ISAAC NEWS

PURE PEOPLE POWER

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CONTACT COUNCIL

PO Box 97 Moranbah QLD 4744

CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on 1300 ISAACS (1300 47 22 27).

OFFICE OPENING HOURSMonday to Friday, 8.30am – 5pm

EMAIL records@isaac.qld.gov.au

isaac.qld.gov.au

f isaacregionalcouncil



isaacrcouncil

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 Moranb<u>ah QLD 4744</u>

NEBO

10 Reynolds Street Nebo QLD 4742

ST. LAWRENCE

36 Macartney Street St Lawrence QLD 4707



COVER
Newly elected
councillors
(story pages 6-7).

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All content accurate as of April 2020.



FROM THE

MAYOR'S OFFICE

It's extraordinary how much of our daily lives has changed. There's so many things we're unable to do at the moment like play in the park, swim at the local pool or go on that weekend camping getaway. Or hug loved ones, children and grandchildren through the good and bad times. And not being able to give a best mate a hug just to show you care when their mental health isn't the best. COVID-19 has really changed our social and work paradigms.

We've been through fire, floods and cyclones, and we've proven our resilience time and time again. When we run this marathon together, we will bounce back. We need to continue to inspire one another to keep going. We must stay vigilant and not become complacent or all the hard work will be undone. Council's role is vital to supporting communities before, during, and after these challenging times. We continue to be on the frontline of disaster management planning, mitigation, response and recovery.

We're not going to sugar coat it; we are in a very distressing and uncertain time. Many of our small to medium businesses are reeling from the financial pain and so are our residents, with many finding it difficult to put bread and butter on the table. Many of us are experiencing isolation like never before and it's paramount to keep our mental health in check.

Check in with your family, your workmates, your friends, your neighbours through phone or video calling. Just messaging someone to ask how they are going could be lifesaving. If you are struggling, I personally urge you to please find the courage to be brave and reach out for help. Lifeline provides all Australians experiencing a personal crisis with access to online, phone and face-to-face crisis support and suicide prevention services. Find out how these services can help you, a friend or loved one on 13 1114.

We have a major focus on human and social concerns. We have been campaigning hard to the State Government to instruct the operators on cutting mass movements and to look at our counterparts in Western Australian and the Northern Territory. We have strongly been encouraging mining companies to implement workforce models that drastically reduce the volume of mass movements and the incorporation of stringent health screening protocols in and out of region.

It will be hard for workers to live away for extended periods of time however this may be a small price to keep families safe, workers employed and doing their essential role to support an economy desperate for productivity. This advocacy has contributed to reducing risks for our region. Our Council continues to work with all levels of government and the private

sector to improve our ability to respond to the pandemic and recession simultaneously.

At Isaac Regional Council, we have worked hard to mobilise to a new virtual workplace due to the pandemic to ensure business continuity remains in place. In April, we have endorsed two separate funding opportunities in principle for our region.

The first is to provide targeted critical support for community organisations at genuine risk of collapse due to the inability to deliver programmed functions and fundraising activities, through our Special Emergency Community Grants.

The second is the proposed Community Chest Fund. We aim to provide a temporary fund for the alleviation and relief of hardship suffered by small to medium businesses in Isaac region brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and anticipated economic instability.

These demonstrate our commitment to providing relief and recovery assistance to complement the funding opportunities made available through the Australian and Queensland governments. We have a great team here to respond to these challenging circumstances – for which I am truly grateful.

This is my official third term as Mayor of the Isaac region and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support through thick and thin and express how proud I am to be your Mayor. I would like to acknowledge former Councillors Nick Wheeler and Geoff Bethel for their combined service to their communities and to their region. Their passion and commitment will be missed. A warm welcome to our newly elected Councillors Sandy Moffat of Division 2 and Viv Coleman of Division 8 and their success at the local government election. And, of course, welcome back to our team who were elected unopposed - Greg Austen, Gina Lacey, Simone West, Kelly Vea Vea, Lyn Jones and Jane Pickels. I look forward to working as a team and leading our community during these uncertain times.

Our Council and our communities have certainly been through a lot together. And we will continue to do so, working in solidarity to help one another through this pandemic. Pure people power is in our DNA and we will stand together while we need to stay apart.

Please stay safe, stay connected and stay positive as much as you can.

MAYOR ANNE BAKER

- **P** 07 4846 3524
- **M** 0408 277 379
- **E** anne.baker@isaac.qld.gov.au

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Hey, Isaac!

Kerbside bin collection is business as usual, including public holidays, throughout the region.

Be like Darling Dave, hang onto your non-urgent waste or get it in the wheelie bin and to avoid making unnecessary trips to your local tip.

Our Waste Management
Facilities are currently
experiencing extensive wait
times, as our dedicated and
hard-working staff are
committed to keeping you safe.

Visit Isaac Regional Council's website about our waste services and if you need more bin-formation call us on 1300 ISAACS, that's 1300 472 227.



INSPIRING WOMEN RECOGNISED AT **AWARDS ACROSS ISAAC**

Eleven inspiring women and young women were recognised at Women in Isaac events as part of Queensland Women's Week and International Women's Day celebrations held from 5 to 14 March.

The 2020 Inspiring Women in Isaac awards paid tribute to women of all ages in recognition of the pure people power that drives Isaac communities to help them thrive.

Isaac Regional Council Mayor Anne Baker said 47 women and young women were nominated across the region, whose daily contributions make our lives and communities brighter.

"The awards recognised and celebrated the achievements of the everyday women with their stories of empowerment and personal victory who are the cornerstone of Isaac people power," Mayor Baker said.

"This year the theme of Queensland Women's Week was celebrating our diverse community of strong women.

"During the events it was amazing to see this strong message empowering and inspiring all the women, girls and men who attended to embrace and celebrate their uniqueness.

"Congratulations to each of our nominees and winners; your hard work and passion is truly inspiring".

2020 Inspiring Women in Isaac Award Winners:

Debra Lamont

Dysart Roslyn Sigvart Glenden Milissa Payne

Clermont

Middlemount

Isaac Coast Kate Box Jodie Crawter

Moranbah Brooke Sorbello

Nebo Mary-Ellen McEvoy

2020 Inspiring Young Women in Isaac Award Winners:

Dysart Alissa Bradford Isaac Coast Scarlett Jeffs Middlemount Jacqueline Bulst

Moranbah Kristy Hughes

Debra Lamont Clermont















Brooke Sorbello Moranbah



Mary-Ellen McEvoy

Inspiring Young Women in Isaac Award Winners

Inspiring Women in Isaac Award Winners



Alissa Bradford Dysart



Scarlett Jeffs Isaac Coast



Jacqueline Bulst Middlemount



Kristy Hughes



NEW FOUR-YEAR TERM COUNCIL TAKES THE OATH OVER SKYPE

The Isaac region's newly elected Council have taken their oath in 21st century style from their homes on the coast to the bush through digital airwaves.

The non-conventional special ceremony was conducted by Isaac Regional Council CEO Gary Stevenson PSM who swore in Councillors via video conference to their elected positions. The ceremony kept with best practice for social distancing and reduced the amount of non-essential travel.

Mayor Anne Baker, Division 1 Councillor Greg Austen, Division 3 Councillor Gina Lacey, Division 4 Councillor Simon West, Division 5 Councillor Kelly Vea Vea, Division 6 Councillor Lyn Jones and Division 7 Councillor Jane Pickels were elected unopposed.

Two newly elected members will take their position on Council, Division 2 Councillor Sandy Moffat and Division 8 Councillor Viv Coleman, following success at local polls.

Cr Kelly Vea Vea was appointed as Deputy Mayor at Council's post-election meeting held on 21 April 2020.

Mayor Anne Baker said she was looking forward to another fouryear term of Isaac helping to energise the world.

"We are a great Council, made better by the drive and passion of Councillors I am proud to call my colleagues," Mayor Baker said.

"I am grateful to the community who put their trust in this Council to deliver for them."

Mr Stevenson welcomed the Councillors as they took their Declaration of Office over the phone or by video.

"While the regulation adopted by Governor in Council has allowed me to swear in our Councillors via technology, I am most looking forward to the collaboration of this new Council, which will happen regardless of them being in or out of the Council Chambers," Mr Stevenson said.

Mayor Baker acknowledged the contributions of outgoing Councillors Geoff Bethel and Nick Wheeler.

"Thank you to Nick and Geoff for your hard work and dedication with your decades of experience on Council collectively. I would also like to thank all the candidates who nominated in the local government elections. We know better than anyone you do it because you love and care for your community."



DIVISION 1 - CR GREG AUSTEN

Councillor Austen was elected to represent Division 1 following a By-Election on December 18, 2017.

He has lived in the Clermont district for 30 years where he worked as a horse breaker, ringer, professional singer and musician.

After marrying Marie, and having a family – Liz, Steve and Mick – Councillor Austen purchased the milk

run for Clermont and surrounding districts. Austen Milk Supplies is a family run business as well as supplying employment for others.

He has also recently purchased a small cattle block north of Clermont and local businesses Clermont Carrying Company and Clermont Signage and Frames.

Councillor Austen is a very strong supporter of local businesses and is well aware of the issues faced in this regional area.



MAYOR ANNE BAKER

After starting her local government service in 2007, Cr Baker was elected Mayor of Isaac Regional Council at the 2012 local government elections.

Cr Baker and her husband Frank, who have two adult children and three grandchildren, have lived in Moranbah for the last 24 years.

She is on the board of several regional

development organisations and likes to be as active as possible within the community.

Her priorities for the region have been long held around working towards delivery of more family housing and good quality developments, to improve the liveability and attractiveness of the region. She continues to advocate for the region's fair share of funding from the Australian and Queensland governments and she has a continued focus on increased investment in our rural roads and protection of rural land. Cr Baker firmly believes that local government is the key to building stronger communities.

"For me, local government is 'where it is at'. As the closest level of government to the community, we have a responsibility to drive value for money and to build our community's future capacity, into everything we do," she said.

"Delivering responsive and fit for purpose planning and efficient and effective Council services that reflect the broad priorities and values of our ratepayers, is an integral part of that.

"It's an incredible honour to be the Mayor of this region, and honour I am grateful for."



DIVISION 2 - CR SANDY MOFFAT

Councillor Moffat was elected to represent Division 2 in March, 2020. She has lived in Dysart for 9 years after moving for work from the Darling Downs. She loved it that much, she married a long-time resident and stayed.

She has owned and operated Java Joes & JJs Pizza for 7 years and has

over 17 years' experience in hospitality and management. She was previously an Early Childhood Teacher working in rural and remote areas.

She has been a member of the Dysart Business Group since its early conception and prior to its rebirth in 2018. She is also a member of the Dysart Community Support Group and an active member of her community. She was also an active member of Dysart's Smart Transformation Advisory Committee working in conjunction with BHP to highlight Dysart community's future needs

Cr Moffat is married to Jason and between them they have 6 daughters and 8 grandchildren. In her spare time, she enjoys relaxing with friends and family, genealogy and gardening.



DIVISION 3 - CR GINA LACEY

Councillor Lacey has lived in Moranbah for 46 years, and was re-elected to represent Division 3 in 2020, making it her fifth term on Council. She was elected a member of the Belyando Shire Council in 2004 and in 2008 elected to represent her division with the Isaac Regional Council. Councillor Lacey worked for the CFMEU for 15

years and has been a small business owner for 10 years.

Married to Clint, they have two children. Councillor Lacey quotes her late father and well-known local, Pat Hannay, as the most significant influence on her ideology, and is ultimately driven by the principles of equity, fairness and common sense. An active and engaged Councillor who values her years of experience, Councillor Lacey is never afraid to challenge the status quo and genuinely values diverse thinking in decision making. She is a keen rugby league supporter and spectator, a proud local and is determined to advocate for Moranbah, Isaac and everyone's rights to have a say in their communities future.



DIVISION 4 - CR SIMON WEST

Councillor West was appointed as councillor for Division 4 in April 2019 for the remainder of the four-year local government term following the resignation of former councillor Peter Freeleagus.

With years of experience in hospitality management, the mining sector and through union roles, Cr West is a well-

recognised community representative.

Elected as an executive board member of the CFMMEU in 2008, Cr West is currently the President of the Goonyella Riverside CFMMEU. He represents CFMMEU members in and around Moranbah as an elected member of the Queensland Board of Management of the CFMMEU Mining and Energy Division.

With his wife Fiona and son, Cr West has lived in Moranbah since 2001. He is an active community member and leader, assisting in multiple fundraising events such as the May Day Festival and mental health projects.



DIVISION 5 - CR KELLY VEA VEA

Councillor Vea Vea grew up in Collinsville with a long family history in mining. For the last 13 years she has been raising her two children in Moranbah with her husband Blair. They are a fourth generation coal mining family. Councillor Vea Vea is a strong advocate for the Isaac Region and passionate about lobbying for

policy change, better funding for our region and ensuring our communities grow sustainably alongside industry. Councillor Vea Vea has served as Deputy Mayor since 2018. She is Deputy Chair of Local Disaster Management Group, Chair of Planning Environment and Community Services Standing Committee, member of Water & Waste Standing Committee, Director on the board of Moranbah Early Learning Centre, and Council representative on the Moranbah Miner's Memorial Committee.

Outside of Council Councillor Vea Vea is President of the Moranbah & District ALP Branch and a committee member of Moranbah Highlanders Swimming Club.



DIVISION 6 - CR LYNETTE JONES

Councillor Jones was elected in 2016 to represent Division 6. A long-term Clermont resident, Cr Jones has played an active role in the community for the past 42 years.

She spent 22 years in the Clermont Department of Primary Industries as an honorary Stock Inspector and is a past member (26 years) of the

Clermont Hospital Auxiliary.

Cr Jones and her husband have owned a cattle carting business located in Clermont for the past 15 years and have one daughter and two grandchildren.



DIVISION 7 - CR JANE PICKELS

Councillor Pickels was elected to represent Division 7 in 2012 after spending eight years working in customer service with the Broadsound Shire Council and Isaac Regional Council.

Moving to Queensland in 1984 she quickly became involved in the community through committee

work with Moranbah Neighbourhood Centre, Moranbah Hawks' Soccer, Nebo State School P&C and Middlemount tennis, rugby league and netball associations. She was recently honoured with Life Membership of Middlemount's Community Sports' Association.

Councillor Pickels is married to Greg and they have four children, and two grandchildren. A self-confessed 'sports nut', she loves to play and watch sport and is involved at an administrative level. She enjoys cooking and travel, and also loves discovering everything our own region has to offer.



DIVISION 8 - CR VIV COLEMAN

Councillor Coleman was elected to represent Division 8 in April, 2020. Living and working in St Lawrence, having property in the Isaac area for over 20 years she has a long term personal connection to the region.

With career background in local small business, construction, agriculture, tourism and real estate she has a

wide knowledge of industries and looks forward to bringing her previous experiences to her new role of Division 8 Councillor.

Volunteering and continued commitments to charity organisations Varity Qld & the Cancer Council along with her engagement with local non for-profit organisations and actively supporting and assisting in community events to encourage growth opportunities in the community are important to her.

Married to Craig, they have two children. She enjoys, camping, boating, gardening, photography, learning about local history and spending time with her family.



ENERGETIC NEW WORKERS WELCOMED TO COUNCIL

A new generation of workers are furthering their studies and exploring their career prospects as Isaac Regional Council welcomed eight trainees and apprentices to the organisation on 19 March.

Mayor Anne Baker said Council was proud to offer a traineeship and apprenticeship program that saw locals and job seekers upskilled, uptrained and job ready across the region.

"These positions combine hands-on work experience with a nationally recognised qualification," Mayor Baker said.

"So far 36 per-cent of trainees and apprentices go on to stay at Council, reflecting our outlook that this organisation is built on the strength of pure people power.

Mayor Baker acknowledged this year's traineeship intake was assisted by First Start, one of seven programs that make up the Queensland Government's Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative.

Isaac Regional Council welcomed the following trainees and apprentices:

Angus CaldwellApprentice Painter and DecoratorLauryn NewtonTrainee Economy and ProsperityJoanna TomlinTrainee Payroll AdministrationCasey ColemanTrainee Compliance OfficerKim DoyleTrainee Frontline Service Officer

Breannen Anderson Trainee Administration

Jessica Cooper Trainee Information Management

Officer

Kimberly Lawrence Trainee Administration

NOT-FOR-PROFITS AND THOSE SUFFERING HARDSHIP TO BENEFIT

This pandemic will impact everyone in our community and it's important we are agile and adapting to an ever-changing situation. Not-for-profits and those suffering financial hardship will benefit from the measures adopted at a special council meeting, with further measures to be reviewed in the coming months as the situation continues to evolve.

In addition to supporting the members facing hardship and not-for-profit organisations, we adopted our Pandemic and Tactical Response Framework to navigate our way through these troubling waters.

This is the framework to how Council will address and manage our own business continuity, our disaster management structure, identifying the community support and our business community support. We are responding to the situation and implementing our strategies to work through this challenge.

At a Council special meeting called specifically to consider these items, Council unanimously adopted our Business Support and our Community Support packages.



Council announced the full support of rates concessions for any not-for-profit organisation, not already receiving 100% relief from their existing rates for the current financial year.

Council also agreed to forgo any interest on outstanding arrears from 11 March for the remainder of the financial year for anybody on a payment arrangement or suffering financial hardship.

Isaac Regional Council is committed to working with all levels of government to support the community through this crisis.

LONG SERVING COUNCILLOR'S FOND FAREWELL

Isaac Regional Councillor Geoff Bethel bid a fond farewell to colleagues following his final Council meeting at Moranbah Chambers on Tuesday, 17 March 2020.

As an elected official, Cr Bethel said it was an honour to stand up for community and work towards the continuous improvement of his division and the region.

"Division 8 is a diverse and unique area, spanning from St Lawrence to Carmila and Ilbilbie on the coast, and inland to Nebo and Coppabella," he said.

"To have the trust of the community to represent their best interests is a big job to live up to, and over the last 18 years I have always stood up for what I believed was best.

"I would like to thank the community for their drive and passion. Seeing the amazing work of the people in the region is the reason I wanted to work hard representing them for so long. "I know the Division 8 candidates will do a great job and bring some fresh blood into the Council chambers."

Cr Bethel had served on the Broadsound Shire and was re-elected in 2012 to the amalgamated Isaac Regional Council.

The outgoing Chair of the Engineering and Infrastructure Standing Committee said the hard work and dedication of the staff in the organisation made him proud to be a Councillor.

"Our Council workforce are some of the best people I have ever had the honour of working along-side.

Thank you to the incredible staff for all your work in making the Isaac region a great place to live and work.

"I wish all my fellow Councillors, Mayor Baker, CEO Gary Stevenson and his directors the best for the next four years.

"And my biggest thank you goes to my wife Ruth and our children. Your support



and understanding have been a pillar of strength."

Isaac Regional Council Mayor Anne Baker congratulated Cr Bethel on his retirement, saying the region was losing a passionate advocate.

"Geoff has been an absolute asset to the organisation, the region, his division and the communities he has represented," Mayor Baker said.

"On behalf of my fellow Councillors and myself, I wish Geoff all the best as he makes his way into retirement."



ISAAC MAYOR'S CHARITY BALL CANCELLED FOR 2020

With the deepest regret, the Isaac Regional Charity Fund has confirmed that the 2020 Mayor's Charity Ball will not go ahead in August.

In light of the Australian Government's new health provisions and the months of planning, scheduling and logistics behind this event, the committee has made the decision based on everyone's safety and a thorough risk assessment.

Dates for the 2021 Mayor's Charity Ball will be announced early next year and a genuine thank you to the community and industry stakeholders for their understanding and continued support.

Isaac Regional Charity Fund encourages supporters to listen to health advice being provided by Queensland Health and the Australian Government's Department of Health.



"Classic dragline"



SECOND RUNNER-UP



Angela Chan, 14, Clermont
"Elastic band power boat"

ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD Lucy Nicholas, 17, Moranbah "Tough exterior of a teen"

IT'S ALL ABOUT YOUTH - #ISOCREATE INSPIRES DOZENS

Ingenuity, creativity and resourcefulness are in high supply among the youth of Isaac, as 176 participants got involved in the #isocreate competition celebrating Queensland Youth Week, 1-9 April.

Participants had #isocreate kits delivered contactless to their door, filled with 15 different items to develop a product, make an invention, create artwork, design a display, build a costume, make a game or anything they could imagine, with items sourced from local Isaac businesses.

CEO Gary Stevenson said the response was phenomenal, showcasing the resilient and creative nature of the youth across the Isaac region during these trying times.

"We had an unprecedented number of youth registering for their #isocreate kits, and what they created has blown me away," Gary Stevenson said.

"From model aeroplanes and artwork to board games and everything in between, we can rest assured we have a great generation of inventors and creators coming up through the ranks. Congratulations to everyone who submitted their work – electronically – and participated in #isocreate. Times might be tough, but our youth are resilient and worth celebrating. And a big congratulations to our winner and runners up."

The winning projects can be viewed on Council's website - isaac.qld.gov.au/community/youth-week.

The best creation won an iPad to get them through the isolation period ahead with two runners up receiving gift cards to the value of \$200.

The theme for Queensland Youth Week 2020 is 'Yeah the youth!' – a celebration of who our young people are and what they offer to our great state.

ST LAWRENCE WETLANDS WEEKEND CALLED OFF FOR 2020

One of Central Queensland's award-winning tourism events will unfortunately not be going ahead as planned in June this year.

The regrettable decision to cancel the 2020 St Lawrence Wetlands Weekend was made after risk assessments were conducted and uncertainty relating to continued limitations on social gathering could not provide alternative dates.

Isaac Regional Council Mayor Anne Baker was very grateful to the supporters, organising committee, our special guests, industry stakeholders and the community of St Lawrence and surrounding areas for their continued work and efforts.

"It was with a heavy heart to cancel this for 2020 but we are in extraordinary times and these decisions must be made I'm sure we can all appreciate and understand," Mayor Baker said.

"Behind every event there's months of planning, scheduling and logistics however with the ongoing restrictions to social gatherings, the cancellation of the event is in everyone's safety.



"We will be back bigger than ever in 2021 with St Lawrence Wetland Weekend and to ensure that and our daily lives return, I encourage you to listen to the health advice being provided by Queensland Health and the Australian Government's Department of Health."



DISCOVER NEW WORLDS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS WITH ISAAC LIBRARIES

Keep the mind energised at home and add a suite of free online music, books and movies just by being a member of Isaac Libraries.

The doors may be closed for now but Isaac Regional Council's online library is open 24/7.

Mayor Anne Baker said staying home, safe and connected was paramount for all residents to help flatten the curve.

"Browse, search and discover an eBook or eAudiobook through our wide selection of titles which include, the latest and greatest best sellers, plus lots of Australian and New Zealand titles," Mayor Baker said.

"Isaac Library members also have access to digital magazines, a free music app and children's stories which are read aloud – making story time, anytime.

"There's also an app where members can watch over 30,000 documentaries, classic and indie films.

"You can use these e-Resources from your phone, tablet, or desktop computer and the best thing is that you can do it all from the comfort of your home."

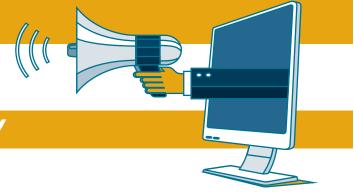
Sign up for a free Isaac Library membership online and discover these fantastic e-resources at https://www.isaac.qld.gov.au/library-arts-and-culture/home today.

SPEAK UP ISAAC

Council's online public engagement platform



speakup.isaac.qld.gov.au





the spread of **GERMS**





3 STAY HOME if you're sick



If you're concerned, visit your GP or call 13HEALTH (13 43 25 84).

