

SUBJECT: COUNCILLORS' REPORT - MAYOR CR GAIL SELLERS

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Council Meeting Date: 18th October 2011

Executive Summary:

Cr Sellers submits the following report.

Background:

Councillor Report:

Our Priceless Past 2011

Once again this was one of the highlights of the Art Gallery Exhibition Programme for me. The combination of our young students recording: and our older residents telling their life stories provide such a valuable resource for generations to come. For thirteen years, Ergon Energy and the Gladstone Observer have sponsored and worked with our Art Gallery Staff and local students and teachers to provide us with 198 stories.

Rita Moeller

Rita and Gunner Moeller have decided to leave Gladstone and move south to be closer to their three sons. Rita has been a dedicated volunteer across the board in our local community. Her work at Gladstone West State School maintaining the gardens around the school has been the catalyst for many Tidy Towns Wins. She has volunteered for twenty-five years at the Tondoon Botanic Gardens and was a Citizen of the Year.

Control Group

The Control Group set up in the Gladstone Region comprising DEEDI, DERM, Liz Cunningham Member for Gladstone, Ken O'Dowd Member for Flynn, Gladstone Regional Council – CEO and Mayor, Fisheries Qld, Safe Food Qld, Bio Security, Qld Health and GPC has met each week day for an update on all aspects of the diseased fish and possible health issues. The Scientific Panel was appointed and will give independent peer review to the investigation.

Best in Business Awards 2011

The annual Best in Business Awards was held on Saturday 8th October with over 300 people attending. The Observer/Wespac sponsored event announced Rocksalt as the overall winner with Desley O'Grady the individual Winner.

Transit Ferries

Transit Systems designed, developed, delivered and will operate vessels to transport people and resources to and from Curtis Island. On Sunday 9th October the latest state of the art, world first vessels, specifically designed to protect our waterways was named ***MV Capricornian Dancer***. The name was inspired by a song of Australian artist Richard Clapton, which has a tropical theme, while the name also captures the area in which the Ferries will be operating. The Dancer element is because this vessel is designed to dance over the waves instead of ploughing through them and has special technology to identify marine life. Over forty staff will be needed for these services to Curtis Island.

Eisteddfod Showcase

The Eisteddfod Showcase was held on Sunday the 9th October at the Gladstone Entertainment Centre. There were numerous wonderful presentations across Music, Singing, Drama, and Dance. Bursary winners were presented with their prizes and for the first time in the history of the Eisteddfod, Bronya Doyle won both the Music and the Drama Awards.

CQUni - STEPS Graduation.

Monday night was the annual STEPS graduation at Central Qld University This is an excellent programme which introduces students of all ages to University Life and Study and provides these students with a STEP to Tertiary Study. STEPS (Skills for Tertiary Entrance Preparatory Studies) is, as the name suggests, a preparatory course for people considering tertiary study. It is aimed at mature-age students who either did not complete secondary study, or did so a number of years ago. Completing STEPS enhances applicants' chances of tertiary acceptance and gives its students a range of generic skills that will make them very competitive undergraduates. The students study mathematics, academic writing, computing and various tertiary preparation skills. There is a constant focus on the nature of adult learning and on lifelong learning. The only restrictions on enrolment are that the applicants must be Australian citizens or permanent residents, and that they must be 18 years of age when they start the course

Gladstone Foundation and GRCDC Meeting

The Board of Advice and the Gladstone Region Community Development Committee met for the first time on 13th October. This was an excellent step as many of the members of each committee were unaware of the members of the other group. It is in the best interests of the community for these two groups to work well together.

Benaraby State School

On Saturday 15th October the Benaraby State School enjoyed the 125th Year Celebrations. Past students travelled from all over Australia to join in the festivities and to renew acquaintanceships with former school mates. The day was opened and closed with the ringing of an old School Bell. There were numerous displays throughout the school featuring the work of the children. A time capsule was buried at 2.45pm. A booklet was produced by the Sub-committee and has information on the years from 1886 - 2011.

Queensland Export Week

Trade and Investment Queensland has coordinated visits to the Gladstone Region by: Tak Adachi the Trade and Investment Commissioner for Japan; Chris Rodwell the Queensland Trade & Investment Commissioner for the Americas; and Ken Smith the Queensland Government Trade and Investment Commissioner for Europe and Russia.

Officer's Recommendation:

That

1. The report be received.

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Attachments:

1. Nil

Tabled Items:

- 1.

Report Prepared by: Mayor Cr Gail Sellers