you can continue to support throughout construction. Keep an eye out for specials or uncover some of the Gold Coast's hidden gems.

For more information, find us online

As work continues along the Stage 3 alignment, we have moved to digital communication. Our website and interactive map will be your best source for updates on construction activities in your area.

- Scan the QR code to register for email updates.
- If you are unable to access information online:
 1. Call our community team on 1800 312 600
 2. Visit your local library or Local and State elected representatives' offices for information on GCLR3.



Visit: www.gclr3.com.au

Email: contact@gclr3.com.au

Phone: 1800 312 600*

*Free call anywhere in Australia. Call charges apply from mobiles