

MEDIA RELEASE

14 January 2020

Strong response to ongoing Gladstone Region Drought Appeal

The Gladstone Region Drought Appeal, which was launched in late November to support drought-stricken farmers, has received strong community support with more than \$10,000 raised to date.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett today met with an official from The Salvation Army, who are partnering with Council to support the Appeal.

Together they thanked everyone who had donated money to the appeal so far, which has a current balance of \$13,032.

“The response has been very gratifying as we try to provide much needed financial support to our region’s primary producers,” Councillor Burnett said.

“We would like to remind residents the appeal is running all through summer until 29 February.

“People can donate online at www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/drought-appeal, in person at any Westpac branch or via the collection tins at upcoming events including the Queensland Reds versus Melbourne Rebels match at Marley Brown Oval on 17 January and Australia Day celebration.”

Gladstone Regional Council will donate the revenue from ticket sales from the Reds vs Rebels match to the Gladstone Region Drought Appeal.

The Salvation Army’s Central Queensland Area Officer, Major Peter Sutcliffe said they were delighted to support Council with the initiative after the Mayor approached them.

“Caring for the community is at the very heart of what we do, so to come on board and provide practical support in this way, is a natural extension of that,” Major Sutcliffe said.

“We very much look forward to supporting our rural friends in 2020.”

For decades, the Salvation Army has provided material, emotional and spiritual support to farmers and rural communities through their network of rural chaplains and flying padres.

Major Sutcliffe said this was not high-profile work but had been vital in helping farmers to stay on the land and persevere through tough circumstances.

“The Christmas and New Year period is a time for valuing people and giving, so we encourage everyone in the Gladstone Region to donate towards the Gladstone Region Drought Appeal,” he said.

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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

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There are many ways to donate including:

- Council's website www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/drought-appeal
- At any Westpac Bank branch
BSB: 032 006
Account No.: 810633
Acc. Name: The Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal
Reference: GRC Drought Appeal
- Donate via Donation Tins at Council events including the Super Rugby pre-season match featuring the Queensland Reds vs Melbourne Rebels at Marley Brown Oval on 17 January and the Australia Day celebration at Tondoon Botanic Gardens on 26 January.

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