

TAKE ME, I'M FREE!

ISSUE 333  
25th June 2026

# gn

GLADSTONE NEWS

# CQ GARAGE

DOORS & MORE



# CQ Garage Doors & More

FIVE YEARS OF OPENING DOORS IN OUR COMMUNITY

GLADSTONE NEWS IS FREE THANKS TO OUR ADVERTISERS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS





Ashleigh | Editor-in-chief



WANT TO ADVERTISE  
IN GLADSTONE NEWS?

Contact Bec at  
sales@gladstonenews.com.au

HAVE A FEEL-GOOD  
STORY TO TELL?

Contact the team at  
news@gladstonenews.com.au



Call us on 07 4972 7648

## WHAT'S IN THIS *issue*

03  
What's on in Gladstone

04  
CQ Garage Doors & More: Five years of opening doors in our community



06  
Birthing services strengthened as women and family centre reaches milestone

08  
\$2.4 billion boost in Urea production

10  
Shovels in the ground for Boyne Tannum Aquatic Centre

11  
Young local talent shines through Turtleway Artscape project

12  
Battery project could deliver long term benefits for Gladstone Region

13  
A welcome return for the family favourite Red Rooster

14  
Gladstone's Alpha HPA draws international demand from AI and battery sectors

16  
Record \$330.5 million investment

17  
Gladstone Aluminium: *Inside Operations*

26  
Gymnasts earn Queensland honours for 2026

27  
Gladstone locals rallies behind ride for rare ovarian cancer research

## FISH OF THE MONTH WINNER

**Congratulations Hannah Profke on catching a Tuskfish!**

Please contact Gladstone News to arrange collection of your \$100 voucher.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Some Tuskfish are known to use tools. They can carry hard-shelled molluscs and slam them against rocks to break them open.



Name: Hannah Profke  
Fish Species: Tuskfish  
Location: Gladstone Harbour



**26**  
JUNE

## *Santa Ana Rodeo*

This vibrant group has been electrifying audiences and lighting up stages from house parties to sold out venues, building a loyal following across the Denver-Boulder Area, and now across Australia.

Guest Food Truck on the night is Low & Slow Legend - Hughesey Que

**When:** Friday 26th June at 5 pm

**Where:** Wards Brewery

**Price:** \$10



**27**  
JUNE

## *Cuppa and cupcakes – mini class*

Catch up with your bestie over a cup of coffee and learn how to decorate these fabulous cacti cupcakes, made with yummy buttercream. A fun and relaxing way to soak up some creativity and good company.

**When:** Saturday 27th June at 9:30 am

**Where:** Blue Mirror Café

**Price:** \$59 tickets



**27**  
JUNE

## *School holidays, painting fun, and donuts*

Looking for the perfect creative activity? Join Junction Cafe for an unforgettable day of art where your children can unleash their inner artist. Each ticket includes one kids' drink.

**When:** Saturday 27th June at 10 am

**Where:** Junction Café

**Price:** \$45 per ticket

**CQ**  
*Wedding Expo*

*You're 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**

**Vendor applications are open**

Enquire at [cqweddingexpo@outlook.com](mailto:cqweddingexpo@outlook.com) or scan the QR code.



# CQ Garage Doors & More

FIVE YEARS OF OPENING DOORS IN OUR COMMUNITY

## A local story built on quality, reliability, and doing things the right way.

Five years ago, CQ Garage Doors & More started with a simple vision — to provide customers throughout our region with quality garage door products, reliable service, and a team who genuinely cares about the outcome.

Since then, we have grown from a small local business into a trusted name across residential, commercial, industrial, and mining projects throughout the region.

While our capabilities have continued to expand, our focus has remained the same, understanding what each customer requires and providing the correct products, service, and workmanship to deliver a result they can rely on.

## A Journey Built Through Hard Work

Building a business is about more than the work you complete. It is about the trust you earn and the relationships you build along the way.

Over the past five years, CQ Garage Doors & More has grown through the support of our customers, the dedication of our team, and the commitment to always provide a service we can stand behind.

Every project has contributed to our journey. From our early days working with local homeowners, to the continued growth of our commercial and industrial work, we are proud of the reputation we have built within our community.

We are grateful for the customers who have supported us, the businesses who continue to trust our team, and the word of mouth recommendations that have helped us grow into the company we are today.

## Supporting Homes, Businesses & Industry

Today, CQ Garage Doors & More works across a wide range of projects, from residential homes through to large scale industrial sites.

For homeowners, we help improve the security, appearance, and functionality of their properties and for commercial customers, we provide reliable roller doors and systems designed around the needs of their business to keep their day to day operations running smoothly.

A significant part of our work is supporting industrial and mining operations throughout our region. These environments demand a high level of experience, planning, and a strict approach to site safety, with every project carried out under clear procedures and careful coordination.

Our industrial work includes the supply and installation of large scale roller doors, industrial shutters, electric gates, servicing, and customised solutions for commercial and industrial facilities.

Working within these sites has reinforced a strong safety first culture across all operations, from pre-start planning and risk awareness through to on-site communication and safe installation practices. Every job is delivered with a focus on protecting people, property, and ensuring compliance with site requirements at all times.



## The People Behind CQ Garage Doors & More

Behind every installation, service call, and project completed is the dedication of the people who represent CQ Garage Doors & More every day.

Our growth over the past five years would not have been possible without the commitment, effort, and pride our team bring to their work.

The strength of our business comes from having a team that shares the same values - taking pride in the details, looking after our customers, and always striving to deliver a result we can be proud of. From residential installations through to large-scale commercial and industrial projects, the experience and knowledge within our business allows us to continue providing the level of service our customers have come to expect.

We are incredibly grateful for the people behind CQ Garage Doors & More and the important role they play in helping us continue to grow.

## Looking Ahead

Five years in business is a milestone we are incredibly proud of, but we see it as the beginning of the next chapter. We are grateful for every customer who has trusted us with their homes, businesses, and projects. We appreciate every referral, recommendation, and opportunity to be part of our local community.

While our products and capabilities continue to grow, our values remain unchanged. We are still the same local business built on reliability, quality workmanship, and doing the job the right way.

**We sincerely thank our local community for their support. We look forward to continuing to serve the region for many years to come.**

## Introducing Custom Garage Doors

As we celebrate five years in business, we are also excited to introduce a new premium option for homeowners looking to elevate the design of their property.

CQ Garage Doors & More now supplies and installs custom garage doors — combining modern architectural design with the strength and low-maintenance benefits of aluminium, finished in a premium timber look aesthetic.

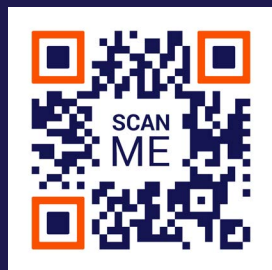
These custom doors allow homeowners to create a standout feature that complements the overall design of their home, without the ongoing maintenance associated with traditional timber.

As home design continues to evolve, garage doors are no longer just functional — they are a major part of a property's street appeal. The custom door range allows us to deliver a product that meets both design expectations and long term performance.



## We're just getting started...

Call us today or visit our showroom and let's create a solution that will add value, security, and street appeal to your property.



• 0415 532 336 • Shop 1/28 Tank Street



# Birthing services strengthened

## AS WOMEN AND FAMILY CENTRE REACHES MILESTONE

Families across Gladstone are set to benefit from a major boost to local healthcare, with the new Women and Family Centre at Gladstone Hospital reaching practical completion and expected to welcome patients within weeks.

The purpose-built facility represents an investment of more than \$16 million and marks an important milestone in the ongoing transformation of health services across the region. Designed with women, babies and children at its heart, the centre will provide modern, family focused maternity, neonatal and paediatric care closer to home.

For local families, the completion of the centre is more than just a new building. It is a significant step forward in ensuring access to contemporary healthcare facilities that support families through some of life's most important moments. The new Women and Family Centre features thirteen private maternity rooms with ensuites, two dedicated birthing rooms, two early labour and induction suites, a dedicated nursery for newborn care and eight private ensuite rooms for paediatric patients. Every aspect of the facility has been designed to enhance comfort, privacy and dignity for patients while supporting clinicians to deliver high quality care in a modern healthcare environment.

Health and Ambulance Services Minister Tim Nicholls said the centre would provide a more comfortable and supportive experience for women and families in the Gladstone region.

“

This purpose-built facility will provide greater privacy, comfort and dignity for women, babies and children, while supporting clinicians to deliver high quality care in a modern environment,

”

Mr Nicholls said.

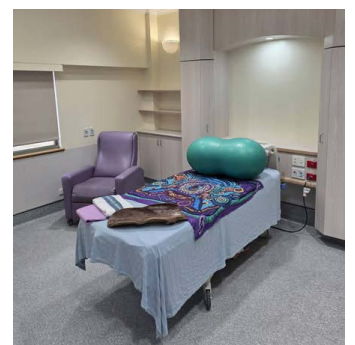
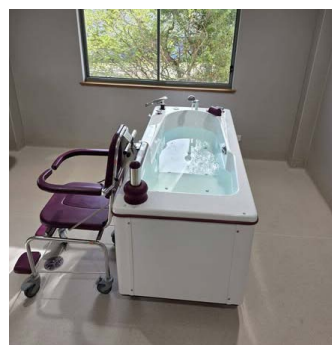
The completion of the Women and Family Centre is part of broader efforts to strengthen healthcare services across Gladstone. Alongside the new facility, the Government has already delivered a new transit lounge, expanded hours at the local walk in clinic and committed to a modular hospital expansion that will add 51 beds and treatment spaces by 2027. Together, these projects form part of a long term vision to ensure the Gladstone community has access to the healthcare infrastructure needed now and into the future.



Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service Chief Executive Lisa Blackler said the centre would support the region's dedicated maternity and paediatric teams to provide an even better experience for patients and families. "As a nurse and qualified midwife, I am passionate about ensuring our birthing spaces support privacy, comfort and family connection during such an important time," Ms Blackler said. Her comments reflect the strong focus on creating welcoming spaces where families can feel supported during pregnancy, childbirth and childhood healthcare journeys.

The completion of the Women and Family Centre comes at a time when communities across regional Queensland are seeking greater access to healthcare services closer to home. For Gladstone families, the new facility represents confidence in the future and recognition of the region's growing healthcare needs.

As preparations begin for the centre to open its doors, there is a strong sense of optimism about what it will mean for local women, children and families. From welcoming newborns into the world to providing specialised care for young patients, the facility has been designed to support families through every stage of their healthcare journey. With modern facilities, dedicated healthcare professionals and a commitment to delivering quality care locally, the Women and Family Centre signals a positive new chapter for healthcare in Gladstone and an investment that will benefit the community for many years to come.





Local dancers from Adagio School of Dance perform at last year's Luminous. The group will return this year with their roving performances.

## Currents of Connection to flow as Gardens set to glow for Luminous

Feel the warm glow of lights on cold winter nights as Luminous returns to the Gladstone Tondoon Botanic Gardens across four magical nights from 16-19 July.

Luminous is a multi-award-winning light and art spectacular transforming the Gardens into a kaleidoscope of colour featuring interactive light displays, live entertainment, roving performances, creative workshops, food vendors and exciting activities for kids including a scavenger hunt.

This year's Luminous theme is *Currents of Connection*, celebrating the Sister City relationship with Japan's Saiki City that has flowed since 1996.

Expect to see this theme weave its way through the four nights of Luminous.

Another exciting feature this year is the introduction of \$18 multi-night passes to provide better value and flexibility for Luminous lovers.

And to ensure that every Luminous lover has the best possible experience, Gladstone

Region Mayor Matt Burnett said that attendance will be capped at 6000 people per night.

"We know long lines to Luminous can be a turnoff, so that's why we're reducing nightly crowd sizes and spreading the event across an extra night to reduce congestion in order to make it as enjoyable as possible," Mayor Burnett said.

"A key new feature for this year's Luminous will be the commissioned front gate artwork by local artist Chanise Grealy, designed around this year's theme celebrating the 30-year Sister City relationship between Gladstone and Japan's Saiki City.

"All of this is on top of the more than 20,000 lights already on display within 11 activation areas to create an immersive experience throughout Tondoon."

Tickets are \$6 per person, kids under five are free. Visit [www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/luminous](http://www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/luminous) for more information.

## New location for National Tree Day

This year's National Tree Day is on the move and will now be held at Curlew Park, Tannum Sands and not at Webb Park, West Gladstone as previously advertised.

The decision was made due to ongoing rectification works at Webb Park.

There are two National Tree Day planting events taking place in the Gladstone Region - a Schools Tree Day on Friday 24 July (registrations via National Tree Day website) and the official National Tree Day on Sunday 26 July - allowing people of all ages to make a difference to our local environment.

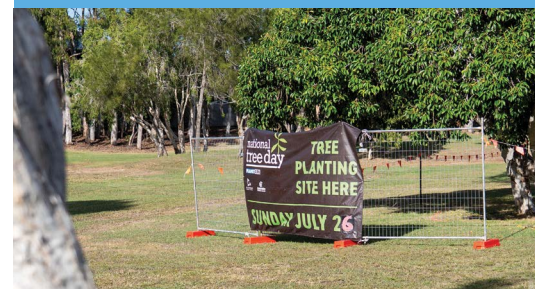
Registrations for the official community planting event on 26 July are open until 17 July and can be made via Council's Conversations website.

Gladstone Region Councillor Karen Davis said 350 plants will be planted throughout the morning of National Tree Day.

"Planting times will be staggered between 7.30-11am, and once participants have planted their trees, the team at Conservation Volunteers Australia will be on hand with a free sausage sizzle," Cr Davis said.

"National Tree Day is always an enjoyable and fun morning, and a great activity to connect with family, friends and the wider community."

Visit [conversations.gladstone.qld.gov.au/national-tree-day-2026](http://conversations.gladstone.qld.gov.au/national-tree-day-2026) for more information and to register.



This year's National Tree Day has moved to Curlew Park, Tannum Sands.

# Your Song

THE MUSIC YOU KNOW. THE STORIES YOU DON'T.

## The best of Elton John

7.30PM  
SATURDAY  
25 JULY

BOOK NOW 4972 2822  
[WWW.GLADSTONEENTERTAINMENT.COM](http://WWW.GLADSTONEENTERTAINMENT.COM)



This project is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland



4970 0700 | [www.gladstone.qld.gov.au](http://www.gladstone.qld.gov.au)



# \$2.4 Billion Boost in Urea Production

## PROPOSED FOR GLADSTONE

Gladstone has long been recognised as one of Australia's industrial powerhouses, but a major new milestone announced by Australian Fertilizer Corporation (AFC) reinforces the region's growing importance to the nation's economic future. The company's offtake agreement of more than \$2.4 billion for urea to be produced at its proposed \$450 million Gladstone facility is a significant vote of confidence in both the project and the region itself. The agreements cover 100 percent of the plant's planned annual production of 220,000 metric tonnes of technical grade urea for an initial ten year period, with options to extend for another decade.

For Gladstone, this is more than just another industrial development. It represents the creation of a new manufacturing industry that could potentially bring jobs, investment, innovation and long term economic security to the region. The project is expected to create around 800 jobs during the construction phase, providing opportunities for local workers, contractors, and businesses. Once operational, the facility will support around 50 permanent jobs, adding to Gladstone's skilled workforce and helping strengthen the local economy for years to come.

Just as importantly, the project has the potential to deliver a significant flow of benefits throughout the wider community. Increased demand for local services, accommodation, transport, and support industries will create additional economic activity that extends well beyond the plant's gates. AFC Chief Executive Officer Stein C. Haugan described the agreements as a major commercial milestone and highlighted the strong demand for Australian made technical grade urea.

Australia currently relies heavily on imported urea, an essential product for agriculture and vehicle emissions reduction technologies. By producing urea domestically, Gladstone could play a critical role in improving supply chain resilience and reducing Australia's dependence on overseas suppliers. That matters not only for industry but also for farmers across the country. Fertiliser is a critical component of agricultural production, and a reliable domestic supply helps strengthen food security while reducing exposure to global market disruptions. Another aspect that makes this project particularly exciting is its innovative approach to production.

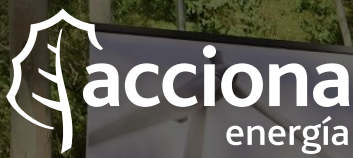


AFC plans to transform underutilised carbon resources, including mining by products, end of life tyres, biomass, and municipal materials, into fertiliser products. This represents a modern approach to manufacturing that seeks to create value from materials that might otherwise be discarded or underused.

For a region like Gladstone, which has built its reputation on industry, resources and innovation, the project fits naturally within the community's strengths. It also demonstrates how traditional industrial centres can evolve and adapt to changing economic and environmental expectations.

Securing long term sales agreements before construction is completed provides a strong commercial foundation and sends a clear message to investors, governments and industry stakeholders that there is genuine demand for what could be produced for Gladstone. While there are still important steps ahead before the project reaches full operation, this announcement marks a major step forward. It highlights the confidence that major industry players have in Gladstone and its ability to support large scale manufacturing projects.

In summary, for the region, the AFC development represents jobs, growth, investment and opportunity. It strengthens the regions position as a key industrial hub, supports Australia's manufacturing ambitions and contributes to the nation's food security. Most importantly, it demonstrates that Gladstone continues to attract projects capable of delivering lasting benefits for both the local community and the broader Australian economy.



# ACCIONA AT ECOFEST

## ACCIONA ENERGÍA BRINGS CIRCULAR INNOVATION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTION TO GLADSTONE ECO FESTIVAL

**ACCIONA Energía returned to the Gladstone ECO Festival this month, marking its second consecutive year as a proud sponsor of the annual sustainability event. The festival brought together residents, local organisations and environmental advocates from across the Central Queensland region, and provided ACCIONA Energía with a valuable opportunity to connect directly with the community that surrounds its landmark Aldoga Solar Farm project.**

A highlight of this year's presence was the showcase of the Bolero x ACCIONA Turbine Made surf fins — the world's first commercially available surfboard fins made entirely from recycled wind turbine blade material. It represents the latest milestone in ACCIONA Energía's Turbine Made initiative, which explores innovative end-of-life pathways for decommissioned turbine blades materials. Showcasing the fins at ECO Festival gave the Gladstone community a tangible, hands-on demonstration of how the circular economy is already taking shape in their own backyard.

The team also took the opportunity to update the community on the Aldoga Solar Farm, including sharing details of this year's community benefit recipients. The 380MW project — located 20 kilometres north-west of Gladstone on the central Queensland coast — is one of ACCIONA Energía's most significant investments in Australia, with a commitment to delivering lasting social and economic value to the communities that host it.

*“Being at ECO Festival for the third year running is a reflection of how seriously we take our relationship with the Gladstone community. Conversations at events like this are invaluable — they remind us why community engagement is central to everything we do, not just something we report on.”* Renee Mooney, Community Team, ACCIONA Energía Australia.

The day was an opportunity to bring sustainability to life in a way that goes beyond statistics and project updates. Whether it was fielding questions about the Turbine Made fins, explaining the scope of the Aldoga Solar Farm, or listening to what matters most to local people, the ACCIONA Energía team found the festival to be exactly the kind of open, community-minded space where these conversations thrive.

*“Showing people the Bolero x ACCIONA fins in person is such a powerful way to communicate what the circular economy actually looks like. It's one thing to talk about recycling turbine blades — it's another to hand someone a high-performance surf fin made from one.”* Hien Pham, Brand & Marketing Team, ACCIONA Energía Australia

ACCIONA Energía remains committed to its long-term presence in Gladstone as construction and operations at the Aldoga Solar Farm continue. The company looks forward to continuing its sponsorship of the ECO Festival and to deepening its engagement with the community in the years ahead.

# Shovels in the Ground

## FOR BOYNE TANNUM AQUATIC CENTRE

Work has officially begun on the long awaited Boyne Tannum Aquatic Centre, marking an exciting new chapter for the Boyne Tannum community and the wider Gladstone Region. The start of construction represents a major milestone for a project that has enjoyed strong community support for many years. Once completed, the state of the art facility will provide a fantastic recreational and sporting hub for local families, schools, community groups and visitors.

The new centre will feature an eight lane, 50 metre outdoor heated pool, complete with a retractable shade sail at the shallow end. Accessible change rooms, a kiosk, barbecues, picnic shelters and a locally themed children's play area will create a welcoming space for people of all ages and abilities to enjoy.

Importantly, the project has been designed with accessibility at its heart. Wheelchair friendly pathways, inclusive playground surfaces and modified picnic facilities will ensure everyone can make the most of this outstanding community asset. Funded through a partnership between the Australian Government and Gladstone Regional Council, with each contributing \$15 million, the Boyne Tannum Aquatic Centre represents a significant investment in the health, well-being, and future of the region. Construction will be undertaken by Paynter's Pty Ltd and is expected to be completed by mid 2027, weather and site conditions permitting.



Beyond the aquatic facilities themselves, the project will also deliver improved pedestrian connections and public transport access, making it easier and safer for residents to enjoy the precinct. While construction activity will be visible over the coming months, including earthworks, machinery and increased site traffic, the result promises to be well worth the wait. As work gets underway, there is a real sense of anticipation across the community.

Beyond the construction activity, the project represents an investment in the people who call Boyne Island and Tannum Sands home. Once completed, the facility will provide a modern space for recreation, fitness, swimming lessons, sporting events and community gatherings, creating opportunities for residents of all ages to stay active and connected. The centre is expected to become a popular destination for families and visitors alike, adding to the area's appeal as a vibrant coastal community.



For many locals, seeing work finally begin is a welcome sign that a long-anticipated community asset is becoming a reality. The Boyne Tannum Aquatic Centre is set to become a legacy for future generations and a place where memories, friendships and healthy lifestyles can flourish for decades to come.



## The ReUse Sheds

### Gladstone Region Tip Shops

Glad to refresh!  
New to the region!

Follow The ReUse Sheds Facebook Page for great reuse finds, Waste Wise Wednesday tips and service updates.



# Young Local Talent Shines

## THROUGH TURTLEWAY ARTSCAPE PROJECT

Community spirit and creativity were on full display at Boyne Island Skatepark recently as the Boyne Tannum Turtleway Artscape Project officially unveiled its newest community art bench. The colourful addition to the popular skatepark was celebrated on Saturday, 13 June, bringing together local residents, councillors, school representatives and project supporters for a morning that highlighted the power of community partnerships and local talent.

The winning artwork was created by nine-year-old St. Francis Catholic School student Noah Robinson, whose design was selected through the Skatepark Art Competition. Noah's vibrant artwork features a sneaker wearing magpie and a kangaroo sporting Crocs, inspired by his friends and the local wildlife that call the skatepark home. The bright and playful design perfectly captures the energy and fun experienced by the many young people who use the facility each day. For Noah, art has been a passion since early childhood. His impressive record already includes eight regional art competition wins, including three consecutive victories in the Paint the Port competition. His latest achievement demonstrates the remarkable talent emerging from our local community.



The new skatepark bench marks the seventh community art bench installed through the Boyne Tannum Turtleway Artscape Project, a volunteer driven initiative that continues to enhance public spaces across Boyne Island and Tannum Sands. The project brings together local artists, community groups and industry partners to create lasting works that reflect the character and identity of the region. Projects such as this remind us that community pride is built through collaboration. Thanks to the support of Gladstone Regional Council, Councillor Leanne Patrick, funding partners, the Boyne Tannum Men's Shed and dedicated volunteers, a lasting community asset has been created for residents to enjoy for years to come.

## job alert.

ELEVATE MEDIA IS LOOKING FOR A **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER** TO JOIN THE ELEVATE MEDIA AND GLADSTONE NEWS TEAM.

A RARE AND EXCITING OPPORTUNITY IS AVAILABLE FOR AN EXPERIENCED **BDM** FOR A 7+ MONTH MATERNITY COVER POSITION.

If you're looking to take the next step in your career please submit your resume and cover letter outlining your experience and suitability for the role to **Ashleigh Kvitko** at [ashleigh@elevate.net.au](mailto:ashleigh@elevate.net.au)

**ELEVATE**  
MEDIA

This is a dynamic position focused on team leadership, business growth, client relationship management, customer service excellence, and strategic marketing solutions. Reporting to the CEO, the successful candidate will play a key role in managing client accounts, supporting internal teams, driving revenue opportunities, and maintaining strong community and business relationships throughout the Gladstone region.

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Lead and support day to day team operations across both businesses
- Build and maintain strong relationships with new and existing clients
- Identify and secure new business opportunities and partnerships
- Manage client campaigns from concept through to delivery
- Deliver exceptional customer service and communication
- Coordinate with creative, marketing, and sales teams to achieve client outcomes
- Prepare proposals, presentations, and marketing recommendations
- Assist in strategic planning, business growth initiatives, and sales targets
- Maintain a professional and positive presence within the local business community
- Oversee client satisfaction, retention, and ongoing account management
- Support advertising, marketing, and promotional campaigns across digital and print platforms

Experience in business development, client management, customer service, team leadership, and marketing is essential for success in this role.



# Battery Project Could Deliver

## LONG TERM BENEFITS FOR GLADSTONE REGION

A proposed large scale battery energy storage project west of Gladstone is moving through the planning process, with developers arguing it could provide economic opportunities for local communities while supporting Queensland's growing renewable energy network. The proposed East End Battery Energy Storage System, planned for rural land near East End and south of Mount Larcom, would have a capacity of 500 megawatts and 2,000 megawatt hours, making it one of the larger battery projects proposed for the region. While batteries do not always attract the same attention as major industrial developments, projects like this are becoming an increasingly important part of Australia's energy future. As more renewable energy enters the electricity grid, large scale batteries are needed to store power when supply is high and release it when demand increases.

For Gladstone, the project represents another sign that the region is becoming a key player in Queensland's energy transition. The battery would be located about 25 kilometres west of Gladstone on land currently used for cattle grazing. Although the overall property covers more than 2,000 hectares, the actual battery facility and associated infrastructure would occupy a relatively small footprint.

According to the project's Social Impact Assessment, community consultation has already involved dozens of interactions with landowners, neighbours, community groups, businesses, emergency services, First Nations representatives and local government. That engagement process is important. While major projects can bring economic benefits, they also need to address community concerns around traffic, construction impacts, workforce accommodation and changes to local amenity. The assessment identified nine potential social impacts associated with the project, but importantly found that none were expected to remain at a major level once mitigation measures are implemented.

Construction is expected to begin in late 2027 and could take around 18 months to complete. During that period, there will be opportunities for local businesses to provide goods, services and contractor support. Communities such

as Mount Larcom, East End, Bracewell, Calliope and Gladstone itself are all expected to play a role in supporting the project through accommodation, employment and local supply chains.

The long term employment numbers are modest compared with some major industrial developments, with between six and 10 ongoing direct and indirect jobs expected during operations. However, the broader economic value lies in the construction activity and the contribution the project could make to strengthening the region's energy infrastructure.

Gladstone has already established itself as one of Queensland's most important industrial centres. In recent years, the region has also emerged as a focal point for renewable energy, hydrogen, battery materials and advanced manufacturing projects. The East End Battery Energy Storage System fits into that broader picture. It is another example of investment flowing into infrastructure designed to support a lower emissions economy while building on Gladstone's existing strengths in energy and industry.

The project is still subject to approvals and further planning processes, but the message is clear. Investors continue to see Gladstone as a strategic location for major energy projects. For local residents, the significance extends beyond the battery itself. Every new project contributes to the region's reputation as a destination for investment, innovation and long term industry growth.

Whether it is hydrogen, advanced manufacturing, renewable energy generation or large scale energy storage, Gladstone is increasingly finding itself at the centre of conversations about Australia's energy future. If projects such as East End proceed responsibly and deliver meaningful local benefits, they could help ensure the region remains an economic powerhouse for decades to come. If delivered successfully, the East End Battery Energy Storage System could become another important piece in the region's evolving industrial and energy mix, reinforcing Gladstone's role as a key contributor to Queensland's long term economic and energy future.

# A Welcome Return



## FOR THE FAMILY FAVOURITE RED ROOSTER

The reopening of Gladstone's Red Rooster is more than the return of a popular restaurant. It is the continuation of a remarkable family story that has been part of our community for decades. For many Gladstone residents, Red Rooster has been a familiar presence, providing first jobs, lifelong friendships and countless family meals. Behind the counter has always been a family deeply committed to the people they employ and the community they serve.

The Larsen and Thomson families have been part of the business since the Big Rooster days, with generations working together to build a workplace based on respect, opportunity and support. From Rob and Shirlee Larsen to Juanita and Dwayne Thomson, and now the next generation of daughters helping relaunch the business, Red Rooster Gladstone has truly been a family affair.

The devastating fire in 2023 could easily have marked the end of that journey. Instead, it became a test of resilience. The lengthy rebuilding process brought disappointment, uncertainty and repeated delays, yet the family remained focused on returning to the community they love. Their determination was driven by more than a business. It was driven by the culture they had built with their team and the relationships formed over many years. The fact that former staff members are returning to help train new employees speaks volumes about the positive impact the business has had on people's lives.





From Rob and Shirlee Larsen's early days running Big Rooster in Blackwater through to the transition into Red Rooster and expansion into regional towns and cities, the business has always been shaped by family commitment and hard work. That tradition has continued through Juanita and Dwayne taking ownership of the Gladstone and Boyne Island stores, balancing the demands of running a business with raising their children and staying closely involved in community life.

Now, with their daughters stepping into the business alongside long serving family members and returning staff, there is a clear sense that the next generation is already taking shape. It is a reminder that this reopening is not just about restoring a restaurant, but about continuing a family story that has been closely connected to Gladstone for decades. As the doors will soon reopen, Gladstone is welcoming back not only a restaurant but also an important local employer and community supporter. A new generation of staff will now be able to gain valuable skills, confidence, and friendships in the same way so many others have before them. The excitement surrounding the reopening shows just how much this business means to the community.



- ✓ **Take our online survey** to help Rio Tinto understand what matters most to you and your community.
- ✓ **Confidential** - surveys are delivered by Voconiq and your personal details are not disclosed to anyone.
- ✓ Vote for a local community group to claim a portion of the **\$5,000 in total donations**.

For more info:

 [voconiqlocalvoices.com/riotinto/gladstone](https://voconiqlocalvoices.com/riotinto/gladstone)  
 [fb.com/LocalVoicesGladstone](https://fb.com/LocalVoicesGladstone)

Scan the code to take the survey now:



**RioTinto**  
Gladstone Aluminium | Yarwun Refinery  
Boyne Smelters Limited  
Queensland Alumina Limited

# Gladstone's Alpha HPA Draws

## INTERNATIONAL DEMAND FROM AI AND BATTERY SECTORS

Alpha HPA's rapid rise is putting Gladstone further on the map as a hub for advanced manufacturing, with the company saying global demand for its high purity aluminium materials is now running ahead of what it can produce at its planned local facility.

The Australian chemical manufacturer, Alpha HPA, is building what it describes as the world's largest single site facility for high purity aluminium materials in Gladstone. While Gladstone is best known for its heavy industry, ports and traditional resource sector, this project is increasingly positioning the city inside the supply chains of artificial intelligence, semiconductors and electric vehicle batteries.



The company has confirmed it now holds Letters of Intent covering more than 12,000 tonnes of annual product demand, which is higher than the Stage Two facility's planned production capacity of 10,430 tonnes per year. In practical terms, that means global customers are already signalling more demand than the Gladstone plant is designed to supply at its next stage of expansion. For Gladstone residents, the significance of this announcement extends beyond production figures and international agreements. It highlights the city's growing role in industries expected to drive global economic growth for decades to come. As demand for artificial intelligence infrastructure, advanced semiconductors and battery technologies continues to rise, Gladstone is increasingly positioning itself as a manufacturing centre for the materials that make those technologies possible.

Managing director Rob Williamson said the demand surge is being driven by the global build out of artificial intelligence infrastructure. He said that as AI systems become more powerful, the semiconductors that run them generate more heat,

which increases the need for materials that can manage that heat efficiently and reliably. He said Alpha HPA's products are being used in applications such as semiconductor thermal management and advanced chip packaging. These are not end consumer products, but critical inputs that sit deep in global technology supply chains, meaning decisions made in Gladstone can ultimately influence performance in data centres and high performance computing systems around the world.

One of the recent commitments includes a South Korean semiconductor supply chain customer seeking up to 300 tonnes per year of high purity alumina products used in thermal fillers. These materials help draw heat away from advanced chips used in AI servers, a growing industry as global demand for computing power accelerates.

Another agreement involves up to 180 tonnes per year of high purity alumina hydrate for catalyst applications, while a third covers up to 5,000 tonnes annually of high purity aluminium products used in lithium ion batteries. Together, these deals highlight how Gladstone is becoming linked not just to one industry, but to several fast growing global technology sectors at once.

Alpha HPA says its purification process allows it to produce some of the lowest alpha radiation materials globally, a capability that is becoming more important as semiconductor designs become smaller and more complex.

At present, the company is producing commercial quantities of material at its Stage One facility in Gladstone, while construction continues on the much larger Stage Two expansion, which is expected to be completed late next year. For local workers and suppliers, this means the site is already operational while still in a major growth phase.

Beyond semiconductors, Alpha HPA is also supplying materials into battery technology, direct lithium extraction, ceramics, synthetic sapphire glass, catalysts and pharmaceutical applications. The company says its process also results in lower carbon emissions compared to conventional production methods, adding another layer to its relevance in global clean energy supply chains.

With demand commitments now exceeding planned capacity, Alpha HPA says it is continuing to explore further expansion opportunities beyond its current program. For Gladstone, it is another sign that the city's industrial base is evolving, with advanced materials manufacturing now sitting alongside its traditional strengths.



Catholic Education  
Diocese of Rockhampton

# Seeking Graduate and Experienced Teachers for 2027

APPLICATIONS  
CLOSE  
10 JULY 2026



**APPLY  
NOW**

[rok.catholic.edu.au](http://rok.catholic.edu.au)



# Record \$330.5 Million Investment

## FOR GREAT BARRIER REEF PROTECTION



Queensland's most recognisable natural wonder is set to benefit from a historic funding commitment, with the Crisafulli Government announcing a record \$330.5 million investment to protect the Great Barrier Reef and secure its future for generations to come. The funding, delivered through the 2026–27 State Budget, represents one of the most significant commitments ever made to Reef protection. It will support water quality improvement initiatives, sediment reduction programs, research and innovation, as well as practical on-ground projects designed to strengthen the health of the Reef and the catchments that feed into it.

The investment will help deliver the Reef 2050 Catchment Water Quality Strategy, which sets ambitious targets to reduce sediment, nutrients and pesticides entering Reef waters by 2032. By working alongside landholders, communities and industry, the program aims to achieve meaningful environmental outcomes while supporting regional economies. The Great Barrier Reef remains one of Queensland's greatest assets. It supports around 77,000 jobs and contributes approximately \$9 billion annually to the Australian economy through tourism, recreation and related industries. Protecting the Reef is not only an environmental responsibility but also an economic necessity for many coastal and regional communities.

Importantly, the funding focuses on practical action. Industry-led best management practices, partnerships with landholders and targeted catchment programs will help reduce runoff and improve water quality, creating lasting benefits for both the environment and local communities. The announcement builds on existing efforts already underway across Queensland and signals a strong commitment to ensuring the Reef remains healthy and resilient in the decades ahead.

For many Queenslanders, the Great Barrier Reef is more than a natural attraction. It is part of the state's identity, a source of pride and a cornerstone of regional prosperity. This record investment reflects the importance of preserving one of the world's most remarkable ecosystems while supporting the communities and industries that rely on it. With substantial funding now committed, the focus turns to delivering lasting outcomes that will help safeguard the Reef well into the future.

The investment is particularly significant for communities across Central Queensland, where the Reef plays an important role in supporting tourism, local businesses and regional jobs. As a gateway to the southern Great Barrier Reef, the Gladstone region has a strong connection to this natural asset and understands the importance of balancing environmental protection with economic opportunity. Continued investment in water quality, research and practical on-ground initiatives will help ensure the Reef remains a drawcard for visitors from around the world while supporting the industries that underpin local communities. For regions like Gladstone, a healthy Reef is good for the environment, the economy and the future.



# Don't bin batteries

*Tape, bag and drop!*

**NEW Council collection points for safe disposal of batteries.**



[www.gladstone.qld.gov.au](http://www.gladstone.qld.gov.au)

# Gladstone Aluminium: Inside Operations

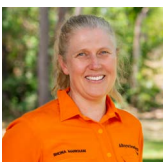
Celebrating people, progress and partnership  
across Boyne, QAL and Yarwun

Welcome to *Inside Operations*, where we share what's happening across Boyne Smelters, Queensland Alumina Limited and Yarwun refinery.

## From our Site General Managers



**Trent:** At QAL, our primary focus remains executing our two core objectives – safely and responsibly hitting our production plan, month-in-month-out, at the right cost and quality, and implementing Double Digestion. Supporting the first objective, I'm especially pleased to see the return of our Work Experience program and our continued partnership with CQUniversity, because strong local pathways into our operations matter. I'm also excited to see our 2027 apprentice intake opening across all three Gladstone aluminium operations, creating more opportunities for local talent to build long-term careers with us.



**Shona:** Boyne has been part of Gladstone for more than 40 years, so it was a proud moment to announce a partnership with the Queensland and Commonwealth

Governments earlier this year supporting the transition to long-term competitive power for the smelter and our future to 2040. The joint investment backs the future of aluminium smelting in Queensland and builds on power purchase agreements signed by Rio Tinto which underpin the development of \$7.5B of new renewable energy and storage into the state. The partnership gives us greater certainty, which matters for our people, our operations and the wider community.



**Shane:** At Yarwun, our focus remains on safe and stable production as we support our people through a period of change – and in some cases redeployment – heading into our planned reduced alumina production from October 2026. I continue to be inspired by the care, resilience and collaboration our teams continue to show, while making steady progress on important work like residue management.

We hope you enjoy this edition.

Stay safe,

**Shona, Trent and Shane.**



## Inside community

### Building local pathways through CQUniversity partnership.

We know the future of our industry depends on people. Especially local people with the skills, ideas and drive to help our region keep growing.

That is why June marked an exciting step forward for Rio Tinto, with the signing of a new Memorandum of Understanding between our three Gladstone aluminium operations and CQUniversity.

The agreement builds on a long-running relationship between industry and education in Central Queensland. More importantly, it helps create practical pathways for students to move from study into meaningful careers, right here at home.

Across Yarwun, Boyne and QAL, we are proud to work alongside CQUniversity to support local capability, hands-on learning and stronger career opportunities for young people in the Gladstone region.

For students, that means more chances to get real-world experience while they study. Through opportunities such as engineering cadetships at QAL, students can spend time in our operations, work alongside experienced teams and see what a career in the aluminium industry can really look like.

For QAL Mechanical Engineering Cadet and CQUniversity student Riley Barton, the benefits are already clear.

“My cadetship isn’t just about studying – I’m part of the team, doing real work and building real experience from day one.”

For the Gladstone community, it means more opportunities for young people to develop skills locally, gain industry experience, and build their futures close to home.

We are proud to be part of that future.

Image caption: Gladstone Aluminium and CQU representatives at MOU signing event.

### Community garden set to grow

A volunteer-run community garden in central Gladstone is set to become safer, more practical and more welcoming, thanks to support from Rio Tinto Gladstone’s Community Giving Program.

The Queensland Country Women’s Association (QCWA) Gladstone Community Garden received \$2,500 in Round 1 of the program to support improvements at the Oaka Lane site.

Run by local volunteers, the garden grows flowers, herbs, fruit and vegetables that are shared with the community. It also creates space for workshops, gatherings and social gardening, helping people build connections while learning more about sustainable food growing.

Funding will go towards practical upgrades including new shelving, workbenches, storage, hoses, maintenance equipment and seating.

QCWA Secretary and Community Garden Co-ordinator Kirrilee Claridge said the support would help volunteers deliver long-planned improvements.

“Many of our tools and pieces of furniture have been generously donated over the years, but they now need replacing so the garden can stay safe, organised and welcoming. Better storage, reliable equipment and more seating will make a real difference for volunteers and visitors alike,” Kirrilee said.

Rio Tinto Gladstone Manager Communities and Social Performance Duane Fewquandie said community gardens create more than shared green space.

“They create places where people can learn, volunteer and connect. We’re proud to support practical local projects that help make the Gladstone region more inclusive, connected and sustainable,” Duane said.

Round 2 of Rio Tinto Gladstone’s 2026 Community Giving Program opens in August. Community groups interested in applying can visit Rio Tinto’s Gladstone webpage for details or contact the team at [OneGladstone@riotinto.com](mailto:OneGladstone@riotinto.com).

**RioTinto**

Gladstone Aluminium

Yarwun Refinery

Boyne Smelters Limited

Queensland Alumina Limited

# Apprentice intakes now open

Play a role in supporting Queensland's aluminium supply chain, right here at our Gladstone operations in a structured and supported learning environment.

Learn a trade under the guidance of our site-based trades training teams, who are knowledgeable and passionate about helping you shape your career. You'll gain nationally-recognised credentials while working alongside some of the brightest minds in the industry.

## 2027 intake

**Yarwun refinery and Boyne Smelters:**

Apply before 12 July 2026

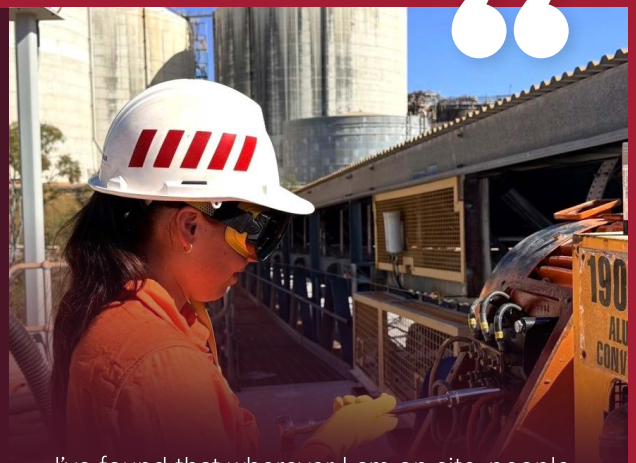


**QAL:**

Apply before 19 July 2026



**Scan the codes to apply.**



I've found that wherever I am on site, people are always willing to take the time to explain how things work, share what they've learned, and show me something new.

– Chelsea, Electrical & Instrumentation Apprentice, Yarwun refinery



## Ask us anything:

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

## Contact us:

**Phone:** 1800 226 258 (Yarwun)

**Email:** [OneGladstone@riotinto.com](mailto:OneGladstone@riotinto.com)

**Visit:** [www.riotinto.com](http://www.riotinto.com)

**Follow:** Rio Tinto Gladstone | Facebook

# Inside industry

Did you know that Australia produces about a quarter of the world's bauxite, around 11% of global alumina, and about 2% of the world's aluminium?

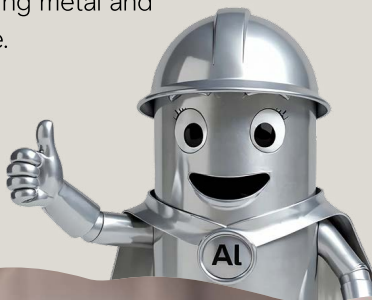
## Are you interested in learning more?

The Australian Aluminium Council (AAC) is the peak industry association representing Australia's aluminium sector from mine to market. It helps tell the industry's story and shares updates on policy, sustainability, recycling and the role aluminium plays in everyday life.

The AAC's quarterly *[Al]uminate* newsletter shares updates on advocacy, policy, technical work and broader industry progress. To subscribe, email [info@aluminium.org.au](mailto:info@aluminium.org.au).

## Scan to meet Allie

Allie is the face of Australia's aluminium industry. From mobile phones to solar panels, aluminium powers our world. Allie's here to help you learn more about this amazing metal and its role in everyday life.



## Commit to safety at home

On site, we build habits around noticing risks, managing them, and looking out for each other. These same habits can shape how we think about safety at home, too.

It's easy to overlook the small things — a loose paver, a wet step, clutter in the garage — but these are often where injuries start. Taking a moment to scan your surroundings before weekend jobs can make a real difference. And just like on site, wearing the right gear matters. Eye protection while using rotating tools like whipper snippers and closed-in footwear while gardening or mowing helps protect you — thongs and power tools don't mix.

When you're on stairs, a ladder or out exploring somewhere new, slowing down and keeping three points of contact can help you stay in control. It's often the quick, rushed moments where slips, trips and falls happen.

Fuels or household cleaners deserve the same level of awareness we give to site chemicals. Storing them safely, not mixing products, and washing up well helps stop residues being carried through to your car, home or family.

The habits we build — at work and at home — shape how we look after ourselves and those around us. Getting this right might seem small in the moment, but it's what helps us stay safe at home, come back to work ready, and keep showing up for the people and moments that matter most.





# Inside Yarwun

## Red mud matters at Yarwun

Teams at Yarwun are finding better ways to manage tailings, known as red mud, dams.

The teams are fine-tuning established processes as well as introducing new technology, like the recently commissioned centrifuge.

*Inside Operations* spoke with Stuart Smith from Yarwun's Residue Management Area (RMA) team about what his job involves, and why it matters.

### What are tailings dams?

"If you fly into Gladstone, you can see the red mud dams from the air," explains Stuart.

"The red mud gets its colour from bauxite and is residue from the alumina refining process.

With our current production plan, the RMA at Yarwun will reach capacity in 2035. To extend the life of the dam we need to find ways to increase its capacity."

### How do you increase the capacity?

In short, we want to control how the material behaves on the dam.

The aim is to improve density and consistency of the mud – while keeping it workable or wet enough to move around. We do this in a number of ways – using mud farming techniques as well as our new centrifuge.

The more water we can get out of the mud, the better the mud foundation and less water in the facility – which gives us greater storage capacity.

### What is a centrifuge and what does it do?

Seawater is added to the mud as it enters the pipeline, helping neutralise the material.

The mud is then mixed with flocculent to help settle out the mud particles.

Once it comes out of the pipeline, a portion of the mud is piped through the centrifuge, where liquid is removed to increase density – making it thicker and easier to manage before it's placed on the dam.

We're building on what we've learned about the centrifuge during earlier trials. The approach has been steady – testing, learning, and adjusting as we go.

### What else is changing?

Teams are also improving mud farming – which is being more strategic about the way residue is placed and managed, so it has time to dry more evenly and form a stronger surface.

This improves the foundation, reduces the amount of water stored on the facility, and allows the available space to be used more efficiently.

### How will we know if it works?

"I'd be the first to say we don't have all the answers, but we have a good team and we're working hard to extend the dam's life.

"The work we're doing is about making the most of available space – which plays a big role in how long the refinery can operate.

"By improving how residue is managed and building on practices like wall raising, I'm proud to see our team supporting safe operations and helping to extend the life of the dam."

# Inside QAL

## Powering Precipitation Performance

At QAL, operational excellence regularly comes down to the ingenuity and persistence of our people – and often, the simplest solutions deliver the biggest impact.

Across precipitation, teams are using the power of air to bring critical 30-metre tanks back into service faster, helping lift performance where it matters.

Precipitation is the second-last stage in alumina refining. It's where seed particles are added in large, agitated tanks, allowing dissolved alumina to attach and form solid aluminium hydroxide crystals.

These tanks rely on constant agitation to keep solids suspended. When agitation is lost, solids quickly settle, and tanks can become "bogged" with hydrate – taking them offline and impacting production.

"We require a certain number of precipitation tanks online to get the most out of what we're putting in," said Ben Castles, QAL Precipitation Tank Recovery Lead.

"As tanks become overdue for cleaning, they lose the ability to agitate and fill with hydrate (solids).

The team worked together and utilised a tried and tested solution: by lowering a 'super sparge' into the tank, we can aerate the solids, allowing the tank to be pumped empty and then proceed through its regular cleaning cycle."

Earlier this year, the team set a target to increase tanks online from 85 to 94 and reached that milestone in May through strong routines and innovative recovery methods.

QAL GM, Trent Scherer, said the results reflect the way operations, technical, maintenance and contracting teams are working together and congratulated everyone involved in the process.

"It's a credit to all of the teams involved – the discipline, the consistency, and the way people are stepping up to solve problems and remove our long-term bottlenecks."

"This level of collaboration is what keeps us competitive and ensures we continue delivering value for generations to come," said Trent.

## Opening doors through work experience

At QAL, investing in the next generation is part of how we build for the future.

For the first time in over a decade, we've brought back our Work Experience program, partnering with Deploy Workforce Solutions to give students an understanding of life on site through a five-day placement.

The program connects Year 11 and 12 students with our teams, placing them alongside QAL leaders to work on real tasks and projects. It's about building practical skills, confidence and an understanding of how our refinery operates.

Across 2026, we'll support around 70 students through structured placements, with opportunities across more than 20 different roles.

It's a simple idea, but an important one – giving young people a clearer view of industry and future career pathways while building experience in real operating environments.

### 2026 upcoming program dates

- Block 5: 12 – 24 Sept
- Block 6: 28 Sept – 1 Oct
- Block 7: 30 Nov – 4 Dec
- Block 8: 7 – 11 Dec

### Keen to apply?

Speak to your school's Career Guidance Officer to apply for Work Experience with QAL.



Check out this video of Ben in action:





# Inside Boyne Smelters

## Line 1 West

Twenty aluminium-producing cells on Reduction Line 1 at Boyne Smelters are being re-energised in a staged approach over the coming weeks.

Offline since 2017, maintenance and refurbishing works have been underway for six months, to prepare for the re-energisation. These have involved refurbishment of an emissions treatment centre, construction of new cell linings, fan motor replacements, and more to ensure the area is safe to return to service.

General Manager, Shona Markham, said this is a significant milestone for the smelter and returning these cells to production has been supported by favourable market conditions.

It is an example of Boyne Smelters operating more flexibly and actively adjusting production in response to energy and aluminium market conditions to capture value.

“There’s no handbook for a project like this, so our operations and technical teams have been collaborating closely and finding solutions in real time to move this project forward each step of the way.”

“We’re committed to continuing our role in Queensland’s aluminium supply chain.”



### Production fact:

Energising the 20 cells will increase the smelter’s annual aluminium output by

**2.5%** compared to 2025 production.

## Share your feedback

What did you think of this edition of *Inside Operations*? Share your feedback in our short survey and go into the draw to win a **\$500 voucher** to spend at a Gladstone business.



Scan the QR code to complete our short reader survey.





## Inside projects

### Supporting the circularity of aluminium

**Finding ways to reuse and recycle is becoming a bigger part of how we create value, reduce waste and support the energy transition – and Boyne Smelters is helping bring that to life in Gladstone.**

Aluminium can be recycled again and again without losing its quality, and recycling aluminium uses around 95% less energy than producing new metal. That makes it one of the most valuable materials in a lower-carbon, more circular economy.

At Boyne, a recycling project with Capral and Sims Metal is turning clean aluminium offcuts from Capral's Bremer Park extrusion plant into new billet in Gladstone, ready to be supplied back into Australian manufacturing.

The project began with a successful 2024 trial using 50 to 100 tonnes of post-production scrap to make billet with at least 20% recycled content. It has since grown into a broader Queensland collaboration.

In 2025, BSL remelted 332 tonnes of extrusion scrap and produced 1,204 tonnes of recycled billet product. The target is 2,000 tonnes in 2026, with the potential to grow to 8,000 tonnes from 2027.

What makes the project significant is the loop itself – Queensland manufacturing scrap is returned through the supply chain and made useful again for Australian customers.

It also adds another dimension to Gladstone's aluminium story. Across QAL, Yarwun and Boyne, Rio Tinto's Gladstone operations are part of an integrated supply chain that turns Australian bauxite into alumina and then aluminium. Recycling gives that aluminium another life, helping keep more value in Australia and supporting local manufacturing.

For the BSL team, it's a practical project that makes sense. Aluminium can be recycled again and again, and Boyne already has the people, plant and know-how to safely remelt clean scrap and turn it into high-quality billet.

"People often think about recycling as something that happens at home, but industry has a big role to play too. For us, this is about taking a clean aluminium offcut and giving it another life as a high-quality product made right here in Gladstone," said Shona Markham, General Manager, Boyne Smelters.



#### Production Facts:

A single billet can weigh up to

**1.8** tonnes and contains at least 20% recycled aluminium.

Aluminium recycling uses around

**95%** less energy

than producing new metal, making initiatives like this one a practical way to reduce emissions and support the energy transition.

### Learn more – Policy Reform for Aluminium Recycling in Australia

Watch the Australian Aluminium Council Webinar to hear Shona Markham, General Manager BSL, talk about recycling and what it could mean for local manufacturing.



# Here in History

Photo from Joey Lee

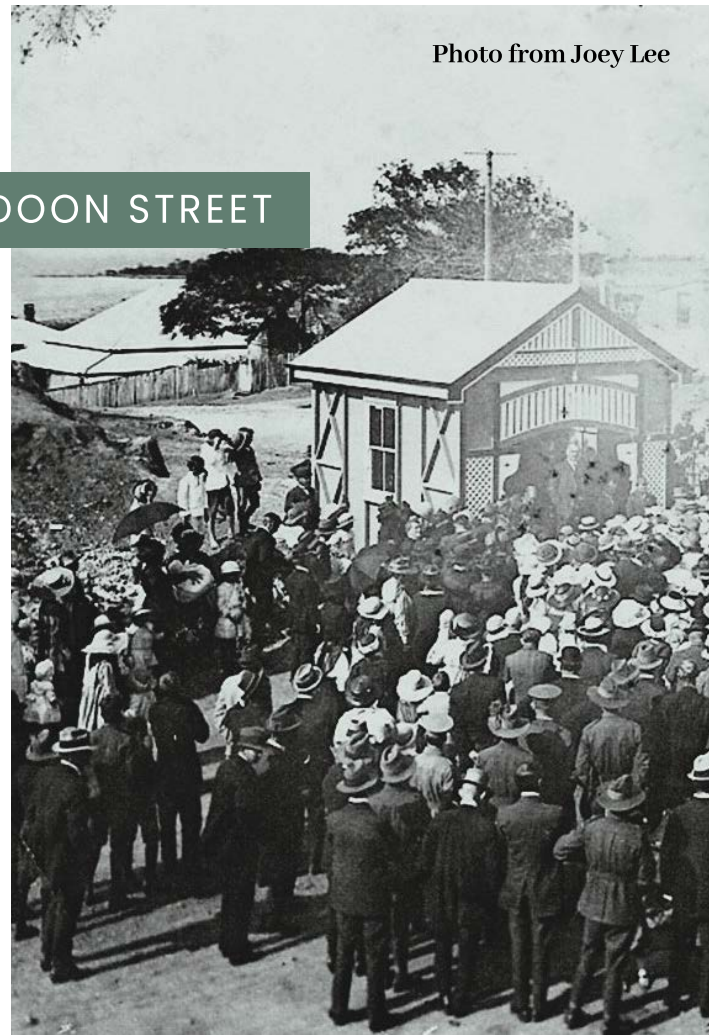
## THE MEMORIAL COTTAGE IN GOONDOON STREET

The main effect the 1st World War had on Gladstone was by taking away the young men who enlisted.

These servicemen all went overseas to fight and, four years of war from 1914 to 1918, played havoc with Gladstone's advancement as it did everywhere else. Nevertheless, there was an air of quiet optimism existing which inspired confidence.

Cessation of hostilities resulted in a stimulus to building and many country areas opened with Soldier Settlements being set up from outlying properties, allowing servicemen to become farmers. In 1917 a Memorial Honours Board cottage was built by Bill Golding on the corner of Goondoon and Rosebery Streets. In the centre of this small building was a machine gun, a relic of WW1, and on the back wall was a roll of honour. Otherwise, there was dirt floor and seats on both sides.

By *Betty Laver*



## Congratulations to the 2026 P2P Community Beneficiary Gladstone Community Linking Agency

We are excited to announce the 2026 Port to Park Community Beneficiary is Gladstone Community Linking Agency (GCLA). GCLA provides beyond-ordinary aged care services and disability support to the Gladstone region. This year's funding of \$50,000 will help deliver a new wheelchair-accessible bus, improving community connection and transport access for seniors and people living with disability.

Scan to learn more or to register now and show your support!



Gladstone Ports Corporation

Growth, prosperity, community.



gpcl.com.au

Sunday, 16 August 2026



# Gymnasts Earn Queensland Honours

FOR 2026

Gladstone is celebrating a remarkable achievement with a talented group of athletes and coaches from Gladstone Gymnastics Club earning selection to represent Queensland in 2026. Their success is a proud moment not only for the individuals involved but also for the entire community that has supported them throughout their sporting journeys. Selection to a Queensland State Team is one of the highest honours a gymnast can achieve, and for Gladstone Gymnastics Club to have such strong representation across multiple teams highlights the depth of talent, dedication, and commitment being developed right here in the region.

In Acrobatic Gymnastics, Layla, Jayda and Kayla have been selected in the Level 8 Trio, while Olivia, Lara and Hannah will compete in the Level 7 Trio. Chelsea, Amber and Tiana have earned selection in the Level 6 Trio, and Maci and Milaan will represent Queensland in the Level 6 Pair division. Adding to the excitement, Letitia Burton has been selected as a personal coach, recognising her dedication to athlete development and her valuable contribution to the sport.

Women's Artistic Gymnastics is also strongly represented, with Jenna Gaunt selected in the Level 10 Team, Destiny Vine in the Level 9 Team, and Penny Hale in the Level 8 Team. Rosie Parnell has received the honour of serving as a Level 9 Assistant Team Coach while also taking on the important role of personal coach. The achievements do not stop there. Gladstone athletes will also feature prominently at the Border Challenge, another prestigious event that brings together some of the best gymnasts from across the country. Gemma Bassett has earned selection in the Level 9 Team, while Elle Jaye Attard will compete as part of the Level 8 Team.

The entire Gladstone community should be incredibly proud of what these athletes and coaches have accom-



plished. What makes these selections particularly special is that they represent far more than competition results. They reflect resilience, perseverance, and the willingness to strive for excellence every day. Behind every athlete stands a team of supporters who have helped make these opportunities possible.

The success of these athletes also showcases the positive impact sport has on regional communities. Their achievements inspire younger gymnasts to dream big and demonstrate that athletes from Gladstone can compete and succeed on the biggest stages in Australia. As preparations continue for the 2026 season, excitement is building throughout the gymnastics community. These athletes have already achieved something extraordinary through their selection, but there is no doubt they will be eager to make the most of every opportunity that lies ahead.



## Thank you, Gladstone!

The Rotary Club of Gladstone would like to thank everyone who attended and supported the 2026 Ladies Long Table Charity Luncheon.

Together, we raised around \$34,000 for local charities. A special thank you to our sponsors, donors, volunteers and guests who made this event possible.

### SAVE THE DATE:

Ladies Long Table Lunch 2027. Coming June 2027. To register your interest and receive Early Bird booking information, email: [llt.rotary.gld@gmail.com](mailto:llt.rotary.gld@gmail.com)

**Making a difference together | Rotary Club of Gladstone**

## Thank you to our Sponsors!

**McCOSKER**  
SAFETY FIRST. PRODUCTION ALWAYS.

**Gladstone**  
Airport Corporation

**High risk solutions**

**SOLACE**

**Gladstone Valley**  
FUNERALS

**NEWPRINT HRG**  
EST. 1978  
PRINT · SIGN · DESIGN · ENGRAVE

**Bill Robertson Toyota** 

# Gladstone Locals Rallies

## BEHIND RIDE FOR RARE OVARIAN CANCER RESEARCH

Fifteen determined riders will soon embark on a journey from Gladstone to Brisbane, cycling more than 600 kilometres over five days to raise funds and awareness for Rare Ovarian Cancer research. While the distance is impressive, the purpose behind the Ride for Research is even more powerful. For local Sandra and Reg Pugh, the cause is deeply personal. Speaking recently to the Port Curtis Rotary Club, Sandra shared a moving story that highlighted both the life changing impact of cancer research and the urgent need for further advances in ovarian cancer treatment.

Twenty years ago, Reg was diagnosed with prostate cancer. At the time, treatment options were far more limited. Thanks to decades of research, treatment pathways have evolved significantly, allowing doctors to better monitor patients and tailor care to individual needs. Today, prostate cancer survival rates sit at almost 99 per cent. Their experience with ovarian cancer tells a different story. After witnessing the journey of a close friend diagnosed with the disease, Sandra and Reg became acutely aware of the challenges women continue to face. There is currently no reliable early detection test for ovarian cancer, symptoms are often vague and easily overlooked, and survival rates remain below 50 per cent.

Every day, four Australian women are diagnosed with ovarian cancer and around 1,100 lives are lost to the disease each year. Despite breakthroughs in other cancers, progress in ovarian cancer research has been far slower. That is why Sandra and Reg are supporting the work of Dr Simon Chu and his team at the Hudson Institute, whose research focuses on improving early detection and developing more effective treatments.

The Ride for Research is about more than fundraising. It is a reminder of what communities like Gladstone can achieve when people come together behind a common cause. Through determination, compassion and collective action, our region continues to show that even the biggest challenges can be met with hope and support.



ROC Inc. RIDE FOR RESEARCH  
6 to 11 July 2026



## Dance your first Dance with Confidence.

**Feel confident and comfortable dancing your first dance on your wedding day.**

Book your Wedding Dance Lessons today with Fiesta Loca to support every step of the way to the perfect first dance. Learn at your own pace in a welcoming stress-free environment.

**SAVE THE DATE!  
2ND OF AUGUST**

Find us at the CQ Wedding Expo on the 2nd of August at the Gladstone events Centre (Yaralla Sports Club)

**BATTERY  
REBATES  
ARE STILL  
WORTHWHILE!**



# LIKE TO BE INDEPENDENT OF THE GRID?

**Have a chat to Murray and find out how...**

SERVICING THE GLADSTONE AREA SINCE 2010

**Call Solar Power now on (07) 4972 8449**

