

Mayoral Minute

07/09/10

Inaugural Botanic to Bridge

Over 4,200 people registered for the inaugural Botanic to Bridge. On the day according to the race times 954 participated in the 8km event and 1939 participated in the 3km event. Over \$21,000 in prize monies was handed out to winners. Each student registration of \$5 was matched by GPC thus \$10 goes back to the school for every student registering for the event. Family registrations could nominate their registration to a school and GPC matched that registration with a \$5 per person payment to the school. As a bonus the schools which had 100 registrations got a bonus payment of \$500. The money is to be spent on healthy living programmes within each school.

The Healthy Living Expo was also a success, with 23 stall holders participating.

Federal Election

Although we are still to gain an overall result in the Federal Election, in the seat of Flynn the LNP Candidate Ken O'Dowd was successful. I would suggest that we write a letter of congratulations to him and also to Chris Trevor the previous Member for Flynn thanking him for the excellent working relationship with GRC and also for the results he achieved during his term.

Gladstone Eisteddfod

The 40th Gladstone Eisteddfod commenced with Instrumental and Vocal on the 25th August and was followed by Speech and Drama which concluded on the 5th September. Moira McCormick was the Adjudicator for Speech and Drama which saw her returning to her home town, 40 years after she performed in the very first Gladstone Eisteddfod. The Dance section will commence in the school holidays on the 19th of September and conclude on the 24th September. Another local, Dale Pengelly is the Dance Adjudicator. There have been some wonderful performances during that time and credit must be given to the excellent teachers we have in our region. The Gladstone City Eisteddfod is organised and run by a band of dedicated volunteers. The Eisteddfod Showcase will be held on Sunday 10th October.

2010 Queensland Father of the Year – Nathan Woods

Gladstone father of five, Nathan Woods is the 2010 Queensland Father of the Year. Mr Woods and his wife, Janine, have five children at home aged 10 months to 6 years. Four are aboriginal foster children. Mr Woods and his wife say their aim is to provide a safe, loving environment for their young foster children.

Each of Mr Woods' foster children has physical impairments brought on by drug use and abuse in utero. He is active in the local little athletics club and swimming club. He and his wife are members of a local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island parent group.

Mr Woods works as a cleaner at Gladstone State High School and has recently taken on a role in the school tuckshop. He was nominated for the award by the Gladstone State High School Chaplaincy Committee.

Mr Woods said he found the award overwhelming. “I find it hard to believe,” he said. “It’s very rewarding being a parent and a lot of hard work.

“I have a great wife, great family and a great support network. I love to see the kids reach milestones and see them grow.

“For me every day is Father’s Day. The reward for me is that my kids love me. That’s all I ask for.”