Welcome...

There is good reason for the optimism that I come across for our region and its future. Both residents and visitors comment to me on the positives of the Gympie region, the projects being rolled out and the new initiatives being implemented. Council has an important part to play in this, but the role of other levels of government also needs to be acknowledged. There is no doubt the completion of section C of the Bruce Highway upgrade (funded by the federal and state governments) which brings four lanes to the front door of Gympie has had a major impact. Council is partnering with the federal government on key projects such as the rejuvenation of upper Mary Street and were key partners for the incredibly successful Gympie Aquatic Recreation Centre.

Council’s investment in a range of community building infrastructure, whether that be community facilities such as the new Curra Hall, or projects which drive economic activity such as the Rattler, simply reflects Council’s overarching responsibility to plan for the future of the region, act in the public interest, and create an environment which makes us the natural choice to live, work and play.

The Rattler has been a challenging project but it is great to now see it back on the track and taking residents and visitors through the Mary Valley to Amamoor. The project will not only provide economic benefit to the region but it also acknowledges the vital role rail has played in the social and cultural history of the Gympie region.

Special tribute must be made to the Rattler Railway Company, the entity created by Council to run the Rattler. Its Board, led by chairperson Ian McNicol, has put in hundreds of hours to the project and we are grateful for their hard work and perseverance.

Finally I want to highlight the incredible work the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services, volunteers and everyone on the ground achieved during the Woolooga fires, without any homes lost. To the community Emergency Services, volunteers and everyone on the ground achieved, we are grateful for their hard work and perseverance.

The budget also includes:

- $4.3 million for our parks network such as recreation parks, sports grounds, recreation trails, landscaping, tree management and foreshore vegetation.
- $8.7 million towards the region’s waste services and facilities, including $1.3 million to commence the design phase and the beginning of construction of the new Waste Management Transfer Station.

The $2.8 million youth precinct at Nelson Reserve and the old Gympie Memorial Pool site will become a hub for not only our youth, but families with a skate bowl, bouldering wall and pump track. Plus Council will deliver the Kilkivan Equestrian Centre with $2.065 million. The Mary Valley will see the $300,000 Mary Valley Rail Trail from Imbil to Brooloo.

You can find the full budget at gympie.qld.gov.au.

2018/2019 Council Budget

The 2018/19 Budget continues to deliver on Council’s Corporate Plan and includes many projects around the region, in addition to Council’s core business such as roads and rubbish. Council’s total budget is $138.4 million.

Over $27 million will be spent on our road network across the region:

- $3 million for bridge replacements,
- $3.5 million on gravel road sealing,
- $7 million on road maintenance and an additional $500,000 for unsealed road maintenance.

Council has allocated $2.5 million for our mowing and slashing work across the region.

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Rates

Rates income form part of the budget with the average ratepayer experiencing a rate increase of 2.5 per cent. The rate payments can vary depending on the value of your property e.g. the higher the value of your property, the higher your rates may be.

In the Gympie region there are 24,922 properties that pay rates. Of these, the weekly increase breakdown is:

- Greater than $10.01: 246
- $5.01 to $10.00: 774
- $2.01 to $5.00: 7,968
- $1.01 to $2.00: 10,899
- Less than $1.00: 5,035
- Total: 24,922

Why do we have a rate increase?

Rates are calculated on a number of factors, such as the unimproved capital value of a property as set by the state government.

Also, just as your power bill or cost of material increases, these costs also increase for Council.

You can find more information at gympie.qld.com.au.
The Mary Valley Heritage Railway was an icon of the Gympie region from 1998, providing a 43 kilometer heritage rail experience from Old Gympie Station to Imbil.

In October 2012, the Mary Valley Heritage Railway Museum Association Inc. ceased operation of the Valley Rattler when its accreditation was revoked by the Rail Safety Regulator (Department of Transport and Main Roads) following two minor derailments.

The closure of the Valley Rattler in 2012 which was bringing in approximately 30,000 visitors per year, had an economic impact on local businesses who reported a reduction in visitor numbers.

In April 2014, Council established The Rattler Railway Company Limited as an independent trading company and governed by a board of directors appointed from Gympie and the wider region, with skills and experience in tourism, business and heritage rail.

Various agencies have invested an enormous amount of work in the project over the last four years, with many operating scenarios investigated. Whilst initially running the track to Imbil was considered, the cost was too high and the decision was made to run the train to Amamoor.

The major part of the project has been the upgrading of the infrastructure including the track, bridges and various buildings.

While Council has been focused on the infrastructure, the Rattler Railway Company through its skills-based board has put enormous effort into the operational side including building the volunteer base, meeting a range of regulatory and compliance requirements, and generating a hive of activity at the station, particularly through the operation of the highly successful café.

The project has been extremely fortunate, attracting $7 million in funding from the Queensland Government, which is recognition of the fact that the revived Rattler is seen as a unique and important tourism attraction for Queensland.

As work commenced, it was discovered more work would be required on the track and bridges. This work was not in the reports prepared for Council and it was clear the tender documents prepared were deficient. This was disappointing and legal review of the documents is underway.

The project has exceeded the original budget of $10.8 million, totalling just over $17 million, however Council has continued with its delivery, conscious of not only the economic benefit it will bring to the region, but also of the place the Gympie Station and the Mary Valley rail line plays in the social and cultural history of the region.

The work that has been completed is extensive, with over 75,000 hours of labour delivered for the project, including the station and the 15 bridges.

For example, Crescent Road bridge was built in the 1880’s and major work was needed to get the 130 year old bridge up to specification. The 15 bridges are now in the best condition they have been since their construction more than 100 years ago.

As with any restoration, the Rattler Project has been challenging, with several issues found only when lifting the track or removing structures.

The work delivered with pride and passion by staff, contractors and volunteers has been outstanding, with local businesses and contractors used at every opportunity.

This is a project the community can be proud of, and one which will encourage visitors to our region and highlight the Gympie region as a destination for many years to come.
Volunteers are the heart and soul of the Mary Valley Rattler both at the historic Gympie station and on the fleet of historic locomotive engines and carriages. From restoring and maintaining the trains themselves to working throughout all aspects of the tourism operations, volunteers offer vital services and ensure the guests have an authentic heritage rail experience. Would you like to become a volunteer? Regardless of previous work history, anyone can make a valuable contribution in a wide variety of roles, from duties on board a heritage locomotive to helping out in the Platform No. 1 Café.

Volunteer Peter Alder grew up in Gympie. “I started volunteering as a carriage attendant for the Mary Valley Heritage Railway in 2000. I enjoyed talking to the passengers, being their guide for the day, helping them to step back in time and experience what it was like to travel by steam train on the old Mary Valley branch line from Gympie, just like in the days of the past.”

In 2007 I was the first person with no previous rail experience to qualify as an Engine Driver at the Rattler. I consider myself lucky to have had the opportunity to have been taught by others who had worked in the railway all their life, and some had experience from the days of steam.” Peter and the rest of the team are looking forward to sharing the unique Mary Valley Rattler experience with others.

To find out more or express an interest in volunteering email volunteering@maryvalleyrattler.com.au.

Become a mate of the Rattler

The Rattler Mates membership program is only available for Gympie residents and ratepayers so the community can be part of, and enjoy, this important regional tourism attraction.

For a $49 membership fee, Rattler Mates receive one complimentary train ride and 50 per cent off train rides thereafter for the cardholder, 10 per cent discount for the cardholder at the gift shop and Platform No.1 Café purchases, invitations to special offers and events, and a Rattler Mate ID card, which is valid until 30 June 2019.

To register online, and for terms and conditions, head to maryvalleyrattler.com.au/rattlermates.

Platform No. 1 Café

The Platform No.1 Café at the historic Gympie Station on Tozer Street has been in operation since December. Open from Wednesday to Sunday, the 100 seat café which serves a fresh seasonal menu is the perfect place for a lazy Sunday brunch, birthday lunch celebration or a cozy coffee for two.

The café also caters for functions and weddings in a unique setting. There are also work experience and volunteer opportunities available at the café for those interested in the hospitality industry.

For more information email functions@maryvalleyrattler.com.au.

Get On Board!

The Mary Valley Rattler operates twice daily on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. You can join the half day experience in Gympie or Amamoor. The ride through the stunning Mary Valley is via the small township of Dagun.

Prices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>$110</td>
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<tr>
<td>VIP Club Car</td>
<td>$110</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Travel in style and enjoy a local cheese and wine pack on board the iconic Club Car. Very limited seating. Bookings essential.

Private Booth $400

Book your private booth seating from 1 to 6 adults. Perfect for a special event! Limited bookings available.

Children under 4 years of age not occupying a seat travel free.

Children under 16 years of age must be accompanied by a paying adult.

Bookings are essential.

Tickets can be purchased online at maryvalleyrattler.com.au.

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Peter and the rest of the team are looking forward to sharing the unique Mary Valley Rattler experience with others.

To find out more or express an interest in volunteering email volunteering@maryvalleyrattler.com.au.
Youth Precinct: Stage 1 update

Council is progressing with the detailed design for the Youth Precinct Stage 1 (located at the old Memorial Pool site).

The new precinct will include a regional standard skate park, bouldering elements (low level climbing wall) and a pump track through the space. Additionally, the ex-Memorial Pool building will receive a facelift to create a welcoming space for people of all ages. This new facility will become a key community asset, promoting an active and healthy lifestyle from an early age.

The space will also foster creative, social and community building opportunities that support the Gympie Town Centre as a whole. Completion of Stage 1 is planned for mid-2019.

1000 Books Before School

Gympie Regional Libraries is encouraging children under the age of five to get involved in the free 1000 Books Before School program.

Register at your local library branch and receive a free welcome pack including book bag, book mark, library card and reading record book to keep track of progress. To find out more, contact Gympie Regional Libraries on 5481 0859 or email library@gympie.qld.gov.au.

Parks tree inspection program

Council staff are in the process of looking at our tree assets around the region to make sure they are healthy and safe for the community to enjoy.

Using an internationally recognised risk assessment process, staff are working their way through every Council owned tree, as part of the Proactive Tree Inspection Program, to determine its health as well as any safety issues that may need to be addressed.

This program is run in conjunction with Council’s Urban Tree Management Policy.

Waste survey update

All households across the Gympie region received a waste survey earlier this year asking for feedback on the operational hours of Council’s waste management facilities. Council received over 2000 surveys from the community. A report will soon be presented to a Councillor workshop for consideration and discussion. Thank you to all residents who participated!

Free lifetime registration

In the Gympie region, registration of dogs is mandatory. If your dog is microchipped and desexed, Council offers free lifetime registration.

Dog registrations must be renewed annually and the period for registration is 1 November to 31 October regardless of when your dog was registered. For more information, contact Council on 1300 307 800.

Curra Community Hall

Officially opened in June 2018, Curra Community Hall is a modern facility that provides a flexible community space for everything from small meetings to weddings and other celebrations.

For more information or to book, phone Council on 1300 307 800 or email curracommunityhall@gympie.qld.gov.au.

Goomeri rainwater tank project

Both Council and Queensland Health officers inspected a total of 550 tanks in Goomeri during April to June to check tanks were screened to prevent mosquito breeding, in particular the Aedes aegypti mosquito (which is responsible for transmitting dengue fever).

Council found over 300 tanks to be unscreened and holding water, providing the ideal Aedes aegypti breeding habitat. Residents are urged to keep their rainwater tanks clean and screened.

Contact Council’s Environmental Health Services Team on 1300 307 800 or council@gympie.qld.gov.au for more information.

The $2.8 million project is funded under a shared arrangement with the Queensland Government under its Building Our Regions Program.

Message from the CEO

The key responsibility of any Council is to make decisions which are in the community’s best interest and provide for not only our current, but also our future, residents. These decisions can only be implemented through the efforts of the organisation and its staff.

In this edition we have featured a number of our staff to highlight the diversity of our workforce.

Whether it be highly experienced field maintenance staff qualified technical and trades people who work on and operate state of the art equipment, technical professionals with multiple tertiary qualifications, or long term staff with a wealth of experience, the decisions of Council can only be implemented through the combined efforts of the organisation.

Of course it is one thing to have the experience and the knowledge, but in this day and age it is imperative that we keep pace with what is happening in the world around us. We also continually encourage staff to remain current in their knowledge through continual learning and ensuring they are aware of what is happening at other councils and organisations in terms of new trends, technology and initiatives.

There are many councils in Australia similar to Gympie Regional Council and we have a responsibility to learn from them where possible, just as they can learn from us. In this interconnected world we cannot afford to be an island and the way we go about our business must reflect the world we live in.

Bernard Smith
CEO, Gympie Regional Council

DAS Online

Development applications are now available online. Visit gympie.qld.gov.au to view all current development applications and track their status.

Past applications are also available. If you have any queries regarding an application, please email planning@gympie.qld.gov.au.
Free trees
Did you know that you can get free trees with your rates notice?
Ratepayers can receive two free tube-stock plants per financial year, as part of Council’s Free Trees Program. The tube-stock plants are grown by the Gympie and District Landcare and Cooloola City Farm. These plants are native to the Gympie region and are adapted to local conditions. Planting local native species helps to increase biodiversity in the region as well as providing food and habitat for our local fauna.
You can collect your plants until 31 May, 2019 – just head down to Gympie and District Landcare or Cooloola City Farm, and show your rates notice (either paper copy or email).

Opening hours and locations:
Gympie & District Landcare Nursery
Corner of Old Maryborough Road & Groves Road, Gympie
Open Wednesday to Friday, 8:30am – 3:30pm
Phone 07 5483 8866

Cooloola City Farm Nursery
(in the Community Centre Complex)
Tin Can Bay Road, Tin Can Bay
Open Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 8:00am – 3:00pm
Phone 07 5486 2304

Gympie’s Greatest Garage Sale
Later this month, Gympie Regional Council will host Gympie’s Greatest Garage Sale, showing residents it is cool to reuse.
Gympie’s Greatest Garage Sale is a fun way for people to turn everyday actions like buying and selling into a people-powered reuse movement with huge local sustainability impacts.
This event, which will be held on Saturday 20 October at 40 Mellor Street Gympie from 7am, is part of the wider national Garage Sale Trail initiative which is responsible for trading in the reuse of over 4000 tonnes of pre-loved wares in just one weekend.
Registrations for Gympie’s greatest Garage Sale are now open for Gympie region households, community groups, charities, local businesses and schools.
Those wishing to participate in Gympie’s Greatest Garage Sale can contact Council on 1300 307 800.
Hi everyone! The last six months have been really busy, with Council’s main focus on the 2018/19 budget. Many hours have been spent on this, balancing the priority needs of the region with best use of ratepayer money. I have attended many functions over the last few months (such as the 1st anniversary of the ARC and the $10 million Nestle Factory extension opening) which has been an absolute pleasure. In Division 3, we have had ongoing road maintenance, slashing and a complete replacement of the playground in Glen Eden Park, which is now being well used.

I’m looking forward to continuing to be a voice for not only Division 3, but for all the Gympie region. I will always take pride in replying to texts, emails and phone calls as quickly as I can.

I’m looking forward to continuing to be a voice for not only Division 3, but for all the Gympie region. I feel that this is an achievement for which we can all be proud.

I have long valued helping children develop and Council contributes to this in many ways. On 1 September in Gympie, the Little Kids Day Out program held their annual event, which alongside Council grants has been awarded $8000 in state funding. With state assistance, our library runs successful First 5 Forever and 1000 Books Before School reading programs. Our gallery, sporting facilities, public trails, playgrounds and planned projects, such as the Youth Precinct, also provide opportunities for our youth. Council also facilitates a quarterly Holiday Fun program which offers a range of events and activities for young people. You may follow my take on Council happenings and activities on Facebook at Dan 4 Gympie, on 0499 081 404 or email dan.stewart@gympie.qld.gov.au.

The Rattler has been a remarkable special project and I am proud to have been part of its reintroduction to our remarkable region. It has been an absolute credit to the Mary Valley Rattler board and volunteers to see the miracle of its resurrection.

I, for one, would expect it to turn a profit like a library, park or street revitalisation would turn a profit. The profit from this, and almost all of our community projects, is in social and economic development.

It is gratifying to know the vast majority of our community recognise the benefit of this project for our region. I feel that this is an achievement for which we can all be proud.
Community assistance grants

Council provides Community Assistance Grants to eligible community organisations and individuals to deliver projects for the broader community.

The program has two rounds of funding each financial year. Round 1 is currently open and will close on 14 October 2018.

In the last financial year, Council allocated $146,000 of funding to community groups, and the Tin Can Bay Fishing Club were one of the recipients, receiving more than $6000 for earthworks for a new storage shed and landscaping.

Jim George, Club President, has some advice for potential grant applicants.

“Carefully review your application before submitting and ensure that all sections are relevant and accurate,” Jim said. “We are very grateful for the support and assistance we have received as a club.”

For more information, visit gympie.qld.gov.au/grants/cag.

Gympie saleyards

Gympie Regional Council staff are speaking with users, buyers, sellers, businesses and visitors to our region to gain a better understanding of the function and direction of Gympie’s saleyards service.

Some outcomes may include keeping the facility exactly as it is, relocating it to a different location or a mixture of leaving it as it is now with a view to relocating it in the future.

For more information on this project, visit gympie.qld.gov.au/saleyards.

Council to host commemorative WWI event

Red for Remembrance

On Remembrance Day, we remember all those who died or suffered serving our country during conflicts.

11 November 2018 marks the 100th anniversary of the armistice that ended the First World War and Council will be commemorating this historic occasion with a major event from 4pm, Saturday 10 November at Memorial Park in Gympie.

There will be screenings of short films, a big band and regional choir, plus illuminations and art projections.

So that all residents can attend the event, free buses will be providing transport services to and from Imbil, Kandanga, Amamoor, Goomeri, Kilkivan, Chatsworth, Rainbow Beach, Tin Can Bay and Goomboorian.

For more details, visit gympie.qld.gov.au/red-for-remembrance.

This project is proudly supported by the Queensland Government.

A day in the life

Tyler Davidson
Infrastructure ICT Officer

About the job:
The Information and Communication Technology unit (ICT) are a small but dedicated infrastructure team that carry out communication support to over 400 Council employees across 30 sites.

What does a normal day look like?
No two days are the same. One day I could be in a library branch, treatment plant, tourism office and then back to the office to offer phone support.

Other days I could be building and configuring computers, laptops and phones and then onto training staff.

What is the best part of the job?
Because of how dynamic the work environment is. I am kept on the move and am constantly learning. I’m not stuck behind a desk all day and get the opportunity to be out amongst our staff.

Luke Harriman
Manager – Gympie Venues and Events

About the job:
Gympie Venues and Events incorporates a number of units including the Gympie Regional Gallery, Showground Pavilion, Civic Centre, Major Events (including Rush Festival), and the Community Facilities and Maintenance Teams.

What does a normal day look like?
A normal day includes discussing and planning new ideas for our region’s major events like Rush Festival, as well as making sure our facilities are meeting the community’s needs.

What is the best part of the job?
The best part of the job is having the ability to work with all the cultural potential the region has to offer. I get to develop and support all sorts of incredible events and experiences for locals and find new ways to use our venues and facilities.

Hayden Moessinger
Labourer/Operator

About the job:
I work in road construction so everything to do with earth works around the region’s roads.

What does a normal day look like?
I operate machinery and at the moment I am learning the grader.

What is the best part about the job?
The lifestyle. Council has a really good work/life balance.

Nadia Bannerman
Environmental Health Officer

About the job:
Council’s Environmental Health Officers are responsible for everything from mosquito surveillance, food business licencing, environmental matters and water sampling.

What does a normal day look like?
I am in the field carrying out water inspections, water sampling or trapping mosquitoes.

After the recent Woolooga fires, I was on the ground providing advice regarding safe drinking water and other public health issues.

What is the best part about the job?
I enjoy the scientific and technical side of my job as well as working in a team of professionals dedicated to improving the health of our community and our environment.
Burning off
Residents are reminded to exercise caution when burning off. Under local laws, burning off in urban and residential areas is prohibited, except if the fire is associated with cooking or heating purposes (outdoor bbqs and enclosed combustion heaters). In rural areas, small fires under two metres in length, height or width can generally be lit without a permit. Any other fire will need a permit issued by a local fire warden.

Look out, koalas about!
Koala breeding season peaks in Spring so be on the lookout for these furry animals on our roads. Koalas are most active during dusk to dawn and therefore at highest risk. If you find an injured or deceased koala, call Gympie ANARRA Wildlife Rescue Hotline on 5484 9111 or 1300 ANIMAL.

Snip the vine – Cats Claw Creeper!
Cats Claw Creeper is a restricted plant which is native to South America. Seen around the Gympie region in the warmer months, a flush of bright yellow flowers will declare its presence. Introduced to Australia as a hardy and vigorous vine, the plant is a very aggressive climber that outcompetes all other vegetation. The vine has a vigorous tuber system, which adds to difficulties in managing its unwanted growth. For more information, contact Gympie Landcare on 5483 8866 (Tuesday to Friday) or Council’s Lands Protection Team on 1300 307 800.

Waste water treatment
The management of waste water treatment plants is essential for maintaining the health of property owners, occupants, the community and the environment. Waste treatment facility options will vary depending on the distance between discharge of effluent to ground and waterways. A treatment plant is a favorable option for owners when the soils are a heavy clay or hard rock as the cost for installation may be less. If you have any questions about installing a new treatment system on your property, please contact Council’s Building and Plumbing Team on 1300 307 800.

Infrastructure works around the region

Power Road – Pathway
The works included construction of a concrete pathway from Normanby Hill Road to Katrina Court.

Anderleigh Road – Bitumen Seal
The works involved extending the bitumen seal on Anderleigh Road (2.1km) with a final 7m sealed formation.

Amamoor Station
The works included construction of a retaining wall to form a new asphalted sealed platform, concrete access ramps and pathways, railway level crossing plus landscaping.

Did you know?
Council is responsible for 2137 roads:
1321.27kms are sealed
867.2kms are gravel
36.9kms are formed
66.06kms are for 4WD only
= 2291.43kms

Our local celebrity: The Mary River Turtle

One of Gympie’s most endangered species has hit stardom across the globe! Featured on the national news recently, the ‘punk’ turtle aka the Mary River Turtle (Elusor macrurus) is ranked at number 29 in the Top 100 most endangered reptile species in the world.

The threats to this impressive creature include increases in feral predatory species (foxes, wild dogs and feral pigs), changes in river habitat, nest damage, and increases in introduced predatory fish populations.

You can help to save the Mary River Turtle – and every bit counts!

• Join a community group that volunteers their time for on-ground turtle protection.
• Don’t use stainless steel hooks when fishing in the Mary River.
• Control feral animals that predate on the Mary River Turtle (Council can assist with feral animal management).
• Do not drive vehicles along the Mary River’s edge.
• Report any sightings of Mary River Turtles to Tiaro Landcare (tiarolandcare@gmail.com).
• If you see a nest, protection cage or turtle, leave it be!
• If you live near the river bank, do not allow domestic dogs to roam.

Quick Facts
Found only in the Mary River
Biggest tail of any turtle (males)
Up to 25 years to reach breeding age
Can weigh up to 8kg
Breathes through its bum

For more information contact Council’s Lands Protection Team on 1300 307 800.

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Major projects

Upper Mary Street Revitalisation

The Mary Street Revitalisation was endorsed by Council on 13 May 2015, as part of the Gympie Town Centre Urban Design Projects Package.

The design concept includes major streetscape improvements in Mary Street (between Monkland and Channon Streets), including street furniture, an upgraded pedestrian crossing point, street tree planting, landscaping, streetscape lighting, public art, and a widened pavement area to make the street more pedestrian friendly and encourage alfresco dining at key locations.

Council is currently in the detailed design phase of the project with design works scheduled for completion by the end of the year and construction scheduled to commence in the first quarter of 2019. Community updates will be made available as the project progresses and key milestones are achieved.

The project will be co-funded through the federal government’s Building Better Regions Fund and Council.

River to Rail Trail Stage 2 Upgrade

Building on the overwhelmingly positive community response to River to Rail Stage 1, plans have been developed for Stage 2. Detailed plans and designs are now under way. Subject to final cost estimates, Stage 2 will achieve:

- a quality and well connected shared use recreational trail continuing on from Stage 1 (“The Sands” at Kidgell Street) through the Deep Creek Conservation Area to One Mile Sport Precinct, past the Aquatic and Recreation Centre and up to the Historic Mary Valley Rattler Rail Station on Tozer Street
- an extension to the existing Sands area to create a more inviting riverside parkland experience for families and visitors, incorporating more open grassed areas to enjoy what the Mary River has to offer.

The project is 100 per cent funded ($1 million) by the Queensland Government under its Works for Queensland Round 2 program. This project will be completed by 30 June, 2019.

Kilkivan Equestrian Centre

Planning for the Kilkivan Equestrian Centre is well under way. A concept plan has been developed in conjunction with the community, looking at the arena size, location on site and fencing. The design and construction aims to generate employment and economic activity. It will also enhance and extend the life, functionality and use of existing infrastructure at the Kilkivan Showgrounds.

This project is funded through the Queensland Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program.

Mary Valley Rail Trail: Imbil to Brooloo

The Mary Valley community recently gave their feedback on the proposed Mary Valley Rail Trail at community consultation sessions held in Imbil and Brooloo.

Residents had the opportunity to discuss the project, see before and after photographs of similar trails, and provide feedback directly to the project team. Feedback on the project was generally positive, with townships at both ends of the trail looking forward to seeing the trail opened.

This project is being undertaken by Council and is fully funded by the Queensland Government’s Works for Queensland program. The trail is scheduled to be opened by 30 June 2019. Preliminary planning is now under way. Locals may have noticed some slashing works and weed spraying activities in the area to allow Council better access to the site during construction.

Keep up to date on the project at gympie.qld.gov.au.

Mellor Street

One of Gympie’s busiest streets will receive a facelift later this year, thanks to a $500,000 Queensland Government grant. Mellor Street, which links our region’s Heritage Rail and civic precincts, is set to undergo improvement works in November.

This includes improving the footpath and kerb, adding trees, shrubs and garden beds and reviewing on street parking. This project is set to be completed by February 2019.
Community Australia Day Awards 2019

Nominations close 4pm Friday 7 December 2018

Visit gympie.qld.gov.au for more information and to nominate an outstanding member of our community.

Citizen of the Year | Young Citizen of the Year | Cultural Award
Youth Cultural Award | Sports Award | Youth Sports Award
Sports Administration Award | Community Event of the Year

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