Media Release

21 January 2021

Sold out does not mean you miss out on Australia Day celebrations

Tickets to Gladstone Regional Council's free Australia Day Family Fun Day have sold out, but there are still ways you can celebrate within the community if you have missed out on your place by the beach at Tannum Sands.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnet said hope remains for residents who had their heart set on attending the Australia Day event at the Millennium Esplanade parklands but missed out on a ticket.

"Gladstone Entertainment Convention Centre (GECC) has established a ticket waiting list in case spaces become available, so I would encourage those who are still keen on attending to phone the GECC Box Office on (07) 4972 2822 to add their name to the list," Councillor Burnett said.

"Those who already have tickets but are unable to attend are also asked to contact the GECC Box Office to let our Events Team know their tickets are available for others to use.

"Normally a cap on attendance for an event such as this wouldn't apply, but it is necessary during these current times in order to make it a COVID Safe Event."

Cr Burnett said festivities will not be centred solely on Tannum Sands on January 26, with smaller community-based events taking place in different areas of the Gladstone Region.

"Australia Day community events supported by Council's Community Celebration Fund will take place at Turkey Beach, Builyan and on Curtis Island," he said.

"The Calliope Rodeo Association will also hold an event – Bulls, Boots and BBQs – on Saturday 23 January, which has also been supported by the Community Celebration Fund.

"The Gladstone Region is an inclusive and culturally diverse one and these Australia Day events, including Council's event at Tannum Sands, are designed to suit everyone in our community."

Cr Burnett said the 2021 Australia Day Awards and Citizenship Ceremony will take place on the morning of Australia Day, at an invitation-only event at the GECC.

"The Gladstone Region will welcome 40 new Australian citizens at Council's Citizenship Ceremony, while the 2021 Australia Day Awards will recognise and reward the achievements of community groups and individuals," he said.

"Official proceedings will run from 10am to noon and will be followed by an Aussie-style lunch run by the Rotary Clubs of Gladstone."

<MORE>



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Gladstone Regional Council, assisted by the Australian Government through the National Australia Day Council, is proud to bring this COVIDSafe event to our region.

Australia Day events supported through Council's Community Celebration Fund include:

Builyan Many Peaks Community Development Association

WHAT: Australia Day breakfast featuring raffles, trivia, novelty games, kids colouring competition,

best dressed prizes for adults and kids, best Aussie themed toy and much more

WHERE: Builyan Hall, Pine Street **WHEN:** 8am, Tuesday 26 January

Contact Frank or Barb on 4974 1249 to register your interest for catering purposes.

Calliope Rodeo Association

WHAT: Bulls, Boots and BBQ's rodeo **WHERE:** Taragoola Road, Calliope

WHEN: 4pm (gates open 3pm), Saturday 23 January.

South End Progress Association Inc.

WHAT: Australia Day Fun in the Park featuring a free sausage sizzle, crab pot throwing competition, cricket, volleyball, tug-of-war, three-legged race and much more

WHERE: Golding Park, South End, Curtis Island

WHEN: 10am-3pm, Tuesday 26 January – get there via Curtis Ferry Services (departing Gladstone at 8am and departing South End at 3.30pm).

Turkey Beach Progress Association

WHAT: Australia Day breakfast

WHERE: Turkey Beach Community Hall, Worthington Road, Turkey Beach

WHEN: 7am-10am, Tuesday 26 January.

Visit <u>www.gladstone.qld.gov.au</u> for more information on Gladstone Regional Council's free Australia Day Family Fun Day.

ENDS

