

# ISAAC NEWS

PURE PEOPLE POWER

ISSUE 61 | MAY 2022

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**ISAAC**  
REGION 

HELPING TO ENERGISE THE WORLD

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## WHERE TO FIND US

### CLERMONT

Cnr Karmoo & Daintree Streets  
Clermont QLD 4721

### DYSART

Shannon Crescent  
Dysart QLD 4745

### GLENDEN

Ewan Street  
Glenden QLD 4743

### MIDDLEMOUNT

Shopping Centre  
Middlemount QLD 4746

### MORANBAH

Grosvenor Complex,  
Batchelor Parade  
Moranbah QLD 4744

### NEBO

10 Reynolds Street  
Nebo QLD 4742

### ST. LAWRENCE

36 Macartney Street  
St Lawrence QLD 4707



## OUR COVER

Isaac Regional Council launches its 2022 Federal Election priorities

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All content accurate as of April 2022.



FROM THE

# MAYOR'S OFFICE

I would like to begin by acknowledging all the Isaac region's Traditional Owners of lands and waters where we live, invest, work and play and recognise their enduring cultural connection to country and community.

We pay our respect to the Elders past, present and emerging for they hold the stories, culture and traditions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

Isaac Regional Council strongly advocated for Queensland's Strong and Sustainable Resource Communities Act 2017 to ensure that potential social and economic impacts of major projects on nearby communities within a 125km radius are considered and addressed in the approval process.

The provisions of the Act also mean that identified major projects can no longer employ 100% non-resident workforces which will drive long-term demand for local housing.

Council is determined that current and future workers across a range of industries have to opportunity to live locally with their families and enjoy the enviable lifestyle our communities have to offer.

About 80 per cent of the Isaac region's coal mines help make the globe's use of steel - this is a world premium resource.

The Isaac region is currently home to 22 operating metallurgical coal mines that produce about 72 per cent of Queensland's steel-making coal.

The billion-dollar Olive Downs mine near Moranbah, which has been touted to be one of Australia's largest steelmaking coal mines, is the first mine to undergo this history-making resource legislation that we proudly fought for.

The Act requires Olive Downs to encourage workers to live in Moranbah, Nebo, Dysart and Middlemount to reduce this reliance on fly-in, fly-out workers.

The May 21 federal election is on the horizon and as with any election Council are undertaking a major advocacy campaign to secure support for Isaac communities. Council undertakes this advocacy on behalf of the community to secure support for issues that matter to residents in Isaac.

In the past we have called on the Australian Government to review allocation of funding for resource communities that receive fly-in, fly-out/ drive-in, drive-out workforces so that funding is based on both resident and serviced population and this work continues.

This election we are seeking firm commitments to review and fix the current model for allocation of medical professionals to rural and remote communities as it is simply inadequate.

Current clinical services planning for hospitals and allied health services does not satisfy demand generated by the true population of its communities for example, inclusive of permanent non-resident population.

Instances of mine-related accidents highlight that Council's previous representations were valid and need to be addressed as a matter of priority.

Provision of resources to our multi-purpose health centres in Clermont, Dysart and Moranbah are inadequate to meet demands and is not sustainable.

The royalties reaped from our region continue to contribute greatly towards our proud nation.

We are asking Canberra to share these enormous benefits from our miners by socially balancing the Isaac region with the health services it so well deserves to ensure sustainable communities.

People should not be treated as second-class citizens because they choose to live in regional Australia when they are the ones working in industries that generate much of the nation's wealth.

This federal election we are also calling for all candidates to support the Nebo Showgrounds Masterplan with Stage 1.

Our advocacy efforts in partnership with community groups have already paid off as we received notice of a budgeted funding commitment from Capricornia MP Michelle Landry of \$2.8 million.

The significance of this is that the Nebo showgrounds is the second-most utilised multipurpose community facility in Isaac, hosting up to 25,000 patrons yearly.

We are thankful to Ms Landry and also to the Deputy Prime Minister Barnaby Joyce who visited the region during the Olive Downs project opening who viewed our advocacy documents and our four main priorities.

Other projects identified in our advocacy include the Clermont Seniors Living Project where we are calling for \$6.2 million to re-energise and re-establish Monash Lodge, and the Isaac Resource Excellence Hub where we're looking for \$2 million for scoping and early works to go towards future-proofing the Isaac region as a partner in the global resources innovation and knowledge community.

To strengthen our voice, we've also partnered with More than Mining which targets housing affordability and Queensland Beef Corridors which consists of seven other Councils calling for a 5-10-year beef road funding program to seal the key freight networks across our combined region

There's a lot of work ahead but this federal election we want Canberra and the Capricornia electorate know that Isaac backed the nation when COVID hit, we kept working and the royalties continued to churn out from our region.

It's time the nation's political parties back our resource communities, they need to back the Isaac region.

I strongly encourage you to read more about our federal election advocacy priorities at our website <https://www.isaac.qld.gov.au/advocacy>

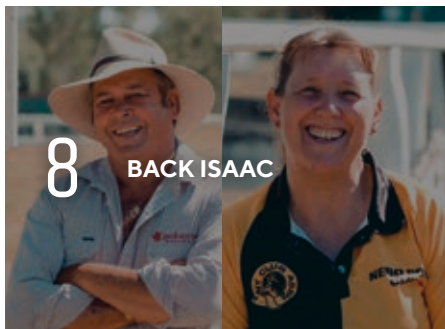
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# EVENTS CALENDAR

## MAY

- 12** Pop Ups @ the Park, Glenden
- 14** Cocktails in the Coalfields, Moranbah
- 15** Wombat Festival Gala Night, Clermont
- 24** Pop Ups @ the Park, Clarke Creek
- 26** Reconciliation Week Breakfast, Dysart

## JUNE

- 3** Pop Ups @ the Park, Middlemount
- 4** Men's Health Week Event, Clermont
- 8** Pop Ups @ the Park, Dysart

## JULY

- 3 - 10** NAIDOC Week, Isaac Region
- 8** Isaac Coast Youth Week and movie night!, Carmila

Visit [isaac.qld.gov.au/events](http://isaac.qld.gov.au/events)

Click 'Add an event', complete the simple form and save. Council reserves the right to approve event listings.

# OPERATION PRESERVATION

The Isaac region's historical collection is now digitised



Isaac Libraries and Museums are home to a vast collection of historical paper-based and artefactual collections. Our Isaac Museums Online Public Access Catalogue allows you to dive deeper into our history, explore our collections and exhibitions within the comfort of your own home.



# THOUSANDS PAID TRIBUTE TO ANZAC SPIRIT

We stood shoulder-to-shoulder to honour the ANZAC spirit in 18 commemorative services across 10 Isaac regional communities on 25 April 2022. We paid tribute to the sacrifices of diggers past and present. We remembered the tenacity, resilience and heroism our soldiers have shown us. We honoured the strong sense of solidarity, sentiment and pride as we came together to remember the ANZACs and all those who fought for our country.



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Congratulations to Glenden residents for their community spirit. No matter how tough things get in our resource communities, our residents turn up for one another. We had some false starts this year due to COVID-19 but we celebrated our three major winners at the local pool. The 2022 Mayor's Isaac Region Australia Day Glenden award was Mark Hare. The Young Inspiring Woman in Isaac Glenden winner was Sharni Wood. And the Inspiring Women in Isaac award for Glenden winner was Tabrina Attard. Well done everyone!

# BILLION-DOLLAR MINE TESTS HISTORY-MAKING RESOURCE LEGISLATION

A critical milestone for the mining industry and resource communities has been achieved as the construction on a \$1 billion Central Queensland coal mine breaks ground.

The Olive Downs project, 40km south-east of Moranbah, is the first mine to navigate the Strong and Sustainable Resource Communities legislation.

Speaking from the heart of the Bowen Basin, Resources Minister Scott Stewart said the project will usher in a new era for the future of mining in Queensland.

"Olive Downs is the first greenfield mine under the legislation and it will set the tone for future resource projects," Minister Stewart said.

"The Palaszczuk Government introduced the legislation in 2017, designed to ensure that residents of communities near large resource projects benefit from the construction and operation of those projects."

Olive Downs is estimated to be worth \$10.1 billion to the gross state product and as the first over its lifetime, the mine will employ up to 1,000 workers in the local region as well as creating up to 700 construction jobs to build the mine and associated infrastructure.

The project will include major infrastructure including a coal handling and preparation plant, rail spur, train load-out facility, coal conveyor, stockpiles, electrical transmission lines, water pipeline and access roads.

In 2017 Olive Downs was declared a coordinated project to allow the Coordinator-General to fast-track development by assisting Pembroke to navigate the approvals process.

Pembroke Resources Chairman and CEO Barry Tudor said the official start of works at the project opened the door to new job and economic opportunities for Central Queensland.

"The high-quality steel-making coal that will be produced from



our mine will contribute to national and state economies as well as much needed infrastructure across the world, delivering economic benefits and jobs from the grassroots to a global scale," Mr Tudor said.

"Importantly, Pembroke is committed to providing workers with an opportunity to live in towns near the mine including Moranbah and Dysart and is building sustainable futures for people in the communities in which Olive Downs operates.

"We are already creating valuable jobs throughout the region with early works, from cleaners to sign writers to mine professionals, and we look forward to adding to workforce numbers and building even stronger partnerships with local communities."

Isaac Regional Council Deputy Mayor Kelly Vea Vea said Olive Downs Mine is symbolic of a strong future for metallurgical coal and Isaac communities.

"We welcome Pembroke to the mining community and thank them for bringing a new opportunity of such incredible scale to this region," Cr Vea Vea said.

"It's important our Council acknowledges Queensland Government today. For years mining communities lobbied for a social impact assessment framework that gives Council a seat at the table to make sure mining projects are conditioned to support the communities that support them.

"We are grateful to have had the opportunity to work on the first greenfield mining project assessed under the Strong and Sustainable Resource Communities Act we fought so hard for."

At its peak, Olive Downs mine will produce 15 million tonnes per annum of steelmaking metallurgical coal – the Isaac region's premier world-class coal.

It will be transported by rail to the Dalrymple Bay Coal Terminal, for export to key international markets such as Japan, India and South Korea.



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Our Works for Queensland project at Dysart Civic Centre is underway behind the scenes. This social mecca was first built in the 1970s. We will re-seal the carpark, install new exterior LED lighting and construct disabled access to the centre. Air conditioning at the centre will be upgraded as well and will be completed before it warms up again. We appreciate your ongoing patience and understanding, Dysart. The works are possible through the support from the Queensland Government in association with Isaac Regional Council.

# INSPIRING WOMEN IN ISAAC AWARDS

Individuals across the Isaac region raised their voice and made noise in support of the incredible women and young women they nominated for Inspiring Women in Isaac awards this March. In a record smashing year for nominations, 81 nominations were received for women of all ages to recognise the inspiring, empowering and energising women in our region who make a difference to their communities. Men and women alike were invited to attend our Inspiring Women in Isaac events. Like each of our nominees in our communities, each event was unique. Guests were invited to listen to an inspirational guest speaker at Dysart, treated to delicious dinner at Middlemount, heard real stories through an interview panel at Moranbah, danced under the stars in Clermont, joined in an art workshop at the Coast, took home a lucky door prize at Nebo and tested their trivia knowledge in Glenden. These free events were held throughout our region over two weeks.

Queensland Women's Week is an expansion of International Women's Day (Tuesday 8 March), providing a week-long, state-wide celebration of the achievements of Queensland women and girls.



Dysart Inspiring Women in Isaac Winner  
Miriata Volpe



Cr Carolyn Moriarty with Clermont Inspiring Young Women in Isaac Joint Winner Felicity Death and Clermont Inspiring Women in Isaac Winner Sam Cobb



Dysart Inspiring Young Women in Isaac Winner  
Crystal-Rose Paul



Cr Greg Austen with Glenden Inspiring Women in Isaac Winner  
Tabrina Attard



Cr Greg Austen with Glenden Inspiring Young Women in Isaac Winner  
CRYSTAL-ROSE PAUL



**CR GINA LACEY**

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We will see a lot of activity at Greg Cruickshank Aquatic Centre this May. It has been two years since the water park closed due to safety reasons and contractors will finally begin to prepare the ground for its replacement. We've improved safety features around the replacement of the water park and toddler's pool. Thanks to the Queensland Government, it will revitalise this unused portion in our local pool facility. The project is made possible through the Queensland Government's Works for Queensland program.



Isaac Coast Inspiring Women in Isaac Winner Lashona Petersen



Middlemount Inspiring Women in Isaac Winner Gillian Ketting



Middlemount Inspiring Young Women in Isaac Winner Taliee Hampton



Mayor Anne Baker with Moranbah Inspiring Women in Isaac Winner Melissa Westcott and Moranbah Inspiring Young Women in Isaac Winner Jixie Mae Navarro



Nebo Inspiring Women in Isaac Winner Kristen Stevenson



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Clements Street and the median strip have received quite the upgrade this year. Firstly, the asphalt resurfacing works funded by the Australian Government through the Roads to Recovery Program has finished. We are seeking additional grant funding to continue the progressive asphalt works in future years and once this is successful we will advise the community. Secondly, the re-development of the median strip has started and is looking fantastic. When the trees and the soon to be planted shrubs grow, it's going to be a lovely native green vista and will help reduce road noise along that busy stretch over time. Thank you to everyone for being patient.

# MAYOR CALLS FOR CANDIDATES TO BACK ISAAC FOR ITS FAIR SHARE

A region that produces billions in royalties is asking for its fair share in this federal election to future proof Australia’s resource communities.

The Isaac region has helped the Australian economy move through the pandemic is now calling on political parties to commit funding to critical community, health and industry projects.

Isaac Regional Council Mayor Anne Baker said as a one of the nation’s largest economic contributors, her communities have supported the state and Australia through the pandemic.

“We continue to power economic recovery while trying to build sustainable communities, businesses and industries,” Mayor Baker said.

“Our communities are at the coalface of change, and a transformational opportunity exists to maximise the social, environmental and economic benefits not just for the Isaac region, but for regional Australia.

“We have ambitious plans, but we cannot do this on our own. All we are asking for is our fair share this federal election.

“Our 17 unique communities and their futures lie within the outcomes of this federal election. What we know is that when we succeed, regional Australia succeeds.”

Nebo Showgrounds, Isaac Resource Excellence Hub, Clermont Seniors Living Project and under-funded critical health services are the key priorities needing attention.

## \$2.8 million for the Nebo Showgrounds Masterplan Stage 1

Mayor Baker said Council has joined community groups to advocate for \$2.8 million for stage 1 of the Nebo Showgrounds Masterplan.

“Nebo is home to Australia’s largest one-day rodeo and the showgrounds are a vital piece of community infrastructure as it attracts 20,000 visitors annually with an estimated local economy return of about \$1.2 million,” Mayor Baker said.

“The facility requires infrastructure upgrades, heavy vehicle access, general camping upgrades and more car parking as this place support industry, community groups and neighbouring townships.”

## \$2 million to scope the Isaac Resource Excellence Hub

Mayor Baker said the growing demand for the Isaac’s metallurgical coal and record prices being achieved, the region has a stable industry on which it can build the new economy.

“To prepare our workforce for the coming change, we need to enable opportunities for them to develop future skills – and the Isaac Resource Excellence Hub is part of the answer,” Mayor Baker said.

“We are asking for \$2 million commitment from political parties to create a sustainable future for resource communities through one social, safety and environmental hub.”

## \$2.993 million for Monash Lodge as part of the Clermont Seniors Living Project

Mayor Baker said Council is proud to support this Belyando Enterprise Network Inc project and their vision for residents to enjoy their twilight years in their hometown of Clermont.

“The Seniors Living Project is a social innovation model that could have far reaching benefits across regional Australia,” Mayor Baker said.

“We are asking for federal funding for the Monash Lodge internal refurbishment, consisting of the upgrades to the 20-bed facility and to create 12 independent living units plus caretaker’s apartment for 24-hour onsite management. Aged care is an emerging issue for the nation and here’s a viable solution for a small rural and regional community.”

## Under-funded critical health services in the Isaac region

Mayor Baker said currently, the provision of medical, hospital and allied health services in the Isaac region is not enough to service the full-time equivalent population.

“The sustained critical shortages in medical, general practice and allied health services across our region while new mines continue to pop up, present an unacceptable risk to its communities,” Mayor Baker said.

“There is an absolute critical need for increased resilience in clinical services planning for hospitals, general practices and allied health services to satisfy the demand generated by the permanent resident and permanent non-resident population of the Isaac region.”

support projects that matter to us like the ...

# NEBO SHOWGROUNDS MASTERPLAN

#backisaac

ISAAC REGION



**CR KELLY VEA VEA**

**DEPUTY MAYOR  
DIVISION 5 -  
MORANBAH**

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Devastating news that one of our region’s miners passed away in a workplace incident at Moranbah North Mine in March. We send our heartfelt thoughts and prayers to his family, colleagues and our communities as we process this tragedy. Our hearts break all over again. On behalf of Isaac I extend our gratitude and support to emergency workers who were there for him on his last night. When times are tough our community comes together to support our each other. It's what we do. It's who we are as mining communities. If you need professional support Lifeline is available 24/7 on 13 11 44 or text 0477 13 11 44.



# OUR FEDERAL ELECTION PRIORITIES

WE ARE HOME TO ABOUT 50% OF ALL OPERATING COAL MINES, CONTRIBUTING NEARLY \$2 BILLION ANNUALLY OF THE \$5.2 BILLION IN RESOURCES ROYALTIES SHARED IN QUEENSLAND.



## NEBO SHOWGROUNDS MASTERPLAN

**TOTAL PROJECT: \$6.15 MILLION**

The facility hosts the largest one-day rodeo in Australia and is renowned for its bush sport events and facilities as well as social gatherings. Its location makes it accessible to attract visitors from the broader Mackay, Isaac and Whitsunday area.

## CLERMONT SENIOR LIVING



**TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COSTS: \$6.221 MILLION**

We are proud to support this Belyando Enterprise Network Inc project and their vision for residents to enjoy their twilight years in their hometown of Clermont.

## ISAAC RESOURCES EXCELLENCE HUB

**STAGE 1: \$2 MILLION**

This is about providing opportunities in the region for our workforce to embrace the changing landscape of the resource sector and providing a future for mining communities.



## UNDER-FUNDED CRITICAL HEALTH SERVICES



**WE NEED YOUR HELP**

The sustained critical shortages in medical, nursing and allied health services across the Isaac region, present an unacceptable risk to its communities. There is an absolute critical need for increased resilience in clinical services planning for hospitals and allied health services to satisfy the demand generated by the permanent resident and permanent non-resident population of the Isaac region.



**CR CAROLYN MORIARTY**

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Nearly 550 people had their say in the first consultation to develop the first ever Theresa Creek Dam Concept Development Plan. Isaac's premier tourist spot is a jewel for our region and this sort of community commentary is incredibly valuable. This concept plan will guide Council's decision-making and reflect community sentiment on how to best manage and grow this important asset. About 43 per cent of those responded were Clermont locals and more than 72 per cent were Isaac region residents. So, thank you, thank you, thank you! From here, the independent consultants will review these responses to prepare a revised concept plan that will be taken back to community. Stay tuned everyone!



# ISAAC MUSEUMS THROW OPEN ITS DIGITAL DOORS TO VIRTUAL VISITORS

A seven-year meticulous preservation project to protect historical information for future generations has officially gone digital.

Clermont Historical Centre's digital exhibitions, the Isaac region's historical artefacts, ledgers, books and historical sites have transformed from reality to the virtual world.

The process to scan thousands of items, transcribing documents, seeking permissions and engaging with community on this digital journey first started in 2016.

Isaac Regional Council Mayor Anne Baker said making history accessible to everyone a time of their choosing, regardless of where they are has been the focus of this remarkable project.

"Embracing transformation through innovation is something that our Council is very much supportive of," Mayor Baker said.

"We are making our history and stories more accessible to visitors who may not be able to attend our physical locations in Clermont and Nebo by creating this virtual hub.

"Museums face many challenges in the digital age but making these collections publicly available online has really shown the resilience and tenacity of these historical centres.

"Preserving history and making it accessible is critical to ensuring the future generations understand the Isaac story."

Currently there are nearly 1500 resources available for viewing via the Isaac Digital Collections hub.

The hub is being added to and updated regularly with more collections coming soon.

Visit <https://isaac.libero.com.au/museum/WebOpac.cls> to access the Isaac Digital Collections.

Or visit the physical spaces of Clermont Historical Centre, Gregory Highway, Clermont and Historic Nebo Museum, 10 Reynolds Street, Nebo. For more information call 1300 ISAACS (1300 47 22 27).

*Attention all responsible dog owners!*

**\$1500**  
worth of Shop Isaac cards  
are up for grabs!



**IF YOU'VE DESEXED YOUR DOG RECENTLY  
SCAN FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN!**



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The official tourism season is here and it's extremely exciting as we have regional Australia's best on offer in our very own backyard. From the Nebo Rodeo on 21-22 May and St Lawrence Wetlands on 24-26 June, these events are the cream of the crop. Then, on September 3, thanks to our partnership with Tourism and Events Queensland, Mackay Regional Council and Mackay Isaac Tourism, we will launch our first regional fishing competition - Lucky Catch and Snap. Don't forget to visit Clermont Historical Centre and experience the Faces of the Peak Downs exhibition, and be prepared for an invasion of wombats, as Clermont celebrates its inaugural Wombat Festival on May 14. Huge thanks go to our community for its spirit and support, and for all that happens behind the scenes to plan and produce these amazing events. Please get behind these unique events and all those who support them, to help energise our communities and our region.

# WETLANDS WEEKEND FLIES HIGH ON NATIONAL TOURISM STAGE

Isaac's start of the tourism season is about to fly high after St Lawrence Wetlands Weekend was recognised as one of the nation's best events.

Central Queensland's premier eco-tourism, culinary and First Nations event won bronze in the festival and events category at the Australian Tourism Awards at the Sunshine Coast this March.

This is the third award win in a row following gold in the festival and events category at the Queensland Tourism Awards and Mackay Isaac Tourism Awards.

Mayor Anne Baker said pure people power had firmly placed the Isaac region on the tourism map.

"It's official, Isaac region, the Wetlands Weekend is among Australian tourism's cream of the crop," Mayor Baker said.

"We are so excited and it's incredibly humbling that the enormity of this collaboration has been recognised on the national stage.

"This is a true testament to the hard work and community spirit that makes St Lawrence Wetlands Weekend one of Australia's must do events."

Deputy Mayor Kelly Vea Vea said the win is a culmination of years of hard work between Council, First Nations peoples, Isaac region communities and its event partners.

"The Isaac coast's core promise is - feel the quiet satisfaction of discovering unspoilt nature on a road less travelled. Tonight's



award delivers on that promise." Cr Vea Vea, who is the Planning, Environment and Community Services standing committee chair, said.

"The Wetlands Weekend event continues to be a drawcard for First Nations, culinary and nature-based tourism in regional Australia."

Mackay Isaac Tourism CEO Tas Webber said there was no better way to showcase the region's tourism offering than receiving a national award.

"To win bronze in the festival and events category on a national level is a first for the Mackay Isaac region," Mr Webber said.


"It is validation that years of work have paid off and this award now cements the region as one of Australia's emerging holiday destinations."

The event is proudly brought to the region by Isaac Regional Council in partnership with the Koinjmal People from Koinmerburra Country and the community.


St Lawrence Wetlands Weekend is supported by the Queensland Government through Tourism and Events Queensland.

Save the date for the next St Lawrence Wetlands Weekend on 24-26 June 2022 and follow Isaac Regional Council's Facebook page for more information.


  
**LATEST UPDATES**

  
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## ISAAC REGION'S DISASTER DASHBOARD

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More than 50 residents shared their thoughts on the draft Our Resilient Coast: Isaac Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy throughout April at the community pop ups at St Lawrence, Carmila Beach, Clairview and Greenhill. Isaac Regional Council, with support from QCoast 2100 program, is planning for long-term change to the region's coastline through the draft strategy. The region needs a strategy to plan, prepare and respond to coastal hazards over time, with emphasis on community awareness and infrastructure resilience. Council's next steps will be considering the valuable submissions and feedback prior to making any necessary final changes to the Coastal Hazards Adaptation Strategy before it being officially adopted by Council in the coming months.

# TICKETS ON SALE!

## ST LAWRENCE Wetlands Weekend

Welcomes you to **Our Colourful Coast**

### 24 - 26 June 2022

**Matt Golinski**

**Costa Georgiadis**

**Artisan workshops**

**Handmade market**

**Food & live entertainment**

**Plus so much more!**



Queensland  
Government



*The Regional Arts Development Fund is a partnership between the Queensland Government and Isaac Regional Council to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland.*



**DON'T MISS OUT! SECURE YOUR  
TICKETS BY SCANNING THE QR CODE**