

media release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Community to enjoy feature-length documentary before Ecofest 2017

The Gladstone Region community is set to enjoy a feature-length marine documentary in line with the Ecofest 2017 theme - Be Great to Our Barrier Reef.

*A Plastic Ocean*, presented by Queensland Trust for Nature, will be screened at the Gladstone Tondoon Botanic Gardens on Saturday, June 3 at 7pm.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said the film brought to light the consequences of our global disposable lifestyle.

"The film follows a team of international adventurers, researchers and ocean ambassadors on a mission to uncover the truth about what is lurking beneath the surface of a seemingly pristine ocean, Councillor Burnett said.

"A gold coin is encouraged with all proceeds going towards the local Quoin Island Turtle Rehabilitation Centre.

"Food and beverages will be available for purchase and residents are reminded to wear warm clothes and bring a picnic rug and chairs."

Councillor Desley O'Grady, a member of the Gladstone Region Environmental Advisory Network, said short film *Avoid Island* would feature at the Ecofest 2017 GREANhouse Tent on Sunday, June 4 from 9.15am.

"The short film highlights Avoid Island, a permanent reserve located in the Great Barrier Reef, north-east of Gladstone that provides sanctuary for the vulnerable flatback turtle and five other threatened species," Cr O'Grady said.

"Following the film, Queensland Trust for Nature General Manager, Nerida Bradley, will speak about how the organisation manages the island in order to provide a safe and pristine nesting ground for the flatback turtle."

Ecofest, Central Queensland's largest free environmental awareness event, will be held on Sunday, June 4 at the Gladstone Tondoon Botanic Gardens.

For more information, download a copy of the Ecofest 2017 program via Council's website at [www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/ecofest](http://www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/ecofest)

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**MEDIA INFORMATION: For further information contact Council's Communications and Marketing Section on 4977 6803 or [media@gladstone.qld.gov.au](mailto:media@gladstone.qld.gov.au)**