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GLADSTONE NEWS

TAKE ME, I'M FREE!

ISSUE 328
16th April 2026



Trinity College
GLADSTONE
Living - Learning - Community

SHAPING THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW

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School Holiday Program- Watercolour Sunset Seascape

16TH APRIL 2026

Be guided to create a colourful sunset seascape with watercolour. Lani will demonstrate and explain watercolour painting techniques, which they will practice and then apply to the final piece.

Participants will finish with an A3 painting to take home. All materials supplied will include high-quality watercolour paper and paints.

Phone: 4976 6766

Email: gragm@gladstone.qld.gov.au

When: Thursday, 16th April, from 10:30 am to 12 pm

Where: Corner Goondoon & Bramston Streets, Gladstone

Cost: Free



Family Fun Day- Pony Rides, Petting Zoo & Facepainting

19TH APRIL 2026

Last Day of School Fun!!!! One of the best petting zoos in QLD and the PONY RIDES ARE BACK

- Pony Rides 12-3 pm
- Petting Zoo 12-3 pm
- Facepainting 12-2 pm Playground
- Jumping Castle Live Soloist 2 pm
- ALL-DAY Dining and premium specials
- Courtesy Bus from Midday

Phone: 4973 7439

When: Sunday 19th April from 12 pm to 5 pm

Where: 34 Pacific Ave, Tannum Sands

Cost: Free



THE TREVOR BURGESS BOAT RAMP AT BOYNEDALE HAS REOPENED!

The boat ramp, which is on the southern side of Lake Awoonga, is now open after water levels have increased after the recent rain.

The boat ramp is close to the Boynedale Bush Camp and rail trail, making it a great location to fish, camp, hike and relax.

Find out more about Lake Awoonga recreational areas at gawb.qld.gov.au



Trinity College
GLADSTONE
Living - Learning - Community

SHAPING THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW

THERE'S A MOMENT EVERY PARENT KNOWS — STANDING AT THE THRESHOLD OF A NEW SCHOOL CHAPTER, WONDERING: WILL MY CHILD BE KNOWN HERE? WILL THEY BE SAFE? WILL THEY FLOURISH? FOR FAMILIES IN THE GLADSTONE REGION, MORE AND MORE ARE FINDING THEIR ANSWER AT TRINITY COLLEGE.

ESTABLISHED IN 1985, TRINITY COLLEGE OFFERS A COMPREHENSIVE KINDERGARTEN TO YEAR 12 EDUCATION ACROSS TWO CAMPUSES IN THE GLADSTONE REGION, FOSTERING A CHRISTIAN-CENTRED, HOLISTIC APPROACH THAT PREPARES STUDENTS FOR FUTURE SUCCESS. BUT WHAT DOES THAT ACTUALLY LOOK LIKE FOR YOUR CHILD — WHETHER THEY'RE STEPPING INTO KINDERGARTEN FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME, OR MAKING THE BIG LEAP INTO YEAR 7?



[Book a tour](#)



The Right Start Changes Everything

EARLY YEARS OF EDUCATION SHAPE FAR MORE THAN LITERACY AND NUMERACY. THEY SHAPE IDENTITY, CONFIDENCE, INDEPENDENCE AND A CHILD'S FUNDAMENTAL BELIEF ABOUT WHETHER SCHOOL IS A PLACE THEY BELONG.

At Trinity, Kindy children enter an environment intentionally designed to support emotional wellbeing, engagement and a strong sense of safety to help every child feel secure and capable.

An engaging program

Guided by the Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guideline, our program is shaped by children's interests and offers rich opportunities for learning both indoors and outdoors, including our much-loved Bush Kindy adventures that foster a strong connection with nature and encourages sensory exploration, risk taking and problem solving.

In addition to our literacy and movement programs, children also participate in weekly specialist lessons, including Library and Physical Education, led by experienced teachers to further support their language and physical development. Key Word Signing is also embedded in our program to support children's communication by using simple signs alongside spoken words.

Small, connected community

Our families and communities are at the heart of what we do. We work closely with families as valued partners in children's learning and with Trinity College Prep teachers to support a smooth and confident transition to school. This is supported by our Transition to Prep program in Term 4.

A nurturing environment

Our philosophy is grounded in the work of Howard Gardner and John Bowlby, recognising that every child learns in different ways and that secure, trusting relationships are essential for children's wellbeing and development. This approach ensures our practices remain inclusive and value each child's strengths, identity and unique way of learning. Our social skills program that is based on Bucket Filling, the Fruits of the Spirit and Growing God's Kids, nurtures empathy, kindness, gratitude and respect in everyday interactions and supports our children to build meaningful relationships and navigate social situations with confidence.

Safety and Wellbeing

At Trinity College Kindy, the safety and wellbeing of every child is our highest priority. We are committed to creating and maintaining a child safe culture where all children feel safe, respected and supported. Our practices are guided by the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations, National Model Code and the Child Safe Standards, which inform how we lead, govern and uphold child safe practices.

A Strong Launch into Secondary School

The transition to secondary school is one of the most significant of adolescence. New subjects, new teachers, new social dynamics — and a young person right in the middle of working out who they are. Parents searching for the right Year 7 environment are typically looking for four things: academic rigour, pastoral support, character development, and a community where their child won't get lost in the crowd.

TRINITY DELIVERS ON ALL FOUR.

Academic preparation with purpose.

Trinity College is passionate about partnering with parents to equip children with the skills, knowledge and understanding they need to be successful in their lives, in the workplaces of tomorrow, their own families and in society more broadly. Secondary education at Trinity isn't just about results — it's about building students who know how to think, persevere, and lead.

Modern, purpose-built facilities.

Situated at 25 Derby Street, our secondary campus is designed to inspire. Year 7 students will discover a spacious, vibrant learning environment featuring an extensive oval, basketball court, and fully equipped gymnasium — spaces that encourage both physical wellbeing and healthy competition. Our modern library offers a welcoming hub for curiosity and independent study, while our recently upgraded, air-conditioned hospitality facilities give students a taste of real-world vocational learning in a contemporary setting.



Sandra Bosman

Principal

I welcome the opportunity to introduce myself to the Gladstone community. South African born, I have lived in New Zealand for the past 24 years. The last nine years I have served as principal of Jireh Christian School in Auckland.

As a leader in Christian education, I am driven by a lived experience. I wish to pass this on and enable and inspire those I lead to love God; to recognise their calling and to realise and actualise the huge opportunity we have to impact young lives with the Gospel so that they reach their full potential in all areas of life. It is a most privileged occupation, and it carries great responsibility.

It is with great delight that I take up the position of Principal at Trinity College Gladstone. I count it an honour to serve in this community and do so with commitment and passion with the wellbeing and thriving of young people at the centre of all I do.

I look forward to exploring new trails cycling and bushwalking and enjoying the wonderful rich wildlife of Queensland and I especially look forward to meeting many new people.

With anticipation, Sandra Bosman.

Leadership and co-curricular life

Secondary school is where passions are discovered. Trinity fosters a nurturing environment with interest-based electives, strong leadership programs, and comprehensive academics that prepare students for success. From the arts to science to sport and community service, there is space at Trinity for every kind of student to shine.

Pastoral care and identity

Trinity understands the whole child. The College strives to provide a vibrant and safe learning environment where students gain confidence in themselves to meet life's challenges, build lasting relationships, and gain a clear understanding of who they are. In an age when adolescent wellbeing is more critical than ever, this intentional approach to pastoral care sets Trinity apart.

Values-led foundations.

Many parents choose an independent Christian school precisely because they want faith woven into daily life, not bolted on. Trinity's motto — Living, Learning, Community — reflects its aim to develop students who are mature, skilled, compassionate, and ready to influence their world for good.



Gladstone's Choice for Christian Education

Trinity College is Gladstone's only independent co-educational K-12 Christian College. That means your family joins not just a school, but a community — one rooted in shared values, mutual respect, and a genuine vision for the next generation.

A ministry of the Gladstone Baptist Church, Trinity is affiliated with both Independent Schools Queensland and Christian Schools Australia — giving families the confidence of a school with deep local roots and national standing.

Whether your child is four years old and wide-eyed on their first day of Kindy, or twelve and ready to tackle the challenges of secondary school, Trinity College Gladstone is a place where they will be known, challenged, and equipped — for life.

“Living, Learning, Community”

Enrolments are now open. Book a school tour at trinitygladstone.qld.edu.au

(07) 4839 0500

Primary Campus: 4 Archer Street, Sun Valley QLD 4680

admin@trinitygladstone.qld.edu.au

Secondary Campus: 25 Derby Street, South Gladstone QLD 4680

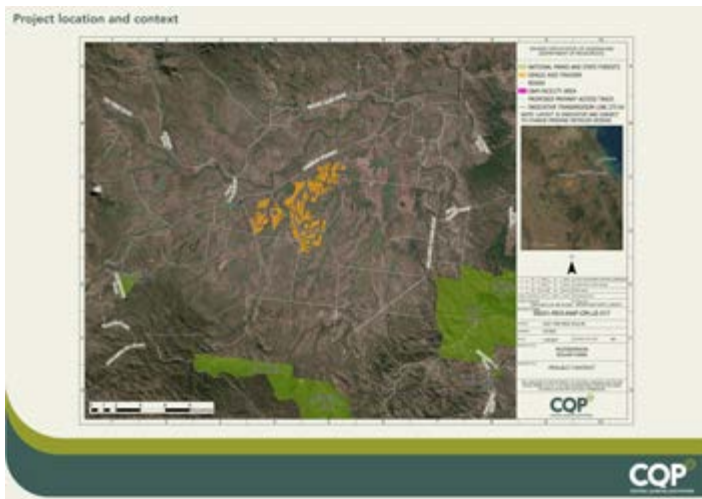
<https://trinitygladstone.qld.edu.au/>

Wooderson Solar Farm Project

The Wooderson Solar Farm is set to become one of Central Queensland's largest renewable energy developments, marking a significant investment in the region's future. The project, a 450-megawatt MW solar photovoltaic PV facility, will be located approximately 40 kilometres south-west of Gladstone and 20 kilometres west of Calliope.

With a capital investment of \$1.9 billion, the development will include not only a large-scale solar farm but also a battery energy storage system designed to support a reliable power supply. Supporting infrastructure will feature access tracks, underground electrical reticulation cables, a substation, and a connection to the existing electricity grid.

The project is being delivered by Central Queensland Power CQP, a company actively progressing a portfolio of renewable energy developments across the region. Collectively, CQP's pipeline of wind, solar, and battery storage projects exceeds 4 gigawatts of generation capacity. The company's broader vision is to accelerate Central Queensland's transition toward firm renewable energy, ensuring the region can continue to meet growing energy demands while supporting the long-term sustainability of heavy industry, one of the area's key economic drivers.



Once operational, the Wooderson Solar Farm is expected to have a lifespan of between 30 and 35 years. At the end of this period, the site may either be decommissioned or repowered, subject to agreements with host landowners and regulatory approvals. During its operational phase, the facility will be monitored and managed remotely around the clock, ensuring consistent performance and rapid response to any system issues.

While the operational workforce will be relatively small compared to the construction phase, the project will still deliver ongoing employment opportunities. It is anticipated

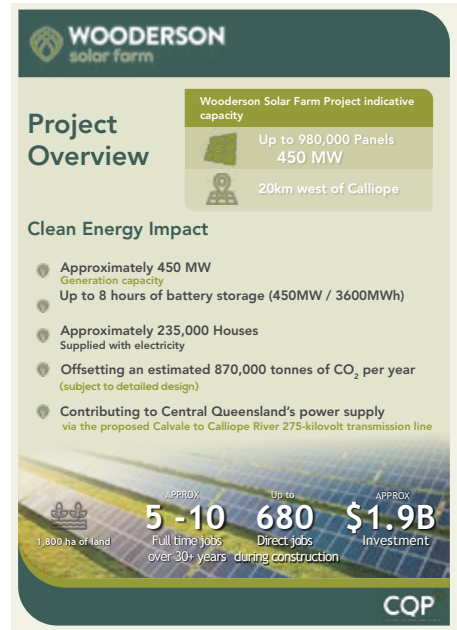
that up to 10 full-time equivalent FTE roles, both direct and indirect, will be created during operations. These roles will focus on routine maintenance, inspections, and administrative support, helping to sustain local employment over the project's lifespan. Staff are expected to work standard daytime hours, generally between 7 am and 6 pm, Monday through Saturday.

Beyond energy generation and employment, the Wooderson Solar Farm also aims to deliver tangible benefits to the local community. A Social Impact Assessment SIA was undertaken to better understand potential impacts and opportunities associated with the project. The findings of this assessment have directly informed the development of a proposed Community Benefit Agreement CBA.

Central to the agreement is a Community Benefit Sharing Program, which will provide funding to support local initiatives during both the construction and operational phases of the project. Importantly, the priorities for this funding were shaped through community input. Local groups and organisations participated in a participatory budgeting survey, helping to identify key focus areas where investment would deliver the greatest benefit.

In a strong show of support, Gladstone Regional Council unanimously endorsed the Community Benefit Agreement at its meeting on Tuesday, 7 April 2026. This endorsement reflects a shared commitment between the project proponents and the local community to ensure that the development contributes positively to the region.

As Central Queensland continues to position itself as a leader in renewable energy, projects like the Wooderson Solar Farm highlight the scale of investment and collaboration underway. By combining clean energy generation with community-focused outcomes, the project represents an important step toward a more sustainable and resilient energy future for the Gladstone region.





Left to right: Councillor Wagner, Mayor Burnett and Councillor McClintock highlight Council's renewed focus on social media to deliver clear and engaging updates to the Gladstone Region community.

New views and new ways we're connecting with our community

Council is refreshing the way we communicate, with a stronger focus on social media content that's clear, engaging and easy to digest.

We have been experimenting with more bite-sized, visual content across Council's TikTok, Instagram and Facebook pages, using short-form videos and a more modern style to deliver important updates to residents of the Gladstone Region.

Long, text-heavy messaging doesn't always cut through and key information can sometimes get lost, which is why Council has taken the step towards this fresh and accessible approach.

The shift focuses on keeping information simple, user-friendly and more in tune with how our community consumes content, while still maintaining a mix of communication methods to reach all demographics.

The results are already tracking well, with some videos reaching more than 10,000

views and top-performing content reaching 60,000 views.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said the refreshed approach is also strengthening collaboration across Council.

"It's been fantastic to see teams working together in creative and engaging ways to deliver important messages to our community," Mayor Burnett said.

"We want our social media platforms to be a place where people can stay informed, feel connected and, at times, have a bit of a laugh.

"This refreshed approach helps show that Council is more than just a government organisation - we are locals too and proudly play our part in the community."

You can follow Council at:

Facebook: @GladstoneRegionalCouncil
Instagram: @gladstoneregionalcouncil
TikTok: @gladstoneregionalcouncil

Brighten your day at The ReUse Sheds

Rebranded, reinvigorated and ready to revisit - the Gladstone Region's Tip Shop locations at Gladstone Transfer Station and Benaraby Landfill have a new look and a new name - The ReUse Sheds.

Now sporting a fresh yellow facade and a social media page to reinforce its core purpose of recycling, The ReUse Sheds will become Council's one-stop shop for browsing, buying, repurposing and dropping off pre-loved goods.

Gladstone Region Councillor Mellissa Holzheimer said The ReUse Sheds stock a wide range of reusable goods including furniture, homeware, clothes, toys, tools, books, garden décor and supplies, bric-a-brac, vintage collectables and more.

"You'll be surprised at the variety of items available at The ReUse Sheds and every piece purchased helps contribute towards the circular economy," Councillor Holzheimer said.

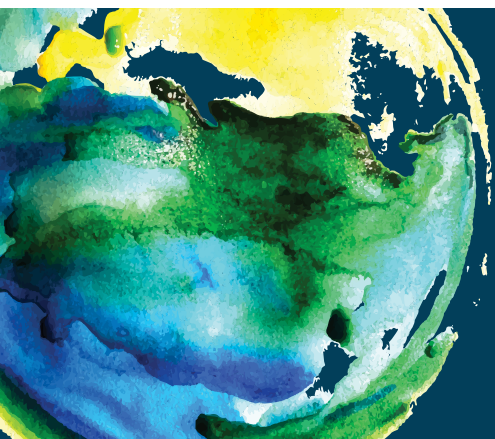
"Give your items a second life and consider dropping them off at one The ReUse Sheds.

"The ReUse Sheds will accept items that are safe, clean, undamaged and suitable for resale."

To make this process easier, Gladstone Regional Council is launching The ReUse Sheds Facebook page to help residents connect and understand what is suitable to donate and tips on how they can give outgrown, pre-loved, valued goods another lease on life.



The ReUse Shed at Benaraby Landfill.



ecofest

9am-3pm, Sunday 7 June

Gladstone Tondoon Botanic Gardens - Free entry

Have fun and learn with us!

- Kids activities
- Educational workshops
- Eco-market stalls
- Plant sale
- Food trucks
- Live music and more!



www.gladstone.qld.gov.au



Gladstone Wins Big

WITH COMMUNITY GRANTS

A range of Gladstone organisations are celebrating a welcome boost, with funding secured through Round 125 of the Gambling Community Benefit Fund. The latest round of grants highlights the strength, generosity, and diversity of the Gladstone community, supporting local groups that bring people together and make a meaningful difference across the region.

From sporting clubs to community organisations, the funding will deliver important upgrades and new opportunities for locals. The Endeavour Foundation will enhance its Learning & Lifestyle facilities, while the Gladstone Dog Obedience Club and Gladstone Touch Association will benefit from key improvements to their spaces. The Gladstone Kart Club will also take a step toward a more sustainable future with a solar system upgrade.

Young athletes in Gladstone are set to benefit, with the Past Brothers Junior Rugby League Football Club receiving funding for essential equipment and resources to support the next generation of players. Beyond the projects themselves, the funding recognises the incredible volunteers and community members who dedicate their time and energy to keeping Gladstone the strong Community it is.

Community connection and well-being remain at the heart of this funding, with the Association of Wargamers and Role-players of Gladstone expanding its equipment, QCWA Ambrose Branch upgrading its kitchen, and Think Again Australia improving its facilities to better support those in need.

These grants are more than just financial support; they are an investment in people, connection, and the future of the Gladstone region, helping ensure it remains a vibrant and welcoming place for all.



New Helipad for Biloela Community

PUTTING SAFETY FIRST

A green light for the Biloela Community has rallied to raise thousands of dollars for a new helipad at Magavalis Sport Precinct, located behind the cricket grounds. This project will provide a safe, reliable landing site to boost emergency responses and to save time when disaster strikes. This facility has been carefully designed to meet the latest aviation safety standards set by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA). This project is planned to provide emergency crews with a closer landing site near town.

The project follows changes to CASA safety rules, which meant a new compliant site had to be found. With the strong local community support, fundraising, donated work, and local backing, helping move it forward. This project had more than \$77,000 raised in one afternoon at last year's Joel Weeks Memorial Bowls Day. That fundraiser gave the helipad project a major early boost.

The current helicopter transfer setup can tie up a Biloela ambulance for about an hour. That includes four separate 15-minute trips between town and Thangool Airport. That shorter travel time could cut delays for urgent patients and free up ambulances sooner. The helipad is planned as a 27 by 27 square meter concrete pad with a concrete apron for ambulance access, a smoother surface intended to help patients with trauma or spinal injuries, and perimeter bollards (like Biloela Lions Park) to prevent unauthorised vehicle access and lighting that meets CASA operational requirements for night and low-visibility conditions.

As plans move ahead, the Magavalis helipad is shaping up to become a critical part of Biloela's emergency response network. Backed by community effort and forward-thinking design, it promises a safer, more prepared future for the town.

Big improvement for Gladstone

SCHOOLS AS SANTOS GLNG SUPPORTS MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Hundreds of primary school students in the Gladstone region will soon be able to learn valuable, lifelong skills thanks to the Resilience Project's School Wellbeing Program, a year-long mental health initiative funded by Santos GLNG.

The \$12,000 investment will enable The Resilience Project to expand its groundbreaking mental health and wellbeing program across three local primary schools, helping students develop resilience, emotional awareness, and practical strategies for managing stress. Over the past three years alone, Santos GLNG has contributed more than \$30,000 to the initiative, supporting hundreds of children in the region.

Mental health challenges are increasingly recognized as a key concern, particularly in regional areas, making this early intervention program especially important. The Resilience Project focuses on teaching practical, evidence-based mental health strategies that students can apply not only at school but also at home and in the wider

community, helping to foster confident, resilient, and well-rounded young individuals.

"We've been a part of this community for fifteen years and are passionate about creating a positive impact now and into the future," Mr. Harty said. "Supporting initiatives like this is about more than just funding programs; it's about helping shape a healthier, stronger, and more resilient generation of children who can thrive no matter the challenges they face."

With programs like the School Wellbeing Program, the Gladstone region is taking meaningful steps to address mental health from an early age. By investing in children's wellbeing and resilience, Santos GLNG and The Resilience Project are helping to create a lasting, positive impact that will benefit the community for years to come. The collaboration underscores the importance of local support, education, and early intervention in building a healthier, happier future for the next generation.

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ENGINEERING
ALLIANCE INC

2026 SUPPLY CHAIN EXPO

Proudly
Presented by



ConocoPhillips



ACL OUTDOOR
TRADE ZONE

FREE PUBLIC ACCESS

gea.asn.au

**6 MAY
2026**

8AM to 3PM

**GLADSTONE
ENTERTAINMENT
CONVENTION CENTRE**

Sponsored
by



Support Local Gladstone Businesses for Mother's Day

Mother's Day is an important day to express love and appreciation for our beloved mums and a great opportunity to support local businesses in Gladstone. Whether it's flowers, jewellery, candles, hampers, or sweets, there are plenty of thoughtful gifts available right here in our community.

Mother's Day is an important day to express love and appreciation for our beloved mums and a great opportunity to support local businesses in Gladstone.

Whether it's flowers, jewellery, candles, hampers, or sweets, there are plenty of thoughtful gifts available right here in our community.

Local florists are preparing beautiful bouquets to suit every style, from classic roses to bright native arrangements.

Gift shops across Gladstone are also offering curated hampers filled with locally

made products, making it easy to find something unique and meaningful. For those looking to add a personal touch, handmade items such as candles, jewellery, and keepsakes are a popular choice.

Beyond physical gifts, many local cafes and restaurants are hosting special Mother's Day menus, giving families the chance to celebrate together over a delicious meal. Booking ahead is recommended, as these venues are expected to be busy throughout the day.

For something a little different, consider gifting an experience. Local businesses offer services such as beauty treatments and massages, providing mums with the opportunity to relax or try something new.

Shopping locally not only helps you find high-quality and meaningful gifts but also supports the hardworking small businesses that are at the heart of the Gladstone community. This Mother's Day, take the time to show your appreciation while also giving back to local traders who help make our region special.

Gifts She'll Love:

MOTHER'S DAY GIFT GUIDE

With Mother's Day approaching elegantly fast, Gladstone locals are warmly encouraged to celebrate the beauty of motherhood while also supporting small, local businesses within the community. This special time of year offers the perfect opportunity to slow down and show appreciation for the love, care, and dedication that mothers give every day.

So, if you're still unsure what to gift your beloved mum, consider this your sign. Choosing something meaningful doesn't have to be difficult; it simply needs to come from the heart. Whether she enjoys a quiet moment of indulgence, treasures sentimental gifts, or delights in a touch of everyday luxury, finding the right gift can make her day truly unforgettable.

Olive & Fig Hampers offers a wide and thoughtfully curated selection of beautiful, heartfelt pieces that

cater to every kind of mum. From indulgent gourmet treats to premium self-care products and elegant gifts, each hamper is carefully assembled to create a sense of warmth and appreciation. Every item is selected with intention, ensuring a balance of quality, comfort, and a little touch of luxury.

What makes these hampers even more special is the attention to detail and the love behind each creation. They're not just gifts, they're experiences designed to help mums relax, unwind, and feel truly cherished.

This Mother's Day, go beyond the ordinary and choose something that reflects just how much she means to you. By supporting a local business like Olive & Fig Hampers, you're not only giving a beautiful gift but also contributing to the heart of the Gladstone community.



LUXURY MOTHER'S DAY HAMPERS

Spoil mum with a beautifully curated Mother's Day hamper, or choose from over 150 products to give her the gift of personalised luxury.



SCAN THE QR CODE
TO SEE THE RANGE



Gladstone Floral Art and Gifts



Not like any other florist, Gladstone Floral Art and Gifts stand out from the rest with their pride and knowledge of their products, loving every flower arrangement that leaves the store, as well as their wide range of incredibly unique plants. Often, the first word out of any customer's mouth is how amazing the floral store smells.

Alex, the owner of Gladstone Floral Art and Gifts, mentioned her proudest moment since opening Gladstone Floral Art and Gifts would be the first-ever wedding flowers for Alex's great friend Erin, who adored and had so much positive feedback from the other vendors at the wedding. Gladstone Floral Art and Gifts supports a lot of the local schools and sporting groups around Gladstone and supports other small local businesses.

Being a local business means being a part of the community that supports Gladstone Floral Art and Gifts, bonding with

customers, and offering a personal experience when they walk through the doors. Alex is grateful for the constant loving support from her mum (Alison) and her dad (Jeff). Alison, who everyone local in Gladstone remembers from the newsagency, helps Alex at Gladstone Floral Art and Gifts a few days a week. Alison also has the skill of being a horticulturist, and there aren't many plants that she doesn't know the scientific name of off the top of her head, while Jeff is always helping by building Alex more greenhouses or watering our many plants.

What truly sets the business apart is the personal touch behind it all, from memorable milestones to the ongoing support of Alex's family. Together, they create a welcoming space where customers feel valued and connected. Gladstone Floral Art and Gifts continues to grow not only as a business, but as a cherished and trusted part of the local community.



MAKE MUM'S DAY Bloom

THIS MOTHER'S DAY, SAY IT WITH FLOWERS, GIFTS... OR BOTH.

At Gladstone Floral Art & Gifts, we've got everything you need to make Mum feel truly special.

- Fresh, beautiful blooms ready to grab in-store
- Thoughtful gifts and locally curated hampers
- Easy local delivery across Gladstone, Boyne, Tannum & surrounds
- Special Sunday Mother's Day delivery available

Whether you're organised or leaving it a little late (we've all been there), we've got you covered with walk-in florals and ready-made options.

Pop in, call, or order – and let us help you spoil Mum this Mother's Day.



SHOP 2, 38 TANK STREET, GLADSTONE
SHOP ONLINE AT FLORALART.FLORIST



A Chapter of Local Support:

INSIDE MABEL AND MACK'S

Mabel and Mack's is a local bookstore in Tannum Sands, where a good book can be enjoyed with great coffee. More than just a book shop, Mabel and Mack's is a hub that supports literacy and connections. Offering a calm, quiet space where people can connect with books, coffee, or a shared interest. Welcoming everyone through their doors and striving to ensure all voices are represented, fostering connections through monthly social events and lifelong learning through workshops.

Mabel and Mack's love supporting and reaching out to local authors in Gladstone libraries. As Mabel and Mack's becomes more well known, new authors have started reaching out to their local support. Mabel and Mack's are always happy to display local talent.



Each month, Mabel and Mack's try to focus on a different local author to allow the community to get a chance to know the person behind the books. Mabel and Mack's highlight them through social media, in-store promotions, and social events. Mabel and Mack's collaborate with local authors to facilitate and host events that they feel comfortable hosting. Supporting local authors is important for the same reason Mabel and Mack's support local businesses.

Mabel and Mack's are excited to be able to support Rural Aid with their Women of the Valley Project and have created a book of women's stories from the Boyne Valley, fostering connections and supporting mental health. Mabel and Mack's also have a journaling workshop by local author Claire Roe, a bookish Trivia Evening, and a Zoom chat about menopause from the fabulous Shelly Horton, the author of I'm your Peri Godmother.

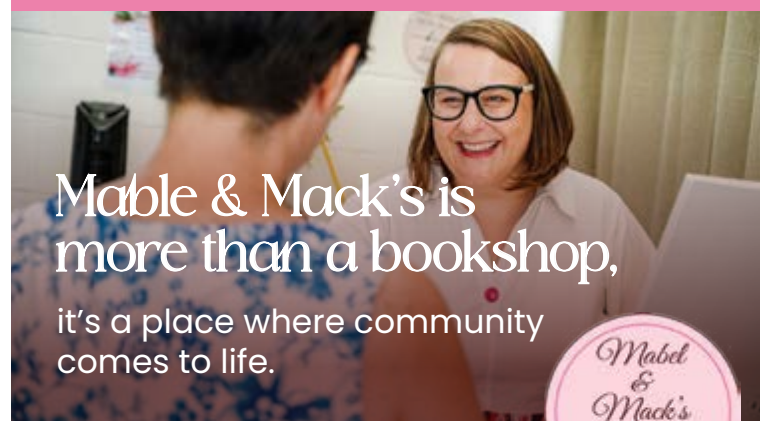
The biggest challenge for Mabel and Mack's was the same with any small business, trying to compete with bigger

companies, struggling to offer books at the same lower prices as big department stores, but in replacement of that Mabel and Mack's offer personalised service, recommendations, purchasing in most books at request, a range of alternative authors and genres, and a welcoming space to sit and read. The most rewarding thing about Mabel and Mack's has been the amazing connections made with customers, authors, and the community; it has become so much more than just another bookstore.

Mabel and Mack's would love to continue building partnerships and connections with other local small and larger businesses to ensure they can continue to advocate for literacy development in young people and promote connections and a love of literature.

Come and check out what's new each week as Mabel and Mack 'sare always getting in different books, gifts and treats. There are always gluten-free goodies as well. Come along to an event and support local, or visit for a relaxing space!

📍 Corner of Garnet Road & Booth Avenue, Tannum Sands



We host events, support local makers, and champion homegrown authors, artists and creators. Every product on our shelves has been chosen with intention.

Looking for something special this Mother's Day? We create beautiful, one-of-a-kind gift boxes tailored just for you.

Come in, have a chat, and discover gifts with meaning and made to be remembered.



mabelandmacks@myyahoo.com | (07) 49733362



Local Artists, Local Stories

Whether you're a visitor or a local, this is something you won't want to miss! From the 13th to the 24th of April, the Gladstone Visitor Information Centre will be buzzing with creativity as it hosts Local Artist, Local Stories, Seagrass Meadows, featuring one of Gladstone's much-loved artists, Katrina Elliott.

Fresh from her artist residency at the Coastal Marine Ecosystems Research Centre, Katrina is bringing a stunning new collection to life, inspired by the beauty, movement, and stories of our local seagrass ecosystems. Even better,



you won't just see the finished pieces, you'll get to experience the magic as Katrina creates artwork live in the space, giving you a behind-the-scenes look at her process.

Alongside her live art, there will be a range of locally inspired pieces available, including jewellery, homewares, art packs, stationery, T-shirts, and more, perfect for picking up a unique gift or a little something special for yourself.

This is your chance to meet Katrina in person, hear the stories behind her work, and connect with the natural beauty that makes our region so special. It's a relaxed, inspiring way to spend time these school holidays, whether you're popping in for a quick look or staying to soak it all in.

Come along and celebrate local art right here in Gladstone these holidays. Slow down, get creative, grab your friends, bring the family, and make a day of it in Gladstone. Discover something new, support a talented local artist, and walk away feeling inspired by the creativity and stories that make our community so unique.



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Get thrifty and brighten your day

AT THE REUSE SHEDS

Rebranded, reinvigorated and ready to visit. Gladstone Region's Tip Shop locations at the Gladstone Transfer Station and Benaraby Landfill have a new look and a new name, The ReUse Sheds. Now sporting a vibrant yellow façade and a social media page to reinforce its core purpose of recycling, The ReUse Sheds will become the Council's one-stop shop for browsing, buying, repurposing and dropping off pre-loved goods.

Council's representative on the Local Authorities Waste Management Action Committee (LAWMAC), Councillor Mellissa Holzheimer, said The ReUse Shed stocks a wide range of reusable goods, including furniture, homeware, clothes, toys, tools, books, garden décor and supplies, bric-a-brac, vintage collectables and more. It's surprising the



variety of items available at The ReUse Sheds; 5, every piece purchased helps contribute to the circular economy. Give your items a second life and consider dropping them off at The ReUse Sheds. The ReUse Sheds will accept items that are safe, clean, undamaged, and suitable for resale.

To make this process easier, Gladstone Regional Council is launching The ReUse Sheds Facebook page to help residents connect and understand what is suitable to donate and tips on how they can give outgrown, pre loved, valued goods another lease on life. The Facebook page will also provide operational updates, including opening hours, closures, educational and seasonal messages. Launching this page is part of the Council's ongoing efforts to improve customer experience, increase resource recovery and encourage waste behaviour change across the region.

Whether you're dropping off quality items or discovering something new to take home, every interaction helps extend the life of reusable goods while supporting the Council's broader efforts to improve resource recovery and encourage more sustainable habits across the Gladstone community.



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Can Trust

At Gladstone Garden & Landscaping Supplies we proudly supply and deliver premium garden soil, gravels, rocks, mulches, pavers, concrete sleepers and pots.





For Sale

2 1 1

**3/16 Kent Street,
West Gladstone**

View By Appointment
Price Offers Around \$270,000 Considered
Web <https://rebrand.ly/moheobl>

Opportunity Knocks... Act Now!
Welcome to 3/16 Kent Street, West Gladstone - a charming two-bedroom unit that perfectly combines comfort and convenience. Nestled in a prime location, this property offers stunning city and water views, making it an ideal retreat for those seeking a vibrant urban lifestyle.

Whether you are a first-time buyer, downsizing, or looking for an investment opportunity, this property is a must-see.

Council Rates are approximately \$3700p.a.

Body Corporate Fees \$3,866p.a.

Rental Appraisal is \$340-\$360 per week

Contact the Marketing Agent - Steven James on 0439 111 197 today to arrange a viewing and experience the charm of 3/16 Kent Street for yourself!



Steven James

0439 111 197

steven.james@gladstone.rh.com.au



For Sale

2 2 1

**4/50 Oaka Lane,
Central Gladstone**

View By Appointment
Price Offers Around \$420,000 Considered
Web <https://shorturl.at/1l5Fk>

Excellent Opportunity to Secure a Private Townhouse in the CBD - Act Now!

Raine & Horne Gladstone are proud to introduce 4/50 Oaka Lane to the current property market and can assure that astute buyers looking for a great Inner CBD Townhouse will not be disappointed at this superb property location.

Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to purchase a unique 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom Townhouse that offers the convenience of CBD living, great floorplan with the unique benefit of a large rumpus room downstairs and harbour views from the upper level, fully landscaped rear courtyard and all at price that really meets today's market.

Council Rates approximately \$3800p.a.

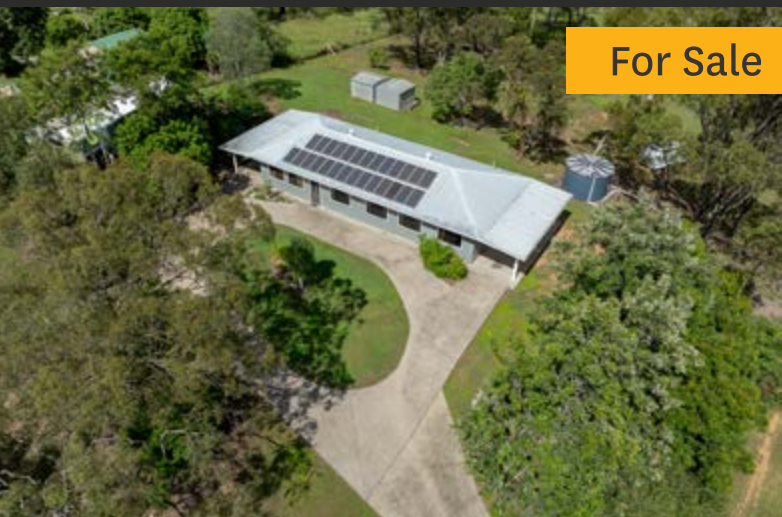
Rental Appraisal is \$400-420 per week.

Body Corporate Fees approximately \$2,200p.a.

Steven James

0439 111 197

steven.james@gladstone.rh.com.au



For Sale

4 2 2

**27 Panorama Circuit,
Benaraby**

View By Appointment
Price Offers Over \$895,000 Considered
Web <https://shorturl.at/gfd5j>

Rural Lifestyle Opportunity close to Gladstone.

Raine & Horne Gladstone invite Buyers to come and discover your dream home at 27 Panorama Circuit, Benaraby. This delightful and spacious 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom residence is set on an expansive 9,550 sqm block, providing ample space for outdoor activities and relaxation.

Eco-conscious buyers will appreciate the property's grey water system, 5kw solar panels, and water tank and small Dam promoting sustainable living while reducing utility costs.

With a price guide of offers around \$895,000 considered, this property is a rare find in a peaceful rural setting.

Council Rates approximately \$5200p.a.

Contact the Marketing Agent - Steven James on 0439 111 197 today to arrange a viewing



Steven James

0439 111 197

steven.james@gladstone.rh.com.au



For Sale

3 1 1

18 John Dory Drive, Toolooa

View By Appointment
Price Offers Around \$530,000 Considered
Web <https://rebrand.ly/ooygqeb>

Prepare to be Impressed..!

Welcome to 18 John Dory Drive, Toolooa - a charming family home that perfectly combines comfort and convenience. This delightful residence offers three spacious bedrooms, making it ideal for families or those looking for extra space.

Located on a generous 892 sqm block, this home offers plenty of room to grow and enjoy. With a price guide of offers around \$530,000, this property presents an excellent opportunity for first-time buyers or investors alike.

Council Rates are approximately \$3900p.a.

Currently rented for \$350 per week until 30/06/2026

Don't miss your chance to make this lovely house your new home.

Contact Steve James today on 0439 111 197 for more information or to arrange a viewing!



Steven James

0439 111 197

steven.james@gladstone.rh.com.au



For Sale



For Sale

3 2 1

**7/5 Glenlyon Street,
Central Gladstone**

View By Appointment

Excellent Opportunity - Act Now!

Price Offers Over \$500,000 Considered

This well presented and tidy property represents great value for money in the current market conditions and would suit a variety of different buyers.

Web <https://rebrand.ly/1n2pgoo>

Located within easy walking distance to the Gladstone CBD, Marina Parklands, Yacht Club, East Shores Precinct, Restaurants, Shopping facilities, Sporting Fields and Stadiums, Local transport and Schools - Convenience and affordability are both on offer here. Features of this fully air-conditioned modern Townhouse include :-

Council Rates approximately \$3,700p.a.

Body Corporate Fees approximately \$4250p.a.

Rental Appraisal is \$520-550per week

This property has just been recently refurbished and is ready to be yours, so act now and call the marketing agent Steven James on 0439 111 197 to arrange your private inspection today.

Steven James

0439 111 197

steven.james@gladstone.rh.com.au



3 2 2

**508/52 Oaka Lane,
Central Gladstone**

View By Appointment

Inner CBD Apartment with Harbour Views - This is Living..!

Price Offers Around \$540,000 Considered

Raine & Horne Gladstone are delighted to introduce this Modern Apartment in the Gladstone Central Plaza Apartments Complex in the middle of the Gladstone CBD. This stunning fully furnished and self-contained 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom apartment located at 508/52 Oaka Lane in Gladstone Central is now available for sale. With a spacious ensuite, two toilets, and a double garage, this property offers the perfect combination of comfort and convenience with magnificent views of the Harbour and City.

Currently rented for \$565 per week until 13/07/2026

Council Rates approximately \$3300p.a.

Body Corporate Fees approximately \$7866p.a.

Contact Steven James on 0439 111 197 today to schedule a viewing and make this property your new dream apartment with a fantastic view!

Web <https://rb.gy/18dwfs>

Steven James

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Real estate doesn't have to feel like a sales pitch, especially when buyers are ready to act.

If you've ever dealt with an agent before, you probably know the feeling.

Too many calls. Too much pressure. Too many promises.

That's not how I work. My approach is simple - clear communication, honest advice, and doing what I say I'm going to do.

Right now, there are several qualified buyers who have missed out on recent properties and are still actively looking in Gladstone.

Some are cash ready. Some are pre-approved. All are motivated.

They're not just browsing, they're ready to act.

Not thinking of selling? That's completely okay.

But if you've ever been curious about what your property could be worth, or whether a no-nonsense, simple sale approach might suit you, it could be worth a conversation.

No pressure. No obligation.

Just real information so you can make the right decision.



Kyle Stubberfield

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kyle.stubberfield@gladstone.rh.com.au

raineandhorne.com.au/gladstone

Shadows of Success:

KAYLA ROGERS' BOLD LEAP INTO SELF-PUBLISHING

At just 23, Gladstone local Kayla Rogers is proving that determination, creativity, and a willingness to take risks can turn a passion into a published reality.

Like many writers, Kayla's journey began as a reader. At around nine years old, she discovered the world of fantasy through *Throne of Glass* by Sarah J. Maas - a series that sparked a love of storytelling that would eventually shape her future. By her early teens, she was already experimenting with her own writing, sharing stories online and building her confidence chapter by chapter.

Her first project, *A Little Naughty*, began as an 18-chapter novel on Wattpad, written when she was just 13 or 14. Like many early creative efforts, it was eventually shelved as Kayla shifted her focus to finishing school and exploring university pathways. But writing, it seems, wasn't something she could leave behind for long.

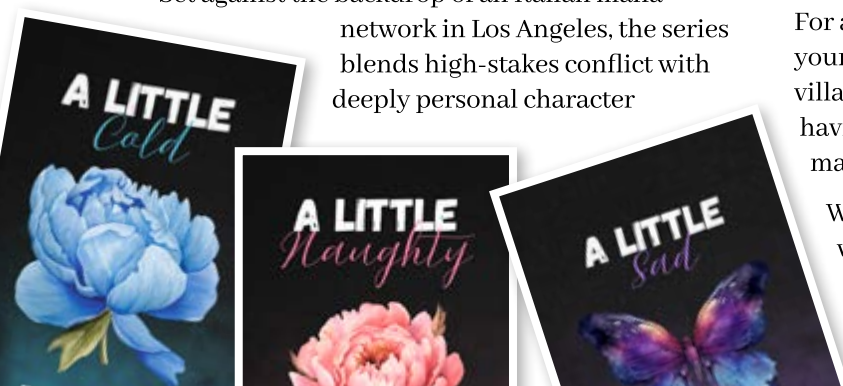
At the end of 2024, Kayla returned to storytelling with a renewed sense of purpose. Revisiting her earlier work, she rewrote *A Little Naughty* from the ground up and this time she intended to publish. This year, her hard work and dedication paid off!

Rather than pursuing traditional publishing, Kayla chose to self-publish, a risk, but a pathway that sees her dreams become a reality. While traditional publishing can involve long timelines, multiple revisions, and uncertainty, self-publishing allowed her to retain ownership and control over everything from the book's title to its cover design. The trade-off, Kayla admits, is the workload.

"Everything falls on you," she says. "Editing, marketing, it's time-consuming and can get overwhelming." Still, for Kayla, the ability to shape her work exactly as she envisioned made the challenge worthwhile.

Her *Shadows of the Underworld* series dives into the world of dark romance, weaving together themes of trauma, healing, and resilience. Across three planned books, each instalment explores a different emotional journey: quiet healing, finding the courage to speak out, and confronting anger and numbness.

Set against the backdrop of an Italian mafia network in Los Angeles, the series blends high-stakes conflict with deeply personal character



arcs. The first book follows mafia leader Marcello Maranzano, known as Marcus, and his encounter with Gabriella, whose life he saves before it becomes entangled in a dangerous clash with a rival cartel. The second instalment, *A Little Cold*, shifts focus to Marcus's second-in-command, Allister, as the story expands across international settings.

While the world she has created is fictional, Kayla's writing is grounded in emotional authenticity. She explains that her work often serves as an outlet, particularly during difficult periods in her life. Writing became a way to process feelings, heal, and fuel her own journey of growth, something that continues to inspire her creativity today.

"I wanted a way to express my feelings," she says. "Writing helped me work through things - but taking breaks is just as important."

Despite tackling heavy themes, Kayla hopes her books ultimately offer readers both escapism and connection. Her ideal audience includes those who see themselves reflected in characters navigating trauma and rediscovery, as well as readers who simply enjoy an engaging, character-driven story. Her work is intended for mature audiences, given its darker subject matter.

Closer to home, Kayla's connection to the Gladstone community remains strong. The support she's received from friends, family, and local businesses has been instrumental in her journey.

You can find Kayla's "*A Little Naughty*" and "*A Little Sad*" locally at Mabel and Mack's located in Tannum Sands, online at via Amazon or you can buy directly through Kayla's website at authorkaylarogers.com where she offers free local delivery. "*A Little Cold*" is scheduled to be released on the 4th of May this year. For updates, and links, readers can also follow her on social media at [@authorkaylarogers](https://www.instagram.com/authorkaylarogers).

For aspiring writers, Kayla's advice is simple but honest: do your research, connect with other authors, and build your village. "It can be lonely doing it on your own," she says. "But having people around you who understand the process makes all the difference."

With multiple projects already planned, including ventures into fantasy and paranormal storytelling. Watch this space, because Kayla Rogers is only getting started.



5-INGREDIENT HOT CROSS BUN CEREAL

Turn leftover Easter treats into a warm, comforting breakfast that the whole family will love. This easy recipe transforms traditional hot cross buns into a crispy, golden cereal, perfectly complemented by juicy berries and ice-cold milk. *Serves 4.*

INGREDIENTS

- 6 traditional hot cross buns
- 5 mL extra virgin olive oil cooking spray
- 250 g strawberries, quartered
- 125 g blueberries
- 1 L milk

METHOD

Begin by preparing the buns. Using a sharp knife, cut each hot cross bun into four equal slices. Then cut each slice into quarters so that the pieces are small, bitesize. This ensures that the hot cross bun cereal cooks evenly and becomes delightfully crispy. Lightly spray all the pieces with extra virgin olive oil, giving them a thin coating that will help them crisp beautifully in the air fryer.

Preheat your air fryer to 200 °C. Air fry the hot cross bun pieces in a 5L air fryer for 8–10 minutes. Halfway through cooking, carefully turn the pieces over and spray lightly with olive oil again to achieve an even, golden-brown finish. The result should be crunchy on the outside while soft and fragrant on the inside.

Allow the hot cross bun cereal to cool slightly once cooked. Divide the toasted pieces among four bowls. Top generously with fresh strawberries and blueberries for a pop of colour and sweetness. Pour over cold milk just before serving, creating a playful, Easter-inspired twist on a classic breakfast cereal.



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Photo from Noel Wootton & the Nash family:
Information from Gladstone City that Waited.

Here in History

THE FIRST CARS IN GLADSTONE

Motor cars, privately owned, came to Gladstone quite early in the twentieth century. Jack Nash was Mayor in 1907-1908 and he owned a single cylinder Rover, which under the right conditions could reach 25mph.

On his first drive of his car, he took it around the block many times until it ran out of petrol, because he didn't know how to stop it. He went on to open the first car agency in Gladstone and his historic sale was to Ernest Crow who bought a four-cylinder EMF. EMF was an early American

Automobile Manufacturer that produced cars from 1909 to 1912. Jack and his son retained the agency for twenty years. In 1911 N.W. Kingdom, from the Meatworks, became the proud owner of the second motor car in town.

Gladstone kept up to date with motor cars and in 1912, TS Bell bought a Michael. This car could reach the speed of 35mph and was considered a great speed to get around at. By the end of WW1, cars were still relatively rare, and roads were only two-wheel tracks.

By *Betty Laver*



Caring for Gladstone Smiles

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A Bright New Ride

FOR ROSELLA PARK SCHOOL

Exciting news for Rosella Park School, following a fantastic \$100,000 fundraising effort led by local community legends Greg and Leonie Klease. REMAX Gold owners Shane and Kay McLeod, along with the wider REMAX Gold team, knew from the very first conversation that this was a project worth backing, one that would benefit around 100 local students with special needs. They were all in from the start.

Together with Shane's Rotary Club of Gladstone Sunrise, Rotary Midday, Rio Tinto, Variety QLD, and many other local businesses and organisations, the goal has now become a reality. Rosella Park students will have greater access to their community and activities beyond the school thanks to their new wheelchair-accessible bus.

This is what the Gladstone community does best: getting behind local people and projects, and showing up where it matters most.

Giving back in this way is a no-brainer. Congratulations to the students and staff at Rosella Park School. Greg and Leonie Klease have also thanked the community for demonstrating what true leadership in Gladstone looks like, heart first, always.



Greg is well known for his passion for ensuring every child has access to the support, dignity, and opportunities they deserve. That passion has changed lives and opened doors, and on this occasion, it has quite literally delivered a vehicle that will carry students towards experiences they might otherwise miss.

A proud moment for Gladstone. With this incredible new resource at Rosella Park School, the entire region is better for the kindness and commitment of its people.

It's the lifeblood of our towns, farms, and families, and it's time our leaders recognize that regional Australia cannot keep running on empty.

Local suppliers powering Gladstone's industrial future

Gladstone's industrial sector continues to demonstrate the value of investing in home-grown capability, with local suppliers playing a vital role in strengthening regional industry.

ConocoPhillips Australia, as the downstream operator of Australia Pacific LNG, supports local business and contributes to the regional economy through supply chain spend.

One of these suppliers is Xtreme Engineering, a Gladstone company offering fabrication, engineering design, project management and maintenance event services. Their commitment to excellence was recognised on the global stage last year where they received

the 2024 Execution Award at the ConocoPhillips Global Supplier Recognition Awards, which honour suppliers who demonstrate strength in safety, innovation and integrity.

The Gladstone Engineering Alliance Supply Chain Expo is another opportunity to connect with local capability like Xtreme Engineering. ConocoPhillips Australia, as the downstream operator of APLNG, is again sponsoring the event this year, reinforcing the value of strong regional partnerships.



GEA Supply Chain Expo
6 May 2026
Gladstone Entertainment
Convention Centre



www.conocophillips.com.au

Gladstone Hockey Star

LAITH OGDEN IS OFF TO MALAYSIA

Laith Ogden, Gladstone hockey star, is preparing to take a major step in his sporting career as he heads to Malaysia for his first tour with the Australian Open Country Team. The tour will see Ogden compete in Kuala Lumpur, Ipoh, and Penang, marking his debut on the international stage. In a personal touch, he will also be bringing his family along for support, something he says gives him both confidence and motivation.



Ogden's rise through the ranks of hockey has been nothing short of impressive. In early 2025, he earned selection in the Queensland Country Men's side, a key milestone for regional players aiming to break into higher levels of competition. His inclusion in the squad was widely celebrated within the Central Queensland sporting community, recognising not only his natural ability but also his work ethic and dedication to constant improvement.

That achievement set the tone for what would become a breakthrough year. By August 2025, Ogden reached another career highlight when he was selected to represent an Australian Men's Countryside at a national event held in Rockhampton. Competing against some of the best country players in the nation, Ogden proved he could match it with top-tier talent. His performance at that level reinforced his reputation as one of the region's most promising hockey players and placed him firmly on the radar for further national opportunities.

Behind Ogden's success is a strong foundation built within the Gladstone hockey community. From his early days in junior development programs to his progression into senior competition, local coaches, teammates, and volunteers have all played a significant role in shaping his journey. Their continued support has been instrumental, and his latest achievement has been met with immense pride across the region. Many see his success as a reflection of the strength and quality of grassroots hockey in Central Queensland.

The upcoming Malaysian tour presents a new and exciting challenge. Playing across multiple cities, including the bustling capital of Kuala Lumpur and the coastal centres of Ipoh and Penang, Ogden will face unfamiliar conditions, different playing styles, and strong international opposition. The experience is expected to test not only his technical ability but also his adaptability and composure under pressure.

For Ogden, the opportunity is about more than just competition. It represents the chance to grow as a player, gain valuable international exposure, and learn from new environments. Tours like this are often seen as a crucial step in the development of athletes aiming to reach even higher honours in the sport.

As he prepares to step onto the international stage, Ogden's journey is already inspiring young athletes across the Gladstone region. His progression from local competitions to national representation and now to international level demonstrates what can be achieved through determination, resilience, and a genuine passion for the game. Young players coming through the ranks now have a clear example of where dedication can lead.

With his first game for the Australian Open Country Team fast approaching, there is a growing sense of anticipation both for Ogden and for those who have supported him along the way. Friends, family, and the wider Gladstone community will be watching closely as he takes this exciting next step in his career.



One thing is certain: no matter where hockey takes him next, Ogden will carry the pride of his hometown with him, while the Gladstone community will be cheering him on every step of the way.

Gladstone Gymnasts off to State

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

Gladstone's senior women's artistic gymnastics squad is off to a flying start this season, following a successful trip to the CQ Senior Control Test and Clinic held in Bundaberg.

Competing across Levels 7 to 10, the gymnasts embraced their first event of the year with confidence and enthusiasm. Hosted at Gymfinity, the clinic provided a valuable opportunity for the athletes to perform their routines in front of some of Queensland's top judges. With major competitions just around the corner, including the State Club Championships and Senior State Championships, the event proved to be an important stepping stone in their preparation.

Coaches and athletes were thrilled with the experience, which delivered constructive feedback to help refine routines and build performance quality. Since returning home, the team has wasted no time, putting in the hard work at training to polish skills and make improvements.

The clinic also gave the gymnasts a chance to train in a different environment, helping them build confidence,

adapt to new surroundings, and gain valuable experience working alongside other athletes from across Central Queensland.

There were also some standout achievements worth celebrating. Ariana Dinsdale successfully passed her Level 7 test, while Gemma Bassett and Destiny Vine both achieved their Level 9 qualifications, a fantastic result and a testament to their dedication and perseverance.

Coaches are confident that the dedication shown in training, combined with the valuable experience gained at Bundaberg, will translate into even greater results as the season continues. The squad now turns its focus to the State Club Championships in just two weeks, where they are eager to showcase their progress and represent Gladstone with pride.



Bright Start for Gladstone's Young Musicians

AT BATTLE OF THE BANDS

Huge congratulations to four talented Toooloa Year 11 boys, Lachie, Max, Jasper, and Caleb, who recently took to the stage for their first Battle of the Bands performance at the Gladstone Harbour Festival, delivering an unforgettable show for the local community. Performing live for the first time in front of a hometown crowd is no small feat, but the boys rose to the occasion with confidence, energy, and impressive musical ability, capturing the attention of everyone in attendance.

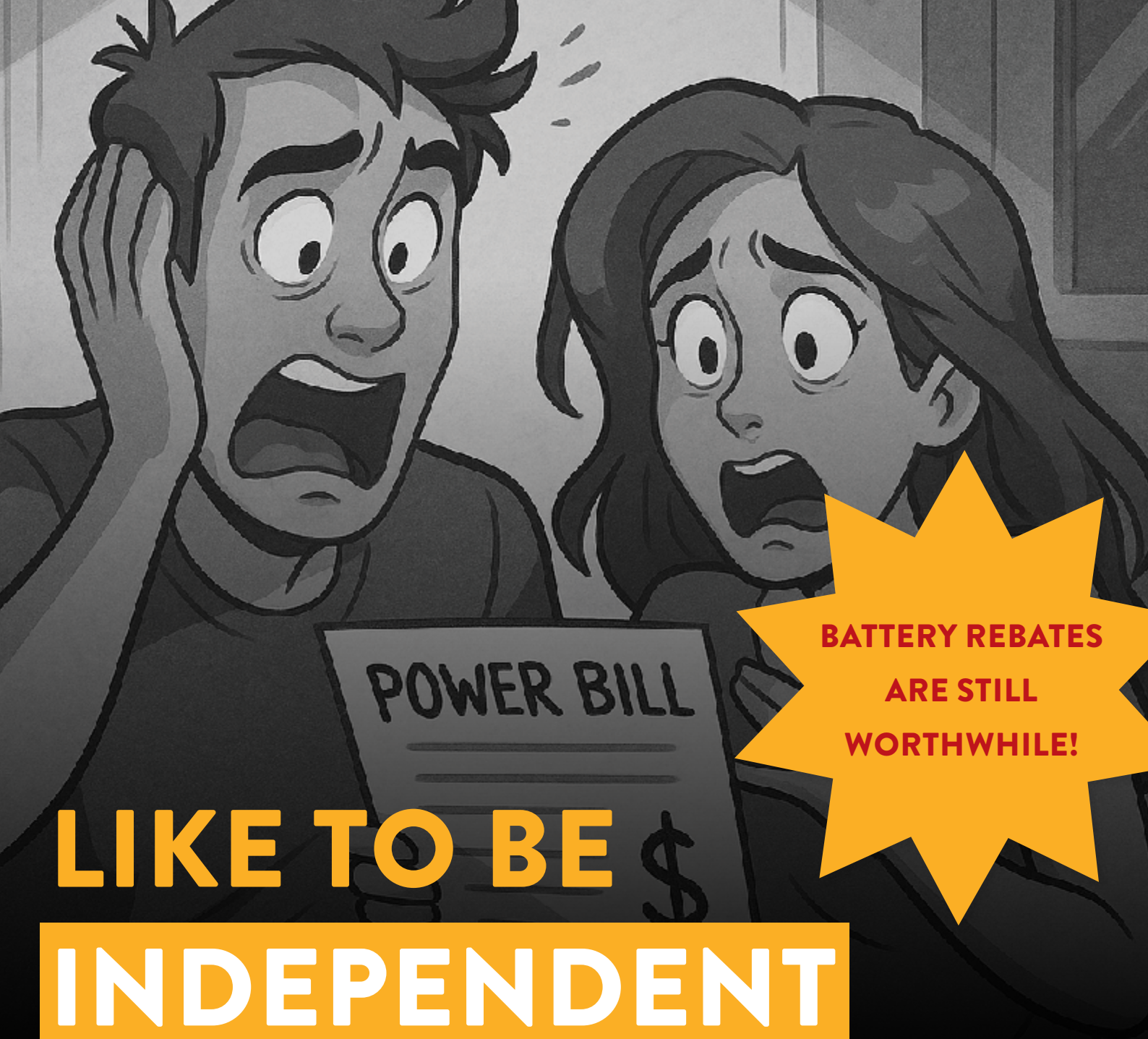
The atmosphere throughout the event was electric, with strong community support filling the venue as the boys gave it their all, showcasing not only their individual talents but also their tight teamwork and clear passion for music. From the opening note through to the final chord, they kept the audience engaged, earning cheers, applause,

and plenty of encouragement, proving they were ready to step into the spotlight and make their mark on the local music scene.

Taking home second place was an outstanding result, particularly for a debut performance, and reflects the dedication, practice, and commitment the group has invested in developing their sound. Their achievement highlights not only their current ability but also the exciting potential they hold for the future.

The Gladstone community has every reason to feel proud of these young musicians, who represented their town with enthusiasm and talent. This performance marks the beginning of what promises to be a bright and exciting musical journey, and many locals will be eager to follow their progress and see where their passion for music leads them next.





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