

Councillor Report

21st April 2009

1.0 Gail Sellers

1.1 Cedar's Creative Cooperative

On 5th April I opened an exhibition of the Cedar's Creative Co-operative which was formed late in 2007. The members are a group of local artists, sculptors and photographers of all ages and backgrounds who use the beautiful bush surrounds of Cedar Galleries to work and paint. The title of the latest exhibition "**Something Old, Something New & Something In-Between**" covers all our members' work. Most that is new and never been shown, before and some that is older and may have been previously exhibited.

1.2 Healthy Active Gladstone

The group met again on the 6th April and spent the time on a review of the **Getting Active in the Gladstone Region** booklet. This is to be an on-line resource in the first instance and will then perhaps it will be printed and distributed through our normal channels.

1.3 Easter Events

The **Gladstone Harbour Festival** was underway on Sunday April 5 with the **Rio Tinto Alcan Street Parade** organised by Rotary Club of Gladstone Middy. The Festival Queen, Junior Queens and Princess winners were announced after the Mayor had opened the festival. There were **Fireworks displays** during the week long celebrations. Throughout the festival there were: Orchids and Foliage displays, Art Exhibitions, a Talent Quest, Pottery Displays, a Stamp Fair, a Vintage Car Display, C.Q. Darts Competition, an Embroidery Showcase, Markets and numerous daily and night-time events. On the Wednesday the annual **Gladstone Hospital Auxiliary Fashion Parade** enjoyed the usual success with over \$3000 being raised this year. On Friday, almost 300 people ran in the Annual Gladstone Road Runners Harbour Festival Fun Run over 3km or 10km. As well, there was **the NRG Great Raft Race** which provides lots of fun for both competitors and spectators. Saturday saw a larger than usual crowd at Ferguson Park Race Course for the **Easter Carnival Race Day**. Also, the yachts began to arrive in the harbour and these were welcomed to the region by the Mayor and Councillors. Saturday evening saw the usual celebratory crowds at the Gladstone Yacht Club. Sunday the final even was **QAL's Jazz'n Shiraz**.

This year for the first time a Music Festival was included with the Coconet Classic and proved to be a very successful new event.

1.4 Honourable Malcolm Turnbull Leader of the Federal Opposition

It was most pleasing for the Mayor and Councillors to meet with the Federal Leader of the Opposition Malcolm Turnbull and Senator Ian Macdonald. Mr Turnbull was leading a series of jobs forums throughout Queensland.

1.5 National Youth Week

On the 15th April I visited the Gladstone Skate Park as part of the National Youth Week Event. There were children of all ages who were actively involved in a very diverse range of activities. These were well organised and well developed to catch the imagination of the participants.

1.6 RADF

The RADF committee meeting was held on 15th April and applications were decided upon and acquittals were approved. A list of funds distributed is attached as Appendix A.

1.7 **Kirkwood Road Stage 3**

Excellent news that funding of \$25.3 million is available for Stage 3 of Kirkwood Road. This will see the final stage of the ring road which will take the heavy vehicles out of the city centre.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That congratulations be sent to Michelle Stafford of Gladstone Festivals and Events and Danielle Straatmans for the successful organisation of the annual Harbour Festival and the new Coconet Music Festival respectively.
2. That Gladstone Regional Council express appreciation to the Members of the Voluntary Marine Rescue organisation for the help given over the weekend as the Yachts and Multi-hull vessels were welcomed to Gladstone by the Mayor and Councillors and that similar thanks be passed on to Halina and John Beale for the use of their vessel.
3. That appreciation is passed on to the Federal Leader of the Opposition Mr Malcolm Turnbull and Senator Ian Macdonald for taking the time to visit with the members of the Gladstone Regional Council during their Job Forum Tour of Queensland.
4. That thanks be forwarded to the Member for Flynn Chris Trevor for obtaining the \$25.3million funding for Kirkwood Road Stage 3; and that the Director of Infrastructure Services provide a report to a future Council meeting to include:
 - a. the time frame for the completion of the design work for Stage 3;
 - b. an anticipated date for the commencement of the tender process;
 - c. the proposed date for the commencement of construction;
 - d. the proposed date for the completion of construction;
 - e. and that we write to the State Minister for Transport and ask them to reaffirm the commitment by Deputy Premier Paul Lucas when he was Minister for Transport to fund the Benaraby Road Intersection.