

Councillor Report

2nd June 2009

1.0 Gail Sellers

1.1 Schizophrenia Awareness Week

On 20th May, Councillors Hansen, Cameron and Sellers took part in the annual street walk. The walk from Library Square to Anzac Park was to raise community awareness of the condition.

I also attended the Art Exhibition on Friday night 22nd May at the Haven.

1.2 Seventeen Seventy Foreshore Project

The Q150 Seventeen Seventy Foreshore Project was opened on 23rd May at Cooks Landing Lookout, Air Sea Rescue Park. With the late withdrawal of Mrs Desley Boyle Minister for Local Government and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Partnerships, Rob Messenger Member for Burnett was invited to participate in the opening ceremony. The work at Seventeen Seventy is a credit to our Parks and Recreation Team and Project & Contracts Coordinator Tracey Tame. Our local builder Kieran Gibson worked well with the local tradesmen and this has resulted in a very user friendly area which will be well used by both the locals and the visitors to the region. I wanted a poem to read at the opening and Greg Griffiths Manager of Parks and Conservation wrote this one.

Our Town

on top of the globe.... a vision was born
so grand and daring it attracted some scorn
land to the south they had hoped to find...
but with no maps or charts of any kind...

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filled to the gunnels with provisions an crew
powered only when that sea wind blew.....
guided by compass and the stars at night....
the Endeavour withstood the elements alright

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they discovered some land but hoped for more
southward they pushed almost right to our door
...their tall ship entered this wonderful site....
on their second stop in broad daylight.....

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seventeen seventy its called, come say G'Day
your welcome to visit please come and stay...
tis a lounge room for families an a window of view
...so thanks Mister Cook.....and same to your crew

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1.3 **Wolves Soccer**

A first for the Gladstone Region was the Q-League game of soccer between the North Queensland Razorbacks and the Capricorn Cougars on Saturday night 23rd May. The game was well supported by the community with over five hundred attending and GRC Councillors Burnett, Butler, Chapman and Sellers enjoyed the evening also.

1.4 **CQUniversity Gladstone Cocktail Party**

Councillor Butler and I attended this function on the 24th May. It was held at the Art Gallery and Museum and was the finale for the *Taste an Arts Sensation* day which was held at the University during the day. The Creative Ambassador was Paul Bishop an actor and storyteller. He is best known for his role as Sgt Ben Stewart on Australian television's Blue Heelers. The night was a Showcase for Art work done by students in the Gladstone region. Councillor Burnett was one of the judges for the Art Competition. Once again, it is most pleasing to observe our CQUniversity Bachelor of Learning Management students organising such a wonderful Celebration of the Arts for our region.

1.5 **Australian Naval Cadets**

The Annual Inspection of the TS Gladstone Cadets was held on 25th May at the Army Base 42RQR and I attended for the Mayor. The Cadets were inspected by an Officer from Rockhampton and they also conducted an Evolution. This involved a simulation exercise, on board a ship, with several injuries to the crew. The cadets had to treat the injured and remove them from the accident area. The group worked well as a team and everyone was involved. They have grown from a group of ten to over thirty in the past three years.

1.6 **Navy South Queensland**

On Tuesday 26th May, Larry Cook, Lieutenant Commander and Graham Dennien, Warrant Officer of the Royal Australian Navy South Queensland made their biennial visit. The Acting CEO Cale Dendle attended the meeting and future visits by Australian and American Naval Craft were discussed. The Navy Personnel were interested in the facilities available at the port and inspected the Marina and the

Auckland Point Wharves; they also made visits to the G.A.P.D.L., Police, Harbour Master as well as Gladstone Regional Council.

1.7 Healthy Active Gladstone

Regional winners are to be announced in June 2009. **I would recommend that Gladstone Regional Council forward a copy of the Healthy Active Submission to both the Federal Member for Hinkler Chris Trevor and the Member for Gladstone Liz Cunningham.** It is important to make them aware of the project. *Nicole Starkey*, a nutritionist who is a member of the Healthy Active Gladstone committee has nominated our programme into a Heart Foundation State-wide competition in the Planning for Active Living section. Nominations close on the 5th June and our application is almost ready to post.

1.8 Benaraby Motorsports Complex

Director Kidner, Sport and Recreation Officers, Councillor Butler and I attended a combined meeting of the Benaraby Motorsports Complex. There was representation from the Auto Club, C.Q. Drag Racing Association, Gladstone District Dirt Riders and Central Coast Car Club. The meeting confirmed the list of Outcomes and subject to Budget; a Master Plan for the area will be undertaken. It was an excellent meeting with a great spirit of co-operation and willingness to work together, very evident.

1.9 Graduation CQUniversity Australia

On behalf of the Mayor, I attended the 2009 Gladstone Campus Graduation Ceremony on 28th May. I presented the Gladstone Regional Council Engineering Co-op (Civil) Scholarship to *Deanne Robbie* and the second one went to *Brodie Reck*. The scholarship is awarded on a competitive selection process to two students who demonstrate a keen interest and aptitude for a career in Civil Engineering. The Gladstone Regional Council Prize went to Callum Duncan-Kemp. This prize is awarded to the first year student in Bachelor of Engineering with the highest GPA who is studying in Gladstone and who is a Gladstone resident.

1.10 Curtis Island EMP Reference Group

Director Kidner and I attended a Progress Briefing on the Curtis Island Environmental Plan on 28th May. The objectives of the report were discussed and a report given on the work undertaken to date. There was a briefing on the proposed future work given by GHD team.

1.11 Mt Larcom Walking Trail

I have had a number of calls from various groups and individuals over the condition of the access track to the peak of Mount Larcom. The most recent was from a walker who had taken a group of children up Mount Larcom. He expressed concern that the track was not being

maintained and that the grass was shoulder high and the markers were unable to be seen. Following discussion with the Director of Parks I advised the ratepayer to write to DERM. The land is jointly "owned" by DERM (unallocated State Land) and the Co-coordinator General's Office (as part of the GSDA). As far as can be ascertained Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service are not involved at all and thus it is suggested that we write to both Departments and advise them of the situation and see what they do about it.

Recommendation:

That Gladstone Regional Council write to DERM and the Co-ordinator General's Office and advise them of the condition of the track, the high usage of the area and ask what maintenance is being done.