

Puzzle fever hits Ipswich

By Byron Peszko

It was a world of puzzles as more than 100 people across solo, pairs and team categories took part in the SEQ Puzzle Race held at Ipswich Showgrounds over the weekend.

Katie Jay, founder of SEQ Puzzle Race and Australian Social Jigsaw Puzzle Events said the event brought people from across SEQ to demonstrate their skills, all in one place.

“Most of the people who attended are from Ipswich as well as Toowoomba and Scenic Rim,” Ms Jay said.

The event involves solo, pairs and teams taking to puzzles from 500 to 1000 pieces.

“They all get given the same puzzle, sight unseen and they race to put it together.

“They get two hours to do it and the fastest is usually around 40 minutes.

Katie, a Silkstone resident, began the SEQ Puzzle Race and ASJPE three years ago.

“We started out because my dad, a returning vet, used to sit in his house, talk to nobody and do jigsaw puzzles.

She says the events are a way for people to come out of their houses.

“It’s about having a fun-filled day, plenty of laughs and surrounded by great company.

Ms Jay said the low-cost events, now amounting to 34 a year and counting, raise money for charities.

“We support Dolly’s Dream and this month are supporting Share the Dignity.

“We’re a very inclusive group and we pride ourselves in that.

“People just love to come along and do jigsaw puzzles because they’ve been doing them for so long now

“We offer swap puzzle opportunities which are high commodities.

“It’s like Facebook marketplace on steroids and so great friendships have been built through jigsaw hustling.”



One of the fastest puzzle people was Amanda Layther from Red Hill. (Lyle Radford: 543825)

Ms Jay says the event is about inclusion.

“We’re a very inclusive group and we pride ourselves in that.

“People just love to come along and do jigsaw

puzzles because they’ve been doing them for so long now

“You’re there to make friends, have a laugh and enjoy the company of one another.

“If you go in with that mindset, you’re going to come out every time having a good time,” Ms Jay said.

To be part of the fun, head to asjpe.com

CSI delivers dining options in support of ANZAC ‘26

ANZAC Day remains one of the most solemn and meaningful days on Australia’s calendar, a time when we pause to remember the courage, sacrifice and mateship of those who have served and continue to serve our nation.

On Saturday 25 April 2026, Club Services Ipswich (CSI) will once again provide a fitting place for the community to gather, reflect and commemorate together.

The day will begin in traditional fashion with the annual CSI Gunfire Breakfast, a longstanding ANZAC Day ritual that brings people together in the quiet hours of the morning. From 5.30am to 9.30am, attendees can enjoy a hot plated breakfast with refreshments for \$10 per person, with tickets available from reception.

Accompanied by the stirring sounds of a brass band from 6am, the early morning atmosphere promises both reverence and connection.

As the day unfolds, CSI will offer opportu-

nities for remembrance alongside responsible celebration. Two-up, a historic ANZAC tradition, will commence from 9am in the Legends Sports Bar (two-coin), before moving to the Top Car Park Kokoda Tent from 11am with three-coin play.

A range of raffles will also begin from 9am, with the Bremer River Day Club raffle drawn at 11am, followed by community raffles throughout the afternoon.

Live entertainment will continue across the day, including a marching band performance from 11.30am, adding colour and ceremony to the proceedings. For those wishing to gather with family and friends later, the Longhorn Bar & Grill Bistro will be open from 11am until late, providing a welcoming space to share a meal and conversation.

ANZAC Day at Club Services Ipswich is more than a schedule of events. It is a reminder of shared history, respect for service, and the enduring strength of community.



CSI on ANZAC Day 2025 (542934)

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