



# Sunshine Coast Access Advisory Network Inc.

A Place For Everyone

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## Sunshine Coast Access News – August 2024

We thought it might be helpful to provide a brief update to our SCAAN community on a few of the key issues that you may be interested in and that we are either currently engaged in or monitoring.

We've also included several of the programs and activities that the Sunshine Coast Regional Council (SCRC) has recently initiated.

While we include below a brief news summary, you'll see links at the bottom of each item to our website as well as other relevant websites that provide more detail.

Send us an email if you would like information on any other issues we have not covered (or if you have any other suggestions).

### Cérge

Cérge is a new initiative that provides a smartphone app that allows individuals with particular requirements to advise service staff at hotels, eateries and other public facing services of their individual preferences in advance of their arrival.

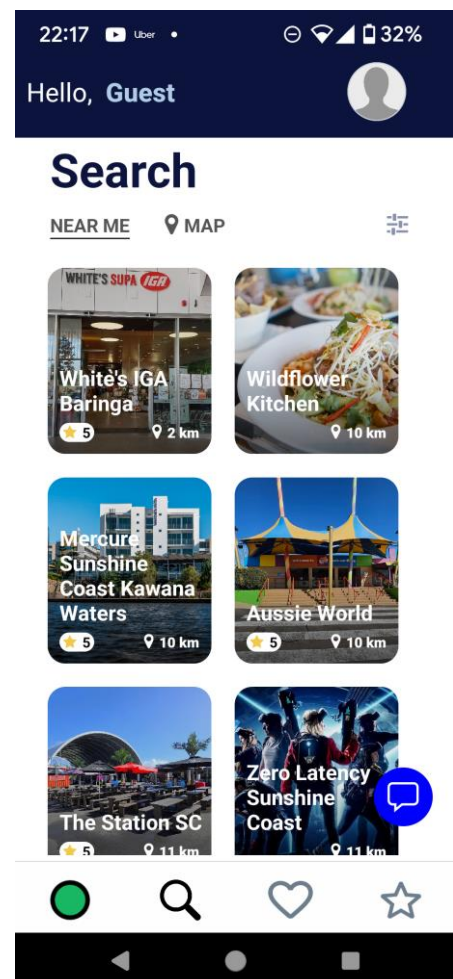
The Cérge website provides a comprehensive range of tools and information to enable people to “know before they go” to a place what to expect when they arrive.

Cérge is designed to significantly enhance community participation, sport, leisure and accessible tourism.

To find out more, go to:

<https://cerge.app/>

SCRC contracted with Cérge for eight Council venues with more to come in the following months.



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## **The Sunflower Program**

Also to come to Council's customer service centres in the near future is the Hidden Disabilities "Sunflower" initiative. This initiative allows people to choose to be visible when they want to be. Wearing a Hidden Disabilities Sunflower lanyard discreetly indicates to people around you, including staff, colleagues and health professionals that you may need additional support, time or understanding.

For details go to:

<https://www.aspect.org.au/our-services/autism-friendly/hidden-disabilities>

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## **SCRC's Access and Inclusion Coordination Group Meeting**

22nd August 2024

Council will be updating Staff and community members on:

- The use of Assistance Animals
- Upgrades to Kawana Aquatic Centre
- Accessible Gyms on the Coast
- Availability of Céрге at Sunshine Coast Airport
- Construction of an Accessible Pontoon
- Access updates on:
  - Coast Beaches
  - Céрге Implementation at Council facilities
  - All Access Days at our beaches
  - Disability Action Week

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## **Sunshine Coast Council's Other Disability Initiatives**

Council will also be providing Disability Awareness training to Staff later this year.

Caloundra SLSC will re-engage with the Accessible Beaches Program this summer with a new storage shed, beach wheelchair and matting.

Council is developing a public online calendar of accessible beaches (where beach wheelchairs are available to the public) which should be operational for the summer season.

An "All Access Day" at Dicky Beach is to take place on 9th November with planning underway for a Coolum event for early next year. Council is looking for Surf Lifesaving Clubs to host another two events.

Jane Goodwin, Council's Community Development Officer is planning to organise a number of events as part of Disability Awareness Week including:

- Reverse Inclusion Basketball Match
- The FUNctional Market Day
- All Abilities Come and Try Sports Day
- Accessible Sunshine Coast Photo Competition

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## Upcoming Events

### SCAAN General Meetings – all welcome

When: The third Friday of every month at 10:00 am

Where: Mooloolaba TAFE Campus, 34 Lady Musgrave Drive  
Mountain Creek, 4557 (Room A1.66)