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GLADSTONE NEWS

TAKE ME, I'M FREE!

ISSUE 334
9th July 2026



RAISING FUNDS FOR COMMUNITY SUNDAY 16 AUGUST

GLADSTONE NEWS IS FREE THANKS TO OUR ADVERTISERS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS





Ashleigh | Editor-in-chief



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August 2026



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NAIDOC WEEK
50 YEARS DEADLY
5-12 JULY 2026

10
JULY

Family Fun Day & NAIDOC Services Expo

Come celebrate "50 Years of Deadly" with the Gladstone community! Bring a chair, your mob and your community spirit as we fill the parklands with laughter, music, culture and connection.

When: Friday 10th July, 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

Where: Gladstone Ports Corporation Marina Parklands

Price: FREE



11
JULY

Zonta Moana Movie Fundraiser event

A morning of family-friendly fun, locals are invited to watch the new live-action Moana movie while supporting the Zonta Club of Gladstone. Includes a movie ticket, a small popcorn, a small drink, and entry into our lucky door prizes.

When: Saturday 11th July, 9.30 am - 11.30 am

Where: Gladstone Cinemas

Price: \$30 Adults, \$20 Kids + booking fee



12
JULY

Calliope River Historical Village Markets

Enjoy a food or beverage as you discover the wonders of the Village and browse the stalls at the Country Markets this weekend.

When: Sunday 12th July, 7.30 am - 12.30 pm

Where: Calliope River Historical Village

Price: Children Free, Adults \$2 admission



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 or scan the QR code.

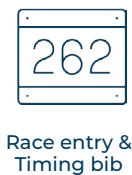
Gladstone Ports Corporation's Port to Park Fun Run Sunday, 16 August 2026

Register Now!

Port to Park Fun Run is hitting the pavement again this year! Gather your friends, family and colleagues to get active while supporting Gladstone schools and our 2026 Community Beneficiary.

Which race will you enter? The 10 kilometre Koongo Dash, the 5 kilometre Koommonka Sprint or the 3 kilometre Yallarm Family Run. All events will be running through GPC's beautiful parklands - East Shores Parklands, Marina Parklands and Spinnaker Park.

Your registration includes:



* Terms and conditions apply. For more information visit gpcl.com.au

CATEGORY	STANDARD FEE
Individual open (18+ years)	\$30
Masters (45+ years) / Seniors (65+)	\$25
13 - 17 Years	\$15
5 - 12 Years	\$15
Families (2 adults and up to 3 children)	\$60
Children four (4) and under*	FREE



Learn more and register here!



Thank you to GPC's Port to Park 2026 Sponsors.



Raising funds for meaningful causes

Gladstone Ports Corporation and major sponsors are proud to announce the 2026 Port to Park Community Beneficiary is Gladstone 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 support delivery of a new wheelchair-accessible bus, improving community connection and transport access for seniors and people living with disability.

In addition to supporting a local community group, Port to Park also directly benefits participating Gladstone Region schools. A portion of every registration fee is donated back to the school nominated by each participant. Over the years, this initiative has helped schools fund new equipment, learning resources and wellness programs that contribute to a more vibrant and supportive educational environment.





Supporting The Gladstone Community

ONE BUS AT A TIME

Gladstone company Brolga Cranes & Equipment has announced a new community sponsorship aimed at helping local sporting clubs and community groups to mitigate the financial pressures associated with fuel prices and travel expenses when participating in events across Queensland.

Since 2019, Brolga Cranes & Equipment has been providing reliable and highly skilled work to the community, delivering custom crane hire and lifting services to the mining, construction and industrial services industries across Queensland. They are a proudly 100% Indigenous-owned, Supply Nation-certified crane hire and logistics solutions company, providing professional and safe lifting services to the Queensland region and beyond for 7 years.



Director Paul Olsen, a Gladstone local of 42 years, has said that supporting local families and community groups has always been a priority, and the company has now invested in a new 25-seat bus to transport eligible local clubs and organisations to various sporting and community events across the state.

“

We know that travel costs can place a significant burden on clubs and families. By providing access to this bus, we hope to make it easier for teams to attend important competitions and events, while ensuring parents and supporters can continue to be part of their children’s sporting journeys,

”

Paul said in a media release.

Working closely with its insurance provider and legal advisors, Brolga Cranes is ensuring safe operation of the vehicle by establishing appropriate policies, procedures and coverage arrangements, as well as undergoing regular servicing and maintenance in accordance with the manufacturer’s requirements. Clubs will need to enter into an agreement outlining the conditions of use and will comply with all operational guidelines to ensure the safety of the bus and its patrons.

The Gladstone community has already taken interest in the bus, and with the exterior professionally wrapped by local business Signtek who included pictures of Brolga Crane’s projects in the region, the vehicle took off on its maiden voyage to the Laurie Spina 2026 Carnival in Townsville in late June, with plans to transport the Nippers from the lifesaving club down to the sunshine coast, the Judo team to Mackay and the NRL team to Biloela in the future.

Brolga Cranes are excited to see the positive impact that the initiative will have on local families and the community, and are positive that this will ease financial burdens while helping more young people to participate in sporting and community events across Queensland.



Emerging First Nations artist Caelum Grant (Iman decent) has worked with acclaimed First Nations artist Bindi Waugh (Bundjalung descent - not pictured) on a courtyard mural at GRAGM. Another local artist, Chanise Grealy (pictured right) has also contributed to the mural, which is now on display.

Courtyard wall transformation by three inspiring local artists

A blank courtyard wall at Gladstone Regional Art Gallery and Museum (GRAGM) has received a breathtaking transformation courtesy of three local artists.

Celebrating regional stories, local identity and history, the courtyard wall, spanning over 8m, now features a stunning public artwork installation commissioned through an Expression of Interest process.

Local artist Chanise Grealy brought a vibrant, cross-cultural energy to the space with her artwork celebrating the 30-year Sister City relationship between Gladstone and Saiki City.

Her stunning installation features Koinobori, traditional Japanese carp-shaped windsocks that represent strength and perseverance.

Seamlessly weaving local narratives into her practice, each windsock form is intricately decorated with repeating, symbolic patterns reflecting Gladstone's unique industry, flora, fauna and coastal lifestyle.

Acclaimed First Nations artist Bindi Waugh and emerging First Nations artist Caelum Grant, delivered a visually powerful, multi-

layered artwork that uses overlaid panels to create physical depth and shifting shadows.

Their masterpiece features a translucent base map of the region, harbour and islands, and is overlaid by imagery highlighting three distinct phases of Gladstone Region's development and connection to community and the natural world: First Nations history, flora, fauna and landscapes, farming, rail networks, fishing, and finally industrial development, including the Gladstone Power Station, port and other landmarks.

GRAGM is committed to fostering the growth and development of our local regional artists, through initiatives like this. Together, these unique installations bring the GRAGM courtyard to life, offering visitors a visually striking reflection of the Gladstone Region's rich history and diverse community identity.

Check out the mural when you next visit GRAGM – open Monday to Friday 10am to 4.30pm and Saturday 10am to 2pm. Visit gragm.qld.gov.au to learn more about what's on offer.

New Corporate Plan to guide region

Council endorsed its new five-year Corporate Plan last month that will guide the organisation's strategic direction through to 2031.

Our Vision 2026-2031 reflects the ambitions and priorities we consistently hear from our community and our people, and is underpinned by four ambitions - Community, Economy, Environment, and Trust and Confidence.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said the new plan reflects what matters most to our community – strong services, local opportunity and a region we're all proud to call home.

"Our community wants to understand what to expect from Council and this vision helps make the community's experience with Council more consistent," Mayor Burnett said.

"This plan positions us to deliver real outcomes that our community can genuinely see and experience."

CEO Leisa Dowling said this sets our shared vision and commitment to grow the region we call home with purpose, into a place where people feel connected, our environment is respected, and our decisions are trusted.

"This vision provides a practical direction for Council and sets the outcomes we are committed to delivering for our community," Ms Dowling said.

"It reflects an honest position and recognises there is always room for improvement."



Scan the QR code to read the two-page *Our Vision 2026-2031* document.

16-19
JULY 2026
GLADSTONE TONDOON BOTANIC GARDENS

LUMINOUS
CURRENTS OF CONNECTION

Scan the
QR code for
tickets



Tickets \$6 on sale now

www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/luminous

Santos Partnership Backs Regional Initiatives

Global energy company Santos has partnered with regional organisations in Queensland to help deliver community initiatives and mutually beneficial relationships, building resilient communities, strong economic pathways and supporting the environment everywhere from classrooms and coastlines to community shows.

Over the past few months across the state, from Gladstone to Quilpie, and all the way down to Narrabri in NSW, Santos has teamed up with CapRescue, The Resilience Project, Tangaroa Blue, Regional Academies of Sport, Quilpie Diggers Race Club, Talentlockr, Northern Inland Academy of Sport and the Narrabri Blue Boars to deliver positive outcomes and successful events.

Across three local Gladstone schools, Santos and The Resilience Project have supported over 250 students with their wellbeing program, giving each child the tools to practice GEM – Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness, and apply each to their daily lives to improve their mental wellbeing. In the same region, their partnership with Tangaroa Blue has helped volunteers to clean marine debris off the beaches at Curtis Island and preserve nature for locals, tourists, and sea life.



Further down south in Quilpie, QLD, and in Narrabri, NSW, their partnerships with grassroots sporting organisations have given aspiring athletes a chance to represent the state and country through scholarships, programs and Indigenous Talent Days across RAS' and NIAS' network, as well as their sponsorship of the Quilpie Diggers Race Club bringing the outback community together for race days and events.

CapRescue is proudly sponsored by Santos as a BlueSky Partner, ensuring that the helicopter service has the resources to act swiftly and rescue people in distress, no matter the weather, servicing a total area of 350,000km² across our region. Just within the last year through the serviced region,

15% of rescues

were carried out in Gladstone alone,

with the Central Highlands and Banana Shire taking out the top spots with 28% and 26% respectively. Livingstone Shire, Woorabinda and Rockhampton were not far behind, showing how important the service is to people living remotely where emergency help can be hours away.

Through community events, classroom activities, environmental cleanups and emergency services, the relationships formed between our organisations and Santos have been beneficial to the local region and with the support of the volunteers, organisers and community members who work tirelessly to bring the public these services, we create stronger, more resilient communities across the regions these services are active in.



Industry Learning Opportunities

FOR RURAL STUDENTS

Travelling 237km from a small rural town in the North Burnett Region, almost 30 students and teachers from Eidsvold State School visited Alpha HPA's manufacturing facility in Gladstone as part of the Department of Education Regional School Industry Partnership Program.

The Australian-based company, committed to the sustainable production and manufacturing of high-purity aluminium oxides, hydroxides, nitrates and sulphates, hosted the students in June to explore the career paths available in the manufacturing industry.

Providing the opportunity to learn more about advanced manufacturing, the students from Eidsvold were shown a range of careers in the sector and the pathways that can lead to roles in the industry. They heard firsthand from team members about their career journeys and gained insight into the skills, experiences, and opportunities that are available through pathways at Alpha HPA.



Supporting the connection between industry and regional schools, Jodie Luce from the Manufacturing Queensland Hub in Gladstone helped to coordinate the visit, and the organisation was proud to support the initiative that helped the students to explore future career possibilities in science, technology, engineering, manufacturing and trades.

Graymont invites applications for the 2026 community-focused Carbon Reduction Fund

We are proud to announce that we are accepting applications for the Graymont Carbon Reduction Fund, an innovative, grass-roots initiative designed to support the development of carbon-reduction initiatives in the communities across the globe that we call home.

The fund's role is to support projects focused on:

- Protecting the environment by the responsible use of resources
- Reducing our carbon footprint through increased energy efficiency
- Developing and maintaining natural, biological 'carbon sinks' such as agricultural land, forests or peat bogs that act as a natural offset for carbon

If you have a project idea that relates to any of these topics, the GCRF is looking for you!

For additional information, please contact Vicki.robins@graymont.com

Applications are due by **August 21, 2026**

Graymont's mission is
*to deliver essential
calcium-based solutions to
meet the world's changing
needs.*

“50 Years of Deadly”:

ENGAGING WITH NAIDOC WEEK 2026

2026 proudly marks the 50th anniversary of NAIDOC Week, observed from the 5th to the 12th of July this year, emphasising the importance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, culture and achievements across the country. The theme this year, “50 Years of Deadly,” highlights both “reflection and looking ahead,” said Vena Beetson, A First Nations (Gubbi Gubbi and Wiradjuri) Trainer and Implementation Consultant for the Triple P organisation, based in Meanjin/Brisbane.

In the Gladstone region, the week will be marked with several events, including a student fashion show at the Gladstone Regional Art Gallery & Museum, the Men Yarn Up night at Bob’s Garage, the State of STEM experience at CQU, a free registered luncheon and movie night, and the NAIDOC Street March taking place on Friday 10th July.

More information can be found at the Gladstone Regional Council’s website and on the First Nations Gladstone Committee Facebook page.



**NAIDOC
WEEK**
**50 YEARS
DEADLY**
5-12 JULY 2026



Respect. Partnership. Opportunity.

As we celebrate 50 years of NAIDOC Week, Shell recognises the strength, resilience and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

In the Gladstone region, we’re proud to support Indigenous businesses and provide scholarship, apprenticeship and traineeship opportunities to the First Nations Bailai, Gurang, Gooreng Gooreng and Taribelang Bunda peoples and other local Indigenous peoples in the community.

Read more in our Shell Australia Reconciliation Action Plan on shell.com.au or by scanning this QR code.



NAIDOC WEEK 2026

50 Years of Deadly

Gladstone Ports Corporation (GPC) is proud to support the oldest continuous culture on the planet.

Fifty Years of Deadly is a milestone that honours the movement’s foundations. The Elders who led with strength, the organisers who opened doors, the artists who turned stories into art and the communities who keep the spirit alive, year after year.

We acknowledge and pay our respect to First Nations peoples - Bailai, Gurang, Gooreng Gooreng, Taribelang Bunda, Darumbal, Turrbal, Jagera, Yugara, Butchulla and Kabi Kabi and pay our respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

Learn more at www.naidoc.org.au



**Gladstone Ports
Corporation**

gpcl.com.au

Growth, prosperity, community.

Regional Business HQ Launches

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PROGRAM

In 2023, bushfires tore through the Gladstone region, leaving residents and community disaster response teams scrambling to keep essential services open. Bushfires are a major risk in the region, with Queensland experiencing harsh bushfire seasons in recent years, and communities such as Gladstone and Bundaberg face ongoing fire risks. Anything from power outages, road closures and staff or volunteer unavailability can impact a community organisation well outside a fire zone when the people they support need them most.

Responding to the challenge, Regional Business HQ is launching a new Community Resilience program, designed to help community organisations across the Gladstone and Bundaberg Local Government Areas build bushfire preparedness skills from the ground up. Kicking off the program, the workshop will be held on Thursday 16th of July at CQUniversity, with all community groups invited to attend.

More than just a one-off consultation, the Regional Business HQ team will work with participating organisations over the coming months to develop and test a Business Continuity Plan tailored to their specific client base and operations. These will be imple-

mented through a series of structured workshops and planning sessions to strengthen disaster preparedness across the region.

The program is free for eligible participants and is made possible through the jointly funded Commonwealth-state Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

Regional Business HQ CEO, Brooke Fossey, says the program fills a gap that has long existed in regional disaster preparedness. "Community organisations are often the first line of support for vulnerable residents during a disaster," she said.

“

This program gives them the tools, the plans, and the confidence to keep their doors open when it matters most.

”

Any members of community groups and organisations that are interested in attending the Launch Workshop on Thursday 16 July at CQUniversity, Gladstone, are kindly asked to RSVP for catering purposes.

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

through Disaster Preparedness and
Business Continuity Planning

**Kick off workshop for Gladstone
community organisations:**

10.00am to 12.00pm
Thursday 16 July 2026
CQ University, Gladstone Campus

All community groups and organisations are welcome to attend and learn more about the program. RSVP to RBHQ on **1300 249 482** or email info@businesshq.org.au

Phase 1
Planning &
Scoping

Phase 3
Integration &
Implementation

Phase 2
Plan
Development

Phase 4
Testing &
Review



Australian Government



Queensland Government



Assistance provided by the Australian and Queensland governments through the jointly funded Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

Local operators set to benefit

FROM QUEENSLAND'S \$100 TOURISM INCENTIVE

Queensland is welcoming the launch of the Regional Rewards program by the State Government, providing a much-needed boost to the tourism industry and delivering direct benefits to tourism businesses across regional Queensland.

Announced by the Crisafulli Government in collaboration with RACQ and The Queensland Tourism Industry Council (QTIC), the campaign will provide 10,000 discounts of \$100 on eligible regional tours, attractions and experiences, and is expected to generate more than \$2 million in economic benefit for businesses and communities across the state. Tourism is already one of QLD's largest economic contributors, raking in more than \$43 billion in visitor expenditure and supporting hundreds of thousands of jobs across the state.

Travellers who spend \$200 or more on eligible tours, attractions or experiences can unlock a \$100 discount using the code QLD100 via Experience Oz, and the initiative is available in 10 regions including the Southern Great Barrier Reef, Mackay Isaac, Townsville, the Whitsundays, Tropical North Queensland, Outback Queensland and Queensland Country.

Regional Rewards is a part of Queensland's That Holiday Feeling Starts Here campaign, a statewide push to encourage travel and tourism for holidayers and families. Destination 2045, the 20-year tourism plan for Queensland, is set to boost eco-tourism and events in the region.

Minister for the Environment and Tourism Andrew Powell said the Crisafulli Government is delivering on its commitment to grow and back Queensland's tourism industry under Destination 2045.

“

We said we would support our tourism operators and strengthen regional economies – and that's exactly what we're delivering,

”

Minister Powell said.

“Queensland is the Home of the Holiday, and Regional Rewards is putting real money into our regions, driving bookings, supporting jobs and backing local businesses.

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

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.

“

With 10,000 incentives on offer, we're giving Queenslanders every reason to holiday at home and deliver real economic benefits where it matters most. ”

QTIC CEO Natassia Wheeler said the initiative reflects the value of strong collaboration between industry, government and key stakeholders in addressing the challenges facing tourism businesses and stimulating demand.

“This is exactly the type of targeted initiative the industry has been calling for,” Wheeler said.

“We have worked closely with government and industry partners to highlight the need for demand-driving initiatives and to ensure the voices of tourism operators are being heard. It is pleasing to see that advocacy results in practical action that will deliver real economic benefits on the ground.”

When speaking about the positive outcomes achieved when the government and industry collaborate to address the needs of Queensland's visitor economy, Wheeler mentioned that “Queensland has an extraordinary range of tourism experiences on offer and initiatives like this help convert travel intention into bookings, creating immediate benefits for operators while encouraging visitors to explore more of our regions.”



Experiences available under the incentive include guided tours in the Outback, Great Barrier Reef experiences, whale watching and jet ski tours, with the Gladstone region offering tours in 1770 and Agnes Waters bush medicine walks. Bookings are open from the 16th June to the 31st July 2026 (or until sold out), with travel valid from 17th June to 4th October 2026, driving visitation throughout the peak winter period.



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Water test and balance	✓	✓	✓
Check pool equipment	✓	✓	✓
Clear debris in baskets & cleaner	✓	✓	
Clean salt cell (When necessary)	✓	✓	
Backwash filter	✓	✓	
Clean pool floor (Vacuum or scoop if necessary)	✓		
Brush walls, floor, steps	✓		
Skim the surface + foreign objects	✓		





NATURE'S HOUSE WELLNESS ORGANIC BERRY MUFFINS

These wholesome organic berry muffins are made using simple pantry staples available at Nature's House Wellness. They're perfect for lunch boxes, morning tea or a nourishing breakfast on the go.

INGREDIENTS

Dry Ingredients:

- 2 cups Organic spelt flour
- 2 tsp Aluminium free baking powder
- 1 tsp organic ground cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp celtic salt

Wet Ingredients:

- 1/3 cup cold pressed organic olive oil or melted organic coconut oil
- 1/2 cup organic rapadura sugar
- 2 large Callide valley pasture raised eggs
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup plain, vanilla, or Greek yogurt


Fruit:

- 1 cup organic frozen berries (blueberries, raspberries, or mixed berries)

METHOD

1. **Prep:** Preheat your oven to 180°C (160°C fan-forced) and line a 12-hole muffin tin with paper cases.
2. **Mix Dry:** Sift the spelt flour, baking powder, cinnamon, and salt into a large bowl.
3. **Mix Wet:** In a separate bowl or large jug, whisk together the oil and rapadura sugar until well combined. Add the eggs, yogurt, and vanilla extract, whisking until smooth.
4. **Combine:** Make a well in the center of your dry ingredients and pour in the wet mixture. Stir gently using a spatula or metal spoon just until combined; do not overmix, as spelt flour can become dense if overworked.
5. **Add Berries:** Gently fold in the berries using a metal spoon.
6. **Bake:** Spoon the batter evenly into the muffin holes. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes, or until a skewer inserted into the center comes out clean.
7. **Cool:** Leave the muffins in the pan for 2–5 minutes before transferring them to a wire rack to cool completely.

Everything you need to create this recipe is available at Nature's House Wellness! Just scoop, shop and bake.



WELLNESS TIP – Every ingredient is an opportunity to nourish your body. Baking with wholefood ingredients and plenty of berries is a delicious way to increase your fibre and antioxidant intake.




NATURE'S HOUSE
WELLNESS

Shop with us!

1/114 Goondoon Street Gladstone Central

Open Mon-Fri 9am to 5pm
and Sat from 8am to 12pm

 0491 631 471

Looking for more healthy recipes?

Follow Nature's House Wellness on Facebook
and Instagram for weekly wholefood inspiration.

@natures_house_wellness



Winter Gardening

Looking forward to starting a garden in winter, but not sure where to begin? We've got you! Here are our top tips and favourite vegetables to grow while the weather is chilly.

What vegetables can I grow in a winter garden?

Carrots: Carrots can be grown all year round with the ability to withstand a large variety of temperatures, including cold. Make sure your soil doesn't dry out, water regularly, and keep the soil moist for the first two weeks of germination.



Broccoli: Just like us, broccoli loves a nice sunny spot, so make sure you position them where they will receive some rays of sunshine. Remember to give your broccoli a good drink of water and keep the soil moist.

Garlic: The trick with garlic is to not water your soil until your cloves have germinated, which will occur approximately two weeks after planting. Following this, ensure you water the soil often enough so that it remains moist but not wet.

Spinach: Spinach is thirsty! Water regularly and feed once seedlings begin to emerge with fertiliser. Depending on the type of spinach variety you're growing, it should be ready to enjoy in six to eight weeks.

Beetroot: Growing happily in most parts of the country, beetroot prefers soil that is loose so the beets can grow well underground. Adequate moisture is vital but avoid waterlogged soils as this will cause the beets to rot. Don't discard the leaves that grow above the ground; you can eat them!

Peas: Peas love winter, but they need a sunny spot, or they won't produce their delicious, succulent pods. This includes varieties such as snow peas and sugar snap peas too, and they can be grown in most parts of the country except the tropics because they're prone to fungal diseases that thrive in hot and humid environments.

Winter Top Tips

- Mulching in winter protects roots from frost and suppresses early weed growth
- Pruning dormant plants in winter leads to stronger, healthier growth in spring
- Winter weeds are easier to remove before they establish and seed
- Soil health is best improved in the off-season, when beds are clear and workable
- Planning your spring layout now saves time and money when the growing season kicks off

Enjoying Your Garden

Don't forget to kick back, throw on a jumper or Oodie and sip some tea while enjoying your beautiful garden that's prepared for the seasons ahead.



GLADSTONE
Garden & Landscaping Supplies

Your Local
Landscapers You
Can Trust

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





Growing Population of Gladstone

TO REQUIRE 228 NEW HOMES EACH YEAR

Property Valuer Josh Stanton of Opteon Gladstone has reviewed data from an article written by demographer Bernard Salt and has ascertained that Gladstone will require 228 new homes every year for the next 25 years to accommodate the projected population growth.

From an analysis of Australia's 98 largest cities, it was found that Gladstone is now the 31st largest city in Australia by population. It has grown by 46%, equating to an annualised population growth rate of 1.52% per annum. The entirety of Australia is projected to add 8 million people over the next 25 years, and by 2050 some cities such as Melbourne will replace Sydney as Australia's largest city. Canberra is expected to overtake Newcastle, and Geelong will overtake Wollongong.

Outpacing several other comparable regional centres, such as Rockhampton, which recorded 27% growth, and Bundaberg, recording 39% in the same period, Gladstone ranked 15th for population growth over the past two and a half decades.

“

On average, Gladstone has welcomed approximately 610 new residents each year over the past 25 years, highlighting the city's sustained ability to attract new residents through its diverse economy, employment opportunities and lifestyle. ”

he said.

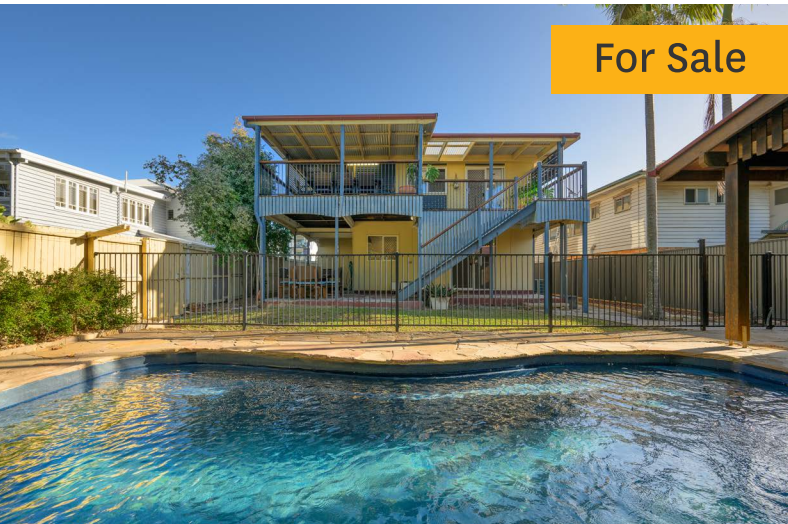
Population projections in the future indicate that Gladstone's population is expected to increase by 29% by 2050, which will add approximately 14,274 residents to the region, equating to an average increase of around 570 people per year for the next 25 years. Some other cities, namely Rockhampton and Mackay, are projected to have 100,000+ residents by the half-century, and the longing for the surf lifestyle is evident in the rise of the Gold Coast, the Sunshine Coast, Hervey Bay, Yeppoon, Busselton and Airlie Beach-Cannonvale.

“From a housing perspective, this presents a clear challenge and opportunity,” he writes, estimating that Gladstone will require 228 additional homes each year to accommodate the projected population growth, based on an average dwelling size of 2.5 people per household. The current residential rental vacancy rate for the city is sitting below 2%, which means that there is significantly less spare housing capacity than is required.

“Continued residential development will therefore play an important role in supporting Gladstone's future growth. Maintaining an adequate pipeline of new housing will help ensure the city can meet demand from new residents while supporting affordability, labour force growth and ongoing economic development,” he says, offering a solution to the growing issue of housing availability in the region.

Gladstone remains well positioned for continual expansion, with a history of strong population growth and positive long-term demographic projections.

“Ensuring sufficient housing supply keeps pace with this growth will be one of the key factors underpinning the region's future prosperity.”



For Sale

4 3 5

10 Glenlyon Street,
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View By Appointment **One of a kind!**

Price Offers Around \$895,000 Considered

Web <https://shorturl.at/pMSnz>

Steven James
0439 111 197

steven.james@gladstone.rh.com.au



Positioned in the heart of Gladstone Central, this charming 1950s Queenslander combines timeless character with generous space and modern functionality.

Set on a low-maintenance 541m² block, the home features 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, multiple living areas, a home office, and a spacious wrap-around deck overlooking the saltwater pool and entertaining area. Downstairs offers additional living space with a kitchenette, making it ideal for guests, teenagers, or extended family.

Complete with a triple lock-up garage, workshop, vehicle service pit, and side access for a boat or caravan.

Contact the Marketing Agent - Steven James on 0439 111 197 to arrange your inspection today.



For Sale

3 2 2

54 Auckland Street,
Gladstone Central

View By Appointment **Renovated Cottage and Massive Shed in the Gladstone CBD**

Price Contact Agent for price

Web <https://shorturl.at/wtMCX>

Steven James
0439 111 197

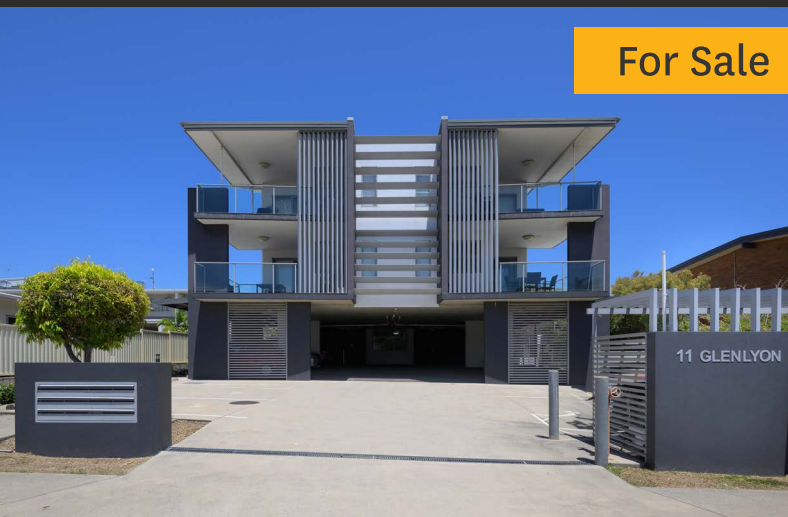
steven.james@gladstone.rh.com.au



Raine & Horne Gladstone are proud to introduce 54 Auckland Street, Gladstone Central to the local property market and note this is a great home for the first time buyer or downsizer looking for an affordable home in one of Gladstone's most sought after areas close to the Gladstone CBD.

The home is located only a couple of minutes walk from the Gladstone CBD, East Shores, Gladstone Marina, Sporting facilities, Gladstone Hospital, Night Owl Centre Shopping Precinct and West Gladstone State Primary School & Gladstone State High School. This home is positioned perfectly close to all facilities and has plenty to offer the discerning buyer looking for a property in a great location and with good future growth potential!

Contact the Marketing Agent - Steven James on 0439 111 197 to arrange your inspection today.



For Sale

2 2 1

1/11 Glenlyon Street,
Gladstone Central

View By Appointment **Inner CBD Apartment with Ground Floor Courtyard - Very Rare..!**

Price Offers Over \$475,000 Considered

Web <https://shorturl.at/UUg63>

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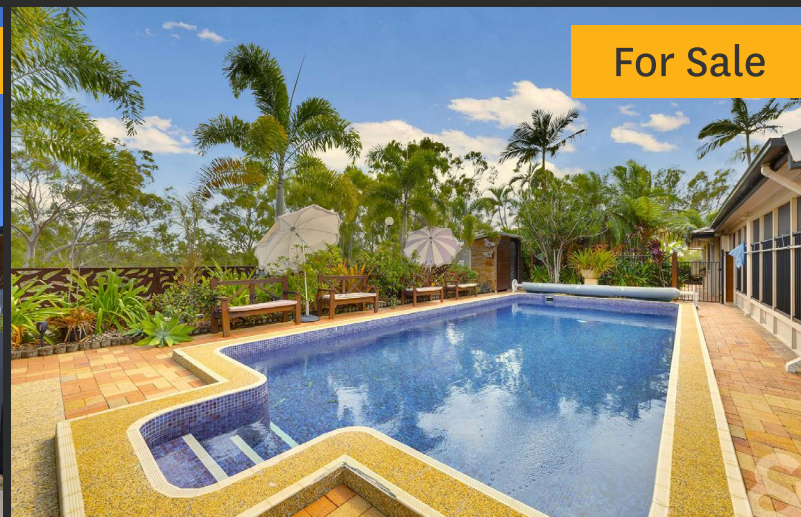
This Ultra-Modern Apartment features 2 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, open plan living area, modern kitchen with Caesar Stone benches, stainless steel appliances and dishwasher, fully air-conditioned, outdoor entertainment area with a fabulous courtyard area, off street parking and located only 300m from the Gladstone CBD.

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Council Rates approximately \$3700p.a.

Very Low Body Corporate Fees approximately \$4100p.a.

Contact the Marketing Agent - Steven James on 0439 111 197



For Sale

4 3 4

15 Wyndham Road,
Beecher

View By Appointment **Resort-Style Acreage Living with Granny Flat in One of Beecher's Most Sought-After Locations**

Price Offers Around \$1,150,000 Considered

Web <https://shorturl.at/exJND>

Ana-Maria
0409 985 550

ana-maria.sciacca@gladstone.rh.com.au



Positioned within one of the Gladstone region's most tightly held acreage pockets, this remarkable property presents a rare opportunity to secure the ultimate family retreat with every feature already in place. Thoughtfully designed for relaxed family living and large-scale entertaining, this impressive residence combines beautifully established gardens, expansive indoor and outdoor living spaces, 13.kw Solar system to help reduce those costly power bills and premium heated mineral pool upgrade to create a home that feels like a private resort.

Contact Ana-Maria on 0409 985 550 today to arrange your private inspection.



70 Years of Singing, Music and Fun in Gladstone

The Gladstone Musical Society Inc. recently celebrated its 70th Anniversary through a concert held at the New Apostolic Church on Sun Valley Road. Originally founded on the 28th of June 1956 as an orchestra and mixed choir, they performed many classic musicals such as “Oliver”, “Annie Get Your Gun,” and “Half a Sixpence” before the orchestra diminished and they transitioned into a women’s choir. The Gladstone Musical Society finds great purpose in the study and performance of good music, and its repertoire features both fun numbers and more traditional choral pieces.

During their concert, the choir performed a program of “Bring Him Home” from Les Misérables, “Swing Low, Sweet Chariot,” “Count on You” by Bruno Mars, “I Still Call Australia Home” by Peter Allen, among other traditional and beloved classics.

Featuring guest artists included The Marvellous Margy Mac - the returning poet who has performed continuously with the Gladstone Musical Society, and Rob Hopkins accompanying the



choir on banjo during their performance of “The Rainbow Connection,” and performing his co-written song “From Where I Sit.” Returning for the celebration were guests Hilda Morris, the pianist for the singalongs, and Wendy Wootton, the conductress - each contributing their valuable skills to the concert.



Present in the audience were true Musical Society stars and alumni: Leah Hall, who performed the role of Annie Oakley in the original local performance of Annie Get Your Gun; and Paultette Flint, who appeared in numerous roles while her mother, Sybil Fohrman, was an active member of the choir for over 50 years. Marj Rampton, who choreographed for countless shows, was also in the audience for the celebratory concert.

Narelle Russell, a dedicated member of the Musical Society, was presented with a Life Membership for her commitment to the choir’s excellence and was given a lovely fluffy halo to wear while conducting and cutting the commemorative cake with members Hilda Morris and Wendy Wootton.

The audience of 100 members were very receptive to the performances and joined in for sing-alongs to songs such as “Can’t Help Falling in Love”, afterwards enjoying the morning tea provided. A member of the Society has stated that they have “appreciated all the support we have had through the years, and love performing for our loyal supporters.”

Gladstone Musical Society continues to work towards excellence and is committed to fostering a fun environment and a love of music for all members - past, present and future. They hope to hold their next performance, their Christmas concert, in November this year. If you love to sing, the choir is looking for women of any age to join, and they meet up every Tuesday at 9 am at the hall on 88A Oaka Lane, Gladstone.

Gladstone Regional Council:

THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

Guiding the organisation's strategic direction through to 2031, the Gladstone Regional Council (GRC) has endorsed a new five-year Corporate Plan to reflect the ambitions and priorities they hear consistently from the local community and its people.

Titled Our Vision 2026-2031, the Corporate Plan is underpinned by four ambitions: Community, Economy, Environment, and Trust and Confidence.

"Community – A Better Everyday" outlines that the Council plans to have clear, consistent and respectful experiences so that locals understand what to expect, feel heard and are connected to the community. "Economy – Responsible Growth" ensures that well-planned, well-paced growth strengthens Gladstone, while the "Environment – Practical Stewardship" pillar details that practical, visible care for the region's natural assets will be implemented to provide a liveable, sustainable region. "Trust and Confidence – Clear and Consistent Decisions" reassures the public that clear, consistent and explainable decisions will be made and executed to build trust and confidence in the Council.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said the new five year Corporate Plan comes at a key point in time for the region.

"It reflects what matters most to our community – strong services, local opportunity and a region we're all proud to call home," Mayor Burnett said.



This plan positions us to deliver real outcomes that our community can genuinely see and experience. ”

GRC Chief Executive Officer Leisa Dowling said that Our Vision sets a commitment to grow the region and ensure it's a place where people feel connected, the environment is respected, and the Council's decisions are trusted.

"The plan will guide our decision-making and give our community an understanding of Council's priorities, as well as a clear line of sight between their expectations and the work we are set to deliver throughout the next five years."



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Photo from Bev (Pitt) Emerson

Here in History

THE GLADSTONE TOWN BATHS IN 1900

This photo taken in 1900 is of the Town Baths Enclosure (when George & Grace Phillips leased it), the Customs Boathouse & Friends Store. George and Grace Phillips came to the Gladstone area c1890 and decided to try their luck at gold digging.

They soon found this was very hard work, with little return, so they moved into Gladstone where Grace bought a business conducting the bathing closure on the banks of Auckland Creek. George had a love for boats and joining Grace's business, hired out pleasure craft. Their son, Dick (who married Elizabeth Gunzler from Blackgate, Calliope) was also keen on boats and he assisted his father in this venture. George and Grace had the pleasure of owning the first motor-driven watercraft used in Gladstone. They conducted these businesses for fourteen years and then sold (both the baths and vessels) to Bill Hodge.

By *Betty Laver*

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Comeback For Sunshine Coast Jockey

IN GLADSTONE

After a fall resulting in an ongoing knee issue and medical retirement from race riding, 39-year-old Melissa Taylor has earned her comeback by winning her first race in almost two decades in Gladstone on the 27th of June.

Growing up in Bundaberg with a family involved in the field of horse racing, Melissa completed an apprenticeship under the late Robbie Laing and Mick Price in Victoria before her accident forced her to be absent from the racing world.

“The decision for me to hang the boots up at that time was a forced decision; it wasn’t my decision on my own accord,” she recalls.

“It is something that always stuck in the back of my mind that I’d love to have the opportunity to, if I could ever get back in the saddle, I’d do what I could to work at it and to get back there.”



Managing to get her injury into a place where she could race once again, Melissa took her first ride back in late January of this year and has since scored an emotional comeback victory on Moissanite for her trainer, whom she considers a childhood friend, Gary Clem. “Gary was like a brother to me growing up. His mother was like a grandmother to me. So, it’s a pretty strong family bond from when I was about four years of age, knocking around the races and following Gary’s footsteps everywhere I went.”

Scoring her first win since 2007, she partnered with 5-year-old gelding Moissanite and won the Ratings Band 0 – 55 Handicap over 1517 metres on Saturday, which was the third win of his career from 25 starts, cruising to the finish line by more than nine lengths. “It’s pretty surreal, to be honest. The winner on Saturday, it means the world to me,” she said.

In her absence from riding, Melissa held various roles in the industry, training her own team with some success and continuing to ride trackwork for other stables. She also owned a few gallopers herself and was a licensed jockey manager. Her last win as a trainer was with the Spirit Of Giving in



Warwick just over two years ago, while preparing some city winners as well.

Gary Clem also had horse Corkscrew finish fifth in the Battle of the Bush decider on Saturday, and previously Melissa prepared the galloper earlier in his career before he was shifted with his current mentor north to Bundaberg. Melissa has ties to the Bundaberg racing industry, with both her parents and grandparents being involved, going by the surname Stephens during their prime.

Knuckling down on her training, she slowly got her weight down to 53kg while riding trackwork for Stuart Kendrick, a leading mentor in Caloundra, while also being employed as an emergency veterinary nurse. She goes to the gym most days between trackwork and employment and says,

“

“It has been a battle, but I’ve got there. I am working hard and I’m thoroughly enjoying what I’m doing. So, it’s clearly working for me at the moment.”

”

Melissa is not hanging up her boots any time soon on her terms and is keen to go with the flow while make her own decisions throughout her jockey career.



Gladstone Athletics Club's

RETURNING STAR

After a fantastic weekend competing at the Coles Winter Carnival in Townsville, Gladstone Athletics Club member Noah Davey has taken home several awards and achieved three personal bests during this last competitive season.

Finishing on the podium in every event he contested, Noah achieved 2nd Place in the 70m and 100m races, 3rd Place in the 200m race, and 3rd Place in the 60m hurdles, with each of the three races being his personal best achievements to date.

As well as Noah's outstanding performance, young athletes Parker and Easton Chynoweth had a fantastic run at the same carnival and competed in races, discus and javelin among other events in the U9 and U11 competitions.

In a statement released by the Gladstone Athletics Club social media page about Noah's recent achievements, the club said that his "hard work, determination and commitment to training are paying off" and that "the future is looking bright!"

The local athletics community is proud to support Noah and are eager to see what the following 2026-2027 season brings for him, as well as the other athletics stars in the club.



Dodgeball Fundraiser

HITS HEARTSTRINGS

The Gladstone Amateur Boxing Club took off their gloves and stepped out of the ring for the Annual Dodgeball Fundraiser, organised by Shane Byatt at the Calliope Roosters Sporting Complex.

Supporting 6-year-old Nayte and his fight against Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, the GABC team came out to fight in his corner and ended up winning the grand prize of \$500, which they donated in full to help Nayte and his family.

DMD is a severe type of muscular dystrophy and leads to a rapid progression of muscle weakness by the age of four in predominantly young boys, which leads to lifelong debilitation. Treatment is available but can be financially unviable for many families.

The afternoon was filled with dodgeball, raffles and prizes, a jumping castle, face painting, food and drinks, live music and laughter all around from the competitors and spectators. The local community came together in force to support the cause, and the GABC team were proud to be able to support such an important event in the local community.



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