

Art auction

THE Ray White Mackay City Articulate: Postcard Exhibition and Competition fundraising event will feature a sale of more than 170 miniature canvas artworks. Held this Friday, October 19, at Artspace Mackay, a selection of high-profile works will go under the hammer. The Postcard event is a wonderful way to acquire works and at the same time know you are supporting your regional gallery, Artspace Mackay. To more information and to view a catalogue of works, head to artspacemackay.com.au

Aquatics plan

COUNCIL is seeking input into a review of our aquatic facilities to help map out a strategy for the next 15 years. The review will assist council to deliver aquatic facilities that are easily available and will meet the needs of our growing community. Mayor Greg Williamson said council officers would be holding pop-up stalls at various locations around the region to gain as much feedback as possible. Locations and times of pop-up stalls and an online survey can be found at connectingmackay.com.au

Refund scheme

RESIDENTS will soon be able to make a little extra cash and save the environment at the same time with the introduction of the State Government's Containers for Change Scheme from November 1. Eligible containers are limited to those drink containers between 150ml and three litres. Cordials, plain milk, wine and spirit bottles are not included. Containers can be returned to one of 17 container refund schemes across the region for a 10-cent refund. More details at containersforchange.com.au/how-it-works

Kids Art Class

ARTSPACE Mackay's Kids Art Club kicks off term four from October 27. Renowned local artist Rosemary Payne delivers this rich six week program of creative art for kids in two age groups. Each week they explore and respond to the exhibitions on show at Artspace Mackay through fun-filled art activities. Book now by calling 4961 9722.

Visitors flock to the Sugar City

NEARLY 10 per cent of the 4500-strong crowd at Sugar City Sounds had travelled to Mackay for the fantastic line-up of Aussie entertainment.

They came from as far away as the Central Coast of New South Wales to rock out at Sugar City Sounds 2018.

Held at BB Print Stadium Mackay last month, the concert was headlined by Pete Murray, Birds of Tokyo and The Living End.

to Mackay for the concert event.

"That is great news as these visitors tend to stay in the region for at least one night, providing an economic boost," Cr Camm said.

"They book hotel or motel accommodation and dine out at our eateries," she said.

"That equates to hundreds of thousands of dollars being injected into the economy from visitors alone."

Local band ALT also played at the start of the concert after being chosen by judges in a competition staged to decide on an opening act.

Deputy Mayor Amanda Camm said a post-event analysis of ticket sales showed that a good portion of the crowd had travelled

Among the visitors at Sugar City Sounds, the Rockhampton/Gladstone region was best represented, with 23 per cent of ticket sales from outside our region.

This was followed by Proserpine/Airlie Beach with



The Living End rocks out at Sugar City Sounds 2018 in Mackay.

21 per cent and Townsville on 15 per cent.

"Interestingly, we had visitors from all over Queensland to the south of Mackay, but none north of Townsville were recorded in the ticket sales system," she said.

"That area north of Townsville could be an area to target with marketing of future concert events in Mackay. It isn't too far to travel for top-level entertainment."

"The other 40 per cent of visitors were spread from Baerami north," Cr Camm said.

>> Last month's Sugar City Sounds 2018 was proudly presented by Q Live in association with Mackay Regional Council and the MECC

Food drive launched

FOOD – it's something many of us take for granted.

However, the harsh reality is that many residents of our region do go hungry and are unable to afford the ingredients of a simple meal.

Anglicare Mackay Whitsunday director John Langford said the charity organisation gave away up to 50 food parcels a week to locals who would otherwise go without.

Mayor Greg Williamson said council was leading an anti-poverty food drive to help local charities which supported those who experienced poverty in our region.

He said the food drive had become a regular council campaign each year centred around Anti-Poverty Week (October 14 to 20).

"We are asking for non-perishable food items and toiletries that are in date and undamaged," Cr Williamson said.

"These can be dropped to many of our libraries or customer service centres," he said. "At the end of Anti-Poverty Week we will then distribute everything to the Sarina Inter Church Council, St Pauls Uniting Church and Anglicare Mackay for distribution to those in need."



John Langford and Rev Dr Julia Pitman with some food items that will be given to the needy.

Learn how to be prepared

HERE'S a great chance to combine a spot of shopping with learning how to be prepared for a cyclone or other natural disasters.

Cyclone Saturday will be staged next month on November 10 at Caneland Central near Target.

Mayor Greg Williamson, who is chair of the Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG), said Cyclone Saturday was a convenient way for residents to access all the information they needed to ensure they

were ready for storm season.

"As well as council representatives, other important agencies ranging from police and Queensland to SES will be represented," Cr Williamson said.

"This is a great chance to talk to the experts at the same time in one place," he said.

"Residents will be able to find out about the new Emergency Dashboard on council's website, which has the latest important

information when a natural disaster threatens. This can be accessed on computers, smart phones or tablets.

"Residents can also grab a copy of our Emergency Action Guide, which has just been updated, and check out the latest evacuation maps, both for storm surge and Pioneer River riverine flooding.

"Now is the time to get ready for storm season, not when a natural disaster is threatening our region."

>> Go into the draw to win a generator when you attend Cyclone Saturday

Take taste buds on world global tour

Global Grooves promises diverse menu of culinary delights and a wonderful line-up of entertainment

FROM Indian, Filipino, German, Italian and Thai to Pakistani, Maltese, Fijian and Chinese - there will be something exciting to tantalise your tastes at this year's Global Grooves Festival.

In fact, with an amazing 30 food vendors on offer, Cr Justin Englert said dining at the festival would be like taking your taste buds on a world tour.

"Honestly, other than jumping on a plane and flying to exotic destinations, this is your best chance to

try authentic global food created by an amazing array of cooks from different cultures," Cr Englert said.

Global Grooves is a free event that will take over Queens Park on Saturday, October 27.

Running from 3pm to 8pm, the event will feature a program of global music and dance and a fireworks finale.

"This is an amazing evening out for the whole family," Cr Englert said.

"This year's headline band,

Babash, deliver a distinctly Caribbean performance full of fun and colour with music that feels like it's straight from a street party in Trinidad," he said.

"These guys won't rest until the dance floor is full and grooving."

Cr Englert said, while Babash would close out the evening with a high-energy set that literally finished with a bang thanks to the fireworks, there would be no shortage of colour, costumes, dance and music throughout the afternoon.

"Fifteen dance groups, bands, musicians and cultural performance groups will bring the stage to life," he said.

"If that's not enough, there will also be market stalls and interactive workshops held under a workshop tent.

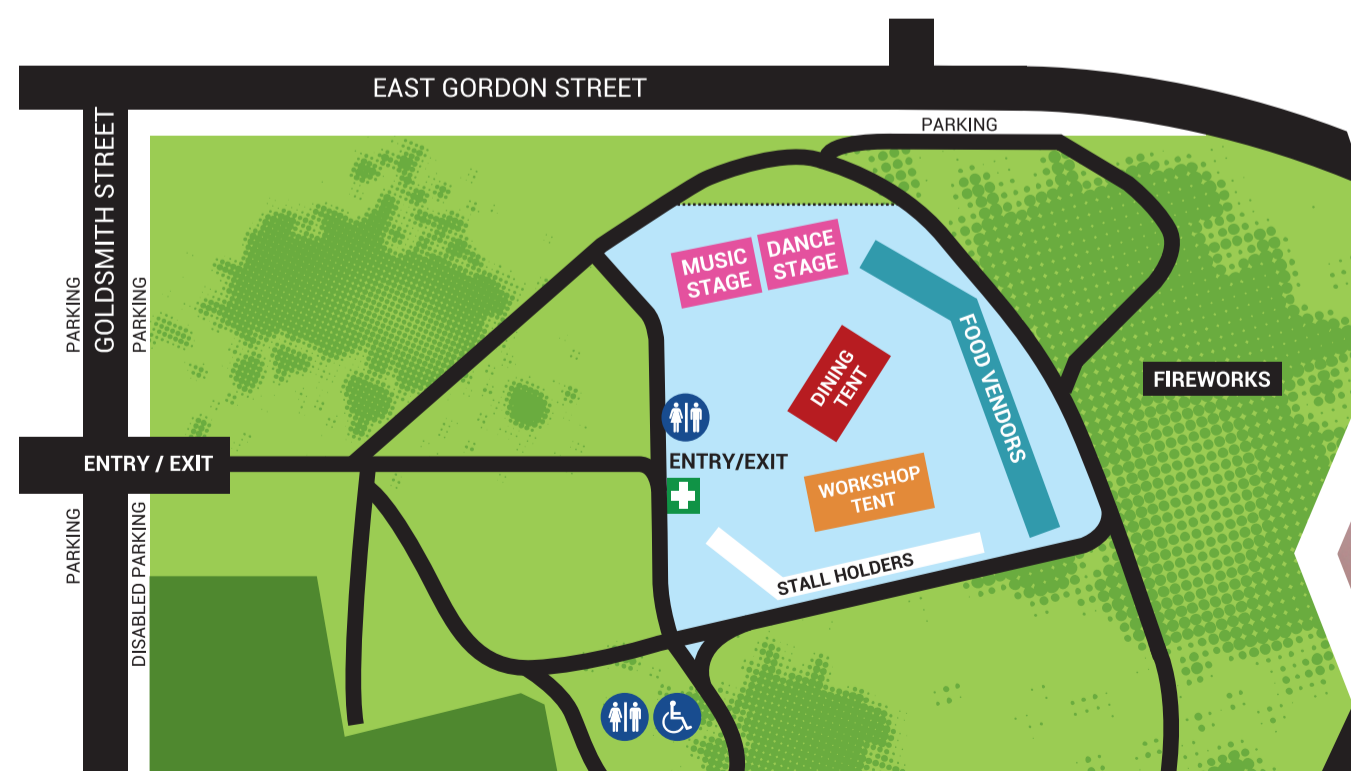
"These will include workshops offering instruction in African drumming and a local indigenous artist doing dot painting. The night will finish with a bang, culminating in a family fireworks display, which will be just as colourful as some of the dance groups' costumes."

Main Stage

3.00pm	2018 Global Grooves Opening
3.10pm	Viva
3.40pm	Diranga Gangali Aboriginal Dancers
4.00pm	Mackay Filipino-Australian Society Inc
4.10pm	Elena's Fitness Fusion Zumba Crew
4.20pm	Mackay And District Pipe Band
4.30pm	Thai Aussie Community
4.50pm	Singer, TJ Evans, Solomon Islands
5.00pm	GripSol
5.20pm	Nepalese Australian Association of Mackay Region
5.30pm	Manea Pearl Dancers
5.50pm	Mackay Host Lions PIC - Pasifik Flavaz
6.10pm	George St Neighbourhood Centre World Café Multicultural Groups
6.20pm	VaMa Music
6.50pm	Fiji Association Mackay Region
7.00pm	Mackay Chinese Association
7.10pm	Babash
8.00pm	Mr Fireworks



Global Grooves 2018 headline act Babash.



>> For more information on this month's Global Grooves 2018, follow Mackay Festival on Facebook or head over to themecc.com.au/festivals