

# CQ Today

## GLADSTONE

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**Rental squeeze on Gladdy**



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**Historical charm for B2G**



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**Local voice in parliament**



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**Last chance for Rockynats Comp**



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# Sporting central

By Jamie McKenzie

Gladstone Coal Exporters Sports Complex, commonly referred to as Marley Brown Oval, is set to be the focus of future sporting development in the region with Gladstone Regional Council about to commence consultation with facility users and stakeholders as part of the next stage of planning for the site.

The redevelopment aims to provide Gladstone with a major sports and event facility suitable for national sporting games and large outdoor events.

Council's intention to upgrade Marley Brown Oval was announced following the successful hosting of an NRL game between the Gold Coast Titans and Manly Sea Eagles in April 2018.

The region's appetite for high-profile sporting fixtures was evident with almost 5200 fans packing Marley Brown Oval to watch the Titans defeat the Sea Eagles.

The venue continued to host high-profile sporting fixtures following the NRL match, seeing the Brisbane Roar and Queensland Reds play pre-season matches in 2019 and 2020 respectively, plus a round of the National Rugby Championship played in September 2019.

Local sporting organisations, mainly rugby league and rugby union, continued to use Marley Brown Oval during this period and will continue to do so during 2021. The venue has also hosted outdoor music concerts.

While recent redevelopment plans for Marley Brown Oval have focused on the facility's capacity to host NRL games, Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said the next round of consultation with the users of the facility will consider the whole sports precinct.

"Gladstone has hosted the Jason Hetherington Gary Larson Cup for over 10 years, attracting nearly 30 teams to the three-day carnival, so it's important that any facility plans for Marley Brown Oval not only allow the hosting of NRL games or other sporting codes, but also improve Gladstone's capacity to host carnivals and play field sports during the season," Councillor Burnett said.

"Plans to upgrade the facility will include extending the crowd capacity up to or about 10,000 people, ensuring an easy transition from day-to-day operations to hosting an NRL game, extending the facility's capacity to host regional carnivals, and providing Gladstone with a venue for large outdoor events such as



Marley Brown grand stand

concerts and festivals.

"Redevelopment of the facility will help attract large-scale events to the Gladstone and Central Queensland region, while providing stimulation to the local economy and enhancement of our region's economic prosperity and diversity."

Cr Burnett said the next step for the project includes the preparation of revised concept plans and the development of a business case to consider whole-of-life costs, risks and benefits and options prior to seeking funding and development of the project.

"Stakeholder engagement with facility users is a major component of the business case and explores how day-to-day facility use can align with major event transition," Cr Burnett said.

"Feasibility will also be a major aspect for the successful advancement of the project as financial investment and funding is still required to bring the project to a shovel ready state."



Marley Brown oval



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## WEATHER



**TODAY**  
Thunderstorms  
22 - 27°C



**FRIDAY**  
Scattered  
thunderstorms  
23 - 28°C



**MONDAY**  
Showers  
22 - 27°C



**SATURDAY**  
Scattered  
thunderstorms  
23 - 29°C



**TUESDAY**  
Showers  
23 - 27°C



**SUNDAY**  
Scattered  
thunderstorms  
23 - 28°C



**WEDNESDAY**  
Showers  
23 - 27°C

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# Renters feeling the weekly pinch

By Jamie McKenzie

Gladstone renters are feeling the effects of a decrease in the number of properties available to rent, with weekly rentals increasing and more competition for available properties.

RE/MAX Gold founder Jeff Williams says there are several factors that are contributing to the current situation which, in his opinion, is not likely to change anytime soon.

"What we are seeing in Gladstone is being reflected in most regional areas of Australia, but there are some issues which are unique to Gladstone," said Mr Williams.

"COVID has initiated an exodus from city centres to outlying areas, and we are certainly seeing an element of that in our local market but there are other factors at play as well. The flood of mortgagee sales resulting from the downturn in Gladstone after the gas construction boom has removed many properties from the local rental pool. Fortunately, this flood has abated, but with growth in the market now occurring, many property owners who could not previously afford to sell due to 'negative equity' issues are realising an opportunity to liquidate."

"As well as that, the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) decision in 2017 to discourage interest-only lending reduced the pool of investors able to invest in property and the amount of investment property construction, and legislative changes planned by the state government has heightened the risk profile around investment property ownership, further discouraging investment in residential property."

"The other key element renters need to understand, is that the Gladstone rental market is still not yet at the level it was in 2008, prior to the impact felt by the construction of the gas plants."

Mr Williams is also keen to burst the myth of the 'greedy landlord'. "By far, most residential investment properties are held by mum and dad investors who own one property other than their principal place of residence, and they do so to reduce their reliance on



Jeff Williams of Remax Gold Gladstone

government assistance in their retirement. If they cannot get a reasonable return on their investment property, they will put their

money elsewhere, which means one less roof available to a potential tenant.", Mr Williams concluded.

## First aid skills front of mind

By Jamie McKenzie

Each year 1 in 5 Australians will experience a mental illness. Many people are not knowledgeable or confident to help. Physical first aid is accepted and widespread in our community, however, most do not cover mental health problems. Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) teaches people the skills to help someone who they're concerned about.

Lack of knowledge and stigmatising attitudes about mental illness may prevent people from seeking help early, seeking the best sort of help and providing appropriate support to colleagues and family members, simply because they do not know how.

Gladstone Neighbourhood Centre, supported by Gladstone Regional Council, is providing a free Mental Health First Aid course designed to teach people the required skills to give mental health 'first aid' to others who may be struggling.

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) courses are based on evidence of what is best practice mental health first aid to support someone who has a mental health problem or is experiencing a mental health crisis.

All MHFA courses are accredited and evaluated using rigorous scientific methods, to ensure they are having a positive impact.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said an opportunity is now available for residents to tap into this positive impact by registering for the upcoming Mental Health First Aid training course.

The training course will be held across two days on Monday 29 and Tuesday 30 March, 9am to 5pm at the Community Engagement Centre (142 Goondoon Street), with RSVP due by 5pm on 24 March for catering purposes.

"Many people take a first aid course to prepare for the day when they might need to assist someone who is physically sick or injured, so it makes perfect sense to offer a similar course in relation to mental health," Councillor Burnett said.

"Mental health is a subject that is quickly losing its stigma, but there is still more work that can be done.

"The Mental Health First Aid Course is being provided by the Gladstone Neighbourhood Centre, which is funded by the Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy."

Cr Burnett said training outcomes of the MHFA course include four key aspects: Knowledge (to increase mental health literacy), Confidence (in providing mental health first aid), De-stigmatising (decreasing stigmatising attitudes) and Support (increasing the support provided to others).

"This course will teach participants to recognise common mental health problems, how to provide initial help to someone experiencing a mental health problem using a practical, evidence-based action plan, and how to respond in a crisis situation," Cr Burnett said.

"During the course, participants have the opportunity to practice new skills in a safe environment." Cr Burnett said the MHFA course came about as a Health and Well-being deliverable from Gladstone Regional Council's COVID-19 Recovery Plan, who engaged with Gladstone Neighbourhood Centre to provide this free course to community members.

"The need to increase mental health provision services was identified as a result of community consultation and engagement," he said.

"Ultimately, by facilitating initiatives such as free Mental Health First Aid training we can build stronger and resilient communities."

# CQToday

The editor's desk

Our lead story on Page 5 highlights the amazing work of RACQ Capricorn Rescue.

In October last year, 26-year-old Riley Tomlin suffered a serious fall from his motorbike, leaving him in critical condition.

RACQ Capricorn Rescue's onboard critical care paramedic and doctor worked to keep Mr Tomlin stable for his flight to Rockhampton Hospital. Today, he's fully recovered except for some muscle weakness and is even back on his motorbike.

Riley, along with representatives from Hewitt Cattle, attended the RACQ Cap Rescue hangar this week to visit the Rescue300 crew that attended the mission.

And he couldn't be happier to meet the crew that saved his life.

"I can't remember a great deal of the rescue, but RACQ Capricorn Rescue are worth their weight in gold. They're a hard breed to come by and a lot more lives would be lost if they weren't there," he said.

On the 25th anniversary of the first rescue performed by the service, it's the perfect time to reflect on their enormous contribution to the region.

- Matthew Pearce



# Central route from Rocky out to Uluru

By Matthew Pearce

The past year has been a difficult one in the travel industry but one local agency has decided to do something about it, offering charter flights to the red centre.

The Uluru Weekend Adventure, offered through Travel Associates Rockhampton, included return economy flights direct from Rockhampton to Uluru and a Uluru Sunrise, Base and Kata Tjuta tour.

Senior travel advisor Angela Lucieer hosted the inaugural trip last month and said the experience was an unforgettable one.

"The response we had was absolutely amazing, I had so many people come up to me during the trip and just say, 'this is so good', or 'this has been my bucket list item,'" she said.

"Out of 100 guests we had 80 people who'd never been there before as well people going for their birthdays or anniversaries. We had six Rotarians who brought the Rotary 100 years baton with them.

"One lady and her husband had gone there 30 years ago and their date of the trip was the same date that she climbed the rock, so she said it was fate."

Ms Lucieer said travel agencies had had a tough year because of the pandemic and trip was a way of generating revenue for Travel Associates while giving people the opportunity to travel.

"With Covid we've been hit hard and our owner Debbie Rains found out there was an Alliance plane that was set up at Townsville Airport from Friday to Sunday," she said.

"She asked if we could charter it and we decided to go to Uluru first as the Northern Territory is the easiest place to access outside of Queensland."

Travel Associates had three Uluru charters out of Townsville last year, as well as one in Mackay and the trip on February 26-28 was the first from Rockhampton.

"I loved it, I'd never been to Uluru before and it was spectacular, even though I was hosting I still had a great experience there," Ms Lucieer said.

"I was just for a weekend, but I didn't feel like I missed out on anything. The tour that we did isn't something that you can book, it was created especially for us, because we didn't have much time.

"The weather was perfect and the nights were just divine."

After a year of travel restrictions, Ms Lucieer said many people had just wanted to 'do something'.

"They said how nice it was to be at an airport again and have that travel experience," she said.

"They've had a lot of overseas trips cancelled and this gave them something to look forward to. They made my job so easy, they



CQ residents enjoyed a charter flight from Rockhampton to Uluru last month.

were a great group of people."

In fact, the trip was so popular that Travel Associates is looking to do it again.

"We're just waiting on final confirmation on accommodation and we'll be able to offer a new charter," Ms Lucieer said.

Travel manager Sheron Konig said the Rockhampton store's staff had been excited to

sign travel documents again.

"It's been a very challenging 12 months, but we're proud of this opportunity. It's a unique opportunity to fly direct out of Rockhampton," she said.

"A lot of people told us how good it was being able to do that and not have to go via a capital city."

## Gladstone waste facilities opening hours

Gladstone Regional Council has announced changes to opening hours at some of their waste facilities.

Benaraby Landfill on the Bruce Highway and Gladstone Waste Transfer Station on Joe Joseph Drive will have a slight change to operating hours, effective from 15 March.

Both facilities will operate from 7.30am-5pm Monday to Sunday. The previous hours were 7am-5.30pm, Monday to Sunday.

Weekend hours will change at Agnes Water Waste Transfer Station (233 Captain Cook Drive), with operating hours changing to 8am-noon and 1pm-4pm on Saturday and Sunday only, effective from 1 April.

Weekday operating hours at Agnes Water Waste Transfer Station will remain 8am-noon.

## Watson is new councillor

Livingstone Shire has a new councillor, with Rhodes Watson officially sworn in on Tuesday, 16 March at the Council Chambers.

Mr Watson was the runner-up in the 2020 local government election and fills the vacancy left by Tanya Lynch who resigned on 4 March.

Cr Lynch held the Vibrant Community (Tourism, Events and Culture) portfolio and was instrumental in shepherding through many cultural activities and initiatives across the shire.

## Water play area up and running

Families can enjoy the delights of the wet play area at South Rocky Pool again, now that a much needed part has arrived and been installed.

Rockhampton Regional Council's Sports, Parks, and Public Spaces councillor Cherie Rutherford thanked the community for their patience.

"We know the South Rocky pool's wet play area is a real favourite for families, and we've had to keep it closed for quite a few weeks which is always a shame.

"The closure was unavoidable: a part of the filter system stopped working, and unfortunately we weren't able to source that specific part locally. We located the part as soon as we could, and once it arrived we installed it straight away.

"We really appreciate everyone's patience while we got this fixed. The wet play area is now back up and running and ready to enjoy!"

## Shape future of highway

The state government has put the call out to regional Queenslanders to help shape the future of jobs, economic recovery and upgrades on Queensland's critical artery: the Bruce Highway.

Nominations have opened for regional representatives who regularly use the highway, are road safety experts or regional development experts to join industry leaders like the RACQ and Queensland Farmer's Federation on the Bruce Highway Trust Advisory Council.

The Trust was officially launched last year to build on the \$12.6 billion plan currently being rolled out on the Bruce, and drive a long-term vision for the 1677km highway with a series of rolling five-year action plans.

To nominate head to: <https://www.qld.gov.au/about/join-a-board>, and for more information on the Trust visit: <https://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/business-industry/Business-with-us/Bruce-Highway-Trust-Advisory-Council>

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# First Covid shot in Rocky

By Matthew Pearce

A year ago Dr Gulam Khandaker was interviewing the first Covid-19 patient in CQ before they tested positive, and on Thursday, 11 March, he became the first person to get the Covid vaccine in Central Queensland.

CQ Health's director of public health and clinical research, Dr Khandaker completed an international research project on Covid-19 outbreaks in residential aged care facilities, with the results published in the Lancet Group open access journal EClinicalMedicine.

Rockhampton Hospital frontline healthcare workers are the first Central Queenslanders to get the Covid-19 vaccination before it rolls out to the wider community.

CQ Health chief executive Steve Williamson said first up were workers from the Public Health Unit, Emergency Departments, Intensive Care Units and High Dependency Units.

"While we've been very fortunate in Central Queensland, with just 11 total Covid cases recorded, rolling out this vital vaccine program to our community," he said.

"I am very grateful that our staff on the frontline are among those at the head of the queue to get their vaccine. They have done an incredible job and I thank them for their hard work and commitment throughout this pandemic."

Member for Keppel Brittany Lauga said the CQ rollout of the AstraZeneca vaccine would soon expand into the Capricorn Coast.

"People should be reminded that this vaccine is not mandatory and it is free for everyone," she said.

"As we ramp up our vaccine rollout to the first priority group, soon our other priority groups, including older Australians and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, will be prioritised for vaccination.

"Queensland relies on the federal government for its vaccine supply and we're calling on the Commonwealth to ensure there are enough doses available to protect Queenslanders' health."

Ms Lauga said the vaccine rollout would happen in five stages, with people at higher risk of Covid-19 able to get the vaccine early.

"You will get an invite to book a time to get the vaccine, if you are eligible, or call 1343 2584."

Federal Member for Capricornia Michelle Landry said the rollout of the Covid-19 vaccine was progressing well in Capricornia.

"I urge everyone to get their information on the Covid-19 vaccine through trusted and verified sources, such as the Australian Government's website, health.gov.au," she said.

"If you aren't sure when you are due to receive the Covid-19 vaccine, please complete our Covid-19 Vaccine Eligibility Checker on [www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/covid-19-vaccine-eligibility-checker](http://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/covid-19-vaccine-eligibility-checker). The questions are not invasive and your privacy is always protected.

"You won't have to travel to receive the free vaccine and I urge everyone in Capricornia to have it when they get the chance."

The first Covid vaccine for Gladstone in phase 1a was administered on Wednesday, 17 March, at 9am at the Gladstone Hospital West Wing.



Public health director Dr Gulam Khandaker has his Covid vaccine administered by Corinne Miles, at Rockhampton Hospital.

Queensland's vaccine strategy is guided by the Covid-19 vaccine national roll-out strategy.

Queensland Health aims to give every eligible Queenslanders the opportunity to be fully

vaccinated against Covid-19 as soon as possible and is working collaboratively with the Australian Government to ensure an effective and efficient rollout for our rural and remote communities.

## We have a winner: Mathers is new Div 3 councillor

By Matthew Pearce

Rockhampton Regional Council has a new representative for Division 3, with Grant Mathers declared the winner in a hard fought by-election.

After Cr Tony Williams vacated the seat to take up the role of mayor, five candidates nominated for the position of councillor including Mr Mathers, Leyland Barnett, Christian Shepherd, Deanna Beatson, and Dave Bauer.

A 'very happy camper' after his win was officially declared on Tuesday, Mr Mathers said he was eager to get started.

"I just need to push everything so I can get in there and start work on the issues I've been talking to the constituents about," he said.

"I've been speaking to probably 2000 people over the past three weeks and I've gone through and made a list of what the majority of people's concerns are. I'll start working on that list so I've got something to sink my teeth into as soon as I get in there.

"There are about 10 different issues that were the main things that people bought to



Grant Mathers will be sworn in as the new councillor for Rockhampton's Division 3.

my attention and probably four or five of them are at the top of the list."

Mr Mathers has raised the prospect of transforming the North Rockhampton riverfront and wants to see it become a family focused area.

Mr Mathers' win was declared at 47.09%, but he expected that would grow to more

than 50% on Tuesday when postal votes were included.

"It was a reasonably comfortable win but everybody else put up a good fight," he said.

"I had the support of the region which is really good."

Mr Mathers moved to Rockhampton at the age of two, growing up in Painswick St in Berserker and later raised a family in Koongal.

"I absolutely love the region," Mr Mathers said in an interview with CQ Today.

"Division 3 is in my blood. I'm very passionate about it."

Mr Mathers hopes to start work as soon as possible, and will hand in his resignation to his employer this week.

"I'm not sure how much notice I'll have to give. I'll leave that decision up to my current employer, I have to do the right thing by them, they allowed me to take time off without pay to pursue this so I've got to give back."

When the winner was declared on Tuesday afternoon, the results were: Grant Mathers: 47.09%, Deanna Beatson 30.67%, Leyland Barnett 9.92%, Christian Shepherd 9.07% and Dave Bauer 4.25%.

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Pilot Mitch Vernon shows Riley Tomlin the equipment on the RACQ Capricorn Rescue helicopter, five months after his lifesaving flight.

# Networking event for CQ industry

By Matthew Pearce

The old adage 'make hay whilst the sun shines' has never more important for CQ's business and industry groups.

Capricorn Enterprise regional economic development manager Neil Lethlean said March 25's 2021 Capricorn Major Projects Update and Networking Event, hosted by the Fitzroy Basin Association in association with Capricorn Enterprise, was a 'must attend' event for local contractors and supply chain businesses.

"While Central Queensland businesses are enjoying the spoils from a number of major projects across the region, they shouldn't be complacent," he said.

"It is important that business leaders 'keep their eyes on the prize' and continue to engage and network with project proponents and managers, both current and emerging.

"The event is a unique industry networking opportunity where locals can pick the brains of organisations who are managing large-scale work in the region."

Representatives from Sunwater, Laying O'Rourke, the Great Barrier Reef Foundation, FBA, Capricorn Enterprise, Verterra, Catchment Solutions and Greening Australia will discuss upcoming opportunities and what they are looking for when seeking tenders.

"Collectively these organisations are managing billions of dollars of regional project work with plenty of opportunities for local contractors and experts," Mr Lethlean said.

Held at Rockhampton Leagues Club, the informal event will kick off with registrations at 2.30pm and run into the early evening, and

includes tapas and drinks in the ticket price.

Tickets are selling quickly. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/y8mdyp4b> to reserve your spot.



Neil Lethlean

# Thanks to rescuers

By Matthew Pearce

In October last year, Riley Tomlin, 26, was working at Pegunny Station, near Moura, when he suffered a serious fall from his motorbike, leaving him in critical condition.

Almost five months later, he was eager to meet with the crew from RACQ Capricorn Rescue who helped save his life.

Mr Tomlin said he couldn't remember the initial injury or exactly how it happened.

"I was mustering and one took off away from the mob and I went after it," he said.

"Not knowing the country I guess come off. I upended the motorbike and it landed on top of me, cutting two arteries."

While he was drifting in and out of consciousness, he remembers being worried about the repercussions of the injury.

Heading off immediately from Rockhampton, the RACQ Capricorn Rescue crew met with the Queensland Ambulance Service who were treating Mr Tomlin's injuries.

The onboard critical care paramedic and doctor worked to keep Mr Tomlin stable prior to his flight to Rockhampton Hospital.

Today, he's fully recovered except for some muscle weakness and is even back on his motorbike.

"I can't remember a great deal of the rescue, but the RACQ Capricorn Rescue are worth their weight in gold. They're a hard breed to come by and a lot more lives would be lost if they weren't there."

Ben Hewitt, chief operating officer at Hewitt Cattle Australia, said Riley's accident proved the importance of services like RACQ Capricorn Rescue.

"Riley's incident was very serious and we're very grateful for the support we got from RACQ



Riley Tomlin (centre), supported by his workmates from Hewitt Cattle Australia.

Capricorn Rescue and Queensland Ambulance," he said.

"It proves how really good systems work - our systems and the emergency services' systems all came together and while it was a bad accident it had a really good outcome.

"We thought it was important to recognise that with a donation. We're very pleased there's a service like this to avoid anyone else ending up in a worse situation than what happened on that day."

While he wasn't there at the time of the accident, Mr Hewitt said it had affected those were

'pretty heavily'.

"We are essentially a family business and we know all the guys who work for us on a personal level," he said.

"All the staff were quite effected, my family personally were affected, we came close to losing the big fella's life. It took an emotional toll on anybody who was there that day.

"I'm just grateful to have had such a good crew around Riley when it happened and then be supported so well by the emergency services who attended."

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# Chief scientist here

By Duncan Evans

Queensland Chief Scientist Professor Hugh Possingham hailed the work of Central Queensland's 'citizen scientists' in a 12 March visit to the Fitzroy Basin Association (FBA) Flow Centre in Rockhampton.

The FBA is a non-profit natural resources management group dedicated to conservation work across the Fitzroy region. In December last year, the association was allocated \$4 million from the Federal government's Reef Trust to improve the resilience of the region's high-value coastal ecosystems.

Citizen science refers to the role that non-professional volunteers and paid employees play in the collection, collation and distribution of scientific data.

Daniel Rea, Science Engagement Officer at FBA, said the FBA was passionate about citizen science and claimed his organisation would not be able to accomplish its goals without the significant contributions of the region's citizen scientists.

"We're honoured to work right across the Fitzroy region, which is massive. And so therefore there is no way that the scientists here at FBA can do all of it on our own, and so a great way to engage the public and to cover more area is to use citizen science," he said.

The FBA's Team Turtle CQ outfit is one example of an effective citizen science enterprise.

Volunteers with the team walk along the beaches of Central Queensland to track and monitor turtle hatchlings and movements and then feed the information back to a central database. In this way, a sharper picture is gained



Queensland Chief Scientist Professor Hugh Possingham (five from right) visits the Fitzroy Basin Association Flow Centre in Rockhampton.

about the state of the region's coastal ecosystems.

Crystal Kean, a member of Team Turtle CQ, said she and her fellow turtle-aficionados used smartphones to monitor the beaches.

"We use an app that's just on the phone, so right there on the beach you can get the information and track what's happening and put it in so then the Fitzroy Basin Association can take that information."

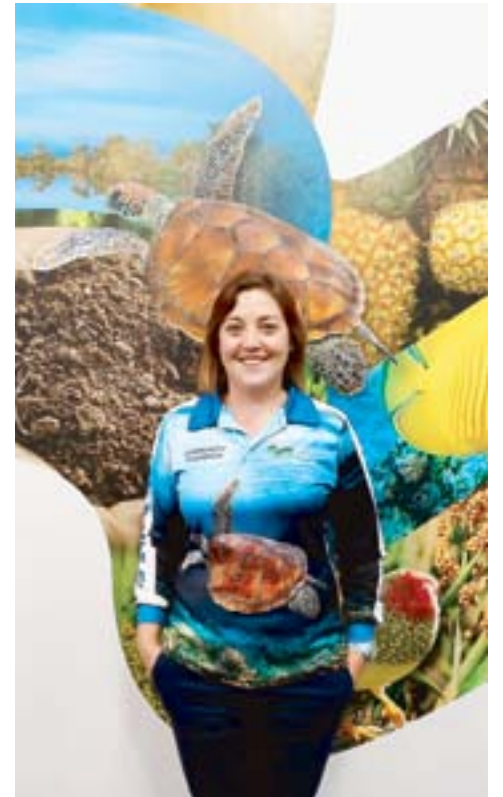
In an interview with reporters on the veranda of the Flow Centre, Professor Possingham said citizen science was the way of the future.

"Citizen scientists being out there in the community, in the long-term, using the revolution of the smartphone, using that to gather

data that goes to centralised databases, is giving us information to manage the environment, giving the government information to change policies that will make the environment better for everybody," he said.

What's more, the professor believes citizen science will become more sophisticated over time as it moves from an enterprise centred around data collection to one that includes an analytical component.

"Phase 1 is, 'what's that?' An insect, a new bird, and where is it? Phase 2 is, 'let's collect data the same way over time'. Phase 3 is, 'why is there change? Why is the water quality getting better or worse? Why is the number of nesting turtles going up or down?' Phase 4, that's



Team Turtle CQ member Crystal Kean.

an analysis phase. As soon as you start to look at change, you're starting to analyse, and then you start to say, 'why is that happening? Is it good or bad? Can I help to change things, and make things better?'"

"We're hoping with our citizen science grants, from the Office of the Queensland Chief Scientist, to keep moving the groups further and further along, with local government, the Fitzroy Basin Association, with Central Queensland University, to become more and more sophisticated through time," he said.

## Sails to fill again: Gladstone locals in famous race

Two local yacht racing celebrities are making a 300 nautical mile journey with their crews to the Brisbane to Gladstone race start line.

The skippers of the locally celebrated yachts, Wistari's Scott Patrick and John Ibell, who is at helm of Restless, are the only two Gladstone crews in this year's race.

Restless departed for Brisbane on Friday morning while Wistari will set sail this Saturday, ready for race day on April 2 – the journey taking them between three to six days with overnight stops.

The iconic event comes after Gladstone Ports Corporation picked up the baton as the official naming right sponsor to the event to help it set sail for the next three years.

This year Queenslanders will celebrate the 73rd anniversary of the race, after the event took a hiatus in 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Acting Gladstone Ports Corporation CEO Craig Walker said this year's event would be one of the most memorable races in its history.

"This yacht race is an Easter tradition and Gladstone Ports Corporation is excited to



John Ibell is at helm of Restless in the Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race.

sponsor the event which is the biggest yacht race we've seen since the pandemic," he said.

"Both local yachts Wistari and Restless are celebrated in our community and are local treasures with a rich history. We'll sure be

cheering on our local skippers."

Wistari's history dates back to 1965 and was built by Scott Patrick's father Neil Patrick in their suburban backyard in Gladstone.

"Gladstone only had 3000 people when she was first launched and every one of them came out to watch the launch," Mr Patrick said.

"I don't think Dad expected her to last this long... I think he expected a maximum of 25 years of life out of her."

This year will mark Wistari's 51st race in the Brisbane to Gladstone.

"I'm looking forward to this after a bit of a break," Mr Patrick said. For skipper John Ibell, his sailing roots run deep in Gladstone with his grandfather helping build the yacht club in 1949 – one year after the first Brisbane to Gladstone race.

This year will be the sixth race for Restless. "Over the years we've raced with a lot of family members and friends," he said.

"Preparations always start a few months beforehand and we're always excited as soon as we hit the water."

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# 'Voice' call

By Jamie McKenzie

Gladstone Region Mayor and Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) vice-president Matt Burnett has welcomed today's announcement by the Australian Labor Party (ALP) that local government will have a seat at National Cabinet should the ALP form government at the next federal election.

Mayor Burnett is now calling on Prime Minister Scott Morrison to match the ALP's election commitment in order to provide a voice for local governments on the National Cabinet table.

National Cabinet has not included local government at the table so it's fantastic to see the federal Labor party have made this decision," Cr Burnett said.

"I'm now asking the Prime Minister to consider matching this commitment from the ALP to ensure local councils have their voice heard.

"One voice for the 537 councils across the country is not too much to ask."

Mayor Burnett said that having a voice at National Cabinet would not only benefit the Gladstone Region, but Central Queensland as a whole.

"By having local government representation, you are ensuring that all three levels of government are heard when decisions are being made at National Cabinet," Cr Burnett said.



Gladstone Mayor Matt Burnett

"ALGA has five key areas of advocacy – Financial Sustainability for local governments, Waste and Recycling, Roads and Infrastructure, Disaster Mitigation and a seat at National Cabinet.

"For ALGA and local government to have a strong voice in Canberra, we need ALGA President, Cr Linda Scott, at the table.



Queensland Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk.

# Greater height planned in Rookwood Weir project

By Matthew Pearce

More funding for the Rookwood Weir will unlock 10,000 additional megalitres of water for Central Queensland.

The Queensland and federal governments have each committed another \$7.5 million for the project.

Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk said Sunwater and its construction partners had identified an opportunity in the design phase to raise the crest height of Rookwood Weir by 700mm, increasing the yield to 86,000 megalitres for water users.

"This opportunity represents good value for money and will provide improved water security for the region and future customers, while boosting the local economy and creating more jobs in the Central Queensland region," she said.

"Working together we have been able to deliver a great outcome for the area.

"I'm advised Sunwater has also had a strong response to the expression of interests for a further round of tenders to be undertaken in 2022, so raising Rookwood Weir now makes good sense."

Member for Capricornia Michelle Landry said the Queensland Government had finally 'seen sense' and committed to spending more money on Rookwood Weir.

"I have been fighting tooth and nail to see Rookwood Weir restored to its original size since the Queensland Government decided to downgrade it in 2019. It should never have been reduced in the first place," she said.

"While this is a small change to the total water capacity, I welcome any increase in water capacity for this important water project."

Queensland Minister for Water and Member for Gladstone Glenn Butcher said the decision would also have more immediate flow-on effects for job creation in the region.

"Raising Rookwood Weir means that the Foleyvale bridge and its approach roads will also be upgraded to accommodate the greater level of inundation," he said.

"This upgrade will add another 15 full time jobs on top of the 100 jobs already created for essential road and bridge upgrades, and the 200 jobs which will be created to build the weir itself.

"At least 140 of those jobs will be sourced locally – a big win for the regional economy."

Ms Landry said the announcement would benefit the people who rely on water to make a living.

"This announcement is for all of the graziers, landowners and farmers who stood with me during the Real Rookwood Weir Rally in September 2019 who protested against the blatant disregard the Labor Party has for regional areas," she said.

"I will still fight for Rookwood Weir to be built at the original size."

The Rookwood Weir project is jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland Governments, and delivered in partnership with Sunwater. Construction of the weir is on track for completion in 2023.

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The Frenchville Sports Club team which together was awarded the best multi-sports venue award at the Club Queensland Awards night.

Picture: LIAM EMERTON



Frenchville Sports Club's Human Resource Manager, Elena Cornick was recognised as Young Manager of the Year at the awards night.

Picture: COURTESY OF CLUBS QUEENSLAND

# The Frenchy earns awards

Frenchville Sports Club has been announced as the winner of Best Multi Sports Club in Queensland at the Annual Clubs Queensland & Keno Awards night.

FSC general manager Damien Massingham said that this was the first time the club had won this award and it was great recognition of the dedicated work done by a range of people.

"This award is recognition of the massive amount of work that has been done by board directors, management, staff and our volunteers including sporting committee members and supporters over a number of years, and in particular, the last 12 months," he said.

"It is particularly significant to receive this

award after one of the toughest years that the club has experienced with the government restrictions imposed on the club due to the Covid-19 pandemic."

"During this enormously challenging year, our team have shown tremendous spirit and dedication to the entire Frenchville community.

The club never closed its doors to the community, providing takeaway meals and beverages during the severe restrictions, and following a mighty effort from our team and volunteer sports committee members, all of our sports returned to play when restrictions lifted."

"The club was able to return to full service

in July last year and the team have worked hard to ensure our members and guests enjoy the best club service and experience not only in Central Queensland, but as now recognized, the state."

In addition to the club winning Best Multi Sport Club, the club's human resource manager Elena Cornick was recognized as Young Manager of the Year.

Mr Massingham added: "We are immensely proud of Elly in her achievements and were delighted to see her recognised at this elite level in front of her industry peers."

"Her contributions to FSC have been essential to our success over the past few years, and in 2020 in particular, Elly has done an

outstanding job in the most challenging employment relations year of any year for any club."

"This past 12 months, Elly was not only the Club's HR manager, but also a friendly ear, a professional adviser, a government liaison, a Centrelink expert, a champion of positivity, a communication hub, a mental health advocate, a sporting enthusiast and an industry support.

"Elly embodies everything that is loved about the Frenchville Sports Club – she is passionate about the betterment of her local community, gets involved at every chance and we were thrilled to see her recognised as Clubs Queensland's Young Manager of 2021."

## Stimulus at work: \$25 million more for CQ councils

By Jamie McKenzie

Central Queensland's regional councils have been promised \$24.52 million from the latest round of the Queensland Government's Works for Queensland program as part of the state's plan for economic recovery.

Central Queensland allocations include \$3.5 million to Livingstone Shire, \$9.46 million to Rockhampton Regional Council, \$1.11 million to Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council, \$2.66 million to Central Highlands Regional Council and \$7.79 million to Gladstone Regional Council.

Right now, ministers involved in the Works for Queensland program are encouraging community groups and charities in each of the councils to lobby their local councillors about projects that will benefit from these funds.

Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing, Minister for Water and Member for Gladstone Glenn Butcher said this program helps local governments deliver or maintain important community infrastructure projects that support local jobs.

"This further funding will help councils deliver roads and pathways, parks and playgrounds, all while creating local jobs.

"Gladstone Regional Council has so far had 22 projects funded through Works for Queensland, delivering 350 jobs for locals including Bray Park Pump Track and Skate Park, upgrades to Toondoon Botanical Gardens, and the Harbour City BMX Club Facility," Minister Butcher said.

Member for Rockhampton Barry O'Rourke welcomed the announcement.



Queensland government MP's Barry O'Rourke, Brittany Lauga and Glenn Butcher

"This is great news for Rocky and for our region's economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic," Mr O'Rourke said.

A new Pump Track at Gracemere, new reptile enclosure at Rockhampton Zoo, an elevated walkway at Mount Archer summit and a water play area at Cedric Archer Park Gracemere have all been tagged for support from these funds.

Assistant Minister for Education and Member for Keppel Brittany Lauga hailed the funding for Livingstone Shire Council as a boon and much-needed injection into the council as part of Queensland's recovery.

"Livingstone will receive \$3.5 million to upgrade facilities and create jobs for our region, we've already seen them use the funds to create jobs on projects like the Emu Park

Art Gallery, and countless upgrades to roads and parks across Livingstone.

Upgrading the Duaringa Cultural Centre and Museum has just been completed and there will be further upgrading of the football field and dressing sheds in the Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council, beautifying the entrances to the Emerald township as well as upgrading netball facilities in Blackwater in the Central Highlands Regional Council.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Local Government Steven Miles announced the allocations for the fourth round of the Works for Queensland program.

"At the last election we committed to bringing back Works for Queensland for a fourth round and today we're delivering on that commitment," the Deputy Premier said.

"This is a \$200 million pool that will be allocated to councils outside of Queensland's South East, with the funding improving council infrastructure and delivering local jobs as part of Queensland's plan for economic recovery.

"So far, Works for Queensland has created more than 21,000 jobs throughout regional Queensland, helping to drive economic recovery where it's needed the most."

Eligible projects range from roadworks to town beautification, parks and playground upgrades, renewable energy installations, tourism, water and safety.

Project submissions close on 9 April.

For more information visit: [www.dlgrma.qld.gov.au/works-for-queensland](http://www.dlgrma.qld.gov.au/works-for-queensland)

See more from Works for Queensland on Page 9





Essential bushfire funding for Flynn electorate

# \$1.9m boon

By Jamie McKenzie

Bushfire recovery in Flynn will get a \$1,922,000 boost, as part of \$10.7 million in bushfire recovery projects announced today by the Australian and Queensland governments.

Throughout Flynn, over \$1.9 million will go to Gladstone and Bundaberg regional council for three different projects.

Projects include additional mobile fire-fighting equipment in Bundaberg, upgrade 2.5km of walking tracks within Joseph Banks Conservation Park and the replacement of Timber Bridge on Bindaree Road, Miriam Vale.

Member for Flynn, Ken O'Dowd said the fourth and final round of Local Economic Recovery projects was announced today by the Australian and Queensland Governments, under a joint investment of \$36.8 million to support recovery in Queensland communities hit hard by the 2019-20 bushfires.

The 21 projects funded across Queensland include the exciting projects in Flynn.

"This boost to our local area is great to see,

and I can't wait to see the work moving and the benefits flowing."

Today's announcement builds on other Local Economic Recovery projects in Flynn supported through earlier funding rounds. This includes \$185,000 to employ a project officer in Gladstone to ensure community members are provided sufficient information and resources to enhance their disaster resilience.

Australian Minister for Emergency Management, David Littleproud said today's announcement brings the total number of projects approved under the LER Program in Queensland to 48 across the 13 local council areas.

"The devastating effects of the fires have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, so I am pleased this LER funding is rolling out to help communities, local economies and natural areas recover," Minister Littleproud said.

"It is inspiring to see the resilience of our Queensland communities as they drive their own recovery, and I'm pleased to see this government funding support those efforts with a wide range of priority projects."

# Gardens funding flows in

It's now even easier to enjoy the outstanding beauty of Rockhampton Botanic Gardens, thanks to a \$450,000 project funded by the Queensland Government's Works for Queensland program.

About 1618 square metres of pathways were given a makeover, making them smoother, wider, and more accessible.

Member for Rockhampton Barry O'Rourke welcomed completion of the work.

"Our Works for Queensland program continues to deliver for the Rockhampton Region," he said.

"The new pathways are bigger and better than ever, making the gardens more accessible and more attractive for visitors.

"More importantly the works have generated jobs for locals right here in Rocky, as part of Queensland's plan for economic recovery.

"Across the first three rounds of the program, Rockhampton Regional Council received more than \$27.2 million to help deliver 38 projects which have created or supported over 800 jobs so far.

"A further \$9.46 million was allocated to the council just this week from the next round of the program, meaning many more projects will be delivered for the community and many more local jobs will be created or supported."

Rockhampton Region Mayor Tony Williams praised the Queensland Government for their investment.

"Our region has received millions of dollars under the Works for Queensland pro-

gram and it just makes a huge difference to what we can do in the area," he said.

"Many projects that improve things for our community are only possible with contributions from other levels of government, and this one is no exception.

"As part of our commitment to being more sustainable, we are also taking the approximately 200 tonnes of crushed pavers from the old paths and using them as road base and backfill material, so they will get a new lease of life.

"If you haven't been down to the gardens recently I'd encourage to go and have a look, and enjoy a stroll along the new pathways while you're there."

Rockhampton Regional Council Sports, Parks, and Public Spaces Councillor Cherie Rutherford said the project makes the gardens even better.

"Our community has had the pleasure of enjoying the stunning Botanic Gardens since 1869. The gardens are one of most beautiful and best in regional Australia," she said.

"Over time we saw our pathways become uneven and damaged due to tree roots and general wear and tear, but now you'll be able to explore the gardens much more easily.

"The pathways are fully accessible to wheelchairs and prams.

"We really do have an absolutely incredible botanical collection here in Rockhampton, and we are very grateful to the Queensland Government for funding this project."

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# Clean, green vision is one step closer for CQ hydrogen

Hydrogen in the Gladstone Region is one step closer, with the historic signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for a Gladstone H2 Ecosystem.

Sumitomo Australia (Sumitomo), Gladstone Ports Corporation (GPC), Gladstone Regional Council (GRC), Australian Gas Networks (AGN) as part of the Australian Gas Infrastructure Group (AGIG) and CQUniversity

Australia (CQU) have joined forces to explore opportunities to develop a hydrogen ecosystem in Gladstone.

The ecosystem will initially pursue domestic offtake and mobility solutions before moving to enable large scale export.

GPC Acting CEO Craig Walker said Australia's National Hydrogen Strategy and Queensland's Hydrogen

Strategy sets a vision for a clean, innovative, safe and competitive industry that benefits all Australians.

"Australia is uniquely positioned to be a world class hydrogen energy generator and exporter," Mr Walker said.

"With an exceptional Port and the ability for the region to develop an abundance of clean energy, Gladstone is positioned to be Australia's leading hydrogen export location by 2030."

Gladstone Regional Mayor Matt Burnett



The attendees gathering at the Hydrogen MOU signing earlier this week.

said he welcomes the development to the region, supporting the scale up from domestic generation and utilisation, to large-scale generation and export.

"From a community perspective this is great news for our region," Cr Burnett said.

"We are perfectly positioned to establish Australia's first hydrogen ecosystem, and we have five parties that are fully committed to seeing this through to fruition. Gladstone has an excellent track record for development, the early opportunities in domestic gas off-take and mobility are very exciting."

The MOU, signed at Gladstone Entertain-

ment Convention Centre, sets out a three-phased plan, commencing in 2021, with the key end goal by 2030 to see hydrogen exported from Gladstone to the world.

Yoshikazu Ishikawa, Managing Director of Sumitomo Australia Pty Ltd said the three-phased approach allowed tangible milestones, positioning Gladstone as an industry leader in hydrogen utilisation and technology.

"Sumitomo Australia Pty Ltd is pleased to be working with an esteemed group of stakeholders who share our common vision of a Hydrogen Ecosystem in Gladstone. Uniquely positioned with a world class Port, exceptional solar radiance, skills, knowledge and technology, Gladstone is a strategic location with significant hydrogen potential to benefit both Australia and Japan."

AGIG's CEO Ben Wilson said we are proud to build on our existing partnership with the Queensland Government on Hydrogen Park Gladstone (HyP Gladstone) to bring us further closer to our vision to convert our gas networks and cities to renewable hydrogen.

"HyP Gladstone is an important stepping stone to achieving our vision for full network decarbonisation with hydrogen across the regions we serve. The project aims to blend up to 10% hydrogen into Gladstone's entire existing gas network with plans to be fully

operational next year" Mr Wilson said.

"AGIG is excited to be participating in this important project with these key strategic partners and are looking forward supporting Gladstone's vision to be a key hub for Queensland's domestic and hydrogen export industry, just as it is for natural gas today."

With the intention to see hydrogen utilised and broadly adopted within the region, CQU is excited for the opportunity to collaborate with major industry in the region on transitioning equipment and vehicles to hydrogen power.

Professor Nick Klomp, Vice-Chancellor and President of CQUniversity said that the University is keen to further develop its capabilities in this space through purpose-built facilities that support bespoke training, teaching and research and development.

"CQUniversity is ready to play an active role in the emerging hydrogen fuel and renewable technology sectors, and there is no better place to strengthen our capability and partnerships than right here in Gladstone.

"The University is rapidly developing its research expertise and training capability within hydrogen and advanced manufacturing, and we are committed to working with our partners to support their current and emerging workforce and technical needs," said Professor Klomp.

# QLD minerals key to tech

By Duncan Evans

The federal government has announced \$1.3 billion in funding to spark development in the country's advanced manufacturing capacity.

Labelled the Modern Manufacturing Initiative, the funding is designed to reposition Australia as a global manufacturing centre for cutting-edge technologies.

The logic of the initiative is built around Australia's enviable endowment of critical minerals.

"Critical minerals are just what the name suggests, they are critical to defence, battery and energy storage and overall cutting edge technology," said Kim Wainwright, Chair of the Queensland Exploration Council, in a statement released to CQ Today.

Minerals such as cobalt, lithium, vanadium, magnesium and copper are often central inputs in advanced manufacturing processes and Queensland harbours these resources.

"What makes them so critical is not every mineral jurisdiction has them, they are not readily available. Queensland is in a unique position to be at the forefront of these developments and supply the world with critical minerals," Ms Wainwright said.

A development roadmap released alongside the announcement emphasises the role critical minerals are expected to play in growing new sources of wealth and value on-shore.

"Australia will have a strategic critical minerals processing industry that captures significant additional value, strengthens our global position downstream from our resource endowments and underpins a range of advanced manufacturing opportunities," the roadmap reads.

At present, Australia's resources industry is geared around extraction and export.

The initiative hopes to refine this and capture more value across the production stream by keeping mined ore on-shore and building processing facilities to ultimately pull manufacturing processes back to Australia.

"Australia has significant reserves of the critical minerals and metals which drive the modern global economy," a report on the initiative reads.

"These are used to manufacture advanced technologies such as electric vehicles, mobile phones and renewable energy. However, because the majority of primary ores are shipped overseas for processing, Australia derives a small share of the potential overall benefit. Australia can capture greater benefit from these value chains by undertaking further value adding and manufacturing here."

Economist Nicki Hutley spoke at length with CQ Today about the position and value



Queensland Exploration Council (QEC) Chair Kim Wainwright (centre) says Queensland can supply the world with critical minerals. Here she stands with Department of Resources Acting Director General Mike Kaiser and leading University of Queensland minerals expert Professor Rick Valenta at last month's QEC Technical Forum in Brisbane.

of processing facilities in the production chain.

"A processing facility is basically where we take the raw minerals, and we are literally processing them into a usable form. So if you think about taking bauxite and then turning it into iron ore, and then in the manufacturing process, that iron ore gets turned into steel. So the initial phases, basically just the processing is the first single phase," she said.

In effect, processing capacity is a common precursor to advanced manufacturing.

"Just because you're processing the minerals, doesn't mean you're going to necessarily have the opportunity to manufacture, but if you process them here, then the supply chain is here and you've got a much better chance, rather than shipping things off and shipping them back, if we can do it competitively here."

Ms Hutley has welcomed the funding and argues that if deployed wisely, it could help Australian companies pull themselves up into a more competitive position.

"For many of these companies, a lot of stuff is already done overseas, a lot of it in China. And so they can't necessarily get up to scale

without some initial support from the government. And you know, once they've got the capital and got up and running to that scale level, then they can compete effectively. But without that leg up, they're just never going to get there in the first place."

Like Ms Wainwright, Ms Hutley highlighted Australia's enviable resource endowments and the competitive advantage this offers in the manufacturing space.

"We have huge resources," she said.

"The trouble is that at the moment that we're with the things that we are digging out, we just tend to ship it off shore. Eighty-five percent of it goes away. But they go into almost every process that you can possibly think of. It's not just those, you know, more advanced technologies."

"In terms of the growth in demand, that's around renewables and phones and laptops and things. That's where there the biggest opportunities probably are."

The roadmap demarcates progress into two-year, five-year and 10-year timelines.

Within two years, the government hopes

to see improved capability to bring products quickly to market, through improved market development activities and investment made in critical enablers.

After five years, the government hopes to see increased collaboration with relevant sectors and international supply chains alongside an increase in exports and growth in private sector investment.

At the ten year mark, the government wants Australia to be seen as a regional hub for resources technology and critical minerals processing, with significant research and development advancements, retention in intellectual capital for small and medium-sized enterprises and a significant volume and value of exports.

Federal LNP member for Capricornia Michelle Landry is calling on Central Queensland businesses to apply for funding through the initiative.

"If you have an exciting project in our priority sectors this is your opportunity to receive funding support and be part of an important national effort to expand and enhance our manufacturing sector," Ms Landry said.

# Grand design for new site

By Matthew Pearce

Albert St will soon be home to a \$1.35 million drive-through coffee shop, with the development application for CocoBrew Express approved by Rockhampton Regional Council.

CocoBrew Rockhampton owner Robin Adams said the drive-through at 40-44 Albert St would build on the CocoBrew brand, in conjunction with Kele Property Group.

"We thought there was a market in Rockhampton on the Southside that wasn't being served with a purpose built coffee drive-through," he said.

"We saw on the main highway that there was an opportunity, with the hospital and all the schools up in that area."

Construction is expected to start at the corner of George and Albert St in the next 15 weeks and Mr Adams expects the drive-through to be up and running before Christmas.

"CocoBrew Express is expected to employ 10 staff, in addition to the 30 staff we already employ at William St, so we're looking at about 40 staff which is great for a little local business in Rockhampton," he said.

"The business is going really well, we're very happy with what we've done here over the last 16 months. We're looking at this as an opportunity to expand our CocoBrew brand and jump into that growing market.

"People are looking for something simple, easy, where they don't have to get out of their car and just collect and go."

Mr Adams said Kele Property Group had been instrumental in getting the new drive-through off the ground.

"Without John Kele and the Kele family, without their vision and their development skills, these types of things don't happen in CQ," he said.

"They're a local company that's been around for a long time and a local family that's been in the community for 100 years.



Renders by Design + Architecture for the new CocoBrew Express coming to Albert St, Rockhampton.

I can't thank them enough."

A strong believer in supporting CQ businesses, Mr Adams said the William St CocoBrew had been constructed by local builders and traders and the new location would as well.

"I think that's so important. It's okay to build, for example, a big highrise but you should at least use local people so that it goes back into the community," he said.

"I'd also like to thank the local community for their support over the past 16 months."

CocoBrew Express was designed by Design + Architecture and will be built by Hutchinson Builders with town planning from Gideon Town Planning.



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Maddison McDonald and Jacob Goves play Sophie and Skye.



Vocal director Jacinta Delalande loves being back at the Pilbeam Theatre for the second run of Mamma Mia!



Grant Wolf Whitfield, Peter Bothams, Maddison McDonald and Jason Plumb in Mamma Mia!

# Here we go again! My my!

By Matthew Pearce

The coronavirus pandemic was almost the Waterloo for Rockhampton Regional Council's production of Mamma Mia!

Thanks to Covid restrictions, the popular musical was cancelled in March last year after four shows at the Pilbeam Theatre. But audience demand has led the cast to reunite for another run.

Set the music of ABBA, Mamma Mia! tells the story of 20-year-old bride-to-be Sophie Sheridan, who invites the three men who could be her father to her wedding on the Greek island of Kalokairi.

Peter Bothams, who plays Harry, one of the 'three dads', said it felt incredible to be back performing at one of the few theatres open internationally.

"We're exceptionally privileged in Australia and particularly in Rockhampton, the talent is amazing and it's incredible to be able to do all of our rehearsals on the boards at the Pilbeam Theatre," he said.

"It's not very common to do that at the moment wherever you are in the world, so it's a real rush for everyone."

Peter said Mamma Mia! was the type of show that everyone loved.

"There's a really nice story with lots of romance and laughs and giggles, a few tears," he said.

"It's an upbeat show and everybody likes ABBA. The music gets everyone on their feet, it's a great show to be in."

He said the cast, most of whom also performed last year, was amazing to work with.

"You become very close through this process and particularly through production week we spend more time here than with our families so we become like family," he said.

"You never lose those relationships and that kinship that you create during this process."

Rehearsals have been an extra challenge as Peter had moved to Brisbane since last year's show.



The cast perform Waterloo during rehearsals for Mamma Mia! at the Pilbeam Theatre.

"I've been coming up from Brisbane every weekend for the past eight weeks," he said.

"It's been a lot of commitment, a lot of fun, but it means a lot to me, it's bookending a chapter that we started last year.

"I prefer to myself as a FIFO thespian, flying in and flying out every weekend for the theatre and for the love of it. I've always gotten more out of the theatre than I've ever put in."

Peter said returning to a musical they'd previously worked on was a different experience for the cast.

"Normally there's a different level of stress and anxiety by this point but I think because we know the show so well from last year, we've had a really good rehearsal run this year," he said.

"We're all feeling confident, although you always have some anxiety about performing in front of 900 people."

Jacob Goves, who plays Sophie's fiance Sky, has been involved with the local theatre scene since his school days.

"It's a really diverse group of people and it's great that every year it's not the same group of people, we always have new people that are

joining the community," he said.

"It's not just those on stage, the orchestra are easily world class, our backstage crew are extremely professional and our costuming department are one of the best community theatre costuming departments in the country," he said.

"The 'Sequin Sisters', as they're referred to, are an incredibly resourceful group of people who really make us just shine on stage and are a really important part of our process."

Jacob said that couldn't wait to get back in front of an audience.

"We're not putting on the exact same show that we did last year. That would be a discredit to everyone who's been in the show and our audience," he said.

"We really want to show audiences what we've done over the past few months, we've completely pulled the show apart and given them a whole new experience."

Vocal director Jacinta Delalande agreed, saying returning after a 12-month break gave the cast the opportunity to go back and refine things.

"We're making the show that we wished we

could have been able to 12 months previously if we'd had that little bit more time," she said.

"It's really quite exciting to have that opportunity, from a vocal perspective, to work out some extra harmonies, articulations and just getting things sounding super schmick. It's been an absolute blessing for us."

Jacinta said getting the best vocal performance from the cast involved 'a lot of time, a lot of patience and a lot of practice'.

"In terms of the vocals it's really about making sure we have very consistent habits, which means practicing those habits every time we meet for a rehearsal and making sure the vocalists are rehearsing at home and doing those exact same things," she said.

"We were very fortunate last year to spend some time with Jason Barry-Smith, who works with Opera Queensland and a lot of the things we did in those workshops are still things we're doing today because they're such great habits."

Jacinta said she couldn't speak highly enough of the cast.

"They have very busy lives but they rock up here to rehearse every Tuesday and Thursday night and all day Sundays. They're just committed and enthusiastic," she said.

"All we can ask for as a creative team is to have people in front of us who want to be there and are giving us their all. I'm very excited to have a full crowd at the Pilbeam enjoying what we've done."

Mamma Mia! features Amanda Hock as Donna, Maddison McDonald as Sophie, Aleah Dillon as Tanya, Lisa Kibblewhite as Rosie, Grant Wolf Whitfield as Sam, Jason Plumb as Bill, Peter Bothams as Harry and Jacob Goves as Sky.

The show features hit ABBA songs including Dancing Queen, Knowing Me Knowing You, Take a Chance on Me, Money Money Money, SOS, and Mamma Mia.

**Show times are:** Friday, 19 March, 7.30pm; Saturday, 20 March, 7.30pm; Sunday, 21 March, 1.30pm; Thursday, 25 March, 7.30pm; Friday, 26 March, 7.30pm.

# Apprentices get the nod

By Jamie McKenzie

Tens of thousands of new job opportunities will be created for apprentices and trainees across Australia with the expansion of the targeted wage subsidy program as part of the Liberal Nationals Government's National Economic Recovery Plan.

This comes as welcome news especially for Gladstone which is heavily reliant on manufacturing and industry as it's lifeblood where demand for skilled tradespeople exceeds supply. It's not uncommon for Gladstone to face shortages of tradespeople and quite the norm for customers to have to wait days or weeks after booking a job to have it seen to.

Federal Member for Flynn, Ken O'Dowd said that the Boosting Apprentices Commencement has already supported 478 apprentices and trainees in the electorate of Flynn.

It is estimated that this demand driven expansion will generate around 70,000 new apprentice and trainee places, coming from a \$1.2bn government investment.

Employers and potential apprentices need to move quickly though as the program will now become demand driven for new apprentices and trainees signed up prior to 30 September 2021.

Minister for Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business Michaelia Cash said training and skills were at the core response to the economic challenges faced by the COVID-19 recession.

"Creating jobs, generating economic opportunities and boosting the skills of workers right across Australia are at the heart of our recovery, as we build back from the COVID-19 recession," Minister Cash said.

"With 100,000 new apprenticeship positions already snapped up, it highlights the confidence businesses have in the future of the Australia economy."

"Growing our skills pipeline is an incredibly



An apprentice at work

important part of helping our economic recovery," Minister Cash said.

"The Boosting Apprentices Commencement program has to date assisted almost 40,000 businesses to take on a new Australian apprentice or trainee," said Member for Flynn Mr O'Dowd.

"By expanding this wage subsidy for another

12 months, we'll be helping businesses to create even more jobs, further supporting our National Economic Recovery Plan for Australia."

The Boosting Apprenticeship Commencement was one of the COVID-19 skills measures announced as part of the \$4 billion in apprentice wage subsidies.

The Liberal Nationals Government is pro-

viding record levels of support to the vocational education and training sector in 2020-21, which is not only helping rebuild our economy but preparing for the future.

This includes the \$1 billion JobTrainer Fund, which is supporting more than 300,000 additional free or low-fee training places for job seekers and young people.



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# A Great return after break

By Liam Emerton

The Rockhampton Dog Obedience Club finally got back into business on the weekend after an entire year without competition.

The best boys and great girls got to show off their brilliant skills, obedience and speed in trials across different areas of expertise.

And their owners were stoked with how well their dogs performed with the pressure of a year break.

The great variety of dogs from Kelpies to Staffies made for a great display and proved that any dog can perform in these fun trials.

With over 40 dogs entered into the two-day event it was a terrific response from the year off and it was one of the biggest the club has had in recent years.

Rockhampton Dog Obedience Club president Jaime Manning said it was a terrific return for the dogs and their owners.

"There was a lot of excitement for our local members and our travelling competitors to come and trial again," she said.

"We had competitors all the way from Cairns to the Gold Coast as well as our local Rocky competitors coming to compete in a variety of different disciplines.

"Over the two day trial we had competitors enter obedience, agility, jumping and for the first time ever tricks.

"Tricks were really exciting because it's a really good discipline for people who might not be sure of competitions and trials.

"It gives them a really good goal to work towards.

"We had a lot of people compete for the first time in tricks and whilst we got many qualifications there were definitely some things that people could work on.

"But it was nice for those people to get the experience of what a competition is like."

The club's next trial will take place on the 17 and 18 of April with trials open to the general public to either compete or just watch.



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# Recognising strong women

**Rockhampton Girls Grammar School principal Deanne Johnston**

Monday, 8 March was International Women's Day, a day to recognise the strong women who have brought us to where we are today and to take the time to acknowledge the strength that lies within the next generation of women.

In 2021, the IWD theme is #Choose to Challenge which encourages all of us to call out gender bias and inequality and to seek out and celebrate women's achievements. It is also a day to recognise and thank the men and women in our lives who are our supports and champions.

Girls Grammar students attended the Zonta Club's International Women's Day Breakfast, an annual event that provides an opportunity to listen to inspirational women, including this year's key speaker, Sacha Kirk, the cofounder and Chief Marketing Officer of Lawcadia, an Australian headquartered legal technology company.

During her speech, she shared her experiences from over 15 years in marketing, brand strategy development and professional consulting in Australia and the UK.

The breakfast also allowed our current students to engage with Old Girls, strong women who are great role models, supporters and advocates for Girls Grammar.

Our girls enjoyed chatting with a number of past Girls Grammar students, including the Honourable Michelle Landry MP, Member for Capricornia.

The girls always enjoy hearing Old Girls share their memories of their school days.

Attending the breakfast also allows us to hear about Zonta's commitment to empowering women worldwide to achieve their aspirations.

The club works with government and community leaders to advocate for women's issues locally and internationally and it also encourages and helps students to develop leadership skills, explore career options and participate in community projects.

On Wednesday, March 10, we celebrated IWD at school by asking our girls to dress up as women who inspire them.

We had historical figures, scientists, mathematicians, athletes, movie stars, activists and artists but we also had people dress up as their everyday heroes, the women in their lives who, through their strength and resilience, inspire us and allow us to flourish: our mothers, grandmothers, family members, and friends.



Rockhampton Girls Grammar students celebrated International Women's Day on March 10 with students and staff dressing up as inspirational women.



Students dress up for International Women's Day.



Rockhampton Girls Grammar School students with MP Michelle Landry at Zonta Club's International Women's Day Breakfast.

## Cats find furr-ever homes, at last

The PETstock Rockhampton Adoption Day event on 13 March was a big success, with 10 cats finding their forever home and 13 further adoptions pending.

The adoption day event saw 52 pets adopted across Queensland, and 92 pets have been adopted state wide since the beginning of March, which is the inaugural National Pet Adoption Month.

Throughout March, charity organisation PETstock Assist hopes to find more pets homes, educate Aussies on pet adoption and celebrate the entire rescue community.

For the past six years, PETstock Assist has been changing the lives of rescue pets and humans having rehomed more than 12,000 pets through its annual Adoption Day event. This year, PETstock Assist is encouraging

Australians to 'Adopt Different' – to be open to different types of animals and breeds, shed any stereotypes or misconceptions, make considered and sustainable choices, and give rescue pets a chance at a better life.

Ten cats found their forever home at the PETstock Rockhampton Adoption Day.



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Join CQUniversity physiotherapy students Caitlyn Allison (left), Jessica McGrath (right) and Clinical Educator Kasey Bonato (middle) for a free session on how to ease back into sport and exercise.

# Free checks

By **Jamie McKenzie**

Getting back into regular exercise or sport after a long hiatus is never an easy thing to do, but CQUniversity Bachelor of Physiotherapy students want to help people restart their fitness journeys in a safe and proactive way through an online physiotherapy information session on Wednesday 16 March.

Students from the CQUniversity Health Clinics in Rockhampton and Brisbane will work under the supervision of CQU staff to deliver the presentation focused on the best strategies people can use to prevent injury during their sporting season or fitness regime.

Physiotherapy Clinical Supervisor Nikki Rathbone explained that the session will tackle the most common problems experienced by people entering back into exercise.

"The main issues that can arise are overuse injuries such as knee pain, shin splints, foot or Achilles pain as well as muscle strains depending on the sport you play.

"It is important to ease yourself back into exercise otherwise a big jump in your exercise load means the body is fatigued and can't recover adequately," she said.

"Participants find these sessions very helpful, especially the Q&A session at the end where they can ask questions about their particular concerns.

"We run sessions several times per year focused on a variety of common issues for adults and teenagers such as osteoarthritis, low back pain, heel pain, ergonomics and posture."

With the sessions originally launched at the beginning of COVID-19, both the physio students and community have embraced the online platform.

"We quickly found it a great way to engage the community from the comfort of their own home," Mrs Rathbone said.

"It is convenient for both our students and the participants, and it also facilitates the two clinics working together from different locations.

"Delivering this type of presentation gives our students a chance to practice education for the general public which is quite different from what they are used to during their degree.

"They are normally giving presentations to their peers and lecturers and the content is pitched at a different level of understanding, so this learning activity helps to set them up for what they may need to do in the real world."

Brisbane-based student Grace Kingham agreed that the online sessions have been a benefit to both her confidence and physio skills.

"Due to Covid-19, Zoom became a part of everyday uni life and has proven to be beneficial in delivering information while maintaining social distancing," Ms Kingham said.

"It has also become an accessible way for community outreach in the health community, allowing us this opportunity to deliver information on returning to sport post-injury."

To register for the free online physiotherapy session email: [n.rathbone@cqu.edu.au](mailto:n.rathbone@cqu.edu.au)

## Emu Park agent's wins add to a large list of honours

By **Matthew Pearce**

It's been a big year for Emu Park Real Estate principal Tanya Edwards.

The Emu Park local purchased the business in January and has already been named RateMyAgent's 2021 Agent of the Year for Emu Park and Zilzie.

RateMyAgent is Australia's number one real estate agent ratings and statistics website.

Emu Park Real Estate is no stranger to awards recognition, with Tanya having won Emu Park Agent of the Year for 2020 and the agency winning Agency of the Year in 2019 and 2020.

"The awards are all based on customer service, you have to get five-star reviews from buyers and sellers, and it's all verified," Tanya said.

"It's fantastic to know that people appreciate our service and Emu Park is a fantastic area, the people are all friendly and local."

Tanya has been working in real estate for four years, two and a half of those at Emu



The new logo for Emu Park Real Estate.

Park Real Estate before she took over the agency on January 15.

The business employs four staff and has undergone a complete makeover since Tanya purchased the business, with a new logo, new signage and an office renovation.

"We've changed everything since I took over the business but we still offer the same customer service," she said.

Emu Park Real Estate is located at 3/30 Pattison St, Emu Park.



Emu Park Real Estate principal Tanya Edwards has been named RateMyAgent's 2021 Agent of the Year for Emu Park and Zilzie.

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# Rockynats venues named

Three significant sponsor signings have been confirmed ahead of Australia's newest major motorsport spectacular – the 2021 Rare Spares Rockynats - hitting the streets of Rockhampton over the Easter long weekend (2-5 April).

McDonalds Central Queensland's local franchisees will boast a bursting program of events as sponsor of the Showgrounds Precinct, Burson Auto Parts is sponsor of the Drifting Precinct while punters will have Garrett Advancing Motion to thank for the central city Street Drags.

Advance Rockhampton Manager Tourism, Events and Marketing, Annette Pearce said everything is in readiness for a jam-packed program of cruising, burnouts, live entertainment, drifting, bikes, Show 'n' Shine, the most unique modified cars in the country and plenty more.

"Rockynats will be Queensland's first major regional festival after the coronavirus pandemic and we are getting amazing support from local businesses and national operations keen to be part of the action," Ms Pearce said.

"We are very happy to welcome these latest three sponsors onboard and we appreciate their commitments to our inaugural event and the celebration of motorsport in this country.

"Importantly they are helping to provide a platform for Rockhampton to once again showcase its capabilities as a festival city and demonstrate that events are back and can be delivered in a COVID- safe manner for all to enjoy."

Ms Pearce said the three precincts will be pumping.

The McDonalds Central Queensland Showgrounds Precinct will be home to the Elite Show 'n' Shine - a top 30 showcase of the best and brightest modified entrant vehicles.

The busy precinct will also feature trade sites, live music and carnival rides as well as provide the start and finish point of the iconic Street Parade, which will see hundreds of cars cruise through the city centre to officially open



Rockynats is ready to rock the Rockhampton CBD.

the throttle on the event on Good Friday.

The Garrett Advancing Motion Street Drags Precinct will see Rockhampton's historic CBD transformed into a car lovers paradise, with 1/8-mile Street Drags at the eastern end of Quay Street, while the Burson Auto Parts Drifting Precinct at the Victoria Riverside Car Park

will feature drifting demonstrations by some of Australia's top sideways drivers.

The 2021 Rare Spares Rockynats – the Rockhampton Nationals - are managed by the same team behind the time-honoured Summernats in Canberra and the hugely popular Red-CentreNats in Alice Springs.

The Rockhampton edition is presented by Rockhampton Regional Council, Naming Rights Sponsor Rare Spares and supporting precinct and event sponsors.

For more information and to purchase tickets visit [www.rockynats.com.au](http://www.rockynats.com.au) or download the free app 'Rockhampton Events'.

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Federal Member for **Capricornia**

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# Current Affairs

Matt Canavan



## Don't turn back on coal

On 9 September 2016, the smokestacks at the Playford coal fired power station were blown up. The then Premier of South Australia, Jay Weatherill, was adamant that "There's no future in coal-fired power generation."

By the end of the month, the lights in the whole of South Australia went out as lack of reliable electricity exposed the weakness of renewable electricity.

The South Australian Government then spent over \$500 million on a gas fired power plant to firm up supply.

A few months later in early 2017, the Hazelwood power station, which provided 20 per cent of Victoria's electricity supplies, closed. At the time, the national energy regulator expressed calm saying that "the closure of Hazelwood will not compromise the security of the Victoria electricity system."

By the end of the year the regulator had changed its mind and said "a heightened risk of supply disruptions for the coming summer in Victoria." Diesel generators were quickly bought to sure up the supply of electricity.

Regulators don't celebrate the closure of large coal fired power stations now. News of another power station closure is described in terms of doom.

The Energy Security Board earlier this year warned that "Increasing penetration of variable renewable energy resources and distributed energy resources is making it more difficult to maintain security, and low wholesale prices are reducing the incentive for traditional generators to remain online at all times."

Their prediction has come true within months. Last week the latest series in the destruction of our once famed energy system was announced. Another coal fired power station, Yallourn, which supplies around 20 per cent of Victoria's power, is shutting early by 2028.



Senator Matt Canavan says Australia needs to build some new coal fired power stations.

We are reducing the amount of electricity we can supply. Lower supply means higher prices, fewer jobs and the continuing de-industrialisation of Australia.

Some will claim that we can afford to lose the old, clunky coal fired power stations because we are investing so much in renewable energy.

That is half true with Australia on track to install 45 gigawatts of solar and wind power over the next 20 years, some of the highest per capita investments in renewable power in the world.

This sounds like enough to replace the 25 gigawatts of coal and gas fired power due to shut over the next 20 years. Except that solar

only works 20 per cent of the time and wind only 30 per cent of the time. So the 45 gigawatts of renewables we have planned is really only worth 10 gigawatts leaving a massive 15 gigawatt hole in electricity requirements.

If we keep reducing our electricity supplies at this rate we won't be able to make things like aluminium anymore because it is a very energy intensive. That would see thousands of people lose their jobs in Gladstone and devastate the Central Queensland economy.

We are not going to smelt aluminium through wind, solar or hydrogen power. If we want to keep a thriving aluminium industry in Central Queensland we must keep the coal fired power stations here running.

It is not too late for us turn this around and invest back in the reliable power that can save jobs, keep the lights on and push power prices down. While we are busy shutting down all our coal fired power stations, China last year installed 38 gigawatts of new coal fired power in one year. That is right, China installed more coal power in just one year than all the coal power we have.

No wonder more and more of what we buy at the shops is Made in China. If we don't want to see the little yellow kangaroo on the green triangle disappear, we need to build some new coal fired power stations to replace the old ones.

# Current Affairs

Robert Schwarten



## Remarkable events show Covid's still on people's minds

This week's news that the Feds will spend \$1.2 billion of inter-generational debt on airfares and that the West Australians voted Labor in history making volumes proves the Covid-19 Virus is alive and well in people minds.

That means it is foremost in politicians' thinking. But I am sure those who teach politics not to mention real and imagined constitutional experts must be having a field day. It is exciting times for people who are fascinated by such things.

Despite PM Morrison's masterstroke in creating the national cabinet, allowing the states an unprecedented role in national decision making they have refused to be told what to do. Despite overt and covert attempts to get them to toe the Morrison line on border closures every state has done its own thing.

Western Australia clamped its borders shut on day one and was the last to open. The voters it seems agreed. The same thing happened here in Queensland. Every opposition leader who has followed the Morrison edict that borders should be opened has paid dearly.

Clive Palmer and Pauline Hanson also supported the Federal Liberals. Palmer hit his kick for a lazy few million and Hanson tried to raise funds via public appeal to take the states to the High Court.

Palmer lost big time. What Hanson raised would not fund an appeal against a speeding ticket in the magistrates court. Neither of their

parties won seats.

It is often forgotten that prior to federation Australia was made up of sovereign states. That meant each state could set its own laws, charge its own taxes, raise its own defence forces and determine its own immigration policy.

Remembering that Western Australia was the last state to sign up to a federation, each state made sure that they did what they could to preserve their own autonomy. One of the conditions was that states would retain the right under certain circumstances to shut their borders. The High Court has confirmed what a good job the architects of the constitution did.

The \$1.2 billion that Morrison has splashed out on half price airline tickets to selected places is about making the point that airline regulation is a federal responsibility.

It is also a shot over the bows of the states to try to intimidate Premiers not to shut borders again. That's why you have to fly interstate to qualify. The policy has gone over like a dingo in a guinea pig cage and already we have seen places added.

We heard some talk of an early Federal election but I am happy to take bets that this government will want to try to put as much distance as it can between that event and the WA and Queensland election results.

While I have no direct input into campaigns these days I am sure the Labor Party has all the quotes from LNP federal members (includ-



Robert Schwarten says voters clearly support border closures.

ing Ms Landry) who criticised state Labor for keeping the borders closed. These MPs will be hoping that Covid will be a dim memory by the time voters go to the poll. Certainly if I was Ms Landry I would not be so enthusiastic in wel-

coming Pauline Hanson here.

Ms Hanson's political blunder in demanding the state open the border and her opposition to vaccination against Covid will not do the incumbent MP any favours.

# Q&A

Local businesswoman and Scout leader  
**NYREE JOHNSON**

**What is the best advice you've ever received?**

There are a few key pieces of advice I like to live my life by and share with the world. They all complement each other, and my tool kit of mantras is forever growing.

Firstly, the way you hold yourself, present yourself and keep yourself is important. It may seem vain but in all honesty, it is personal pride in appearance, enabling confidence in the way you present yourself to the world. This gem was courtesy of my Grandmother, Glenda Ross.

Secondly, my passion for volunteering and serving came from my Grandmother, Sarah (Shirly) Wooler: Always give what you can. Time, money, food, clothing etc.

And one of my absolute favourites which I've carried with me for many years and serves me well: another person's opinion of you, is not your business.

**What is something you do in your spare time?**

My husband, three children and I plus our extended family, enjoy camping and four-wheel-driving. Being business owners means we take minimal leave however we make the most of our weekends and long weekends. We venture away as often as possible, sometimes once or twice a month. We've explored many beautiful places in Central QLD and are always in a new spot thanks to tips from friends and family, as well as various apps.

Enjoying a campfire, quiet reading time, general chit chat with family, campfire cooking, swimming and exploring, fill our camping weekends and keep me grounded.

**What is something most people don't know about you?**

I live with chronic pain due to a hereditary condition and I dislike taking medication for it. I've spent the last twelve years of my life learning how to manage the condition without medication.



Nyree Johnson

with Nyree Johnson

**What do you do for work and what do you enjoy about it?**

I work as a workforce analyst for an electricity distributor and absolutely love my role thanks to the variety of work I'm able to complete as well as the daily (and sometimes hourly) challenges it presents. I love detailed analysis work and can spend hours amongst numbers and spreadsheets. I especially love the fast-paced environment which storm season brings and often joke that I'm either in storm season or am planning for it.

As well as working in a full-time role, I manage and own with my husband, Nathan, Johnson's 4WD Repair Shop, Johnson's Mobile Mechanical and Essential Resumes. One brick-and-mortar business, one mobile business and one digital and online business servicing all of Australia.

**What is your favourite spot in the Central Queensland region?**

Kroombit Tops is my favourite place to visit and camp. 85 km south-west of Gladstone. Beautiful place to visit with different campsite options as well as a lot of history to discover

and appreciate. I want to take my Scouts there one day, however am still working on obtaining the right accreditation to 4WD with children who are not my own, in the car. The training and assessments are done so just waiting on sign off and the piece of paper now.

**What would be your last meal if you could choose?**

Gnocchi from Paccino's

**What is something you think CQ needs?**

Central Queensland is an amazing place to live and raise a family. We have some fantastic assets in our region at our fingertips and so many things to do and see. If there was one thing I could wave my magic wand and wish for, it would be far better community engagement and support collectively, with red tape reduced and more funds to support the remarkable groups, clubs and organisations around our region.

**What guests (dead or alive) would you invite to a dinner party?**

My extraordinary family and friends, those still with me and those who've passed away.

## THREE ...

places to visit in Queensland (that aren't local)

**1 Scenic Rim and Southern Queensland Country**

Wineries perched overlooking the water, granite-strewn National Parks, and food worth savouring – all about an hour from Queensland's capital and perfect for a self-driving tour. The Scenic Rim is headlined by ancient volcanic peaks.

**2 Torres Strait and Cairns**

Incredible Indigenous experiences are available across the state. However, as destinations go, a visit to Cairns and the Torres Strait will combine both cultures in an array of new experiences. Beginning in Cairns, visit the Great Barrier Reef with the recently launched Dreamtime Dive and Snorkel.

**3 Southern Great Barrier Reef**

The Southern Great Barrier Reef is home to abundant wildlife and reef only metres from your bed. Based in Lady Musgrave Island's lagoon off the coast of Bundaberg and 1770, the three-story, 36m Lady Musgrave Experience pontoon includes diving and snorkelling experiences, reef data collection programs and more.

# WHAT ARE YOUR FUNERAL PLANNING OPTIONS?

A funeral is a beautiful celebration of one's life and pre-planning helps protect those we leave behind.

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a better **nbn**<sup>™</sup> network for regional Australia.



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# OPINION

Letters: [editorial@CQToday.com.au](mailto:editorial@CQToday.com.au)

Text: 0487 024 124

## Tell-all is right royal debacle

Harry and Meghan Windsor – I refuse to call them the Duke and Duchess of Sussex – have shown their true characters by their ‘tell-all’ interview with Oprah.

Meghan was not prepared for ‘royal’ life and thought she could marry Harry and waltz into Buckingham Palace and change things to suit herself.

When this didn’t happen, she thought, “Oh, I’ll try a bit of mud-slinging” so then we have the ‘poor me’ interview with Oprah.

The Royal family members are human beings and are not perfect.

This debacle brings to mind the film quote by the Japanese Admiral regarding the attack on Pearl Harbour by the forces of Imperial Japan which brought America into the war in the Pacific – “I fear all we have done is to awaken a sleeping giant and fill him with a terrible resolve.”

The giant being America. How true that was. I think Meghan is too clever for Harry. She had an agenda, she wrote the script and now is acting the part.

Harry and Meghan have awoken a sleeping giant, in this instance, the House of Windsor. In the short term it may satisfy their egos, but in the long term, it will do them no favours.

NJ Ware,  
Kawana

## Thank you for supporting Salvos

My name is Samantha Jade and I have had the absolute pleasure of working with The Salvation Army for the past few years.

I have been lucky enough to visit many communities across Australia with The Salvos, all of which were incredibly special and memorable.

As another Australian summer has passed, and after seeing the bushfires in my hometown of Perth recently, I wanted to share my experiences from last year with The Salvos; a story which came full circle.

The year 2020 started with the devastating black summer bushfires. Hard working Aussies who had spent their lives dedicated to their homes and land, saw them destroyed by the disaster.

In late January 2020, I joined the Salvos with a special mission to visit and help some of the communities that were fire-ravaged. Experiencing this impact first-hand was incredibly confronting and heart-breaking.

The wider-community of Batemans Bay so graciously allowed the Salvos and I into their town to see and hear about the devastating impact the disaster had on them. Although I had seen the news coverage and posts on social



NJ Ware isn't impressed by Prince Harry and Meghan Markle's tell-all interview.

media, nothing came close to the real thing.

Whilst speaking to these strong people, I was reminded of how resilient and selfless Australian people are. I will never forget the conversation I had with a man who was experiencing the mental health impacts of the traumatic fires. He said he feared he would never be able to enjoy a sunset or sunrise again. Within seconds, a member of the Salvos’ team took him aside to listen to his story and give him some words of encouragement; something so simple yet so powerful.

My heart broke on that trip. As we drove back to Sydney, where life seemed to be going on as normal, it never left my mind that there were people suffering and starting from scratch every day. I wanted to do more.

So, when I was asked to return to Batemans Bay late last year to see the incredible progress the town had made with the help of the Salvos, I jumped at the opportunity. The change was enormous and breathtaking to witness.

My friends and I decided to sing at every place we visited. We believe the healing power of music is unmatched, with the unique ability to bring people from different backgrounds and circumstances together. Through song, we wanted to give a little back to the incredible people of Batemans Bay, who had given us so much. This experience was truly life changing my team and I and we wouldn’t have been able to live it without The Salvos.

As we move into 2021, there is an overwhelming air of uncertainty. We have all experienced the insecurity of the pandemic, with some of us feeling like we don’t know where to turn or how to go on. We feel alone and forgotten about, scared and helpless. It feels as if there is no one to turn to.

But then I think of the incredible people of The Salvation Army who dedicate their lives to making people feel safe and heard. This gives me faith in humanity to know that those in need will be helped, people struggling to find a way will be given hope, and through all the bad in this world there is an Army who show us

first hand that love is the strongest tool of all. For that I am forever grateful.

On behalf of The Salvos, I want to thank the Australian public for their incredible support and generosity over the past year. Without you, the Salvos wouldn’t be able to continue their life-changing work, and stories like these wouldn’t be possible. From the bottom of my heart, Thank you Australia.

Samantha Jade,  
Salvation Army Ambassador

## Office of Scientific Review for all

A meeting held early this month in Townsville to plan the campaign to further the need for an “Office of Science Review”, was a watershed moment for the Green Shirt Movement (GSM).

Since the inception of GSM, we have trumpeted the need for industry groups to work together for the greater good and not pursue narrow focus excluding all others.

Seeing a number of Agricultural organisations come together for a common purpose is the realisation of a hard-fought goal for Green Shirts.

This however is not enough. It is not enough to advance the cause of the formation of this body, an idea formulated by Peter Ridd, in the interest of Agriculture alone. Nor is it likely to succeed if this is its only aim.

This body has the potential to scrutinise and validate the basis of legislation and regulation in any area. Testing the rigor of scientific practice and assessing the data to see if it has been truly represented, benefits all sectors.

In the case of Queensland, while many may want a light shone on the foundations of the reef regulations or vegetation laws, scrutiny on the data surrounding the closure of maternity units in so many regional areas, and the infant mortality rate would be valuable indeed.

Investigation of the data which may or may not have been the basis of certain approaches to education which has led to record literacy and numeracy failures may well shine a light on the point at which this train went off the rails.

With the current juvenile crime epidemic, and the resultant impact on law abiding citizens, including horrific deaths, an analysis of statistics, data, research, used to make the changes in the youth justice act could be analysed for veracity.

That is, of course, if such data were to exist, rather than it being a decision made by a cash strapped spendthrift government.

An office of review could request such information, and should it not be produced for scrutiny, could announce publicly that no such data to support the measure exists.

Such a body could see the return of deci-

sions based on hard evidence and not populist notions, or political expedience. It would show responsible leaders as being so, and expose self-interested charlatans, as they need to be exposed.

We, as agriculturalists, need the support of the wider community. This is the way of democracy. We need people in the suburbs to see how such an institution can benefit us all. We need politicians to realise that this would give them the assurance that their statements were face on solid evidence and unlikely to fall in a disastrously embarrassing way like a house of cards.

This institution, if successfully created would return science to being outcome based, rather than the income-based activity that it may well have become in some cases.

This has been at the expense of not only the community, political figures, but also of diligent hardworking and ethical scientists who risk sharing the taint of a bad name that a few may deserve.

GSM remains committed to calling a spade a spade, seeking out good people and supporting good policy wherever it may be. We welcome any that wish to aid us in our cause.

Martin Bella,  
President, Green Shirts Movement

## Olympics only benefit egos

I am pretty bloody angry with the closed meeting by the state government to push for the Olympics.

Before this come to the fore, the people of Queensland should have been asked if they wanted to have the Olympics in this state as they are the ones that are going to be saddled with the massive debt for many years and very few Queenslanders will get benefit from these games, whatever profit made from these games will be soaked up by the SE Corner and the rest of the state can go to buggery as is normal.

The Premier and her merry band of Ludites forget that our revenue comes out of the ordinary workers pocket it is not theirs to throw around like bloody confetti big noting themselves.

Not many countries that have staged the Olympics have covered their outlay, the only ones to benefit are the IOC, the media, sporting gear manufacturers, etc. About 30 years ago the Australian Olympic committee stated on the media that at the last Olympic games held, it cost Australia \$10 million dollars for each medal that was won by this country so to invest in the Olympics would not be a profitable investment.

If it goes ahead it is only the benefit the politicians’ egos.

NWH Timms,  
Bungundarra

### Texts to Editor

**JIM, CQ:** Congratulations to NWH Timms for his letter re: universities who appear now to be the crap of the country, academic boofheads teaching ridiculous garbage to people who think they are going to become better educated by going to uni.

One time they may have, it seems the drug companies that supply chemists and the Chinese have a big influence on universities and what’s annoying is most who teach there and go there think they’re up-market, trendiest.

The game these days is to dumb people down, I heard that a school teacher didn’t know how many weeks there were in a year.

**GAILY:** Unfair. In yesterday’s news there was an article about Andrew O’Keefe from The Chase.

He was charged with assaulting his partner so got sacked.

But any of his already recorded shows will not go to air and therefore contestants don’t get their money under the rules. Another show I’ll have to boycott.

Bad show, Channel 7.

**CAW:** The mayor insinuates that because Mt Morgan is, in his words, a low socio-economic community, that they can’t really afford clean water.

Amazing how your council has wasted millions on feasibility studies for levees, dump sites, etc, not to mention the amount of brand new twin cab 4WDs getting around the place, plus the you beaut art gallery.

The list goes on but water for Mt Morgan, yeah, we will have to think about that. Really.


**COLT, ROCKY:** It makes you wonder what’s going on. Australia, India, Japan and the US start an Indo Pacific Alliance against China’s presence.

How can we not have them here when we sell them most of our real estate, tourist resorts, companies and islands.

The tourists won’t benefit from the takeover as the islands will become bases.

It’s like locking the door after you give them the key. Shame!

**IC, LAMMERMOOR:** It is sad that NWH Timms does not learn the Constitution before he writes letters, claiming to know it.



**Lynch’s Jokes of the Week**  
Mate said to me, “How would you like to be in a deep hole underground that’s full of water?” He meant well.  
Never let anyone tell you what you can or cannot do. Just look at Beethoven, everyone told him he would never be a musician, just because he was deaf. But did he listen?

### ON THIS DAY

March 18 is recognised as Awkward Moments Day.

**1519:** Hernán Cortes leaves Cuba for the Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico with 11 ships and 500 men.

**1678:** John Bunyan’s Pilgrim’s Progress is published in Holborn, London, by Nathaniel Ponder.

**1861:** King Victor Emmanuel II of Sardinia becomes first King of Italy.

**1885:** Mark Twain publishes the Adventures of Huckleberry Finn in the US.

**1917:** First major strike of the Russian ‘February Revolution’ starts at the giant Putilov factory in Petrograd.

**1981:** 20-year-old Edmonton center Wayne Gretzky becomes first player in NHL history to score five career hat-tricks before age 21; scores five goals and two assists in 9-2 Oilers’ home win against St Louis.

**2014:** Ukrainian Revolution of 2014 begins as protesters, riot police and unknown shooters take part in violent events in the capital, Kiev, culminating after five days in the ouster of President Viktor Yanukovich.

# Discovering Cairo

## ADFAS update

The Australian Decorative and Fine Arts Society of Rockhampton is very pleased to be resuming monthly illustrated presentations by visiting experts after a 2020 disrupted by Covid-19.

The 2021 program starts on Saturday, 20 March, with Jennifer Bowker who is visiting Rockhampton to present her talk on 'The Tentmakers of Old Cairo'.

Jennifer Bowker, of Canberra, is well known in textile and fibre arts circles and ADFAS Rockhampton is very pleased to be hosting her. Jennifer gained a BA in Visual Arts (Hons) from ANU Canberra and has been involved in textile arts ever since.

She lectures Australia wide and exhibits her work and that of others both nationally and internationally. As the wife of an Australian diplomat, Jennifer has lived in many places particularly in Arab and Islamic countries. Living in Cairo for four years gave Jennifer the chance to learn and work with the artisans of the Tentmakers Khan in Old Cairo.

The Tentmakers Khan near Bab Zuwayla in the heart of historic, ancient Cairo houses the workshops of artisans who create intricate, beautiful applique panels which are used to adorn the interior of tents set up in the desert and in city streets for funerals, celebrations and during Ramadan to feed the poor. The tentmakers' craft is an ancient one which is often passed from father to son. This once thriving art is now a dying art as the young move



Jennifer Bowker present a talk on The Tentmakers of Old Cairo for the Australian Decorative and Fine Arts Society of Rockhampton.



Cairo artisans create intricate, beautiful applique panels which are used to adorn the interior of tents.

away to find more lucrative jobs.

The Tentmaker's Street, which had 247 skilled masters in 1979, is now down to 45.

Though collections of this intricate art are held internationally, collections are not held anywhere in Egypt yet the work is stunning and beautiful. Jenny took exhibitions to Australia, France, and Spain and will talk about the history and development of the Tentmakers' applique.

This talk will be of interest to all those involved in quilting, fibre and textile arts, of course, but will also be very much of interest to those getting itchy feet, planning their travels once we can go overseas again.

All are welcome to attend - 2021 ADFAS Rockhampton memberships are available to

attend all lectures or attend as a visitor to a single lecture for \$25 which includes a legendary, scrumptious morning tea with Jennifer Bowker.

The lecture will take place at 10.30am on Saturday, 20 March, at Centacare, 16 Bolsover Street. For further information see the Rockhampton page on [www.adfas.org](http://www.adfas.org) or the ADFAS Rockhampton page on Facebook and email [Rockhampton@adfas.org.au](mailto:Rockhampton@adfas.org.au)

## MG club on the road again

By Jim Armstrong, coordinator Capricorn Chapter MGCC of Qld Inc.

Since the forming of the Capricorn Chapter of the MG Car Club of Queensland in 2008, the chapter has traditionally held an extra long run each alternative year.

These trips have grown and consequentially become quite popular not only within our chapter but from other MG chapters as well.

There have been runs to Leyburn on the Darling Downs to watch the annual car sprints down there.

One to North Queensland traveling through Clermont, Charters Towers to Townsville and Magnetic Island and return back down through Mackay and home.

Then there was the seven-day trip out to Rubyvale, Barcardine, Blackall up to Longreach and Winton and return via Emerald to Rockhampton visiting major tourist attractions like the Sapphire mine in Rubyvale, Tree of Knowledge in Barcardine, the steam powered working wool wash in Blackall, the Thomson river cruise and outback evening show in Longreach, the outback museum in Winton, returning to Longreach's Hall of Fame and the Qantas Museum before heading home.

The last one over seven nights was called the Three Rivers Cruise which entailed driving down along the Burnett River, Mary River and the Stanley River in South Eastern Queensland's hinterland through towns like Theodore, Cracow, Eidsvold, Munduberra, Maryborough, Gympie, Montville, Fernvale, Kingaroy and Mt Perry before returning home to Rockhampton.

As you can see, we have covered the north, the north-west and the south-east in the past so this year we will be covering the south-western parts of Queensland which will be held in late June, early July, again over seven nights.

This tour should be quite interesting as we will visit places like Theodore, Miles, St George, Charleville, Roma and Emerald taking in the tourist attractions in each of the towns before returning home.

These tours or long runs as we call them have become well known throughout the Queensland MG fraternity and this year, we have attracted MG members from Biloela, Gympie, Brisbane (three cars) and the Gold Coast as well as a good roll up from our own chapter. One local member, Gordon Kelsey, who is a veteran of all our previous long runs, was so enthusiastic about this trip that our run committee appointed him 'tour



MG Car Club members' vehicles prior to a previous trip.

Planner' and we have to acknowledge the work and enthusiasm he has put into organizing this proposed run and accommodation. It will be, no doubt, very successful and interesting. The cars that we are expecting to participate in this tour are; MG TF (2004 model) MG F, three of MGBs, MGBGTV8, MGA Coupe, MGA Twin Cam Coupe, MGA Roadster, 1956 MG Magnette Sedan, E type Jaguar, Daimler Dart V8, Mazda MX5 and a Toyota Landcruiser.

The Capricorn Chapter of the MGCC of Qld is a small but active group of likeminded car enthusiasts and as our name suggests most of us have MGs older and new but however as you can see from the above, we have a spattering of similar cars to the MG so if you have something similar and think you would like to join us, please contact us and you will be made most welcome. Jim Armstrong (0417 544 222) or Phil Henry (0434 017 132).

## IN BRIEF

### Senior Citizens Easter celebrations

The North Rockhampton Senior Citizens Club will host their annual Easter celebrations with a Easter bonnet/hat parade on Friday, 26 March at the Frenchville Sports Club, from 9.30am until 1.30pm.

The club will provide a morning tea and a two course luncheon with entertainment.

Cost is \$15 per person and bookings are essential by Friday, March 19. Contact Joyce on 4928 3688 or Annette on 0499 265 992. Raffles, lucky door prizes and prize for best bonnet/hat.

### Senior Citizens luncheon

The North Rockhampton Senior Citizens Club will host a Seniors Luncheon on Friday, April 23, at the Frenchville Sports Club, featuring Anzac Day celebrations, a morning tea and a two-course luncheon with entertainment, raffles and lucky door prizes.

Cost is \$15 per person and bookings are required by Friday, April 16. Contact Joyce on 4928 3688 or Annette 0499 265 992.

### Capricorn Coast Historical Society

Want to do some family research or know more about your local community? Have some historical photos, maps or documents to share? Or just need a new calendar full of historic photographs? Capricorn Coast Historical Society has you covered.

The Bunker, located behind the Town Hall in Normanby Street, is open to the public from 9.30am to 12.30pm Tuesdays and Saturdays. Friendly volunteers are on hand to help with your family research enquiries. They're also available to scan and return your historical photos, documents and maps to include in their highly significant collection.

Membership costs \$10 for a single and \$15 for a couple, and brings a discount on purchases of books and on historical bus trips.

## 2021 Expressions of Interest NOW OPEN!

### What is HIPPY?

The Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters (HIPPY) is a two-year, home based early childhood learning and parenting program that empowers parents and carers to be their child's first teacher.

If you have a child starting Prep in 2022 and live in a town visited by us, then HIPPY is for YOU!

**HIPPY helps you to teach them!**

To secure your spot contact

**HIPPY MT MORGAN**

**0466 428 139**

[mblake@redcross.org.au](mailto:mblake@redcross.org.au)

**f HIPPY Mount Morgan**



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# Entertainment

WHAT'S ON IN CQ

## Activities for autumn fun

**Every Wednesday**

**Overeaters Anonymous**

Can't stop eating? Overeaters Anonymous (OA) welcomes you. No diets. No fees. Just men and women compulsive overeaters meeting and supporting one another through the OA program. And it works. Call Helen 0468 903 620 for more information

**Every Saturday**

**Yeppoon Community Markets, 6am to 10am, Park Street Yeppoon**

The Yeppoon Community Market is held each Saturday morning at the Yeppoon Showgrounds from 6am to 10am. Arrive early for your choice of the freshest local fruit and vegetables the Capricorn Coast has to offer.

**Mindfulness meditation, Women's Health Centre, Rockhampton**

Mindfulness and compassion meditation is held every Saturday from 4.30pm to 5.30pm at the Women's Health Centre at 225 Bolsover St, Rockhampton.

Run by Sama, a Buddhist nun in the Theravada tradition, the sessions focus on the Buddha's 'Four foundations of mindfulness': mindfulness of body, feelings, thoughts and mental states.

BYO cushion, chairs provided. Attendance is free but donations to the Women's Health Centre are very welcome. Contact: bmsmetta@gmail.com 0478 630 888, text preferred.

**Every Sunday**

**Rocky Racecourse Markets, Callaghan Park, Rockhampton, 6am to noon**

Rocky Racecourse Markets are held every Sunday and have a variety of stall, local fresh fruit and veggies, and good range of organic fruit and exotic fruits, locally made cakes and biscuits, chutneys and preserves, jewellery, bric-a-brac, ladies and children's fashions, collectable coins and notes, plants, and timber craft. A recent addition to the markets is organic pork, beef and dairy products, and for a relaxing change try reflexology. Disney character appearances throughout the year will keep the kids entertained.

**Tram Rides at Archer Park Rail Museum, Denison Street, Rockhampton**

The Archer Park Rail Museum in Denison Street, Rockhampton is open Sundays 9am-1pm. Bring the family along to look through the carriages and steam and diesel engines, change the train signals, see the Morse code table and lots more. You can also enjoy a morning tea in the refreshment room and take a ride on the Purrey Steam Train. Starts at 10am.



Rocky Racecourse Markets are held every Sunday at Callaghan Park.

**March 19 to 28**

**Mamma Mia at the Pilbeam Theatre, Rockhampton**

Here we go again! The Covid-19 pandemic forced the closure of the record breaking run of Mamma Mia in March 2020, disappointing cast and audiences. Now, by popular demand, the production is being remounted featuring your favourite company members from the 2020 season!

**Sunday, March 28**

**Causeway Lake Markets, Causeway Lake**

The Causeway Lake Markets are held on the fourth Sunday of every month from 10am to 12pm at Causeway Lake, at the northern end of the causeway. The stalls have a variety of fresh fruit and vegetables and other home-made products.

**Wednesday, March 31**

**Pete Smith and Bruce Lavender**

Pete Smith and Bruce Lavender will be singing at the CDCMA Hall, at the corner of Robinson Street and Diggers Lane, North Rockhampton, on Wednesday, 31 March, starting at 1 pm.

Bookings: Ailsa 4927 7282.

**Sunday, April 4**

**Fig Tree Creek Markets, Ross Creek Roundabout, Yeppoon**

Fig Tree Creek Markets are organised by Koppel Coast Arts and held on the first Sunday each month, adjacent to the Capricorn Coast Tourist Information Centre at Ross Creek Roundabout, Yeppoon.

Fig Tree Creek Markets stallholders display, demonstrate and sell unique, handmade, locally designed, home baked and home grown products. Celebrate the local creativity and enjoy live entertainment each month.

Proceeds from the stallholders fees collected also help KCA in other arts related activities within the community.

**April 7 to April 14**

**Archer Park Rail Museum school holiday activities**

School holiday activities will be held at Archer Park Rail Museum from Wednesday, April 7 to Wednesday, April 14, 10am to 1pm.

Bring the kids down to enjoy a Purrey Steam

Tram ride and wander through the museum. The older children can collect APRM questionnaires and the adults can supervise them as they go through the museum finding the answers. There are 50 cent colour-in-packs for the younger children and there will be food on sale.

**Saturday, 10 April, 8pm at the Pilbeam Theatre, Rockhampton**

**Queen 50th Anniversary - Bohemian Rhapsody**

Following a hugely successful 2019 sell-out tour, Queen -Bohemian Rhapsody are returning with a brand new show in 2021 combining Queens greatest hits and a few of the most popular songs on their albums.

Australian Freddie Mercury impersonator Thomas Crane and his hot band Bohemian Rhapsody bring back to life the visual excitement, sound and stage energy as witnessed at a Queen concert.

**April 10-11**

**Bluey's Big Play, Gladstone Entertainment Centre**

See Bluey, Bingo, Mum and Dad as you've never seen them before. Join The Heelers in their first live theatre show created just for you with puppetry, live actors and iconic Australian sets. It's a little bit different and a little bit beautiful.

**Sunday, 11 April**

**Ben Elton Live, 7.30pm at the Pilbeam Theatre, Rockhampton**

Ben Elton announced back in 2019 that he would tour Australia in 2020 with a brand-new stand-up show, Ben Elton Live. But we all know what happened next.

With the country just now opening back up Ben will hit the stage from March 2021 and has added new dates and eight new stops across Australia. He last performed stand up in Australia in 2006 but returned to the stage with a totally sold out 75 date UK tour in 2019, drawing rave reviews.

**Various dates**

**Carl Barron: Skating Rink for Flies, Gladstone Entertainment Centre, April 15, Pilbeam Theatre April 13, 14, 17**

Voted number one comedian two years running, come along and see Carl's brand new show - Skating Rink for Flies. A night where he ponders things we all think about but never mention. Things like plastic bags, peanut butter and the possible emotions of an ant.

There is no point to this show other than to make you laugh as much as possible. Funny stories from a bloke with a funny head. What more could you ask for.





Back: Shannon Thompson, Brendan Hore, Kristal Littlejohns, front, Emily Horsley, Tracey Glover, Karen Johnson, Brooke Johnson and Cheryl McBay and Glenn McBay



Teresa Morgan, Chris Wyvill, Alan Cornick, Erin Kuehne, Sarah Cuddihy and Kyle Arnold.

# The luck of the Irish

By Liam Emerton

For plenty of punters (and for journalists with Irish names) the Rockhampton Jockey Club St Patrick's Day races are one of the best events of the year.

Held at the beautiful Callaghan Park, the races begun just after midday and brought plenty of great supporters and members to the track.

And like the gorgeous track, the spectators' outfits were mostly flowing with shamrock green.

The event was hosted by the Diocesan Catholic Education Office and saw over 1000 patrons walk through the gates and enjoy the spectacle of racing.

The Stuart Kendrick-trained Electric Spirit opened the day with a 1-and-a-half length victory, before home-town horse Boudica's Gift, trained by John Wigginton, took out the second race of the day.

Finucane Missile was the heavy favourite heading into the third race and the Clinton Taylor-trained horse delivered, winning by 0.8 of a length.

Angela Stephens-trained Lepreezy was the next Rocky horse to pick up a first-place finish when the four-year-old mare won by just 0.2 of a length.

A Girl Like Alice tasted success when the Adrian Coome-trained Mare raced away to a 1.3 length victory in the fifth race of the afternoon.

The final race on Saturday saw Avocado Sunset, trained by Jared Wehlow, produce a great run to defeat the rest of the competition.



Rockhampton Grammar School kids Elsa Connor, Savannah Muller, Mackenzie Keating Lucy Perry-Barr flank Yeppoon's Leanna Jackson



Back: Fiona Prior, Mark Harvey, Front, Val and Ron Beak.



The Rockhampton and Gladstone Easy Rider groups



Jane Savage, Brooke Austen, Pete Foley, Therese Foley, Jacob Hagedorn, Maddie Svensson, Hayden Foley and Jessica Martin.

# The Guide

## TOP PICKS OF THE WEEK



### FRIDAY THE GRAHAM NORTON SHOW

WIN, 8.30pm

Many of us have fond memories of watching Graham Norton's guests squeeze onto his big red couch for a chit-chat, but the pandemic has put an end to those shenanigans. While it's still strange to see Norton's set dotted with armchairs spaced 1.5m apart, or his guests phoning up on video chat, it's comforting to know that cheeky banter and a good yarn aren't a thing of the past. Tonight, Amy Poehler tells all about her new film *Moxie*, Minnie Driver promotes her podcast *Minnie Questions*.



### TUESDAY STAGED

ABC TV PLUS, 9.05pm

We can't shout over the rooftops that the pandemic is over yet, but the flipside is that we get a second crisp serving of this playful and thoughtful comedy. If you haven't devoured season one, it sees David Tennant (*Broadchurch*, above) and Michael Sheen (*Masters of Sex*) play "themselves" as they jest, engage in philosophical banter and argue with each other through the lens of Zoom during life in lockdown. Season one featured excellent guest stars, and the return is no exception, with Michael Palin joining the caper. There's a piquant twist to this season which will delight and keep everyone on their toes. It's clever, funny and restorative viewing for our troubled times.

### MONDAY TASKMASTER

SBS VICELAND, 8.30pm

Comedians perform bizarre and hilarious tasks with a liberated ease that only the British could muster in this top-notch game show. Fronted by Greg Davies (*The Inbetweeners*, below), along with his 'sidekick' Alex Horne, who concocted the show's premise more than 10 years ago at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, season six kicks off with two episodes tonight. The fresh panel – Alice Levine, Asim Chaudhry, Liza Tarbuck, Tim Vine (*Not Going Out*) and Russell Howard (*The Russell Howard Hour*) – grapple with wheelbarrows and making towers out of lemons, among other absurd things, in what is only the beginning of their 10-episode shenanigans.



Greg Davies is the eponymous host of *Taskmaster*

### SUNDAY GRAND DESIGNS NEW ZEALAND

ABC TV, 7.40pm

Our perception of 'grand' is taken on an expedition in tonight's affecting episode. As host of the iconic original British series for more than 20 years, Kevin McCloud has legions of fans, but it's safe to declare that his Kiwi protégé Chris Moller (right) has a natural curiosity and empathetic manner which gives him a run for his money. Similarly, the projects covered in this exciting series have that extra-special something. Tonight, Moller meets Craig Jarvis, a man who is determined to construct an eco-friendly, hand-built 65sqm home overlooking Taylors Mistake in New Zealand's South Island. It's the show's longest build, but also the most compelling and dramatic, to boot.



## Friday, March 19

### ABC TV (2)

**6.00** News Breakfast. **9.00** ABC News Mornings. **10.00** Q+A. (R) **11.05** Being Frank: The Frank Gardner Story. (Ma, R) **12.00** ABC News At Noon. **1.00** Back Roads. (PG, R) **1.30** Outback Ringer. (PG, R) **2.00** Poldark. (Msv, R) **3.00** ABC News Afternoons. **4.10** Antiques Roadshow. (R) **5.10** Grand Designs New Zealand. (R)

**6.00** The Drum. Analysis of the day's news. **7.00** ABC News. Takes a look at today's top stories. **7.30** Gardening Australia. Sophie Thomson makes native bee hotels. **8.30** Vera. (Mav, R) Part 4 of 4. DCI Vera Stanhope investigates the mysterious death of a fisherman. **10.00** Mum. (Final, M) It is Derek's birthday. **10.30** State Of The Union. (Final, PG, R) Tom moves back in. **10.45** ABC Late News. **11.00** The Vaccine. (R) **11.15** The Weekly With Charlie Pickering. (R) **11.45** Fisk. (Mls, R) **12.15** Rage. (MA15+adhlms)

**ABC TV PLUS (22)** **6am** Children's Programs. **6.10pm** Brave Bunnies. **6.20** Bluey. **6.30** Kiri And Lou. **6.35** The Adventures Of Paddington. **6.45** Andy's Dinosaur Adventures. **7.00** Dino Dana. **7.15** Odd Squad. **7.30** Spicks And Specks. **8.00** Doctor Who. **9.00** Mary Rachel Brown's The Dapto Chaser. **10.40** Anh's Brush With Fame. **11.10** George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. **Midnight** Catalyst. **12.55** Parks And Recreation. **1.20** News 911! **1.40** Finding Joy. **2.10** Josh. **2.35** News Update. **2.40** Close. **5.00** Bing. **5.05** Little Princess. **5.20** Sarah & Duck. **5.30** Hoot Hoot Go! **5.35** Miffy's Adventures Big And Small. **5.45** Late Programs.

**NITV (34)** **6am** Morning Programs. **8.00** Little J And Big Cuz. **8.10** Aussie Bush Tales. **8.20** Waabiny Time. **8.45** Wapos Bay. **9.05** Kagagi. **9.30** Bushwhacked! **10.00** Big Name, No Blanket. **11.00** Buwarrala Aryah. **Noon** MOVIE: White Men Can't Jump. (1992, M) **2.00** Intune 08. **3.00** Wapos Bay. **3.25** Bushwhacked! **3.55** Little J And Big Cuz. **4.00** Musomagic. **4.30** Move It Mob Style. **5.00** Fraggles Rock. **6.00** Pete & Pio's Kai Safari. **6.30** On Country Kitchen. **7.00** NITV News: Nula. **7.30** MOVIE: Lord Of The Flies. (1963, PG) **9.05** First Nations Bedtime Stories. **9.15** Lagau Danalag: An Island Life. **10.10** Torres To The Thames. **11.10** Late Programs.

### SBS (3)

**6.00** WorldWatch. **9.30** Greek News. **10.30** German News. **11.00** Spanish News. **11.30** Turkish News. **12.00** Arabic News F24. **12.30** ABC America: World News Tonight. **1.00** PBS NewsHour. **2.00** Destination Flavour China Bitesize. (R) **2.10** The Clinton Affair. (Mas, R) **3.00** NITV News: Nula. **3.30** Great British Railway Journeys. (PG, R) **4.05** Great Continental Railway Journeys. (R) **5.05** Jeopardy! (PG) **5.30** Letters And Numbers. (R)

**6.00** Mastermind Australia. (PG) **6.30** SBS World News. **7.35** The Crucifixion Mystery. (Mav, R) A look at the Roman practice of crucifixion. **8.30** The Royals In Wartime: The Monarchy In World War II. Part 1 of 2. **9.25** Secrets Of Britain: Secrets Of Underground London. (PG, R) A look beneath modern-day London. **10.30** Going Places With Ernie Dingo. (PG) **11.00** SBS World News Late. **11.30** Elvis Presley: The Searcher. (Ml, R) **1.30** Project Blue Book. (Mal, R) **4.50** Destination Flavour: Japan Bitesize. (R) **5.00** CGTN English News. **5.15** NHK World English News. **5.30** Deutsche Welle English News.

**VICELAND (31)** **6am** WorldWatch. **Noon** Inside Heston's World. **2.00** Ice Man. **2.50** Jungletown. **3.40** WorldWatch. **5.05** The Joy Of Painting. **5.35** Shortland Street. **6.05** If You Are The One. **7.05** Jeopardy! **7.35** 8 Out Of 10 Cats Does Countdown. **8.30** The Great British Urine Test. **9.45** 40 Kids By 20 Women. **10.40** Yokayi Footy. **11.15** VICE News Tonight. **11.40** 24 Hours In Police Custody. **12.35am** MOVIE: Dancehall Queen. (1997, MA15+) **2.25** NHK World English News. **3.00** Thai News. **3.30** Bangla News. **4.00** Punjabi News. **4.30** Sri Lankan Sinhalese News. **5.00** Korean News. **5.30** Indonesian News.

**SBS MOVIES (32)** **6am** Fame. Continued. (2009, PG) **7.20** The Assassin. (2015, PG, Mandarin) **9.20** Coming Home. (2014, PG, Mandarin) **11.20** The Bookshop. (2017, PG) **1.25pm** Heidi. (2015, PG, German) **3.30** Song Of Granite. (2017, PG, Gaelic) **5.20** Big Fish. (2003, PG) **7.40** Swiss Army Man. (2016, M) **9.30** Brooklyn. m(2015, M) **11.35** Elis. (2016, M, Portuguese) **1.45am** The Broken Circle Breakdown. (2012, MA15+, Flemish) **3.50** Through The Fire. (2018, M, French)

### SEVEN (7)

**6.00** Sunrise. **9.00** The Morning Show. (PG) **11.30** Seven Morning News. **12.00** MOVIE: An Officer And A Murderer. (2012, Msv, R) Gary Cole. **2.00** House Of Wellness. (PG) **3.00** The Chase. Hosted by Bradley Walsh. **4.00** Seven News At 4. **5.30** The Chase Australia. Contestants race to answer quiz questions.

**6.00** Seven Local News. **6.30** Seven News. **7.00** Better Homes And Gardens. Charlie Albone makes a rolling veggie box. **8.30** MOVIE: Troy. (2004, Msv, R) After a young Trojan prince seduces a Greek queen, her furious husband raises an army and pursues the lovers, laying siege to the city of Troy where they have taken shelter. Brad Pitt, Eric Bana, Diane Kruger. **11.45** Ambulance: Code Red. (Ma, R) **12.45** MOVIE: Alien Abduction. (1998, Mlv, R) Benz Antoine. **2.30** Home Shopping. (R) **4.00** My Greek Odyssey. (PG, R) **5.00** NBC Today.

**7TWO (72)** **6am** Home Shopping. **6.30** Travel Oz. **8.00** Harry's Practice. **8.30** Million Dollar Minute. **9.30** NBC Today. **Noon** House Of Wellness. **1.00** World's Most Amazing Videos. **2.00** Harry's Practice. **2.30** Million Dollar Minute. **3.30** Weekend. **4.00** Better Homes And Gardens. **5.30** Escape To The Country. **6.30** Bargain Hunt. **7.30** Highway Cops. **8.30** Escape To The Country. **9.30** World's Most Secret Homes. **10.30** Charlie Luxton's Homes By The Sea. **11.30** Property Ladder UK. **12.45am** The Fine Art Auction. **4.00** My Road To Adventure. **4.30** Escape To The Country. **5.30** Home Shopping.

**7MATE (73)** **6am** The Next Level. **6.30** Fishy Business. **7.30** Creek To Coast. **8.00** American Pickers. **9.00** Billion Dollar Wreck. **10.00** America's Game: The Super Bowl Champions. **11.00** A Football Life. **Noon** Doomsday Preppers. **1.00** Ax Men. **2.00** Gold Fever. **3.00** Billion Dollar Wreck. **4.00** Football. AFL Women's. Round 8. Gold Coast Suns v Carlton. **6.00** Friday Night Countdown. **6.30** Football. AFL. Round 1. Collingwood v Western Bulldogs. **9.30** AFL Post-Game Show. **10.00** Armchair Experts. **10.30** I Am Chris Farley. **12.30am** Shipping Wars. **1.30** Storage Wars. **2.00** Late Programs.

### NINE (5)

**6.00** Today. **9.00** Today Extra. (PG) **11.30** Morning News. **12.00** The Ellen DeGeneres Show. (PG) **1.00** Amazing Grace. (Ma, R) **2.00** Desperate Housewives. (Mads, R) **3.00** Tipping Point. (PG) **4.00** Afternoon News. **4.30** Millionaire Hot Seat. (R) **5.30** Nine News Local. The latest news, sport and weather.

**6.00** Nine News. **7.00** Rugby League. NRL. Round 2. Gold Coast Titans v Brisbane Broncos. **8.55** Golden Point. A wrap-up of the Gold Coast Titans versus Brisbane Broncos match, with news and analysis. **9.40** Building Titans. Takes a look at the history of NRL team, the Gold Coast Titans, with unprecedented access from the playing group. **11.40** New Amsterdam. (Madm, R) Sharpe lands in hot water. **12.30** Tipping Point. (PG, R) **1.30** TV Shop: Home Shopping. (R) **4.00** Global Shop. **4.30** TV Shop: Home Shopping. (R) **5.30** A Current Affair. (R)

**9GEM (52)** **6am** TV Shop: Home Shopping. **7.00** Creflo Dollar Ministries. **7.30** TV Shop: Home Shopping. **10.30** The Ellen DeGeneres Show. **11.30** My Favorite Martian. **Noon** Miracle Hospital. **1.00** Days Of Our Lives. **1.55** The Young And The Restless. **2.50** Antiques Roadshow. **3.20** MOVIE: The Ship That Died Of Shame. (1955, PG) **5.20** Heartbeat. **6.30** Rugby League. NRL. Round 2. Gold Coast Titans v Brisbane Broncos. **7.00** Antiques Roadshow. **7.30** David Attenborough's Seven Worlds, One Planet. **8.40** MOVIE: Bride Wars. (2009, PG) **10.30** MOVIE: The Wedding Planner. (2001, PG) **12.35am** Late Programs.

**9GO! (53)** **6am** Children's Programs. **11.00** Dance Moms. **Noon** Royal Pains. **1.00** A Night With My Ex. **1.30** Snog, Marry, Avoid? **3.20** Malcolm In The Middle. **4.20** The Nanny. **4.50** Young Sheldon. **5.50** MOVIE: The Emoji Movie. (2017) **7.30** MOVIE: Kung Fu Panda. (2008, PG) **9.15** MOVIE: Blades Of Glory. (2007, M) **11.15** Big Heads. **12.15am** Generation X. **1.15** Snog, Marry, Avoid? **3.00** Beyblade Burst Turbo. **3.30** Ninjago: Masters Of Spinjitzu. **4.00** Pokémon. **4.30** Pokémon Journeys. **4.50** Power Rangers Beast Morphers. **5.10** Bakugan: Armored Alliance. **5.30** Yu-Gi-Oh! Classic.

### WIN (8)

**6.00** Headline News. **7.30** Entertainment Tonight. (PG, R) **8.00** Studio 10. (PG) **12.00** Dr Phil. (PGal) **1.00** The Living Room. (PGs, R) **2.00** Entertainment Tonight. **2.30** Everyday Gourmet With Justine Schofield. (R) **3.00** Judge Judy. (PG) **3.30** Freshly Picked With Simon Toohey. **4.00** Farm To Fork. (PG) **4.30** The Bold And The Beautiful. (PG) **5.00** 10 News First.

**6.00** WIN News. **6.30** The Project. A look at the day's news. **7.30** The Living Room. (PG, R) The team visits the Biala Hostel. **8.30** The Graham Norton Show. Graham Norton chats with Amy Poehler, Minnie Driver, Nick Jonas, Leonie Elliot and Jennifer Garner. Music from singer-songwriter Tom Odell. **9.30** To Be Advised. **10.30** Just For Laughs Australia. (MA15+Ls, R) Hosted by Tommy Little. **11.00** WIN's All Australian News. **12.00** The Project. (R) **1.00** The Late Show With Stephen Colbert. (PG) **2.00** Home Shopping. (R)

**BOLD (81)** **6am** Home Shopping. **8.00** JAG. **9.00** Diagnosis Murder. **10.00** Star Trek: Voyager. **11.00** Jake And The Fatman. **Noon** Nash Bridges. **1.00** WIN's All Australian News. **2.00** L.A.'s Finest. **3.00** Diagnosis Murder. **5.00** JAG. **7.00** Bondi Rescue. **7.30** NCIS. **8.30** Law & Order: SVU. **10.30** CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. **12.30am** Home Shopping. **2.00** Nash Bridges. **3.00** JAG. **4.00** Diagnosis Murder. **5.00** Jake And The Fatman.

**PEACH (82)** **6am** Frasier. **7.00** Friends. **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. **9.00** Frasier. **10.00** Becker. **11.00** Frasier. **Noon** WIN's All Australian News. **1.00** Judging Amy. **2.00** Medium. **3.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. **4.00** Becker. **5.00** Frasier. **6.00** Friends. **6.30** Neighbours. **7.00** Friends. **8.00** The Big Bang Theory. **9.30** The Conners. **10.30** Charmed. **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. **Midnight** Home Shopping. **1.30** Judging Amy. **4.30** Home Shopping.



# CQ Today NRL FOOTY 1



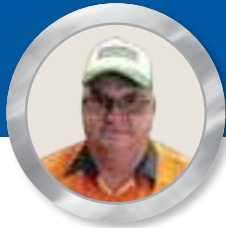
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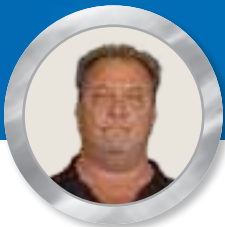
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## RESULTS - ROUND 1

STORM	26	RABBITOHS	18
KNIGHTS	32	BULLDOGS	16
BRONCOS	16	EELS	24
WARRIORS	19	TITANS	6
ROOSTERS	46	SEA EAGLES	4
PANTHERS	24	COWBOYS	0
RAIDERS	30	TIGERS	12
DRAGONS	18	SHARKS	32

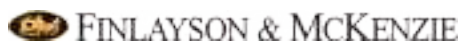
# TIPPING COMPETITION



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BRONCOS	ROOSTERS
PANTHERS	SHARKS

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## LEADERBOARD

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Ken O'Dowd PM	7
Sam Moller	7
Don & Bronwyn Atfield	6
Grant Perry	6
Natalie Cummings & Miles Goudie	6
Steve Scott	6
Remo Fanelli	5
Peter Hunt	5
Gerard Watts	5
Shannon Kime	5
Dean Lill	4
Shaun Pobar	3
Wes Thompson	3

## GAME DRAW • ROUND 2

**Eels V Storm**

**Warriors V Knights**

**Titans V Broncos**

**Bulldogs V Panthers**

**Sea Eagles V Rabbitohs**

**Cowboys V Dragons**

**Tigers V Roosters**

**Sharks V Raiders**











# Seniors return to Schotia

By Matthew Pearce

Rockhampton Senior Citizens Club met at Schotia Place for the first time in 14 months on Thursday, 11 March, for a Musical Morning Tea.

President Shirley Gleeson said renovations early last year followed by Covid-19 restrictions meant the seniors had been missing their regular gatherings.

"Everybody's very happy to be back and we're being very careful about the new protocols," she said.

"Because of Covid, we've outsourced the food to one of our local caterers, Lickity Fingers.

"The entertainment was by Karma Plus and it was a happy day."

Mrs Gleeson said the first event was smaller than usual with organisers taking their time to ensure things were done safely.

"We plan to invite a lot more people eventually but we weren't sure about spreading our wings too quickly. Baby steps for now."

She said 2020 had been a lonely year for older people.

"The pandemic has isolated so many, but hopefully it's safe for us to join together now,"

The seniors plan to hold morning teas on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month and Hoy on the second and fourth Fridays.

Mrs Gleeson said it took many people to make the seniors events possible.

"I'd like to thank our volunteer bus drivers, they're lovely caring people, as well as all those who helped on the day," she said.

"I'd also like to give a special thank you to our former club secretary Mrs Lynette Markwell, who has been the mainstay for the past 20 years and is now heading off to Brisbane."

Mrs Gleeson said it felt right to finally be back together after more than a year.

"The club was first formed at Schotia Place in 1976 and it has been the home of the Rockhampton Senior Citizens Club ever since," she said.



Karma Plus performs on stage at Schotia Place.



# Good deeds unlock benefit

**THIS WEEK WITH JORDIE**



Your good deeds may seem invisible, but they leave a trail that is imprinted on the hearts of others" – anonymous.

There is something about doing a good deed that triggers a 'high', a lasting high that inspires us to repeat this action again and again. It places a positive charge in the air and pushes us to continue the kind-hearted human being routine we are all capable of upholding.

A good deed is driven by a heart of gold and a determined mind that wants to make a positive difference in the world. It doesn't cost a cent to be a thoughtful and compassionate person. It does, however, invest in a more supportive world for us to live in, something we can all benefit from greatly.

The reality is that we all carry varying forms of invisible, but very real, pain and vulnerability. Making our difference involves stopping to help someone who may be struggling, and to show kindness towards someone who appears to carry their load well. There is never any way of knowing exactly what someone else is going through and while we may not be able to solve all their life's problems, we do have control over how we treat them.

Social interaction can make or break us particularly if we are already having a bad day. If we are treated like we are invisible, insignificant to others or unworthy, it can make our life and load feel even more unforgiving.

We each have the power to make the

Jordie Lynch says a good deed is driven by a heart of gold and a determined mind, triggering a lasting 'high'.

lives of others a little easier through our actions of basic courtesy and kind gestures. Little acts of generosity can go such a long way and go on to change the entire culture of a community. Life is already complicated enough as it is but through our interactions, we can make it simpler and much more pleasant for each other.

We could be the one to make someone's bad day better, we could be the one that prevents someone from falling apart and we could be the one who restores another's faith in humanity and overall outlook on life. What an honour it would be to be the person who makes that kind of impact!

And the best thing is? Being that person is easy.

How we treat others is pivotal in how we survive and thrive as a society. So every day through our behaviour we make a choice. Do we want to commit to unfulfilling selfish and rude habits that dishonour the human spirit or do we want to be a community that supports each other and is quicker to help than to dismiss?

Basic courtesy and good deeds combine to make the key that has the power to unlock our best days yet. We hold the key. We decide what kind of world we live in, today and well into the future. It all starts with an action.



The Brigalow Scheme converted scrubland into productive land for beef and grain.

# Battling the brigalow

This week CQ Today continues looking at cattelman Sir Graham McCamley's recollections from his book, Roads in the Sky. Our 11th excerpt details the Brigalow Scheme.

When he had first started clearing brigalow, he cleared the better country first. This, he later found was a mistake.

By 1960, some 7000 acres had been cleared - but the regrowth was coming back and he was finding it difficult to keep up.

The costs for pulling, seeding, fencing and watering were escalating each year.

Graham called in a government botanist, Selwyn Everest, who inspected the property. Selwyn grimaced. Within five years, he decided, Tartrus would have to be abandoned; it would be an economic failure.

To Graham, very much the grandson of Andrew, that was simply not going to happen.

Graham had sprayed 245T (Agent Orange) onto a large area by winged aircraft and Ansett helicopter in earlier years, then helicopter again in 1959, but they were disappointed with the results.

It was an expensive failure.

They had to look at other ways to control the regrowth. In 1960, Graham played around with mechanisation.

A second-hand tractor was purchased and work got underway, raking and ploughing. But this was only partly effective.

They then tried ploughing the on the better soil with a heavy duty John Shearer Majestic disc plough, with better success.

A year later, 12,000 acres had been cleared.

That year and the next, they also used chemicals to control the brigalow.

In 1962, following the taming of the heavily-timbered brigalow country at Tartrus and its ongoing transformation into productive agricultural land, the government's Brigalow Scheme was launched with a loan of \$23 million.

The scheme was initiated to develop 4.5 million hectares of virgin brigalow scrub in Central Queensland for broad-acre grazing and cultivation.

Between 1962 and 1967, a total of 247 freehold and freeholding lease blocks encompassing an area of 1.4 million hectares would be taken up.

Dr Wallace (Wal) Taylor from the DPI, who was posted to Rockhampton as the contact officer during the Brigalow Area Three Scheme, commented that markets for beef were expanding during this period, as were prices.

"The cleared soils of the brigalow belt supported very productive improved pastures," he said.

"The government built a good network of 'beef' roads to allow efficient transport of cat-



**ROADS IN THE SKY**

**SIR GRAHAM MCCAMLEY**

tle and provided technical and scientific support that was both comprehensive and useful.

"It established brigalow research stations to develop property management practices, pasture improvement and animal husbandry techniques appropriate for application on Brigalow Scheme properties."

Most importantly, he emphasised, the calibre, determination and practical experience of the brigalow settlers enabled them to succeed where others may well have failed.

"The whole concept of the Brigalow Scheme was really conceived by Sir William Gunn, when he brought a number of Belgian and Dutch investors out to Australia after they had pulled out of the Congo in Africa," Graham said.

"Sir William brought the Belgian investors to Tartrus to see how we were managing the brigalow scrub, and they, along with ourselves, designed what the federal and Queensland governments took over and completed as the Brigalow Scheme, as we all know it today."

This was the largest land development scheme in the world at the time and the scheme triggered tremendous growth in the area.

Graham was well experienced, someone to mentor the newcomers.

Although he admitted a few years later: "Developing brigalow country is like taking a tiger by the tail - if you let him go, he'll eat you up. You can never relax in the fight against suckers."

When the first Brigalow Scheme blocks were balloted out in 1963, he was appointed to represent the beef industry on the scheme advisory committee.

Sir Graham's book Roads in the Sky, is available for a generous donation to The Lady McCamley Memorial Foundation from his office at 87 Bolsover Street, Rockhampton or Georges Menswear in William Street, Rockhampton.

The Lady McCamley Memorial Foundation is an ATO registered charity whose focus is on suicide prevention. Receipts are issued for all donations received.

The foundation is run by a diverse board of dedicated volunteers united in a desire to support rural Queensland families.



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# Beefing up fashion scene

For people in the Rockhampton region, the name Mark Bunt Menswear is synonymous with quality fashion, style and personalised customer service.

It was therefore no surprise that the team at Beef Australia approached Mark earlier this year and commissioned Mark Bunt Menswear to be the provider of uniforms for the Beef Australia Board of Directors.

Having been associated with Beef Australia since its inception in 1988, Mark was delighted to be approached for this task.

Sourcing special fabric and having the clothing tailor-made here in Rockhampton, the team at MBM kitted out both the women and men who are the Board of Directors of Beef Australia.

As the photo below of some of the Beef Australia Directors shows, MBM has done an outstanding job which is what you would expect after their many years of supplying smart corporate uniforms to many of our region's most successful businesses.

Mark, Brett and all the MBM team share the excitement and anticipation of the local community with regards to Beef 2021.

"Brett and I are excited that Beef 2021 is going ahead as it will be a huge win for the community of the Rockhampton region," Mark said.

Mark said that Beef Australia 2021 will

be a big boost for not only MBM but for all the many businesses who benefit from Beef Australia's commitment to engage local suppliers where possible, to provide goods and services.

"MBM and so many other businesses also benefit significantly from the patronage of the thousands of visitors who will flood into the city for Beef 2021," Mark said.

Mark said that the team at MBM is always prepared to "go the extra mile" for the Beef 2021 visitors.

"We do this through opening our doors earlier and closing later so we are able to accommodate the needs of those looking for last minute clothing or accessories during their stay in Rockhampton and surrounds for Beef 2021," Mark said.

Mark Bunt Menswear and Beef Australia – two local icons working together for the benefit of the community!

In 2018, over 100,000 attendees eclipsed attendance records, cementing Beef Australia's title as the leading event of its kind in the southern hemisphere. The positive economic impact of Beef Australia is felt beyond Rockhampton's borders.

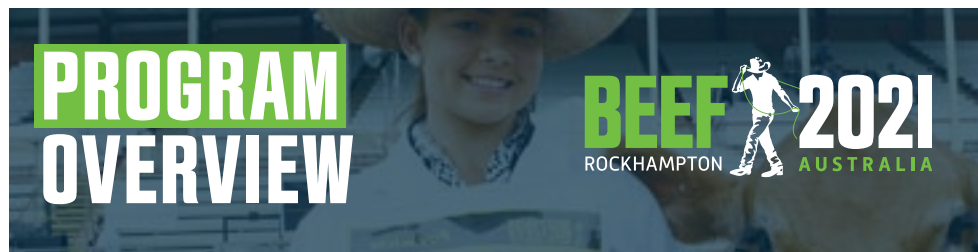
No other event held in Central Queensland contributes on an economic scale, with record numbers in attendance, trade fair exhibitors

and competition entries helping to achieve over \$85 Million in total expo expenditure by attendees and exhibitors in the region. Beef Australia are fully committed to engaging local businesses like Mark Bunt Menswear, and a large number of Central Queensland staff, or-

ganisations and community groups to ensure economic benefits remain here in the local area prior to, during and post event. Beef Australia organisers are confident that numbers for this years event will be on par to 2018, if the level of enquiry and interest to date is an indication.



Looking sharp in readiness for Beef 2021 are, from left, Beef Australia director Ken Murphy, Mark Bunt Menswear's Brett Burke, director Richard Brosnan, vice-chair Russell Hughes, Mark Bunt and vice-chair Grant Cassidy.



Program subject to change, Check our website for up-to-date information.



beefaustralia.com.au

FREE EVENT  
TICKETED EVENT  
\* TICKETED IN TABLES OF 10

	Sunday 2 May	Monday 3 May	Tuesday 4 May	Wednesday 5 May	Thursday 6 May	Friday 7 May	Saturday 8 May
Nutrien Livestock Commercial Cattle Competition Judging [CQLX]	●						
'Off the Lead' Stud Cattle Exhibitors Meet & Greet & Suncorp Bank Battle of the Breeds	●						
Westpac Property Tours	●	●	●	●	●		
*Commonwealth Bank Nose to Tail Dinner	SOLD OUT						
City Tours		●	●	●	●		
Dining and Bars		●	●	●	●	●	
Trade Fair		●	●	●	●	●	
Junior Cattle Competitions		●				●	
*Celebrity Chef Lunch & Dinners		●	●	●	●	●	
Ergon Energy Entertainment Stage		●	●	●	●	●	
CQUniversity Beef Australia Symposium		●					
Beef Australia Seminars		●	●	●	●	●	
Cooking Demonstrations		●	●	●	●		
*Robobank Beef Industry Awards Dinner presented by Queensland Country Life		●					
Nutrien Livestock Commercial Cattle Sale [CQLX]		●					
*Nutrien Livestock Commercial Cattle Awards Dinner		●					
*'The Main Event' Lunch with Jeff Horn and Fred Brophy	SOLD OUT		●				
Nutrien Livestock Stud Cattle Competition			●	●	●		
Major Entertainment Event			●		●		
*ANZ National Beef Carcase Competition Awards Dinner			●				
LAWD Great Debate				●			
Pitch in the Paddock presented by evokeAG				●			
*Graeme Acton Beef Connections Lunch supported by Westpac				●			
*Rural Press Club Breakfast	SOLD OUT				●		
Auctions Plus Next Generation Forum					●		
Nutrien Livestock Stud Cattle Parade of Champions					●		
Nutrien Livestock Stud Cattle Interbreed Championship					●		
*Westpac High Tea					●		
Cattlyst presented by JBS					●		
Beef Business Soiree presented by Warners Fine Jewellery					●		
*Empire Apartment Hotel & Knight Frank Agribusiness Classic Wallabies Sportsmans Lunch	SOLD OUT						
*NAB Ladies Lunch	SOLD OUT					●	
Hats n Heels						●	
Classic Wallabies 'Inner Sanctum' Corporate Pavilion						●	
Classic Wallabies V Beef Barbarians Rugby Match						●	
*The Real Group Gala Ball supported by James Cook University & NAB							●

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May 6  
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The Lawson Room  
**\$50.00**

7pm-10.30pm  
Cattlyst presented by JBS  
The Red Lion Hotel  
**\$75.00**

**FRI**  
May 7  
7pm-11.00pm  
RB Sellars Hats 'n' Heels  
The Pavilion  
**\$150.00**

**MAY 2-8**

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# Stand with advocacy call

## By Capricorn Citizen Advocacy

Queenslanders with disability and disability advocacy organisations that support them are calling on the state government to continue funding for essential advocacy services, via their campaign, Stand with Us!

The Queensland Government provides \$4.9 million to the non-government sector to deliver disability advocacy services. However, funding ceases on 30 June and no further commitment has been made.

"Disability advocacy is a foundation for real inclusion in the community and without it many people with disabilities would be left out. For some, it is also the only way to have their rights upheld and to be protected from discrimination and other forms of poor treatment," Jenny Smith from the Queensland Disability Advocacy Alliance said.

Independent advocacy services represent the rights and interests of vulnerable Queenslanders with disability. They help people with disability speak up for their rights and needs, and to ensure access to quality services and fair treatment.

They also help bring about changes in legislation and policies that contribute to issues of inequality, through systemic advocacy.

"With over 900,000 people with disability in Queensland, many of whom will need the support of advocacy organisations at some stage in their lives, it is a small investment with immeasurable benefits, both socially and economically," she said.

"Advocacy supports those most vulnerable in our community to have a voice. Support from an advocate can mean staying out of hospital, or the prison system or avoiding homelessness - all high-cost service systems. Cutting advocacy funding will also mean the loss of some 90 jobs and years of expertise in the disability advocacy sector.

"Successive Queensland Governments have understood the importance of independent advocacy for people with disability and have funded advocacy services for more than 25 years.

"To withdraw this support at this time would make Queensland the only state that does not fund and recognise the vital importance of advocacy support."

Des Ryan OAM, Rockhampton local and chair of Queenslanders with Disability Network, has also joined the campaign.

"I don't know where I would be today without advocacy. A change in circumstances for my primary carer meant I needed to transition to living on my own," he said.

"Advocacy was critical to me getting the right supports in place, maintaining my independence and continue working. Without it, I would likely have ended up in a nursing home.

"We have a right to these services and there are so many stories where disability advocacy has made a significant difference in people's lives."

Ms Smith said while some people advocacy would become part of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), the Australian Government was explicit that the NDIS will not fund individual, citizen or systemic advocacy.

"It is simply not appropriate that the NDIS fund disability advocacy. That would fundamentally change the independence that disability advocacy must have," Ms Smith said.

"This situation goes well beyond the NDIS.

Only around 10% or 90,000 Queenslanders are expected to access the NDIS, which still leaves the vast majority of people with disabilities who need access to advocacy support that is totally unrelated to the NDIS," she said.

"With the Queensland government providing no guarantee of continued funding for disability advocacy while people with disability are dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic, and whilst the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability is still running, is just so bewildering.

"Disability advocacy has never mattered more."

Capricorn Citizen Advocacy will holding a rally on Wednesday, 24 March, from 10-11am at 192 Quay Street, Rockhampton.

Ms Smith urged people who care about the rights of people with disability to justice and fair treatment, to register to join the rally by calling the office on 4922 0299.

To support the Stand with us! Campaign, visit the campaign website at [www.standwithus.com.au](http://www.standwithus.com.au)

## All's well in the kitchens for Hillcrest's first apprentice

Hillcrest Rockhampton Private Hospital has hired its first apprentice, with a new trainee chef joining the catering team.

23-year-old Taleisha Biggin said she had landed her 'dream job' and was excited to be learning to cook in the hospital's fast-paced kitchen.

"Food has always been one of my passions; preparing it, buying it and eating it so naturally it was one of the avenues I was exploring as a profession. I'm also studying a Bachelor of Allied Health majoring in Nutrition," she said.

"What I'm most excited about is learning how food can help in our journey of wellness, plus I enjoy helping others so being a chef at Hillcrest gives me the opportunity to do this."

Chief executive officer Fiona Hebbard said the hospital was committed to upskilling future generations.

"We understand the benefit and importance of training young people because it helps reduce skills shortage and ensures we have engaged and qualified staff right here in Rockhampton," she said.

"We believe that people are at the heart of our business, and we are always looking for opportunities to develop and train employees to ultimately deliver excellent experiences and outcomes for our patients.

"Our catering team at Hillcrest are committed to sharing their knowledge with our new apprentice chef and I know they're looking forward to the innovative ideas and fresh young perspective that Taleisha will bring to our kitchen too."

The Hillcrest team prides itself on deliver-



Taleisha Biggin (centre) has landed her dream job as an apprentice chef at Hillcrest Rockhampton.

ing fresh and healthy meals for patients and visitors which includes the provision of therapeutic diets tailored to fit the nutritional

needs of each individual patient.

"We congratulate Taleisha on taking up this wonderful opportunity at Hillcrest and

we look forward to supporting her in her journey to be a highly skilled and trained chef," Ms Hebbard said.

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# Great chefs, great wines on road to culinary discovery

Combining the flavours of well-cooked fresh food and good quality produced wine is a personal activity of mine. It is a constant road of culinary discovery.

I agree that there are times when Gordon Ramsey's bravado goes over-the-top. But my personal take on him is whilst running the kitchen during a full house in a fine dining restaurant his number one reason for being is to make sure that each dish is prepared as to how the customer requested.

Once that sequence is finalised, next to be discussed is which wine the customer should have with that particular dish.

Wine has long served as a key ingredient in many world cuisines – intensifying, enhancing and accenting flavours. If you think about wine as just another form of sustenance. Its interesting to consider that the skills of the chef and the winemaker are remarkably similar.

In the winery and kitchen, a similar use of

## WINE WITH FOOD TIPS

WINEBILL



senses, skill and creativity comes into play. Crushing the grapes is like chopping, slicing, dicing, deboning – beginning the transformation of form and shape.

Really good kitchens care about what happens before the raw ingredients enter the kitchen and the provenance of their food, a concept intrinsic to winemaking and encapsulated in the term "terrior".

Traditionally great chefs have always been close to their suppliers, often going past distributors and wholesalers straight to the grower. With wine making, the state of

the vines, the season, the canopy, the grape load, why the grapes ripened and developed, are all markers of the potential of the vintage.

This very close relationship between the vineyard and the winery, the grower and the maker, the season are fundamental hallmarks of a great wine. Even if they don't grow their own grapes, really good winemakers spend a lot of time in the vineyards of their growers.

Seabold Cellars in the Monterey County wine region in California act in this way. They produce structurally-balanced wines with unique and distinct personalities.

Gordon Ramsey Signature Wines are produced by winemaker Nick Dumergue and sommelier at Seabold, Chris Miller. Ramsey partnered with Millar in 2018. Combined they are seeking to produce high-quality, old world style wines that complement the food at his restaurants.

Seabold Cellars can now share their wines

with Gordon Ramsey's fan base. Gordon Ramsey can personally get involved in the production of each vintage. And seek to create the perfect wines to match the perfect meals produced in his restaurants. This is a direct quote from Gordon Ramsey:

"Wine has always fascinated me – a complex marriage of tradition, art, science, land and people, all captured together in a glass. My time in California has convinced me that Californian wines stand with the best in the world. Passionate winemakers in California's cooler climate regions are producing delicious, balanced wines that complement our cuisine. I am delighted to release these Gordon Ramsey Californian wines designed to be enjoyed with food and delicious if drunk on their own".

Personally, as I strive to be part of creating excellent wine and food events. When restrictions are lifted.....to a Ramsay Restaurant/ Seabold Wines outlet I go...

# Don't fall into asset trap

In any professional undertaking, there is a base level of knowledge that you need to know just to get started.

This base knowledge is often taught in segments or subjects, and so at the time of learning, the components seem discrete from one another.

This is true of economics and finance where the characteristics of bond, equity and property assets are carefully considered on the one hand and the benefits of diversification on the other.

Without experience, it is easy to fall into the trap of trying to reduce risk by adding more assets to a portfolio, without deeply understanding the links between the individual components.

Daily we see very basic examples of this – a new client will present with an existing portfolio that includes several managed funds. They've been told the portfolio is diversified because the funds are run by different fund managers, but they don't realise that the underlying assets in all the funds are more or less the same.

A portfolio containing say, the Perpetual Australian Shares Fund, the AMP Australian Share Fund and the Colonial First State Australian Share Fund is for example hardly diversified at all.

That's not to say you cannot build a diversified portfolio using funds, but to do that you really have to know what the underlying assets are, and how they interact. An adviser who knows that is starting to add some value.

The origin of the Global Financial Crisis (GFC) lay in home ownership policies in the USA which made it very easy for people on low incomes to buy houses.

This was seen as a 'social good' that could be funded by the private sector (and also some

## SPEAKING FRENCH

DAVID FRENCH  
THE INVESTMENT COLLECTIVE



government-related entities). Using a process known as securitisation, the loans underlying the house purchases were packaged up and sold, enabling more loans to be made with the proceeds. Securitisation is a very common practice and a great tool if managed well. Making sure that the package of loans is very likely to be repaid is paramount.

With the 'socially good' government policy in full swing, more and more loans were written to people on low incomes. Financial products known as Collateralised Debt Obligations (CDO) were developed to provide exposure to different levels of risk within the securitised pool of loans.

The securitisation market went into overdrive – until people began to default on their loans. The value of the securitised loan packages and CDOs, which were held as investments by many financial and other institutions, began to fall.

This damaged balance sheets and rendered banks and other financiers unable to lend. They rapidly started calling in loans, even loans to sound companies. Before long it was a tsunami of grief, resulting in a collapse in asset prices as investors large and small ran for the door.

At the time I recognised the problem with CDOs (we never bought any), but I did not comprehend just how widespread the carnage would be when it all went wrong (thankfully



Without experience, it is easy to fall into the trap of trying to reduce risk by adding more assets to a portfolio.

we did recognise just how undervalued assets became, and on account of that we got out of the hole relatively quickly).

The lesson from the GFC is that seemingly unrelated assets (e.g. residential real estate in the USA; Australian equities) can become related through means that are not obvious at first blush.

In the case of the GFC, it was debt that bound everything together.

Last week Greensill Capital was in the news for all the wrong reasons. Greensill is a huge provider of debtor financing, which means that it lends money to business on the back of invoices.

This process used to be called debt factoring, and it can be a useful tool for businesses providing goods and services to get paid quicker than they otherwise would.

But now Greensill is in administration and parts of it are being liquidated. The reason – insurers that effectively underwrite the value of the loans Greensill made refused to renew the policy.

Now, this would not matter if it was a one-off event, but insurers all over the world are fighting for survival anyway.

That's because the very low (indeed, sometimes negative) interest rates earned on lower volatility assets like bonds means that the assets that underpin insurance policies are not growing in value.

At the same time policies of Western Governments (including our own - witness the results of the Hayne Royal Commission), encourage litigation and complaint, massively increasing the burden on insurers.

The result is that insurers are withdrawing from insurance markets and refusing to insure some customers.

The Greensill loan book is valued at about \$US143 billion. Losses on that will spread far and wide. If it's a one-off, it might be contained.

If it's not, it could lead to a global failure of insurance markets that will bring financial markets undone.

Please note this article provides general advice only and has not taken your personal, business or financial circumstances into consideration.

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# Way back from suicide

Beyond Blue's suicide aftercare initiative, The Way Back Support Service, is now available in CQ.

Beyond Blue chief services officer Alistair Stott said The Way Back provided practical support for people for up to three months after they leave hospital.

"People who have attempted suicide often experience severe distress in the days and weeks afterwards and are at high risk of attempting again," he said.

"The Way Back addresses a significant gap in the current service system and eases this distress by guiding them towards the right support and informing them about how to stay safe."

The service was commissioned by Commonwealth-funded primary healthcare organisation Central Queensland, Wide Bay, Sunshine Coast PHN and is delivered locally by mental health services provider Anglicare Central Queensland.

PHN CEO Pattie Hudson said The Way Back Support Service had shown promising results in helping people since it started as a pilot program in 2014.

"The PHN is proud to play a role in bringing The Way Back Support Service to Central Queensland," she said.

"It's a dynamic model that combines an evidence-based approach to recovery with that all important personal connection and integration with existing health services."

"The Hospital and Health Service will provide the pathway to the service and ensures we have the best understanding of a person's needs and mental health, so that we can give them the best possible care."

People are referred to The Way Back by the Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service and are assigned a support facilitator to guide them through their recovery.

AnglicareCQ CEO Carol Godwin said their



From left, Ngari Bean (CQHHS), Natasha Seawright (Anglicare), Liam Mackay (PHN), Michelle Landry MP and Sam King (PHN) at the Way Back Support Service launch.

facilitators would provide strength-based practical support with people as they navigate through complex systems and move beyond their current circumstances.

"Our facilitators will connect with people using varying modes, predominately face to face and via phone, and a central part of the work will capture the persons safety needs and how they feel these will best be met," she said.

"In addition to this, linkages will be established with health and community services to better enable the person to build a stronger foundation for their life."

"The service is designed to be timely, authentic and supportive."

Member for Capricornia Michelle Landry said the federal government had invested \$44 million in funding to support The Way Back Support Service across the country, and welcomed its expansion into Central Queensland.

"By helping people recover from the trauma of self-harm and suicide, I'm confident that having this service available in our region will help achieve positive and life changing outcomes for those who have experienced such a tragic moment in their lives," she said.

The Way Back Support Service is just one example of how the federally-funded PHN and state funded HHS work together to achieve positive health outcomes for the community."

While referrals to The Way Back Support Service must be made via the HHS, mental health professionals are available at the Beyond Blue Support Service 24/7 via phone on 1300 22 4636 or via [www.beyondblue.org.au/get-support](http://www.beyondblue.org.au/get-support) for online chat between 3pm to 12am AEST. Email responses are otherwise provided within 24 hours.

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# LOW MAINTENANCE LOW SET - EASY LIFESTYLE

 **LJ Hooker**

**SITUATED** in a quiet neighbourhood close to schools, shops and hospitals is where you will find this super neat and tidy home.

As you enter the home you will be greeted by a large lounge room, complimented by rich, polished timber floors which flow throughout.

There are three good size, built-in bedrooms all serviced by a centrally located bathroom.

The kitchen and dining area are also combined. There are some air-conditioning and fans throughout and a lock-up garage for one vehicle.

The backyard is also fully fenced. A great home in a great location. Act now as this will go fast. ●



## HOME ESSENTIALS

**Address:** 11 Harrup Street, West Rockhampton **Description:** 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 1 garage **Price:** \$249,000 **Inspect:** By appointment

**Contact:** Trent Neven, 0407 597 303, LJ HOOKER, ROCKHAMPTON, 4922 2122



### 25 Crick Street Kawana



This beautifully renovated home offers a large galley kitchen equipped with stone bench tops and stainless steel appliances. The open plan design allows the lounge, kitchen and dining areas to effortlessly flow together. There are four generous size bedrooms, the main bedroom also offers an ensuite and WIR. Descend the stairs to a great size rumpus room and bar area. The lower level also boasts a kitchenette and a third bathroom. Enjoy the outside with a entertaining area which overlooks the inground concrete pool and spa.

**For Sale**  
\$669,000

**View**  
By appointment  
[ljhooker.com.au/39MHVW](http://ljhooker.com.au/39MHVW)

**Contact**  
Jade Carr 0439 989 636

LJ Hooker Rockhampton 07 4922 2122



### 3/2 Gillespie Street Wandal



Situated only a stones throw from multiple schools and hospitals is where you will find this neat and tidy three bedroom unit. In a gated complex of only 3 units this unit is perfectly positioned at the very end and offers a large lounge and dining area, well maintained kitchen and bathroom, 3 built in bedrooms, heaps of air conditioning and a rear deck and courtyard. The perfect investment opportunity, a great first home buyer option or even the occasional townhouse.

**For Sale**  
\$199,000

**View**  
[ljhooker.com.au/3gbhvw](http://ljhooker.com.au/3gbhvw)

**Contact**  
Trent Neven 0407 597 303

LJ Hooker Rockhampton 07 4922 2122



### 433 Frenchville Road Frenchville



If you are looking for a home with stunning mountain views yet within a short drive to Frenchville School this is the property for you. This house features the below:

- A bright and modern kitchen that will impress the cook of the family
- A master suite with an impressive ensuite featuring a spa, double shower and double vanity
- Large pool and spa with entertainment area and a large double garage plus a five bay powered shed

**For Sale**  
\$849,000

**View**  
By Appointment  
[ljhooker.com.au/3AHHVW](http://ljhooker.com.au/3AHHVW)

**Contact**  
Brit Wheeler 0407 228 860

LJ Hooker Rockhampton 07 4922 2122



### 6/107 Pennycuik Street West Rockhampton



This well maintained low set 3 bedroom brick unit is perfect for the savvy investor. This low maintenance home is located in a quiet complex. Additional Features Include: -

- \* Open plan kitchen, lounge and dining with A/C
- \* 3 bedrooms all with built in wardrobes & ceiling fans
- \* Spacious bathroom with separate toilet
- \* Private patio out the front
- \* Tenanted until March 2022 and returning \$260 per week

**For Sale**  
\$249,000

**View**  
By Appointment  
[ljhooker.com.au/3RWHVW](http://ljhooker.com.au/3RWHVW)

**Contact**  
Brit Wheeler 0407 228 860

LJ Hooker Rockhampton 07 4922 2122





### 1 Main Street Park Avenue



Looking to Downsize, buy your First Home or Invest! Look no further! This home is close to Schools, Shops & Transport. Check out the list of features this property has to offer!

It features 6.6kw Solar Electricity, Gas Hot Water, 6m x 7m Shed, Plenty of Car Parking, Huge Entertaining Area, 2 Bedrooms with Built-in Cupboards & a Sleepout, 652m2 Allotment, Air conditioned Open Plan living, Neat & Tidy Kitchen & Bathroom.

**For Sale**  
\$228,500

**View**  
By Appointment  
[ljhooker.com.au/3KEHVW](http://ljhooker.com.au/3KEHVW)

**Contact**  
Jackson Rees 0434 274 467

LJ Hooker Rockhampton 07 4922 2122



### 3 Mortensen Street Park Avenue



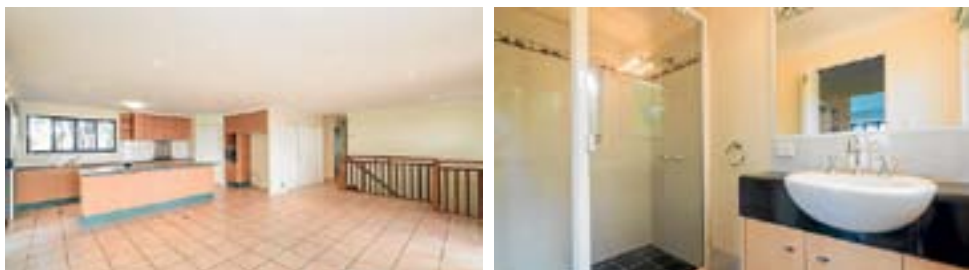
This highset home is situated in the handy location of Park Avenue. It is within walking distance to schools, shops and parks. It features a very spacious lounge room upstairs and all rooms are fitted with air-conditioning and fans. The main bedroom also includes a built-in wardrobe. Sitting on a very comfortable 605m2 block, this home also offer side access. The large back yard makes it perfect for families and includes a shaded concrete area to entertain.

**For Sale**  
\$348,000

**View**  
By Appointment  
[ljhooker.com.au/3MBHVW](http://ljhooker.com.au/3MBHVW)

**Contact**  
Jackson Rees 0434 274 467

LJ Hooker Rockhampton 07 4922 2122



### 14 Sleipner Street Mount Archer



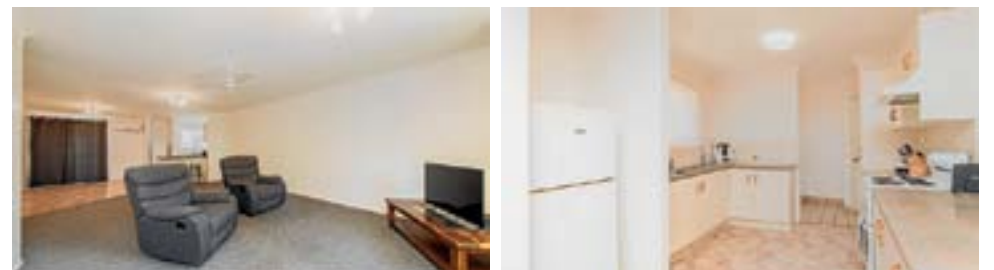
Come and experience one of Rockhampton's hidden suburbs and premium locations at the top of Mount Archer National Park. Here you will find yourself relaxing and enjoying the cooler climate that this position and home has to offer in this picturesque setting. The property features 3 bedrooms all with built in wardrobes, 2 bathrooms, large kitchen & dining area, new roof and fresh exterior paint.

**For Sale**  
\$435,000

**View**  
By Appointment  
[ljhooker.com.au/3jyhvw](http://ljhooker.com.au/3jyhvw)

**Contact**  
Gavin Jenkins 0419 761 300

LJ Hooker Rockhampton 07 4922 2122



### 4/93-95 Pennycuik Street West Rockhampton



You will find this unit located in the Golfside unit complex that is situated just a hop step and a jump to the picturesque Rockhampton Golf Course. Positioned at the end of Pennycuik Street you will not find a quieter location on the Southside of Rockhampton.

- \* 2 bedrooms with built ins and main with split system air conditioning
- \* Spacious combined kitchen, dining and living area with split system air conditioning
- \* Central bathroom with shower only

**For Sale**  
\$169,000

**View**  
By appointment  
[ljhooker.com.au/36qhvww](http://ljhooker.com.au/36qhvww)

**Contact**  
Gavin Jenkins 0419 761 300

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222 Bolsover St, Rockhampton. 07 4922 2122



Panoramic ocean views on 2023m2 4 | 2 | 2

- Two separate entertaining decks with views
- King size master bedroom with ensuite
- Split level home with cathedral ceilings
- Lots of ambience - A mix of old and new
- Large in ground pool, room for a shed
- 22 metre frontage with side access
- Zoned Medium Density Residential
- Sit back, relax and enjoy the views

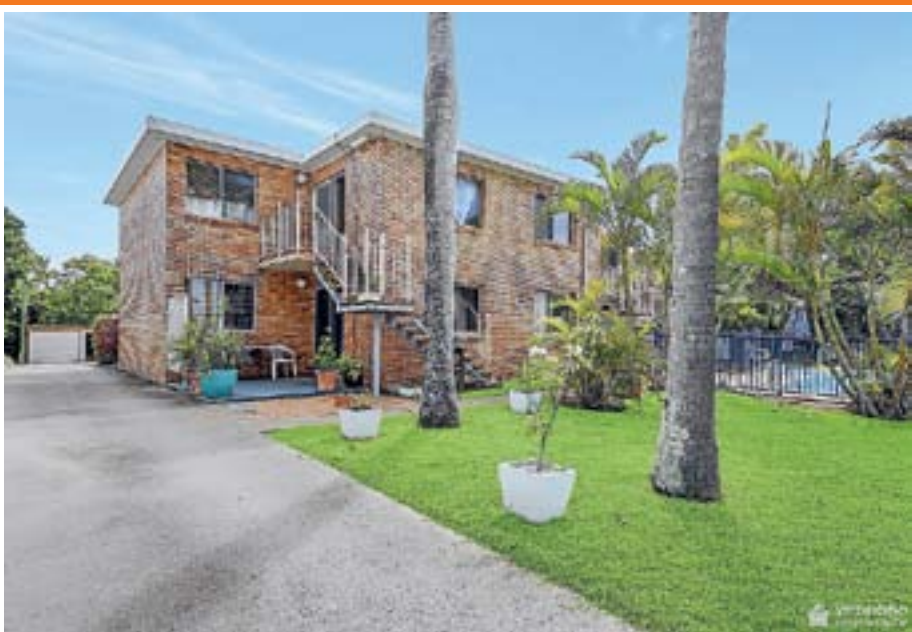
7 Keppel Street  
Meikleville Hill  
Offers over \$799,000 considered  
Esme & Claudia Coren  
0423 877 414



Family home or perfect investment 4 | 2 | 2

- Rendered lowset 4 bed & 2 bath brick home
- Open plan living with ducted air-conditioning
- Spacious kitchen with stainless appliances
- Rumpus/ media room, large entertaining area
- Fenced yard, concrete driveway, room for a boat
- Close to St Benedict's School & Panorama Drive
- Roof upgrade included in purchase price

115 Pacific Heights Rd  
Pacific Heights  
\$525,000  
Andrew Dowie  
0429 391 379



Sea view, ground floor unit! 2 | 1 | 1

- 2 spacious bedrooms with built in robes & fans
- 1 bathroom with tub & lockable single car garage
- Open plan living/dining & sea view patio
- Additional outdoor pergola & in ground pool
- Boutique complex with only 5 units
- Affordable body corp
- Close to the bus stop, local shops & more
- Superb location!

1/162 Scenic Highway  
Lammermoor  
Offers over \$219,000 considered  
Adam Cook  
0434 247 964



Great family home close to beach 4 | 2 | 2

- 4 bed, single-level home w/ built ins & air con
- Main bath features both bathtub & shower
- Modern kitchen, ceramic cooktop, b'fast bar
- Combined dining/living w/ air con leads to patio
- 717m2 fully fenced yard w/ side access
- Large garden shed
- Short walk to Mulambin beach
- 5 minute drive to the harbour

33 Outrigger Drive  
Mulambin  
Offers over \$399,000 considered  
Leisa Richardson  
0427 251 008



# MODERN HOME WITH SEA VIEWS

This award winning residence offers space, privacy and character like no other. Measuring 350m<sup>2</sup> underneath and offering so much storage you won't know what to do with it all, this immaculately built sea view residence will impress the most astute of buyers.

**Features at a glance include:**

- Front patio that overlooks the manicured front yard and generous entryway
- 4 generous bedrooms and additional 5th bedroom/retreat, the huge master includes walk-in robe

- 2 bathrooms, 1 ensuite off the master, the main bathroom includes bathtub
- Internal, full sized laundry with ample storage leads to double garage via internal staircase
- Stunning open plan kitchen with quality electric appliances, shaker cabinetry, large pantry and breakfast bar
- Large, functional open plan living and dining area with raked ceiling and white wash vertical join walls
- Separate lounge area, ideal as a sitting

- area or media
- Private, sea view back balcony
- Double car garage with electric roller door access
- Tandem, high clearance car accommodation under the house with access to the backyard
- 916m<sup>2</sup>, manicured allotment with established gardens- creating your own private oasis
- So much storage and workshop underneath the home- legal height with plenty of room to build in

- Superb, no through road location, surrounded by quality homes
- Highly sought after Farnborough Primary School catchment zone location and a short drive to St Benedict's Primary
- Ample extras throughout including full air conditioning, new roof, raked ceilings and more!

Offering more than meets the eye, this stunning, functional home offers impressive living and entertaining options. Call today, to arrange your private inspection! ●



## HOME ESSENTIALS

**Address:** 24 Coleman Crescent, PACIFIC HEIGHTS **Description:** 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 garage **Price:** \$749,000 **Inspect:** By appointment

**Contact:** Adam Cook, 0434 247 964 and Anna McPherson, 0437 217 701 YEPPOON REAL ESTATE, 4938 3777

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**EMERALD 07 4987 7055** Shop 2, 2-8 Mayfair Drive



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**\$252,000**  
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**\$265,000**  
 77 Arthur Street, Blackwater  
 4 bed 2 bath 1 car



**\$249,500**  
 3 Summer Red Court, Blackwater  
 5 bed 2 bath 2 car

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## GET INTO THE MARKET

**WHETHER** your looking for the perfect home for your family or adding to your portfolio, this home is a solid investment for any buyer.

Separate large lounge area plus a tiled expansive open plan living.

All 4 bedrooms are carpeted and have built-in robes and air-conditioning. The master also boasts a modern ensuite.

The kitchen is conveniently center of the tiled open plan living area and the separate carpeted lounge.

For the hot days this home is a pleasure to be in, thanks to the fully air-conditioned rooms and effective insulation.

Outdoor covered patio area off from the living overlooks the large backyard, a blank canvas for you to make your own garden escape. Plenty of potential!

Double lockup garage with internal entrance access.



Close to schools, great location. Currently tenanted, Talk to Dee for more details. Call 4982 6055. ●

## HOME ESSENTIALS

**Address:** 12 Cardinal Court, BLACKWATER **Price:** \$272,500

**Description:** 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 garage **Inspect:** By appointment

**Contact:** Dee 0428 770 557, REAL ESTATE VISION GROUP

# Property Value

- location
- market
- condition
- neighborhood
- age



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# Gardening

Neil Fisher



## Time to plant that veg

Now is the time to start planning your vegetable gardens.

The weather is right, the season is right and our location geography is perfect.

Then watching the news Monday evening one story that gained my attention was about the critical shortage of people to pick fruit and vegetables in the country due to Covid restrictions. Potentially making the cost of fruit and vegetables much more expensive in the coming months.

Constructing a vegetable garden is not that hard. If you follow some simple steps you could have your own home grown vegetables.

When starting a veggie patch the way you prepare the soil you have will help.

The inclusion of organic matter in your vegetable garden soil will help retain soil moisture, allowing water to penetrate and the roots to go deep into the soil.

In clay soil, the clay often packs down which then prevents moisture from penetrating deeply into the soil profile. The addition of organic matter will physically separate the clay particles.

For those gardeners how have a veggie patch, March is very important for preparing the veggie patch for the coming cooler months.

Even Autumn gives the veggie gardener so many vegetable varieties to grow. Beans, Beetroot, Broccoli, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Capsicum, Carrots, Celery, Cress, Cucumber, Leek, Lettuce, Marrow, Mustard, Potatoes, Radish, Silverbeet, Tomato and zucchini can all go in now. Brussels sprouts can be tried during March and April but there are a lot of gardeners who have had some losses at this time of the year.

The best Lettuce to grow at the moment are the loose-leaf types as the hearting varieties will grow when the weather starts to cool.

For me every veggie patch should have some leguminous plants like peas and beans for a number of reasons.

First, these types of veggies are a magnet for many insects. I always plant more beans than I need so I can sacrifice the rest to the chewing insects.

Secondly legumes can have an important roll to the whole veggie patch as they have tiny root nodules filled with bacteria known as Rhizobium. Rhizobium are able take nitrogen from the air and convert it to an organic form which benefits both the plant and the garden soil.

Rhizobium does require a soil with a pH close to or just over 6.5 and with an adequate supply of the nutrients, phosphorus and even some molybdenum. Simply raising the pH level will have the effect of releasing sufficient molybdenum that is already present in the



Now is the right time to start planning your vegetable gardens.

soil of veggie patch.

An application of Dolomite at the rate of 200 grams per square metre four to six weeks before planting will achieve this result. I would apply some Dynamic Lifter with a little amount of sulphate of potash as well at the time of planting.

One important hint when growing Beans and Peas do not use companion plantings of Garlic and Onions nearby they are not good neighbours.

My favourite vegetables are Broccoli, Cabbage and Cauliflower, these veggies are known as Brassicas and can also be grown from now on. If you are growing Brassicas for the first time I would treat the soil of the veggie patch with some dolomite four to six weeks before planting.

I have had the best results with using Blood and Bone with a little dash sulphate of potash when planting. Brassicas seem to be best planted from seedling punnets rather than seeding directly into the veggie patch. One other little hint is that Brassicas will not grow well near Tomatoes.

Another important hint when planting seedling from punnets is to drench with Fish Emulsion immediately after being planted out. This will help the seedlings recover from the shock of transplanting.



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# Rural Matters

## Science, not mere fiction

**AgForce Reef Taskforce chair Alex Stubbs**

Agricultural science and agronomy are courses you can study at university and many of us working in agriculture have done so.

Even the farmer in the paddock, who might not have ever formally studied, works within the basic principles of science to ensure they manage their land, water, and their livestock in an ethical, sustainable way to produce high quality food and fibre year after year.

More than being students of the classroom or laboratory we are, perhaps most importantly, students of the land.

Which is why we recognise when we're being served up science fiction, the type that's used more and more by some green groups and environmental scientists to deliver headlines and roast scapegoats to justify their existence and secure their next research grant.

Make no mistake, it's a business, sophisticated, calculated, no doubt founded on the same idealistic principals – love of the environment, of plants and animals – agriculture itself holds dear.

Agriculture, possibly naively, has however avoided the types of grandstanding and witch hunts made commonplace by greens groups, instead relying steadfastly on facts.

Recently, to support our position, we've been calling on the Federal Government to establish an Office of Science Integrity to guarantee quality assurance of the science that supports areas like water quality, including in the Reef, land condition, red meat, and more.

What we're after is an organisation free from political or environmental ideology that has the expertise to guarantee the science underpinning any government-imposed regulations holds up under the most rigorous scrutiny – in stark contrast to what has been delivered and publicised by greens groups – and to support industries beyond our own.

Agriculture might not have the financial clout or sheer weight of numbers enjoyed by WWF and their army of foot soldiers, but we're not going away without a fight.

So, if like us you want to see agriculture survive and even flourish, share this article on social media using the hashtag #sciencesense and tag your federal MP to let them know you support us.

WWF, green groups, and some Reef-funded scientists aren't the only ones with a social and environmental conscience – but they are the ones cherry-picking the science, putting at risk the future food supply for all of us.



Farmers are students of the land, according to AgForce Reef Taskforce chair Alex Stubbs.

## Solid numbers: Cattle from north, local areas at CQLX

CQLX Gracemere combined agents had an increased yarding of 4805 head on Wednesday, 10 March, comprising of 2396 steers, 1672 heifers, 517 cows and 184 bulls.

Cattle came from as far north as Mackay, Nebo and most local areas. Despite the hardening season, cattle presented in surprisingly forward condition. The processor buyers included the usual panel and restocker and feeder buyers were limited in number. Most categories eased in value.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DAY

Simmonds Family from Laurel Hill North sold 43 Brahman cross steers to avg 339c/kg to weigh 539kg to return \$1827hd.

D & S McLean, Midgee sold Droughtmaster cross steers to \$614c weighing 152kg to return \$937.

D Parsons, Raglan sold Charbray steers to

388c weighing 552kg to return \$2145.

D & G McCarthy, Milman sold a line of Brahman steers to average 435c weighing 285kg to return \$1245.

MR & JA Tully, Mount Larcom Sold No.9 Simbrah Steers for 349c/kg weighing 605kg to return \$2,115/hd

AC & JC Neale & JR & BE Tarry, Biloela Sold Brahman Steers for 562c/kg weighing 182kg to return \$1,024/hd

R Dunning, Morinish sold a pen of No.0 Limo Droughtmaster cross steers to avg 418c/kg weighing 467kg to return \$1953hd.

B Ferris, Calliope sold Brahman Cross steers at 590c weighing 165kg to return \$978hd.

C Huntly, Ridgeland sold Droughtmaster steers at 446c weighing 335kg to return \$1494hd.

GK & LR Thompson, Morinish Sold No.9 Charbray Steers for 416c/kg weighing 417kg to return \$1,736/hd.

Frank Ellrott, Nankin Sold Droughtmaster Weaner Steers for 526c/kg weighing 230kg to return \$1,211/hd.

G & K Humble from Radleigh sold Brahman cross cow to top at 271c/kg to avg weighing 459kg to return \$1217hd.

A & D Brieffies, Eton Sold Charbray Cross Heifers at 390c weighing 374kg to return \$1499hd.

CS & JA Lovell, Garnant Sold Romangnola Cross Heifers for 390c/kg weighing 359kg to return \$1,400/hd.

AA & TF Jones, Calliope Sold No.9 PTIC Red Brahman Heifers for 386c/kg weighing 430kg to return \$1,663/hd.



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# Heavy rain hits CQ

By Weather Forecaster Mike Griffin

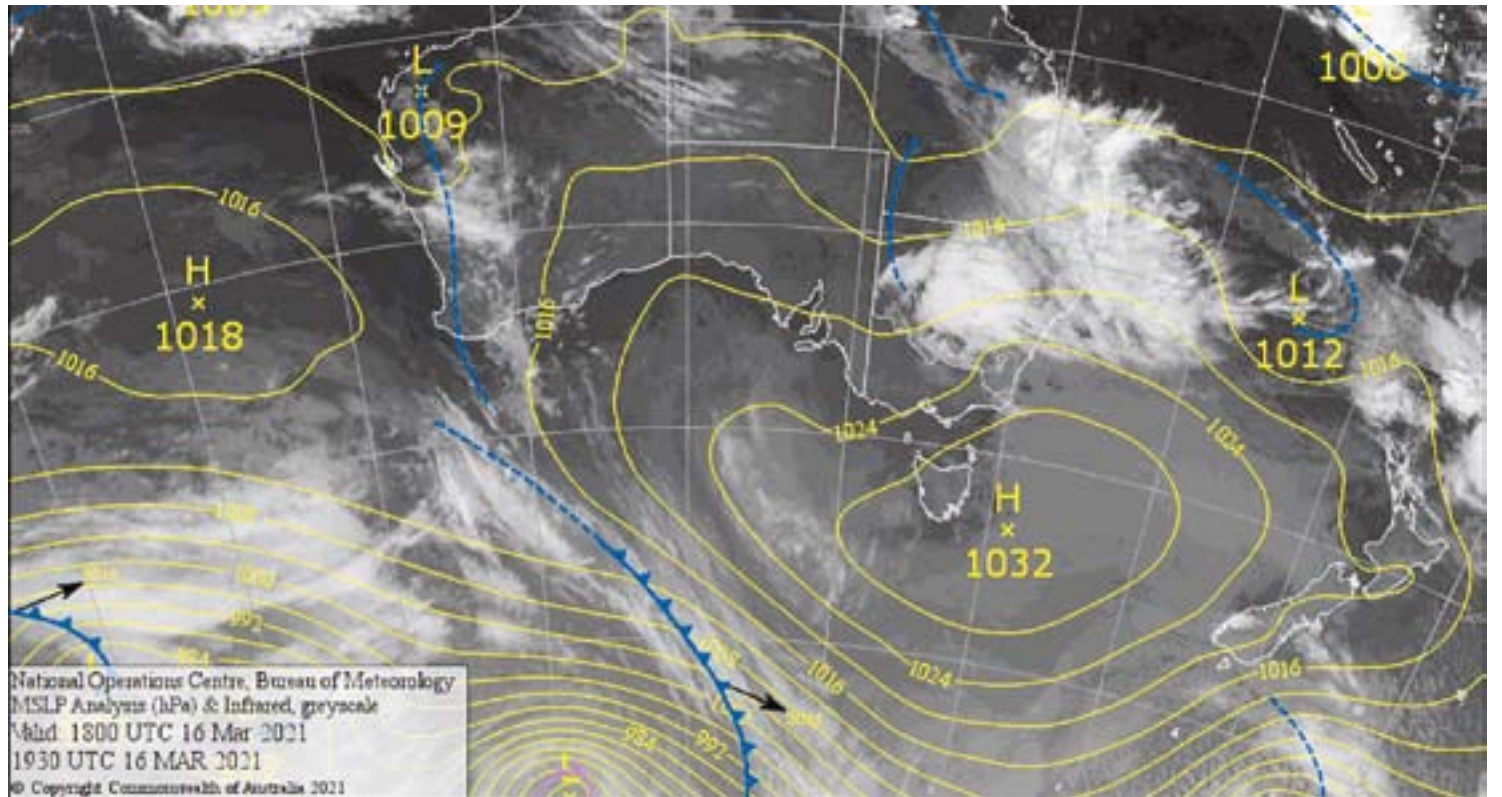
After one of the driest two months, from the start the year on record, Central Queenslanders woke on St Pat's Day to Emerald Green.

A thick cloud band over the region opened with heavy rainfall across the Tropic of Capricorn on Tuesday night. Extreme falls about the Drummond Ranges causing severe flooding. Mt. Ball west of Emerald recorded 250mm inside 24hrs. Beating the most rainfall for the whole of 2020. Retreat Creek jumped 9.5 m, stranding some early sightseers.

Other 24hr totals(mm) of note across the Central Highlands- Keilambete 216, Kilmarnock Station 188, Florence Vale 151, Sunny Park 134, Clermont 130, Grenada 128, Rubyvale 115, Serpentine 114, Craigmore 112, Glenlee 110, Raymond 90, Glen Rock 82, Wharton Ck, 77, Dysart 55, Blackdown 45, This may make the rivers run and help the Fairbairn Dam.

As the thick cloudband passed over Capricornia a South East Trade Wind (SETW) surge chimed in and stimulated heavy showers along the coast which moved over Rockhampton. Best 24hrs falls (mm) for Capricornia Yaamba 160?, Byfield 100, (estimate), Pacific Heights 99, Samuel Hill 94, Stockyard Point 85, Yeppoon 72, Emu Park 64, Koongal 55, Frenchville 50, Upper Dee 44, Airport 43, Broadmeadow 32, Parkhurst 32, Penlington 30, Davis Street 27, Gracemere 26 (Rhombert) , Lamington street 26, South Yaamba 18, Gladstone 10, Riverslea 9. Nagoorin recorded 56mm on Monday. Offshore the listless light humid NE winds swung around to the SE early Tuesday morning. Due to a large high delivering in the Bight pushing SETW ( see weather map) onto the Capricorn coast. Gusts got to 72kph ( 39 knots) by late Tuesday with seas peaking about 4 metres with squally showers. Not good for boaties for teh next few days.

The cloudband also affected the Wide Bay/ Burnett and the Sunshine Coast on Monday



with falls of 100mm around Paradise Dam, Moore Park and Mt. Perry. This rainfall has really steamed the very dry spell for the region.

### FORECAST

This long awaited rain event may have some tricky falls coming up! While the SETW remains and the upper system supports this, then more coastal showers should reach the Bruce Highway by the afternoon Thursday. If the cloud breaks enough then isolated late storm activity could develop along the Capricorn/Central

Highlands border and west of Mackay. Plus a sneaky storm northeast of GKI; could affect northern Capricornia late Thursday.

Then the SETW, if it plays the game, should develop afternoon showers along the coast then trek inland, tapering off and penetrating less each day for the next four days.

Still the chance of an isolated thundery during the afternoon west of the Bruce Highway. The sub-30C temperatures should climb a little early next week; as the SETW weakens.

Great for the Boaties! Up north the monsoon may have a last surge! A low may develop in the Gulf. If this gets underway then cloud from it should travel south and - if we are lucky - reach CQ.

This may develop storms in the west Monday Reaching eastern Queensland Tuesday to Thursday with an isolated severe storm Wednesday or Thursday. This is all predicated by a low off the NSW coast. If that develops then we could be in for our first cold burst of autumn air.

## SPORTS QUIZ

1. What NBA player recently claimed the record as most games played by an Australian?
2. Who will captain the Melbourne Demons in the 2021 AFL season?
3. What type of medal did Sally Pearson win in the 100m hurdles at the 2012 London Games?
4. Where is the New Zealand Warriors home base located for the first half of the 2021 NRL season?
5. How many World Championships did surfer Layne Beachley win during her career?
6. What is the record for the highest score on a PGA event Par 4 hole?
7. In what country did the sport of bocce originate?
8. What Australian city holds the record for the top two biggest attendances at UFC events?
9. What two teams will contest the ICC World Cricket Test Championship Final to be played in June 2021?
10. By what other name is the sport of hacky sack known?
11. The Constellation Cup is contested by the national netball teams of Australia and which other country?
12. With competing teams including the Canberra Vikings, Melbourne Rising and Fijian Drua, which rugby competition ran from 2014 to 2019?
13. American professional basketballer Blake Griffin plays for which NBA team?
14. Who is both the chief executive of Racing New South Wales and the chairman of the Australian Rugby League Commission?
15. Which country did Australia's women's national basketball team defeat to win the gold medal at the 2006 FIBA World Championship?
16. Which Sydney-born tennis professional had a career-high singles ranking of world number 18 in October 2019?
17. In what year did Shaquille O'Neal retire from professional basketball?
18. Which team won three consecutive AFL Premierships from 2013 to 2015?
19. A game of baseball is played between two teams of how many players each?



Shaquille O'Neal



Sally Pearson

20. Which former Socceroo won two A-League Championships as manager of Melbourne Victory?
21. Which AFL team was informally known as the Redlegs?
22. Which Australian baseballer played for the Oakland Athletics in the MLB, and recently moved to the Chicago White Sox?
23. Which Indian bowler took 32 wickets in the recent four-Test series against England?
24. Which player has scored the most tries in the history of State of Origin?
25. What animal was Borobi, the mascot of the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games?
26. Which Australian soccer player represented Millwall from 1998 to 2004?
27. How many women in total competed at the inaugural Winter Olympics in 1924?
28. For how long did the New York Yacht Club successfully defend the America's Cup before Australia II won in 1983?
29. What is the nickname of Australian F1 driver Daniel Ricciardo?
30. Which soccer player-turned-actor won the FA Cup with Wimbledon in 1988?

1. Patty Mills 2. Max Gawn 3. Gold 4. New South Wales Central Coast 5. Seven 6. 16 7. Italy 8. Hawthorn 9. Nine 10. Football 11. New Zealand 12. National Rugby Championship 13. Brooklyn Nets 14. Peter Wandys 15. Russia 16. Alex de Minaur 17. 2011 18. 18 19. Italy 20. Kevin Muscat 21. Melbourne Demons 22. Liam Hendriks 23. Ravi Ashwin 24. Greg Inglis 25. Koala 26. Tim Cahill 27. 11 28. 132 years 29. Honey Badger 30. Winnie Jones





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## Announcements

Deaths

**FLEMING, NORMAN LUKE**  
Of Clinton QLD.  
Passed away 13th March 2021,  
Aged 94 years.

Loving Husband of Eileen (Dec'd).  
Adored Father to Lynne.  
Cherished Papa to Luke and Morgan.  
Much loved Great-Grandfather to Graham.

Family and friends of Norman are respectfully invited to attend a celebration of Norman's life to be held in the Chapel of the Boyne Tannum Memorial Parklands, Pioneer Drive, Boyne Island, Monday 22nd March 2021, commencing at 10am.

Quality Cremation Services  
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**REST IN PEACE**

Deaths

**MAYNE, Jean May Previously Brigg 'nee Ansborough'**

Of Leinster Place, Park Avenue  
Passed away peacefully  
on Thursday 11th March 2021  
Aged 94 years.

Dearly loved Wife to Bill Mayne (dec) Bert Brigg (dec). Adored Mother to Lyn and Margaret. Cherished Grandmother to 4 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. Mother in law, Sister, sister in law and Aunt to her family.

Relatives and Friends are respectfully invited to attend a Service for Jean to be held at Leinster Place Chapel, 3 Pearce Street, Park Avenue on Friday 19th March 2021 commencing at 10 am.

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**HARTS FAMILY FUNERALS**  
247 Ford Street, North Rockhampton 4701  
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Deaths

**SMITH Bill**  
Of Fairways Nursing Home in Bundaberg, passed away peacefully on the 27th February 2021.  
Eldest Son of late Ruby and Bill Smith.  
He left wife Coral Smith, son and daughter Matthew and Katie Smith; Siblings John, Carmel, Carol, Gayle, Phyllis and late sister Coral Ward.  
Cremated on Monday 8th March 2021 in Bundaberg.

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The Emu Park Surf Life Saving team that travelled to Kirra for a massive State Championships event. Back: Ellie Goodwin, Calli McRae, Dani Clark, and Taitum Harney. Front: Hudson Solly, Lacey Hanrahan, Renee Schluter, Lexi Goodwin, Flynn Schluter, Mason Solly and Addison Solly. Absent: Kristen Solly. Pictures: COURTESY OF EMU PARK SLSC



Parkies Ellie Goodwin, Calli McRae and Lacey Hanrahan with former Nutrigrain Ironman champion Matt Bevilacqua.



Calli McRae and Renee Schluter finished seventh in the final of the under-14 female Board Rescue event.

# Local life savers shine

By Liam Emerton

Our best local junior surf life savers showed off their skills in Kirra on the weekend when they competed at the Junior Surf Life Saving State Championships.

For our nippers it was a great comeback after last year's competition was cancelled just days before it was set to take place, due to the Covid pandemic.

Thankfully the 2021 season was able to reach the biggest stage on the Queensland Surf Life Saving calendar with Emu Park, Yeppoon and Tannum Sands Surf Life Saving clubs participating.

Emu Park took 19 athletes down to the event

while Yeppoon saw around 30 juniors take to the waters at North Kirra Beach.

The team at Emu Park made it to multiple finals and semi-finals but couldn't score a medal against the fierce competition.

Emu Park SLSC's team manager Michelle McRae said the team had a great time and performed very well.

"We had quite a few who made semis and finals," she said.

"We really held our own out there which was great.

"Grace Francis came seventh in the final the Under-11s board relay, and seventh overall for the one-kilometre beach run.

"In the under-14 girls Renee Schluter, Addi-

son Solly, Calli McRae and Taitum Harney made the final of the Cameron Relay - and that's a really big relay for clubs to do well in, and that just shows our depth in the club.

"In the under-14s Renee made the final in the individual surf swim, while Calli and Renee were seventh in the state for Board Rescue so that was a super effort.

"And Tobias Sheridan, one of our boys in the under-12s, made the final in the individual surf swim and semi in his board race.

"And our March Pass team made the top 20 in that too, which was really good."

McRae said it was really important for the kids to have the end goal of the state championship competition, after last year's cancellation,

and said the weekend was great for everyone involved.

"Everyone had their goals for the end of last season - we got right up until two minutes 'til midnight and the rug was pulled out from under us," she said. "With everyone from right over the state, they all took full advantage of making hay while the sun shines.

"There ended up being about 1600 to 1700 competitors all up, so it was a massive three days.

"The competition was of a really high standard and quite tough.

"The surf wasn't too bad for us. There was a decent dump along the shore break, but other than that there weren't any crazy waves."

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# Out in the deep with Dags

By Darryl Branthwaite

The new moon lunar phase would have to be one of the favourite times to hit the water, with many of the species very active and plenty of run through those spots that channel the food.

The trick is in the timing of your fishing to work in with the tides and elements.

This past weekend, as well as this week, the conditions have been amazing, as you can see with Thomas Hayes and his group who really didn't travel that far from their home in Boyne Island, out less than 10 miles sounding the ground around there, picking up trout, nannies and sweetlip along with a cod which wouldn't swim when they tried to release it.

It just goes to show that in a 4.2-metre tinny you really don't have to go too far for a feed, and quite often we travel over so many fish to catch a fish.

Brian Dawson wants me to buy a kayak and slip out with him, and as you can see the bread and butter species like this quality black bream tend to get forgotten.

This one was in the Calliope River, which was an absolute picture this morning too.

Last weekend he flicked me a clip of him releasing a very solid Saratoga in the Dawson, and judging by the colour of the water the river has been getting some inflows, unlike the Boyne River flowing into Lake Awoonga.

There is absolutely no inflow at the time of writing this article, but hopefully the forecast I've seen will reflect some drenching across the region before this edition is printed.

There are also plenty of grunter on the move all along the coast, with plenty being landed out at the platform at Cape Capricorn throughout the harbour, and Milton Plath landed a swag at Turkey Beach last Saturday.

Species like nannygai, grunter, bream, and flathead are the bread-and-butter species and



The serenity of the Calliope River from a Kayak.  
Picture: COURTESY OF BRIAN DAWSON



Cooper Bradley-Woods, Thomas Hayes, Darcy Saxby, and Nikolette Sotiris showing off their haul.



Brian Dawson with a Calliope River black bream

often are underrated for the table. But they are all sensational to eat - grilled, crumbed or battered - and if you are keen try poaching them over steam with plenty of seasoning. The quality of the fish will blow your mind.

In the meantime, further out wide the cobia and longtail have been chasing the bait and on the bottom the Reds have certainly been on the chew with some amazing fish appearing on social media these past few days.

The Fitzroy has certainly been producing some quality barra between 90 and 120 centimetres long, as well as some monster threadies, or king salmon.

What we need to start seeing is the kingies being on the menu in our local eateries, promoting locally-produced species.

Ok, the outlook ahead isn't pretty at the time of writing, so check your local forecast and

quite often you just need to look out the window if you are nipping away to catch dinner.

For those heading off-shore, please log in with VMR or Coastguard and let them know where you are heading.

Stay safe and use good seamanship skills if you find yourself in a spot of bother.

Hooroo,  
Dags

## Fishing with Hooked Fishing Charters

### Hooked Fishing's wonderful weekend on the water...

The crew at Hooked Fishing Charters made their clients happy once again with a bunch of their customers scoring some great catches.

Hooked Fishing's client Brooke looked to be the luckiest of the bunch, pulling in two monster fish - a nannygai and a cobia.

The rest of Hooked Fishing's clients found plenty of success out in the deep blue, so please enjoy the photos.



Brooke with the nannygai she caught during her charter with Hooked Fishing.



Ty hangs on to this giant trevally while out with Hooked Fishing Charters.



This nannygai had no chance against Dean while he was cruising the secret spots with Hooked Fishing Charters.



Hooked Fishing Charters' happy customer Brooke with a great-sized Cobia.

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New head coach Guy Williams will take charge for his first Intrust Super Cup match this weekend.

Pictures: LIAM EMERTON

# Capras are chasing opening round win

By Liam Emerton

The Rockhampton Leagues Club Central Queensland Capras are set for their first taste of the Intrust Super Cup competition in over a year.

The Capras will travel to Tweed Heads to take on the Tweed Seagulls in their opening-round clash.

The Capras have been rolling since defeating the Sunshine Coast Falcons in a pre-season contest last month and winning a tough battle against a passionate Emu Park Club two weeks ago.

The Seagulls finished in sixth place way back in 2019, earning two victories over the Capras - the latest contest being a 28-12 victory in July 2019.

That match feels a lifetime ago and the new Capras mould with a fresh face at the helm could make all the difference this week.

Only four players in the selected 17 this weekend played in that 2019 contest.

Captain Jack Madden led the team around the park from the halfback position in the previous match against the Seagulls - which he will once again do in this week's contest.

Trey Brown has been selected in the number 9 jumper this week, keeping two of the crucial four spine players consistent from the 2019 squad.

Ryan Jeffrey was the starting prop against the Seagulls two seasons ago and will now look to impact the game off the bench as he makes way for returning star Tyler Szepanowski.

And the last player to feature in the previous match against Tweed was Aaron Teroi, who remains on the interchange list.

The Guy Williams-coached outfit will be ready for a big match to prove to Central Queensland and the rest of the Intrust Super Cup that they can be a force in this year's competition.



The CQ Capras have been preparing for weeks in light of their opening round fixture.

The full selected team list is as follows:

#### Starting 13:

- 1 - Black Moore
- 2 - Jed Simbiken
- 3 - Larson Dale-Doyle
- 4 - Nathan Bassani
- 5 - Jake Maizen
- 6 - Radean Robinson
- 7 - Jack Madden
- 8 - Harrison Leonard

- 9 - Trey Brown
  - 10 - Tyler Szepanowski
  - 11 - Nixon Putt
  - 12 - Jesse Jennings
  - 13 - Lachlan Hubner
- #### INTERCHANGE
- 14 - Joel Holdsworth
  - 15 - Mckenzie Yei-Ketepa
  - 16 - Aaron Teroi
  - 17 - Ryan Jeffrey

## Sailing the open seas

### CAPRICORNIA CRUISING YACHT CLUB

The Capricornia Cruising Yacht Club (CCYC) had a great day out on the water on Saturday, 13 March.

Pro Mike Walter set a challenging buoy course out in the bay, which had a good mix of windward and leewards, with a gate thrown in to make it interesting.

Conditions were light, giving the teams the opportunity to fly a spinnaker.

Ultimately Hairy McClary, Chaos and Final Fling came away victorious in their divisions, and there were some gripping buoy-rounding stories to be had over a cold beer back at the club.

#### Full Results:

##### Division 1

- First place - Hairy McClary, skippered by Tim McCall with a corrected time of 2:42:30.
- Second place - MIM, skippered by Mike Walter with a corrected time of 3:16:10.
- Third place - Escapade, skippered by Mike Schmidt with a corrected time of 3:26:43.

##### Division 2

- First place - Chaos, skippered by Tony MacDonald with a corrected time of 2:16:17.
- Second place - Kindred Spirit, skippered by Richard Holroyd with a corrected time of 2:27:04.
- Third place - Bluenose, skippered by Bruce Sagnol with a corrected time of 2:33:58.

##### Division 3

- First place - Final Fling, skippered by Rod Sweeney with a corrected time of 2:56:23.



Hairy McClary, skippered by Tim McCall and seen in the background, finished on top of the competition this week.

## Reporting from across the fairway

On Monday, 15 March, 19 women and 36 men played a 4B multiplier medley at Rockhampton Golf Course.

The winners were Dell Bunt and Kathy Pill with a great score of 82. Runners up were Marilyn Best and Kathy Pill, and Kath played with both Marilyn and Dell and their score was 70.

In the rundown: Pat Charles and John Baly 65, Peter and Patricia Beck 62, Kevin Swaffield and John Black 61, Peter Dawson and John Barrie 61, Noel Russell and Greg Jones 61, and Neville and Barbara Funch 59.

Women's pin shots: Hole 2 Kathy Pill 1 metre 7 centimetres, hole 7 Helen Wastell 1m 19cm, hole 11 - the Jolt voucher - Margaret Moran 24cm, and hole 18 Catherine Jaques 56cm.

Men's pin shots: Hole 2 Bob Glinka 4m 19cm, hole 7 Bob Glinka 12cm, hole 11 - the Jolt voucher - Des Pill 63cm and Peter Beck 20cm.

Next week's game is our Monthly Medal.

# On the track with Tony

**By Rockhampton Jockey Club CEO Tony Fenlon**

G'day, this is Tony.

**CALLAGHAN** Park took on a real carnival atmosphere last Saturday.

The St Patrick's Day race meeting sure was a colourful affair.

The racecourse had a feel-good atmosphere - and that's what it is all about.

On the track, the racing was very competitive. It was great to see the combination of trainer Angela and John Stephens back in the winners' list.

John, as a proud 60-year-old, is Central Queensland's oldest jockey.

Having said that, John is as fit as a fiddle and has come back in great form after a lengthy break from injury. His win on Lepreezy was a gem of a ride.

It was also the top Better Than Ready mare Lepreezy's second straight win from a long spell.

The Better Than Ready yearlings proved very popular at the Magic Millions March Yearling Sale earlier this week, and many are coming back to Rockhampton to race.

Among them is a colt purchased by Rockhampton's Colin Bell for \$105,000.

"I bought him to race in Rockhampton. It is my hobby and I want to see them go around," Bell said.

Colin is a real good supporter of our racing.

Good luck to him and local trainer Tom Smith, with Oswana at the Sunshine Coast later in the week.

**HOW GOOD** it must have been for former



Boudica's Gift - ridden by Ashley Butler - is trailed by the Tom Smith-trained Top Ceedee, jockeyed by Elyce Smith, and Agustawynd in Race 2 at Callaghan Park on Saturday.

Rocky lass Montana Philpot at the Bundaberg races last Saturday.

Montana only commenced race riding in early February and at Bundy she rode her first winner on Exocet Rocket.

Not only that, but just 40 minutes later Montana did it again on Lieutenant.

Imagine the elation she must have felt - what a feeling!

Montana is the daughter of former Callaghan Park trainer and top jockey Gus Philpot.

Her mum Donna, who was tragically killed

in a horse-related accident a few years back, was also a jockey.

Jockeying is in Montana's blood, as sister Jess is also a successful jockey in Victoria.

I must pay credit to Callaghan Park trainer of Exocet Rocket in Kevin Miller.

Kev is a great supporter of apprentice jockeys.

It is amazing how luck changes in racing, as the trainer of Lieutenant would readily agree.

Stephen Rundle puts the polish on Lieutenant and it was his third winner in a few weeks.

I'm really pleased it ended a drought for Stephen. I hope your winning ways continue, Stephen.

**ROCKHAMPTON** connections look like being well-represented at Eagle Farm in Brisbane on Saturday.

Jim O'Shea has his good money-spinning mare Spring Creek entered for two races at 1200 metres.

"There are just no suitable races for her up here (Rocky) at the moment," Jim said.

"It's very hard to go down and win in Brisbane especially if they get a bit of weight. With no races here I really don't have any other choice but to go. We'll probably have a crack with her."

Tom Button has a number of horses entered, including Valley Rattler and Flying Crackerjack.

Valley Rattler, a last-start city winner, is the nominal favourite for the \$125,000 Capricornia Yearling Sale 2YO Classic (1200 metres) on Saturday, 10 April.

Flying Crackerjack is Rockhampton-owned and is very close to winning.

Saturday could be the day.

**DON'T** forget folks, the catalogues for Rockhampton's Capricornia Yearling Sale on Sunday, 11 April are available now.

They are online, as well as in hard copy at the RJC Callaghan Park offices. There'll be more on the Rocky sale next week.

Until then,

Tony

**For social photos and more race day results, see page 25.**

## These four Pioneers are set for take-off in Townsville

**By Liam Emerton**

Four of the Frenchville Pioneers' best will travel to Townsville this week as part of the Queensland Country Rugby Cup.

Aarre Hirsimaki, Grant Burchmann, Jacob Kial and Caleb Parish will all play in the CQ Bushrangers team to compete at Townsville this weekend in the Queensland Country Cup.

That competition gives selectors a chance to choose the Open Men's QLD Country Heelers team, which all four of the Frenchville players will be eager to make.

A mainstay of the Pioneers, Grant Burchmann is Frenchville's joint A Grade men's captain and in 2019 he was the only Central Queensland Open Men's player selected in the Heelers squad.

Following no representative rugby in 2020, the prop has been patiently waiting and is hungry for another Heelers jersey in 2021.

Second-rower Jacob Kial is a fresh face to the Frenchville squad since moving to Rockhampton from England in 2020 for a role at Emmaus College.

Kial, who stands at 6'8", confirmed that

this would be his first go at representative rugby in Queensland and he's super keen to see where he can take it.

The Englishman said no matter the outcome it's a win/win for him as he gets to travel and see North Queensland while making new mates - all while playing the game he loves.

Hirsimaki and Parish will both compete for a spot in the Queensland Country side after previously representing Queensland Country in the junior format.

The 19-year-olds will have plenty of work and will look to impress selectors with strong impacts in the Bushrangers' squad.

The two will have another chance at representative rugby if they are unsuccessful in making the open squad as under-19 trials begin later on in the year.

The competition this weekend will give both young guns a ton of experience to further their game at a local and representative level.

Frenchville Pioneers coach Steve Anderson said it is great to see the four of them selected for this opportunity.

"It's good, it's excellent for them - not so



Frenchville Pionners coach Steve Anderson with representatives Aarre Hirsimaki, Grant Burchmann and Jacob Kial. Absent was Caleb Parish. Picture: COURTESY OF THE FRENCHVILLE PIONEERS RUGBY UNION CLUB

much for us on the weekend," Anderson said, chuckling.

"I hope they all do really well.

"Especially for Caleb and Aarre, the two young fellas, it's really good.

"They've been in the rep teams through their younger years so I don't expect them just to go up there and enjoy the experience,

I expect them to go there and play great and hard footy."

Anderson said he was confident that his co-captain Burchmann would make the squad once again - which could be his last time competing at a representative level.

"Talking to him last night I think this will be his last year of rep footy," he said.

"I expect him to rip in.

"He deserves it, he puts in the hard yards, he's fit, (and) he does the extra work.

"Anything he gets he truly deserves."

Kial had been a great asset to the Frenchville squad this season and will be looking to make the Heelers team with a strong showing in Townsville.

"I've been really impressed by the way he's played," said Anderson.

"And it's not just me - it's a lot of the boys who are impressed by the way he has played.

"I'm not too sure what level of rugby he's played in the past, but just by watching him train and play I would assume he played a higher level of rugby.

"I am expecting him and Grant to make the Country side and I'd love to see Caleb and Aarre make it as well."

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# Regular race night returns

## ROCKHAMPTON CYCLING CLUB

A good turnout of 37 riders made for a great Saturday afternoon of racing at the Kenrick Tucker Velodrome.

The change to a Saturday meant some riders from Bundaberg were able to make the journey north to join racing in Rockhampton. The earlier start enabled five races to be on the card, giving every rider their money's worth of effort for the second last race meeting of the Track season.

This Friday night, 19 March, will be the last race night of the Track season so if you were wondering what Track (velodrome) racing is like, come along and check it out with racing commencing at 7pm.

Team races are on the cards, which makes for a great way to end the season riding together with the other cyclists, which you would normally be competing against.

*Race results from Saturday afternoon, 13 March (34 riders)*

### Race 1 – Scratch

- D Grade – 1st Danya, 2nd Brock, 3rd Annalise.
- C Grade – 1st George, 2nd Ashtyn, 3rd Victoria.
- B Grade – 1st Will, 2nd Macca, 3rd Emylia.
- A Grade – 1st Austin, 2nd Caden, 3rd De-neaka.

### Race 2 – Graded Division Derby

- D Grade Division 2 – 1st Max, 2nd Nicota, 3rd Rowel.
- D Grade Div 1 – 1st Danya, 2nd Annalise, 3rd Summer.
- C Grade Div 1 – 1st George, 2nd Ashtyn, 3rd Victoria.



Women's grade riders Tineeke Tucker, Ellyssa, Charlie Waerner, Sarah Cosgrove, Emylia Stjernqvist, and Victoria Smith.

- B Grade Div 2 – 1st Ronnie, 2nd Michael, 3rd Jamie.
- B Grade Div 1 – 1st Will, 2nd Peter, 3rd Lachlan Mc.
- A Grade Div 2 – 1st Craig, 2nd Sebastian, 3rd Elliott.

- A Grade Div 1 – 1st Lachlan Ha, 2nd Austin, 3rd Ray.

### Race 3 – Derby/Keirin

- D Grade Div 2 Derby – 1st Nicota, 2nd Max, 3rd Fletcher.
- D Grade Div 1 Keirin – 1st Danya, 2nd An-

nalise, 3rd Nerrissa.

- C Grade Div 1 Keirin – 1st George, 2nd Victoria, 3rd Ashtyn .
- B Grade Div 2 Keirin – 1st Michael, 2nd Ronnie, 3rd Jamie.
- B Grade Div 1 Keirin – 1st Will, 2nd Peter, 3rd Lachlan Mc.
- A Grade Div 2 Keirin – 1st Craig, 2nd Arch, 3rd Kyle.
- A Grade Div 1 Keirin – 1st Austin, 2nd Alex, 3rd Caden.

### Race 4 – Scratch

- D Grade – 1st Nicota, 2nd Max, 3rd Fletcher.
- C Grade – 1st Ashtyn, 2nd George, 3rd Victoria.
- B Grade – 1st Will, 2nd Macca, 3rd Michael.
- A Grade – 1st Austin, 2nd Caden, 3rd Ray.

### Race 5 – Handicap/Points Score

- D Grade Div 2 Handicap – 1st Nicota, equal 2nd Fletcher and Rowel.
- D Grade Div 1 Handicap – 1st Nerrisa, 2nd Brock, 3rd Kernah.
- C Grade Points Score – 1st George, 2nd Ashtyn, 3rd Lachlan Hi.
- B Grade Points Score – 1st Macca, 2nd Jared, 3rd Lachlan Mc.
- A Grade Points Score – 1st Austin, 2nd Caden, 3rd Ray.

Thank you everyone for a great Friday night's racing. We are sure all riders thoroughly enjoyed themselves (after they recovered). Thanks especially to Adonna Ruff (commis-saire), Ray Smith (handicapper and commen-tator), Diane Stjernqvist (score recorder and lap controller), and Carl Stjernqvist (gate con-troller).

## New format for club night at Rocky Table Tennis

By Allan Clarke

The Rockhampton Table Tennis Association at 157 Campbell Street, on the southside, has recently made changes to the regular Monday night format. A club night has been developed wherein members of all ages and standard of play are invited to join people who play more socially. Games are organised for attendees, and newcomers who just want to have a game of table tennis only need to have sports shoes and turn up just prior to 7.30pm each Monday for sessions that generally last for around two hours.

This is a great sport for hand-eye coordination and light to moderate exercise, depending on the standard of each person. This is a sport that can be played for a large part of one's life, with the indoor concept providing great exercise away from the sun. Beginners

can receive assistance with the basics, and bats are available for those who do not have their own. Enquiries can be directed to 0417 474 898.

Local organisers of the sport are also taking steps to increase participation in the weekly beginner-junior coaching program. Boys and girls from around six years of age attend this session from 4.30pm to 6.00pm on Thursdays and qualified coaches are always on-hand to teach the basics of the sport. Children with or without previous experience are welcome and all they need to bring is non-marking footwear to start them off.

After the latest round of fixtures in Open grade Dane Coughlan and James O'Sullivan came off a good win in the first division to move to the top of the leaderboard but by only a solitary point to the good of teams

consisting of Rayden Smith and Nick Green and Joel Coughlan and Ann-Louise Stewart. Matthew Pettett and Monica Deeth occupy fourth spot only another point behind. While the other sides can easily provide nuisance value to the leader-board they are not likely to finish near the top-end.

Results in the second section led to the combinations of Chris Leitner and Linda O'Sullivan and Pam Clarke and Emily Steffen sharing first place with Dave Milverton and Patricia Green holding down third place only a few points in arrears. The remaining sides probably cannot finish towards the top end of the points table, with only three rounds remaining before the premierships are decided on the first past the post basis. With points at a premium in both competitions, weekly results are very important to keep teams with a chance in the hunt.

Players from the local club will be travelling to the Rum City this weekend for the annual Bundaberg Open Championships. Prominent youngsters who will be attending the state junior titles in Townville just after Easter - Matthew and Emily Steffen and Nick Green - will be hoping to get plenty of match-play against quality opposition. Matthew Pettett will be looking to obtaining some solid results in the open events in his lead up to the Queensland Championships in a month's time and veterans James and Linda O'Sullivan and Patricia Green will be hoping to impress in the events available to them.

Joel Coughlan is unavailable for the Bundy tourney due to travelling to Melbourne for a national training camp and competitions relative to the Tokyo Paralympics, due to him being in the Australian squad.

## Rugby returns with three eye-opening results

By Liam Emerton

The Rugby Capricornia season kicked off on Saturday with three games hosted around Central Queensland.

The Frenchville Pioneers flew into Round 1 against the defending champions Brothers Rugby Club and picked up a strong victory.

The Frenchville club defeated Brothers 34-10 in that contest with a Tristan Butcher double paving the way for the Pioneers.

In the other contest held in Rockhampton, the Colts Rugby Club secured a terrific start to the season by defeating the Cap Coast Crocs 31-6 at Tom Nutley Field.

The third match of the day was played at The Stockyard as the 2019 champions Dawson Valley Drivers kicked off their campaign to regain a title they technically never lost.

The Drivers pummelled the 2020 runners-up Gladstone Goats 40-0 with six different try scorers on the scorecard.

That sets up an intriguing Round 2 of rugby with the three winning clubs once again in action.

Biloela will open their 2021 season when it hosts the intimidating Drivers squad, a tough task for the Cockatoos.

However Bilo is notorious for being strong



Colts scored 31 points in a strong victory over the Cap Coast Crocs in Round 1.

on their home turf so that contest is shaping up nicely.

The Gladstone Goats will attempt to forget a tough outing in Round 1 when it comes up against the Colts which are fresh off that strong win against the Crocs.

The Colts will host that contest at Tom Nutley Field and it'll be an interesting contest to say the least and is arguably the match of the round.

The aforementioned Crocs will play visitors



The Colts will be out to secure back-to-back victories this weekend. 231623

Pictures: LIAM EMERTON

when it travels to Ryan Park to battle against the Frenchville Pioneers.

That means that it is possible for all teams except Brothers to finish on top of the table by the conclusion of Round 2.

Brothers will have the week off to recuperate and re-evaluate after their opening day's defeat to Frenchville, as the squad from Victoria Park drew the bye in the second round of the competition.

# It's a new era for CQ sport

A new era for CQ women's sport will unfold this weekend when the inaugural Women's CQ Premier League season kicks off.

And eyeing off the top spot are the Central FC ladies, who are full of self-confidence and ability.

The Gladstone-based soccer team has been a force in the local competition for the previous three years after building on its first season four years ago.

The team has been tested throughout those years as well with battles against local rivals Clinton FC a pinnacle of the local season.

Those teams played once more on the weekend in the Kappa Women's Super Cup with the Central winning the 10-goal thriller 6-4.

Striker Kallie Peurifoy led the attack with four goals, with Arlia King also scoring from a long range strike, and a deflected shot led to a Clinton own-goal which rounded out the scoring.

That match was a big test for both sides who battled through humid conditions in a limited subs format match.

The step up into the CQ Premier League will see Central and Clinton take on the best that Rockhampton and Yeppoon has to offer, including the formidable Bluebirds United squad, which has won back-to-back trophies in the Rockhampton competition.

The Central FC ladies' first match will be against the top-tier Bluebirds squad, which is set to be a cracking contest.

Central FC coach Marty Emerson says the competition is a huge step forward for football in Central Queensland.

"The new Women's Premier League will lift the standard of Women's football in our region," he said.

"Competition builds quality, and our girls experienced that when they stepped up into the Gladstone Women's First Division compe-



The Central FC ladies after winning the 2020 Gladstone competition and going through undefeated.

Picture: COURTESY OF JOHN TODD

tion four years ago.

"Our squad has changed quite a bit since last year, with a few girls having moved away or are out with injury.

"However we have a number of strong play-

ers that have stepped up from our second division teams, as well as a few new girls to the club which makes for another really strong playing group this season.

"We had a really versatile squad last year,

and I would say we are even stronger right across the pitch heading into this season.

"The younger girls really stood up and gained a lot of confidence throughout the year which was great to see."

## Tannum brings back plenty from the championships

By Rebecca Devine

The Tannum Sands nippers can hold their heads high with their collective results achieved at the Queensland Youth Surf Life-saving Championships on the weekend.

The event is the largest, most prestigious junior surf sports event in the calendar, giving the under-11 to under-U15 age groups an opportunity to go head to head with the best talent from across the state.

There was plenty of action at North Kirra with over 1600 athletes from across the state, and the competition was intimidating and fierce to say the least.

There were favourable surf conditions for racing throughout the morning on Friday which had the nippers giving it their all and their efforts were well rewarded.

The under-15 boys Surf Swim team with Kane Martin, Taj Andrews, Brady Blake and Jack Lynch (U14) were first to claim a podium finish coming home with a bronze as well as a fifth in the Board Relay (Taj, Kane and Brady) and fifth in the Cameron Relay (Taj, Kane, Brady and Oscar Wemmerslager - U14).

Not to be outdone, the under-14 boys Surf Swim team with Kai Devine, Sam Churchward, Oscar Wemmerslager and Jack Lynch swam away with a gold and a bronze in the Board Relay (Kai, Sam and Oscar) and sixth in the Cameron Relay (Kai, Sam, Jack and Liam Morris).

Backing up on Saturday, with similar surf conditions, the under-15 boys (Kane and Taj) were unlucky not to take the gold in the Board Rescue with the Burleigh Heads Mowbray Park duo catching a wave to pass the Tannum boys who worked hard all the way home.

In a similar set of circumstances, the under-14 boys (Sam and Kai) just missed a bronze medal in their Board Rescue final.

On the beach, Tannum's only beach finalist, under-12 Darcy Hinz, claimed eighth position in the girls Beach Sprint final while under-15 Annali Philpott came in seventh in the two-kilometre Beach Run.

On day three the wind was in early from



Under-14 Surf Team gold medallists Sam Churchward, Kai Devine, Jack Lynch and Oscar Wemmerslager.

Picture: REBECCA DEVINE

the north, chopping across an easterly swell making for tricky conditions for finals day but that did not deter any of the 12 finalists from Tannum who showed up and fought hard until the end, some still needing to qualify though semi-finals prior to their finals.

Stand out performances were on display from under-15 Taj Andrews who claimed gold in the Board Race and bronze in the Ironman, under-15 Kane Martin who claimed bronze in the Surf Swim and fourth in the Ironman, under-14 Kai Devine who placed fifth in the Ironman, and Oscar Wemmerslager who placed 10th in the Surf Swim.

Coach John Andrews is super proud of all the nippers who travelled to represent the club.

"They are all winners in my opinion, regardless of where they placed," he said.

"They have all trained hard throughout the season and in the off-season, either at the beach, in the pool, or on a track and it is great to see them to put it all into practice against the highest level of competition.

"Emotions hit highs and lows over the weekend and there were some mistakes made that I am sure they will learn from when the disappointment wears off, but I think the highs definitely outweighed the lows.

To get to the finals, the competitors had to endure a gruelling three days to get through

the quarter finals, then the semi-finals before backing up for the finals.

"It is a test of not only physical fitness, but also mental toughness and we train for this and the results speak for themselves with so many making the finals," Andrews said.

"Every competitor worked to their own ability and should be proud."

The nipper season wraps up this weekend with their final carnival being their Club Championships on Sunday, 21 March.

Patrols will continue throughout March and April with the final patrol on Monday, 3 May.

### FINAL RESULTS

#### Cameron Relay

Under-15 boys - fifth

Taj Andrews, Kane Martin, Brady Blake and Oscar Wemmerslager (14).

Under-14 boys - sixth

Sam Churchward, Liam Morris, Jack Lynch and Kai Devine.

Under-12 girls - 11th

Darcy Hinz, Mia Begg, Reagan Copsey and Yasmin Witt.

#### Surf Swim Teams

Under-14 boys - first

Kai Devine, Sam Churchward, Jack Lynch and Oscar Wemmerslager.

Under-15 boys - third

Kane Martin, Taj Andrews, Brady Blake and Jack Lynch (14).

#### Board Relay

Under-14 boys - third

Kai Devine, Sam Churchward and Oscar Wemmerslager.

Under-15 boys - fifth

Kane Martin, Taj Andrews and Brady Blake.

Under-14 girls - 11th

Brooke Copsey, Camille Bebenorf and Jessica Buck.

#### Board Rescue

Under-15 boys - second

Kane Martin and Taj Andrews.

Under-14 boys - fourth

Kai Devine and Sam Churchward.

#### 2km Beach Run

Under-15s: Annali Philpott - seventh.

#### Beach Sprint

Under-12s: Darcy Hinz - eighth.

#### Surf Swim race

Under-15s: Kane Martin - third.

Under-14s: Oscar Wemmerslager - 10th.

Under-14s: Kai Devine - 11th.

Under-15s: Brady Blake.

Under-15s: Annali Philpott.

Under-14s: Camille Bebenorf.

Under-14s: Brooke Copsey.

Under-14s: Jessica Buck.

Under-14s: Sam Churchward.

Under-13s: Adina Philpott.

Under-12s: Reagan Copsey.

Under-11s: Levi Prossliner.

#### Board Race

Under-15s: Taj Andrews - first.

Under-15s: Kane Martin.

Under-14s: Brooke Copsey.

#### Ironperson

Under-15s: Taj Andrews - third.

Under-15s: Kane Martin - fourth.

Under-14s: Kai Devine - fifth.

Under-14s: Sam Churchward.

Under-14s: Brooke Copsey.

Under-12s: Reagan Copsey.



# Clin-ten ready for return

By Liam Emerton

If there were any doubters about Clinton Football Club's men's Premier League squad, there aren't any now.

The Gladstone-based soccer team will begin its 2021 CQ Premier League campaign this weekend after missing out on last year's competition.

And just to make sure that the competition knows that Clinton is a serious title contender, the team thumped Berserker Southside Football Club 10-0 in an FFA Cup match on Saturday night.

Clinton's Liam Stephen finished the knockout contest with four goals before team mate Matt Varnes scored a hat-trick.

The team's movement off the ball, as well as clean, crisp passing combined with pace and a deadly touch in front of goal, was too much for the Bears to handle.

It was particularly pleasing to see the boys in green spread the ball wide before providing plenty of options in the centre for a cutback, cross or even a shot.

It left no doubts in the minds of Clinton's competitors that this team means business and will seriously test the best the Premier League has to offer.

The Clinton squad will come up against a formidable opponent in Round 1 of the CQ Premier League - the Capricorn Coast Eagles

The Eagles will be firing on all cylinders having already beaten Bluebirds United in a pre-season friendly three weeks ago, indulging in a great run in the Frenchville six-a-side competition and they are also through to Round 3 of the FFA Cup.

In terms of that clash in the FFA Cup, Capricorn Coast and Clinton will battle in the match as well - however, a date has not been scheduled.

Clinton Men's Premier League coach Michael Stephen said he was incredibly pleased by his team's performance on Saturday night against Berserker.

"The boys did really well, they played excellently and passed the ball around well," he said.

"There are some areas that we really need to work on, but overall the first game of the season and we didn't play Premier League last year, to be honest, I couldn't have asked for much more.

"It was a tough game for the Southside guys, they did really well and had to work really hard.

"There are just a few things we need to work on - I'm not going to go into them too much - but overall really happy.



The Clinton FC men's Premier League squad celebrating after one of their 10 goals on Saturday night. 231406

Pictures: LIAM EMERTON

"One of the main things I was really happy with was that we didn't concede a goal, that's just as important as scoring goals."

Stephen said the boys are always self-assured in their own abilities including when they travel to Rockhampton or Yeppoon for contests.

"I think we've always got confidence in the guys," he said.

"The boys have all played Premier League before.

"They've got the quality and they're starting to get more experience as well - they're still a young team."

The one year off from Premier League soccer has really lit a fire in Clinton and Stephen said the boys are ready for a thrilling season.

"The guys are delighted to come back to

Rocky and play up here," said Stephen.

"It's a bit of competition, we're playing against good players every week.

"And if you play against good players every week it makes you a better player as well.

"We've got a few hard games coming up which we're really looking forward to."

The Clinton women's CQ Premier League squad will also be in action this weekend against the Capricorn Coast Eagles.

That match will take place at 5.30pm at Apex Park, Yeppoon, and will play as an opener to the Men's fixture.

Clinton was unable to progress through the Women's Super Cup, being defeated by local rivals Central FC 6-4 in a cracking game at Clinton Field.



Nathan Cobb lines up his shot prior to scoring on Saturday.

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