

City takes root

MORE than 1000 Mackay residents contributed to the soaring cardboard city that has taken root in Artspace Mackay. Spanning the length of the FIELD Engineers Gallery, the cardboard installation, Take Root (Colony), is the latest work by Alfredo and Isabel Aquilizan, an artist couple known for elaborate cardboard constructions. Take Root may be the biggest, most elaborate, exhibition ever to sit inside the walls of Artspace Mackay. The exhibition is on show until August 14.

NAIDOC Week

COUNCIL will be supporting a series of activities for NAIDOC Week. The week will kick off with a Flag Raising Ceremony and Cultural Activities on Monday, July 8, from 10am at council's Civic Precinct. Artspace will then host a Drawing with Language holiday activity from Monday, July 8, to Sunday, July 14 (10am to 5pm weekdays and 10am to 3pm on the weekend). Mackay Regional Council Libraries are also hosting activities, readings and workshops from Tuesday, July 9, at various branches. Details at mackay.qld.gov.au/whatson. The NAIDOC Street Parade and Family Day will close out the week on Friday, July 12. The march assembles at Macalister Street from 9am for a 10am start. The Family Day begins in Queens Park at 11am and runs until 4pm.

Library survey

MACKAY Regional Council Libraries are conducting their yearly customer satisfaction survey and they'd love to hear from you. The survey runs until June 24. Help us to improve library services by taking the survey and go in the draw for a \$100 Wish Gift Card. Take the survey today at www.bit.ly/2XKzXj9

Register pets

MACKAY Regional Council is currently in the pet registration discount period. Register before July 31 and take advantage of huge savings. Visit mackay.qld.gov.au to register. Or, visit our Pet Registration Day on Saturday, July 27, 9am to noon, on council's front lawn.

SUNS kick off big day of footy action

Watch the women's team take on the Brisbane Lions in Mackay and stay on to catch Origin on big screen

MACKAY sports fans will be spoilt for footy action this Sunday.

With State of Origin being played in Perth on Sunday night, what better way to warm up than watch some female stars of another footy code live in Mackay.

The Gold Coast SUNS take on the Brisbane Lions in a Women's Winter Series game at Harrup Park's Great Barrier Reef Arena at noon.

As well as this game, the SUNS will also play one

AFLW Premiership game in Mackay for the next three years as part of a partnership deal with council and its Mackay Waterfront Priority Development Area.

Best of all, entry to this Sunday's game is free.

Mayor Greg Williamson said there had been huge interest in women's AFL since a national competition was launched three years ago.

"The SUNS are joining the AFLW competition next year and it will be great

to see them take on the other Queensland side, the Brisbane Lions, in Mackay," he said.

"There is added interest as former Mackay players Lauren Bella and Emma Pittman have been signed by the SUNS from the Brisbane Lions."

Cr Williamson said sporting spectacles, such as Brisbane Heat WBBL cricket matches, had been extremely popular at Harrup Park's Great Barrier Reef Arena in recent years.



Gold Coast SUNS celebrate against the Brisbane Lions at Metricon Stadium, with Mackay Waterfront signage in the background. The two sides clash in a Winter Series game in Mackay this Sunday.

"The Brisbane Heat WBBL matches, in particular, have drawn big crowds. They've also been free family events like the AFL will be this weekend."

Harrup Park general manager

Matt Cielens said there would be some food vendors and children's activities, such as a jumping castle and face painting, at the AFL game.

"Sports fans can come down to Harrup Park and make a

day of it by staying on after the AFL game for dinner and to catch the rugby league State of Origin action live on our huge six-metre by three-metre big screen," he said.

Roll up and win at show display

COUNCIL'S display at the Mackay Show is a show stopper.

There are heaps of giveaways and prizes up for grabs, including a Cowboys Experience game package, a \$500 mountain bike (thanks to Mackay Cycles), two free MECC tickets, free water bottles, calico bags, rubber balls and dog leads.

Simply pop into the display for a chance to win.

Mayor Greg Williamson said councillors were attending during peak times to meet with residents.

"The public can sit down and have a 'cuppa' with a councillor in the Capital Works booth," Cr Williamson said.

"Sunny the Gold Coast



The Mackay Regional Council display at the Mackay Show has been a popular attraction in recent years.

SUNS mascot will also make an appearance, with heaps of giveaways to hand out," he said.

A wide cross section of council staff will be on hand, ranging from Libraries and Economic Development to

Parks and Environment and Local Laws officers.

Show-goers will also be able

to rehydrate at a free water bottle refill station, set up by Mackay Water Services.

The 20-metre-long mobile library will be on display at the Mackay Show for the first time, allowing residents to browse the latest in digital and print resources.

As part of the Park's display area, Mackay Institute of Research and Innovation is offering free health checks today from 10am to 3pm.

Mackay Tourism will also have a display area, launching their "101 things to do in Mackay" competition and campaign.

The council show display is located in Pavilion 2 at the Mackay Showgrounds. It is open until 8.30pm today (Wednesday, June 19) and from 9am to 4pm tomorrow.

>> For the latest news about the Winter Series game between the Gold Coast SUNS and Brisbane Lions, check out the SUNS' website at goldcoastfc.com.au

>> To find out more at Mackay Regional Council's show display before heading along, visit mackay.qld.gov.au/mackayshow

Your guide to staging events

DO you have an idea for an event but don't know where to start?

Council has recently created an event guide on its website with everything you need to know about organising and running an event in the Mackay region.

Cr Justin Englert said the website information was a one-stop shop for event management.

"The guide has been developed to assist event coordinators with all their behind-the-scenes administration requirements," he said.

"It includes information on council regulations and fees, grants and sponsorship opportunities, guidelines regarding safety and notifications to stakeholders and access to useful event planning resources.

"It has been created to ensure nothing gets overlooked in the event planning stages."



Council's website has a one-stop page for events.

Cr Englert said the online event guide also detailed changes to permit deadlines to take effect from July 1.

"Permits for events must be submitted a minimum of three months before an event, or six

months before a major event that has over 5000 people attending and requires traffic management," he said.

"Permits submitted after the deadline will be subject to a priority application fee."

>> The event guide is available online at mackay.qld.gov.au/eventmanagement



G&S ENGINEERING WINE AND FOOD DAY
Saturday, July 20,
10.30am to 5.30pm
Queens Park Mackay

FESTIVAL CLUB
Saturday, July 20,
6.30pm to 10pm
MECC Plenary Halls

LOOSE ENDS
Sunday, July 21, 2pm
at Pinnacle Playhouse; and
Tuesday, July 23, 10am
at Sarina Bob Wood Cultural Hall

DBCT ILLUMINATE
Monday, July 22, to Friday, July 26,
6pm to 9pm
Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens

JACK STURGEON STAGE
Local performers offering free
entertainment at DBCT Illuminate
Wednesday (July 24) to Friday
(July 26), 6pm to 9pm.

WOLFGANG'S MAGICAL MUSICAL CIRCUS BY CIRCA
Tuesday, July 23, from 6.30pm
MECC Auditorium

COURSES IN COLOUR
Friday, July 26, 6.30pm
MECC Lynette Denny Space

OPERA AUSTRALIA'S MADAMA BUTTERFLY
Saturday, July 27, from 7.30pm
MECC Auditorium

FRIENDS OF THE MECC JAZZ BRUNCH
Sunday, July 28, 11am to 1pm
MECC North Foyer

FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

FESTIVAL GOES MENTAL

THEY'RE ARIA Hall of Fame inductees and have 25 Top 40 Australian hits.

They're Mental as Anything and they're coming to Mackay in July.

Mayor Greg Williamson said "The Mentals" would headline the main stage at the G&S Engineering Food and Wine Day on July 20.

"The Mentals are a legendary Australian pop rock band that have had more hits than you can poke a stick at," Cr Williamson said.

"Ask any long-serving Aussie publican what their most prominent jukebox plays have been over the last 40 years and songs like 'The Nips are Getting Bigger', 'If You Leave Me, Can I Come Too', 'Too Many Times' and 'Live It Up' will undoubtedly be on their lists," he said.

Mental as Anything's Greedy Smith said there were a variety of reasons why The Mentals had been drawing



Mental as Anything are coming to Mackay in July.

crowds in the thousands since 1977.

He said a catalogue of hit songs was a factor, as people knew the songs, but it was mostly just because Mental as Anything's music made people feel good.

The legendary Aus-rockers won't be the only drawcard at our region's biggest outdoor food and wine event.

"Our Festivals team has gone all out this year – there will be two stages hosting 13 bands, a kidzone, more than 30 food vendors and

one cracker of a long table brunch," Cr Williamson said.

"The Local Long Table Farmer's Brunch is something council is putting on in partnership with the Greater Whitsunday Food Network," he said.

"All the food and beverages come from local farms and producers and the menu is curated by talented food artists and chefs."

The G&S Engineering Wine and Food Day will be held at Queens Park from 10.30am to 5.30pm.

>> For a full line-up of the day's entertainment, head to themecc.com.au



Council's Waste Education officer Fiona Paterson (right) goes through the steps in the Waste Minimisation Action Plan with Foodspace's Roxie Bovey.

Is your business waste levy ready?

MACKAY region businesses can access free waste minimisation education sessions from council's Waste Education officer.

Council is offering the sessions to assist businesses with the introduction of the Queensland Government's \$75 per tonne levy on waste going to landfill from July 1.

Cr Laurence Bonaventura said council was working to

provide businesses with as much information as possible to reduce the levy's impact.

"All businesses in the Mackay region will incur the levy," he said.

"The sessions will go through a step-by-step guide on how business owners and operators can reduce waste, separate waste streams and recycle more to help reduce waste disposal costs."

Council's website also has important information and links to websites.

The links include the Queensland Government's Waste Disposal Levy website (www.qld.gov.au/wastedisposallevy), Planet Ark Business Recycling (www.businessrecycling.com.au) and ecoBiz (www.cciqecobiz.com.au), which offers free tailored advice on reducing business waste.

>> For more information, or to register, go to mackay.qld.gov.au/businesswaste