



**Longreach
Regional Council**
Ilfracombe Isisford Longreach Yaraka

Council news

Ilfracombe | Isisford | Longreach | Yaraka

MAY 2024 - EDITION 17



ANZAC Day

Across the rugged landscapes of Outback Queensland, the spirit of ANZAC Day resonates deeply, bringing communities together in solemn remembrance and heartfelt gratitude for the sacrifices made by servicemen and women. In all towns Yaraka, Isisford, Ilfracombe, and Longreach, ANZAC Day services are not just events; they are poignant reminders of the bonds forged through adversity and the enduring legacy of courage and resilience.

The community begins the day with the dawn service, where the eerie silence of the outback is broken by the notes of the Last Post. Afterwards the community gathers for breakfasts to share stories and memories. The day service sees a variety of groups marching to show their respect and commemorate the bravery and selflessness of those who served.

Rayner's Rundown

- with Mayor Tony Rayner

Congratulations to Isisford on reaching the major milestone of 150 years old. The town has come a long way since the Whitman Brothers opened the first store in 1874. Congratulations also to the organising committee for making the anniversary celebrations a success.

Our first Community Engagement Forums for the year have been well attended, with our four communities providing Councillors and senior staff with valuable feedback. The new format for the forums has worked particularly well, enabling one on one discussions between Council and the community. A summary of the issues raised is included in this edition of IILY.

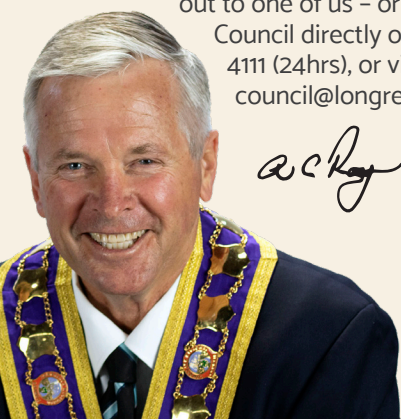
I have just returned from leading a trade delegation of RAPAD, Qld Government and private enterprise representatives to the United States to learn more about the renewable energy industry, and the effect it will have on our communities. The USA is well ahead of Australia in the implementation of renewables into its economy. Whether we like it or not, renewable energy is the future, and we need to ensure it benefits our communities.

Our works crews are busy completing major projects as we near the end of the financial year. The new multipurpose court in Ilfracombe will provide a fantastic new sporting and recreational venue for the community. The new pathway in Duck Street will provide safe access to the Childcare Centre. Replacement of the Talundilly Creek crossing is well under way, providing improved access to and from Isisford for landholders. The truck turnaround in Yaraka now provides sealed access to the fuel depot.

Our new Council is finalising the 2025 Budget which will be adopted on 20 June 2024. The budget sets the program of works for the next 12 months. The full details will be included in the next edition of IILY.

If you prefer, you can talk directly to me or to any of my fellow Councillors - via phone or email - our details are published on our website at longreach.qld.gov.au/elected-members.

If you ever want to know anything at all, reach out to one of us - or contact Council directly on (07) 4658 4111 (24hrs), or via email to council@longreach.qld.gov.au.



Community Forums in the Longreach Region

COMMUNITY

In April, the bi-annual community forums provided a platform for engaging discussions with both the Councillors and the Executive Leadership Team (ELT), fostering idea-sharing, questioning, and connection. Held in each community, these meetings serve as invaluable opportunities to gauge community needs and identify priorities for future budget considerations. In both Longreach and Ilfracombe representatives from the Youth Council were onsite as well to listen in on ideas and provide their own input.

A wide variety of topics were discussed in Longreach including a community hub, better lighting along the botanical walkway to exercise in dusk and dawn, and more trees around town. The Ilfracombe community would like to see an extension of the Machinery Mile into Torrs Road, the addition of better signage at significant spots around town along with a heritage parade to showcase all the history. For Isisford upgrading the sporting facilities is important, childcare and school holiday program options and getting the hall ready for the 150 year celebration in May. Yaraka's focus lies on road improvement and facilities in the township.

This year, a new format was trialled, adopting a World Café style approach. Attendees had the freedom to move from table to table, each representing different topics such as Communities, Children & Youth, Budget, Infrastructure, Tourism & Business, and Customer Service. At each table, both Councillors and staff were available for informal chats. This format facilitated engaging and meaningful conversations, ensuring that every voice was heard.

The community overwhelmingly embraced the new style, offering positive feedback. However, constructive suggestions were also welcomed, demonstrating the commitment to continuous improvement. These forums are an essential part of the vision of connecting Community and Council. In the next edition we will provide an update on the main points discussed.

Did you know?

Queensland grows over 100 different fruit, vegetable and nut crops. Queensland supplies one-third of the nation's fruit, and one-fifth of the nation's vegetables.

We are the key producer of the nations:



Pineapple
99%



Ginger
98%



Banana
94%



Avocado
70%



Capsicum
66%



Macadamias
66%

What are you growing in your garden this season?

For our gardening competition this year we are adding the category vegetable garden! More information in the next edition of IILY.

Give Council a shot

Council made strides at the **Central West Careers Expo**, reaching out to students from Longreach, Winton, and Barcaldine.

Our mission: to gauge youth interests for targeted programs while challenging stereotypes surrounding local government.

Emphasizing creativity and innovation, aimed to inspire young minds to consider public service and fostering direct dialogue with our youth, council gains invaluable insight into community needs and aspirations.

This outreach not only shapes a more informed workforce but also cultivates a culture of civic responsibility and engagement.

As council continues to bridge the gap between government and youth, it lays the groundwork for a more collaborative and prosperous future.



Invasive Plants

Sticky Florestina and **Parthenium** were plants introduced into Australia through the importation of fodder. Even though Sticky Florestina is not yet a declared prohibited/restricted species, like Parthenium it is toxic to stock and can invade native pastures and timber areas. Both plants have a similar flower, however the Parthenium plant forms a rosette type leaf structure. For more information please visit <https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/business-priorities/biosecurity/invasive-plants-animals/fact-sheets>

Our Regulatory Services Team can help identify and advise on treating mature or existing plants and follow-up treatment. For more information visit <https://www.longreach.qld.gov.au/rural-land-management> or give us a call on 07 4658 4111.

Parthenium

Restricted Invasive Plant - Category 3

"Parthenium can be confused with Sticky Florestina which also has small white flowers. It is important to be able to distinguish between them. Parthenium is recognised as a Weed of National Significance" - DAF



Sticky Florestina

Invasive Plant

"Sticky Florestina can be confused with parthenium which also has small white flowers. It is important to be able to distinguish between them" - DAF



Approved Animal Inspection Program

Earlier this year, Council conducted an Approved Inspection Program which involved attending each residential property in the Longreach Council region for animal-related matters.

Council wishes to thank everyone who positively participated in the program, ensuring that they undertook required actions either before the program started or throughout the program as instructed.

For the most part, the community was positive and encouraging and we received many comments about the program being a great initiative and on the front foot for responsible pet ownership across our region.



Minutes in a Minute

May 2024 Council Meeting

Council met for the first Ordinary Meeting of its term at the Council Chambers in Isisford on 16 May. Among other matters:

- ◇ The Isisford Primary School kids.
- ◇ The Audit & Risk committee Report from 17 April was accepted.

Individual Donations

Organisation / Individual	Event/Project Activity	Event Date	Grant Approved
Abbey Dolgner, Angela Doyle, Charlie Farry, Gabi Ward, Katelyn Ballin, Lily Worland, Maddison Paige, Matilda Anderson, Paige Osborne, Prisca Ballin, Tayla Willersdorf, Rebekah Strong, Malcolm Strong, Sarah Strong	Regional Massed Choir	15-20 July 2024	\$350.00 each
Frank Rockett, Macen Palmer	14-15 years Rugby League Team	18-23 May 2024	\$350.00 each
Maria Richards	Jamboree - Longreach Scouts	6-16 January 2025	\$350.00 each
Lara Palmer	North West Touch Football	6-9 June 2024	\$350.00 each
Taya Miller, Havana Elliott, Lara Palmer, Sienna Fuller, Mia Scott, Ella Pitman, Jozette Jones	North West Netball	23-26 May 2024	\$350.00 each
Total			\$8,750.00

Community Donations

Organisation/ Name	Event/Activity	Grant Requested	Grant Approved
Isisford Golf Club	2024 Golf Open	Financial \$3,000.00	Financial \$3,000.00
Isisford Industry Recreation and Development Association	150 years of Isisford	Financial \$5,000.00	Financial \$5,000.00

Our Council meetings are always open to the public, and you can find the full agenda and minutes online at: longreach.qld.gov.au/meetings-agendas-minutes.

23/24

Projects in Focus

♦ Rural Property Signage Installation

New rural property signage has been installed in the Isisford and Yaraka area to assist emergency services and service providers to find properties and improve delivery of services and infrastructure. This project was funded by Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.



♦ Apex Park Beautification

Two shade structures have been installed at Apex Park improving the usability of the four wavy lounge chairs topped off with some pleasant new turf surrounding them. The project is supported by the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

♦ New Center Median Shelter

A new center median shelter has been installed in front of Glasson House on Eagle street. The new asset is part of the Eagle St Beautification Project and is supported by the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.



♦ Footpath Connecting Eagle Street and Childcare

To secure safe passage from the CBD to the childcare along Duck Street, a new footpath has been installed. This project was funded by Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.



AMAZING RACE - QUEENSLAND DAY EDITION

meat smoking competition | colour run
mario cart comp | kids corner

9 June 2024, 9am to 2pm
Longreach Showgrounds

Presented by



Proudly supported by



Safe guard and maximise the potential of your technology

In the fast-paced world of technology, where innovations seemingly evolve overnight, it's easy to overlook the significance of keeping your devices up to date.

Whether it's your smartphone, laptop, tablet, or even your smart fridge, regular updates play a crucial role in ensuring optimal performance, security, and functionality.

Remember, it's not just about staying current – it's about safeguarding and maximising the potential of your technology.

To find out more way to improve your cyber security visit www.cyber.gov.au/learn-basics



Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we operate. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.



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