

I'm Getting Married



Sunday 2nd of August 2026

Your Wedding Starts Here:

The CQ Wedding Expo Gladstone

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Ashleigh | Editor-in-chief



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Coastal Yoga & Wellness

Coastal Yoga and Wellness Grand Opening

16TH MAY 2026

We are so excited to finally open our doors and welcome you into our space!

Join us for a morning of movement, relaxation, and connection as we celebrate our Grand Opening.

To secure your bookings for all free yoga classes, head to www.coastalyogawellness.com/event-list

When: Saturday 16th May 7:30 am

Where: 5 Gilbert Court Boyne Island

Price: Free

Apprenticeship and traineeships 2027 information evening

19TH MAY 2026

Families and students are invited to join us in the school's Resource Centre for an informative evening focused on apprenticeship and traineeship opportunities for 2027.

When: Tuesday, 19 May 2026 at 5.30 pm

Where: 65 Coronation Drive, Tannum Sands, QLD, Australia, Queensland 4680

Price: Free



Tannum Crab Classic Family Funday

24TH MAY 2026

Date locked & Loaded for the race that stops Tannum.

Come on down and support an awesome community event, as the Tannum Crab Classic raised much-needed funds for Suicide prevention and child empowerment within our local community.

When: Sunday 24th May 12-6pm

Where: Tannum Sands Hotel Motel

Price: Free

GLADSTONE 80'S & 90'S SINGALONG PAINT & SIP

80's and 90's Singalong Paint and Sip

21ST MAY 2026

Calling all wannabe Madonnas, rock gods, and shower singers. Gladstone, this one is for you.

We are taking over The Queens Hotel for a fully hosted 80s and 90s sing-along paint and sip night, and we are bringing live singer Lotti Rem with us. Power ballads, pop classics, hip-hop anthems, throwback bangers, and a room full of people who absolutely know every word.

Tickets are all online, book now!

When: Thursday 21st May 6 pm

Where: The Queens Hotel, 125 Goondoon St, Gladstone Central

Price: \$59

Age: 18+



System Strength Project

COMMUNITY INFORMATION DROP-IN SESSION

22 May 2026, 1pm-4pm

Philip Street Communities and Families Precinct, West Gladstone

Learn more at powerlink.com.au

Your Wedding Starts Here:

The CQ Wedding Expo Gladstone

Discover inspiration, connect with local vendors and plan your perfect day, all under one roof.

What is the CQ Wedding Expo?

The CQ Wedding Expo is more than just a wedding event... It's an inspiring day designed to bring wedding dreams to life. Couples are welcomed into a beautifully styled space filled with creativity and endless ideas for their special day. Bringing together trusted wedding vendors from across Central Queensland, the expo gives couples the opportunity to meet professionals face-to-face, ask questions and discover everything they need in one relaxed setting.

With stunning displays, live inspiration and a warm, welcoming atmosphere, the CQ Wedding Expo allows couples to enjoy the excitement of planning together while creating genuine connections with local businesses who are passionate about making their wedding unforgettable.

To stay up to date all things expo and see who will be attending CQ Wedding Expo Gladstone, follow us on our socials.

What you'll see on the day

Variety of Wedding and Event Vendors from:

- Photographers & photobooths
- Celebrants
- Catering & venues
- Beauty
- Bridal gowns & formalwear
- Jewellery & accessories
- Live entertainment
- Wedding event services and so much more...



Why you should attend?

The CQ Wedding Expo makes wedding planning easier by bringing trusted local vendors together in one inspiring space. Couples can meet professionals face-to-face, gather fresh ideas, ask questions and create genuine connections... all while enjoying a relaxed and exciting planning experience.



Showcase Your Business at the CQ Wedding Expo Gladstone

The CQ Wedding Expo is the perfect opportunity for wedding, event and lifestyle businesses to showcase their services directly to engaged couples actively planning their special day. Exhibitors have the chance to create genuine face-to-face connections, build trust and generate valuable leads in a highly engaged environment. Alongside strong brand exposure, the expo also provides a fantastic networking opportunity for vendors to connect with other local businesses, collaborate within the industry and become part of a supportive wedding community across Central Queensland.

Vendor Bookings Now Open

One-Off Early Bird Exhibitor Site

Discount Offer ends 22nd May 2026

Join our mailing list by scanning the QR code or email / DM us today to find out how to become a vendor.

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Your invited to the
CQ Wedding Expo Gladstone



Where: Gladstone Events Centre
(Yaralla Sports Club)
When: Sunday, 2nd August 2026
Time: 8.30am til 1.30pm
Door entry - \$5 per person,
children 14 & under free

The Dress Event

EVERY GLADSTONE BRIDE HAS BEEN WAITING FOR

Bridal fashion is ever evolving... from sleek, minimalist silhouettes to romantic lace, statement sleeves, and modern textures and at Gladstone Bridal Boutique, we're proud to bring the latest bridal trends to Central Queensland, paired with an experience designed to feel effortless, elevated, and unforgettable.

For a limited time on 30th and 31st May, we're opening the doors to one of our biggest bridal sale events and the only sale we'll hold in 2026. Giving brides the opportunity to shop a curated collection of designer gowns at exclusive sale pricing.

For over 40 years, Gladstone Bridal Boutique has helped thousands of brides discover the gown that feels like the one. Known for our bespoke bridal experience and exclusive designer collections, we've created a boutique where every bride feels seen, celebrated, and beautifully supported throughout her journey.

For brides wanting something truly elevated, our signature Ultimate Bridal Experience is designed to make finding your dress feel like the celebration it should be. With private boutique access, personalised one-on-one styling, a glass of bubbles on arrival, and a beautifully curated grazing experience

shared with your closest loved ones, the UBE is more than an appointment, it's a moment to remember.

Our sale collection features a carefully selected range of designer gowns, from timeless classics to fashion-forward favourites. Offering brides the chance to secure their dream gown at exceptional value. Whether you're newly engaged, planning ahead, or shopping on a shorter timeline, this exclusive event is the perfect opportunity to find your dress.

With limited gowns, sizes, and appointments available, this event won't last long.

Because finding your dress should feel just as beautiful as wearing it.

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Kirkwood Road Commercial Centre

The Kirkwood Road Commercial Centre is set to become an exciting new retail and lifestyle destination for Gladstone, creating fresh opportunities for local families, businesses, and visitors while strengthening Gladstone's growing reputation as a vibrant regional hub. Strategically located along the Dawson Highway, the development will serve as an important gateway to the wider Gladstone region and deliver a modern, welcoming centre designed to meet the needs of the community both now and into the future.

At the heart of the vision for the Kirkwood Road Commercial Centre is the creation of a convenient and accessible destination that supports local economic growth while enhancing everyday life for residents. The centre has been carefully planned to provide a mix of showrooms, bulky goods retailers, and large format shopping opportunities, alongside a range of complementary services that will make the precinct a true one-stop destination for the community.

In addition to retail offerings, the development will include shops, personal and banking services, community services, and service trades, ensuring residents can access essential services closer to home. This balanced mix of businesses is expected to generate employment opportunities, attract investment to the region and provide greater convenience for the community.

A strong focus has also been placed on accessibility and connectivity. The project encourages the use of public transport, walking and cycling, supporting healthier and more sustainable ways for people to move around the community. Thoughtful planning has ensured the development will integrate well with surrounding infrastructure while also promoting safe and easy access for visitors of all ages.

Importantly, the development has been designed with the local environment and community character in mind. Building and landscape designs will reflect Gladstone's subtropical identity while maintaining a scale, height and appearance that complements surrounding areas. The project aims to

create an attractive and welcoming atmosphere that blends naturally into the existing community and provides a high level of amenity for residents and visitors alike.

Community safety has been another key priority throughout the planning process. The development includes clearly visible building identification and numbering that can easily be read from the street, including at night, helping improve emergency access and navigation throughout the precinct. Car parking areas at ground level will feature clear signage and well defined layouts to help visitors locate their vehicles quickly and comfortably.

Safety and convenience for pedestrians have also been carefully considered. Well lit and clearly signposted pedestrian pathways will connect parking areas directly to the main entrances of the centre, creating a safe and user friendly environment. Additional measures such as organised surveillance and emergency communication points will further support community confidence and comfort within the precinct.

Public transport access has also been thoughtfully integrated into the design, with bus stops positioned close to the entrances of retail areas rather than on the outer edges of parking zones. This approach improves accessibility for public transport users and enhances overall convenience for shoppers, workers and visitors.

The nearby Travel Precinct will provide additional convenience services for residents living west of Kirkwood Road, including a service station, food and drink outlets and a car-wash. These additions will help meet the growing needs of the local community while supporting travellers and commuters using the Dawson Highway.

Overall, the Gladstone Town Centre represents a positive and forward looking investment in the future of the region. By combining retail, lifestyle, accessibility and community focused design, the project promises to deliver long term benefits for residents, create new opportunities for local businesses and further strengthen Gladstone as one of Central Queensland's most progressive and connected communities.



Councillors Glenn Churchill, Leanne Patrick and Chris Cameron with Michael Walz and the crew from Apprentices and Trainees Queensland at The Shelter Collective's ARC21 Project located at South Gladstone.

Support small business each and every day

As we approach the halfway point of Queensland Small Business Month, Gladstone Regional Council is encouraging everyone to think about where we spend our hard-earned dollars, particularly when it comes to supporting small businesses.

The Gladstone Region is home to more than 4100 small businesses who are the heart of our community by employing thousands of people, sponsoring local sporting teams, supporting community events and helping to shape the identity of towns, cities and regions.

When you support local businesses, jobs and money continue to circulate through the local economy, which strengthens the region even during challenging economic times.

Gladstone Regional Council is recognised as a Queensland Small Business Friendly Council and we are committed to improving how we transact, interact and support small businesses in the region.

We are also lighting up 101 Goondoon Street in blue to celebrate and recognise our local small businesses.

A Collective effort by Council to tackle accommodation shortages in region

Gladstone Regional Council and non-profit organisation The Shelter Collective are working to address the ongoing under supply of affordable independent living rentals in the region.

Council has worked closely with The Shelter Collective to facilitate the transformation of 20 units at the former site of Hibiscus Gardens Aged Care Facility, located at 45 French Street in South Gladstone.

The site has been dormant since late 2015 and will be reinvigorated to provide accommodation for women over the age of 55 who are sleeping rough, as well as essential service workers who are struggling to find affordable housing in Gladstone.

The Shelter Collective chair David Grenfell OAM said these are individuals who have contributed, and continue to contribute, quietly and significantly to the community, often while facing circumstances well beyond their control.

"For women over 55, secure housing offers more than a roof overhead - it provides stability, safety and the opportunity to

rebuild independence, wellbeing and connection," Mr Grenfell said.

"For essential service workers, affordable accommodation means the ability to remain in the community they serve, ensuring Gladstone continues to function and thrive."

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said the project, known as ARC21 (Affordable Residential Communities), is something the community has wanted to see for a long time.

"This project ties directly into Council's advocacy for more housing in the region, which has been a priority of ours for many years as we look to tackle challenges surrounding availability, accessibility, and affordability," Mayor Burnett said.

"We are proud to play our part in facilitating this project for The Shelter Collective and this is a fantastic example of our Development Services team working to achieve positive outcomes for the community." The project is expected to be complete in April 2027.



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Big Budget Boost

FOR GLADSTONE'S FUTURE GROWTH

A welcome boost for Gladstone's future has been highlighted with the Australian Local Government Association welcoming the Federal Government's Budget commitment of \$2 billion for housing enabling infrastructure. The announcement has been described as a meaningful step forward that reflects years of sustained advocacy from local councils across Australia, including regional communities like Gladstone. The Albanese Government's Budget will include an additional \$2 billion, with \$500 million dollars directed to regional Australia over four years from 2026 to 2027, aimed at funding essential infrastructure and supporting the delivery of up to \$65,000 new homes. This level of investment is seen as an encouraging signal for communities experiencing strong growth and housing demand.

ALGA President Mayor Matt Burnett said the announcement shows the Federal Government has listened carefully to the repeated calls from councils for stronger investment in the infrastructure needed to unlock housing supply. Councils have consistently explained that new homes cannot be delivered without the foundations that support them, including roads, drainage, water connections, and community infrastructure that make developments both possible and liveable. This commitment recognises that enabling infrastructure has been one of the most significant barriers to improving housing supply and affordability across the country, including in growing regional centres such as Gladstone. Mayor Burnett noted that ALGA has been advocating strongly for investment in what it calls building block infrastructure since releasing its 2024 report into the national housing challenge, which identified a major shortfall in the infrastructure required to support the delivery of around one point two million new homes nationwide.

For many councils, including those in regional Queensland, there has been ongoing concern about the ability to keep pace with growth while managing rising costs. Local governments have been warning for some time that communities cannot continue to absorb the full cost of expansion without addi-

tional support. Inflation, construction pressures, and higher fuel and materials costs have placed significant strain on budgets, making it more difficult to maintain existing assets while also preparing for future development. The \$2 billion investment will provide greater confidence for councils and state utility providers to plan, work collaboratively with state and federal partners, and move more quickly on housing delivery. It also acknowledges the essential role that local government plays in responding to national housing needs while balancing the expectations of growing communities.

For the Gladstone community, this announcement represents a positive step toward strengthening long term growth and liveability. It signals stronger recognition of the importance of investing in the infrastructure that underpins sustainable housing development and supports regional prosperity. The commitment is seen as a strong foundation for continued collaboration between local, state, and federal governments. Encouraging pathway for addressing housing supply challenges in a way that supports affordability and resilience. Overall, this investment is a very welcome development for Gladstone and reinforces confidence in the region's future growth.

This investment is expected to deliver flow on benefits for the Gladstone region, supporting not only housing outcomes but also local jobs and economic activity across construction and related industries. As infrastructure projects progress, local suppliers, contractors, and trades are likely to benefit from increased opportunities, helping to strengthen the regional economy. The improved certainty around funding also allows for better long-term planning, giving councils the ability to stage development in a more coordinated and sustainable way. For residents, this means greater confidence that essential services will keep pace with growth, helping to maintain quality of life as the community expands. The commitment represents a constructive step forward and supports a shared goal of building stronger, more connected communities in Gladstone and across regional Australia.

New Patient Transfer Facility Coming to Gladstone Airport

Gladstone Airport is delivering a new purpose-built Patient Transfer Facility to improve aeromedical transfers and strengthen regional healthcare.

The \$5 million facility will support more than 700 aeromedical transfers each year, making transfers faster and smoother for ambulance services, medical crews, patients and families.

Designed specifically for medical transfers, the facility will provide a secure, comfortable space where patients and families can stay together right up until departure — helping maintain dignity and support during what can be a deeply challenging time.

Delivered through an airport-led partnership with Federal Government support and backing from major local industry, the project is under construction and scheduled for completion next year. Local businesses are playing a key role in design and construction.

Built to meet future needs, the facility will accommodate current and next-generation aeromedical aircraft and include sustainable features such as off-grid solar power and battery storage.

Once completed, the Patient Transfer Facility will provide the Gladstone region with improved access to specialised medical care and a dedicated space designed to support patients and families during some of their most critical moments.



PROJECT DESIGNED & MANAGED BY:



THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDING PARTNERS:



Great Keppel Island Investment

SIGNALS A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR CENTRAL QUEENSLAND TOURISM

The Central Queensland region's exciting new chapter, with Great Keppel Island set to benefit from a significant wave of investment to strengthen its appeal and enhance visitor experiences. For the Gladstone region and surrounding communities, this is more than just funding announcements. It represents confidence in the future of local tourism and a clear commitment to building destinations that can thrive for decades to come.

At the heart of this transformation is a combined investment package that includes a \$1.8 million commitment from the Queensland Government through the Tourism Icons Investment Fund, alongside a broader \$1 million upgrade initiative that will directly improve facilities at Great Keppel Island. These upgrades will be felt most strongly at the Great Keppel Hideaway, where key hospitality spaces, including the bar, reception, and communal areas will undergo a major renewal. The Bistro Renewal Project is expected to elevate the island's main hospitality hub, creating a more welcoming and vibrant space for both day visitors and overnight guests.

This is the kind of practical improvement that makes a real difference for travellers. Better facilities, more comfortable shared spaces, and an upgraded dining experience all contribute to an island visit that feels easier, more enjoyable, and more memorable. For locals in Gladstone and across Central Queensland, it also means a stronger tourism offering right on their doorstep, encouraging more day trips and short stays that support local jobs and businesses.

Member for Keppel Nigel Hutton has highlighted the importance of this investment as part of a broader vision to grow tourism in the lead up to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic Games. Great Keppel Island, already one of the Capricorn Coast's most recognisable destinations, is being positioned as a key part of that future.

The funding forms part of the Crisafulli Government's \$80 million Tourism Icons Investment Fund, which sits under the Destination 2045 strategy.

This long-term plan aims to strengthen Queensland's reputation as the home of the holiday while building a more sustainable and resilient tourism industry. According to Tourism Minister Andrew Powell, the goal is to deliver better experiences for visitors while also supporting the natural environment that makes places like Great Keppel Island so special.

Great Keppel Hideaway Managing Director Peter Lowe also expressed enthusiasm, describing the investment as a game changer. He emphasised that improved infrastructure would help boost tourism, create employment opportunities, and support surrounding businesses that rely on a strong visitor economy.

What stands out most about this investment is its focus on long term growth rather than short term fixes. It builds on earlier commitments to regional tourism projects across Queensland and reflects a broader effort to ensure that destinations outside major cities are not only included but prioritised in tourism planning.

For Gladstone and the wider Central Queensland region, the benefits extend beyond Great Keppel Island itself. Stronger tourism infrastructure creates a ripple effect that supports accommodation providers, transport operators, hospitality businesses, and local attractions. It also strengthens the region's identity as a gateway to some of Queensland's most iconic coastal experiences.

As further announcements from the Tourism Icons Investment Fund continue to roll out, there is a growing sense of momentum. With careful planning and sustained investment, Great Keppel Island is well placed to enter its next phase as a refreshed, accessible, and world-class destination. This is a development worth watching closely, as it signals a brighter and more connected future for tourism across the entire region.



Birthing Services Return

AN EXCITING UPDATE FOR BILOELA FAMILIES

Biloela is set to benefit from a major boost to local healthcare, with Central Queensland Health progressing plans to reintroduce birthing services by the end of June 2026. Building works are well underway alongside active recruitment and the development of a safe and sustainable model of care tailored to the needs of local families.

A recent public information session at Biloela Hospital provided the community with an update on the exciting progress being made. A new family-friendly maternity clinic is currently being constructed in Brisbane before being transported to Biloela. The facility will include two consultation rooms, a welcoming waiting area with a children's play space, dedicated workspaces, and modern amenities for patients and staff. This new clinic will strengthen maternity support and post birth care for local women and families.

The investment represents a significant step forward for healthcare in Biloela. Alongside the clinic, a freshly renovated birthing suite will further enhance maternity services when births return locally. New modern staff accommodation has also been completed to help attract and retain healthcare professionals in the region.



Central Queensland Health has launched a targeted recruitment campaign to bring experienced midwives, local doctors, GP obstetricians, and specialist obstetricians to live and work in Biloela. The service model is being carefully designed for Biloela and surrounding communities, allowing women with low risk pregnancies to give birth closer to home with the support of their families.

For many local women, travelling away for the birth of their babies has created emotional and financial strain. The return of birthing services is a welcome and positive milestone that will strengthen local healthcare and deliver lasting benefits for families across the region.



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Local Support Changing Lives

WITH THE BIKES TO WHEELCHAIRS PROJECT

Gladstone's Sunrise Rotary Club is quietly transforming discarded bicycles into life-changing mobility. The Bikes to Wheelchairs project has already converted more than 60 old bicycles into custom-built wheelchairs, providing independence, dignity, and renewed opportunity to recipients both locally and overseas. What began as a small volunteer effort has steadily grown into a thriving community program, powered by dedication and a strong belief in helping others.

Each Thursday afternoon, the yard comes alive as members, volunteers, and local school students gather to build and paint wheelchairs. The atmosphere is warm and welcoming, with the sound of tools mixing with conversation and laughter as people of all ages work side by side. These weekly sessions have become more than just a workshop. They are a place of connection, where community spirit is strengthened through shared purpose and simple acts of service.

The project is part of a broader collaboration with Rotary International networks, including the Surfers Sunrise Wheelchair Trust. Recently, the team completed and packed another 12 wheelchairs, ready for delivery to Timor. This is part of an ambitious ongoing goal to produce 120 wheelchairs, each one representing improved mobility and greater independence for someone in need.



For many involved, the highlight is not only the construction of the wheelchairs but also the friendships formed along the way. Volunteers often share a well earned smoko after a morning of hands on work, reflecting on the impact of

what they are achieving together. The club operates on a simple but powerful principle that every dollar raised goes straight back into the community. No surplus funds are sitting idle; only ongoing effort and commitment to keep the project moving forward.

Sunrise Rotary's Graeme Bartlett said the club has already held positive discussions with Gladstone Regional Council, which has shown strong support for the concept and



a willingness to help identify suitable land or premises. The vision is for a space that can grow with the project and ensure its long term future in the region.

The impact of each wheelchair extends far beyond its simple construction. At a cost of around 100 dollars per chair, the value delivered to families is profound. A wheelchair can completely change daily life for a person with a disability and their carers, increasing independence, mobility and the ability to participate more fully in everyday activities. In many cases, it can transform the entire household, creating new opportunities and reducing physical and emotional strain.

Each wheelchair is finished with at least a basic paint job, while many are brought to life through vibrant and personalised artwork. This creative element has been made possible through strong community partnerships with Toolooa State High School, Gladstone State High School, South Gladstone State School, Chanel College and CQUniversity. Arts students and school groups have embraced the opportunity to contribute, adding colour, individuality, and pride to many of the finished chairs.

As the Bikes to Wheelchairs project continues to grow, so too does community support and momentum. With a permanent home, volunteers believe the initiative could expand even further, helping more people regain independence while strengthening the spirit of service that sits at the heart of Rotary in Gladstone.



1 percent of the world's population of 8.3 billion need a wheelchair, 20 million don't have one. It is great to have the Gladstone community supporting local, as it is life changing for others.

Improving Healthcare Access

WITH NEW CT SERVICES AT ECLIPSE IMAGING

Eclipse Imaging is proud to announce an important expansion of its services that will benefit patients across Boyne, Tannum Sands, and the greater Gladstone region. The introduction of a new CT service at Eclipse Imaging marks a significant step forward in improving local access to advanced diagnostic imaging. Gladstone Area Water Board (GAWB) CEO Darren Barlow said this marks a key step as the project moves from construction into commissioning. The testing confirms the pumps and systems are working correctly and safely before full operation begins.

For the past two years, the clinic has been providing ultrasound services to the community, and this next stage of growth reflects both strong local demand and a clear commitment to keeping high-quality healthcare close to home. The addition of CT imaging means patients will no longer need to travel into Gladstone for many scans, reducing inconvenience, travel time, and delays in diagnosis.

This development is particularly important for the region, where timely access to medical imaging can make a real difference in patient outcomes. With CT appointments often

available on the same or next day, residents will benefit from faster answers when they need them most. This includes support for urgent medical investigations, heart health assessments, lung screening, and occupational health monitoring for workers in industries such as mining and construction.

The new service includes a full range of CT capabilities, including general CT scans, CT angiography, calcium scoring, National Lung Cancer Screening Program, and occupational lung CTs for at-risk workers. These services support both preventative healthcare and early detection, which are essential for improving long-term health outcomes in the community.

The clinic is also equipped with modern technology, including a wide-bore CT scanner and low-dose imaging protocols, ensuring patient comfort and safety remain a priority. Combined with experienced local radiographers, early morning appointment availability, and on-site parking at the BITS Medical Centre.

Overall, this expansion is great news for the Gladstone region. It strengthens local healthcare services, reduces pressure on surrounding facilities, and ensures patients can access high-quality diagnostic imaging closer to home when they need it most.

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More Than Just Coffee

A LOCAL BUSINESS BRINGS GLADSTONE TOGETHER THROUGH HEARTFELT COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Chris and Daz, a married couple and owners of the local drive-through café Coffee on Toolooa, have quickly become known for more than just great coffee and fresh donuts. Since taking over the business in December 2025, the pair have focused on creating a welcoming space built around community, connection, and supporting locals.

One customer who became part of that community was Neil, who loved stopping by for his favourite donuts and coffee. Sadly, Neil recently passed away from bile duct cancer. After seeing a heartfelt comment from Neil’s sister and carer, Binny, Chris and Daz knew they wanted to do something meaningful in his honour.

The couple reached out to Binny and learned there would be fundraising at Neil’s funeral, inspiring them to organise their own in-store fundraiser. Over three days, the café was decorated in green, and every dollar from donut sales was donated to bile duct cancer research. Chris and Daz then matched the total raised dollar for dollar.

With incredible support from Neil’s family and the wider Gladstone community, they raised \$600 for research. While

modest in size, the fundraiser carried a heartfelt message of love, support, and community spirit.

Supporting local has always been at the centre of what Chris and Daz do. They proudly use beans from 1770 Coffee Co, work alongside Little Bakehouse, and collaborate with other local businesses, including Tahni Griffiths from LJ Hooker Real Estate. They have also catered events with HFY Transport and Logistics and recently partnered with Gather and Grow Play Cafe as they continue expanding with their coffee van.

After moving to Gladstone with their five children in 2024, Chris and Daz hoped to build something special for the community. Through kindness, connection, and genuine local support, they are doing exactly that.



Wedding Season Starts at Kylisa Fashion

Book Your Personal Styling Session

Ever wish you had a personalised stylist to pick that perfect wedding guest outfit? Well now you do! Wedding season is here, and Kylisa Fashion is ready to help you find the perfect wedding guest outfit with our personalised styling sessions.

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- Flattering fits for every body
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OOM Energy South Gladstone

IS PROUD TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY

Powering more than homes and businesses, OOM Energy is helping power the future of the Gladstone community through its continued support of local schools. Recent donations made by OOM Energy are helping provide valuable resources and new opportunities for students across the Gladstone Region, creating positive outcomes that will benefit local families and the next generation for years to come.

OOM Energy is proud to give back to the community that supports them. Every household and business that chooses OOM Energy is also helping support initiatives that make a real difference locally. From classrooms to community programs, these contributions are helping students learn, grow, and thrive in an environment where they feel encouraged and supported.

The support for local schools reflects OOM Energy's strong belief that investing in young people helps build a stronger future for Gladstone. By reinvesting back into the region, OOM Energy is helping create meaningful opportunities for students while strengthening community connections and local pride.

This is a positive outcome for Gladstone and a reminder of what can be achieved when local businesses and the community work together. Support from companies like OOM Energy helps ensure schools have access to important resources while showing students that their community believes in them and their future.

As Gladstone continues to grow, partnerships like these play an important role in building a connected, supportive, and thriving community for everyone. It is wonderful to see local businesses supporting local students and helping create brighter futures across the entire Gladstone Region.



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Gladstone Region Unites



FOR DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE REMEMBRANCE DAY

The Coordinated Community Response to Domestic and Family Violence (CCRDFV) is a network of dedicated individuals working together to address the devastating impacts of domestic and family violence in the Gladstone Region. Their shared mission is to support a community where every person has the right to live a life free from abuse and fear.

The Domestic and Family Violence Remembrance Day brought the community together in a deeply meaningful and supportive way. It was a heartfelt occasion that honoured those who have been affected by domestic and family violence while also reinforcing a strong sense of unity and commitment to change. Representatives from local service providers, businesses, industry, government, council, emergency services, community and social groups, volunteers, and families gathered to pay their respects and stand together in solidarity. The atmosphere throughout the day reflected both reflection and collective strength.

The ceremony opened with a moving performance by bag-piper Ben, setting a respectful tone that resonated with all in

attendance. Followed by thoughtful speeches delivered by CCRDFV guests, Councillor Cameron, Inspector Everest, Chief Executive Officer Kate Veach, and Reverend Kardashian, connecting with the audience and highlighting the importance of continued awareness, support, and action.

A highlight of the event was the dedication of the volunteers, whose efforts ensured the ceremony ran smoothly and that all attendees felt welcomed and supported. Their contribution played a significant role in the success of the day.

The event was further enhanced by the generous support of Rio Tinto, which provided a coffee van on the day. This thoughtful gesture allowed attendees to enjoy a complimentary coffee, tea, or beverage from Deja Brew, adding warmth and comfort to the occasion.

CCRDFV extends sincere thanks to everyone who attended and contributed to making the Domestic and Family Violence Remembrance Day a respectful, successful, and deeply meaningful community event.



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Deep-Dish spiced apple pie

A DELIGHTFUL FUSION OF SWEET, TART, AND AROMATIC SPICES, THIS EASY DEEP-DISH APPLE PIE WILL WARM HEARTS.

PREP 45MIN - COOK FOR 45 MIN - SERVES 10

METHOD

1. Mix flour, hazelnut meal, and icing sugar. Add butter until crumbly. Add egg yolk + a little cold water until dough forms. Shape into 2 pieces (one bigger, one smaller). Chill 30 mins.
2. Cook apples, lemon juice, sugar, and cinnamon on low heat until soft. Boil briefly, then simmer 8–10 mins. Mix cornflour with water, stir in, then cool.
3. Heat oven to 180°C fan. Put the apple mix in a greased dish. Roll a big dough piece, cut strips, and make a lattice on top. Use the remaining dough for the edges. Brush with egg. Bake 25–30 mins until golden. Dust with icing sugar and serve with ice cream.

INGREDIENTS

- 1.50kg Granny Smith apples, peeled, sliced
- 1 lemon, juiced
- 3/4 cup caster sugar
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- 3 tsp corn flour
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 500g vanilla ice cream
- 1 1/2 cups plain flour, plus extra for dusting
- 1/4 cup Hazelnut meal
- 1/4 cup of icing sugar mixture, plus extra for dusting
- 100g unsalted butter, cold, chopped
- 1 egg yolk

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Photo from Ken Watson:
The Marina being built.



Here in History

By *Betty Laver*

THE GLADSTONE MARINA

With the ever-increasing emphasis on leisure boating in Gladstone, the authorities reclaimed the salt-flats west of the mouth of Auckland Creek in the 1970's.

It took over ten years for building of the first stage of the massive marina project in 1987. The buildings on the shores of the marina were soon let to shops restaurants and charter offices.

Much of the foreshores are set on acres of rolling lawns and well-planned natural gardens, becoming one of the most popular picnic spots for residents and an increasing number of tourists. The floating marina system utilise concrete encased styrene pontoons and allows generous mooring and manoeuvring space within each of the pens.

A main wharf was built on the Auckland Creek side of the marina pens, which added great potential for tourism to the region when the terminal for the Heron Island and other charter boats was built there. The land adjacent to Auckland Creek on the marina shores then became the setting for Gladstone Easter Festival with the outdoor stage area ideal for both day and night entertainment.

In 1990 the Port Authority initiated the construction of a Fisherman's Base Wharf. This was established on the western bank of the marina basin to service Gladstone's fishing and charter industry.



Ladies Long Table Lunch Charity Luncheon

THE ROTARY CLUB OF GLADSTONE INVITES YOU TO JOIN ONE
OF THE REGION'S MOST ANTICIPATED ANNUAL EVENTS
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Saturday 6th June 11am

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A Weekend of Thrills

AT MCCOSKER SPEEDWAY

NIGHT ONE

Home of the Gladstone Auto Club, McCosker Gladstone Speedway stands proudly as a world-class motorsport facility built for the Gladstone community and the future of speedway racing in Central Queensland. Located in Benaraby within the Motorsports complex, just 30 minutes south of Gladstone, the venue was developed by club member and Super Sedan enthusiast Bob McCosker, alongside the team at McCosker Contracting, dedicated volunteers, club members, and supportive local businesses who helped bring the vision to life.

The Harbour City Hustle delivered an unforgettable action-packed night for the first night of the speedway, with fast-paced racing, fierce competition, and incredible talent lighting up the track. The cool evening conditions created perfect racing traction, and every class delivered exciting battles from start to finish. The Late Models tore through the dirt with thrilling speed, the Junior Sedans proved the next generation of racers is in great hands, and the Nostalgias wowed the crowd with a spectacular display that kept fans entertained all night long.

In the Junior New Stars, Kye Arnold raced to victory ahead of Millie Butcher in second, while Jayda Peacock completed the podium in third after an impressive performance. The Junior Top Stars saw Lincoln Willis claim first place, with Lachie Bourke finishing second and Baxter Attard securing third. In the Nostalgias, Brodie Booth took the win ahead of Denis Booth,

while Craig Olive crossed the line in third. The Late Models capped off the night in spectacular fashion, with Jamie Oldfield taking first place ahead of Callum Harper in second and Joel Berkley in third.

NIGHT ONE

2 LACHIE BURKE

1 LINCOLN WILLIS

3 BAXTER ATTARD

RACE RESULTS

JUNIOR TOP STARS

NIGHT TWO

Night Two wrapped up spectacularly at McCosker Gladstone Speedway, with huge racing action and nail-biting moments keeping the crowd on the edge of their seats right to the chequered flag. The Formula 500s kicked off the night in style before attention turned to two of the biggest events of the weekend, the Sue Hawking Super Sedan Memorial and the Late Model Queensland Title.

The Formula 500s delivered exciting racing throughout the night, with Luke Schmidt claiming first place after a dominant performance. Anthony Gunnell crossed the line in second, while Sophie Swindells impressed to secure third place on the podium.

The Sue Hawking Super Sedan Memorial erupted into chaos from the opening lap, producing one of the wildest races Gladstone Speedway has seen in years. Joel Berkley was forced out early as car after car encountered trouble in a dramatic feature event packed with action and heartbreak. Rising above the carnage, Brad Pascoe delivered an outstanding drive to claim the Sue Hawking Memorial title for the second consecutive year. Zac Brims fought hard to finish second, while Todd Atkins secured third place after surviving the demanding contest.

As the Late Models rolled onto the track to battle for Queensland supremacy, fans were treated to a thrilling finale to the weekend. Jamie Oldfield proved unstoppable all night, dominating the field and backing up his pole position with a championship winning performance to secure the 2026 Queensland Title. Joel Berkley bounced back strongly to finish second, while Callum Harper rounded out the podium in third place after another consistent drive.

McCosker Gladstone Speedway proudly thanks all competitors, crews, sponsors, volunteers, and spectators for making the Harbour City Hustle an unforgettable weekend of speedway racing in Central Queensland.



Female Football Week

SHOWCASING GLADSTONE'S TALENT

This past weekend across the region, Soccer (Football) Clubs launched into celebrations for Female Football week. Every year in May, Australia celebrates across the nation the contribution of women and girls in football at all levels to foster growth, increase participation and highlight the role of women and girls as players, coaches and referees.

In recognition of Female Football Week, local clubs across the region have been celebrating the incredible women and girls involved in the game and sharing what football means to them.

Central Football Club Gladstone

Over the weekend, Central Football Club Gladstone shared on their Facebook page insights into some of their Female Football players to highlight their love of the sport,

Alliara Dowdle is a young, talented football player who is currently playing on Central's U15 FQPL team. Alliara has been playing her football with Central for 5 years after she

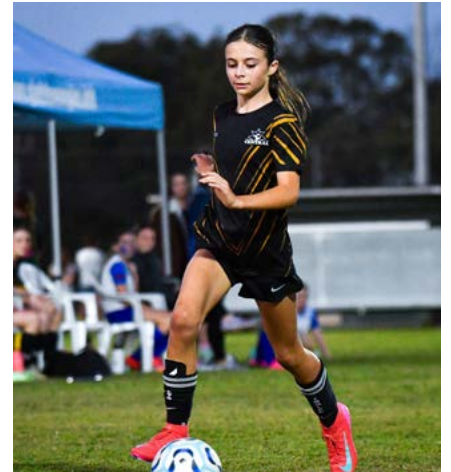


ALLIARA DOWDLE

started her journey at the age of 10. Alliara likes to play soccer because it makes her feel happy, strong and confident. Being a part of a team has become an important part of life, making friendships, and learning important skills like teamwork and

discipline. These lessons reflect Alliara's playing style, with her favourite position being Centreback, but she is always happy to have a run in any position. Alliara is a proud supporter of the Australian National Football Team, the Matildas and is inspired by her favourite Footballer, Mary Fowler.

Charlotte Nagy plays in the U12/U13 Central Lions team. Charlotte started playing Football at the age of 5 and has been developing her love for the sport with Central for the past 6 years. Over this time, Charlotte discovered that her favourite positions to play is Centre midfielder or striker. Charlotte loves



CHARLOTTE NAGY

the opportunities she has been given to travel and play in carnivals and teams all over Queensland. Because of the opportunities provided for her, Charlotte and her team got the chance to play in the Girls United Cup in the Sunshine Coast where they took home the Silver Cup! Charlotte regards this as one of her favourite football moments.



Clinton Football Club

With Clinton having home games over the weekend, it was the perfect opportunity for the Club to shine the spotlight on their proud support for Female Football. Here is what some of their club members had to say about Female Football week.



Ella Pailthorpe is part of Clinton's all girls U10/U11 Cosmic team. Ella started her football journey playing in the local Summer 6's six aside competition and discovered a new love for Football influencing her to join Clinton for the season.

Ella says that she continues to be inspired to play soccer by watching the senior ladies at her club. "It means a lot to me seeing the girls play and makes me think of yeah, this is something we can all do" Ella tells Gladstone News. Ella loves having the opportunity to play in an all girls team and all the motivation she sees within her team. Ella says that having a whole week dedicated to Female in Football makes her feel very special.



ELLA PAILTHORPE

Sam Chynoweth is one of the senior players who plays her Football on the Local Ladies Community Clinton team. Sam started her Football journey at the age of 14, surrounded by other senior women who inspired her during her time. Now, as a senior player herself, Sam is proud

to now be a Role Model for the next generation of young girls playing for Clinton. Sam believes that Female Football week is important for our community to pull the focus on women and girls and acknowledge their skills, talents and efforts "As a senior female player, it is important to see growth in Female Football".



SAM CHYNOWETH

Biloela Football Club

The Biloela Ladies made the trip to Gladstone for their Round 7 clash against the Clinton Ladies in the local Gladstone Ladies competition, taking the opportunity during their away game weekend to share why Female Football Week and the sport itself are so important to them.

Britney Staines, Melissa Kummeroy and Kamryn Johnston are part of the Biloela Ladies team that

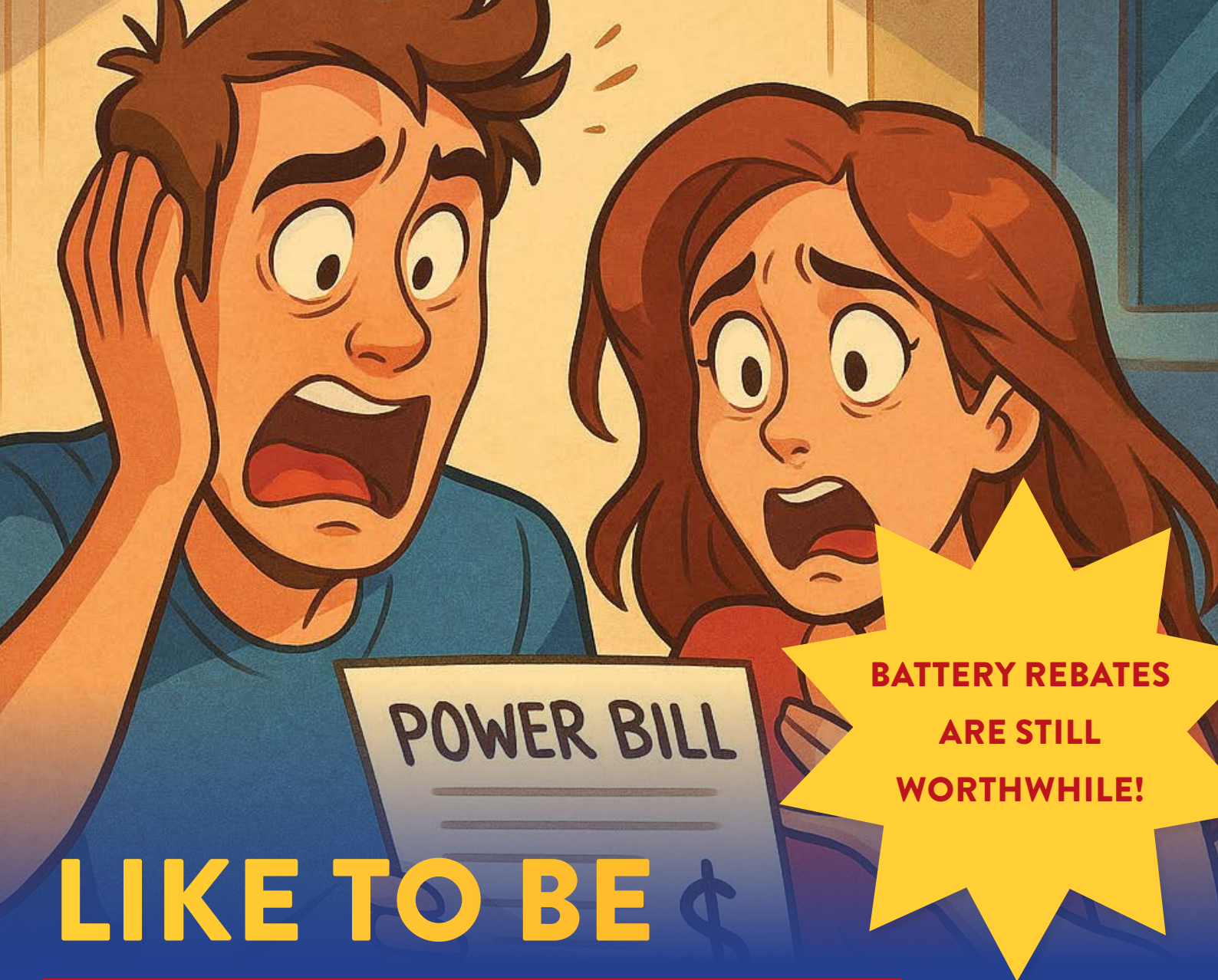


travelled to Gladstone for the away game this past weekend. They could all agree that Female Football week is an important event for their community to get the sport out there to encourage and promote young girls and women in the sport. Britney says "The support we have from the community is important for us because without their support our club would not have any resources". Melissa has noticed a growth of Female Football within the Gladstone Community over the last few years, but would like to see similar growth for Biloela. The Biloela Ladies team spend most of their weekends travelling to games in Gladstone and love a good rivalry. Kamryn says that she loves the fiery rivalry they face with the Calliope Ladies team, and that even after a spicy game, they can all still have a giggle.

A Coaches perspective:

Paul Lester is the coach for The Gladstone Clinton Ladies team, and was eager to talk about the impact of Female Football week and the importance it brings for this community. Paul states "It's the best coaching an all women's team. They are very supportive of one another and make it very easy for me. It's great to see women out there having a go & supporting each other.

It's clear that the message from players, supporters and coaches is that Female Football within the Gladstone community has fostered a culture and environment where women and girls can create friendships, connections and a love of soccer.



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