

SUBJECT: COUNCILLORS' REPORT - MAYOR GAIL SELLERS

Responsible Officer: <Right Click>Responsible Officer Position

Council Meeting Date: 20 September 2011

Executive Summary:

Cr Sellers submits the following report.

Background:

Daniel Morcombe Foundation Inc

On Tuesday 6th September, I visited Denise and Bruce Morcombe at Chanel College. On behalf of the region I took a small gift of a Gladstone Regional Council Tie for Bruce and a Kookaburra Charm for Denise and passed on our message of support. I attended their presentation to the Year Eight classes and was very impressed with their ability to answer questions about Daniel's disappearance. Sixty Minutes were present and filmed the session. The message was to encourage the students to have in place protection measures and messages.

QCWA – Raglan

Councillors Brushe, Burnett and Sellers attended the 60th Birthday celebration for the club on the 7th September. A long record of service to a community and of course, many interesting stories were told on the day.

GHD

On 8th September, Councillors McDonald, Cameron, Brushe, Hansen and Sellers attended the GHD celebration. GHD have worked in the Gladstone Region for over forty years and have had an office here for ten years. GHD was integral to the former Gladstone City Council's urban development planning, and today remains a key partner with Gladstone Regional Council on a number of major projects which are vital to helping our city meet the demands created by its rapid growth. Since 2005, GHD has completed detailed design and construction phase work across three stages of the Kirkwood Road project and the options analysis for the Kirkwood Road and Benaraby Road intersection. The company has also completed the landmark Auckland Creek Flood Study, provided civil engineering design work and services for the Agnes Water/1770 Integrated water Project, the Gladstone Airport Construction, and flood mitigation study for the Tigalee Creek Detention Basin.

Minister for the Environment Vicki Darling

On the 9th September, the Minister visited Gladstone to attempt to allay the fears of the citizens of the Gladstone Region about the marine animal deaths. She came to the Chambers and discussed:

- the new poster for each of the boat ramps in the region
- the number of turtle deaths
- the cause of the death of marine animals
- netting in the Boyne River
- the DERM website
- publication of data on the website
- Scientific Advisory Committee and;
- will consider holding a meeting of the Scientific Committee here in Gladstone.

That afternoon I went with the Minister on the Helicopter flight where she announced the Heritage Listing of the Lighthouse on Curtis Island.

Gladstone Eisteddfod

The Instrumental, Singing and Speech and Drama sections of the annual Eisteddfod were completed on Sunday 11th September. All Bursary winners were presented with their trophies. The Dance section will commence on Sunday 18th September. It was once again an outstanding display of talent from our young people in the region.

Leighton Drive Safe

On Monday 12th September, Leighton Contractors Northern Region launched the Youth Drive Safe Initiative. This will help young drivers develop safer attitudes to driving, which will contribute to safer roads and safer communities. The initiative will provide free professional driving tuition to students at secondary state Schools in the Gladstone community.

Citizenship Ceremony

On Wednesday September 14th our region welcomed thirteen new citizens in a public ceremony. The candidates, who were from all over our region, were accompanied by family and friends. A special feature of the ceremony was the singing of **We are Australian** by the Maynard Singers. September 17th is traditionally Australian Citizenship Day and each participant received a special certificate. The afternoon concluded with a traditional Australian Afternoon Tea. A special vote of thanks was extended to Tennille Dykstra, Executive Assistant who organised the event.

Phoenix Group CQ

On the 16th September, Adrian and Catherine from Phoenix Group CQ donated \$100,000 to the Technical College Gladstone. This money is donated to EQIP and it will fund the position of an Industry Liaison Officer. Aileen Stern is the Industry Liaison Officer and it is her role to work with local business to find work placement for the students in the course. She has opened up doors and made opportunities for students.

The Technical College Gladstone Region students are from Gladstone State, Toolooa and Tannum High Schools. The students do 2 weeks of work placement and 2 weeks of school. They finish with their QCE and the Tech College is proud to have a 100% employment rate.

Opus

75 years of service have been provided to the Gladstone Region by Opus. The company has undergone several name changes over the years, including Reinhold, Kinhill, Qantec McWilliam and Opus/Qantec McWilliam.

Officer's Recommendation:

That

1. The report be received.

Attachments:

1. Nil

Tabled Items:

1. Nil

Report Prepared by: Mayor Gail Sellers

