

SUBJECT: COUNCILLORS' REPORT - MAYOR CR GAIL SELLERS

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Council Meeting Date: 5th April 2011

Executive Summary:

Cr Sellers submits the following report.

Background:

Councillor Report:

Bechtel

A meeting was held with Global Corporate Affairs Manager Charlene Wheeless and managing director of Bechtel Australia Andrew Greig to discuss concerns in relation to the cumulative social impacts of future development in the region. We discussed rental accommodation; permanent housing; workers camps; employment; up skilling of local staff; traffic; and road use management. Bechtel stated they were committed to sustainable development and to managing social impacts.

Honk the Ugly Duckling

The combined schools musical Honk was a wonderful success. Once again the successful combination of Gladstone Entertainment Centre, Jeannine Butler, Robyn Fleming and Michelle Chapman produced an amazing show. The cast performed a week of shows to schools and then to packed houses on Friday and Saturday nights, over 4500 people over six days. It was a great showcase for the talent of the Gladstone region with over 130 children taking to the stage. Councillors were hosts to the sponsors on the first night of the show.

LGMA Management Challenge

The Happy Rockers – Naomi Irvin, Angela Brennan, Helen Paulson, Anthea Bennett, Wayne Hoggett and Joel Turner recently represented GRC at the LGMA Management Challenge held in Brisbane. The team comprised of a dynamic mix of individuals who were mentored by Cale Dendle. Together they spent many weeks preparing for the Challenge. Joel joined the team at the last minute after team members Kris Beard and Rob Mitchell were unable to attend. The team's preparation seemed to pay off on Challenge day - the team responded well to the tasks presented to them and received positive feedback from the adjudicators. Official results of the Challenge will be announced in April. The team brings back to Council their experiences and some fresh ideas to address some of the challenges currently faced by local governments.

Region of Choice Conference

The 2nd Region of Choice Conference was held here in the Gladstone Region from the 24th – 25th March. The theme was Embracing the Future and wide range of speakers presented on a variety of topics.

Christening of Tugs

On the first of January SMIT Marine Australia started towage services in the port of Gladstone and has six brand new vessels operating in Gladstone, SMIT Koongo, SMIT Kullaroo, SMIT Yallarm, SMIT Tondoon, SMIT Awoonda and the SMIT Leopard. I had the honour of christening the SMIT Koonga on the 24th March. Mr Loek Kullberg Managing director of SMIT travelled from Holland for the ceremony.

Annual Rally Retreat Lutheran Women of Queensland

Women from around Central Qld attended the annual Rally/Retreat held at the St Stephens's College on 26th March. Lutheran women enjoyed a day of conference and then a night time cruise around the harbour.

Rhema FM 91.9 Turning of the Sod

On Sunday 27th March Radio Rhema took the first step to gaining a home of their own. The sod turning for the new building was held on site at Dixon Drive and was attended by Councillors Hansen, Cameron and Sellers.

Close the Gap

Nhulundu Health Service held a **Close the Gap** barbeque on 24th March. This was to increase awareness across the community about the life expectancy gap of 10-17years between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other Australians.

Boyne Tannum Country Club Estate

Wednesday 30th march saw the launch of the Boyne Tannum County Club Estate. Information was presented on the master plan of the Estate and also on the release of Stage One Townhouses.

Clinton State School Opening of Multipurpose Hall

Friday 1st April saw Senator John Hogg open the Clinton State School Multipurpose Hall. Past Principals were in attendance as well as Member for Gladstone Liz Cunningham. The hall will be a wonderful asset to the school as well as the wider community.

Local Government Workforce Retention Initiative

Minister Hinchcliffe launched the new Local Government Workforce Retention Initiative here in Gladstone on the 1st April. The Strategy involves workforce training as well as opportunities for additional remuneration through project work associated with the major industries.

Central State School 150th Anniversary Celebrations

Friday 1st April and Saturday 2nd April the Gladstone Central State celebrated their 150th birthday. They held a variety of activities which included: a parade of students dressed in the clothes worn in 1861; classes such as slate lessons, pen and ink lessons, cooking, embroidery, woodwork for the boys, games, hopscotch, marbles etc.; Commemorative tree planting; hard hat tours; and a formal dinner.

Vanuatu Basketball Team

Nick Cooper a member of our planning department has taken a year's leave and has been coaching basketball in Vanuatu. He visited Gladstone Region with a young team of basketball players. They will play several matches in Queensland. We hosted a morning tea for them and presented them with a Gladstone tie for their Mayor and also Gladstone Caps for the players.

Port Curtis Sailing Club 1941-2011

Sunday 3rd April marked the 70th Anniversary Port Curtis Sailing Club. There was a display of memorabilia which was enjoyed by all who attended. Mr Jack Mortenson attended and he was present at the very first meeting.

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