



More than movies
**THE HEART OF
GLADSTONE CINEMAS**

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Ashleigh | Editor-in-chief



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WHAT'S IN THIS *issue*

03

What's on in Gladstone

04

Gladstone Cinema: More than movies, the heart of Gladstone Cinemas.



06

From unwanted goods to groceries: how one mum is turning community kindness into Hampers of Hope.

09

World Water Day 2026: Where Water Flows, Equality Grows.

10

Celebrate Easter in Gladstone in style.



12

Annual Gladstone News Easter colouring competition 2026.

16

Gladstone local inspiring next generation of women in manufacturing as new QLD program launches.

17

Gladstone Aluminium: Inside Operations



25

Gladstone property market hits new highs in 2025.

26

A Hug from the Sea now installed at the Gladstone Hospital..

22

Here in History: Gladstone Metropolitan Hotel





Calliope Free Community First Aid Training

22ND MARCH 2026

Providing free first aid training for disaster preparedness directly contributes to saving lives, improving resilience and fostering a sense of empowerment among the community.

Spaces are limited, register today by calling Council on (07) 4970 0700.

When: Sunday 22nd March

Where: Calliope Library and Transaction Centre, 3 Don Cameron Drive, Calliope.

Cost: FREE.

Model & Department Workshop

VIBE Models
Gladstone

28TH MARCH 2026

Carla Backhouse-Smith, Fashion Stylist and Kathy Coronas, Etiquette Coach, are excited to welcome you to a fun-filled day of growth, confidence and development. Join us for an empowering workshop focused on:

- Personal presentation & grooming
- Etiquette and social skills
- Modelling fundamentals
- Runway walking
- Posing for photoshoots
- Confidence-building activities and more

This workshop is designed to help young women walk taller, feel more confident and develop valuable life and modelling skills in a supportive and uplifting environment.

Limited spots available. To secure your place, please contact Carla Jayne Backhouse-Smith or email hello@vibeactivewear.com

When: Saturday 28th of March, 10am to 3pm

Where: 4B/10 Side St, Gladstone Central.

Cost: \$80 per participant.



Don't bin batteries

Tape, bag and drop!

NEW Council collection points for safe disposal of batteries.



www.gladstone.qld.gov.au



Bella THE Brave

Run for a Cure

Sunday, 19 Apr 2026, 6am - 11am
Millenium Esplanade, Tannum Sands

This is a family friendly event that aims to cater for all ages and abilities with four distances to choose from: 2.5km, 5km, 10km and 21.1km.

Scan the QR code
now to register!



Proudly supported by



More than movies

THE HEART OF GLADSTONE CINEMAS

**ON ANY GIVEN
MOMENT DURING
OPENING HOURS
AT A CINEMA,
SOMETHING SPECIAL
IS HAPPENING JUST
BEYOND THE DOORS.**

The smell of fresh popcorn drifts through the foyer. A family stops to pose for photos beside giant movie posters. A group of kids lines up at the candy bar debating choc tops versus Maltesers. Staff share a laugh with regulars they recognise from previous visits. It's the kind of place where memories are made.

For many locals, Gladstone Cinemas isn't just somewhere to watch a film. It's where first dates happen. Where families bring their kids for their very first movie. Where friends gather for Cheap Tuesday and where the community comes together to experience stories on the big screen.

In a world increasingly dominated by streaming and screens at home, the cinema remains something different, something shared. And in Gladstone, that shared experience is still thriving.



Walking into Gladstone Cinema has a feeling many people instantly recognise... The glow of movie posters announcing the next big adventure. Staff greeting customers with smiles. The excitement of choosing snacks before heading into the darkened theatre where the big screen awaits.

But the real heart of any cinema is its people. Behind the scenes, a dedicated team keeps everything moving: preparing sessions, serving popcorn, guiding guests to their seats and making sure the screening runs smoothly from the first ticket sold to the final credits. At the centre of it all is what we affectionately call our "Cinema Fam".

These are the familiar faces audiences see week after week. The long-term team members who

know the rhythm of the place, who remember regular customers, who train new staff and quietly keep the show running every day.

Many began working with us a long time, and have grown with the business over the years, building friendships, learning skills and becoming part of something bigger than just a job.

Their pride in the cinema is unmistakable. From greeting guests at the door to making the perfect batch of popcorn, they create the welcoming atmosphere that keeps people coming back. Because while movies may change every week, the people behind the counter -the Cinema Fam- are the ones who make the experience feel like home.



WHERE GLADSTONE COMES TOGETHER

ONE OF THE REASONS THE CINEMA CONTINUES TO ATTRACT AUDIENCES ACROSS THE REGION IS ITS COMMITMENT TO KEEPING MOVIE-GOING ACCESSIBLE.

Seniors Monday, Cheap Tuesday, Student Wednesday has become a staple for many Gladstone families and groups of friends looking for an affordable night out. Plus our Earlybird screenings daily before 10am, give the chance to catch the latest films without breaking the budget. These initiatives mean the cinema remains one of the most affordable entertainment options in the region, something the community continues to embrace.



For regular guests, the cinema has introduced the CQ Starz Club: a loyalty program designed to reward those who keep coming back to the big screen. Members can earn points, access special offers and enjoy benefits that make each visit even more



rewarding. For the cinema, it's a way to thank the community that continues to support local entertainment.

Gladstone Cinemas is proud to be locally operated. That local connection matters. Decisions are made with the community in mind. Staff come from local schools and neighbourhoods. Families who visit today often return years later with their own children.

The cinema becomes part of the rhythm of life in the city. It's where school groups visit for excursions. Where community organisations host movie nights. Where locals gather to celebrate the latest blockbuster or simply escape into a great story for a couple of hours.

Watching a movie at home might be convenient. But nothing quite compares to sitting in a theatre as the lights dim, the sound builds and a giant screen fills your field of vision. There's the collective laughter of the audience during a comedy. The tension during a thriller. The cheers when the hero finally wins. These are moments that can't be replicated alone on the couch. They are experiences shared together.

For the team at Gladstone Cinemas, the mission is simple: keep the magic alive.

Whether it's a blockbuster opening night, a family outing, a school excursion or a Cheap Tuesday tradition, the cinema continues to offer something that streaming services simply can't replicate... A shared experience. A sense of community. And the timeless thrill of stories told on the biggest screen in town.

So next time you're looking for a night out, step through those doors, grab some popcorn and take a seat. Because some stories are meant to be seen together. And the magic of the movies is still alive in Gladstone.

COMING SOON

19/3/26 PROJECT HAIL MARY (M)

26/3/26 THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST (MA)

26/3/26 HOPPERS (2D/3D) (PG)

26/3/26 THEY WILL KILL YOU (MA)

26/3/26 THE MAGIC FARAWAY TREE (PG)

1/4/26 THE SUPER MARIO GALAXY MOVIE (2D/3D)(PG)

2/4/26 THE DRAMA (MA)

9/4/26 YOU, ME & TUSCANY (M)

16/4/26 LEE CRONIN'S THE MUMMY (CTC)

22/4/26 MICHAEL (PG)

30/4/26 THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA 2 (PG)



DOWNLOAD THE APP ON THE APPLE APP STORE OR GOOGLE PLAY.

From unwanted goods to groceries:

HOW ONE MUM IS TURNING COMMUNITY KINDNESS INTO HAMPERS OF HOPE



In a time when the cost of living continues to rise and many households are quietly feeling the pressure, one grassroots initiative in Gladstone is turning spare household items into something much more powerful, hope.

One Coin, One Community, organised by Gladstone local Samantha, is a simple but impactful community-led initiative built around the idea that small acts of generosity can make a big difference.

The concept is refreshingly straightforward. Community members donate household items they no longer need, anything from clothing and toys to kitchenware, books and small appliances. These items are then carefully sorted, cleaned and organised before being offered at a monthly garage sale where every item is available for just a gold coin donation.

Those gold coins are then used to purchase groceries and essential toiletries, which are packed into what Samantha calls “Hampers of Hope” for individuals and families in the Gladstone community who may need a helping hand.

It’s a cycle of generosity that not only supports people doing it tough but also gives unwanted items a second life instead of sending them to landfill.

The idea for the initiative came earlier this year after Samantha noticed two things happening in the community at the same time - more people struggling with the rising cost of living, and perfectly good household items frequently ending up as waste.

What started as a simple idea shared on Facebook quickly gained momentum.

Within a short time, Samantha’s inbox filled with messages from locals wanting to donate items, offer support or simply help however they could.

From those early conversations, One Coin, One Community quickly grew into something much bigger than expected, driven almost entirely by the kindness of the Gladstone community.

While Samantha coordinates the sorting, cleaning and preparation of donated items ahead of the monthly sales, she is quick to say the initiative belongs to the community.

“

I often say I’m just the middle person helping pass the kindness along,

Samantha said. ”

Local residents donate items, attend the garage sales, contribute their gold coin and help spread the word.

The response from the community so far has been overwhelming.

“What started as a small idea has quickly grown thanks to the generosity of the community,” Samantha said.

“It really shows how much people in Gladstone care about helping one another.”

The garage sales themselves are filled with everyday items that still have plenty of life left in them: clothing, toys, books, kitchenware and homewares, all made available without inflated prices or judgement.

Behind every gold coin donation is the knowledge that it will help stock a Hamper of Hope for someone in need.

And sometimes, it’s the quiet moments that show just how much initiatives like this matter.

“There have been many small moments that remind me why this matters,” Samantha said.

“Families being able to pick up groceries when they’re struggling, or someone expressing gratitude simply because someone cared enough to help.”



“

These moments may seem small, but they can mean everything to someone going through a difficult time.

”

In regional communities like Gladstone, where strong connections often sit at the heart of daily life, initiatives like One Coin, One Community highlight the power of neighbours supporting neighbours.

“If we all give a little, together we can help a lot,” Samantha said.

“Gladstone is a very giving community, but it’s also a community where many people are quietly struggling.”

For those wanting to get involved, there are plenty of ways to help. Locals can donate good quality unwanted household items, contribute pantry goods or toiletries, attend the monthly garage sales or simply help spread the word.



The sales are typically held during the last week of each month, with details shared on the One Coin, One Community Facebook page.

For Samantha, the initiative carries a deeply personal meaning.

A mum of three, she has experienced homelessness and hardship in the past and understands first-hand how much even a small act of support can mean during difficult times.

“If I can help ease that burden for someone else, even just a little, then it’s worth it,” she said.

Samantha also wanted to share a message of gratitude with the community that has supported the initiative from the beginning.

“

The kindness and generosity shown by the Gladstone community has been incredible,

”

she said.

One coin might seem small, but when a whole community comes together, those coins turn into groceries, support and hope for someone who needs it most.

Dropoff Location:

The Gladstone News and Elevate Media office, located at 12/100 Goondoon Street, will serve as a community drop-off point over the next month for anyone wishing to donate items and support the initiative.

EASTER IN GLADSTONE

2 - 6 April 2026

You'll be *glad* you did



Gladstone Harbour Festival
2-5 April
Gladstone Marina Parklands
98 Bryan Jordan Drive, Gladstone



Yaralla Gladstone Harbour Festival Family Fun Night
2 April, 6-10pm includes Fireworks



Gladstone Harbour Festival's Raft Regatta
9am, 3 April
O'Connell Wharf, Flinders Parade



McCosker Easter Street Parade
9.15am, 3 April
Bryan Jordan Drive, Gladstone



78th Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race Livestream
10am, 3 April
Gladstone Marina Parklands



Yachtsman's Long Lunch
10.30am - 2.30pm, 3 April
B2G Village, Flinders Parade
18+ event - Tickets \$275pp



Gladstone Road Runners Harbour Festival Fun Run
7am-8am, 3 April



Wicet's Marina Markets
8am-4pm, 3 & 4 April
CQUniversity Car Park
Bryan Jordan Drive, Gladstone



Live Music at the Gladstone Yacht Club
4 - 5 April, Midday to midnight.



Seafood Festival
10am-6pm, 4 April
B2G Village, Flinders Parade
Free entry, all ages event



Sound Sanctuary at the Village
4 April, 6-9pm,
B2G Village, Flinders Parade



B2G Line Crossing Party
2pm-midnight, 5 April
B2G Village, Flinders Parade
Free entry (from 9pm - 18+)





World Water Day 2026:

WHERE WATER FLOWS, EQUALITY GROWS

In Gladstone, water has been a major talking point in recent weeks after heavy rainfall delivered a welcome boost to local supplies. The downpour pushed the region's main storage, Awoonga Dam, from 46% capacity to 68%, marking the largest single inflow since 2017 and the highest water level recorded since 2019. For many locals, the dramatic rise has been a powerful reminder of just how important rainfall and water management are for the region's future.

Each year on 22 March, World Water Day encourages communities around the world to reflect on the value of freshwater and the need to protect it. Even in places like Gladstone, where recent rain has replenished supplies, the day is a timely reminder that water remains one of our most precious resources. By conserving water at home, protecting local waterways and supporting sustainable practices, Gladstone residents can help ensure this vital resource continues to support the community for generations to come.

What Gladstone Locals Can Do

While Gladstone is fortunate to have reliable water infrastructure, World Water Day is a reminder that everyone can play a role in protecting water resources.

Simple actions locals can take include:

- Saving water at home by fixing leaks, taking shorter showers and using water-efficient appliances.
- Protecting local waterways by disposing of chemicals and waste responsibly and avoiding litter near creeks and beaches.
- Supporting community conversations about sustainable water use, climate resilience and protecting the region's natural environment.
- Educating the next generation by encouraging children to understand the value of clean water and the importance of caring for it.

For coastal communities like Gladstone, water is central to everyday life - from industry and agriculture to recreation and the health of the harbour and surrounding ecosystems. By using water wisely and supporting sustainable practices, locals can help ensure this precious resource remains available for generations to come.

World Water Day reminds us that water connects every community on the planet. Even small actions taken locally can contribute to a global movement working toward safe water for all.



World Water Day

Saturday 22 March

Water security underpins our communities, our economy and our future.

Since 1973, Gladstone industry, households and jobs have relied on a single source of water – Awoonga Dam.

The **Fitzroy to Gladstone Pipeline (FGP)** is soon to be our second source of water, reducing the likelihood of water restrictions and strengthening long-term water security. Once operational, for every litre of water supplied through the FP, that's a litre saved in Awoonga Dam.



gawb.qld.gov.au

Celebrate Easter in Gladstone

IN STYLE

If there's one thing Gladstone knows how to do, it's Easter. Year after year, the long weekend brings the community to life. For many locals, Easter in Gladstone has become a tradition that simply can't be matched anywhere else.

And with a packed calendar of events, it's the perfect time to dress to impress.

Pastel Perfect

Soft pastels are leading the way this Easter. Shades like lemon yellow, mint green and peach capture the light A fresh feel of the season and pair perfectly with the stunning Gladstone Harbour views you will find while attending the Yachtsman's Long Lunch or the Seafood Festival this Easter.

Cottagecore Charm

Autumn fashion continues to embrace the romantic, cottagecore aesthetic. Think flowy maxi dresses, delicate lace details and soft florals - an effortless look that blends comfort and elegance, making it ideal for a stylish day at the Easter Saturday races.

Breathable Fabrics

Anyone who has spent Easter in Gladstone knows our autumn weather can keep you guessing. Lightweight fabrics such as cotton poplin and linen are perfect for staying cool and comfortable while enjoying a full day out at the Harbour Festival or along the waterfront.

No matter where the Easter weekend takes you, one thing remains certain - supporting local businesses never goes out of style.

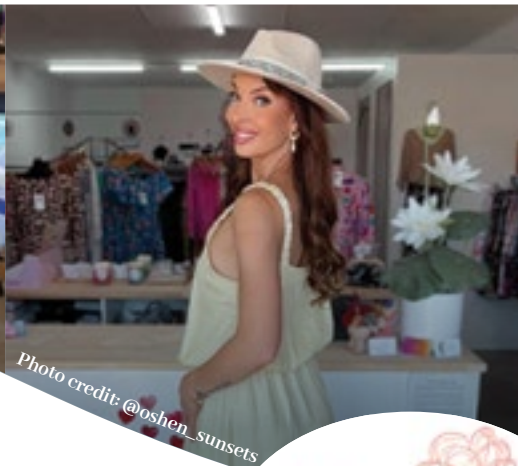


Photo credit: @oshen_sunsets



Photo credit: @oshen_sunsets

Hop Into Style this Easter at Kylisa Fashion!



Easter in Gladstone is one of the most exciting times of the year, with the city buzzing with events, celebrations and community spirit.

Whether you're heading to the Gladstone Harbour Festival, enjoying the flavours of the Yachtsman's Long Lunch, or dressing up for the Gladstone Easter Races, make sure you're fashion-ready for every moment.

At Kylisa Fashion, you'll find the perfect outfit for every Easter occasion, with stylish pieces designed to flatter all body shapes and sizes. From elegant dresses perfect for race day to chic, comfortable looks for festival fun, there's something to help every woman feel confident and beautiful.

Visit Kylisa Fashion to find your perfect Easter look today!

- Fresh new season styles
- Flattering fits for every body
- Fashion that helps you stand out this Easter



B2G BRISBANE TO
GLADSTONE VILLAGE

VILLAGE



YACHTSMAN'S LONG LUNCH

Friday 3 April 10:30am to 2:30pm

presented by **RoadPak Industries**
Civil Plumbing Earthworks

Ticketed 18+ Event \$275pp - Tickets QR code below
Seafood Long Lunch, All Inclusive
Food and Drinks Including Spirits and Cocktails

SEAFOOD FESTIVAL

Saturday 4 April 10am to 6pm

presented by  

Free Entry All Ages Event

- Fresh and Cooked Seafood
- Live Music from Local Musicians
- Crab Races
- Competitions
- Licensed Bar
- Free Kids Activities

SOUND SANCTUARY AT THE VILLAGE

Saturday 4 April 6pm to 12am

presented by  **GRAY**
ELECTRICAL
AND AIR-CONDITIONING

Free Entry All Ages Event Till 9pm

Then 18+ From 9pm to 12am

- Live DJ Sets Headlined by DJ DANYON and the SOUND SANCTUARY Team
- Official Race Day After Party
- Licensed Bar
- Food Stalls
- Fresh and Cooked Seafood
- Amazing Village Setting Overlooking the Water

LINE CROSSING PARTY

Sunday 5 April 2pm to 12am

presented by  **PAVILION**

Free Entry All Ages Event Till 9pm

Then 18+ From 9pm to 12am

- Live Music Headlined by The HAMILTON BAND and DJ DANYON
- Live Music From Local Musicians
- Licensed Bar
- Food Stalls

Scan QR code for tickets:





Annual Gladstone News Easter Colouring Competition

Easter fun is back, and Gladstone News is inviting local kiddies to get creative with our much-loved Easter Colouring Competition.

Designed to celebrate imagination and creativity, the annual competition gives young artists the chance to show off their colouring skills while going in the draw to win some yummy prizes.

The competition opens on Thursday 6th March and runs until Thursday 26th March, with winners announced on Thursday 2nd April.

Entry is easy, simply collect a colouring sheet, fill in the required details, and drop the completed colouring page back to Gladstone News at Shop 12, 100 Goonoon Street, Gladstone.

To ensure everyone has a fair chance, entries will be judged across two age categories:

0-8 years

9+ years

With prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place in each category, there are plenty of opportunities for participants to take home a special Easter surprise.

Families are encouraged to grab the crayons, pencils or markers and enjoy a fun, creative activity. For updates, key dates and announcements, locals can visit the Gladstone News office or keep an eye on our social media pages.

Happy colouring and good luck!



Port to Park 2026 Sunday, 16 August proudly raising funds for our community!

Mark your calendars and get ready to join Gladstone's biggest fun run, raising funds for our local community and school!

Port to Park 2026 Community Beneficiary Applications are now open.

Gladstone Ports Corporation will again support a local community group with up to \$50,000 in funding to help deliver a community project or initiative in Gladstone. Applications for the 2026 Port to Park Community Beneficiary close 4pm, Wednesday, 22 April 2026.

Visit gpcl.com.au for full details on how to apply, and follow us on Facebook for the latest updates.



Gladstone Ports Corporation

Growth, prosperity, community.



gpcl.com.au



COLOURING COMPETITION! 0 - 8 YEARS OLD

NAME:

AGE:

PARENTS NAME & CONTACT NUMBER:



COLOURING COMPETITION! 9+ YEARS OLD

NAME:

AGE:

PARENTS NAME & CONTACT NUMBER:

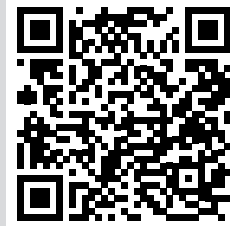


COME AND SEE US AT THE MT LARCOM HALL

If you want to find out more and chat to us about the Legacy Investment Program and the Powering Business and Community Program, come and see us at the Mt Larcom Hall on **Wednesday, 25 March, between 4:30pm and 6:30pm.**

LEGACY INVESTMENT PROGRAM

The Aldoga Solar Farm launched a Legacy Investment Program last year to provide grants of up to \$40,000 a year towards projects that will deliver a lasting impact to the Gladstone community. The inaugural legacy grant was awarded to the Strong Communities - Calliope Community Hub project to support the transformation of the historic Calliope RSL Memorial Hall into a vibrant community hub. This year, we will be open for applications from April to May.



Scan here to learn how to apply.



POWERING BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY PROGRAM

ACCIONA Energy, in partnership with CQU, invites annual applications from local businesses and community organisations to support renewable energy research and development initiatives. This year, we have a \$50,000 grant available. Businesses and community groups from the Gladstone, Mount Larcom, and Yarwun regions are encouraged to apply for funding. Eligible projects may include feasibility studies for renewable energy, such as wind, solar, pumped hydro, and heat recovery systems integrated within communities. Eligible projects might involve feasibility assessments of renewable energy, including wind and solar integration, microgrid operations, and the deployment of battery and hydrogen storage. Ensuring energy security for vital facilities and infrastructure through hybrid renewable solutions will also be considered.



Applications are now open!

Scan the QR code to learn how to apply.

Gladstone Local Inspiring Next Generation Of Women

IN MANUFACTURING AS NEW QLD PROGRAM LAUNCHES

A new Queensland initiative is shining a spotlight on the vital role women can play in the state's manufacturing future and a Gladstone local is helping lead the charge.

Manufacturing Skills Queensland (MSQ) has launched its Manufacturing Industry Influencer Program, a campaign designed to encourage more women and girls to pursue careers in the state's \$28.9 billion manufacturing sector. The initiative comes as Queensland faces a critical skills shortage, with the industry actively seeking new talent to help drive future growth.

At the heart of the program are women already working in manufacturing who are sharing their experiences to inspire the next generation. Among them is Gladstone local McKinley Pope, a mechanical apprentice and Trades Training Officer who is passionate about supporting emerging tradespeople.

In her role, Ms Pope works closely with apprentices, providing hands-on training and guidance throughout their trade journey. She says the opportunity to help others succeed is what makes her career so rewarding.

"I love my job because I get to come to work every day and teach people," she said. "It makes me happy to see them succeed and give them the help that I was given when I was an apprentice."

Through the Influencer Program, participants will visit schools, attend community forums and speak at industry events across Queensland, sharing their stories and encouraging young women to consider careers in manufacturing.

MSQ Acting CEO Kris McCue said visibility is key to increasing female participation in the sector.

"If you see it, you can be it," Ms McCue said, adding that while some workplaces are already seeing more women entering the field, the goal is to accelerate that trend across the entire industry.

Around 170,000 people currently work in manufacturing across Queensland, in roles ranging from engineering and fabrication to advanced technologies such as 3D printing and electronics.

For Ms Pope, the message to young women is simple: manufacturing offers opportunity, variety and a rewarding career path.



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HEARINGCENTREGLADSTONE.COM.AU

Our duty of care is to you! And we thank you for your trust in us to do this.

Gladstone Aluminium: Inside Operations

Celebrating people, progress and partnership
across Boyne, QAL and Yarwun

Welcome to *Inside Operations*, our new community voice for Rio Tinto's Gladstone aluminium operations: Boyne Smelters, Queensland Alumina Limited and Yarwun Refinery.

From the operations GMs:

We're pleased to come together to give you a look at what's happening in Gladstone aluminium, across our three sites and in our community.

Trent: At QAL we're proud of our independence and our 60-year history in Gladstone. We have a culture that's ensured families have stayed with us for generations. And while there will always be healthy competition between our QAL, Boyne and Yarwun operations, what you may not see is how closely we work together.

We value the same things – safety, community, care and jobs for the future. But also, commercially, (and literally, in the case of BSL), we're tied to each other.

Shona: There's been a lot of talk about the future and how we can secure a commercial pathway for manufacturing in Australia. At Boyne, we don't have the full solution yet, but Rio Tinto is working very hard to secure this future for our smelter, as well as for our two refineries: QAL and Yarwun.

This means working with government and industry partners to ensure the jobs and benefits we enjoy today are here for many generations to come.

Shane: At Yarwun last year, Rio made the difficult decision to reduce production by 40% from October 2026. We know this affects people and we're doing everything we can to look at opportunities across our other sites and keep impacts to a minimum.

In the meantime, we're focused on the next 10 years and finding better ways and new technologies to improve our operations. We're proud of the work our teams are doing and you can learn more in this edition of *Inside Operations*.

Stay safe,

Shona Markham; Trent Scherer; Shane Wembridge



Yarwun welcomes GM Shane Wembridge

In September 2025, Yarwun welcomed new General Manager, Shane Wembridge, who moved from Boyne Smelters into the role.

Shane replaced Mark Gilmore who, after 7 years as Yarwun GM, moved into a new Gladstone leadership role.



Inside industry

Rio Tinto's Gladstone operations are part of Australia's largest vertically integrated aluminium supply chain. We use Australian bauxite mined in Weipa and Gove to manufacture aluminium by first refining it into alumina at QAL and Yarwun refineries then smelting that alumina into aluminium at Boyne Smelters.

Aluminium is lightweight, recyclable, and has many uses. You'll find it in households, in window frames, door frames and electronics. It helps us get places in aeroplanes and cars, as well as generating power in transmission lines and solar panels.

Global demand for aluminium is growing

While markets are volatile and prices of bauxite, alumina and aluminium all fluctuate, it is expected that by 2050, global demand for aluminium will nearly double.

While an increasing proportion will be met through recycled aluminium, the world will still need increased production of primary aluminium, including bauxite mining and alumina refining.



Customer fact:

A large proportion of aluminium produced at Boyne is sold to customers in Australia and used in the construction and transport industries. Boyne aluminium was used in the new Queens Wharf development in Brisbane.



Production facts:

Gladstone produces:

~4%
of global alumina.

0.69%
of global primary aluminium.

Rio Tinto's 3 Australian smelters account for
~1.7% of global primary aluminium production.

Community Giving Program

Rio Tinto's Gladstone operations — Yarwun Alumina Refinery, Boyne Smelters Limited (BSL) and Queensland Alumina Limited (QAL) invite local community and not-for-profit organisations to apply for support through the 2026 Community Giving Program.

For more than 60 years, our operations have proudly supported initiatives that enhance liveability, strengthen community connection and contribute to a vibrant Gladstone region.

Community groups are encouraged to apply for financial or in-kind support for projects delivered between April and September 2026.

Scan the QR for more information.





Inside Yarwun

Rio Tinto recently announced it would reduce production at Yarwun by 40% from October 2026 to keep future options open for the refinery.

With many questions about what this means for our people and the community. Yarwun GM, Shane Wembridge gives us some answers...

What does this news mean for jobs?

“About 75% of Yarwun jobs remain as unaffected, but the curtailment will impact 182 roles.

“Based on vacancy and turnover rates, we are confident we can find roles for operators and maintainers - whether that’s remaining at Yarwun or at our other Gladstone sites: Boyne Smelters and QAL.

“For all other roles, we will work with individuals to look at opportunities locally and more broadly across Rio Tinto.”

Why isn't Rio investing back into Yarwun and supporting the construction of a second red mud dam?

“While we’ve extensively explored options to develop a second facility over a number of years, the scale of investment required is substantial and is not currently

economically viable. Reducing production extends the life of our current red mud storage facility (RMA1), and the refinery.”

Will Yarwun employees have a say on what’s going on?

“Yes, this is a year-long process and we’ll be consulting extensively with our people. Most recently, Yarwun has been consulting employees on the change and listening to thoughts, ideas and suggestions on the future shape of Yarwun.”

Will Yarwun close in 2035? Will Yarwun ever return to full production?

“No decisions have been made about the future of Yarwun beyond 2035. We are taking time to work through alternative technical solutions to manage red mud and continuously improve how we operate. Putting the curtailed section of our refinery into care and maintenance gives us flexibility should we return to full production in the future.”

What about the impact on our suppliers?

“There will be no material impacts on our supply arrangements until October 2026. Yarwun remains at full production until then and we remain in discussions with our suppliers to help them plan ahead.”



Consultation milestones

When	What
Q4 25 (Nov)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curtailment announced
Q1 26	Employee consultation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss proposed changes and answer Q's • Listen to employees' thoughts, ideas and suggestions
Q2 26	1:1 Employee discussions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm employee preferences, discuss individual circumstances, discuss next steps
Q2 26	Communicate final decision on proposed changes
Q3 26 (Jun, Jul)	Employee selection period <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaders apply selection criteria to identify future Yarwun employees and develop transition plans
Q3 26 (Aug)	1:1 Employee discussions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm outcomes, discuss next steps and future career interests
Q3 26 (Oct)	Curtailment commences
Q3 26- Q1 27	Redeployment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redeployment planning and execution with impacted employees



Ask us anything:

If you have a question about this or any other aspect of our business, get in touch. We may not have all the answers, but we'll do our best.

Contact us:

Phone: 1800 226 258 (Yarwun)

Email: OneGladstone@riotinto.com

Visit: www.riotinto.com

Follow: Rio Tinto Gladstone | Facebook



Inside QAL

This year, we're focused on safely and responsibly executing our plan.

This means processing around 10 million tonnes of bauxite into 3.6 million tonnes of alumina without hurting any of our people, impacting on the local environment, or damaging our plant.

One way we're doing this is by rethinking some of our toughest, most hands on jobs. A standout example is our newly automated Kelly Filter Press washdown system, recently recognised as Invention of the Year at the 2025 WorkSafe WA Health and Safety Excellence Awards.

QAL Technical Services Manager, Mark Veach, explains:

"Working alongside our partners Innovative Mining Services, our people helped redesign the washdown of our 58 year-old Kelly Filter Presses.

"These presses play a critical role in separating alumina rich liquor from red mud and other impurities.

"What was once a physically demanding job involving manual, high pressure hosing of hot liquor from elevated platforms is now a fully enclosed, remotely operated process.

"The result is safer, more consistent work that reflects the kind of progressive refinery environment we want our people to be part of.

"Five presses will be automated, with a further 46 planned once additional funding has been secured."

Did you know?

While the process is fundamentally the same, QAL and Yarwun use different types of filter presses. Scan the QR code to see QAL's new system in action!



Working with us

QAL, BSL and Yarwun all run apprentice and trainee programs, providing entry-level opportunities and a career pipeline for stable, skilled work for operators, trades and other professionals. QAL recruits entry level operators, trades, graduates and cadets. With its 2026 cohort of apprentices now on site, Theunis Meinie, Manager of Human Resources, gave **an insight into what QAL is looking for in a new recruit.**

"We're looking for a range of people with diverse mindsets and backgrounds. But there are some traits that we're consistently looking for:

"We want people who are: work ready, organised, determined and detail-oriented. Overall, top candidates show up ready to work with responsible behaviour and a good work ethic. They have a positive attitude and understand, whether it's safety or quality: detail matters."

Inside Boyne Smelters

Boyne is Australia's second-largest smelter and uses 10% of Queensland's electricity to reach and sustain the very high temperatures needed to smelt aluminium.

BSL's energy comes from Gladstone Power Station – a coal fired power station – and the smelter's energy contract is due to expire in 2029.

It's no secret BSL and Rio Tinto teams are working to lock in the final arrangements to repower the smelter with renewables. If successful, this would make Boyne the world's first smelter driven by solar and wind.

So far, we've secured 2.7GW in renewable energy agreements, or around 80% of the total energy required to repower BSL.

Many people ask, **why not just keep using coal?**

Shona Markham explains why standing still isn't an option.

"I get this question all the time, from employees and community. In fact, it's the number one myth out there about the future of Boyne Smelters."

"The reality is coal-fired power is no longer commercially viable for Boyne Smelters. Energy is our single biggest cost input, and staying where we are isn't an option. If the smelter is to have a long-term future, we need to transition to more affordable, reliable renewable energy."

"Transitioning to renewable energy isn't about change for change's sake – it's about protecting jobs and keeping Boyne Smelters operating for decades to come."



Practical problem solving at Boyne

At Boyne Smelters, our teams are working to make everyday jobs safer and more efficient.

One way we're doing this is by using a method called **Practical Problem Solving**. PPS helps teams look closely at day to day issues, find the root cause, and work together to create safe, sustainable solutions that eliminate the problem.

Andrea Blundell, Principal Business Improvement, says the PPS toolkit is helping people solve problems, not just manage them.

"Time is built into our weekly routines so teams can focus on solving problems and improving the way we work."

"So far, **65 employees** across Boyne have been trained as PPS facilitators."

"They help guide problem solving sessions and share what they learn with others. A dashboard also tracks the problems being worked on across the site, helping teams learn from each other and build better, safer ways of working."



Inside projects

Yarwun is getting on with the job of reducing emissions in its business with a world-first project aiming to produce alumina using hydrogen in place of natural gas.

Project lead, Tash Penno gives us the run down:

What's the world first?

"We will be making alumina using hydrogen in place of natural gas in the calcination process – calcination with no CO2 emissions which is a world first."

Why does it matter?

"It shows the real-world potential of hydrogen to transform industrial processes and reduce emissions at scale.

"It's still early days for green hydrogen in Australia, but if we applied this technology at full scale at Yarwun,

green hydrogen could reduce emissions by up to 500,000 tonnes per year – the equivalent of removing about 109,000 internal combustion engine vehicles from the road."

Who's invested in it?

"Sumitomo Corporation, ARENA and Rio Tinto have all put money and effort into the project – we've been working on it for a few years now, so it's great to get to this stage!"

What does it look like?

"A 2.5 MW on-site electrolyser – owned and operated by Sumitomo Corporation – which supplies hydrogen to storage vessels at Yarwun. One of the refinery's four calciners has also been retrofitted to operate with hydrogen burners. At the end of each 2-hour trial run, the electrolyser will resume filling the storage vessels and the calciner returns to natural gas operation until storage is full."



Gladstone Property Market Hits

NEW HIGHS IN 2025

Gladstone's residential property market has reached a new milestone, with the city recording its highest-ever median dwelling price as demand, limited supply and rising construction costs continue to shape the local market.

According to the Gladstone Full Time Residential Market Review 2025, authored by local valuer Josh Stanton, the median dwelling price has climbed to \$620,000, representing strong capital growth across the region.

The figure marks a significant jump from \$570,000 just six months earlier, reflecting an 8.8 per cent increase over the half-year period and a 17 per cent rise across the full year.

“Growth remains intact, with strong demand across the market,” he noted in the report.

While prices have surged, the total number of property transactions has declined slightly, with sales volumes down 14.3 per cent compared to the first half of 2025. This is largely attributed to fewer investor-driven sales, with local owner-occupiers playing a larger role in market activity.

One of the most notable trends emerging in Gladstone is a wave of local buyers upgrading into higher-value homes. The prestige market has seen unprecedented activity, with 50 residential transactions exceeding \$1 million in just six months, almost double the 26 recorded earlier in the year and the highest figure ever seen locally.

Demand remains particularly strong in the mid-range and entry-level segments, with properties priced below \$700,000 attracting strong competition from both investors and first-home buyers.

At the more affordable end of the market, well-presented homes around \$400,000 that require little immediate renovation continue to sell quickly, reflecting strong buyer appetite for move-in-ready properties.

The breakdown of median prices by dwelling type highlights the spread of the market:

- 2-bedroom homes: \$417,500
- 3-bedroom homes: \$525,000
- 4-bedroom homes: \$651,000
- 5-bedroom homes: \$735,500

Meanwhile, Gladstone's rental market remains tight, though signs suggest conditions are beginning to stabilise after several years of rapid growth.

Vacancy rates have edged slightly higher to 1.8 per cent, while median rents increased by 6.3 per cent over the past 12 months.

The strongest demand from tenants continues to be for three- and four-bedroom houses, reflecting the needs of local families. Current median rents sit at approximately \$500 per week for a three-bedroom home and \$580 for a four-bedroom home.

Another standout performer is Gladstone's vacant land market. The median land value has climbed to \$203,500, marking a 27.2 per cent increase year-on-year and the first time in a decade the median has surpassed the \$200,000 mark.

Construction costs are also playing a role in driving property values, having risen by around 12 per cent over the past 12 months, according to the report.

Source: Gladstone Full Time Residential Market Review 2025 by Josh Stanton.



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Our Gladstone Furniture Removals Services

At Allied, we understand that every move is different. That's why we offer the full suite of moving services to ensure that we can cater for your every relocation need. From professional packing to pet relocation, you can trust Allied with all your removal requirements.

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A Hug from the Sea

NOW INSTALLED AT THE GLADSTONE HOSPITAL

A Hug from the Sea, Stevie Russell, 2025 - Vinyl print of original watercolour on paper

Cosmos Arts for Health Inc. are proud to advocate for the use of local artists in our health spaces, bringing creativity, comfort and connection to the communities we serve while celebrating a strong connection to place through artwork that reflects the landscapes and stories of our region.

We're delighted to share the installation of A Hug from the Sea by local children's author and illustrator Stevie Russell, now installed at Community Health, Gladstone Hospital.

Beneath the waves, the ocean is full of quiet wonders, friendly turtles, curious fish and dancing seaweed. This peaceful reef was painted to share a gentle ocean hug with every visitor, bringing calm, colour and comfort to your day.



Created using watercolour and acrylic with a unique layering technique, the artwork has been transformed into a vibrant vinyl mural with a rich three-dimensional feel. The marine life featured, from the green sea turtles to the tropical fish, are inspired by our own Gladstone Region and its nearby coral reefs. These familiar local creatures reflect the beauty and biodiversity of our coastal environment, offering children and families a comforting connection to the place they call home.

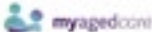
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As a children's author and illustrator, I love creating art that sparks imagination and soothes the spirit, especially in spaces where comfort matters most. ”

- Stevie Russell

To further engage young visitors, Cosmos also created a colouring activity sheet based on the mural, with 1,000 copies printed and distributed to Community Health and the Children's Ward, giving young people a creative way to connect with the artwork during their visit.

This project was commissioned by Cosmos Arts for Health Inc. and proudly supported by our community partners and sponsors including Aestec Services, Regional Arts Fund (Australian Government), Regional Arts Australia, Flying Arts Alliance, Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service, Connell Enterprises, Nhulundu Health Service, Santos GLNG and CQ Shines Foundation.



Gladstone Community Linking Agency

Today, we honour World Autism Day. At Gladstone Community Linking Agency, we celebrate the strengths, talents, and unique perspectives of people on the autism spectrum.



Supporting inclusion, understanding, and neurodiversity in our community.

enquiries@gcla.com.au

07 4972 8855

Here in History

GLADSTONE METROPOLITAN HOTEL



Before taking up Targinnie Station, Richard Palmer built a home on the corner of Goondoon and Lord Streets. In 1865 Samuel Evans purchased the house and converted it into a hotel that he named the Metropolitan.

He advertised his business as “a quiet retreat with moderate charges, a luxury not to be procured with safety in any other part of town”. The town baths had been erected near Friends store on Auckland Creek in 1874 and just opposite the hotel. (Bathing at this time was at communal baths as no buildings had bathrooms in them.)

Evans spent eleven years as host at the Metropolitan and during this time was an alderman on the early council and became mayor in 1871. The honourable A H Palmer who represented Port Curtis in the colonial days had become Premier of Queensland for a three-year term

from 3/5/1870 to 8/1/1874. When he visited Gladstone, he invariably would stay at the Metropolitan Hotel.

Edward Bedford took over this license in 1876 but didn't stay long as in that year he married, Agnes, the widow of John Brown Sutherland and together they operated her store at Calliope.

John Rhodes was a very busy man as he started the floating baths in February 1876 and was appointed bailiff for Gladstone in March of the same year. Bailiff was possibly only a part-time position but in July 1877 Rhodes became licensee of the Metropolitan Hotel.

By *Betty Laver*

Fighting to protect local jobs



Colin BOYCE
Federal Member for **Flynn**

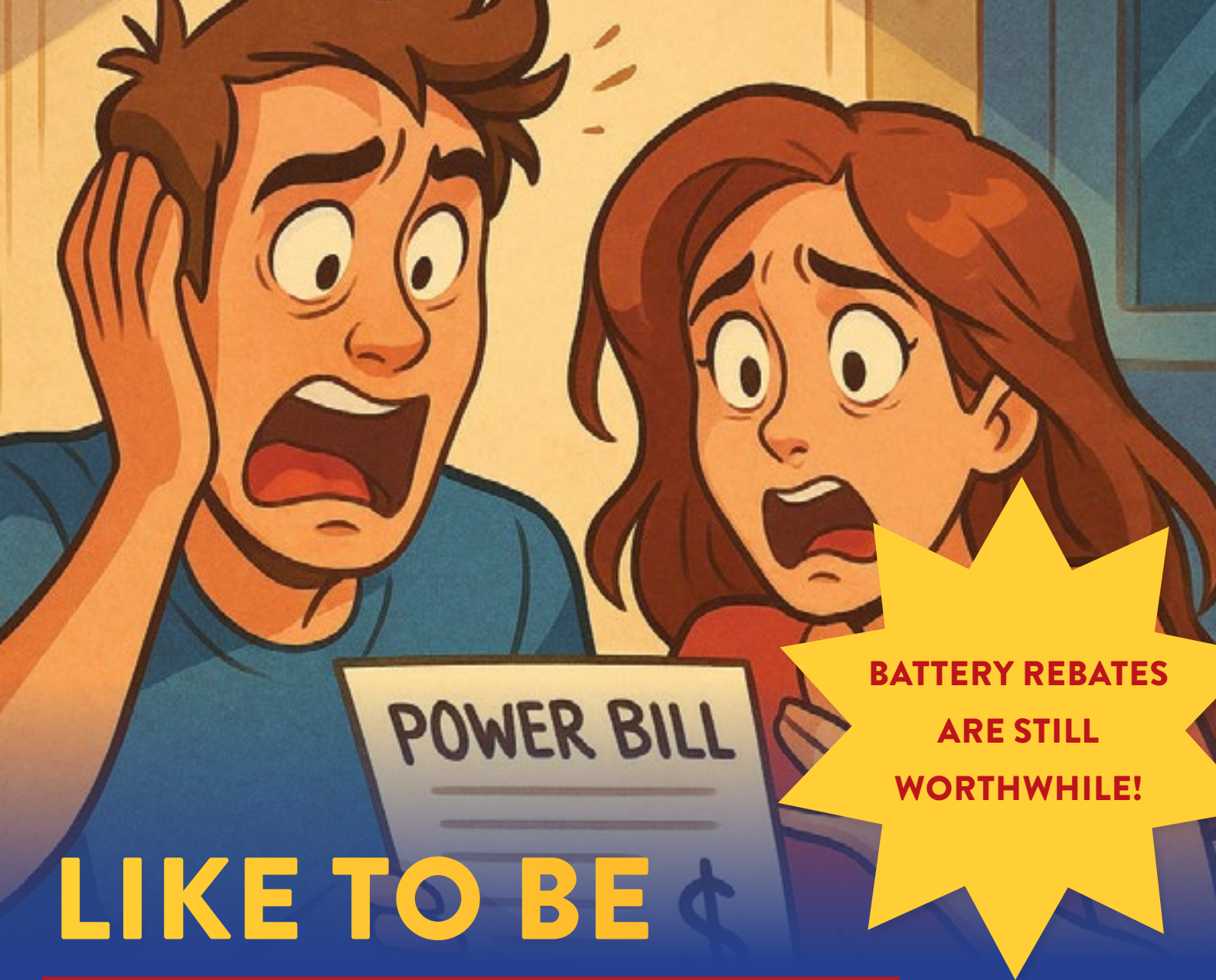


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