



## Signpost to Dingo



### **DINGO**

*We are a safe and welcoming rural community known for our famous bronze dingo statue and our busy road junction, which is vital to the agricultural and mining industries of the Central Highlands region.*

#### **WHERE CAN YOU FIND US?**

We are located at the intersection of the Capricorn Highway and the Fitzroy Development Road, known locally as the Mount Flora Beef Road.

We are situated almost midway between Rockhampton, which is 147 kilometres to our east and Emerald another 123 kilometres to the west, and Blackwater is only 48 kilometres away.

#### **HOW DID DINGO BEGIN?**

We have a long indigenous heritage, which is evident in the sandstone rock art at the nearby Blackdown Tablelands National Park. The first European to arrive in the area was explorer Ludwig Leichhardt in 1845, naming the Mackenzie and Dawson river systems.

Our town is said to be named by our early pioneers who worked on the construction of the railway as it forged westward from Rockhampton in 1876. One story says a railway surveyor sighted a dingo on the banks of the creek, while another declares a settler heard wild dogs howling around his camp, which later became the site of our town.

We began as a small centre catering for the essential needs of railway workers and their

families, and for those living on surrounding properties.

Timber mills were established to process the local hardwood cleared for pastoral and agricultural development with Olive and Sons saw-mills still operating today.

A great boost to our economy came in the 1960's when the Brigalow Development Scheme opened up considerable tracts of land for cattle grazing.

Today, our location at the junction of two major highway networks, the Capricorn Highway and the Mount Flora Beef Road, means we are situated at a busy cross-road that services the beef, timber and coal mining industries in the Central Highlands. Up to 1,000 vehicles can pass through our town on any given day and it is not unusual to see triple road trains parked outside the Dingo Roadhouse.

#### **WHAT MAKES OUR COMMUNITY UNIQUE?**

Even though we are close to the mining activity of the Bowen Basin coal reserve, we remain a genuine country town with a strong emphasis on families. We consider ourselves to be an ideal family community with a safe environment in which to raise our children.

Our population totalled 237 by 2010 with 130 people living in Dingo and 107 in the surrounding rural area.

Together we have developed some of our best community assets such as the race club, tennis club, pony club, rodeo grounds and community hall.



Our community enjoys hosting social events such as the annual Dingo Races. We are renowned for the World Dingo Trap Throwing Championship, which is a unique celebration that is seriously competitive.

We take advantage of our rural lifestyle and the nearby majestic Blackdown Tablelands National Park to go bushwalking, camping and swimming.

Many tourists visiting the National Park also pass through Dingo and stay at our local caravan park.

**WHERE DO OUR PEOPLE LIVE AND WORK?**

Our small community is sustained by diverse industries.

Many of our people work in the agricultural and pastoral industries as property managers and owners or as support workers.

Others work at the local timber mills, the Dingo Roadhouse and in the mining industry.

The state primary school, post office and hotel/motel also offer additional employment.

**HOW DO WE GET AROUND?**

As we are strategically located at the intersection of two major road networks, Dingo is known for the trucks and road trains, which travel the Central Highlands region and beyond. Mine workers, travellers, tourists and transport operator’s journey through this busy intersection.

It is an easy drive for us to reach Rockhampton, Blackwater or Emerald to obtain the more specialised services and shopping.

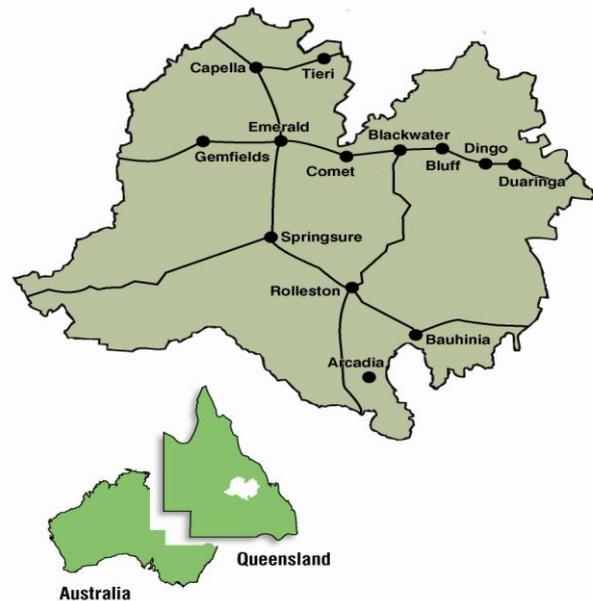
Airports are available in Emerald and Rockhampton.

A school bus brings children from outer laying areas to our primary school and then takes students to the high school in Blackwater.

**DINGO – A JOURNEY INTO THE FUTURE.**

Looking to our future, we will continue to be a positive and welcoming community that aims to attract new residents and visitors by sharing our genuine country lifestyle.

**Central Highlands Region**



This signpost was created as a brief introduction to our town/locality. Information was accessed from a variety of sources including brochures, web-sites and people.

*Disclaimer: Every effort has been taken to ensure this information sheet is free from error and/or omission at the date of printing. Council is not responsible for loss experienced by persons or organisations acting or refraining from action as a result of this information.*