

**SUBJECT: COUNCILLORS' REPORT - MAYOR CR GAIL SELLERS**

**Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer**

**Council Meeting Date: 4<sup>th</sup> October 2011**

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**Executive Summary:**

Cr Sellers submits the following report.

**Background:**

**Councillor Report:**

**Fishing Closure**

The first meeting was held with the Director General of DEEDI Ian Fletcher and Managing Director of Fisheries Queensland on the Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September. It was decided from that meeting to hold daily briefings with all stake holders. This has worked extremely well with updates from Bio-Security Qld, Qld Health, Fisheries, DERM, DEEDI, GPC, and Good Food Qld. The first release of testing on the nine barramundi was on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September and confirmed red spot and the eyes were infected with a parasite. More detailed testing is still being carried out. The Fishing Ban is set in place for a period of 21 days. Minister for Fisheries Craig Wallace visited the area on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September and spoke with the Control Group and the professional fishermen. There have been fifteen cases of sickness of fishermen or their families but with no proven link to the sick fish, symptoms include: flu like symptoms, a cold, a rash and respiratory problems. Daily briefings will continue.

**Gladstone Central Committee on the Aging**

Councillors Burnett, Hansen, Chapman, Butler and Sellers attended the Annual General Meeting for the Committee on the Ageing. It was held at the Gladstone heritage Retirement Village and gave Councillors the opportunity to have a close look at the complex. The committee was returned with few changes and future expansion from 64 to 98 units will put the committee in the position to self-sustaining. Great work has been done by President Edgar Allen and his committee.

**STS Young Endeavour**

On Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September, Member for Gladstone Liz Cunningham and I attended the arrival of the STS Young Endeavour. She last visited in 2008 and it was wonderful to welcome her back. It has been since 1988 that the young Endeavour Youth Scheme has provided challenging training voyages and over 11 000 young Australians have been on Board. The Scheme develops self awareness, teamwork and leadership skills which bring long-term benefits to both the youth crew and the wider community. On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September, Councillor Chapman farewelled the Young Endeavour with her new crew and captain.

**Saiki Visit**

On Thursday Sept 22 I took the opportunity to go out to the Airport to farewell the students from Toolooa and Tannum State High Schools as they left for their visit to Saiki our Sister City.

### **Virgin Australia**

The launch of the new ATR72 plane at the Gladstone airport was a prelude to the commencement of Virgin Australia flight services to our region on the 17<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Miriam Vale Lions 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

On Saturday Sept 24<sup>th</sup> Councillors Chapman, Butler and I attended the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration for the Miriam Vale Lions Club.

Over the years, the club has:

- commenced the Miriam Vale Markets in the Park;
- constructed the Driver Reviver amenities at Granite Creek;
- mans the Driver Reviver during holidays;
- funded the stage area in the Community Centre Hall;
- organised Blood Bank every three months; and
- sponsored the Boyne Valley Lions Club

It is amazing that service clubs have so many years of service to local communities and our region would be so much poorer with out their input

### **Minister for Community Services, Housing and Women Karen Struthers**

Housing Minister Karen Struthers visited the Gladstone Region on Wed 28<sup>th</sup> September. She inspected a 20 studio apartment project under construction and spoke about 166 affordable rental properties under the National Rental Affordability Scheme. Under the Tenant Advice and Advocacy Service Queensland, funds were received to allow for an extra staff member and there was also a \$100 000 one-off payment.

### **Queensland Police Service**

Councillors attended the Candlelight Vigil and Remembrance Day for our Gladstone Region Police Service. This is an opportunity for our community to remember the Police Officers who have given their life in the line of duty over the past year. Also, it is an excellent opportunity to show appreciation for the wonderful work that is done on a daily basis across our region.

### **CQ Southern Great Barrier Reef Tourism Awards**

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October the Ergon Energy Tourism & Business Excellence Awards Gala Dinner was held at Yeppoon. Many nominations were received from the Gladstone Region.

### **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