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GLADSTONE NEWS

TAKE ME, I'M FREE!

ISSUE 275

7th March, 2024

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TOOLOOA STATE HIGH SCHOOL

respect - responsibility - achievement

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Paint & Sip: Blooming Bouquet

FRIDAY 8TH MARCH

When: 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Where: Central Lane Hotel, 35 Yarroon St, Gladstone

Cost: \$60

Join us for a special celebration of women's creativity and empowerment at our Blooming Bouquet Paint & Sip event!

Let's honour the strength and beauty of women as we come together to paint our own masterpieces inspired by blooming bouquets.

No prior experience necessary - just bring your creativity and enthusiasm! All art supplies included.

Calliope River Historical Village Markets

SUNDAY 10TH MARCH

When: 7:30am – 1pm • Where: Calliope River Historical Village

Join us on market days in our historic village for a unique shopping and cultural experience. Browse through the many stalls offering a wide variety of goods from handmade crafts, fresh produce, and more.

Our markets are held regularly, so mark your calendar and come enjoy the sights, sounds, and flavors of our historical village. A great opportunity for all the family to shop, eat and have fun in one of the most unique and authentic settings in the Gladstone region.



Inclusive Beats Disco

FRIDAY 15TH MARCH

When: 6pm - 9pm

Where: A Lil Bit of Sweetness, 5b/5 Gilbert Ct, Boyne Island

Cost: Free

We are thrilled to unveil the "INCLUSIVE BEATS DISCO," an exclusive 18+ gathering!

Illuminate the night in your brightest Neon or vivid attire and immerse yourself in an evening brimming with entertainment and joy. Inside, a serene space awaits those preferring a quieter atmosphere for conversation, while the outdoors beckons the spirited dancers among us.

Email Diversity-in-Ability@outlook.com with the number of attendees and any specific dietary needs to register your interest.

FISH OF THE MONTH WINNER

Congratulations Chloe on catching this Coronation Trout!

Please contact Gladstone News to arrange collection of your \$50 voucher.

DID YOU KNOW?

Coronation trout are a vibrantly coloured fish that are commonly referred to as Lunar Trout because of their elongated tail with a bright yellow border at the tips.



Name: Chloe
Fish Species: Coronation Trout
Location: Lamont Reef





TOOLOOA STATE HIGH SCHOOL

respect - responsibility - achievement

Outstanding SENIOR RESULTS 2023



My heartfelt congratulations go out to the graduating cohort of 2023.

Once again, I'm thrilled to announce that 100% of our exiting cohort of Year 12 students graduated with a Queensland Certificate of Education or a Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement. On top of this, a strong number of students entered full-time work, apprenticeships and traineeships. Of our students seeking a tertiary pathway, over a quarter of students achieved ATAR scores above 90, getting them entry into highly competitive courses such as Engineering, Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing and more.



2023 Toolooa SHS Dux (Academic Champion)

Congratulations to Alyssa Pease, who was recently awarded the coveted School Dux shield. Alyssa achieved straight As throughout her senior years, and was awarded an ATAR score of 99.6. Alyssa also played an active role in leadership, community engagement and the arts throughout her schooling. She is a shining star and we are immensely proud of her.



2023 Toolooa SHS GPC Student of the Year

Congratulations to GPC Student of the Year, Elle Hetherington, pictured with Benjamin Hayden, Executive General Manager for Asset Management at the Gladstone Port Authority.



26% of ATAR eligible students achieved a score above 90



100% QCE/QCIA attainment



Over 15 students successfully moved into apprenticeships or traineeships

2023 Outstanding Academic Achievers

Congratulations to the top 5 academic performers of 2023! From left to right: Kaye Ng, Aleia Golding, Elle Hetherington, Alyssa Pease, Deenah Quadri, pictured with Principal Mr Harrison and CQ Univerity's Donna Boyce.





New Performing Arts Centre Construction Starting Soon!

As our community is aware, we have been approved for the construction of a state-of-the-art new Performing Arts Centre! Planning is well underway, and construction is due to commence very soon. The inclusion of this Performing Arts Centre will only strengthen our already impressive Instrumental Music and Arts programs.



Junior Leaders

We welcome an enthusiastic new group of Junior Secondary Leaders for 2024. This group, ranging from Year 7 to 9, will engage in a range of leadership initiatives this year in their respective roles:

- Environmental change
- Charity and community work
- School image
- Student and family high school transition support
- Student buddy program
- Positive school culture

We have some outstanding students represented in leadership, and we are excited to see them grow and develop over the school year.



Senior Leaders

Welcome and congratulations to our incoming Senior Student Leaders – Jie Xi Zang and Benjamin Campbell (Captains) and Amanda Evans and Alex Montgomery (Vice Captains). These four students will lead the greater senior executive team throughout the 2024 school year.

As a collective, the Senior Executive Team aims to promote an inclusive school culture, engage in new and exciting student activities, and lead by example. They've started the year off strongly, with an excellent Valentine's Day initiative that brought joy and excitement to the school community. They continue to meet weekly to discuss and plan their next steps. We look forward to seeing the fruits of their labour throughout the year.



TOOLOOA STATE
HIGH SCHOOL

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Australia's biggest renewable POWER DEAL SIGNED

Rio Tinto has signed Australia's largest renewable power purchase agreement to date to supply its Gladstone operations in Queensland, agreeing to buy majority of electricity from Windlab's planned 1.4 GW Bungaban wind energy project.

The agreement entails Rio Tinto purchasing 80% of the power generated by the Bungaban project over 25 years. This deal is part of Rio Tinto's broader efforts to repower its Gladstone production assets, including Boyne Aluminium Smelter, Yarwun Alumina Refinery, and Queensland Alumina Refinery.

The construction of the Bungaban project is anticipated to begin in late 2025, with electricity production expected by 2029, employ up to 600 people during construction and

support up to 30 permanent jobs when operating.

Windlab CEO John Martin said "Securing this PPA is a major milestone for the Bungaban project and a strong signal of the project's value from the market."

"Windlab is very proud to be partnering with Rio Tinto to support the long-term sustainable future of Rio Tinto's Gladstone operations."

“

This agreement with Windlab builds on our momentum in our work to repower our Gladstone operations and provide a sustainable future, for heavy industry in Central Queensland.

Windlab CEO John Martin emphasises the significance of large-scale renewable energy projects like

Bungaban in supporting traditional industries and contributing to a low-carbon future. Rio Tinto remains open to assessing other proposals to meet the energy needs of its Gladstone operations, emphasising the importance of reliable power sources and potential future electrification of plant processes.

Rio Tinto Chief Executive Jakob Stausholm said "This agreement with Windlab builds on our momentum in our work to repower our Gladstone operations and provide a sustainable future, for heavy industry in Central Queensland."

"The task remains challenging, but we have a pathway to provide the competitive, firm power our Gladstone plants need and we are continuing to work hard with all stakeholders, including the Queensland and Australian governments, on getting there."

Rio Tinto will continue to engage with potential partners to assess other proposals to help meet the energy needs of its three production assets in the Gladstone region.

EASTER IN GLADSTONE

28 March - 1 April 2024

You'll be *glad* you did



Village Opening Party
5pm-midnight, 28 March
B2G Village, O'Connell Wharf
Flinders Pde



Gladstone Harbour Festival
28-31 March
Gladstone Marina Parklands



76th Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race Livestream
10am, 29 March
Gladstone Marina Parklands



Yachtsman's Long Lunch
11am-3pm, 29 March
B2G Village, O'Connell Wharf
Flinders Pde



Gladstone Harbour Festival's Raft Regatta
9.30am, 29 March
O'Connell Wharf, Flinders Pde



Seafood Festival
10am-10pm, 30 March
B2G Village, O'Connell Wharf
Flinders Pde



Harbour Cruise Brunch
11am-1pm, 30 March
Yacht Club Boat Ramp
Bookings Required



B2G Line Crossing Party
10am-midnight, 31 March
B2G Village, O'Connell Wharf
Flinders Pde



So, what are *you* waiting for?

Find your place by the water and celebrate **Easter in Gladstone.** Better still, extend your stay and experience more of what the region has to offer.

\$1 million boost for Queensland

SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT THANKS TO WOOLWORTHS & LANDCARE

In a bid to foster environmental stewardship and outdoor education among Australia's youth, Woolworths has teamed up with Landcare Australia to offer over a million dollars in grants to schools and early learning centres.

This initiative aims to encourage more Australian children, including those in the Gladstone region, to engage in hands-on projects that promote sustainability and environmental conservation.

Woolworths Group Manager, Julien Buckman said, "The Woolworths Junior Landcare Grants program is all about supporting fun and engaging learning experiences that can help younger generations connect with natural

environments."

"Our store team across Gladstone region have been proud to connect with local schools who have been awarded a grant. It's been great to hear how the funding has helped enhance local school communities and support students as they get outdoors and learn more about the local environment."

Since its inception in 2018, the Woolworths Junior Landcare Grants program has allocated over \$5 million in grants to nearly 5,000 primary schools and early learning centres across Australia. This has enabled over 400,000 students to actively participate in environmental projects and nurture a sense of responsibility towards their local ecosystems.

Applications for the Woolworths Junior Landcare Grants program are currently open until March 19th, 2024, offering primary schools and early learning centres the opportunity to receive grants of up to \$1,000. Interested parties are encouraged to visit the



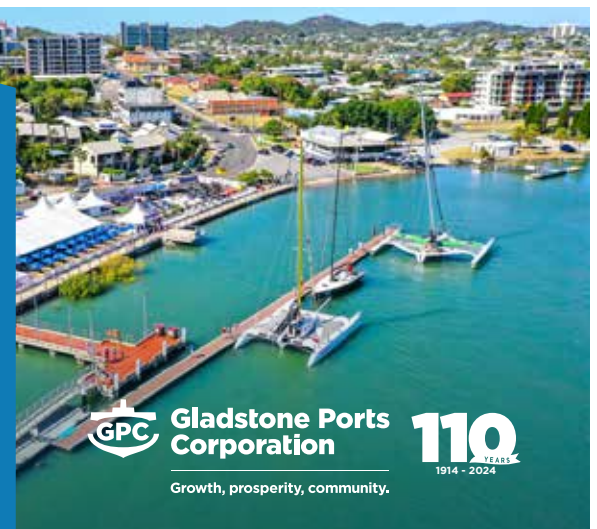
official website at www.juniorlandcare.org.au to submit their applications and contribute to nurturing the next generation of environmental leaders.



Easter in Gladstone

Let's celebrate this Easter with the **Gladstone Ports Corporation 76th Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race.**

gpcl.com.au | 1800 243 GPC (472) | 



Gladstone Ports Corporation

110
YEARS
1914 - 2024

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ENVIRO-STORIES

from Gladstone to the world!

A group of Gladstone kids can now boast the title of "internationally-published authors" as they contributed to the creation of a new series of books, Habits for Habitat "Enviro-Stories."

The book series will serve as an educational resource distributed across libraries and schools in the Gladstone region, with additional copies being sent to Saiki, Gladstone's Sister City in Japan.

Over a period of one year, educational workshops and wildlife discussions led by Jodi Jones from Gladstone

Wildlife Carers Association and Iris Cosgrove from Conservation Volunteers Australia engaged 50 students from Boyne Island State School, St. John Baptist Primary School, and Yarwun State School, enriching their educational narratives. Children attending Gladstone Regional Council's Ecofest also had the opportunity to learn illustrative techniques from local First Nations artist Leslie Waraba Lister.

Melissa Peacock, the CQUniversity Regional Arts Officer, emphasised the significance of arts projects like this for students residing in regional and remote areas. "Not only do arts projects foster individual creativity, but this project has also brokered a new connection and relationship between

our native wildlife in this region. From carers, volunteers and stakeholders, local libraries, conservation groups, sister cities and our First Nations people – what a collaboration!" Ms Peacock said.

The creation of such a project was celebrated with a book launch held at the Gladstone Regional Art Gallery and Museum on Wednesday, February 14th. The event featured a reading of the story written by the students of Yarwun State School, delivered by Byellee Elder Trish Coleman.



WELCOMING YEAR 7 STUDENTS TO GLADSTONE SHS



Year 7 is off to a flying start as they embark on their high school journey.

With two Transition Days in 2023 followed by a comprehensive week-long Orientation Program, our newest students to GSHS are equipped with essential tools for success. Sessions focused on building friendships, navigating the school grounds (especially finding the Tuckshop!), establishing rapport with teachers and support staff. Year 7s were even treated to a performance from Shake n Stir with the production of 'Territorial, a journey to high school'. Our Lunchtime Activity Program has been widely popular with our Year 7s, Crochet Club, Fish 'n' Tips, Dodgeball and Nintendo Sports are amongst the favourites. Students have displayed our school's core values of being Engaged, Respectful, Responsible, and Safe throughout their start, and are now a part of their everyday lives.

We congratulate our Year 7s with their brilliant start to high school, your eagerness and enthusiasm in all facets of school life has been wonderful to witness, we look forward to watching you excel over the coming years at GSHS.



The Resilience Project

LAUNCHED AT GLADSTONE CENTRAL PRIMARY SCHOOL

More than 400 local primary school students will benefit from a 12-month program aimed at building resilience and supporting their mental health and wellbeing.

The Resilience Project's highly regarded School Wellbeing Program will be delivered to all Gladstone Central State School Students in 2024, after the school's P&C Association secured more than \$14,000 in funding through Santos GLNG's Community Investment Program.



We're really looking forward delivering the program's pillars of gratitude, empathy, and mindfulness, underpinned by emotional literacy, to our students from Prep to Year 6.

Gladstone Central State School Acting Principal, Dave Romagnolo said the school was thrilled to partner with Santos GLNG to enhance the school's existing well-being program with the tools and strategies provided by The Resilience Project.

"We've seen encouraging results of

the Resilience Project being rolled out in schools around Australia, with positive impact across key mental health and wellbeing indicators including depression, anxiety, engagement, life satisfaction and hope," Mr Romagnolo said.

"We're really looking forward delivering the program's pillars of gratitude, empathy, and mindfulness, underpinned by emotional literacy, to our students from Prep to Year 6."

Santos GLNG CEO Stephan Harty said one in seven primary school students and one in four adolescents in Australia are likely to experience mental health problems this year, and

nearly two thirds of them will not seek help.

"A preventative approach is key to tackling Australia's growing youth mental health crisis," Mr Harty said. "The Resilience's Project 's evidence-based, positive wellbeing strategies are proven to prevent mental ill-health, and build young people's capacity to deal with adversity."

"Santos GLNG is proud to fully fund the delivery of this important program at Gladstone Central State School in 2024, and we look forward to supporting other local schools in accessing it in 2025 and beyond."



End Youth Suicide WEEK 2024

Kate Hornick, Lived Experience Peer Worker, joined Youth Insearch after experiencing her own battles with mental health.

She made the decision to attend her first weekend workshop in the hope she could improve her life choices. "Youth Insearch showed me that there was a way out and that I was worthy of good things and that I was not a bad person. Youth Insearch taught me to love who I was, not what I had done." Kate said.

After school, Kate worked as a governess on remote cattle stations. During this time she fell in love with photography, went onto study the craft, and became self-employed in the field establishing her own business.

Kate continues to pursue photography whilst working for Youth Insearch. "At Youth Insearch we are on a mission to create a safe space for all young people to heal and thrive, through our Peer lead early intervention programs." Kate emphasises the need for Lived Experience Peer Workers across the country supporting clinicians and connecting with young people where they are.

Kate shares that her lived experience has shaped her passion for advocacy around mental well-being and suicide prevention. "I myself have experienced thoughts of suicidality and have lost people I love to suicide. This has shaped my views on the importance of reaching out in times of need and building a network of people around yourself in times of struggle or adversity. I truly value the importance of peer-to-peer support and believe

that this was the missing piece in my recovery journey before I found Youth Insearch."

Kate suggests exploring resources and strategies to assist those facing similar challenges. This involves researching available supports in your local area and familiarising yourself with individuals within your network who can offer assistance. Additionally, Kate emphasises the importance of normalising conversations about suicide and mental health struggles. And to set goals to give yourself something to think about for the future.



CELEBRATING VOLUNTEERS **This International Women's Day**

Did you know more than 1 in 3 Australian women volunteer in their local community on a weekly basis?

This International Women's Day we're celebrating the vital contributions women make to the Gladstone region's grassroots and not-for-profit groups.

We believe volunteers are the lifeblood of our town, which is why we're a proud partner of NFP House. NFP House recently released a report card into the health of the not-for-profit sector in our region. It's one of the great initiatives we are delighted to support.



Source: <https://www.volunteeringaustralia.org/exploring-the-key-statistics-on-volunteering-and-gender-this-international-womens-day/>





BAKING

Baking is a favourite hobby for many because it's both creative and rewarding. Begin with easy recipes like biscuits, cookies, or pies or start with the recipe that we have recommended on page 20!

READING

Reading can be a relaxing hobby that is great for easing anxiety and fatigue. Get started by picking a book that catches your interest, whether it's a mystery, romance or piece of history. If you want some book recommendations ask the Gladstone library team for their top book for 2024.

GARDENING

Gardening is the perfect hobby for enjoying fresh air and growing your own produce. All you need to start is a pack of seeds, fertilizer, soil and basic gardening tools. If you are a beginner, start by growing some herbs or flowers. Check out our local nursery's in Tannum and Benaraby for some helpful tips and beautiful plants.

2024: A YEAR FOR NEW HOBBIES

Exploring the Latest Trends and Activities

In this article we'll go over 5 hobby ideas that you can try this year.

Hobbies constantly push us to learn something new. It can even introduce new skills and encourage socialisation. By starting a new hobby it gives us a break from the daily grind, where it can provide an outlet to relax, recharge and refresh.



JOURNALING

Journaling is a therapeutic experience. By writing down your experiences and emotions it helps to manage stress, clarify thoughts, and understand yourself better. To start, write simple entries about your day or feelings, gradually, you can explore more in-depth topics.

CAMPING

Camping suits all types of adventure. Whether it's caravanning, tenting or glamping, everyone can find joy in this hobby for days. We recommend award winning MT Larcom Tourist Park or take a road trip to Agnes Water Holiday Park.



Learning a hobby doesn't have to take a lot of time, energy or money. By devoting just a few minutes a day and setting a goal to learn a new skill, you may find yourself becoming proficient in something you never dreamed was possible.

OFFSHORE APPROVALS REFORM *is a step towards energy security*

In a groundbreaking move aimed at reshaping Australia's energy landscape, the government has unveiled new legislation designed to overhaul the nation's offshore regulatory approval process.

Spearheaded by Resources Minister Madeleine King, this initiative is hailed as a pivotal stride toward fortifying the country's economic and energy resilience.

The Australian oil and gas industry has welcomed these legislative advancements, particularly after enduring months of uncertainty surrounding major energy supply projects, carbon capture and storage initiatives, and decommissioning endeavours.

Samantha McCulloch, Chief Executive of Australian Energy Producers, emphasised the urgent need for regulatory certainty in these large-scale investments. McCulloch stated, "The current regulatory system with projects being delayed in courts at huge cost, despite receiving approval from the national regulator, is untenable."



Highlighting the importance of these projects for Australia's energy security and its transition to net zero emissions, McCulloch stressed the necessity for swift resolution. She commended Minister King and the government for addressing industry concerns and taking action to streamline the reform process.

McCulloch affirmed the industry's commitment to collaborating with the government throughout the consultation process to ensure optimal outcomes for all stakeholders. "Regulations must provide clarity

and certainty for industry while maintaining comprehensive and meaningful consultation with Traditional Owners and stakeholders."

As Australia navigates its energy transition and seeks to maintain a reliable and sustainable energy supply, the implementation of robust regulatory frameworks becomes increasingly vital. The proposed legislation signals a proactive effort to address regulatory challenges and create an environment conducive to fostering investment, innovation, and collaboration in the energy sector.



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Gladstone to host AUSTRALIA'S PREMIER OPEN TECHNOLOGIES CONFERENCE

Gladstone is gearing up to host Australia's leading open technologies conference, Everything Open 2024, this April from the 16th to the 18th, promising an electrifying lineup that includes an internet luminary as its headline speaker.

National Volunteer Week

CELEBRATING VOLUNTEERS IN THE GLADSTONE COMMUNITY!

Gladstone Regional Council is proud to recognise and celebrate the contributions that volunteers make in our community.

This year, National Volunteer Week will be celebrated from the 20th of May until the 26th of May, with the theme this year being Something for Everyone. Recognising the diverse passions and talents everyone brings to the act of volunteering, while providing an invitation to explore the myriad of opportunities available within the volunteering sector.

Whether they're actively participating in local sporting clubs every weekend or offering vital support services to those in need within our community, every volunteer contributes to making a difference. As we celebrate National Volunteer Week, the largest annual recognition of volunteers in Australia, it's important to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of all volunteers across various sectors.

Mayor Matt Burnett is encouraging community members to nominate volunteers who strive to make the Gladstone Region the best place it can be. "We want to celebrate and thank our volunteers for what they do every day," Cr Burnett said. "To do this, nominate yourself or a volunteer for their commitment to our community."

Nominations will be open from Monday 4th of March and will close on Tuesday the 2nd of April via Gladstone Regional Council's Conversation website. All nominees will receive a certificate and an invitation to attend a National Volunteer Week Breakfast of Champions hosted by GRC and held in Gladstone, Calliope and Agnes Water.

Drawing professionals from various fields such as open source software, Linux, open hardware, open data, open science, and open knowledge, the event is poised to attract hundreds of delegates to the Gladstone Entertainment and Convention Centre for an intensive three-day affair.

The conference provides deeply technical presentations from industry leaders and experts on a wide array of subjects relating to open source projects, data and open government and community engagement. The conference is 100% volunteer run and attracts hundreds of attendees yearly.

Among the distinguished speakers announced is Geoff Huston AM, Chief Scientist at the Asia Pacific Network Information Centre (APNIC). With a focus on internet infrastructure and protocol technologies, Huston's keynote address will delve into the transformative journey of the internet over the past five decades, offering insights into its evolution beyond the initial visions of technologists.

Conference Director, local technologist, Rob Thomas, hinted at more exciting keynote reveals while maintaining an air of secrecy. "Your readers will be amazed at who we're bringing to Gladstone in April, but you'll have to wait for the official announcements!"

The conference has garnered robust support from key stakeholders in the Gladstone region, including the Gladstone City Council, various industries, accommodation providers, and food and beverage establishments. Thomas emphasised the community's united effort to seize the opportunity to showcase Gladstone's offerings to technologists nationwide and beyond.

Addressing concerns about the conference's accessibility to a broader audience, Thomas assured that the content would cater not only to "propeller-headed nerds" but also to enthusiasts of popular open technologies like Linux, Raspberry Pi, and Home Assistant, which enjoy widespread adoption among hobbyists across the country.

38 BITS STUDENTS are welcomed into 2024

Boyne Smelters Limited (BSL) extends a warm welcome to the 2024 cohort of Business, Industry, and Tourism Skills Centre (BITS) students as they embark on their educational journey within our operations.

This partnership, which has flourished over a span of more than 16 years, continues to be a cornerstone of our commitment to nurturing future talent.

Thirty-eight students have recently undergone site safety inductions in preparation for their enrolment

in certificate programs focusing on Workplace Skills, Business, Tourism, and Active Volunteering. These programs, conducted onsite at BSL, afford students the unique opportunity to engage with industry mentors, participate in various activities, and undertake business enterprise tasks. Such immersive experiences play a pivotal role in facilitating the transition of youth into meaningful careers or further educational pursuits by offering authentic learning opportunities.

Kyle Murray, Acting General Manager at BSL, is set to engage with the students in the upcoming weeks, where he will impart insights from his own career journey and shed light on the dynamic environment at Boyne Smelters. "BSL are proud partners of the BITS Program and continue to see immense value in the program for future generations."

Sarah Morton, BITS Coordinator, is excited about the new wave of students joining the BITS Centre from regional high schools. They will pursue certificates in fields like Business and Tourism, with some former BITS students returning for advanced certification in Year 12. Morton anticipates their growth as they gain valuable work experiences, grateful for the ongoing support from BSL, which has been vital in maintaining this partnership.



From Dream to Reality COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL

The Gladstone Country Music Festival showcases local talent alongside attracting renowned artists to the new event in the Gladstone region.

Jason and Joanne, with experience from organising over 22 events, including BEAST Promotions fight nights, are prioritising the festival over future fight nights. Despite lacking major sponsors or revenue, they've worked tirelessly since May last year to build the festival through their Non-Profit company.

Despite applying for numerous funds and sponsorships without any responses, the organizers persisted with their efforts. Eventually, with the

support of Mayor Matt Burnett and Deputy Mayor Kahn Goodluck, their event received local funding of \$10,000, enabling them to secure major artists by covering the booking deposit.

The Gladstone Country Music Festival expects many attendees from outside Gladstone, with travellers already showing plane tickets from places like Perth and Melbourne. The event features rides, over 120 stalls, food vendors, and markets, with more applying daily. Organisers prioritise local vendors to boost the local economy. The festival includes a Beer Marquee sponsored by Your Mates Brewery, offering ample space for dancing, standing, and seating.

Jason also states that if a certain amount of tickets are hit, they will purchase Hay Bales for the event and donate them to Farmers in CQ. "From the very beginning

I advertised that if we hit a certain amount of ticket sales, that I would purchase Hay Bales for the GCMF, and donate them all to the CQ Farmers who could use every little bit of help possible."

The event will showcase local artists like Mackenzie May, Jacinta May, SAND, Mack Geiger, Marnie Wilson, and Brittany Elise. It's scheduled for Saturday, April 6th, and Sunday, April 7th, with tickets starting at \$60. Children under primary school age get in free when accompanied by an adult. The festival runs from 10:00 am to 10:00 pm on both days at the Gladstone Show Grounds.

Jason and Joanne are still looking for sponsors for Bus services as well as stage and audio platinum sponsors. Jason expresses gratitude to all sponsors who proactively offered their support.

"Bring your dancing shoes, get your best Country outfit ready and come along to what is going to be an unforgettable two day party full of Aussie Country Music and good times together."



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Emily Malberg
Principal
P: 0424 926 520
E: emily@madloch.com.au



Emily made buying our new home a seamless process. She professionally represented both the sellers and buyers best interests, communicating openly and supporting us through the whole process. Nothing was too much to ask, with Emily happy to support and help us wherever she could. Would highly recommend Emily from Madloch Property.



We sold our Eden St. Gladstone Central house using Emily after finding her through an advertisement. We contacted a number of local agents to provide an appraisal and were extremely comfortable with Emily after she met with us. Emily worked with us-not for us and provided us with a number of strategies to maximise our selling price. Emily was patient, courteous and very professional and we have no hesitation in highly recommending her services.

madloch.com.au



For Sale

3 2 6

3 Buckingham Court, Telina

View By Appointment
Price Offers Around \$549,000 Considered
Web <https://shorturl.at/ftBWx>

Steven James
0439 111 197
 steven.james@gladstone.rh.com.au
Gladstone
07 4972 1500
 rh.com.au/gladstone

Welcome to 3 Buckingham Court, Telina!

This stunning 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom home is now available for sale in Gladstone's most popular Suburb of Telina and has the added bonus of a large shed, great off-street parking and caravan pad, as well as a fantastic outdoor entertainment area and manicured gardens. Constructed in 1999, this property boasts a spacious land area of 709 sqm, offering plenty of room for outdoor activities. With a garage space for 4 vehicles and additional open parking spaces for 2 more cars/ large boat or caravan, parking will never be an issue for you and your Toys.



For Sale

3 1 2

52 Gretel Drive, Seaview Heights

View By Appointment
Price Offers Around \$429,000 Considered
Web <https://shorturl.at/rGPV0>

Steven James
0439 111 197
 steven.james@gladstone.rh.com.au
Gladstone
07 4972 1500
 rh.com.au/gladstone

Ideal First Home with a Pool - Get Here Fast!

Situated on a spacious 704 sqm land area, this property offers plenty of room for the whole family to enjoy and has great side access for the Boat or Caravan and room for a large shed if needed. Built in 1984, this well-maintained home features a carport with space for 2 vehicles, as well as a fully fenced backyard with an inground pool - perfect for entertaining guests or relaxing on a hot summer day. Inside, you'll find an extra-large lounge room, separate dining room, modern kitchen and bathroom and internal laundry.



For Sale

4 3 2

12 Llewellyn Close, Clinton

View By Appointment
Price \$599,000
Web <https://shorturl.at/mEIW3>

Allen Madsen
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 allen.madsen@gladstone.rh.com.au
Gladstone
07 4972 1500
 rh.com.au/gladstone

Situated on an elevated block this grand home offers space for all the family.

Constructed in 1999, this beautiful spacious house sits on a generous 807 sqm block of land and boasts a range of features that will surely impress. With a modern kitchen, built-in robes, a remote double garage, and split system air conditioning to master and living area, this property has everything you need for comfortable living.

- 2 Storey brick home in cul-de-sac
- Large living areas • Separate lounge and dining
- Back patio shaded by shade sail
- Spacious fully fenced block • Garden shed



For Sale

4 2 2

15 Billabong Drive, Glen Eden

View By Appointment
Price Offers around \$750,000 Considered
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Executive properties like this do not stay on the market for long, secure it now!

Raine and Horne are proud to present 15 Billabong Drive, a stunning 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom family home located in the sought-after suburb of Glen Eden. This spacious property boasts a generous land area of 1350 sqm, providing plenty of room for the whole family to enjoy. The modern and stylish interior features a sleek kitchen with stone benchtops, high end appliances, and a walk-in pantry. Fully ducted cooling throughout, the master bedroom has an ensuite fit for the star of your life.

How and Where to Vote

THIS UPCOMING ELECTION

Mayor Matt Burnett is poised to solidify his position with a successful re-election bid as Mayor this year.

The much-anticipated local government election are slated to take place on Saturday, March 16th 2024, with polling booths opening their doors from 8 am to 6 pm, ensuring ample time for participation. Early voting commences Monday 4th of March till Friday 15th March excluding the weekend.

In the Gladstone community, it's paramount that residents prioritise their voting registration and keep their details current. If you need to verify/update your information, visit the Australian Electoral Commission website at www.aec.gov.au.

WHERE CAN I VOTE?

Polling booths for the Gladstone election will be available at the following venues:

- Benaraby State School
- Gladstone South State School
- Boyne Island Community Centre
- Gladstone West State School
- Calliope State School
- Gladstone Uniting Church
- Chanel College
- Tannum Sands State High School
- Clinton State School
- Ubobo Memorial Hall
- Gladstone Central State School

For more information on electoral venues, visit the electoral commission Queensland website at ecq.qld.gov.au.

SIMON MCCLINTOCK FOR COUNCILLOR

GLADSTONE REGIONAL COUNCIL

Twelve years ago, my wife and I made the life-changing decision to move to Gladstone, a decision that has filled our lives with joy, challenges, and unforgettable moments. We've raised our three beautiful children here, and are reminded daily of what a great decision that was.



While working as a tradesman, I soon realised my true passion lay in connecting with people. This led me to create a social enterprise, Slow Lane Cafe—a place where meaningful connections are empowered, and community is created.

Through the café, we've raised awareness and funds for diverse causes—from cancer research to mental health programs—and most excitingly, all while empowering local individuals with additional needs to find employment and independence.

It's this passion that leads me here today. I want to help cultivate a truly inclusive community where every voice is heard, valued, and respected. I have listened and acknowledge the challenges we face—unheard voices, resource concerns, and declining civic pride. However, I view these not as obstacles, but as opportunities for growth and positive change.

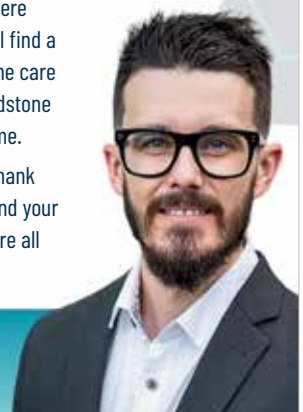
As a councillor candidate, I understand the vital role that local government plays in shaping the future of our community. Councillors are entrusted with the

responsibility of representing the diverse needs and aspirations of our residents. It's about being the bridge between the community and the decision-making process, ensuring that the voices of every resident are heard and considered.

If elected, I commit to serve with integrity and dedication. I will work with fellow councillors to actively engage with our community, through meetings, events, and conversations to understand our people's nuanced needs. I'll advocate for responsible stewardship of resources, ensuring we continue to ensure funds benefit our residents effectively and efficiently. Additionally, I'll prioritise transparency and accountability, working to establish trust and collaboration between the entire council and our community.

Together, we'll continue to bridge the governance to community gap, empowering every resident to shape our shared future. I see a region where diversity is celebrated, where families flourish, and where integrity is the cornerstone of governance. In me, you'll find a leader dedicated to respect, accountability, and genuine care for our community. With your support, we'll build a Gladstone filled with hope and opportunity for generations to come.

For those who generously consider me in their eight, thank you for entrusting me with your hopes, your dreams, and your aspirations. Together, let's make Gladstone a place we're all proud to call home.



OUR GLADSTONE. OUR LEGACY.

AUTHORISED BY SIMON MCCLINTOCK - ARAMAC DRIVE CLINTON

Chris Cameron

Business Experience - Community Service

Councillor Candidate Gladstone



Vote 1

- ✓ Councillor for 4 years
- ✓ Council rep. on several committees
- ✓ Strong advocate for affordable housing
- ✓ Experience with council policy & governance

For your convenience, mark your sample "How To Vote" card prior to Voting Day

VOTER 1

- Natalia Muszkat
- Michael Fearn
- Karen Davis
- Michelle Wagner
- Mellissa Holzheimer
- Ben Noll
- Murray Peterson
- Craig Tomsett
- Simon McClintock
- Leanne Patrick
- Paul Van Meteren
- Kahn Goodluck
- Jessica Bray
- 1 Chris Cameron**
- Glenn Churchill

VOTER 2

- Natalia Muszkat
- Michael Fearn
- Karen Davis
- Michelle Wagner
- Mellissa Holzheimer
- Ben Noll
- Murray Peterson
- Craig Tomsett
- Simon McClintock
- Leanne Patrick
- Paul Van Meteren
- Kahn Goodluck
- Jessica Bray
- 1 Chris Cameron**
- Glenn Churchill

Place the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 in the squares opposite the candidates of your choice

About Chris

- Chris has been a Gladstone local for 25 years
- Project Manager & Retired Open Builder Contractor
- 3 Adult children - Kristin, Drew & Brie - 8 grandchildren
- Chris' children have all worked in Gladstone
- Partner Lenore, local for 47 years, Clinical Nurse (Aged Care Sector)

Interests: Golf, Fishing, Boating, Travel, time with family & friends

Business Experience

- Successful in the Building Industry for 46 years.
- Open Unrestricted QBCC Builders Licence - "with clean slate."
- Member of Master Builders (Qld) for over 40 years.
- Member of Australian Institute of Building Qld. Chapter
- Chris has been semi retired for some years undertaking Project Management & Consulting work - Dispute Resolution & Building Audit work
- Building contracting- Own company (Chris Cameron Homes Pty Ltd) Gladstone.
- Principle Contractor (Housing) Blair Athol & Oaky Creek Coal Projects in Clermont & Tieri.
- Joint Venture housing projects in Mackay & Gladstone.

Councillor Skills

(as per Electoral C. Qld. Website)

- Chris has experience with Council policy.
- Good communication skills & the ability to engage with people
- Good problem solving & negotiation skills.
- Motivated to work with others & achieve results.
- Leadership qualities.
- Business & Financial Management skills.
- Willingness to do the right thing faced with a conflict of interest.

Community Service

- Chris is a Rotarian of 28 years, served as President & Secretary
- Awarded the Paul Harris Fellowship for service to Rotary & the Gladstone Community.
- Judge for Qld. Master Builders Housing Award judging various buildings, in an area stretching from Gladstone to Longreach.
- Life Member & Past President - Clermont Golf Club for services to the community
- Past President of Lions & Apex in his earlier days. Port Curtis Day Respite Centre past Vice President supporting the centre thru to its current restructure



Chewy and Crunchy COCONUT MACAROONS

INGREDIENTS

- 3 cups shredded coconut
- 4 large egg whites
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

METHOD

1. Preheat the oven to 180°C.
2. Optional: For deeper coconut flavour and extra-crispy macaroons, spread the coconut on a rimmed baking sheet and toast until just barely starting to show some colour, about 5 minutes. Set aside to cool slightly before using.
3. Place the egg whites, sugar, vanilla extract, and salt in a large bowl. Whisk until the whites and sugar are completely combined and the mixture is frothy.
4. Add the coconut and stir until the coconut is evenly moistened.
5. Line a rimmed baking sheet with a silicone baking mat or baking paper. With wet hands to prevent sticking, shape the coconut mixture into small balls about 1 inch in diameter. Space them an inch or so apart on the baking sheet.
6. Bake the macaroons until golden-brown, 15 to 20 minutes.
7. Let the macaroons cool on the baking sheet for 5 minutes, then transfer to a wire rack to cool completely.

Recipe from <https://www.thekitchn.com/>

Here in History

BUILDING THE LAGOON BETWEEN AUCKLAND AND BARNEY POINT

With Betty Laver

In 1968 a major achievement was attained when the retaining wall between Auckland Point and Barney Point was completed by Evans Deakin & Co Pty Ltd. A prestressed concrete bridge was also built.

At Golding's suggestion, the roadway traversing the retaining wall, was named Macfarlan Drive. This was after Colin Macfarlan, the former editor of the Gladstone Observer and member of the board. By 1969, some of the reclaimed area from Auckland Point to Barney Point, was filled. This was from the Dolphin, which was dredging the harbour, and the rest from the board's quarries. This only filled a section of the area and a large lake remained inside.

Completion of the retaining wall created a drainage problem at Barney Point and action was required. It was decided that the best way to solve this problem, was to complete the entire reclamation. Meanwhile the partly reclaimed area and the lake in the middle (named Macfarlan Lagoon) had become popular with the citizens of Gladstone.

Drag Racing was held, but the Harbour Board refused to sanction regular racing. In 1977, their last race was held there at Easter Festival time. In conjunction with the Harbour Festival in 1970, the Apex Club conducted a Tagged Fish Competition at the lake. The Port Curtis Power Boat Club was permitted to use it at following Harbour Festivals.

While the citizens were urging the board to retain the lake, it was gradually being filled. It was a health and midge hazard, and the project was intended to allow more land for industrial development.

Photo from Jimmy Harris.



GLADSTONE PREMIERES FILM "The Trust Fall: Julian Assange"

A powerful new Australian documentary film, The Trust Fall: Julian Assange had its Gladstone premiere on the 29th of February at the Gladstone Cinemas.

The film reveals the meaning and significance of the continued detainment and persecution of the most famous political prisoner of all times, Julian Assange. Where the film tells the story of Julian Assange, the most famous political prisoner and internationally-awarded journalist of our time, who exposed US war crimes and government corruption on his whistleblower WikiLeaks website.

Charged under the antiquated US

Espionage Act 1917 with the threat of a 175-year prison sentence, Julian is facing his final UK appeal against imminent extradition to the United States.. all for revealing the truth.

Filmed over two years on three continents and in ten cities, includes heart wrenching conversations with Julian's own family; Stella Assange, John Shipton and Gabriel Shipton. The Trust Fall: Julian Assange is narrated by Susan Sarandon, Pink Floyd's Roger Waters, rapper M.I.A and Rage Against The Machine's guitarist Tom Morello.

The film is the directorial debut of Australian filmmaker Kym Staton – founder and director of Films For Change. "This is a film about a man who risked everything to bring the truth to light," says Kym.

Already, The Trust Fall: Julian Assange has won several awards including Best Emerging Director at Melbourne Documentary Film Festival, Best First-Time Director at the Cine Paris Film Festival and official selection at Warsaw Film Festival.

Julian has now been detained without conviction for 13 years and 17 days, including under asylum in London's Ecuadorian Embassy, and then forcibly-removed to the high-security HM Belmarsh Prison.

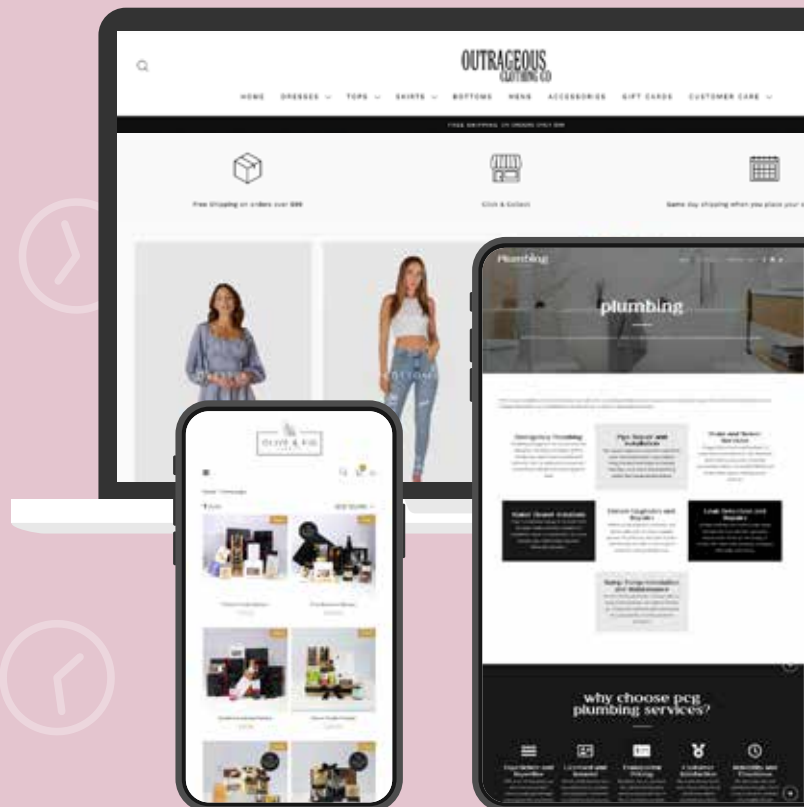


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LET'S WALK TO DEFEAT

Motor Neurone Disease

The first ever Walk to Defeat MND is going to be held at Gladstone to help those impacted by Motor Neurone Disease.

This is an awareness and fundraising event to be held on Saturday the 23rd of March at the Gladstone Marina Parklands from 9 am. All funds raised will be donated to MND Queensland to assist those diagnosed with MND.

Kelli has partnered up with her daughter, Lara, and local Kylie Wilson to host this event as they have all personally been impacted and lost loved ones to this disease. For Kelli, the walk is in memory of her amazing and inspirational husband, Matt who passed away at the age of 40 in June of 2017. Matt was only 38 when he was diagnosed. Kylie started organising this walk in honour of her father who had been diagnosed with MND, however, sadly he recently lost his battle with this disease.

All funds raised from the walk are donated to MND Queensland to support those diagnosed with MND and their loved ones. MND Queensland is an invaluable support service to those diagnosed with MND. The organisation is wholly focussed on supporting people living with MND and their families, friends and carers. They provide a free helpline, offer practical assistance and education through workshops and support group meetings, provide access to specialist health advisors and a low-cost hire of mobility equipment, health aids and assistive technology.

Kelli hopes to bring a better understanding of this progressive and terminal neurological/neurodivergent disease for the community. "MND is one of those less known diseases and unfortunately doesn't garner the same media focus, government funding and support of other more well known diseases and illness." Every day in Australia 2 people are diagnosed with MND and another 2 people will lose their battle with MND.

The community can get involved by taking part in the walk, where it's \$40 for an adult, \$20 for a child (4-17 years) and



free for an individual with MND. Every walker will receive a walk to defeat MND t-shirt. Pre-registrations are preferred, however, registrations will be taken on the day. "This is a walk at your own pace event and has been designed to be wheelchair and stroller friendly. Dogs are also welcomed as long as they are restrained at all times, there will be a best dressed dog award plus other prizes on the day so get dressed up, fundraise if you can and come join us to help make a difference in the lives of those with MND."



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Dancing In The Parklands!**

**Once a month at the GPC
parklands behind the
amphitheater**

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in a friendly and welcoming group!

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**Gladstone Family and Community
Precinct at 1 Pengelly St, Gladstone**

Social Classes Thursdays from 6pm

Single time swing, East Coast Swing,
& Lindy hop including Charleston. Each
style will be in 4 week blocks.

Latin Classes Thursdays from 7pm

Salsa, Bachata, Merengue, Cha Cha
Cha, & Rumba to mention a few. Each
style will be in 4 week blocks.

For class schedules and information visit

www.fiestaloca.com.au  **Fiesta Loca**

Going for Gold!

Milly Sharpe, acclaimed race walking champion, showcased her prowess at the Australian and Oceania Road Walking Championships held in Adelaide early February this year.

Competing in the under 18's 5 km girls' race, Milly surged ahead to claim victory with an impressive 33-second lead, achieving a personal best time of 26 minutes and 53 seconds. "Milly loves her race walking, and it is an absolute passion. She loves training with Shane Peterson's squad in Brisbane whenever she can and certainly enjoys walking Park Runs as part of her training."

Looking ahead, Milly dreams of representing Australia on the international stage, adorned in the iconic green and gold colours. "Whilst Australia has amazing depth in race walking, she would love to compete Internationally and wear the green and gold." Milly's achievements have not gone unnoticed with her being nominated for the 2024 GRC Australia Day Young SportsPerson of the Year Award, barely being beaten out by her brother, Ethan Sharpe.

Milly notes that the hardest part of being an endurance athlete is completing the training in the heat and humidity of the CQ summer. Which means lots of early or late night training sessions just to keep out of the heat. Milly also mentions that it can be problematic arranging the training around long days of travel and never getting to sleep in your own bed the night before a race.

In her latest feat, Milly participated in the Queensland Athletic State 10,000m championships, marking her debut in the 10 km race. Despite it being her first attempt, she clinched a silver medal in the under 20 category and a bronze in the Open events, further solidifying her status as a rising star in the athletic realm.



Local Athletes

SUCCESSFUL IN SPORTING GRANTS

Successful applicants for Round 3 of the Federal Government's 2023-2024 Local Sporting Champions and Local Para Championships programs have been announced.

Designed to offer financial assistance to coaches, officials, and competitors aged between 12-18, the Local Sporting Championships program aids those participating in state, national, or international championships. Successful candidates will receive grants ranging from \$500 to \$750, helping defray the expenses associated with attending their respective competitions.

Similarly, the Local Para Champions program extends support to coaches, officials, and competitors aged 12-24 with disabilities, facilitating their participation in state, national, or international championships. Eligible individuals will receive grants ranging from \$750 to \$1000, easing the financial burden of championship attendance.

Federal Member for Flynn, Colin Boyce, said 8 local sporting champions from the Flynn electorate have been successful. "Successful applicants are competing or have competed in sports including Athletics, Basketball, Hockey, Softball and Swimming."

Expressing his congratulations to the recipients, Mr. Boyce expressed confidence in their ability to represent Flynn with distinction. He also highlighted the ongoing opportunity for Flynn athletes to apply for Round 4 of both programs, urging eligible individuals to submit their applications before the deadline on April 30, 2024.

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