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ISSUE 336

6th August 2026

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GLADSTONE NEWS

with

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PROPERTY



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07
AUG

Gladstone District Gem & Mineral Club Workshop

Meet the Gladstone Gem, Rock and Mineral Club and explore the hobbies of collecting, cutting, polishing and creating jewellery with your own stones. New members and juniors are welcome.

When: Friday 7th August, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Where: Gladstone Showgrounds, Tank Street

Price: Membership Fees Apply



08
AUG

Cat Adoption Day

Looking for a furry companion to complete your family? The Gladstone Animal Rescue Group is holding a cat adoption day, where members of the public can see and play with all the cats and kittens available for adoption. Paperwork and payment can be made on the day so you can take your adorable new friend to their forever home.

When: Saturday 8th August, 9:30 am – 11:30 am

Where: Gladstone Animal Rescue Group Inc. Cat Shelter, 17 Pams Court, Beecher

Price: Free (Excluding adoption fees)



08
AUG

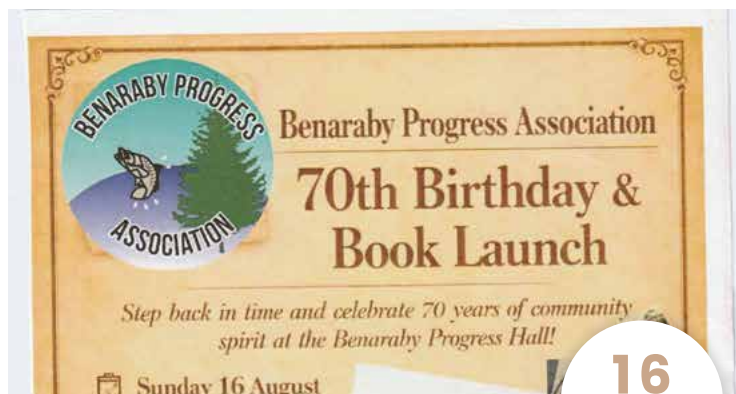
Gladstone Utes, Boots Beats and Meats Festival

Get ready for a weekend of fun and excitement over the long weekend with UBBMF, showcasing car and bike burnouts, BBQ cooking competitions, live entertainment, market stalls, drinks and food vendors, rides, dance competitions and more!

When: Saturday 8th August – Sunday 9th August

Where: Gladstone Showgrounds, Tank Street

Price: Adults \$15, Kids 11-17 \$5, Pensioners & Kids U10 Free



16
AUG

Benaraby Progress Association's 70th Birthday and Book Launch

Step back in time and celebrate 70 years of community spirit at the Benaraby Progress Hall! There will be free BBQ and cake, entertainment provided by the Toolooa School bands and the launch of the "History of Benaraby and Progress Hall" book. Please RSVP for catering purposes at benarabyprogress@yahoo.com or call 0413 004 580.

When: Sunday 16th August, from 10 am

Where: Benaraby Progress Assoc. Hall, 48845 Bruce Hwy

Price: Free



Madloch Property:

BUILT BY LOCALS, BUILT FOR GLADSTONE

Three years ago, Madloch Property opened its doors with a simple goal: to do real estate differently, not by chasing the biggest numbers or following the traditional agency model, but by creating a business built on genuine relationships.

Emily believed Gladstone deserved an independent agency that combined honest advice, genuine relationships and modern marketing.

There was no blueprint to follow and no large franchise behind us. Just a commitment to work hard and lean in on our real estate experience, look after people and build a business that our community could be proud of.

Looking back now, it's hard to believe how far that vision has come.

In just three years, Madloch Property has grown from a new name in the local market into one of Gladstone's fastest-growing independent real estate agencies. Along the way, we've celebrated some incredible milestones that simply wouldn't have been possible without the support of our clients, friends and the wider Gladstone community.

Growing With Gladstone And Its People

This year alone has been one of our biggest yet, and rather than slowing down after establishing Madloch Property, Emily Malberg has chosen to double down on her investment in the region with the acquisition of Jim Baron Realty, a respected local agency that has served Gladstone for many years.

For us, this wasn't simply about growth.

It was about preserving a local legacy while ensuring clients, landlords and tenants continue to receive personalised service from people who genuinely know the Gladstone market.

The acquisition welcomed almost 200 additional rental properties into the Madloch Property family and strengthened our property management division with experienced local property managers who share the same values that have guided our business from day one.

Growth, however, has never been about becoming the biggest, it's about becoming better.

That means investing in the right people, embracing new technology, constantly improving our marketing and creating better experiences for every client who chooses to work with us.

As the industry continues to evolve, so do we. Digital marketing, professional video, social media, data-driven strategies and innovative campaigns are no longer optional, they're essential. We believe every property deserves to stand out, and every client deserves a strategy tailored to their goals rather than a one-size-fits-all approach.

That same commitment to improvement is also the reason we're preparing to move into our brand-new office.

The new space has been designed to support our growing team, create a more welcoming environment for clients and provide room for the next stage of our journey. It's another investment in Gladstone and another sign of our confidence in the future of this region.

Celebrating 100 Property Sales

This year alone has been one of our biggest yet.

Director Emily Malberg recently celebrated the sale of her 100th property since opening the business - a milestone that represents far more than a number. Every property tells a different story. First-home buyers collecting their keys, growing families needing more space, investors building their future, retirees downsizing, and homeowners trusting us to achieve the very best result for what is often their most valuable asset.

Every sale represents someone's next chapter, and it's a privilege we never take for granted.



Success Is Measured By Connections

While we're incredibly proud of the milestones we've achieved, the numbers themselves don't define our success.

Success is the phone call from a past client recommending us to their friends.

It's the landlord who trusts us with another investment property.

It's the family who returns years later when they're ready to make their next move.

It's the relationships that continue long after settlement day.

Those moments are the real measure of what we've built.

None of this would have been possible without the support of the Gladstone community. As a locally owned and operated business, every achievement we've celebrated has been made possible because local people chose to support local.

For that, we're incredibly grateful.

Three years ago, Madloch Property was the new agency in town.

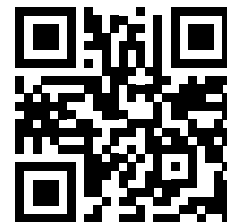
Today, we're growing an incredible team, expanding our services, investing in our future and helping more local families than ever before.

The foundations have been laid, but we genuinely believe we're only getting started.

After three incredible years, this isn't the end of the story.

It's only Chapter One.

Explore more at [Madloch.com.au](https://www.madloch.com.au) or visit them in person at Shop 10/100 Goondoon Street, Gladstone Central.



Looking to **buy, sell or lease**? Madloch Property is here to help.

Australia Needs To Back Itself

BY ROB WILLIAMSON, PRESIDENT OF THE GLADSTONE ENGINEERING ALLIANCE AND MANAGING DIRECTOR OF ALPHA HPA

I had the opportunity to join business leaders from across Australia at an Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry event in Sydney last week alongside Industry and Innovation Minister Tim Ayres. The conversation focused on Australia's industrial future, how we remain globally competitive, attract investment and build the industries that will underpin our economy for decades to come.

It's an important conversation because the world isn't standing still. Supply chains are being redrawn, investment is becoming increasingly competitive and countries around the world are moving quickly to secure the industries that will drive future economic growth.

Despite that, I believe Australia has every reason to be confident to meet this moment.

We have world-class natural resources, outstanding research capability, highly skilled people and a reputation as one of the world's most trusted trading partners. More importantly, we have the capability to do far more than simply export raw materials. We have the opportunity to manufacture the high-value products the world increasingly demands.

But potential doesn't become prosperity on its own.

It requires businesses prepared to innovate, pragmatic governments prepared to provide internationally competitive policy settings, investors prepared to back long-term opportunities and industries willing to work together. It also requires us to recognise where Australia's strengths already exist and continue building on them.

From where I sit, Gladstone is one of those strengths.

As President of the Gladstone Engineering Alliance, I see every day both the opportunities ahead and the practical challenges of turning vision into investment. I also see the capability that exists across our region. More than 100 engineering and industrial businesses make up the GEA membership, employing thousands of people who design, fabricate, build, maintain and operate some of Australia's most significant industrial assets.

That capability hasn't appeared overnight. It's been built over decades through experience, investment and businesses prepared to back themselves and their people.

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2026/27 BUDGET OVERVIEW

RATES



0.47%

average increase
for general
residential rates.

RATES + UTILITIES



4.84%

increase on Council's
general rates and
utilities including waste,
water and sewerage
(including GO).

DISCOUNTS



10%

discount for ratepayers
when paid in full on,
or before the due date on
your rates notice.

Pensioner concession
of **\$350**, an increase of
\$30 this year, for eligible
pensioners.



\$441.3M

**Total
Budget**



\$298.5M

**Operational
Expenditure**

\$23.1M grant funded



\$142.8M

**Capital
Projects**

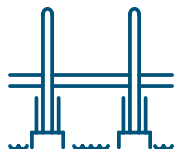
\$37.6M grant funded

WHAT WE OWN



\$3.2B

**Council-managed
community
assets**



\$104.4M

**Roads, bridges,
footpaths and
drainage**



\$147.1M

**Water and
sewerage
services**



\$39.3M

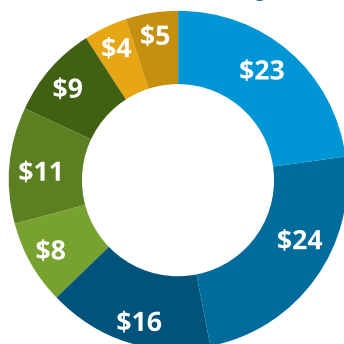
Waste services



\$32.9M

**Parks and
environment**

Where every \$100 of your rates goes



- Roads **\$23**
- Water **\$24**
- Sewer **\$16**
- Waste **\$8**
- Parks and environment **\$11**
- Community and wellbeing **\$9**
- Arts and culture **\$4**
- Supporting services **\$5**



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information

SuperChar Bio Pellets

GREENLIT FOR GLADSTONE

Signing a five-year offtake agreement with Australian bio-energy company SuperChar Limited (SCL), Rio Tinto will supply and use locally produced bio pellets at its alumina refineries in Gladstone, projected to commence in 2028.

Rio Tinto has undertaken operational trials and a feasibility study to assess the use of bio pellets as one of several potential solutions to reduce reliance on fossil fuels in alumina refining. The trials tested a range of bio pellet and coal blends and concluded that bio pellets, under trial conditions, could replace up to 30 per cent of the coal used to generate steam in the refinery boilers.

SCL plans to establish a bio pellet production facility in the Gladstone region which will use locally grown hybrid Pennisetum Purpureum X Pennisetum Americanum (commonly known as Bana Grass) to produce the bio pellets. Bana grass is a high-yielding perennial energy crop suited to Central Queensland as it can be planted and harvested using conventional sugar cane equipment and remains productive for more than 15 years.



Rio Tinto Aluminium Pacific Operations Managing Director Armando Torres said: "Reducing our alumina refineries' reliance on fossil fuel will require a mix of technologies, innovation and partnerships, and bio pellets are one of the practical options we are exploring as part of that.

"The recent trials and feasibility study have given us valuable insights, and this agreement allows us to take the next step in understanding how bio-pellets could work in practice and be scaled for use at our Gladstone operations.

“The project also has the potential to support new industries and supply chains in Central Queensland, connecting agriculture and industry in new ways. ”

SCL Executive Chairman Michael Palmer said: "This agreement builds on several years of collaboration and demonstrates the potential for local, regeneratively grown biomass as an alternative industrial fuel, while creating opportunities for regional communities.



"We look forward to continuing our partnership with Rio Tinto and progressing the project with local stakeholders."

The facility will initially have capacity to produce 35,000 tonnes of bio pellets a year, and at full contract volumes, could reduce reported Scope 1 emissions by up to 90,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent annually, under Australia's current National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting framework.

Under the agreement, Rio Tinto plans to undertake a range of operational demonstrations and assessments of bio pellet blends - ranging from 5 to 50 per cent bio pellets - as a supplement to coal used in boilers at its Gladstone alumina refinery. SCL will progressively roll out Bana Grass planting from late 2026, with the production of bio pellets processing to begin in 2028 in Gladstone.

ALDOGA SOLAR FARM SMALL GRANTS 2026

Emergency, sporting and community organisations in the Gladstone region are among the local grant recipients from ACCIONA Energía's 2026 Aldoga Solar Farm Small Grants Program.

The annual grants program supports local not-for-profit organisations with grants of up to \$10,000 as part of ACCIONA Energía's \$120,000-a-year community benefits program. The program is part of ACCIONA Energía's commitment to the long-term future of communities around its renewable energy projects.

In total, more than \$30,000 was awarded to seven local and community organisations in 2026 including the Birralea Kindergarten & Community Preschool to fund a nature play and plumbing upgrade and CareFlight Limited to undertake essential training for first responders.

The Model Engineers & Live Steamers Association Gladstone received funding to support ground maintenance and the Calliope Hack & Pony Club's grant will fund a tie-up rail with shade.

Recipients also included the LTW Learn Train and Work program to support its Honouring Excellence Awards Night, the Country Women's Association Gladstone community garden and Gladstone Women's Health Centre to support its Women's Health and Well-Being Expo 2026.

ACCIONA Energía's Queensland Community and Stakeholder lead Renee Mooney said:



We understand the community around our Aldoga Solar Farm expects to experience the benefits of hosting renewable energy projects and these grants are just one way in which ACCIONA Energía supports our local region.

"Many local organisations, like sporting clubs, social groups and health providers, play a critical role in the community and our small grants program provides funding to help ensure their efforts can continue to make a real difference.

"We were delighted to be able to support so many worthy initiatives again this year."

Not-for-profit organisations awarded grants under the program must align with the ACCIONA Social Action Plan and meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Enhance education, healthcare or cultural development
- Promote sustainability, the environment and conservation
- Promote, provide or support the provision of basic energy and water services
- Actively contribute to driving and improving the socio-economic system of the communities where ACCIONA Energía operates.



Scan the QR code to learn how to apply.

Applications for the next round of grants under the Aldoga Solar Farm Small Grants Program will open in February 2027.

National Science Week

WITH CQU'S STEM PROGRAM

CQUniversity Gladstone is teaming up with teachSTEM and Agnes Water Library to show students the exciting, educational and interesting worlds of science, technology, engineering and mathematics this coming National Science Week.

Since 1997, National Science Week has encouraged the interests of young scientists and the public to be more engaged in and fascinated by the world we live in. Running from the 15th – 23rd of August each year with over 2,500 events around Australia, National Science Week brings together communities and scientists to share experiences and highlight that science is a part of everyday life and critical for making informed, evidence-based decisions.

Joining forces with schools, community groups and workplaces, the week aims to connect science enthusiasts together, bring learning resources to the public and provide opportunities for disadvantaged and historically underrepresented groups of people in science events and career endeavours.

Students, families and the broader community are encouraged to participate in a wide variety of activities during the week. teachSTEM, who are partnering with CQU STEM Central, will

provide a Mobile Citizen Science Corner (biodiversity and ecosystem kit) at the events in Agnes Water, while STEM Central

will be bringing along Sphero Indi robots and dinosaur microscopes for families to play with.

Associate Professor at CQU, Linda Pfeiffer, said that the highlights of the event are “bringing science to the community, including making science accessible to everyone.”

The events at the Agnes Water Library will be held on the 21st and 22nd of August, 1:00 - 5:00 pm on the first day, and 9:00 - 11:00 am on the second. The events are free for attendees and located at 71 Springs Road, Agnes Water, for those interested in learning about the incredible world of science.



Impact 10X

AI Simulator Gladstone

This 3-day program is designed to help you test your start-up idea and validate its potential.

 **Simulator B - Gladstone**
1 - 3 September 2026
9:00AM - 5:00PM Day 1-2
9:00AM - 4:00PM Day 3
 43 Bryan Jordan Dr,
Callemondah QLD 4680



[Apply Here](#)



This event is sponsored by:



mindesigns



Citizen Science & STEM Days

Have some STEM fun during National Science week! Explore the citizen science corner, biodiversity, ecosystems, robots, and dinosaur microscopes. Presented by STEM Central, CQUniversity- Gladstone Campus, teachSTEM, and Agnes Water Library.

21 August 1:00–5:00 pm
22 August 9:00–11:00 am



Agnes Water Library

71 Springs Road
4677 QLD

Free Event- Bookings not required

Giving Coral Reefs A Fighting Chance

WITH MARINE CLOUD BRIGHTENING

The Great Barrier Reef, which consists of 2,900 individual reefs stretching for over 2,300 kilometres off the East Coast of Australia, is under threat from the planet's rising temperature.

A group of scientists from Southern Cross University are leading the world's first Marine Cloud Brightening experiments, hoping to protect the reef ecosystem from severe marine heat and preserve one of Australia's most beautiful natural wonders.

Led by Associate Professor Daniel Harrison and his team at the National Marine Science Centre, the program uses an end-to-end research approach to deliver six consecutive field experiments assessing the feasibility, effectiveness, and risks of this emerging climate intervention.

“We are no longer in a world where conservation is best achieved by simply leaving ecosystems alone. Marine Cloud Brightening offers hope and is inspired by a natural process. Our team's aim is to give coral reefs a fighting chance, ”

Associate Professor Daniel Harrison said. The technique of Marine Cloud Brightening builds on a natural process by spraying a fine mist of seawater into the air using specialised cannons. As the mist rises, sea salt particles interact with low-lying ocean clouds, making them brighter and more reflective, sending more sunlight back into space, reducing the amount of heat that reaches the ocean below.

Heat and intense sunlight stress corals, leading to bleaching, which is becoming more frequent and severe with six major events occurring in the past 10 years. Marine Cloud Brightening aims to lower water temperatures, reduce stress on fragile marine ecosystems, and help protect coral reefs from the impacts of climate change and bleaching events.

The University recently held a Marine Cloud Brightening Roadshow in Gladstone on the 23rd of July to showcase the science and technology behind the experiment, and to open the conversation about protecting some of our most vital natural assets.



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Gladstone Says 'I Do'

TO CQ WEDDING EXPO

Couples tying the knot across the region were excited this past Sunday to attend the very first CQ Wedding Expo Gladstone, which featured 50 wedding vendors who transformed the Gladstone Events Centre at the Yaralla Sports Club into a one-stop wedding planning destination.

Featuring a blend of local Gladstone region businesses alongside exhibitors from Emerald, Sarina, Bundaberg, Rockhampton and Yeppoon, the expo showcased the incredible talent within Central Queensland while allowing couples to connect with a diverse range of wedding professionals in one convenient location.

The vendors, who invested their time into creative and eye-catching displays for eventgoers, connected with the public and highlighted the passion of the wedding industry in Central Queensland. Couples were able to experience the excitement of planning together while creating genuine connections with local businesses ready to make their special day unforgettable.



The outpouring of support and interest has turned the exposition from an initially small endeavour to a much larger gathering of professionals and Gladstone locals, showing that the region has needed an event such as this one for a while. Attendees of the expo said that it was heartwarming to see vendors from Gladstone highlighted at the event and to see the interest from businesses from surrounding areas in CQ.

Looking around at the Gladstone expo and the wide variety of stalls, each business offered its own unique style to the event and its attendees. Businesses who travelled to attend the event could see the growing client base and expansion of the industry in the Gladstone region, and this will surely entice more businesses from further away to showcase their talents at future expos.

Organiser of CQ Wedding Expo, Brooke Bolt, said, "As it was our very first Gladstone expo, we couldn't have asked for a better welcome from the local community and from the many visitors who travelled to Gladstone to experience the event.

“ We'd like to sincerely thank everyone who attended, exhibited and supported the expo, helping make our inaugural Gladstone event such a memorable success. ”

Members of the public enjoyed the offerings from the vendors, which included photographers, celebrants, stylists, cake makers, entertainment, and venue organisers among the 50 stalls present. Each vendor was delighted to offer inspiration and ideas to wedding planners and allowed them the opportunity to ask questions while discovering what they needed ahead of their big day.

Following the success of this year's Gladstone expo, it has been announced that the CQ Wedding Expo

will return to the Gladstone region in 2027 and will build on the success of the previous event. And for any couples, bridal parties, or families who missed the event on Sunday, CQ Wedding Expo Rockhampton will be kicking off on Sunday 1st November at the Robert Schwarten Pavilion located within the Rockhampton Showgrounds.

Anyone excited to learn more can follow the CQ Wedding Expo on social media for updates on upcoming expos, exhibitor announcements and event information.



Magical Music

FROM QSO'S SYMPHONY UNDER THE STARS

Under a sky filled with stars sits an eager audience waiting for a night of magical, soaring melodies played by the instrumentalists of the Queensland Symphony Orchestra. Led by internationally recognised conductor Tianyi Lu, the Gladstone public was captivated by each piece as they embraced the cold winter's night for 90 minutes of unforgettable live music.

QSO is one of Queensland's largest performing arts companies, and as the state's only professional symphony orchestra, they attract the world's best conductors and soloists during concert seasons, in addition to presenting unique blockbuster events, regional tours and collaborations with ballet and opera companies. Tianyi's excitement was unmatched as she joined the seasoned instrumentalists on their tour in Gladstone.

“It was my first time in Gladstone, so I was really looking forward to doing this. I find that outdoor concerts are always special and exciting because we're in nature – there's something a bit more exciting about it and a bit more festive, she said. ”

“I'd heard that the crowd in Gladstone are really enthusiastic and we've been there 16 years, so we've got a really good relationship with our audiences.”



Once the crowd had settled down, music filled the air as the performers lifted their instruments and launched into the commanding fanfares of Copland's iconic tribute to the common man, and Joan Tower's powerful counterpoint for the uncommon woman. Unfolding after the explosive beginning was Chausson's *Poème*, led by Associate Concertmaster Glenn Christensen, whose solo showed off the beauty of his violin lyricism. The melodies of Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake* filled the frigid air, transporting the audience into the rich story of sweeping dances, tender scenes, and dramatic character pieces.



Tianyi recalls how exciting it is to hear live orchestral music: “For those who are going to be hearing an orchestra for the first time, that is going to be just life changing. I remember hearing an orchestra myself for the first time and being blown away by the colours, the energy, the concentration and the excitement.”

Both the orchestra and guest conductor collaborated on the performance program, with the instrumentalists suggesting Glenn Christensen to be featured as the soloist, and building the rest of the program around those decisions.

Tianyi's final wish for the Gladstone audience was that they connected with the orchestra, each other, and the fantastic program of music performed under the beautiful night sky.

“What I hope is that audiences take away the energy that we bring on stage, the way we collaborate, the enjoyment of the musicians themselves as they're playing this music, the sheer exhilaration of the music itself, and a sense of community; that we are gathering together to listen to live music and spending that time to switch off from our screens and our very busy fast paced life to just be present with our environment, vibrations and our bodies; to be physically moved and deeply touched by the music as well. ”

Pausing, Discovering and Reflecting

WITH 'SOFT LIGHT, SLOW TIME'

Dancing light and soft pastels flood the paper on Lani Burville's easel, beaming softly at the audience sitting in for her Artist In Residence talk. The painted objects glisten with iridescence and transport the guests into the slow, gentle world of still life painting.

Lani is a visual artist based in Central Queensland and her inspiration comes from the beauty in everyday and mundane moments, with a particular interest in capturing light. Her latest exhibition, 'Soft Light, Slow Time', took inspiration from the Gladstone Regional Art Gallery & Museum's permanent collection, and offered patrons of the gallery a glimpse into her artistic process as she worked on her art over a four-week residency.

The Residency offers artists the opportunity to select artworks from the Gladstone Regional Art Gallery and Museum's collection that resonate with their practice. It allows them to study the collection closely while on site in a dedicated space with time for reflection and creative development, and encourages meaningful community engagement and conversation between creatives and members of the public.

Lani has been a finalist in art awards across Queensland, including the Queensland Regional Art Awards, the Bayton Awards and Du Rietz Art Awards, winning First Prize in 'Works on Paper' (Brigalow Arts Awards 2025), the Highly



Commended Young Emerging Artist Bundaberg Art Prize (2025), and the Pieter Groen-int-woud Memorial Young Emerging Artist Award (Martin Hanson Memorial Art Awards 2024).

She has also had the opportunity for her art to be featured in state-wide art installations, most notably the Queensland Regional Art Awards touring exhibition in Brisbane 2025, stopping in Cairns, Port Douglas, Townsville and St George

in 2026, and her solo exhibition, "Reflections & Refractions" at the Banana Shire Regional Art Gallery, which focuses on bringing transparent and reflective objects into a new context and focussing on their unintentional beauty.



Using shells and corals from the archives as reference material, she experimented with a papercut technique and demonstrated her refined skills as an established watercolour artist. As she opened each new object, Lani said,

“It was like Christmas unwrapping each shell! I loved them so much.”

Recently, Lani was invited to speak at the GRAGM Lates event on Friday 10th July for the official opening of 'Soft Light, Slow Time', which also saw the 'NAIDOC', 'NUTCH (Family)' and the GRAGM Courtyard Mural unveiled while the public enjoyed light refreshments, live music and beautiful artwork. Both Lani and local Gooreng Gooreng/Wakka Wakka artist Lakarri Faerber gave talks on the night, followed by painting demonstrations from both artists. Under the guidance of Lakarri, guests had the opportunity to create a unique communal artwork inspired by the evening's events.

Despite her artist's residency ending on the 25th of July, the 'Soft Light, Slow Time' exhibit is open until the 8th of August to visitors who are keen to slow their pace, pause time and discover the stories held within each artwork. Lani Burville's artworks are available for purchase from her online shop, www.lanimaecreative.com, and the Central Queensland art community is ready to see what she creates next as she explores more creative techniques.



Because **everyone** has the right to feel **safe and well**.



We work to help people in Central Queensland be safe, healthy and well. We do this by supporting women, young people, families and communities to strengthen their safety and wellbeing.

New **name**,
same dedicated
community support.



**Don't forget to
check out our Health
and Wellbeing Expo**

Saturday 29th of August
at the Phillip Street
Precinct | 9am - 12pm



safeandwellcq.org.au

Winter Pool Maintenance



Don't let your first dip in spring be an unpleasant one. Avoid a murky pool with these essential tips to avoid a swamp in the following months:

- 💧 **Regularly clean your pool** – Yes, even if you're not using it! Over time, organic matter such as leaves and twigs will decompose in your pool, so remove debris from the water's surface and empty the skimmer basket regularly.
- 💧 **Keep the chemistry alive** – Monitor and balance your pool's water chemistry with tests and adjust the water's pH, alkalinity and sanitiser level accordingly to prevent algae growth and keep the water clear and balanced.
- 💧 **Run the filter and pump** - It's a common myth that you don't need to run the pool pump as much in winter, which is false! Although your pool won't be getting used as much in winter, the water still needs to circulate to remain at a healthy, balanced level.

Tip:

To save energy, turn the settings down but ensure the entire body of water gets circulated through the filter at least once daily for 4-6 hrs.

- 💧 **Adjust the water & chlorine levels** – Your pool still needs love and attention during the colder months, so test your water regularly and monitor the level of water in your pool. Heavy rainfall can dilute the chemicals, so top up when needed and use a slow-release or floating chlorinator to keep up a steady supply.
- 💧 **Kill algae quickly** – Keep an eye out for any signs of algae growth during winter. Insufficient water circulation can lead to black spot algae or green/cloudy water. If you spot it, use algacides or increase the sanitiser levels.
- 💧 **Cover up!** – Use a pool cover to reduce the amount of cleaning time spent over winter, which will also help to keep heat in and keep debris out.

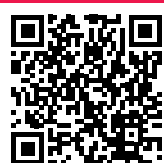
Winter pool care made easy

Keep it sparkling through winter with **Poolwerx Gladstone's Maintenance Pack**.

- Prevents green pools
- Clears cloudy pools
- Removes phosphates
- No nasty shocks come Spring!



Pick one up from your local Poolwerx Gladstone TODAY!



Poolwerx Gladstone

Shop 4, 6 Ballantine Street, Clinton, Queensland 4680 | 07 4972 7233 | gladstone@poolwerx.com.au

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for healthy pool people

Best Suburbs to Invest in

GLADSTONE IN 2026

South Gladstone

South Gladstone is a more accessible investor suburb with a mix of older housing, renovation opportunities, and properties close to services. Median house prices are around \$495k to \$500k, typical rent is \$445 to \$450 per week, and the indicative gross yield is around 4.7% to 5.6%. Barney Point's median house prices are around \$445k to \$554k, typical rent \$450 per week, and the gross yield is 5% to 6%.

West Gladstone

West Gladstone is a practical suburb for investors who want proximity to schools, parks, shops, and central Gladstone. Median house prices are around \$510k, typical rent \$500 per week, and the indicative gross yield is around 5%. Clinton sits around \$560k to \$575k, typical rent \$520 per week, and around 5% to 5.5% gross yield.

Kin Kora

Kin Kora is a smaller suburb with strong owner-occupier appeal and limited housing stock. Median house prices are around \$560k to \$575k, typical rent \$520 per week, and the indicative gross yield is around 5% to 5.5%. Similarly, Kirkwood's median house prices are around \$550k to \$650k, typical rent \$550 per week, and around 4.8% to 5% gross yield.

Tannum Sands

Tannum Sands is a lifestyle market with coastal appeal and a higher purchase price than central Gladstone suburbs. Median house prices are around \$677k to \$760k, typical rent \$580 to \$600 per week, and around 4.5% to 5% gross yield. Boyne Island's median house prices are around \$635k to \$660k, typical rent \$630 per week, and 5% to 5.7% gross yield.

New Auckland

New Auckland has moved into a higher price bracket, with recent data placing house medians above \$600k across some providers, and median house prices are around \$605k to \$626k, typical rent \$550 per week, and 4.6% to 5.1% gross yield.

Gladstone Central

Gladstone Central can look attractive because of the entry price and rental demand, but the data spread is wide. Median house prices are around \$365k to \$577k, typical rent \$490 per week for houses, and the indicative gross yield is around 5% for houses.

Toolooa, Telina, Sun Valley, and Glen Eden are also worth watching, but buyers should use current suburb-level data before deciding.



Gladstone &
Tannum Sands

gladstoneandtannumsands.eldersrealestate.com.au



For Sale

14 Pioneer Drive, Kin Kora

For Auction

 4  1  3

 1229m² (approx.)

Lowset Brick Home with Side Access to Shed & Pool!

Whether you're looking to renovate, invest, or enter the property market, 14 Pioneer Drive, Kin Kora offers endless potential.

Property Features:

- Lowset brick home
- 4 bedrooms, 1 bathroom
- Open-plan living and dining area
- Covered outdoor entertaining area
- Three-bay shed with side access
- Inground swimming pool
- Fully fenced side and rear yards
- Large 1,229m² block (approx.)

Auction Date:

Thursday 27th August
2026 @ 4pm onsite at
14 Pioneer Drive, Kin Kora

Agents:

Bevan Rose
0417 602 150

Aimee Jeffery
0403 403 485



Suite 1/216 Philip St, Kin Kora QLD 4680 • 07 4976 8000

Two Sisters: Gladstone and Saiki City

CELEBRATE 30 YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP

Gladstone Regional Council welcomed Mayor Kuniko Tomitaka and an official delegation from Saiki City, Japan, last week as the two cities celebrated the 30th Anniversary of their Sister City relationship.

The original Sister City Agreement was signed in 1996 by Mayors Yuichi Sato (Saiki) and Peter Corones (Gladstone) to promote cultural exchange and community connections, and the visit from Mayor Tomitaka marks the first face-to-face delegation between the two cities since 2019.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said the friendship has grown into a genuine connection between the two cities.

“Over the past 30 years, students, host families, volunteers and community groups have built friendships that have made this partnership something really special, Mayor Burnett said.”

“It’s those personal connections that have kept our relationship strong, even when we couldn’t visit each other in person due to COVID-related travel restrictions.”

The delegation’s itinerary included a civic reception, tours of key Council facilities, meetings with community representatives, cultural activities, an official anniversary dinner and tour of the Gladstone Tondoon Botanic Gardens, where Mayor Tomitaka planted a tree and saw several lasting symbols of the Sister City relationship, including the Japanese Tea House, the Yūjō Bonsai House and the Mirai-ba (Leaves of the Future) Exotic Plant Room, named by Mayor Tomitaka herself.

The visit concluded with a community farewell barbecue, recognising the contributions of the host families, volunteers and students who helped maintain this long-standing friendship. Mayor Tomitaka, who was elected in 2025, identified education, childhood development and disaster resilience among her key priorities, creating new opportunities for both cities to learn from one another.



Mayor Burnett said that while reflecting on everything the two cities had achieved over 30 years was fantastic, it will be equally as exciting to identify new opportunities and develop the friendship in the years to come.



GPC Gladstone Ports Corporation
Growth, prosperity, community.

Apply now!
Resource and Infrastructure Traineeship (Identified)

Gladstone Port Corporation’s (GPC) Resource & Infrastructure (R&I) Traineeship (Identified) applications are open to First Nations Peoples and Australian South Sea Islander Peoples.

Take the next step for this great opportunity to learn about the diverse work GPC undertakes across the organisation. For further information and to apply visit gpcl.com.au.

Applications close Sunday, 16 August 2026.

gpcl.com.au

Life is busy during your twenties with so much happening and life moving fast! Something has to give, and it's usually dental!

So this year Dental Health Week is focusing on making it easier than ever for 18-25yr olds to prioritise their oral health and we want to help!



This August, for just \$299, all new patients aged 18 - 25 can receive:

- Comprehensive dental check-up
- Professional clean
- 2 x X-rays
- Fluoride treatment

(Health Fund Inclusive)

Plus, receive 10% OFF any further treatment recommended following your appointment

Did you know?

 **77%** of Australians rarely or never floss, and 26% haven't seen a dentist in over 5 years.

 Vaping and smoking in young people can cause dry mouth, tooth decay, gum disease, mouth ulcers, and even cracked teeth. Nicotine also stains teeth and slows healing, making it harder for the mouth to fight infections.

 Genetics play a role in your oral health, some individuals are more prone to dental issues, due to inherited factors of your oral microbiome.

 Around **1 in 3** Australian adults (32%) have at least 1 tooth with untreated decay.

Conveniently located in Sun Valley Marketplace

Your local team for healthy, happy smiles

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A Drakes Shopping Centre, Shop 8/85 Sun Valley Road, Kin Kora



THAI COCONUT SOUP

INGREDIENTS

- 1 tbsp vegetable oil
- 10 prawns/shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 2 garlic cloves, finely grated
- 2 tsp ginger, finely grated
- 1 lemongrass stalk, peeled, finely grated
- 1 tbsp brown sugar
- 1 1/2 tbsp fish sauce (or soy sauce)
- 2 tsp curry powder
- 1 tsp coriander powder
- 2 tsp chilli garlic paste or other chilli paste
- 400 g / 14oz coconut milk
- 2 cups / 500ml chicken broth
- 2 tsp lime zest
- 200 g / 7 oz fresh egg noodles, prepared per packet instructions
- Handful of bean sprouts

Toppings / for serving:

- Lime wedges
- Fresh coriander/cilantro leaves
- Sliced red onion or shallots

Prep: 8min
Cook: 12min
Serves 2

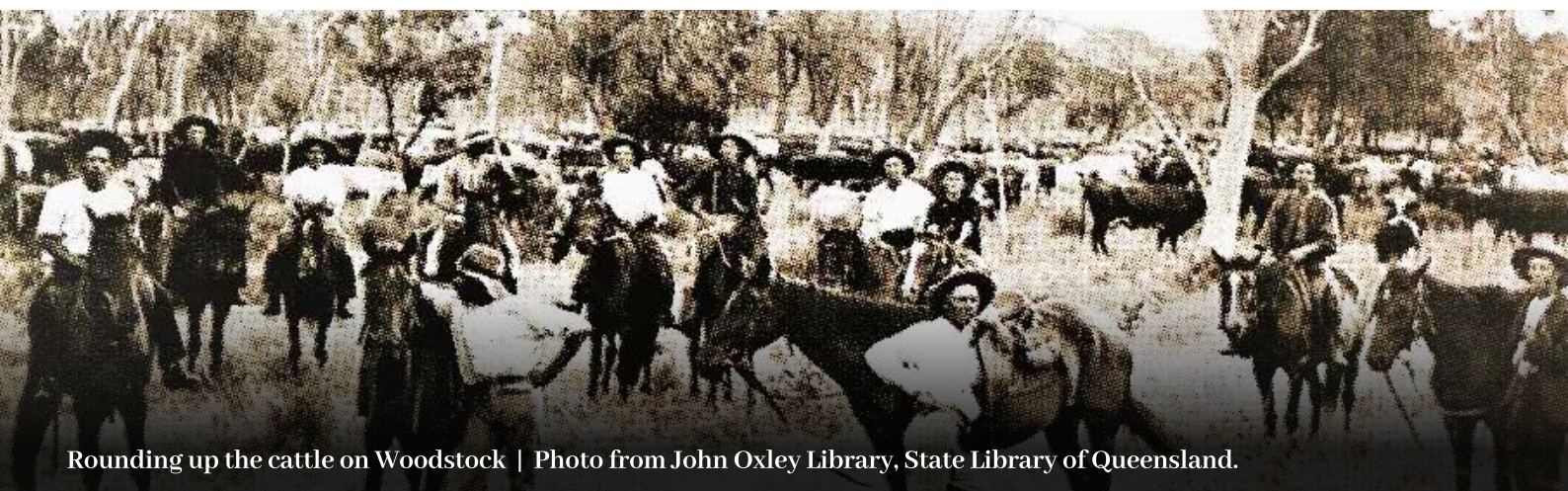
METHOD

1. Heat oil in a large saucepan over high heat. Add prawns and sear both sides until light golden (doesn't need to cook inside). Remove onto plate.
2. Turn heat down to medium. If pot is looking dry, add a touch of extra oil.
3. Add garlic, ginger and lemongrass. Sauté for 20 seconds until garlic is golden.
4. Add sugar and fish sauce. Stir and cook for 30 seconds – it should look like caramel.
5. Add chilli paste, coriander and curry powder. Stir and cook for 30 seconds.
6. Add chicken broth and coconut milk. Stir and bring to simmer.
7. Simmer for 2 minutes, then add lime zest and return prawns into broth.
8. Cook for 2 minutes just to reheat and finish cooking the prawns.

Serving:

1. Place noodles in bowl. Ladle over soup.
2. Top with bean sprouts and coriander, plus toppings of choice.
3. Squeeze over lime juice to taste.

<https://www.recipetineats.com/easy-thai-coconut-soup-with-shrimp-prawns/>



Rounding up the cattle on Woodstock | Photo from John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland.

Here in History

WOODSTOCK, DEPOT PADDOCK FOR SWIFTS MEATWORKS

The original Woodstock Station on the southern outskirts of Gladstone had a colourful history. Woodstock was a 4,000-acre property running south from the Tondoon Lagoons and encompassed the area of Mt Morris, while to the north and east it encircled the road, rail and city.

John Stapleton who owned the Young Australian Hotel in 1913, established his 23-year-old son John Edwin Henry (Edmund) into the pub. Edmund wanted to be a cattleman so he bought Wood-

stock from John Cooke and began grazing cattle. They thought that the fattening of cattle could be greatly improved if they cleared some of the trees from this dense scrubland. This was in the days of the Kanakas, (South Sea Islanders) and they were employed to tree-clear with axes all week at Woodstock. They would be paid on Fridays, only to recycle their wages back to Edmund's hotel. This arrangement worked so well that Woodstock was nearly totally cleared and grassed, making it a prime property by WW2.

The station was bought by Bob Boys, who built the first slab hut and cattle yards. Boys sold the paddock to the American meat company, Swifts, and it was used as a depot paddock for the adjacent meatworks for many years. Much of Woodstock is now a suburb on the outskirts of Gladstone and is a popular real estate development.

By *Betty Laver*



Be Race Ready!

Gladstone Ports Corporation's Port to Park Fun Run 2026

RACE PACK COLLECTION

To make sure you are race day ready, you will need to collect your race pack prior to the event.

Race packs can be collected from the P2P Race Office, located at the East Shores Conference Centre, Flinders Parade (above the Maritime Museum).

Port to Park race packs include a disposable timing bib and a complimentary race t-shirt (limited stock). Participants must bring their e-ticket or valid ID to collect their race pack. Remember to write your emergency contact details on the front of your timing bib.

Random prizes to be won with race pack collection.

Race Office opening hours:

Friday, 14 August: 7:00am - 6:00pm

Saturday, 15 August: 8:00am - 10:00am

Location:

East Shores Conference Centre, Flinders Parade (above the Maritime Museum).

ROAD CLOSURES SUNDAY 16 AUGUST

To ensure the safety of participants and the community, road closures will be in place on event day between 5:30am and 10:30am.

For more information regarding road closures, car parking locations and shuttle bus details, please visit gpcl.com.au

Be race ready by knowing your race course, having your timing bib attached to your front, wearing appropriate footwear and being well stretched and hydrated. **See you on Sunday, 16 August 2026.**

Scan for more
information or to
register now!

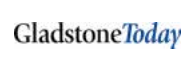
Online registrations close
Thursday, 13 August 2026 at 4pm.



**Gladstone Ports
Corporation**

Growth, prosperity, community.

THANK YOU TO GPC'S PORT TO PARK 2026 SPONSORS.



Pedalling For Victory

AT PEDAL PRIX 2026

Students who aren't interested in traditional sports need not worry anymore, as the Gladstone Pedal Prix offers adventure, speed, challenge and personal growth for talented students across the state in the form of HPVs, or Human Powered Vehicles.



The Queensland Pedal Prix Super Series is one of the State's most exciting school-based programs, combining competitive racing, STEM education, teamwork and endurance into an exciting, unforgettable experience. Students can design, build and race high-performance HPVs in endurance events across Queensland, and each event welcomes students from both metropolitan schools and regional communities.



Each vehicle that takes part in the event has criteria and specification guidelines that students and supervisors must follow for personal safety, including the use of roll bars, padding and harnesses that protect drivers when racing. Participants are expected to follow a code of conduct and undergo vehicle scrutineering when competing, which makes each event safe and enjoyable for everyone involved.

The students also get to design and name their HPVs, and the races take place over 8 hours on the 950m track.

Faith Christian School enjoyed a fantastic and successful weekend at the Gladstone Go Kart Track, facing strong competition from 24 teams representing 11 Queensland schools. The students demonstrated exceptional perseverance, teamwork, and skill throughout more than seven hours of racing, and won the Primary, Junior Boys and Senior Secondary Boys categories. The wider school community also achieved great success, with the Teachers and Parents Community Team finishing third in their category.

The event brought together families from across Queensland, including Townsville, Moura, Gympie, and South-East Queensland. As the organisers of the QLD Pedal Prix Super Series, Faith Christian School extended a sincere thank you to the many staff, parents, and schools whose commitment and encouragement helped make the weekend such an enjoyable and memorable success for all involved.



The popularity of the Pedal Prix continues to grow each year, and there was strong support from the local community, including from Gladstone Mayor Matt Burnett and Councillor Simon McClintock, who attended the event to officially open and close the day of racing.

Starting in March and concluding in September, the Pedal Prix Super Series takes place at 10 tracks up and down the East Coast, offering a registration fee of \$70 per trike to eager participants. The race creates opportunities for students with diverse interests and abilities, and is where future engineers, athletes and leaders can form lifelong friendships out on the track.

Gladstone's Jack Ireland Wins

SILVER IN GLASGOW

Former Gladstone athlete Jack Ireland recently brought home both silver and bronze after competing in the Men's S14 200m Freestyle at the Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games.

Headlining a strong start for the UQ Swimming Club athletes, Jack's performance followed a dream Paralympic debut in 2024 in Paris, where he returned with a bronze medal in the same event and a silver in the mixed S14 4x100m Freestyle Relay. He also made his world championships debut in London in 2019, where he finished 8th in the 200m Freestyle S14, placed 4th at Madeira in 2022 and claimed his first world championship medal in the event (bronze) in Manchester in 2023.

Australia finished the Commonwealth Games with an unprecedented 37 gold medals after the finale at Glasgow's Swimming



Centre on day six, and Jack achieved a personal best time of 1:53:77 after his bronze win.

Jack discussed his winning strategy: "The plan was to just stay composed for the first 50 metres. "The second 50 was the go-to, so just building it up and then using my legs more leading into that third 50 metres and then just taking off and giving it everything in that last 50."

Jack, who identifies as a person with an intellectual disability, grew up in Newcastle, NSW, before moving to Gladstone at the age of 13, where he joined the Gladstone Gladiators Swim Club. Following his international wins, he is now looking forward to the upcoming Pan Para Pacs Swimming Championships in LA, USA, next month.



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.

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REBATES ARE STILL HERE!



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