

BROOME CHINATOWN REVITALISATION

THE HEART AND SOUL OF BROOME

NEWSLETTER August 2018



The Aarli pop-up

Aarli & Allure Activate Dampier

The Aarli is a Chinatown icon delivering up consistently delicious Australian Asian cuisine from their restaurant under the frangipanis on the corner of Hamersley and Frederick Streets.

Owners Jane and Nick Wendland successfully applied for a Chinatown Revitalisation grant which has helped them give the outside area a facelift with new barriers, lighting, umbrellas and security. The Aarli also popped up on Dampier Terrace for the peak season, taking over the unused deck next to Allure Pearls to deliver great coffee and a delicious breakfast and lunch menu perfectly placed for Chinatown workers.

The pop-up trial is the brainchild of Allure South Sea Pearls' Chelsea Stewart, who saw an opportunity to activate the empty space adjacent to their Dampier Terrace showroom.

"It's about working together and getting traders involved in trying new things to bring people into Chinatown," Chelsea says.

"We invited artists Gem Taylor and Mel Foster from Mel and Mint to paint and display their art on the deck to create a visually appealing space with a difference, encouraging people to browse and buy."

When Chelsea approached The Aarli initially with the concept of a pop-up coffee stall, the idea snowballed.

The Aarli owner Jane said they started with the coffee concept and it quickly turned into more of a café with a simple menu that could be produced without a full commercial kitchen.

"We're really pleased with the way it worked out, and it's helped activate an area of Chinatown that would normally be quiet in the early mornings," she says.

Project Updates

The Roebuck Bay Lookout is really taking shape with the primary steel work for the structure having recently been installed, giving an idea of how the final lookout will appear. In the coming weeks the site will be a hive of activity, with construction of the concrete retaining structure and decking slab, then installation of the roof sheeting, walkways, balustrading and lighting, and finally landscaping.

Following our recent quote request for construction of the Carnarvon Street and Dampier Terrace upgrades, Downer EDI Works has been named as the preferred contractor.

Quotes were assessed against a range of criteria including value for money, experience, and ensuring significant local content and Indigenous involvement in the project. The project team is now working with the contractor to finalise the scope, budget and contract for final endorsement by the Project Steering Committee and Council.



The Roebuck Bay Lookout taking shape



Kimberley Bookshop a Hidden Gem

Browsing the well-stocked shelves of the Kimberley Bookshop, you're struck by the inherent tranquility of this gem of a shop on Napier Terrace. Tucked away from the hustle and bustle of a dry season day in Chinatown, the bookshop is housed in a heritage building.

Many Broome locals will remember the shop opening in its current location on Napier Terrace, but did you know it was first established by a Minister of the Uniting Church in his house, and subsequently run by the Sisters of St John of God first at the convent and then various other locations, due to the importance of such a shop.

The bookshop quickly established a reputation for a great selection of books, and hosted some legendary book launches and social gatherings, including Lord McAlpine's memoir launch "Once a Jolly Bagman".

Owner Marie Gamble recently decided to return to the store and is firmly back at the helm, diversifying into gifts in addition to the extensive stock of all things literary.

"I stock a wide range of books for adults and children, and also specialize in Broome, Kimberley and Indigenous titles, so there's something for everybody in store," Marie said.

Visit the Bookshop at 3 Napier Terrace or online at www.kimberleybooks.com.au



Kimberley Bookshop

Evening Events on Dampier

Ladies' Night on Dampier Terrace was a star attraction earlier in the month. The pearl shops were buzzing with ladies and some brave fellas enjoying styling tips, competitions and refreshments. Participating retailers reported good sales, instore activity and return customers as a result of the evening.

Ladies' Night was a great example of placemaking – the process of creating quality public spaces that people want to live, work and play in, inspired by the community. It's one of the cornerstones of the Chinatown Revitalisation Project and whilst placemaking is often supported by external funding initially, the aim is to encourage the community to take ultimate ownership.

And that's exactly what's happening in Chinatown. Traders are embracing these events to help create a great space and encourage people to spend more time in the precinct.

Twilight Tuesdays is a new initiative being championed by Allure South Sea Pearls, where Dampier Terrace traders will open for an extra hour until 6pm every Tuesday to give locals and tourists alike (Tuesday is a big tour day!) a chance to visit shops outside of normal trading hours. Check our [Chinatown Broome Facebook page](#) for more details!



Sammy the Dragon – photo credit Steve Cutts

Pearler of a Festival

On 25 August Sammy the Dragon will be woken from his year-long slumber to herald the start of Shinju Matsuri for 2018, Broome's annual festival of the pearl which celebrates our multicultural history.

This year's packed program has something for everyone, from traditional events like the Float Parade through Chinatown and Mardi Gras on Male Oval, to the annual hotly contested Willie Creek Pearls Pearl Meat Cook off, and new events like the Pearl Harvest Yum Cha on Dampier Terrace, supported by the Chinatown Revitalisation Project, which has proven so popular it is already a sellout.

For the full Shinju Matsuri events program visit www.shinjumatsuri.com.au

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FRIDAY 24 AUGUST Late Night Trading

TUESDAY 28 AUGUST Twilight Tuesdays on Dampier Terrace until 6pm

MONDAY 3 SEPTEMBER Traders' Marketing Workshop

FRIDAY 21 SEPTEMBER Late Night Trading

Chinatown Revitalisation Project HQ
Little Johnny Chi Lane
Wednesday - Friday, 10am - 4pm
revitalisation@chinatownbroome.com.au
f @chinatownbroome

chinatownbroome.com.au