

# **Councillor Report**

## **16<sup>th</sup> March 2010**

### **1.0 Gail Sellers**

#### **1.1 Whanau Cultural Exchange**

On Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, the Mayor and Councillors welcomed a contingent from New Zealand. The tour of the region was organised by Richie Johnson and Kerry Blackman and is part of an annual exchange. Last year a group from Gladstone travelled to the Whanau Area to meet and exchange ideas.

#### **1.2 Elected Member Update - LGAQ**

The new Local Government Act 2009 was presented to council by the LGAG team of Greg Hallam and Tim Fynes-Clinton. They provided professional and expert advice regarding local government, legal and governance compliance and strategies for future directions.

#### **1.3 Queensland Police Service Awards Ceremony**

On Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March, Queensland Police Service held their Awards Ceremony at the PCYC. The Awards are to facilitate recognition of members in an appropriate and timely manner. Special Recognition is provided to individuals who have performed beyond normal expectations in acts of exceptional bravery, managing highly dangerous situations or who have given exceptional meritorious service. This special award was presented to Mr Brian Hardy, Mr Henry Kramer and Mr Robert Potts.

#### **1.4 GAGAL- What's My Trade**

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March was an amazing day for upper primary students and lower secondary students who visited GAGAL. It encouraged the students to try their hand at a trade. During my visit all children were fully engaged in making plant boxes, trying their hand at hairdressing, welding, painting and bricklaying.

#### **1.5 Health Taskforce**

ManUp Project is set to be launched in the Gladstone Area. CQU Graduate Marcus Ellison is heading up the project. It is a world first project designed to use internet and mobile phone technology to lift the physical fitness and nutritional levels of men in the 35-45 age group.

#### **1.6 Clean up Australia Day**

Gladstone Region residents were out in force, collecting nearly two tonnes of rubbish including 200 kilograms of recyclables and 15 tyres as part of Clean up Australia Day 2010. Special thanks to the local industry and community groups who organised collection sites and turned out in droves to support Australia's largest community-based environmental event. It is estimated that nearly 400 volunteers and staff from NRG Gladstone, Rio Tinto Alcan, Ergon Energy, Queensland Alumina Limited, the Gladstone Ports Corporation, Conservation Volunteers Australia, Rotary and many more organisations turned out on the day to do their part for our environment.

#### **1.7 International Women's Day**

Three large functions were held in Gladstone the first was International Women's Day Festival held at the PCYC on Sunday. This had many stalls combined with an Art Exhibition and a Writing Competition. The next was a luncheon held at the Grand Hotel, which was well attended. Thursday evening the Zonta club of Gladstone is hosting a dinner. The guest speakers were Jacqueline Payne Stipendiary Magistrate and Donna Tunley of Destiny Rescue.

#### **1.11 Rockhampton Regional Council Visits**

Gladstone regional Mayor, Councillors, CEO and Director of Community Services paid a return visit to the Rockhampton Regional Council. On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March, council enjoyed discussion with Mayor and Councillors of the Gladstone Regional Council. The opportunity was taken to visit the Waste Management Facility, Pilbeam Theatre, Art Gallery, Rockhampton Airport and the Walter Reid Cultural Centre.

#### **1.12 Endeavour Foundation**

The Management Board of the Endeavour Foundation conducted their Board Meeting here in Gladstone on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. They hold board meetings across Queensland and use the time to visit shops and workshops in these cities. Gladstone's Endeavour Industries – commercial Operations has four full time staff, a Manager shared with Rockhampton and thirty-three Supported Employees. As well, there is the Endeavour Recycled Clothing Store which has a full-time manager, two casuals and fourteen volunteers. The Disability Services Section has an area manager, and operations manager, 5 Service Coordinators, 1 Resource Coordinator, 2 part-time Respite Administration Coordinators and 46 Support Workers.

#### **1.12 Conservation Volunteers**

Conservation Volunteers Australia launched the National Green Jobs Corps project at Canoe Point on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March. The group of young volunteers are supported by the Federal Government and will be working across the region. There are projects at Canoe Point, Byellee Wetlands and Police Creek which will include work on weed management, erosion control and access fencing. This is a partnership between Conservation Volunteers and Gladstone Regional Council.