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Benaraby Progress Association is a not for profit organization that was established on the 3rd October 1955. Weekly dances and community fun days were held to raise money for the building of our community hall on the Bruce Highway, on land that was donated to the Association. We are one of only a handful of public halls that are still owned by the people.

The Association works with the committee, community and local council to improve our town's infrastructure and maintain our hall. We hold annual events to bring the community together and fundraise, in the form of Mother's Day Afternoon Tea, Christmas Ham Wheels in Pershouse Park and of course our weekly dances which are still held at the hall.

Lake Awoonga is one of the Gladstone Regions best kept secrets. Although only a few kilometers from the Bruce Highway, the lake does not attract a great deal of attention. Last year our Association, in conjunction with the Gladstone Area Water Board, held our inaugural Lake Awoonga Adventure Race, attracting 116 participants. Many of the participants of the 2019 adventure race had not visited Lake Awoonga before and the race provided a great opportunity for the lake to show off – proving to be a spectacular location even during these times of drought. As the race event grows, more visitors will be attracted to Lake Awoonga and the Gladstone Region and in time, a half day event will grow into a weekend or week-long visit to experience other attractions of our region. The fulfillment of this recreational strategy gives Benaraby and Lake Awoonga the potential to become a nation-wide tourism draw card for our region.

The Gladstone Region is large and has many great attractions, but Gladstone Area Water Board's Recreational Strategy is important to the Benaraby community. We feel that this strategy enhances the social and recreational opportunities for our community and the greater region.

Benaraby Progress Association fully supports the Lake Awoonga Recreational strategy and the positive influence it has on the well-being of our region.