# Mayors of Cairns 1885 to Present

## Cairns Municipal Council 1885 – 1923

Note: The Cairns Divisional Board was established in 1879. In 1885 it was split into two parts: the Cairns Divisional Board (1885-1902) and the Cairns Municipal Council (1885-1923).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mayor</th>
<th>Term</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Richard Ash Kingsford</td>
<td>1885-1886, 1889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louis Severin</td>
<td>1886-1888, 1891,1903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Callaghan Walsh</td>
<td>1890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander Frederick John Draper</td>
<td>1891-1893, 1897, 1902, 1918-1919</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniel Patience</td>
<td>1893-1894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Lyons</td>
<td>1895-1896</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karl Aumuller</td>
<td>1898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyne Brown</td>
<td>1899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard A. Tills</td>
<td>1900-1901, 1907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donald McLachlan</td>
<td>1904</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles McKenzie</td>
<td>1905, 1912-1913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward Earl</td>
<td>1906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sinclair Miller</td>
<td>1908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Coxal</td>
<td>1909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Hartill-Law</td>
<td>1910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Hoare</td>
<td>1911, 1920-1923</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Dillon</td>
<td>1914, 1915-1916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Griffiths</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Henry Donaldson</td>
<td>1917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Cowie Foxdale Gelling</td>
<td>1919</td>
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</tbody>
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## Cairns City Council 1923 – 1995

Note: In 1902, Cairns Municipal Council became Cairns City Council. In 1940, Cairns Divisional Board became Cairns Shire Council, which in 1940 became Mulgrave Shire Council.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Hoare</td>
<td>1923-1924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander Frederick John Draper</td>
<td>1924-1927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Aloysius Collins</td>
<td>1927-1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Henry Murchison</td>
<td>1949-1952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Fulton</td>
<td>1952-1960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. Darcy Chataway</td>
<td>1960-1967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colin Penridge</td>
<td>1967-1969</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kevin Francis Crathern</td>
<td>1973-1976</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ronald Davis</td>
<td>1978-1988</td>
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<tr>
<td>Keith Goodwin</td>
<td>1988-1990</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Peter Cleland</td>
<td>1990-1991</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kevin Michael Byrne</td>
<td>1992-1995</td>
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</table>

## Cairns City Council 1995 – 2008

Cairns City Council amalgamated with Mulgrave Shire Council in 1995.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mayor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Alfred Pyne</td>
<td>1995-2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Michael Byrne</td>
<td>2000-2008</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Cairns Regional Council 2008-current


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mayor</th>
<th>Term</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Valerie Jean Schier</td>
<td>2008-2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Charles Manning OAM</td>
<td>2012-current</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Richard Ash Kingsford  
1885 Cairns Divisional Board  
1885-86, 1889 Cairns Municipal Council

Richard Ash Kingsford was born in Canterbury, England on the 4th of October 1821. He was Chairman of Cairns Divisional Board in 1885 and a member of the Legislative Assembly in the Queensland Colonial Parliament. Mayor of Brisbane in 1876, Kingsford was also a draper and sugar planter. Kingsford Street in Mooroobool is named in his honour. He died in Cairns on January 2nd 1902.

Louis Severin  
1886-88, 1891, 1903 Cairns Municipal Council

Louis Severin was born in France in 1848 and went on to become a builder and merchant and was also the Mayor of Cooktown in 1876. Severin also operated brickworks in Cairns. Severin Street, which services the suburbs of Manunda and Paramatta Park, is named after this former Mayor who died in Cairns in 1904.

Callaghan Walsh  
1890 Cairns Municipal Council

Callaghan Walsh was born in Ireland in 1843 and arrived in Queensland in 1862. Walsh was a merchant in Cooktown, Port Douglas and Cairns and was also a member of many organisations including the Cairns Rice Milling Company of which he was Chairman in 1889. Walsh also held positions as President of the Cairns Chamber of Commerce and Railway League, as well as being the Chairman of the Cairns Harbour Board in 1906. Walsh Street in Edge Hill is named after this former Mayor who passed away in Brisbane in April 1918.
Alexander Frederick John Draper
1891-3, 1897, 1902, 1918-19 Cairns Municipal Council
1924-27 Cairns City Council
Alexander Frederick John Draper was born in Williamston, Victoria in April 1863. Draper was a commission agent, auctioneer and merchant and also held the roles of Vice-President of the Canegrowers Association and Vice-President of the Australian Sugar Producers Association. Draper Street in Cairns, which runs between Parramatta Park and Portsmith, is named after this former Mayor who died in Brisbane in March 1928.

Daniel Patience
1893-94 Cairns Municipal Council
Daniel Patience was the manager of the Cairns Branch of Burns Philp as well as a member of the Magistrates’ Bench and President of the Chamber of Commerce. He was also President of the Cairns School of Arts and he died in Sydney in July 1909. Patience Street in Manoora is named after this former Mayor.

James Lyons
1895-96 Cairns Municipal Council
James Lyons was born in Ireland in 1843. Lyons went to the Palmer River gold field before moving to Cairns. Lyons was a member of the Queensland Parliament from 1902-05 and a member of Cairns Shire Council. He also spent time as the President of the Cairns Chamber of Commerce and Cairns Bowls Club before he died in July 1915. Lyons Street running between Westcourt, Bungalow and Portsmith is named in honour of this former Mayor.
Karl Aumuller
1898 Cairns Municipal council

Karl Aumuller was born in Nassau, Germany in 1829. Aumuller was a saddler and managed sheep stations in New South Wales and North Queensland. Aumuller Street running through Manunda, Westcourt, Bungalow and Portsmith is named after him. He died in Cairns in November 1900.

Lyne Brown
1899 Cairns Municipal Council

Lyne Brown was born in November 1845. Brown was a railway photographer and draftsman and took many photos of the construction of the Cairns District Railways. He was also a member of the Fire Brigade Board and he died in June 1921. Brown Street in Cairns is named after this former Mayor.

Richard A. Tills
1890 Cairns Divisional Board
1900-01, 1907 Cairns Municipal Council

Richard A. Tills was born in Hull, England in 1860 and arrived in Cairns in 1883. He worked as a contract builder and operated a joinery works and Cairns Sawmill Company. Tills was Chairman of the Cairns Divisional Board in 1890, and was a member of the Barron Divisional Board. He was the President of the Cairns Chamber of Commerce as well as being a licensing justice. Tills Street in Westcourt is named after this former Mayor who died in Cairns in June 1937.
Donald McLachlan
1904 Cairns Municipal Council

Donald McLachlan was the Proprietor of a joinery works as well as being Chairman of the Cairns Ambulance Committee. McLachlan Street in Manunda is named after this former Mayor.

Charles McKenzie
1905, 1912-13 Cairns Municipal Council

Charles McKenzie was born in Braemar, Scotland in 1865 and arrived in Cairns in 1888. McKenzie operated a tailor premises and was Chairman of the Cairns School Committee. McKenzie Street in North Cairns is named after him. Charles McKenzie died in Cairns in May 1914.

Edward Campbell Earl
1906 Cairns Municipal Council

Edward Campbell Earl was born in Bowen Queensland in January 1874. He owned butcher shops, cane farms and cattle properties. Earl was a member for Barron Shire Council, Chairman of Cairns Harbour Board, member for Cairns Stock Exchange Committee and member of Barron Falls Hydroelectricity Board. He died in Leura, New South Wales in October 1930, and is buried in the Katoomba Cemetery. Earl Street in Westcourt is named after this former Mayor.
John Coxall
1909 Cairns Municipal Council

John Coxall was born in Tenterfield, New South Wales in 1864 and worked as a stockbroker. Coxall Street in Mooroobool is named after this Mayor who died in October 1936 and is buried at the Belgian Gardens Cemetery in Townsville.

Sinclair Miller
1908 Cairns Municipal Council

Sinclair Miller was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1858. Miller was a builder and sawmill proprietor as well as being Chairman of the Cairns Central School Committee and Chairman of Cairns District Hospital Committee. Miller died in Cairns in 1929.

Andrew Hartill-Law
1910 Cairns Municipal Council

Andrew Hartill-Law was born in Staffordshire, England in 1859. He was a mechanical engineer, member for Cairns School of Arts and Technical College Committee and was proprietor of Phoenix Foundry and Engine Works. He Died in Cairns in March 1940. Law Street in North Cairns is named after this former Mayor.
John George Hoare
1911, 1920-23 Cairns Municipal Council
1923-24 Cairns City Council

John George Hoare was an auctioneer and he died in Brisbane in August 1944. Hoare Street in Manunda is named after him.

Thomas Dillon
1914, 1915-16 Cairns Municipal Council

Thomas Dillon was born in Ballywilliam Newcross, Ireland in February 1851. He was a hotel proprietor and cordial manufacturer. He died in Atherton in May 1917. Dillon Street in Westcourt is named in this Mayor’s honour.

John Griffiths
1915 Cairns Municipal Council

John Griffiths was Mayor of Cairns in 1915. Griffiths Street in Manoora is named after him.
Thomas Henry Donaldson
1917 Cairns Municipal Council

Thomas Henry Donaldson was manager of Samuel Allen and Sons. Donaldson Street in Manunda is named after this former Mayor.

Richard Cowle Foxdale Gelling
1919 Cairns Municipal Council

Richard Cowle Foxdale Gelling arrived in Cairns from Charters Towers in 1905. He was a coachbuilder and member of the Masonic Fraternity. Gelling Street in Cairns North is named after this former Mayor who died in Cairns in October 1952 and was buried at the Martyn Street Cemetery.

William Aloysius Collins
1927-49 Cairns City Council

William Aloysius Collins was born in Herberton in 1886. He was President of the Barron Falls Hydro Electricity Board and Chairman of Cairns Cricket Association as well as being a chemist. He died in June 1959. Collins Avenue in Edge Hill is named in honour of this Mayor.
William Henry Murchison
1949-52 Cairns City Council

William Henry Murchison was born in Bowen, Queensland in 1892. He was a railway worker, member of Barron Falls Hydro Electricity Board, Chairman of Cairns Regional Electricity Board, Chairman of Cairns Fire Brigade Board, and Chairman of the Cairns Hospital Committee. Murchison served as an Alderman for 19 years, deputy Mayor for 10 years and Mayor for two and a half years. He died in office in January 1952, aged 59 years. Murchison Street in Whitfield is named after him.

William J. Fulton
1952-60 Cairns City Council

William J. Fulton was born in Cairns in 1909. He was the proprietor of the Northern Cycle and Sports Depot, World War Two Veteran-“Rat of Tobruk”, a keen sportsman and accomplished musician. He was a member of the Cairns Band, and Federal Member for Leichhardt 1961-75. Fulton died in Cairns in November 1988. Fulton Street in Whitfield is named after this previous Mayor.

S. Darcy Chataway
1960-67 Cairns City Council

S. Darcy Chataway was born in Mackay in January 1895 and was a World War One Veteran. Chataway was a railway worker and had a Street in Mooroobool named after him. He passed away in 1978.
Colin Penridge
1967-69 Cairns City Council

Colin Penridge was born in Bundaberg in 1910, he worked as a railway station master and a real estate agent. Penridge was a member of the Cairns Travel League and he died in Cairns in August 1969.

David Thomas De Jarlais
1969-73, 1976-78 Cairns City Council

David Thomas De Jarlais was born in Emuford (an old mining town), North Queensland in October 1913. De Jarlais was manager of the Cairns Gas Supply Company for ten years and was the proprietor of the Gas Appliance Centre in Cairns. As well as being a life Member of the Cairns Show Association he was also Chairman of Starr Bowkett and the Northern Cooperative Building Society. De Jarlais Street in Earlville is named after this former mayor who passed away while in office, in Cairns in 1978.

Kevin Francis Crathern
1973-76 Cairns City Council

Kevin Francis Crathern was born in Richmond, Victoria April 1922. He was a boilermaker, served in the Australian Navy in 1942-46, was a keen sportsman, and President of Cairns AFL. He died in Cairns, December 2001. Crathern Street in Edge Hill is named after him.
Ronald Davis
1978-88 Cairns City Council

Ronald Davis was born in Cairns in May 1928. He was manager of CTL Glass and Hardware, an auctioneer and valuer and was a member of the Cairns Port Authority. In addition Davis was President of the Cairns Show Association and Director of Telecasters North Queensland. Davis Close in Manoora is named after him.

Keith Goodwin
1988-90 Cairns City Council

Keith Goodwin was born in Brisbane in 1945. He was a teacher, Director of Adult Education Brisbane in 1974, Officer in charge of Cairns T.A.F.E. and a Jaycee Senator of the World. He died (in office) in a plane crash at Mt Emerald in May 1990.

John Peter Cleland
1990-91 Cairns City Council

John Peter Cleland was born in Gordonvale in September 1940. He was a chemist, keen cricketer, President of Cairns Cricket Association and President of Cairns/Mulgrave Water Supply Board. He died in Cairns, December 1991.
Thomas Alfred Pyne
1979–1995 Mulgrave Shire Council
1995-2000 Cairns City Council

Thomas Alfred Pyne was born in Babinda in January 1935. He was a railway worker, wood machinist and a Member of the Mulgrave Shire Council in 1961. Mr Pyne was Chairman of the Mulgrave Shire Council 1979-94, and first Mayor of the new Cairns City Council (amalgamating Mulgrave Shire and Cairns City) in 1995 and President of the Local Government Association Queensland.

Kevin Michael Byrne
1992-95, 2000- 2008
Cairns City Council

Kevin Michael Byrne was born in Lae, Papua New Guinea in 1949. In 1992 Kevin Byrne was first elected Mayor of Cairns. He was re-elected in 1994 before being defeated in 1995 following the amalgamation of Cairns City and Mulgrave Shire. After sometime spent in Papua New Guinea he returned to Cairns in December 1999. Kevin Byrne was re-elected as Mayor of Cairns on 25 March 2000 and again in March 2004.

Valerie Jean Schier
2008-2012
Cairns Regional Council

Val Schier was the first Mayor of the newly formed Cairns Regional Council. She was born in rural Tasmania and moved to Tropical North Queensland in 1982. Val held various senior managerial positions in State Government over a period of 15 years. In addition, Val has run her own successful management, training and consultancy business, and held management positions in the private sector.
Bob Manning OAM is an ex-Vietnam veteran and former CEO of the Cairns Port Authority and Longreach Shire Council. He was awarded Cairns Citizen of the Year in 2002, and awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in 2004 for his service to the Cairns region community through the development and promotion of the tourism, marine and aviation industries.