

ISAAC NEWS

PURE PEOPLE POWER

ISSUE 54 | DECEMBER 2020

INSIDE

COVID-19 STRATEGIC RECOVERY PLAN

Million-dollar strategic recovery plan approved
PAGE 5

NAIDOC WEEK

First Nations people recognised in celebrations
PAGE 6

\$50K YOUTH STUDY

Research underway to identify unmet youth needs
PAGE 10

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 HOURS

Monday to Friday, 8.30am – 5pm

EMAIL

records@isaac.qld.gov.au

isaac.qld.gov.au

 isaacregionalcouncil

 isaacregionalcouncil

 isaaccouncil

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

Urab dancers
at the NAIDOC
March and
Ceremony in
Moranbah Town
Square.

This magazine is produced by BB Print. None of the material in this publication may be reproduced without permission of Isaac Regional Council. To comment on this publication or for enquiries please contact us on 1300 47 22 27.

All content accurate as of November 2020.



FROM THE

MAYOR'S OFFICE

NAIDOC WEEK

There have been some significant events and achievements for the Isaac Region in recent weeks, and the first I want to mention is NAIDOC Week. NAIDOC Week was celebrated across the Isaac region. The theme this year was "Always Was, Always Will Be", recognising the fact that First Nations people have occupied and cared for this continent for over 65,000 years. NAIDOC 2020 invited all Australians to embrace and celebrate that history. Isaac Regional Council certainly does. I hope that acknowledgment of our shared history can be one of the building blocks of a future that is positive and prosperous for all the people who now call the Isaac region home.

MORANBAH MINERS' MEMORIAL SERVICE

The Moranbah Miners' Memorial service in Town Square in early November was an event that really touched the local community. Although COVID-19 restrictions meant only a limited number of people could attend, hundreds more saw the event live-streamed and/or stood at the end of their driveways with makeshift miner's lamps in support. The multi-camera livestream reached viewers in the USA, United Kingdom, New Zealand and every State in Australia. There was a 15,000 reach from the official memorial Facebook page. The event was delivered by the Moranbah Miners' Memorial committee and is a fitting tribute to those miners who went to work in the Moranbah area and never came home. If you missed the Moranbah Miners' Memorial ceremony, you can watch the recording via this link: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=372798580663402>

COUNCIL WINS TOP PLANNING AWARD

Isaac Regional Council has won Queensland's top planning award. Council was announced as the overall winner of the 2020 Queensland Award for Planning Excellence at a ceremony conducted by the Planning Institute of Australia in Brisbane in early November. This is massive. It is such a prestigious award and I am so proud of our planning staff. The project that won the top award is the Isaac Regional Planning Scheme and Coastal Planning Provisions. This project involves planning to accommodate natural hazards along a hundred kilometres of coastline – including such challenges as tidal surges, tropical cyclones and coastal erosion – for the

communities of Greenhill, Carmila Beach, Clairview and St Lawrence. This is all about ensuring the sustainability and resilience of our coastal communities.

COVID-19 RECOVERY PLAN

Council has approved a million-dollar COVID-19 strategic recovery plan to be implemented over the next two years. The plan – unanimously adopted at the Council's October meeting – has 50 separate strategies to be applied across the Isaac region.

Aims of the new plan include:

- employ an economic and business resilience co-ordinator;
- encourage increased supply of locally based goods and services for Council projects;
- attract further business investment;
- further promote the Shop Isaac campaign;
- reduce compliance and administration costs;
- enhance tourism opportunities; and
- encourage and support business and community organisations.

The plan can be read on the Isaac Regional Council website.

AND THEY'RE RACING

A beautiful spring day's horse racing was enjoyed in Moranbah in early November with the 2020 Moranbah Miners' Memorial Race Day. Council was the official sponsor of the Moranbah Race Club's annual Spring Race Day at Treasure Park through our Isaac Community Grants program. Although COVID-19 restrictions meant numbers were limited, there was no lack of enthusiasm amongst racegoers for this day in the sun trackside. Congratulations to everyone involved – especially the Moranbah Race Club – for another wonderful event. And, although it may be over by the time you read this, I'm sure the community is very much looking forward to the Clermont Race Club's next event on November 21. It will be a great day!

As we are approaching the holiday season, may I wish you and your family a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

MAYOR ANNE BAKER

P 07 4846 3524

M 0408 277 379

E anne.baker@isaac.qld.gov.au

CONTENTS



EVENTS CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

- 20 Landmark Beef and Country Bull Sale - Nebo
- 21 Clermont Race Club's Picnic, Pepperina Park
- 21 Moranbah Christmas Twilight Markets
- 22 Communi-tea Upcycling Crockery Workshop - Dysart
- 22 Communi-tea Upcycling Crockery Workshop - Nebo
- 23 First 5 Forever Pop Up @ The Pool - Glenden

DECEMBER

- 2 QLD Art Awards: State of Diversity Exhibition Launch - Moranbah
- 4 Christmas in the Park - Clermont
- 4 First 5 Forever Pop Up @ the Pool - Flaggy Rock
- 5 Middlemount Twilight Markets and Christmas Party
- 5-6 CRCA Jackpot Rodeo - Nebo
- 11 Check in for your 'Elf' - Dry Lands and High Hopes Movie in the Park - Moranbah
- 12 Clermont Community Markets
- 13 Chip N Check free microchip pop up clinic - Moranbah

JANUARY

- 26 Australia Day events across Isaac
- 31 Chip N Check free microchip pop up clinic - Nebo

2020-21 FESTIVE CLOSURE AND OPERATING HOURS

Isaac Regional Council would like to advise communities of the following temporary closures over the Christmas and New Year period across its sites.

COUNCIL OFFICES, ISAAC LIBRARIES AND HISTORICAL FACILITIES - Council's customer service counters, branch libraries and Historic Nebo Museum will close from 2pm on Christmas Eve, Thursday 24 December 2020, and reopen as normal from Monday 4 January 2021.

Note: Historic Nebo Museum normal operating hours are from Tuesdays to Thursdays. Clermont Historical Centre will close for the Christmas/New Year period from close of business Friday 18 December 2020, reopening Wednesday 6 January 2021.

CONTACTING COUNCIL - Council's Customer Service Centre is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on 1300 ISAACS (1300 472 227).

WASTE SERVICES - Kerbside waste and recycling collections will go ahead as normal on public holidays across the region. For more information on kerbside collection days for your town visit <https://www.isaac.qld.gov.au/environment-water-waste/kerbside-collection>

WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES - Waste management facilities are closed on public holidays over the festive season on Friday, 25 December 2020, Monday 28 December and Friday, 1 January 2021. For more information on facility operating hours visit <https://www.isaac.qld.gov.au/environment-water-waste/waste-management-facilities>

ISAAC AQUATIC FACILITIES - Please see Council's website for swimming pool operating hours at www.isaac.qld.gov.au/aquatic-facilities



Best overall garden



Best edible garden



Best drought resistant garden

DIG IT GARDEN WINNERS HAVE SPRING IN THEIR STEP FOR THE SUMMER

A show stopping garden in Clermont has taken out the first ever Dig It, Isaac! competition.

Isaac Regional Council in partnership with generous local businesses encouraged residents to get back to basics by starting a new garden or completing a project that's been sitting on the to-do list.

Mayor Anne Baker, who was on the judging panel, said six winners from Clermont, Moranbah and Middlemount will share in prizes totalling \$3700 with the prize money to be injected back into local Isaac businesses.

"Congratulations to Janet Appleton for winning the best overall garden section with her jaw-dropping, colour popping garden oasis," she said.

"As the major prize winner, Janet walks away with \$1000 to spend at local businesses through our Shop Isaac program.

"A huge thank you to everyone for taking part in this competition. We received nearly 45 entries with six winners named which is a fantastic outcome given it's the first regional competition Council has run.

"I would like to acknowledge the amazing support from our local sponsors. We could not have done this without your incredible help. We're hoping to grow this competition every Spring."

The following winners are:

- **Best overall garden** sponsored by High Country Mitre 10, Moranbah - Janet Appleton, Clermont
- **Best edible garden** sponsored by Home Timber and Hardware, Dysart - Wayne and Karen Pidgeon, Clermont
- **Best drought resistant garden** sponsored by Clermont Agencies - Lorraine Tonkin, Moranbah
- **Best grown from seeds garden** sponsored by Isaac Regional Council - Jodie Crawter, Middlemount
- **Best potted garden** sponsored by Glenden Hardware and Rural - Ruby Madden, Moranbah
- **Best school, kindy or daycare garden** sponsored by Middlemount Rural Traders - C&K Clermont Kindergarten

For more information on Shop Isaac visit www.isaac.qld.gov.au/shop-isaac or call 1300 ISAACS.



Best grown from seeds garden



Best potted garden



Best school, kindy or daycare garden



CR GREG AUSTEN

DIVISION 1 - CLERMONT RURAL AND GLEDEN

P 07 4983 2712

M 0418 794 010

E gregory.austen@isaac.qld.gov.au

COVID-19 has forced us to look to new hobbies where social distancing is favourable and one that's certainly on the rise is gold prospecting. It's the adventurous spirits and the romanticised notion of a miracle in striking it rich! But you never know if you don't give it a go. Today, Clermont attracts interest from prospectors and metal detector enthusiasts. With holidays approaching, spend it in our backyard. You can find the maps here <https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/activities/areas-facilities/fossicking/central-gold> - Merry Christmas everyone!

COUNCIL APPROVES COVID-19 STRATEGIC RECOVERY PLAN

Isaac Regional Council has approved a million-dollar COVID-19 strategic recovery plan to be implemented over the next two years.

Mayor Anne Baker said the plan – unanimously adopted at the recent Council meeting – has 50 separate strategies to be applied across the Isaac Region.

“This longer-term Strategic Recovery Plan complements our shorter-term Tactical and Strategic COVID Response and Recovery framework implemented back in March, in the very early days of the COVID-19 pandemic,” Mayor Baker said.

“That emergency plan – with three packages of support – has been very effective but we always anticipated Council would be developing a longer-term Strategic Recovery Plan.

“Now that the initial packages of support and stimulus response measures have been delivered, we are moving to implement the recovery plan.

“The new plan contains 50 separate strategies, including:

- employ an economic and business resilience co-ordinator;
- encourage increased supply of locally-based goods and services for Council projects;
- attract further business investment;
- further promote the “Shop Isaac” campaign;
- reduce compliance and administration costs;
- enhance tourism opportunities; and
- encourage and support business and community organisations.

“Importantly, it builds on Council’s existing five-year Economic Development Framework, and Tourism Strategy and Business Support Strategy, and provides resourcing and capacity to bring forward a substantial body of that work into the next 18 to 24 months.



“In summary, Council’s COVID-19 Strategic Recovery Plan will work to maintain strong communities across Isaac by focusing on business resilience, developing the regional tourism sector, maintaining Council’s sustainability, continuing disaster recovery functions under the Disaster Management Plan, growing community resilience and advocating to third parties for initiatives not within Council’s direct control.

“Council has budgeted \$1 million specifically to fund the Strategic Recovery Plan.”

Mayor Baker added that the plan would be reviewed next year, and amended if necessary, to ensure it remained relevant.

Also, while she did not anticipate there would be a second wave of COVID infections in Queensland, if that did occur Council would immediately review the plan and respond appropriately.



It's a paw-fect opportunity to be mindful in looking after our fur babies over the festive season. The holidays can be anything but festive for some of our dogs who may be left behind while owners go on holiday, or, worse still, abandoned entirely. So please make sure you have made appropriate arrangements to have your pet cared for if you are planning on going away over the holiday break.



TO REPORT YOUR PET AS MISSING OR TO INQUIRE IF IT HAS BEEN IMPOUNDED CALL 1300 ISAACS (1300 47 22 27)



CR SANDY MOFFAT

**DIVISION 2 -
DYSART**

M 0418 184 341

E sandy.moffat@isaac.qld.gov.au

Merry Christmas everyone! Thank you for your ongoing support and this year has certainly given us a fresh outlook on how we go about our day-to-day life. I hope you all take extra time out to celebrate with your families and loved ones during the festive season. To get into the festive season, why not decorate your home, your business and your street? Dysart looks sensational when the tinsel sparkles, and the lights line our streets. It brings sheer positivity and joy to a year that has been incredibly challenging for us all and reminds us of what a wonderful community we live in. Enjoy this Christmas season, travel safe and I look forward to seeing you all in 2021.



NAIDOC WEEK CELEBRATED ACROSS THE REGION

The Isaac region had the proud opportunity to recognise our First People and to support our local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Due to the impacts of COVID-19, the National NAIDOC Committee chose to reschedule 2020 NAIDOC Week events from July to November.

The theme for NAIDOC Week 2020 is 'Always Was, Always Will Be'.

Always Was, Always Will Be recognises that First Nations people have occupied and cared for this continent for over 65,000 years. Aboriginal adaptation and intimate knowledge of Country enabled them to endure climate change, catastrophic droughts and rising sea levels.

St Lawrence, Dysart, Nebo, Middlemount and Moranbah held community celebrations as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander dancers entertained, and onlookers enjoyed the performances from all corners of the Isaac community.

In Moranbah, the day also featured the official plaque unveiling of the Barada Barna Library Wall Artwork.

Council is proud to work with the Barada Barna and artist Elaine Chambers from Cultural Edge Designs to erect the mural. It complements and extends the theme and motifs from the Barada Barna Garden. Together, these form a striking entrance-way to the Moranbah Library and backdrop to our Town Square Stage. We believe it presents an unmissable acknowledgment of the continuing, important involvement of the Barada Barna People in the life and culture of our region.



SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS BUILDS STRONGER COMMUNITIES

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Council's Business Support Officer

Email: business.support@isaac.qld.gov.au



CR GINA LACEY

DIVISION 3 - MORANBAH

M 0429 051 838

E gina.lacey@isaac.qld.gov.au

What a year it has been! A global pandemic has affected each and every one of us and it's certainly given us boost in the "think global" and "act local" space. Congratulations to Moranbah Race Club in having the courage in activating one of the biggest community events in these trying times where our social situations have changed. What a great day it was at the Moranbah Miners' Memorial Spring Race Day. Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the club. In closing, be safe, be kind and enjoy the upcoming break. Merry Christmas and see you in 2021.



HELP KEEP OUR REGION TIDY



Report illegal dumping to
1300 ISAACS (1300 47 22 27)

ISAAC
REGION 

FREE MICROCHIP POP UP CLINICS TO SPARK PAWS-ITIVE PUP POWER

A joint venture to help dogs be reunited with their owners swiftly is being served up through free pop up microchipping clinics in Isaac's open spaces.

The Chip N Check program, powered by Isaac Regional Council's Paws-itive Blueprint for Responsible Dog Ownership, is a great opportunity for pet owners to save money on something that is compulsory by law.

All dogs from 12 weeks of age are required to be microchipped and Council is offering this great service to residents for free in proud partnership with Clermont Veterinary Surgery and Moranbah Veterinary Clinic.

Isaac Regional Council Mayor Anne Baker said Council's number one priority is to reunite owners with their four-legged family member and a microchip is the best chance a lost pet has at going home.

"For the first time in Isaac's history, we are genuinely proud and excited to work with our local Isaac vets to deliver this free and crucial service," Mayor Baker said.

"How many times do we see lost and wandering dogs? It's too many and it's our job as a community to encourage responsible dog ownership and microchipping is amongst it.

"A microchip is permanent identification and for the first time free of charge, it's peace of mind for Isaac's dog owners."



Cr Simon West, who chairs the Domestic Dog Advisory Committee, said a microchip – the size of a grain of rice – is implanted near the dog's shoulders.

"A microchip is not a tracking device – it stores a dog's unique identification number, which is linked to a database registry which includes important information such as the breed and the owner's contact details. The information is only activated using a scanner used by a Council compliance officer or a vet," he said.

"We strongly encourage you to bring your dog to get microchipped at our on-the-spot clinics.

"Those who register through Council's new engagement platform Speak Up will receive a free leash and waste dispenser for you and your pooch's next walk together.

"If your dog is currently unregistered, you will also receive free registration until 30 June 2021 during your pop-up visit."

If your dog is feeling unwell, please call your local vet directly. This is only a microchip check clinic for dogs.

Clermont, Dysart and Middlemount have had their free clinics in October and November. Moranbah is up next on 13 December 2020 and Nebo on 31 January 2021. Head online to <https://speakup.isaac.qld.gov.au>, click on the Chip N Check icon for more information and to book a spot.



CR SIMON WEST

**DIVISION 4 -
MORANBAH**

P 0429 728 216

E simon.west@isaac.qld.gov.au

Many of us have had the opportunity to spend a lot more time in the company of our pets during the COVID lockdown this year. The human-animal bond is quite strong, and studies have shown that sharing a home with a pet is linked to maintaining better mental health and to reduce loneliness. There's no doubt in Isaac we love our dogs and through our Paws-itive Blueprint for Responsible Dog Ownership, it helps owners know their duty of care, obligations and to ensure community safety. Visit <https://www.isaac.qld.gov.au/community/our-pawsitive-blueprint> and discover it now. Merry Christmas everyone!



MEMORIAL LIVESTREAM GARNERS SUPPORT ACROSS THE GLOBE

Hundreds of viewers watched the Driveways at Dusk livestream last Friday night from their homes, mine sites and local neighbourhoods from four corners of the globe.

The multi-camera livestream from the Moranbah Miners' Memorial in Town Square reached viewers tuning in from the USA, United Kingdom, New Zealand and every state in Australia. There was a 15,000 reach from the official memorial Facebook page.

The event was delivered by the Moranbah Miners' Memorial committee and it made up by local CFMEU, AMWU and ETU lodges and branches plus Isaac Regional Council-appointed members.

Mayor Anne Baker, who was invited to speak by the committee, said since the official opening of this memorial 12 months ago, a Friday early in November as the yellow blossoms fall has become our day to remember the miners who went to work in mines round Moranbah and never came home.

"It is appropriate this memorial stands here in the heart of Moranbah, just as the miners it commemorates are in our hearts," Mayor Baker said.

"These men were fathers, husbands, boyfriends, brothers, uncles, cousins, nephews, best mates and valued members of our community.

"In this quiet, peaceful place, we can reflect on their lives. Families can relax here, children play. Here, we can tell our stories of the men and women who built Moranbah - its mines and its community - and forever remember the sacrifice of these special men."

Mayor Baker said while it is important to have a job, it is even more important to come home from that job, safe and healthy in body and mind, from every shift.

"Enormous strides have been made in miner's health and safety in the last generation - but there is more to be done," she said.

"No-one here today needs to be reminded that protection of our miners is paramount."

Tight-knit invitation only event at the memorial was attended by Isaac Regional Councillors, Senator for Queensland Murray Watt and State Member for Burdekin Dale Last with delegates from the CFMEU, AMWU, ETU, mine rescue teams and health and emergency service representatives.

Deputy Mayor Kelly Vea Vea, who is the Council-appointed member on the Moranbah Miners' Memorial committee said a heartfelt thank you to everyone involved.

"Whether you joined us online, from your driveways or workplace or via 4RFM radio, it showed solidarity in support of these families and the Moranbah miners we've lost," Cr Vea Vea said.

"Thank you for everyone who shared your pictures and memories with us. Thank you to everyone who #putyourlampsout - we will always remember. The committee would like to thank Mayor Baker, Senator Murray Watt, Stephen Smyth, Lyn Matthews, Pastor Luke Collings, the Cookson family and emcee Martin Bowerman.

"A very special thank you to Theresa Malone, our volunteers and our local schools for your time and care.

"Our Moranbah schools and kindergartens embraced driveways at dusk by having important conversations and helping every kid in creating their very own miners' lamp for the Friday event.

"Thank you to Smiths Maintenance, 4RFM Community Radio, Create-A-Sign for their generous contributions and support and to Tropical Exposure for the high definition livestream."

If you missed the Moranbah Miners' Memorial Ceremony on Friday night you can watch the recording here <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=372798580663402>



CR KELLY VEA VEA

**DEPUTY MAYOR
DIVISION 5 -
MORANBAH**

M 0437 018 184

E kelly.veavea@isaac.qld.gov.au

Thank you so much for your overwhelming response to Driveways at Dusk in November. It was truly sobering to have a community come together, get creative in making their very own miners' lamps and honour the lives of those who went to work in the Moranbah mines and never came home. It was a different experience to last year's Moranbah Miners' Memorial event thanks to COVID but the genuine heart and soul was honoured in a respectful community way. For many of our families, Christmas is a tough time, my thoughts are with you.



Isaac Regional Council Mayor Anne Baker presents Frank Finger, Cathy Finger, Scott Finger and Natalie Finger from Hillview Cattle Co with the Grand Champion Exhibit prize alongside Tony Hoch and Jake Passfield from Hoch and Wilkinson at the recent 2020 Clermont Beef Expo.

RESILIENCE SHINES AT CLERMONT'S PREMIER BEEF EVENT

The Isaac region's reputation as one of Queensland's agricultural powerhouses was highlighted at Clermont's premier beef event. Respected beef producers collected their trophies at Clermont Showgrounds and Saleyards where the outstanding 2020 Clermont Beef Expo was staged.

Mayor Anne Baker attended to present the Finger family from Hillview Cattle Co, who claimed Isaac Regional Council's Grand Champion Exhibit of the day.

"Now, more than ever, these events to celebrate our agricultural industry are truly a celebration of our community especially during these tough times," Mayor Baker said.

"Alongside mining, agriculture remains a critical industry to our Isaac region, employing 5.1 percent of the Isaac workforce and

grossing \$374 million in agricultural commodities.

"A genuine and heartfelt congratulations to the Finger family for their Grand Champion Exhibit win for their pen of Simmental cross, and of course to all our winners across the region."

Mayor Baker said despite the challenging times the industry continues to conquer, the Isaac region's beef line-up continues to impress.

"Council congratulates Hoch and Wilkinson, the organising committee, members and volunteers for their hard work in bringing our agricultural community together today in these unprecedented times," she said.

"It is a true example of the pure people power which drives our local communities."



**WE'RE
TOTES
POOL
FOR THE
SUMMER**

CHECK ISAAC.QLD.GOV.AU FOR OUR POOL LOCATIONS AND OPENING TIMES



CR LYNETTE JONES

**DIVISION 6 -
CLERMONT**

M 0418 953 084

E lynette.jones@isaac.qld.gov.au

The launch of Shop Isaac this year was extremely important for our community. It promotes and endorses the choices that matter. When we choose to shop in our town, we choose jobs for our family members, we choose to give our towns the chance to thrive with unique offerings with personality and we choose strong communities. So, this Christmas, buy local, it's the greatest gift you can give our regional businesses. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



GAP ANALYSIS ON UNMET YOUTH NEEDS NOW UNDERWAY IN ISAAC

A research exercise to better understand the many challenges young people face in accessing support in the Isaac region is underway.

Greater Whitsunday Communities has been engaged by Isaac Regional Council to conduct research to identify the unmet needs of young people aged 10-18 years within the Isaac region.

The Isaac Youth Unmet Needs project is collecting data anonymously from youth service providers on barriers they face in delivering services to young people, and especially on service needs that are not currently being met.

Mayor Anne Baker said with limited specialist support services available across the region, many young people are not receiving the help that they need in addressing critical issues.

“Council is investing \$50,000 in this study and it the first step in a two-step process,” she said.

“The first step is to analyse what are the unmet needs of youth in the Isaac region. The second step will be to examine how to best meet those needs.

“This is, in a nutshell, a gap analysis of youth programs and events which support young people through the region and develop an advocacy and facilitation plan to address priority gaps.

“The information gathered will also assist Isaac Regional Council in guiding policy development for young people and their families.”

Greater Whitsunday Communities Senior Coordinator Dorne Wallace said it is crucial to engage with young people themselves to discuss what issues they have faced in the Isaac region.

Emergency and Long-Term Accommodation Moranbah service coordinator Tracy Chapman said giving young people an opportunity to voice their opinions about what would be most beneficial to meeting their needs is a powerful catalyst for change.

Early engagement with young people has revealed concerns about self-esteem, bullying, mental health, schooling and a lack of training, higher education and employment opportunities.

Izzy Turns, a youth member of the Isaac Youth Unmet Needs Advisory Group, said she cannot wait to see this project progress.

“Being just one of the voices for the youth within our region provides great opportunities to guide the development of the project and ensure barriers for youth are identified for opportunity for change,” she said.

Youth service providers, 10-18-years-olds and their parents can access the anonymous Isaac Youth Unmet Needs survey via the following link: <https://speakup.isaac.qld.gov.au/isaac-youth-unmet-needs> or by calling research coordinator Kelly McGrath on 0427 544 119.

The online survey closes at midnight on Thursday, 31 December 2020, while youth interviews and focus group discussions will continue through February 2021. The Isaac Youth Unmet Needs final report will be published by June 2021.



CR JANE PICKELS

**DIVISION 7 -
MIDDLEMOUNT**

M 0427 635 124

E jane.pickels@isaac.qld.gov.au

One thing that 2020 has taught us is home is where the heart is. This goes for discovering our very own regional backyard. We are a big region – almost 60,000 square kilometres – with lots of beautiful beaches and bush to explore. Already, tourism is the third most valuable industry in the Isaac region, worth more than \$190 million a year and directly employing approximately 1,000 people. If you’re travelling our beautiful countryside, remember to stay safe on our roads. As 2020 draws to a close, thank you for your support this year. Merry Christmas and see you in 2021.



Rosie Byers, Isaac Regional Council Deputy Mayor Kelly Ve Ve, John Lloyd and Dan Lockyer with Shirley Byers, Community Relations Officer Jennifer Ennis, Brooke McReynolds and Jeannie Lockyer.

RHYMES AND RHYTHM RETURN TO HISTORIC NEBO

Everyday life in rural and regional Australia turned into a humble bunch of poetic yarns of courage, humour and heartbreak at the recent Nebo Bush Poet's Smoko.

More than 20 people gathered at Nebo Memorial Hall as it came alive with history, tall tales and a swag of poetry.

Isaac Regional Council Deputy Mayor Kelly Ve Ve said the historic town celebrated 19 years of spinning bush yarns.

"Those attended were treated to an array of poetry and songs by performers of all ages," Cr Ve Ve said.

"As well as Nebo locals, poets came from Mackay, Moranbah and Homebush to share their love of the spoken word. Emcee Dan Lockyer kept the program running smoothly with the highlights being performances by Brooke McReynolds and John Lloyd."

Cr Ve Ve acknowledged the event was made possible each year thanks to the pure people power of those involved behind the scenes.

"An event like this doesn't happen without a lot of organisation and co-ordination," she said.

"We appreciate the efforts of all the Council staff and volunteers who helped to organise and host this year's Bush Poet's Smoko and we are already looking forward to next year's event.

"Rosanne Byers was the lucky winner of set of leather bags hand-crafted by Nebo leatherwork artist, Mary-Ellen McEvoy. The bags were donated to the Nebo Community Sport and Rec Club Inc who conducted the popular raffle that was drawn at Nebo Bush Poet's Smoko. A big thankyou to Dot Lindel and the Nebo Community Sport and Rec club for their contribution to the event."

"It's great to see our traditions continue under this new normal we all find ourselves in and Council continues to make every effort to ensure all our the COVID Safe Event Checklist provided by Queensland Health is adhered to."

WE'RE ALL PART OF THE STORY.



Australia Day
Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

January 26 is Australia Day, our nation's day to celebrate everything Aussie and thank great local people who roll up their sleeves and make a difference. With a range of events happening throughout the Isaac region, there's a line-up of classic Aussie fun to be had by the whole family. To check out what might be happening in your town go to Isaac Regional Council's website this January.



CR VIV COLEMAN

**DIVISION 8 -
NEBO AND SURROUNDS**

M 0419 724 172

E viv.coleman@isaac.qld.gov.au

Since the election in April, I have learned so many new and wonderful things about Division 8 and our Isaac region. On my travels I have met many residents and have learnt that our region is filled many special places with proud and diverse people. Although we are resilient there's lots of things we'd like to control but the weather is one we can't. What we can control is how we prepare ourselves in response to natural disasters. Be better equipped and be informed and visit <http://dashboard.isaac.qld.gov.au/> - it's real updates in real time especially during the festive season and beyond. Thank you for welcoming me to represent you in Division 8, I wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

ISAAC REGION'S

DISASTER DASHBOARD



**LATEST
UPDATES**



**ROAD
CONDITIONS**



**POWER
OUTAGES**



**WEATHER
WARNINGS**

dashboard.isaac.qld.gov.au