

MOUNT MORGAN ARGUS

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Dr Shahbaz and Dr Rabiya to Depart Mount Morgan

A significant chapter in the story of Mount Morgan’s local healthcare is drawing to a close. Dr Shahbaz and Dr Rabiya, the dedicated husband-and-wife medical team who have anchored the community’s health services for more than five years, have announced their impending departure.

Their story in the Golden Mount began in early January 2021, arriving at a time when the world was gripped by the height of the COVID-19 pandemic and strict regional lockdowns. For two medical professionals arriving as immigrants without any extended family in Australia, moving to a small, isolated historic town to juggle dual responsibilities across both the local hospital and general practice was a daunting prospect.

“Initially, we were unsure about moving to a small community and navigating both hospital and general practice roles,” Dr Shahbaz said.

“However, the warmth and respect Rabiya and I received from the community made us feel at home. We’ll miss the close-knit nature of Mount Morgan, where everyone knows each other, which was especially meaningful for us.”

What was originally intended to be a short, temporary stay quickly transformed into a deep, long-term commitment as the couple grew profoundly attached to the town and its people. Personally, and professionally, the deep bonds of trust they forged with their patients



became the cornerstone of their lives.

Decisions of this magnitude are never made lightly, and the primary catalyst for the move is a familiar milestone for many parents: their eldest daughter is reaching high school age.

The family is preparing to relocate back to the Gold Coast—a region they lived in briefly before their

move to Mount Morgan, but where opportunities were severely restricted by early pandemic lockdowns.

“We’ve long felt that, as our eldest enters this stage, it would be best to provide access to broader educational opportunities and future prospects for our children,” Dr Shahbaz explained.

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Doctors to leave...From Page 1

“Additionally, returning to the Gold Coast means reconnecting with friends and familiar surroundings, which we believe will benefit the whole family. The timing simply feels right to balance family needs with future opportunities.”

As they transition back to life on the coast, the doctors will be exploring medical practices to either work in or purchase. The departure highlights the ongoing, complex challenges faced by regional communities across Australia regarding medical recruitment. Ensuring continuity of care for Mount Morgan residents has been a heavy weight on the minds of both doctors, who have spent substantial time and energy trying to secure a seamless transition.

Over many months, Dr Shahbaz actively engaged with multiple individual practitioners and medical couples, hoping to find professionals willing to buy into the practice or take over their roles. Despite strong initial interest from various parties, those prospects ultimately chose alternative career paths.

Subsequent close collaboration with Queensland Health and regional medical networks faced similar hurdles. Because no permanent doctors have been secured to directly step into the patient load, responsibility for the general practice has been formally handed over to Queensland Health ahead of the departure.

“While details are still unfolding, I expect they’ll arrange locum doctors, similar to how the practice functioned before I arrived,” Dr Shahbaz said.

“Although I had hoped to personally facilitate a direct transition, I trust the hospital will ensure continued care for the community.”

In the interim, the doctors are encouraging community members to consider trusted practitioners in nearby areas if necessary. To minimize disruption, they have committed to assisting with comprehensive medical handovers, promising to smoothly transfer care

and records to any practitioner a patient chooses.

Beyond the clinic walls, Dr Shahbaz’s departure also raises questions regarding Mount Morgan Village—the former residential care facility he acquired with the vision of expanding local health infrastructure.

Early on, unexpected financial constraints forced a pivot, leading Dr Shahbaz to utilize the facility as accommodation for local mine workers. This shift indirectly stimulated the town’s economy by supporting local employment. As construction advances on the Mount Morgan Mine Site into the primary operational phase, the company involved has expressed a strong interest in securing the long-term use of the space.

Dr Shahbaz intends to continue supporting these workforce requirements. However, he remains committed to the site’s original altruistic purpose should circumstances shift.

“If circumstances change, I’m actively exploring other healthcare-focused uses, such as residential care or NDIS-supported services,” he.

“We would love to see it best meet community needs while ensuring the space remains purposeful.”

For locals with complex, chronic, or ongoing health requirements, preparing for a medical transition is vital. Dr Shahbaz and Dr Rabiya are urging patients who require daily multiple medications, manage chronic illnesses, or have frequent specialist follow-ups to be highly proactive. Residents are advised to implement the following steps as soon as possible - Book an appointment with Dr Shahbaz or Dr Rabiya prior to their departure date,

The doctors will compile detailed letters summarizing your clinical history, current treatments, and imminent needs, contact alternative clinics in the surrounding region early to secure a place on their books and provide the practice

with the name of your incoming general practitioner so a complete and confidential file transfer can be executed. Reflecting on their tenure, the doctors note that practicing medicine in an older, regional community profoundly altered their clinical perspective. They learned that when absolute cures or perfect solutions are structurally or medically impossible, true healing lies in smaller, dedicated efforts.

“Seeing patients repeatedly allowed us to anticipate their evolving needs, balancing both acute and chronic conditions,” Dr Shahbaz reflected.

“We’ve learned that improving quality of life often means taking small, meaningful steps. Working closely with specialists and handling diverse cases has strengthened our confidence and taught us to foresee future challenges.”

When asked what wisdom they would leave behind for the next wave of rural doctors, Dr Shahbaz emphasized that the heart of medicine lies in listening.

“Listen deeply—patients want to be heard, and that trust is key. Get to know the community, empathize, and build connections,” he advised.

“Also, stay connected with other health professionals, both locally and in Rockhampton. When something’s beyond your scope, seek advice. That teamwork—paired with trust and listening—will make your work both effective and rewarding.”

Though they leave with a sense of unfinished business regarding a permanent replacement, Dr Shahbaz and Dr Rabiya depart with profound gratitude for the town that adopted them during a global crisis.

“Our time in Mount Morgan has brought us immense gratitude, personal enrichment, and a profound sense of belonging. As a family and as professionals, these years have been invaluable,” Dr Shabaz said.

“Mount Morgan will always hold a special place in our hearts, and we’ll

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want to know how the community thrives. We extend our deepest thanks to every patient, community member, and fellow health professional who has supported us. Without Mount Morgan, we wouldn't be where we are today."

NO. 7 DAM INCLUDED IN SIPS



Anglers in Central Queensland are reeling in an exciting update as Mount Morgan's No. 7 Dam prepares to join the Queensland Government's Stocked Impoundment Permit Scheme (SIPS).

Locally known as "the Big Dam," the waterway is one of three fresh locations—alongside Enoggera Reservoir and Paradise Dam—officially added to the statewide program, which has grown from 25 locations at its inception in 2000 to more than 60 today. From 1 July 2026, line fishers aged 18 and older will require a SIPS permit to cast a line at the Rockhampton Regional Council-managed dam, located just two kilometres from the historic township of Mount Morgan.

Member for Mirani, Mr Glen Kelly has supported this result.

"The expansion of the SIPS scheme to include No.7 Dam is a fantastic outcome for Mount Morgan and the wider region," Mr Kelly said.

"Programs like this help create more recreational fishing opportunities while also supporting sustainable fish stocking and protecting wild fish populations for future generations.

"Mount Morgan has so much untapped tourism potential, from its rich history through to its outdoor lifestyle, and having No.7 Dam recognised under the scheme will only encourage more visitors to stop, stay and explore the area" Mr Kelly said.

The move transitions the waterway into a "put, grow, and take" fishery, where stocked species can thrive but generally do not reproduce naturally. Under the new arrangement, the volunteer-led Mount Morgan Promotional and Development Inc [MMPAD] will restock the dam on an annual basis where possible, within the guidelines of its restocking permit and DPI approved plan as it has done in years past

The dam will be restocked native species including golden perch, southern saratoga, sleepy cod, and eel-tailed catfish.

The couple plans to provide a way for locals to stay in touch once they are settled on the Gold Coast. They emphasized this channel will strictly be for personal updates rather than medical advice—which must be handled by face-to-face practitioners—so they can watch from afar as Mount Morgan's ongoing projects and bright future unfold.

MMPAD President Mr John Steinberger said the SIPS application has been in the "pipeline" for a number of years.

"To see it finally come to fruition means the money for restocking may be more available," Mr Steinberger said.

"Our stocking permit issued by the Queensland Government nominates a number of local native fish species that can be released into our dam," he said.

"We are investigating opportunities to get more varieties included in the permit.

Mr Steinberger said MMPAD would look at ways of continuing fish habitat improvements, monitoring and education.

"In the meantime, contact MMPAD if you have any suggestions on native species."

"In the future we hope to organise a fishing competition," he said.

The SIPS initiative operates on a highly successful user-pays model.

A minimum of 75% of all permit revenue is reinvested directly back into local community stocking groups, with the remaining fraction capped for administrative and governance costs. In the 2024/25 period alone, just under 50,000 permits were sold statewide, injecting over \$1 million back into volunteer stocking groups and funding the release of more than three million native fingerlings, including barramundi, Australian bass, and Murray cod.

Beyond keeping dams heavily populated with fish, the funding supports vital research, fish tagging, habitat restoration, and facility upgrades. Crucially, by providing reliable, high-quality fishing hubs, the scheme is credited with lowering fishing pressure on wild, vulnerable fish stocks.

Local communities also stand to win big. Recreational freshwater fishing is a major economic driver for the state, underpinning a \$333 million industry. By drawing in keen anglers and campers, the scheme boosts regional expenditure on accommodation, fuel, tackle shops, and local hospitality.

An annual SIPS permit costs less than \$65 per year—with further discounts available for concession card holders—granting comprehensive access to all 60 plus stocked impoundments across Queensland. Anglers planning their next trip to No. 7 Dam ahead of the 1 July launch can purchase permits through any Australia Post outlet, online, over the phone at 1300 575 359, or directly through the Qld Fishing 2.0 smartphone application.



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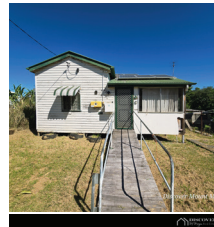
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Offers over \$280,000
30 May - 1.45 - 2.15 pm



12 James St, Mount Morgan
2 bed, 1 bath, Renovator
Offers over \$280,000
6 June - 1.45 - 2.15 pm



Lot 9, Struck Oil Road, Struck Oil Rural. 65 acres with shed.
Offers over \$450,000
UNDER CONTRACT



Lot 9, Struck Oil Road, Struck Oil Rural. 65 acres with shed.
Offers over \$450,000
UNDER CONTRACT



18 Pattison St, Mount Morgan
3 bed, 1bath, 1/2 acre
Offers over \$370,000
30 May - 11.30 am - 12 noon



18 Pattison St, Mount Morgan
3 bed, 1bath, 1/2 acre
Offers over \$370,000
6 June - 11.30 am - 12 noon



37 Gowdie St, Mount Morgan
Vacant Block w/Bus
Offers over \$210,000
30 May - 3.15 - 3.45 pm



37 Gowdie St, Mount Morgan
Vacant Block w/Bus
Offers over \$210,000
6 June - 3.15 - 3.45 pm



61 Pattison St
2 bed, 1 bath & Study (Starter)
Offers over \$385,000
30 May - 9 - 9.30 am



61 Pattison St
2 bed, 1 bath & Study (Starter)
Offers over \$385,000
6 June - 9 - 9.30 am



62 James Street
3 bed, 1 bath - tidy home
Price- Coming soon.
30 May - 9.45 - 10.15 am



62 James Street
3 bed, 1 bath - tidy home
Price- Coming soon.
6 June - 9.45 - 10.15 am



3 Lester Street
3 bed, 1 bath 1/2 acre lot
Offers over \$435,000
30 May - 10.30-11.15 am



3 Lester Street
3 bed, 1 bath 1/2 acre lot
Offers over \$435,000
6 June - 10.30-11.15 am



3 Nicholson Street
2 bed, 1 bath, gorgeous property
Offers over \$535,000
30 May - 1 - 1.30 pm



3 Nicholson St
2 bed, 1 bath, gorgeous property
Offers over \$535,000
6 June - 1 - 1.30 pm



9 Gordon Lane, Walterhall
2 bed, 1 bath, shed, plus bonus
Offers over \$445,000
UNDER CONTRACT



9 Gordon Lane, Walterhall
2 bed, 1 bath, shed, plus bonus
Offers over \$445,000
UNDER CONTRACT



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VIA PRIVATE INSPECTION



31 D'Arcy Street
2 bed, 1 bath, investment
VIA PRIVATE INSPECTION

QCWA TEAM UP WITH TRILOGY CARE



A major new partnership is brewing in Mount Morgan as the Queensland Country Women's Association (QCWA) local branch teams up with the Trilogy Care Foundation to roll out an innovative community-led aged care model. The initiative promises to not only lower care fees for older residents but also inject significant money into the local economy by hiring a network of local workers.

QCWA President, Elizabeth Elliot said the first crucial step in launching the program was finding a Community Care Coordinator. While the successful candidate will be employed and managed directly by Trilogy Care, the local QCWA branch is actively seeking recommendations to confidentially pass on to the foundation.

The Community Care Coordinator role is a flexible position requiring basic computer literacy—such as familiarity with Microsoft Word, emailing attachments, and using Microsoft Teams—alongside the ability to conduct monthly face-to-face client check-ins. Because the role involves travel to visit local clients, having reliable transport is a requirement.

“As the program operates entirely on-the-go to keep overhead costs low and maximize funds returning to the town, the coordinator will work remotely rather than out of a central office,” Liz said.

Residents who fit the criteria or wish to make a recommendation can contact the Mount Morgan QCWA branch directly via mobile or email at mtmorganbranch@qcwa.org.au.

Liz said the care model relied heavily on a diverse, local network of independent contractors. Opportunities will be available for a wide range of local providers, including Mums seeking flexible hours, tradespeople, gardeners, cleaners and cooks.

Once the coordinator is secured, Trilogy Care Foundation will host an official community launch. This launch is expected to create a flow-on effect, drawing in local service providers. It represents an ideal opportunity for local parents with school-aged children to secure a few hours of local work during school hours.

The economic potential for the township is substantial. Research indicates that having just 15 local workers

engaged in the program can inject an average of \$1.2 million into the local economy.

“To ensure safety and compliance, all local workers will be onboarded via an online platform where they must provide police checks, insurance, and certifications. Trilogy Care has confirmed they will fully assist local applicants with navigating these requirements and overcoming any digital barriers,” Liz said

“A driving force behind the partnership is addressing the financial strain placed on older residents by traditional, larger regional aged care providers, whose high fees and travel costs often restrict the actual care hours residents receive,” she said.

While the program is still unfolding, the QCWA plans to co-host community information sessions with Trilogy Care to help older residents navigate the transition to the new, lower-fee structure or apply for a Support at Home package.

A standout feature of the Trilogy Care Foundation model is that surplus funds generated by the program are held exclusively for the town. Once Mount Morgan reaches a typical running size, the program is estimated to generate \$1,000 to \$2,000 per month (approximately \$9,000 to \$10,000 per year) to be spent entirely on local community projects.

Liz said because it would take time to build up these funds, the branch would use the upcoming months to identify and prioritize the community's most pressing needs. If necessary, the local branch is prepared to seek assistance from the QCWA State Office to leverage these economic benefits and secure further backing from the local Council.

With the initiative in its early stages, the Mount Morgan QCWA—currently driven by a small but enthusiastic group of members—is calling on women of all ages to join the branch and help shape the project's future.

Liz expressed high confidence in moving forward with Trilogy Care, noting that while consultations for the official launch are yet to take place, at least two local venues are already identified as large enough to host the event.

“This program is all about keeping older residents living in their own homes for longer, with services provided by people they will often know – it's all about locals caring for locals.”

David Melloy, General Manager, Trilogy Care Foundation said there was a great response from the meeting held in Mount Morgan with the QCWA on 30 April 2026. Community Engagement Manager, Gary Watling attended the meeting along with Bulls Masters cricketers Alan Border, Carl Rackemann and Jimmy Maher (Pictured with QCWA President Liz Elliot).

“The Queensland Bulls Masters is an organisation that is passionate about Queenslanders living in regional, rural and remote locations, just the same as we are.

The Queensland Bulls Masters is a not-for-profit

Continued on Page 8

Local sisters new on the Mount Morgan real estate scene

For Elise and Ciele, the “Sisters in Sales” duo, walking the halls of Mount Morgan State High School feels like a lifetime ago. Back then, they never imagined they would return to play such a pivotal role in their community’s booming property market. Today, they are two of the most recognizable faces in local business, proving that homegrown talent can lead the way in regional real estate.

The path to real estate wasn’t a straight line for the sisters. Before finding their calling, they explored an eclectic mix of industries, including Oyster Farming, Rail Infrastructure and Hospitality, Retail, and Concierge roles. This diverse background eventually led them to the “dynamic and ever-evolving world” of property. Ciele began her career in administration and leasing, while Elise spent a year cold-calling before building a team of five.

The sisters credit much of their success to their deep history with Mount Morgan. Despite an age gap, their lifelong connection to the town has allowed them to build relationships across generations.

“Growing up in Mount Morgan has been a huge advantage,” they noted, though they emphasize that they are still learning new history about the homes and the town every day. This community bond was forged in 2010 when the sisters experienced a house fire on Gordon Street; the overwhelming support their family of eight received from the community remains their #1 selling point for the town.

The “Sisters in Sales” are operating in a red-hot market. Mount Morgan has seen an incredible growth rate of approximately 32% over the last 12 months. While first-home buyers and owner-occupiers remain steady, there is a surge in investor activity fuelled by the reopening of the local gold mine.

Working as a “sister duo” brings a unique dynamic to the office. While Elise is described as a “24/7 workaholic,” Ciele focuses on finding balance and winding down after a big day. To keep motivated during quiet periods, they turn to friendly competition, racing to see who can get a property under contract first or make the most calls.

And what about those famous Sunday family dinners?

“As much as we try to agree on a ‘no real estate talk’ rule, it’s such a 24/7 role that something always seems to come up,” they admitted. “The rest of the family doesn’t always feel the same way about hearing it at the dinner table!”

With their first sale in Moongan—a beautiful home on acreage—well behind them, the sisters are looking toward the future. Ciele aims to become a top agent for the surrounding rural areas, while Elise continues to stress the importance of the “long game,” maintaining relationships for years before they turn into sales.

For current Mount Morgan students looking to follow in their footsteps, the sisters offer simple advice: “Sales is all about people, communication, and resilience... back yourself even when things feel challenging”.



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organization established by former Queensland and Australian cricketers to foster and develop cricket across the state while raising money for charitable causes.

"We are very excited to partner with them to help spread the word about Trilogy Care's Community Managed

Program."

"Our Community Managed Program provides much better value for money, for those seeking in-home services via their Support at Home Package."

"We had a great response to our meeting in Mount Morgan, and we are looking forward to working with the local community to get this model up and running."

A Creative "Tree Change" for Mount Morgan's Newest Printing Studio



When the dust settled on a major relocation in December 2023, Mount Morgan gained more than just a new family; it gained a vibrant creative hub. For the owner of Zebra Printz, the move from the coast to the historic "Golden Mount" has been a journey of transformation—both for her business and her artistic inspiration.

Originally established in June 2014 as Zebra Design and Printing, the business has evolved alongside its owner. Now operating under the streamlined name Zebra Printz, the studio's arrival in Mount Morgan marks a significant "tree change" for owner Yolanda De Jager (pictured).

"My family and I were immediately struck by the town's incredible character and history," Yolanda said.

"The rugged beauty and the heritage feel of the area have been a huge inspiration. Since arriving, the close-knit nature of the community has really shaped how I approach my work."

This inspiration is already finding its way into local homes. Visitors to the local markets may have noticed custom coasters featuring iconic historical sites and regional nature scenes—a direct result of the owner's fascination with her new surroundings.

While the creative side is fuelled by the landscape, the technical side of Zebra Printz is a precision game. Moving a specialized printing studio is no small feat; it required meticulous calibration of equipment to ensure the highest quality for local clients.

Sublimation printing, a cornerstone of the business, is a process where science meets art. Unlike traditional printing where ink sits on top of a fabric, sublimation involves high-quality inks that, when subjected to the perfect balance of heat and pressure, transform into a gas and bond permanently with the material.

"In the beginning, it's a bit of a science experiment," Yolanda said.

"Every surface—whether it's a ceramic mug, a polyester T-shirt, or a metal sign—reacts differently. The real challenge is ensuring the colours stay vibrant without 'ghosting' or scorching."

Zebra Printz offers a diverse suite of services, from vibrant vinyl printing and car signage to specialized wood burning.

While custom T-shirts, mugs, and stubby coolers remain local favourites, the studio thrives on "out of the box" requests.

One of the most memorable projects involved a five-meter white silk aisle runner for a wedding. The couple requested their entire life history be printed along the sides.

"Working with five meters of delicate silk required massive precision," Yolanda recalled.

"Seeing such a deeply personal piece come to life for their big day was incredibly rewarding."

Though the business is still in its "growth phase" within the region, a loyal client base from the coast continues to support the studio, providing a solid foundation as local word-of-mouth spreads.

The future for Zebra Printz looks busy. Plans are already underway to expand into precision engraving and advanced wood-burning techniques, catering to the growing demand for rustic, high-quality timber keepsakes and durable metal signage.

For those in small towns looking to turn a passion into a profession, the advice from Zebra Printz is simple: "Listen to your community."

When you combine your artistic passion with a real desire to make people smile, the business side tends to follow naturally."

Mount Morgan Citizens Club invites you to

1. Talk NDIS

Share your experience about using your NDIS plan

2. Hear about work

Find out how to get paid to help people in your community



Friday 5th June Mount Morgan Soldier's Rooms

Session 1

9:30-10:30am
followed by Morning Tea

YOUR NDIS EXPERIENCE

Are you an **NDIS participant**, family member, or carer?

Share your experiences of:

- What's working?
- What isn't?
- What services you find hard to get
- How you use your Plan
- What better support could look like in your community

Session 2

11:30am-12:30pm
followed by Light Lunch


BECOME A SUPPORT WORKER

Thinking about flexible **work helping people** in your community? Looking for a little bit of extra work or a career path? Come along and find out:

- What support work involves
- How to get started
- How you can work flexibly
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Authorised by Colin Boyce MP, LNP, 76 Goondoon Street,
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MOUNT MORGAN CLINIC

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**Finlayson & McKenzie
Funerals**



Sandi Wood (nee Inslay) from Mount Morgan was born and raised within the Mount and is well aware of the needs of the Mount Morgan community.

Sandi is Mount Morgan's funeral consultant and is available for all funeral advice.

Contact Sandi for more information and competitive prices with burials, cremations or prepaid funerals.

Sandi Wood your local consultant
Phone: 4922 1269

fmckfunerals@live.com.au



MOUNT MORGAN CITIZEN'S CLUB

Upcoming Event - We will be hosting the amazing "Sounds of Healing" who will be holding a Community Sound Immersion in the acoustically brilliant St Enochs (Art Gallery). The first event really blew some minds, and with rave reviews, you don't want to miss it! 6pm Tuesday, 26 May. This is a free event for the community.

Thanks to all who attended our workshop and chillout space to celebrate diversity, inclusion, show allyship and enjoy some cake in support IDAHOBIT Day.

The Gallery is a safe and supportive space, where everyone is free to be themselves, and it was fantastic to meet so many interesting people. We will be holding more regular get togethers with dates to be advised, but if you have any ideas to make the space more welcoming, or can think of activities we all might enjoy, please let us know!

Ongoing reno's currently happening at the Arts Precinct involve the amenities block refurb, so if you or anyone you know would like to offer their expertise, we would love to see them completed! We are always looking for Volunteers to man the gallery, or help out any way they like, so if you feel inclined, our group are salt of the Earth, welcoming and downright interesting people!

Mount Morgan Soldiers Rooms.

Upcoming Event – Trivia Night, 6pm Saturday, 30 May. Great prizes on offer, \$10 per person, teams of 4-6 people, Bar is open and nibbles available.

In a new direction for our charity, we will be participating in a community partnership with Mabel. Commencing Friday, 5 June at 9:30-10:30am, we are hosting an information forum, answering questions about NDIS, and seeking input from those in the know as to what works, and what doesn't. All of this will be aimed at improving accessibility to services and helping participants make their funding go further. Morning tea is provided.

Following on from that at 11:30 – 12:30am, we are inviting anyone interested in becoming a disability carer to come along, as there are local opportunities on offer for eligible people to achieve the qualifications required at little to no cost.

This is open to anyone working or not, looking for a change in career, or entering the workforce, and is all about creating local jobs to keep money in our community, and enabling participants to optimize their NDIS funding to go further. A light lunch will be provided.

Phone 0411 865 621 to book in or just turn up on the day. The overseeing body of the Soldiers Rooms and Arts Precinct, the Mount Morgan Citizens Club Inc hold our General Meeting on the last Sunday of each month, and new Members and guests are always welcome.

For Hall bookings call 0419 605 662, and general enquiries, phone 0411 865 621.

MOUNT MORGAN QLD

TRIVIA FUN NIGHT!

6PM SATURDAY 30TH MAY

@Mount Morgan Soldiers Rooms
18 Morgan St

BAR OPEN | SNACKS AVAILABLE | TABLES OF 4-6 PEOPLE

\$10/PERSON

call 0411865621 to book!

Glen KELLY MP

State Member for Mirani

Standing Strong for Mount Morgan

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Everyone Welcome!

ART FOR HEALING



A breathtaking new contemporary Indigenous art piece has found its permanent home at the Genesis Care facility, transforming a modern clinical environment into a space of spiritual comfort, storytelling, and profound healing.

Created by renowned Indigenous artist Faylyn Lamb (pictured), the massive, vibrant canvas was commissioned to explicitly reflect the arduous but shared journey of cancer patients and their support networks.

The collaboration with Genesis Care began unexpectedly. After the healthcare provider was unable to reach the local Darumbal office, a personal family connection bridged the gap.

“My cousin works as a support worker for Genesis Care, so she contacted me and asked if I could do it,” Faylyn explained, noting that a meeting with facility manager Linda Feeney quickly set the project in motion.

“I was excited about creating such a large artwork, and they wanted it to tell the story of cancer sufferers, and it had to be bright and colourful. As you know I love bright and colourful.”

For Faylyn, her identity as an Indigenous artist dictates a deep responsibility to storytelling and connection to Country. With the guidance of her Ancestors, she envisioned a piece that would immediately uplift anyone navigating the clinic’s doors. Every inch of the canvas is rich with traditional designs, cultural themes, and specific symbolism including a central “meeting place” representing Genesis Care itself, surrounded by a circle depicting the cancer patients, white handprints encircling the

patients, symbolize the dedicated support people standing by their sides, snake tracks across the canvas to represent the long road of medical treatment, painted mountains underneath a rainbow signifying the obstacles patients face, alongside silhouettes of two people walking hand-in-hand to show that no one walks alone and vibrant blue waterholes connected by running water inviting patients to mentally sit by a creek, relax their minds, and ease their physical pain. The lower half of the artwork is a deeply intentional tapestry of ribbon representation. Each colour used signifies a different type of cancer, overlaid with various native Australian plants to tie the diagnosis back to the earth.

“The emotional atmosphere I was aiming for was to let the patients know that nobody is left behind or

left unrepresented,” Faylyn said.

Bringing a vision of this scale to life over a gruelling three-month period was not without significant physical challenges. Faylyn noted that she faced a steep learning curve, as it was the first time she had utilized an easel to create an artwork in more than 30 years. The demanding process resulted in long hours standing, swollen legs, eye-strain headaches, and a severe lack of sleep.

“Like many artists, when you are in that trance zone, it’s hard to leave what you’re doing and walk away,” Faylyn recalls. Yet, she faced zero creative roadblocks.

“I didn’t have any creative challenges, as I had the picture in my mind constantly.”

“The most rewarding thing was seeing it come together every single day to the finished product and being overwhelmed with pride with what I have created,” she shared.

Now that the masterpiece is installed, Faylyn hopes it offers holistic care to patients and their loved ones during their most vulnerable moments. Looking forward, she also hopes her milestone commission serves as a beacon for young, emerging First Nations talent across Australia who are trying to balance their passion with livelihood.

“Never give up on your Dreaming,” Faylyn urged. “The self-worth, pride, love of your culture, the healing, connection to Country and your Ancestors, and the peace you feel when creating something of beauty for the world to see and admire.”

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LIBRARY NEWS

“If I leave this house, it will be in handcuffs. They have discovered what’s upstairs”

Looking for your next read? The Housemaid by Freida McFadden is a popular choice – a fast-paced thriller full of twists.

Did you know you can request this title, or any item from our collection, to be delivered to Mount Morgan Library? Ask our friendly staff or place a hold online.

Storytime at the Zoo - 9.30am – 10.30am - Wednesday 17 June

Rockhampton Regional Libraries continue to host the increasingly popular Storytime at the Zoo each month, featuring stories, songs and dancing for all ages. Sessions are held outdoors, so please remember to bring a hat, water, snacks, and something comfortable to sit on.

This June, Sarah and Henrike will be reading the wonderfully fitting *Oh Dear, Look What I Got!* by Michael Rosen. We’d love to see you and the fam at Rockhampton Zoo on Wednesday 17 June



Read and Play - 10 – 11 am - Monday, 22 June

The excitement around our Mount Morgan Read and Play is growing. The library now hosts Read and Play each month, with the next session being Monday 22 June. Leading the reading will be our lovely librarian Natalie, everyone is welcome. And don't forget to pick up some fantastic books which you can read at home.



Glen KELLY MP
State Member for Mirani

71-73 Broad St. Sarina 4806 0700
www.glenkellymp.com.au @GlenKellyMP
mirani@parliament.qld.gov.au

Small Businesses Keep Mount Morgan Strong – Mount Morgan Argus- 18 May 2026

Mount Morgan has always been a town built on hard work, resilience and community spirit, and small businesses continue to play a vital role in keeping that spirit alive today.

Queensland Small Business Month, held each May, is an important opportunity to recognise the contribution small and family businesses make to regional communities like Mount Morgan.

These businesses are not just employers or shopfronts — they are part of the social fabric of the town.

From local cafés and pubs to retail stores, tradespeople and family-run services, small businesses help drive the local economy while also supporting community events, sporting clubs and local organisations.

They create local jobs, encourage people to stay in town, and help attract visitors to experience everything Mount Morgan has to offer.

In many regional communities, it is the small businesses that hold towns together through both the good times and the tough times.

They continue to invest in their communities despite rising operating costs, workforce shortages and ongoing

economic pressures.

This year’s Queensland Small Business Month focuses on helping businesses build resilience and embrace new opportunities. That is particularly important for historic regional towns like Mount Morgan, where tourism, local pride and small business innovation all play a role in supporting the future of the community.

Mount Morgan has a rich history and a unique character that continues to attract visitors from across Queensland and beyond.

Whether it is the town’s heritage buildings, local hospitality, arts and culture, or the friendly faces behind local businesses, there is something special about communities that back themselves and support local.

As Queensland Day approaches, locals are also being encouraged to celebrate the businesses and places that make Queensland great by voting for their favourites across categories including cafés, pubs, bakeries, campsites, florists and more.

It is a great opportunity to shine a spotlight on the hardworking small business owners who continue to contribute so much to regional communities like Mount Morgan.

I encourage locals to continue supporting Mount Morgan businesses wherever possible. Every dollar spent locally helps support jobs, strengthens the local economy and helps ensure regional communities continue to thrive into the future.

To make a QLD Day Award Nomination and vote in All the Best, search Queensland Day or visit <https://qldday.initiatives.qld.gov.au/>



MOUNT MORGAN JOBS EXPO

Wednesday 10 June - 11am to 1pm
Mount Morgan School of Arts, Morgan Street
Head to advancerockhampton.com.au/mountmorganjobs
or call (07) 4936 8282



STRIKE GOLD WITH YOUR FUTURE CAREER



Mount Morgan in Pictures

By Catherine McIntosh, descendant of the colonial Stubbs family of Mount Morgan

'Government House' on the Mount



Above: 1904 / Mount Morgan / Group photo in the garden of the reception house of the Mount Morgan Gold Mining Company Limited ('MMGM Co.'). Carlton House / Australia's third Governor-General in 1904-1908, Lord Henry Stafford Northcote (1846-1911) (seated centre) / Photo by F. Wham / From the Capricornia CQ Collection, CQUniversity Library.

Back row (l-r): Alderman John Morrison (Mayor of Mount Morgan); Lord Richard Nevill (member of Lord Northcote's entourage); Captain George Anderson Richard (general manager, MMGM Co.); John Fairweather (director, MMGM Co.); Dr William Callaghan (director, MMGM Co.; namesake of Callaghan Park); Robert Stubbs Archer (chairman of directors, MMGM Co.; of the pastoralist Archer family of Gracemere); Captain Stewart Balmain (Lord Northcote's private secretary).

Seated (l-r): Miss Lucille Callaghan; Mrs Ada Richard; Mrs Harriet Callaghan; Mrs Annie Fairweather; Governor-General Lord Northcote; Mrs Alice Archer; Miss Margaret Feilding (member of Lord Northcote's entourage; daughter of British Army general, Sir Percy; and later, wife of Governor of NSW, Sir Davidson); Mrs Frances Morrison. (Best efforts have been made to identify persons in the group photo through historical photographic and newspaper research).

The elegant Bedsor Street reception venue of the Mount Morgan Gold Mining Company, Carlton House, was light-heartedly known as 'Government House' because it entertained numerous dignitaries. VIPs included Governors-General of Australia, Queensland Governors and politicians – signifying the importance of the Mount Morgan gold mine to the Australian economy.

Carlton House was a single-storey timber structure, which the mining company built in the Victorian era from about 1886 to 1890 (pictured on Page 19). Surrounded by manicured gardens, the house featured wide verandahs and a corrugated roof (similar to a traditional Queenslander home).

Continued on Page 19

Mount Morgan in Pictures...From Page 18

Lord Northcote was the first of at least four Governors-General of Australia to be received at Carlton House. (The role of governor-general was created at Federation in 1901). He visited on Friday, 8 July 1904 in a private capacity (possibly wanting to get in on the action!). He was accompanied by a fellow lord, the daughter of a British Army general and his private secretary ('Visit of Lord Northcote to Mount Morgan', *Morning Bulletin*, 9 July 1904).

As was the norm when VIPs visited, Lord Northcote and his party enjoyed a lavish lunch at Carlton House. The Mount Morgan Brass Band under the conductorship of James McKelvie serenaded the distinguished guests as they ate. (At this stage, this author's maternal great-grandfather was a member of the band and was probably present at the event).

The pictured group photo was taken after lunch to commemorate the occasion. Lord Northcote is the moustachioed gentlemen (seated centre), wearing a suit and cravat, waistcoat and fob watch, and holding a bowler hat. He's photographed together with his entourage and suitably eminent ladies and gentlemen associated with the Mount Morgan mine, including three directors and their wives. One of Mount Morgan's well-known historical figures, Captain Richard, appears in the photo (back row, third from left). He was the general manager from 1903 to 1912.

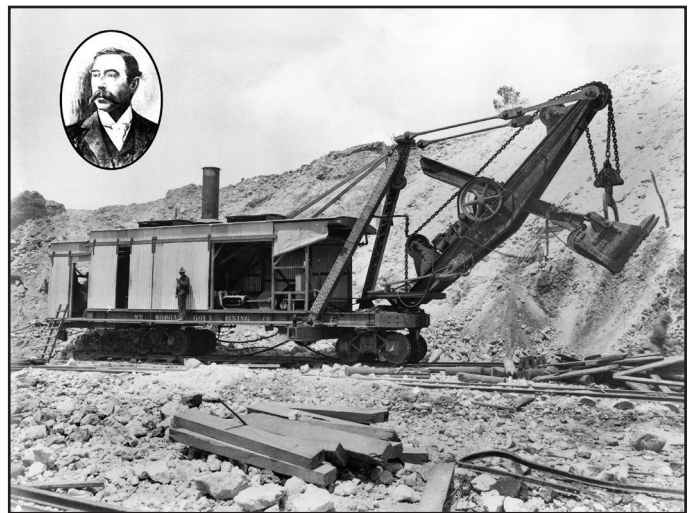
The directors and general manager then showed the viceroy over the famous works. Lord Northcote witnessed one of the greatest technological developments in mining of the time: the Bucyrus steam shovel. The mining company imported the steam shovel from the USA in 1903 (pictured right). This innovative technology replaced pick and shovel and could remove large quantities of overburden – up to 1,000 imperial tons daily.

Other governors-general followed suit. Lord Dudley and Sir Munro-Ferguson were guests of honour at 'Government House' in 1909 and 1914, respectively. The last governor-general to visit was

Lord Stonehaven in 1926 – two years before Carlton House was sold and relocated to Saint Faith's School in Yeppoon.



Above: c. 1903 / Mount Morgan / Carlton House, also known as 'Government House' because it hosted so many functions attended by government officials / State Library of Queensland.



Above: 1903 / Mount Morgan / The new steam shovel in the open cut / State Library of Queensland / Inset: Governor-General of Australia, Lord Northcote, who saw the steam shovel at work during his 1904 Mount Morgan mine tour / National Library of Australia.



VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE NEEDED

Mount Morgan Railway Museum and Explore Centre

Do you have an interest in local history? Or perhaps would like to be involved in town promotions? Mount Morgan Promotion and Development Inc would like to warmly welcome all interested individuals to become a part of the team! Workforce Australia and Centrelink Mutual Obligations also available. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Eve-lyn at MMPAD on 4938 2312 or email mmpad@mountmorgan.org.au.

SAVE THE DATE!

MAY 27: Dee River Oldies Group - May Morning Tea. It starts at 10 am and is held in St Mary's Hall, Gordon Street, Mount Morgan. (Behind the Anglican Church). Cost is \$5. Raffle and lucky door prizes.

MAY 29-30: Capricorn Coast Writers' Festival - Stories by the Sea. Book tickets at capricorncoastwritersfestival.com.

MAY 30: Trivia Night - Soldiers Rooms - 6 pm. Contact Kirra on 0411 865 621 for bookings.

MAY 31: Men's and Ladies Central Queensland Sand Green Championships.

JUN 13: Baree Markets. Baree Hall 8 am - 12 noon.

JUN 16: Dee River Oldies Group - June Monthly Meeting. It starts at 2 pm and is held in St Mary's Hall, Gordon Street, Mount Morgan. (Behind the Anglican Church).

JUN 24: Dee River Oldies Group - June Morning Tea. It starts at 10.00 am and is held in St Mary's Hall, Gordon Street, Mount Morgan. (Behind the Anglican Church). Cost is \$5. Raffle and lucky door prizes.

JUL 11: Baree Markets. Baree Hall 8 am - 12 noon.

JUL 18: Annual Kalapa Auction at Kalapa Hall. Bookings through TOPX Gracemere: Gavin Tickle 0488 580 730 or Kane Weazel 0460 426 830

JUL 21: Dee River Oldies Group - July Monthly Meeting. It starts at 2 pm and is held in St Mary's Hall, Gordon Street, Mount Morgan. (Behind the Anglican Church).

JUL 22: Dee River Oldies Group - July Morning Tea. It starts at 10.00 am and is held in St Mary's Hall, Gordon Street, Mount Morgan. (Behind the Anglican Church). Cost is \$5. Raffle and lucky door prizes.

SEP 5: Annual Kalapa Horse Sports at Kalapa Hall. Enquiries Greg Heath 0444 594 984, Peter Scott 0458 347 100 or Helen Howkins 0417 815 351



"BINGO AT BOULDY"
MONDAY, 1 JUNE 2026
 Doors open 9.30 am
 Call starts 10 am @ Bouldercombe Recreation Hall



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IN MEMORIAM

In Memory of Ray Hall who passed away in May 2025.

He will always be remembered by the Tremaine and Sealey families.



Tuesday 26th May, 6pm @ Mount Morgan Gallery @ 78 East St.
 This is a FREE event, an offering for the community by Sounds of Healing. Children under 12 not admitted.
 Please bring your yoga mats, pillows, quilts, blankets or a chair, anything you will need to be comfortable to sit or lay for 1hr.

THE NEXT EDITION WILL BE PUBLISHED ON WEDNESDAY, 10 JUNE 2026

All inclusions required by:
 Tuesday, 2 JUNE 2026 by 4 p.m.

Ph: 4938 2312

Email: mmpad@mountmorgan.org.au

If you don't receive your Argus, please contact us.