

Fuel for Thought

Enriching our city

Despite being an industrial city, Gladstone has so many more facets which add to the richness and diversity of our community. One of those elements is culture, and during the past week or so we have been embracing some key cultural activities.



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Last weekend we saw the official opening of the much-anticipated Rio Tinto Alcan Martin Hanson Memorial Art Awards. We really are privileged to be able to enjoy the artistic talent that exists in our midst, and it was wonderful to see a number of our local artists scoop the prize pool from entries that came from around Queensland and further afield. QER is very pleased to be a regular sponsor of the event and contribute to this important part of our community.

This week I read with interest the daily activities our Gladstone delegation is experiencing as part of Gladstone's recently-renewed formal agreement and 15th anniversary of friendship with our Sister City of Saiki in Japan. The exchange of business ideas and cultural heritage is an important aspect of our Sister City relationship which is also strengthened by our local youth benefiting from the student exchange programme.

I am certain that Gladstone benefits from its sister relationship with Saiki in much the same way as we at QER have gained from the involvement with our sister company, Shale Tech International (STI), in the United States.

Being able to fully test the Paraho II™ technology at STI's pilot plant in Colorado over a five-year period has contributed greatly to our construction and initial operations of the technology demonstration plant at our New Fuels Development Centre at Yarwun.

Often the experiences gained from working with people and resources internationally can lead to significant benefits – that is why people find travelling such an enriching experience. It is also why our city is enriched by our relationship with Saiki.

And it is why all of us are enriched when people come to visit Gladstone, or move to our wonderful city.



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