

**MEDIA RELEASE**

21 October 2024

**This National Water Week, it's time to consider a career in water**

It's National Water Week (21-27 October), and Gladstone Area Water Board (GAWB) is seizing the opportunity to promote careers in the water industry.

GAWB owns and operates one of Queensland's largest dams, Lake Awoonga – which connects the community and visitors with recreational opportunities, a connection to nature and education. GAWB also operates the Aquaculture Gladstone fish hatchery, which is actively driving future growth and development of Queensland's aquaculture industry.

Gladstone Area Water Board CEO Darren Barlow said GAWB has a small but dedicated team of staff, across a range of operational and support roles, working to deliver safe, secure, and reliable water supply to our customers.

“Because of the diversity in the work we do, there are multiple opportunities for interesting and varied work at GAWB,” Mr Barlow said.

“Diverse career pathways at GAWB include school-based traineeships at Aquaculture Gladstone, electrical and instrumentation apprenticeships, to roles in water treatment, engineering, surveying, mechanical fitting, dam safety, finance, environmental science, human resources, and business administration, and many more.

“Our team makes sure the water is delivered consistently and safely from Awoonga Dam to customers, enabling our region to thrive,” said Mr Barlow.

Throughout National Water Week, GAWB employees are being profiled on our social media.

The first profile is Thomas Ryan, Senior Hatchery Technician at Aquaculture Gladstone.

A keen fisherman, Thomas grew up on the Gold Coast but was regularly drawn to the unparalleled Barramundi fishing at Lake Awoonga. After a number of years at a large prawn farm down south, Thomas relocated, and he is now a key part in raising Barramundi, Sea Mullet and Mangrove Jack fingerlings for release back into the lake.

To read Thomas' full profile, follow GAWB on Facebook, Instagram or LinkedIn, or visit our website – [www.gawb.qld.gov.au](http://www.gawb.qld.gov.au)

Gladstone Area Water Board, as a Queensland Government Bulk Water Supply Authority, delivers safe and reliable water services which promote economic development and enhances the lifestyle of regional Queensland. Gladstone Area Water Board owns and operates Awoonga Dam on the Boyne River, along with a network of delivery pipelines, water treatment plants and other bulk water distribution infrastructure.

**ENDS**

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