

Edition 1

# Inform Newsletter

Etheridge Shire



Routh Creek bridge approach.

January was a busy month for the rain Gods in Georgetown. Routh Creek Bridge sustained major damage and the road had to be closed making traffic come to a standstill. Like most small towns, Etheridge Shire Council workers are a resilient bunch and have been tirelessly repairing the approach to the bridge. Credit to all of these people who made a combined effort in repairing the damage, whilst bad weather persisted. Big thank you!

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Hello and welcome to this months  
report

With the festive season behind us Council is now back in full swing (weather pending).

As at the 29th of January, Council will go into caretaker mode for the upcoming Local Government elections to run its course. The January Council meeting is the last opportunity for Council to make decisions, virtually limiting Councils ability to be in management mode only for the period of the election. I would like to acknowledge Cr. Gallagher's contribution to the Etheridge community in his term as Councillor and thank him for the years of commitment to those he represented and to his community.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Mayor and Councillors for their dedication to their roles and responsibilities, whilst representing their community in the most diligent and respectful way over the last four years.

I also send a big shout out to the gardening crew in Georgetown and town maintenance staff in the smaller communities who do a fantastic job throughout the year but more so over the wet season keeping pace with the growing season and staying on top of a challenging component of Councils duties.

The foreshadowed monsoon season will again throw up challenges for Council and contractors but as we always do we will find ways to work around those challenges when they present. There is still much to do to complete the current Flood Damage Project within the prescribed timeframe, and yes there will be rain interrupted periods along the way but Councils resolve is to complete as per schedule.

Ms Allison Smith, CEO of Local Government Association Queensland (LGAQ), Mayor Mark Jamenson, President of LGAQ visited the Etheridge Shire on the 22nd January and will hold discussions with Council central to topics impacting on Council operations. LGAQ is pivotal to local government as a peak advocacy body and to have them drive into Georgetown for a visit is certainly appreciated by Council.

Once again it's that time of the year where the youngest of our community members are off on one of the biggest journeys of their life as the new school year looms very close. Council wishes you all well in your endeavours for the future especially those who move onto secondary school and those who are contemplating career choices as you near the end of your school journey.

I recently travelled to Townsville with the Mayor on the 17th January to be present at the major announcement by the Federal Agriculture Minister, The Honourable Murray Watt and Premier Steven Miles relating to the repurposing of a \$210,000,000 Resilience and Recovery funding package for North and North West Queensland

This money was underspent in the 2019 Monsoon Event and Council have been diligently advocating for the distribution of these funds to the affected Shires along with CEO of North West ROC Greg Hoffman. The following press conference saw Federal Ag Minister and Queensland Premier Steven Miles in Townsville announce Stage 1 of this funding allocation to the value of \$119,000,000. There is a further \$91,000,000 to follow to be distributed across the North and North West region as a Stage 2 allocation. Watch this space for further announcements. The full media release is in this edition of the Inform.

Council has considered the challenges associated with road closures and forecast weather models and have had to make the very difficult decision to postpone the Australia Day celebrations in Einasleigh on the 26th January.

This is something that Council did not consider lightly and after much deliberation and respect for both the meaning of what Australia Day stands for and the community of Einasleigh as host of the event a future date will be advised. We understand that this may be an inconvenience for some but to be fair to the majority Council will now consider a future date for the event.

Kind Regards,  
Ken Timms PSM



# COUNCIL MEETINGS



In accordance with Section 254B of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Etheridge Shire Council advises that its General Council Meetings will be held at the Council Chambers, 41 St George Street, Georgetown commencing at 9.00am unless otherwise notified on the following dates:

**Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024**  
**Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024**  
**Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024**  
**Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> April 2024**  
**Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024**  
**Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> June 2024**  
**Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024**  
**Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> August 2024**  
**Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024**  
**Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024**  
**Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024**  
**Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

Meeting agendas and minutes are available on Council's website –  
[www.etheridge.qld.gov.au](http://www.etheridge.qld.gov.au)



**Mayor Barry Hughes**

0458 621 233

[mayor@etheridge.qld.gov.au](mailto:mayor@etheridge.qld.gov.au)



**Deputy Mayor Laurell Royes**

0459 278 377

[Cr.royes@etheridge.qld.gov.au](mailto:Cr.royes@etheridge.qld.gov.au)



**Cr Joseph (Joe) Haase**

0459 623 582

[cr.haase@etheridge.qld.gov.au](mailto:cr.haase@etheridge.qld.gov.au)



**Councillor Anthony (Tony) Gallagher**

0448 089 144

07 4062 5315

[cr.gallagher@etheridge.qld.gov.au](mailto:cr.gallagher@etheridge.qld.gov.au)



**Councillor Cameron Barns**

0459 136 283

07 4062 5307

[cr.barns@etheridge.qld.gov.au](mailto:cr.barns@etheridge.qld.gov.au)

## Notice of Election

### 2024 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

SATURDAY 16 MARCH 2024

---

The local government quadrennial elections will be held on Saturday, 16 March 2024.

Polling booths will be open on election day from 8am to 6pm. Voting is compulsory.

Candidate nominations are open from Monday, 29 January 2024 and close at 12pm (noon) on Tuesday, 13 February 2024.

Nominations are invited from those interested in contesting the 2024 local government elections.

- Nominations must be lodged with the Returning Officer or through the Electoral Commission of Queensland's (ECQ) website.
- Information about how to nominate as a candidate is available on the ECQ website.
- To find the contact details and office locations of the Returning Officer for your local government area, please see the ECQ website or phone 1300 881 665.

#### Enrol to vote or check your enrolment details

- Enrol to vote or update your details at [www.aec.qld.gov.au](http://www.aec.qld.gov.au).
- The electoral roll closes on Monday, 5 February 2024.


Information about the election including polling booths, early voting locations and hours, and postal voting applications will be available on the ECQ website or by phoning 1300 881 665.

This notice is issued under sections 23, 25, 35 and 206 of the *Local Government Electoral Act 2011*

E: [ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au](mailto:ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au) | P: 1300 881 665 | W: [ecq.qld.gov.au](http://ecq.qld.gov.au)

P: GPO Box 1393 Brisbane QLD 4001 | A: Level 20, Eagle Street Brisbane QLD 4000

---



# **First Point of Contact in an Emergency**

## **Contact Personnel:**

**Council's nominated first point of  
contact is**

**CEO - Ken Timms**

**Phone : 0439 414 771**

**If the LDMG (Local Disaster  
Management Group) is activated by  
the Chairperson (The Mayor) the  
Controlling Officer will be Ken Timms.**

**Phone: 0439 414 771**



## **Suggestion Box**

**A suggestion box is available for the staff and  
public in the foyer of the Etheridge Shire  
Council Main Office and within the Engineering  
Services.**

**All suggestions are welcome being anonymous  
or otherwise.**

**Let's work together to make the Shire better!**





# GEORGETOWN

## Multi Purpose Sports Centre & Memorial Pool

### KEYLESS ENTRY TO COUNCIL FACILITIES



#### ActiveKIT

Etheridge Shire Council in partnership with the Queensland Government Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport is delivering the ActiveKit initiative in collaboration with Health and Wellbeing Queensland. The ActiveKIT initiative has allowed Etheridge Shire Council to improve on the accessibility to the Memorial Pool and Multipurpose Centre



#### Keyless Entry

The access to both the Memorial Pool and Multipurpose Centre will now be streamlined with the use of swipe access using a smart phone or FOB. Access can be obtained to the kitchen, meeting room, gym, squash courts, and our newly installed lockers for safe keeping of valuables while using the facility.



#### Updates

We will keep you updated via our Facebook page, Council website and noticeboard. Keyless entry will be effective from Monday, 12th February. Please note tokens will no longer be accepted at the pool. All entry to these facilities will be via smartphone or Council issued FOB's (contact Council for details).



#### CONTACT US

07 4079 9090  
PO Box 12, Georgetown QLD 4871  
41 St George St, Georgetown, QLD 4871  
[www.etheridge.qld.gov.au](http://www.etheridge.qld.gov.au)

health+  
wellbeing  
Queensland



Queensland  
Government





# NORTH WEST QUEENSLAND WELCOMES MUCH-NEEDED FLOOD RECOVERY INVESTMENT



Local government leaders from across North West Queensland have welcomed priority investment for flood recovery and resilience in the region as part of the State and Federal government's \$119 million funding package announced today.

Representatives from the North West Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils (NWQROC) joined Premier Steven Miles and Senator Murray Watt, Federal Minister for Emergency Management in Townsville meeting ahead of the announcement to discuss local recovery investment plans and a second stage package of \$98 million to address the councils impacted by the 2019 Monsoon flooding event.

At the announcement today Senator Watt said: "Local governments have put in a huge effort to help their communities recover and they'll be very much involved in planning where that money is spent.

"Given the scale of the events that we saw, those councils in North West Queensland, which are represented today by their mayors, will be a very key focus in this recovery and resilience package."

“When we have these events, we want to build back better, and that’s what this funding is about, so we’re more prepared for the future,” Senator Watt said.

Representing NWQROC, Etheridge Shire Mayor Barry Hughes said it is most welcome to see that funding priority was the North West which was seriously impacted by flooding events in 2023.



“To be able to stand here today with the support of both State and Federal government, is a huge milestone for helping rural and remote councils right across the North and North West, Mayor Hughes said.

“Councils can start to develop detailed plans and costing for building back better to avoid recurring damage to essential infrastructure and invest in our communities’ health and wellbeing.”

“It’s a great day when the three levels of government can come together when it comes to try to fix the impacts of these weather events. In our case across the North West councils, it dates back to the devastating monsoonal flooding in 2019.”



“NWQROC has done a great job advocating for this type of funding to be delivered. To see it come to fruition today is a great day for North West Queensland,” he said.

“Whilst we see the normal impact on roads and infrastructure, there are so many other areas that have been impacted. The communities’ resilience, health and well-being, connectivity, housing, all those things have been impacted by those massive weather events.

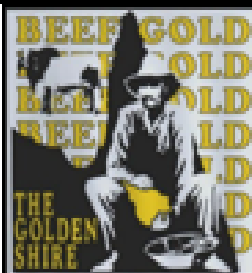


“Speaking with the Minister and Premier earlier on we understand this is a stage one, with further funding in the pipeline and we look forward to working closely to see that come to fruition as well.”

“We well and truly recognise that we’re just one part of Queensland that has been impacted. We are very appreciative of the type of funding that’s being delivered,” Mayor Hughes said.

NWQROC is working with the National Emergency Management Agency and Queensland Reconstruction Authority on the details on the development of priorities and program details for the second round of funding focussing on the 2019 flooding event and we look forward to





**ETHERIDGE SHIRE**

.....a part of the Gulf Savannah Region.

# ***PUBLIC NOTICE***

*Etheridge Shire Council wishes to advise  
Georgetown Swimming Pool will be closed to the  
public at the following dates and times due to the  
Georgetown State School's swimming program.*

## ***Swimming Training***

- *Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> of January 11:30am – 3:00pm*
- *Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> of February 11:30am – 3:00pm*
- *Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> of February 11:30am – 3:00pm*
- *Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> of February 11:30am – 3:00pm*
- *Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> of February 11:30am – 3:00pm*
- *Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> of March 11:30am – 3:00pm*

## ***Swimming Carnival***

- *Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> of March – All day*

*Should you have any queries in respect to this matter  
please contact Council on (07) 4079 9090.*

Ken Timms  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
GEORGETOWN QLD 4871

Etheridge Shire Council  
PO Box 12

Proudly Supporting



Royal Flying  
Doctor Service



**ANNUAL PIG HUNT**

**&**

**BEST RIG COMP**

**18th • 19th • 20th**

**JULY 2024**

**GEORGETOWN RODEO GROUNDS**

**FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT**

**HUNTING STARTS 6PM THURSDAY**

**WEIGH IN SATURDAY FROM 12PM - 4PM**

**FOLLOWED BY DINNER, BAR & MUSIC TILL LATE**

**GREAT PRIZES TO BE WON**

**FOOD • BAR • MUSIC • STALLS • FAMILY ACTIVITIES**



FIND US ON FACEBOOK



# Georgetown Primary Health Centre

## **INFORMATION ON HOW TO ACCESS THE HEALTH CENTRE FOR NON-URGENT BOOKINGS AND EMERGENCIES AFTER HOURS**

### **OPENING HOURS:**

Mon – Fri 9am -12pm & 2pm – 4pm

Sat/Sun/Public Holidays 10am – 12pm

### **EMERGENCIES ONLY WILL BE SEEN AFTER HOURS – CALL 000 OR PRESS THE RED EMERGENCY BUTTON AT THE HEALTH CENTRE FRONT DOOR**

The clinic phone is diverted afterhours and when the nurse is taking a fatigue break or attending an emergency away from the health centre.

You can phone the Health Centre from 8:00am to 4:00pm weekdays and 10:00am to 4:00pm on weekends/public holidays.

**AFTERHOURS YOU WILL BE PROMPTED TO RING 000. SELECT THE OPTION FOR AMBULANCE.**

The Ambulance call centre will contact the Nurse on Shift, while taking your details. It is important when you hang up from the ambulance that you stay off your phone so that the nurse can call you back.

Also, a reminder that if you require medical information to phone the clinic on 40621266.

**It is not appropriate to message clinic staff via messenger on Facebook or on private phone numbers.**

If it is non urgent and afterhours, and you want to speak to a health professional, you can always phone 13HEALTH (13 43 25 84) for information.

### **FOR NON-URGENT CONSULTS BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL**

**PLEASE CALL AHEAD OF ARRIVING WHEREVER POSSIBLE SO THAT HEALTH CENTRE STAFF CAN MAKE A BOOKING (4062 1266). WHEN THE NURSE IS WITH ANOTHER PATIENT YOU MAY BE REQUIRED TO LEAVE A MESSAGE ON OUR ANSWERING SYSTEM, OR WITH OUR HELPFUL STAFF AND YOUR CALL WILL BE ANSWERED IN TURN.**



# Georgetown Primary Health Centre

## **Hello, our amazing Georgetown Community**

We hope you have all had a wonderful festive season and spent some valuable time with friends and family over this wonderful time of the year. Here we are in 2024, and we wish you all the very best for a wonderful year.

We ended our year well by winning the prize for the Best Christmas lights competition (Business category). I would like to thank the Ambulance Auxiliary for their donation to help us with purchasing the lights. We were pleased to bring some cheer into the community.



## **RFDS Doctors Clinics for the month**

The RFDS clinics are now very busy and often booking out a fortnight ahead. The nurses are triaging Dr's appointment as required to make sure people are being seen in appropriate timeframes, so the nurse may ask what you are seeing the Dr for to know if you need an extended appointment or may be able to do a telephone appointment.

The doctors have 20-minute appointments, so if you are needing more than 1-2 concerns address, medicals or removal of skin lesions please let us know so that we can book a longer appointment.

We all understand things come up so if you are unable to attend your appointment, please let us know so that we can offer your appointment to someone else.

### **Upcoming dates:**

12/01/2024 FRIDAY

18/01/2024 THURSDAY

25/01/2024 THURSDAY NOTE – NO VISIT ONLY TELHEALTH AVAILABLE

01/02/2024 THURSDAY

## UPCOMING VISITING HEALTH TEAMS:

### **WOMENS HEALTH NURSE**

Phone Georgetown Clinic for appointments 40621266

5/03/2023

10/06/2023

### **OPTOMETRY**

To be advised

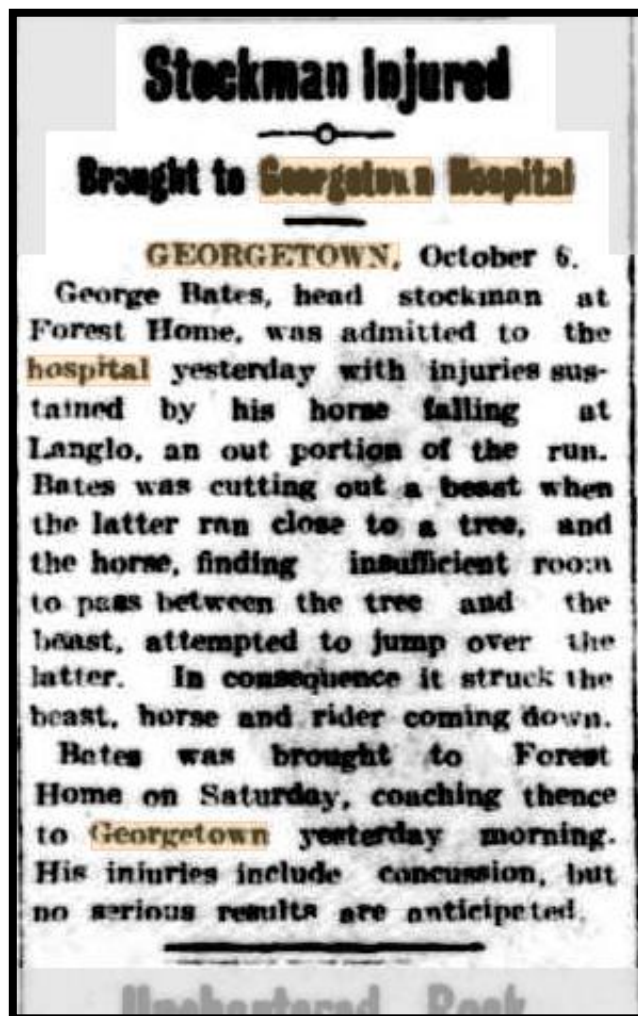
### **NWRH (Mental Health support)**

Face to face – to be advised.

Telehealth is offered.

Referrals can be self-referral, Dr or Nurse Referral. Please call us 4062 1266 for more information or NWRH 47819300

## **OLD NEWS:**



(Cairns Post 07 October 1913).

Thank you and Kind Regards,

Serena Mulholland - with and on behalf of Jasmond Murray

## **The 1974 Floods**

2024 marks 50 years since the devastating 1974 floods. Torrential rain and record breaking floods were a direct result of Tropical Cyclone Wanda, which crossed north of Brisbane. Record flooding occurred in the Bulloo, Paroo middle and lower reaches of the Flinders, Norman, Gilbert, Cooper, Diamantina, Georgina and Eyre rivers and creeks.

A big thank you to Colleen Henry for sending in these historical stories to be shared with everyone in our Shire community.

*It is important that we remember our Shire's history and the brave community members who lived through it.*

### **Flood Gilbert River, January 1974**

#### **Lake Carlo Station**

**Robert and Kath McFarlane and daughters Robyn Lethbridge and Colleen Henry (both nee McFarlane).**

Dad, Mum, Robyn, and I went to Georgetown as Dad cut his foot. While we were in Georgetown the Gilbert River rose and the water went over the bridge. We had a house in Georgetown, we went back and stayed there.

There was a couple of days of heavy rain then it started flooding. By the time of the flooding the rain was clearing.

Strathmore Helicopter flew up to the road now known as Strathmore turnoff but back then was a clear area on the road to Croydon. They picked up Robert McFarlane and Jamesie Johns who had driven out from Georgetown.

They dropped Jamesie at Lake Carlo. The Pilot and Robert flew to Langlovale to check on the caretaker Jock Ludlow. The Langlo River had flooded through the Langlovale house the night before and Jock got up onto the roof of the caravan. Langlovale was Bill and Bonnie McFarlane's home with their family Megan, Susan, David,



and Peter (not where the Langlovale house is today). Jock wouldn't leave with them unless they took his little ducks, so they took the ducks too and went back to Lake Carlo.

The Strathmore Helicopter then went back to Strathmore. Robert McFarlane, Jamesie Johns, Bob Wallis and Jock Ludlow were at Lake Carlo for a few days, the water was at the back door of the house. They put things up on 44-gallon drums, but the water rose higher, and drums floated. The water was about 18 inch deep through the house and rising quickly when they shifted out of the house at 3 o'clock in the morning to an old truck they had moved up to higher ground a day or two before. The flood water peaked about 3ft 6in through the Lake Carlo homestead.

They lost radio contact. The helicopter from Strathmore and Bill Harris came checking on them. They airlifted Jock Ludlow and Bill Harris to the area where they were meeting on the road on the Georgetown side of the Gilbert River Bridge. They went back for a second trip to get Bob Wallis, Jamesie Johns and Robert McFarlane. They only had 2 seats and time was running out and they couldn't come back again, Robert said he would stay behind, Jamesie said if Robert was staying so would he. It was suggested that Robert sit on the side, and they strap a rope over his legs and tie him on, so that is what they did, Robert was strapped to the step of the helicopter.

Georgetown policeman, Brian Norris, and a couple of others drove them to Crooked creek - it was too high to cross. They walked over fairly still water backed up from the Gilbert River. Others waiting there drove them to Sandy Creek (old causeway back then no bridge like it is today) where they again walked over the water to Georgetown.

The next day Robert went out with Brian Norris to meet the people from Strathmore. The helicopter ferried Brian and Robert over Crooked creek to vehicles, and they drove down to the Gilbert to pick up 26 Strathmore people to go back to Georgetown, Michael and Toni Rodney and their little 6 month old baby Joanne, Morris

and Margaret Gallagher with 2 children of their relatives, Len Forman and his dog, Richie Richardson and others not sure of all their names (some names below).

The Strathmore people had moved out from the homestead and spent the night camped over on a hill before being airlifted out to the meeting place on the Gulf Development Road to get to Georgetown the next day.

More from Michael and Toni Rodney's memory of the 1974 flood below:

Some days later Robert McFarlane, Jamesie Johns and Wayne Beard drove out from Georgetown then walked to the bridge, they climbed over the rubbish on the bridge. The approaches to the bridge out about 800 metres were washed away and the approaches to Pleasant creek were washed away too. They walked to Lake Carlo about 10 km. They then drove back out to Pleasant Creek in Richie Richardson's car and walked back over Gilbert Bridge to their vehicle. A couple of horses were living in the house. A few days later they went back out, walked the bridges, and went back to Lake Carlo and started to clean up. It was weeks before the bridge could be cleared.

Robert thinks Bill and Pat McFarlane might have flown to Langlovale to check things there.

## **1974 Flood - Memories from Michael and Toni Rodney Strathmore Station**

The Strathmore helicopter arrived in the late afternoon, he had to shift approx. 26 people, including 2 kids who were Maurice Gallagher relations including Len's dog.

The helicopter had to land on a 4 wheel trailer as there was water everywhere, we got to the trailer on the dozer. We then went to the nearest hill towards Croydon. The men had to light a fire so that the helicopter could see to land for the last couple of trips.

We stayed there overnight and the next morning we were ferried to the bitumen by two helicopters. One was the Strathmore helicopter flown by Tony McCellan and the second helicopter was from Vanrook flown by Kevin Newman. Then we were ferried to the creek outside Georgetown.

We basically sat at Sandy Creek all day, as there wasn't a strong enough person to row us across. Somebody did have a go but only took some luggage, but he only got halfway across, the boat tipped over and he clung on to a tree in the middle of the creek. It was late in the afternoon when we finally got rowed over Sandy creek.

The stockmen all stayed in the Student Hostel. Mike and Toni stayed at Fred and Marie's. After a week, Mike and a few others went back to Strathmore and started cleaning up. The cold room was full of rotten meat, and all the buildings had had about 3 ft of water through them. Toni and Joanne (who was only a baby - 6 months old) went out to Strathmore a few weeks after the flood. The reason why we were so late being ferried out was we had to wait for the helicopter to come back from Normanton, where it was helping people out there. When the pilot got back to Strathmore, he said our predicament was a lot worse than where he had been.



Some of the people that Michael and Toni can remember at Strathmore and Minnie's Station (the out station) at the time of the flood:

Jack Linder and his son Jack. Molly Fleming she was Jack Linder's partner and some others who came from Minnie's. Strathmore people; Jeff Friberg, Grahame Hartwig, Dick Newbury, Tim Grimmond, Bernie Ott, the handyman was Gordon Hammil (he never wore a hat or boots) and Stephen Wilson (Stretch).

Photos of the Gulf Development Road at Gilbert River Bridge between Georgetown and Croydon below:



If you have any historical stories that you would like to include in the Inform to share, please send to

[inform@etheridge.qld.gov.au](mailto:inform@etheridge.qld.gov.au)

# CRAMPTON ROAD CHRISTMAS EVE STREET PARTY

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house  
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.....

That wasn't the case down on Crampton Road street party  
A lovely gathering of people turned out, armed with their  
esbies, camp chairs and shared plates.

Santa rolled in on a Harley, much to the delight of the kids.

A big thank you to Gill & Andrea for sorting/wrapping gifts for  
all the kids as well as our Santa, who made the long journey  
down.

We are hoping that next year another street takes on the idea  
as its a great way for people to get together, catch up and just  
enjoy each others company.





Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone from both Cherie and Seven.

Thank you to everyone for their support throughout the year(s). As a reminder here are some of the things we can help you with at the office:

- JP Services
- Scan, Print, Copy, Fax, Email
- Motor Vehicle registrations (new by appointment and before 3pm)
- Registration renewal card payments over the phone
- Fossicking licences
- Birth, Death and Marriage Certificates
- Many more.....

A recent change effecting a few is now that a Primary Producer concession application for your vehicle registration requires supporting documentation from your accountant. Check out Form F5381 on the Transport and Main Roads website or contact the office.

Have a great day 😊



# Thank You

## Message from Councillor Tony Gallagher

I would like to let the voters of the Etheridge Shire know that I will not be standing for the next Local Government elections.

I would like to thank the people who voted me into office, It has been a rewarding , but sometimes frustrating time. As I look back and see some of the projects that you have asked me to take on come to fruition I feel a sense of achievement and pride, those projects that didn't transpire, I apologise for that, but I only hold one vote at meetings.

There are plenty of would be experts out there so now is the chance to put your money where your mouth is and nominate.

I would encourage our younger generation in town who are rate payers and have a long term commitment to the Shire to stand and make a difference. These are the people needed for a continuous forward moving Council.

Once again thank you, it has been a privilege.

Cr Tony Gallagher







Little Gems  
Children's Centre

**We're Back!**

We hope you all had a safe and Happy New Year! We are back into the swing of things here at Little Gems and can't wait for all the exciting things to come in 2024.







## Farewell Big Kids!

We would like to say a massive congratulations to our big kiddies starting prep this year. We will miss you and we wish you all the best of luck with your schooling years!



# congratulations



## **Be Battery Disposal Aware**



Battery safety is an increasing issue in Australia, particularly for LGAs across the country who are asking for assistance in communicating best practice battery safety.

B-cycle, Australia's Government-backed battery recycling Scheme, has developed a national Battery Safety Awareness Campaign that aims to raise consumer awareness about the human and environmental risks associated with batteries and the importance of safe recycling. This is the first step in a series of campaigns that will work to change behaviour by educating the community with specific, action-oriented steps focused on the improvement of battery safety.

### **The campaign urges Australians to:**

- Never dispose of batteries in waste or recycling bins
- Tape used battery terminals with clear sticky tape
- Take used batteries to a B-cycle Drop-off point.

Please access the How-to-guide with links to the full asset pack

[https://bcycle.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/BSC\\_SafetyCampaign\\_HowToGuide.pdf](https://bcycle.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/BSC_SafetyCampaign_HowToGuide.pdf)

and address your questions and feedback about the campaign to B-cycle to:

[contact@bcycle.com.au](mailto:contact@bcycle.com.au)

1300 853 820



Office of Circular Economy | Environment and Heritage, Policy and Programs  
Department of Environment and Science

400 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000  
GPO Box 2454 Brisbane QLD 4001



## **Northern General Freight**

---

We have a single flat top, step deck, B Double, road train & B Double cattle crates. Will cart Hay, Stock lick, Machinery, buildings, cattle, steel & much more!

Servicing the Etheridge Shire & beyond. Depot in Einasleigh & an undercover depot now in Georgetown.

Jim 0429 96 013

Irene 0467 672 525 [northerngeneralfreight@outlook.com](mailto:northerngeneralfreight@outlook.com)

QBCC: 1295775



**Plumbing**

**Water and Sewage Treatment Specialist**

**- Residential   - Commercial   - Mining**

Call Kevin 0438 018 932

[kev@greatnorthernplumbingservices.com](mailto:kev@greatnorthernplumbingservices.com)



Now visiting Georgetown, Forsyth & Croydon every 3 months - Available for Free Quotes



GEORGETOWN PROGRESS  
ASSOC INC PRESENTS

# BINGO

Every 4th Sunday of the Month

\$10 Per Book  
\$3 Pen  
\$8 Troll

Event will not occur if Bingo falls on  
a public holiday or Golf Club event

GOLD COIN ENTRY (FOR ETHERIDGE CARES)

PLEASE BRING A SHARED PLATE  
FOR SMOKO

Venue: Georgetown Golf Club  
Please bring correct change

9am to 11am

2024-2025  
Etheridge Shire Council  
Telephone Directory  
Now Available at  
the Shire Office  
Price \$5.00



Register your child now

celebrating

10 years

eKindy

playing to learn

eKindy is a flexible **at home** kindergarten program designed for children  
unable to attend a local service due to **distance, travel** or **medical** reasons.  
eKindy is available to eligible families at **no cost**.

eKindy provides online support by a qualified early childhood teacher, based  
at a Queensland School of Distance Education.

eKindy helps build the foundation skills, understandings and positive  
approaches to learning needed for future success.

**Ensuring all children have a strong start**

Call us on (07) 3727 2860 or visit  
[brisbanesde.eq.edu.au/enrolments/ekindy](http://brisbanesde.eq.edu.au/enrolments/ekindy)  
to register now!

## BACK PROBLEM?

**YOU NEED A HIGHLY QUALIFIED  
MASSAGE PRACTITIONER.**



CALL IAN CROKER

Specializing in.

ULTRASOUND THERAPY

INJURY MANAGEMENT

SPORT MASSAGE

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE

STRESS & TENSION RELIEF

**0429174632**

**HALDANE ST.  
GEORGETOWN**

Need a horse broke in or  
looking for someone to  
put some miles on them?  
Taking bookings now for  
the New Year. Call Cheryl  
on 0408 368 111

**For Sale**

10 x White Humming bird  
Plants \$10.00 each

Phone Ian: 0429 174 632

1 TO 6 DECK UNITS

STEP DECKS

FLAT TOPS

TRANSPORT & MACHINERY  
**CKJ**

WATER TRUCK

GRADER

LOADER

DOZER

CKJ CONTRACTING QLD

WEONA STATION, MOUNT GARNET QLD 4872

**LIVESTOCK & GENERAL CARRIERS & MACHINERY HIRE**

CHRIS: 0447 164 415 MICHAEL: 0428 685 429 CKJOLLSON@BIGPOND.COM  
ABN 61 800 465 891

## Savannah Freight

**Savannah Freight Depot - Georgetown Roadhouse**

**Loading** in CAIRNS - Monday & Thursday at  
*Savannah Freight Depot - 10 Spoto St. Woree, CAIRNS*  
**Delivering** - Tuesdays & Fridays

**Loading** in Tolga & Mareeba on Wednesdays  
**Delivering** Fridays

\*\*\*\*\*Backloads through to Tablelands & Cairns available\*\*\*\*\*

We carry dry goods, chiller and freezer on all runs (exc chiller/freezer  
on return trips)

Please phone our Driver 0427 356 698 for enquiries

# Georgetown *Roadhouse*

**Phone: (07) 40 621 999**

Fuel, AdBlue & Castrol Oils  
Autogas & LPG  
Aviation Fuel  
Groceries  
Dine in & Take Away Food  
Automotive & Batteries  
Pet Supplies  
Hardware & Gardening  
Cement  
Ice

**Open 7 days**  
**Mon-Fri 6:30am - 6pm**  
**Sat & Sun 7am-5pm**

**Fuel Available 24hrs via Card**



**Town to Country Realty**  
**BUY, SELL & PROPERTY**  
**MANAGEMENT**

**Servicing all areas from Normanton  
to Millaa Millaa and every where in  
between.**

---

**READY TO  
BUY,  
SELL OR  
LOOKING FOR  
MANAGEMENT?**

**CALL US TODAY**

---



**P.O. Box 270 Ravenshoe, QLD, 4888**

---

**( 0 7 ) 4 0 9 7 6 9 0 0**

---

**[www.towntocountryrealty.com.au](http://www.towntocountryrealty.com.au)**



## TUXWORTHS & WOODS CARRIERS

FOR ALL YOUR FREIGHT NEEDS FROM  
CAIRNS TO KARUMBA

FOR GEORGETOWN FREIGHT ENQUIRES  
AND COLLECTION

CALL CINDY 0484 278 033

FREIGHT COLLECTION HOURS

8AM TO 3PM

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

NO PICK UPS ON WEEKENDS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS



### TYE'S REMOTE MECHANICAL

Tye's Remote Mechanical is a locally owned and operated business that specialises in servicing and mechanical needs for small, light and heavy vehicles. General maintenance, advice and servicing vehicles under warranty approved. Available to travel and after hours callouts.

Workshop located at Rockdale Station,  
Georgetown QLD 4871

Ph. 0487848709 07 40625333  
Email: [invoices\\_TRM@outlook.com](mailto:invoices_TRM@outlook.com)

## GEORGETOWN RURAL SUPPLIES

24 ST GEORGE STREET

PHONE

40 621 553 OR 0447 015 372

- ✓ RIDLEY LNT URAMOL BLOCKS
- ✓ OLSSONS LICK BLOCKS
- ✓ ANIMAL HEALTH PRODUCTS INC POUR ONS, FLY SPRAYS & WORMERS
- ✓ VACCINES
- ✓ WEANER FEED
- ✓ CALF REARING SUPPLIES INC MILK, TEATS, FEEDERS & BOTTLES
- ✓ HORSE FEEDS & HORSE BLOCKS
- ✓ CHAFF, MILL RUN & POLLARD
- ✓ DOG & CAT BISCUITS
- ✓ BIRD SEED
- ✓ COARSE & FINE LAYER MASH & LAYER PELLETS
- ✓ POLY PIPE AND FITTINGS INC RURAL & HIGH PRESSURE
- ✓ FERTILISERS, POTTING MIX & GARDEN SUPPLIES
- ✓ PEST & WEED CONTROL
- ✓ STEEL INC FLAT, ROD & PAINTED OR GAL RHS & PIPE



## SHEAHAN

— CONTRACTING —

proudly offering the following services

### R22 Helicopter

Providing all of your helicopter needs

### Web and Willis Speying

Servicing the Etheridge Shire

Webbing available for joined cows, at any stage of gestation without slipping the calf, and willing for maiden heifers over 200kg. Will travel further for large mobs

Please contact Dan for further information

0418 730 696 or 07 4062 5348





Bekky H. 0402 248 171  
greygalahbnb@gmail.com  
58 Low St, Georgetown QLD



The Grey Galah Bed and Breakfast is a peaceful place to pull up stumps for the night, just a short walk from the centre of town. It's a freshly renovated house that boasts three queen bedrooms, each with their own ensuite. Each room has its own tv complete with Netflix access. Guests can book the whole premises out or a single room with access to shared kitchen, dining, lounge & laundry facilities. Continental breakfast & FREE WIFI included.



## AERO FUEL NQ

Serving the needs of the aircraft industry

Onsite refuelling of planes & Helicopter at Forsayth airport

Bulk drum refills

Call Simon 0400898409



Now working in

Einassleigh, Forsayth and Georgetown

## General Pest Treatments



*We'll Send  
Em Packing*

TOWNSVILLE

**TERMITE  
& PEST  
CONTROL**

*We'll Send Em Packing*



**Fast Service  
Locally Owned  
Experienced**

**Call Geoff**

info@townsvilletermitepestcontrol.com.au

**0429 947 171**

# SPINFX ELECTRICAL



**PH: 0447 774 854**

**RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL ELECTRICAL SERVICES**

**INCLUDING:**

**ENERGY EFFICIENT LED LIGHTING UPGRADES**

**SPLIT AIR-CON INSTALLATIONS & HYDRO CLEANING**

**SWITCHBOARD & SMOKE ALARM UPGRADES**

wired@spinfx.com.au

QLD ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR LICENCE #82067

ARCTICK LICENCE #L169067

ABN 47 832 679 917





## GEORGETOWN STUDENT HOSTEL est. 1968

At Georgetown Student Hostel, our core role in education is to provide any student enrolled at Georgetown State School with a weekly (Monday-Friday), boarding service.

Our qualified and highly experienced boarding staff employ a 'whole-child-approach' to caring for our boarders within an established, safe and secure, environment.

We feel that exposure to Georgetown State School's diverse and inclusive learning environment, along with the opportunities for social and emotional development associated with living and learning with their Hostel peers, will allow your child invaluable opportunities for personal growth and preparation for secondary education.

*\*If approved by Centrelink, boarding fees may be covered by AIC (Assistance for Isolated Children) funding.*

For all enquiries please call (07) 4062 1145 or email:  
[Shaun.Hall@etheridge.qld.gov.au](mailto:Shaun.Hall@etheridge.qld.gov.au)



# Calendar of Community Events 2024

## February

14<sup>th</sup> - Valentine's Day  
21<sup>st</sup> - Etheridge Shire Council  
General Meeting

## March

13<sup>th</sup> - Etheridge Shire Council  
General Meeting  
29<sup>th</sup> - Good Friday  
31<sup>st</sup> - Easter Sunday

## April

1<sup>st</sup> - Easter Monday  
25<sup>th</sup> - Anzac Day  
17<sup>th</sup> - Etheridge Shire Council  
General Meeting

## May

6<sup>th</sup> - Labour Day  
15<sup>th</sup> - Etheridge Shire Council  
General Meeting

Council is compiling an Etheridge Shire events calendar and we would love to hear from you! Share your 2024 event details with us at [inform@etheridge.qld.gov.au](mailto:inform@etheridge.qld.gov.au)

## INFORM ARTICLES

The Inform will be distributed on the **last Thursday of each month** unless unforeseen circumstances prevent this. Articles need to be submitted electronically to [info@etheridge.qld.gov.au](mailto:info@etheridge.qld.gov.au) by no later than **1.00pm on the Wednesday prior**. Late articles will not be published. Previous versions of The Inform can be found at [www.etheridge.qld.gov.au](http://www.etheridge.qld.gov.au)