

Edition 9 –September 2023

INFORM NEWSLETTER

ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL



Dene Shaver Photography



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Hello and Welcome to the Mayors Report.

Our small communities across the shire all produced some fantastic events throughout the year and Mt Surprise fits right on in that space with the launch of the “Banging in the Basalt” extravaganza since the last newsletter. Mt Surprise school children excelled in their presentation of the song, Principal Brooke and staff delivered an excellent result and the community support was spot on.

Well done to all associated with the event as it was a great night and good attendances from far and wide.

Also I would like to acknowledge the “Inaugural Stockman's Challenge” event that took place in Georgetown recently. What was great was that the kids were getting exposure to first class industry leading mentors who were very helpful to all who attended. I attended the first afternoon’s activity and was very impressed with the support that was on show and the calibre of horsemanship being displayed. Once again well done to the organisers and I am led to believe this event is here to stay and to grow even bigger and better.

CEO Ken and I travelled to Mt Isa this month to attend the North West Regional Organisation of Councils (NWROC) bi-monthly meeting and Annual General Meeting. Well attended and a good line up of presenters saw for an interesting couple of days in the capital of the North West.

This included subjects relating to Regional Energy and Electricity Supply Projects, Updates on the Gravel Pits Saga and Quarry Permits (DAF), Queensland Reconstruction Authority, Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan, Southern Gulf NRM.

Also on the agenda was the North West Region Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting which falls under the auspices of State Development.

The Western Alliance of Councils (WAC) meets in Winton this month and Council will have a presence there through their affiliation with NWROC. Twenty two western councils make up the WAC organisation and provides a great platform to promote and pursue issues impacting on regional and remote councils. A priority issue for Etheridge is the Gravel Pits saga and associated Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUA) that need to accompany these permits.

Flood Damage is now gaining momentum as I write, and as Zone 1 nears completion Zone 2 is underway with Zone 5 being prepared for gravel supply and delivery.

Council is receiving good feedback from road users on the quality of works being delivered by the staff in Councils workforce and contractors alike so a big shout out to all involved.

As I close this report to make the printing deadline the Georgetown Rodeo is looming so good luck to the organisers and may your event be a successful one.

Coming up over the next few weeks a snapshot of calendar of events.

Regional Policing: An update from Assistant Commissioner for Far North Region regarding future policing arrangements for our region.

Western Alliance of Councils: To be held in Winton.

Department of Resources: Upcoming visit by the Dept. to address Council and landholders on various subjects. Subject to further planning.

FNQROC: Cooktown and Hopevale to host the bi-monthly meeting of FNQROC members.

Council General Meeting: 11/10/23

CHHHS: Cairns Hinterland Hospital and Health Service to visit and update Council.

LGAQ: Annual Conference, Mayor, Deputy Mayor and CEO to attend.

Until next month

Happy Trails.

Kind Regards,
Barry Hughes

Mayor & Councillors

The Etheridge Shire Council is represented by a Mayor and four Councillors.

As members of the Etheridge Shire Community you are encouraged to discuss any issues you may have with your representative Councillors.

Please Note: Changes to Councillor Information can be found at www.etheridge.qld.gov.au

Councillor	Councillor Contact Information
Mayor Barry Hughes	Phone: 07 4062 322 Mobile: 0458 621 233 Email: mayor@etheridge.qld.gov.au
Deputy Mayor Cr Laurell Royes	Mobile: 0459 278 377 Email: cr.royes@etheridge.qld.gov.au
Cr Anthony (Tony) Gallagher	Phone: 07 4062 5315 Mobile: 0448 089 144 Email: cr.gallagher@etheridge.qld.gov.au
Cr Joseph (Joe) Haase	Mobile: 0459 623 582 Email: cr.haase@etheridge.qld.gov.au
Cr Cameron Barns	Phone: 07 4062 5307 Mobile: 0459 136 283 Email: cr.barns@etheridge.qld.gov.au

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 including
anonymous or otherwise.
Let's work together to make the Shire better!



ETHERIDGE SHIRE

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Etheridge Shire Council Public Notice of General Meetings for 2023

In accordance with Section 254B of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Etheridge Shire Council General Meetings for the 2023 Calendar year are to be held on the following dates in Georgetown.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Time</u>
October	Wednesday, 11 th October 2023	Georgetown	9:00am
November	Wednesday, 15 th November 2023	Georgetown	9:00am
December	Wednesday, 13 th December 2023	Georgetown	9:00am

Ken Timms
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Etheridge Shire Council
PO Box 12
GEORGETOWN QLD 4871

WATER SUPPLY

GEORGETOWN & FORSAYTH

BASE LEVEL 0 RESTRICTIONS



Base level 0 restrictions will now apply to all water connections within the Georgetown and Forsayth Water Supply Scheme.

Notice is hereby given of water restrictions in accordance with the Local Government Act and the Water Act 2002 Section 388(1) Restricting water supply

1. No sprinklers on Mondays.
2. Sprinklers allowed Tuesday to Sunday between the hours of 5am to 8am and 5pm to 8pm.
3. Attended hand held hoses permitted at any time except Mondays.

(Watering permitted 36 hrs per week)

Level 0 Water Restrictions are effective from midnight on Thursday 8th December 2022.



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 school's Swimming Program

October	9	11.30am – 3pm
October	16	11.30am – 3pm
October	23	11.30am – 3pm
October	30	11.30am – 3pm
November	6	11.30am – 3pm
November	13	11.30am – 3pm
November	20	11.30am – 3pm
November	24	Swimming Carnival 8.00am to 3.00pm

Council apologises for any inconvenience this may cause.

Ken Timms
Chief Executive Officer
Etheridge Shire Council



Etheridge Shire Council

2023 Flood Restoration Works

Project Etheridge 23004

Community Update

Council and Shepherd Services are pleased to advise all data collection and funding submissions for the 2023 event have been lodged and are in the approval stage for QRA funding, with Zones 1.1, 1.2, 2, 3, 5 and 6 already approved with construction works having commenced late June 2023 on Zone 1.1. Works on Zone 1.2 commenced early-mid July.

We are delighted to report that 96% or 481 individual approved flood damage claims having already been completed in Zone 1.1, with the balance forecast for completion by mid-end of September. Zone 1.2 is sitting at 57% completion with 66 individual sites being done.

The coming months will see a significant increase in both council and contract work crews evident across the shire. With the mobilization of camps and equipment in line with the roll out of approvals in Zones 2, 3 and 6.

Council again, thanks the shires residents and visitors for their ongoing support and co-operation throughout the process to date and for their patience in the months ahead whilst the reconstruction of damaged roadways is carried out.

Remember that if you identify a safety or trafficability concern to utilise the Snap Send Solve app on your phone to capture the concern and quickly send it to Etheridge Shire Council to enable work crews to respond to these emergency works as a priority. Shepherd Services now have a direct line for the public to contact us on during manned office hours 0459575660.

Once again, we appreciate your patience and assistance during the construction process and ask that you please drive to prevailing road conditions, keeping in mind the crews working on the roads and road conditions themselves.



Voting

Voting teams will be in

Mount Surprise

Public Hall, 35A Garland St, Mount
Surprise

Tuesday, 26 September 2023

10:00 AM to 1:30 PM

Work available

The AEC is looking for local assistants to help on voting day. If you are interested, talk to our teams when they arrive.

For up-to-date information:

aec.gov.au or **13 23 26**

Note: Voters from interstate can vote at mobile voting locations. These details are correct as at: **18 September 2023** and may be subject to change.

FREE EVENT

Grazing Business Roadshow

10-20 October @ six locations

The Lynd - Mt Surprise - Forsayth
Normanton - Croydon - Almaden



Join us at one of our six grazing business events to help identify and start working through your grazing business challenges and get support in preparing and planning how to grow your business resilience.


- Disaster management and planning
- Drought strategies
- Livestock Business Resilience Planning
- Rural Financial Counselling Service (The Lynd, Mt Surprise and Forsayth)
- Climate tools for decision making
- Connectivity and tech tools for grazing businesses
- Pasture improvement strategies and trials
- Phosphorus mapping
- Mental health (with RFDS in Normanton and Croydon)
- Support, grants and free tools available



-LUCKY DOOR PRIZE-
Davis Rain Gauge up
for grabs at each location

10am - 3pm each day
morning tea and lunch provided

REGISTER NOW

-  <https://bit.ly/grazing-business-clinics>
-  Kasmin on 0428 913 614
-  kasmin.brotherton@gulfsavannahnrm.org



MEDIA RELEASE – September 2023**Gulf Savannah NRM receives a share in over \$350K grant funding**

Gulf Savannah NRM is one of four recipients to have received a share in \$350,000 in funding, thanks to the Tropical North Queensland Drought Resilience Grant Scheme.

Gulf Savannah NRM is partnering with the North Queensland Forestry Hub to explore perceptions and best practice adoption of silvopastoral systems, which combines tree growing with the production of livestock, as a potential strategy for drought resilience in the Northern Gulf.

Gulf Savannah CEO Zoe Williams said silvopastoral systems offers alternative animal feed sources and can provide income diversification for farming enterprises. "We are very interested in exploring the options silvopastoral systems may present for graziers in the Gulf to diversity their traditional grazing businesses and develop a new income stream, while obtaining a variety of co-benefits," said Ms Williams.

"Using trees to mitigate against the impacts of climate extremes and drought would be a win-win situation, sequestering carbon while supporting the grazing industry, which is the backbone of the region's economy. Thanks to TNQ Drought Hub, we will gain a greater understanding of the perceptions of silvopastoral systems among graziers and the wider community in Far North Queensland's Gulf region."

TNQ Drought Hub Director, Professor David Phelps said the new grant funding initiative was open to organisations throughout northern Queensland who had capacity to deliver projects that would improve drought resilience for farms and communities where agriculture is a strong contributor to the economy and society.

"We were looking for great ideas from community groups, not-for-profits, primary producers, and agribusiness that would help the agricultural sector and communities become more drought and climate resilient," said Professor Phelps.

"The projects needed to demonstrate tangible benefits in implementing or accelerating the adoption of new technologies, knowledge sharing, and enhancing the capacity for farms and communities to adopt and sustain these practices and programs. Gulf Savannah NRM's initiative is a prime example of projects and research that are playing a key role in ensuring growth, diversification and drought-resilience is at the forefront of the agricultural industry."

If you are interested in being kept up to date on the progress of this project and included in discussions and planned events, please register your interest with:

Kasmin on 0428 913 614 or
kasmin.brotherton@gulfsavannahnrm.org



DOES YOUR FARM HAVE A BUSINESS RESILIENCE PLAN?

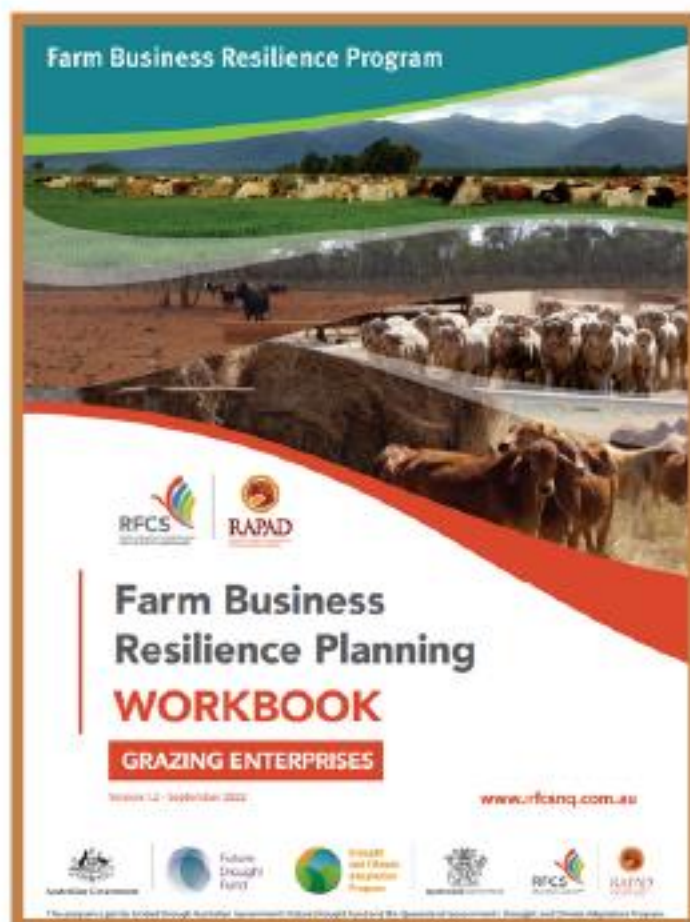


Good planning is a key part of ensuring your farm business is resilient during tough times.

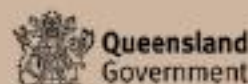
A Farm Business Resilience Plan helps you:

- support the productivity and profitability of your business
- identify and assess risks which will impact your farm business such as drought, natural disasters, production risks
- identify opportunities to improve your business
- develop strategies and actions on how to manage risks and progress opportunities.
- access drought assistance grants and loans

We have staff based in Croydon working alongside Rural Financial Counselling Service North Queensland to help you get started.
Call Mandy Pickering on 0429 672 058



Grazing Futures Livestock Business Resilience Project is a Drought and Climate Adaptation Program (DCAP) funded project aimed at helping producers better manage drought and other risks associated with extensive livestock businesses.



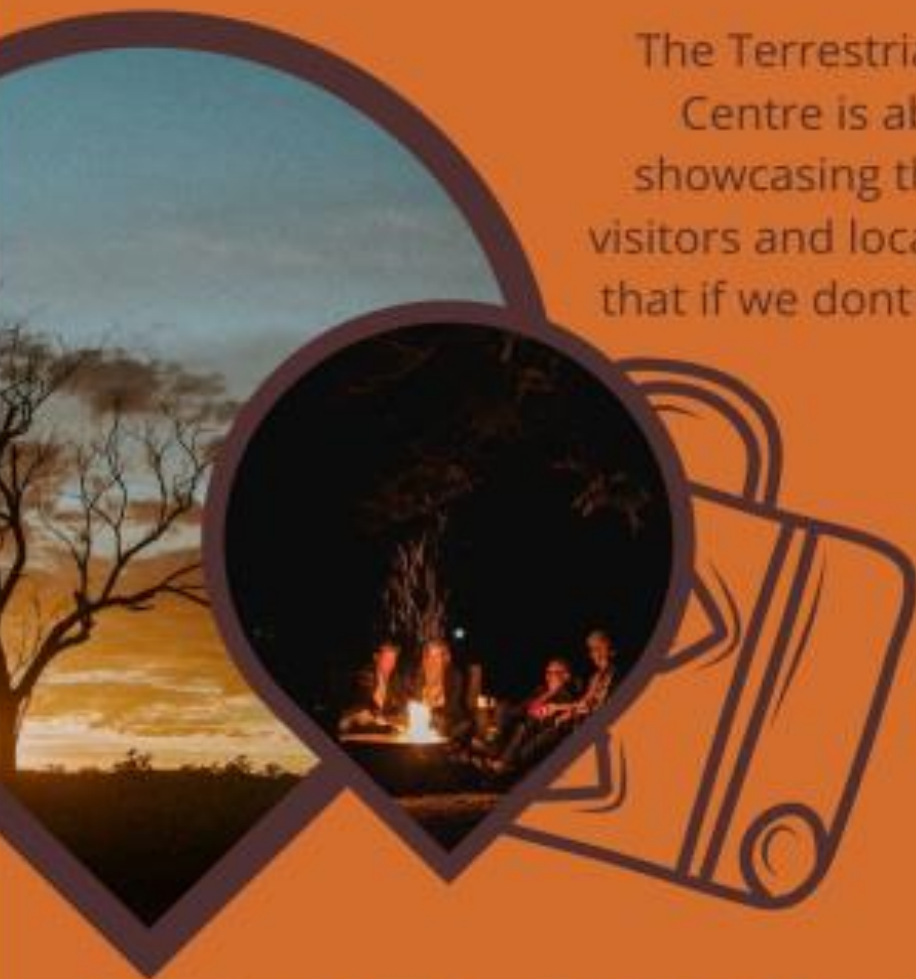


*Do you own a business in the
Etheridge Region?*



We want to promote you!

The Terrestrial Visitors Information Centre is about promoting and showcasing the Etheridge region to visitors and locals, however we can't do that if we don't know more about you.



**Keep us up to
date with your
events, specials
and anything
related to your
business.**

- People still love brochures and flyers, get some printed and drop them in.
- Tag **#unearthetheridge** or **@unearthetheridge** on Facebook or Instagram
- Visit and tell us more about what you do and see what we have on offer.



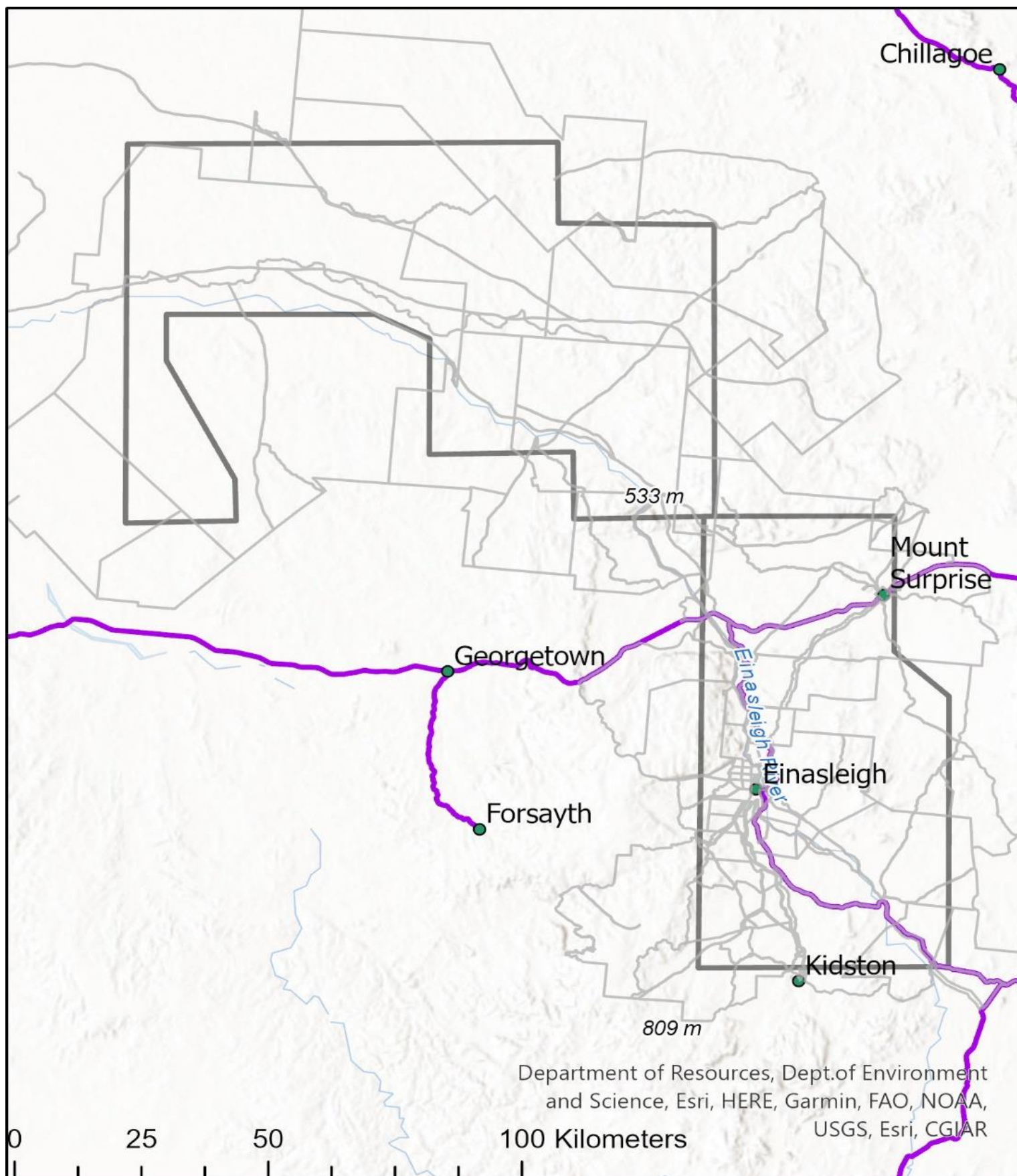
The Geological Survey of Queensland (part of the Department of Resources) will soon be conducting an airborne geophysical survey over parts of the Etheredge Shire Council region (see map below). Flying for this survey will occur from August to October 2023 weather permitting.

The airborne survey will be conducted by a Cessna 208 fixed-wing aircraft flying at approximately 60 metres above the ground along east-west lines approximately 100 metres apart and north-south lines approximately one kilometre apart. The survey uses passive sensors to measure and record natural magnetic and radiometric information about the underlying rocks. Analysis of the data will provide important information on the distribution of rock types and will ultimately lead to a much better understanding of the geology in the area. Similar regional geophysical surveys have been conducted throughout Queensland and Australia.

The survey has been contracted to Xcalibur Aviation, who is a reputable and experienced airborne geophysics company. As the survey progresses, Xcalibur Aviation will be contacting landholders in the vicinity of current survey operations. The call sign for the aircrafts conducting the survey is VH-ZKA and VH-ZKG and pilots will be monitoring local VHF & UHF frequencies.

If you have any concerns, or would like further information on the survey, please contact Mr Matthew Greenwood, Manager Regional Compilations

Matthew.Greenwood@resources.qld.gov.au





AEC

Australian Electoral Commission

100,000 temporary jobs

Register to work at the referendum



All jobs
are paid



No election
experience is
needed



Training is
provided

You can work before, on and after referendum day.

Register now

13 23 26 aec.gov.au/electionjobs





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 10pm – 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.



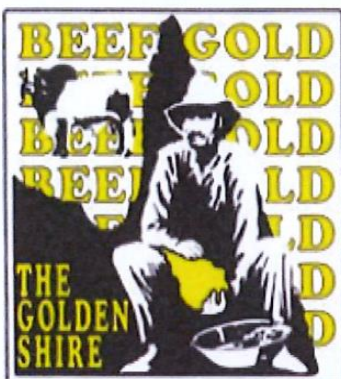
Happy
♥ birthday

Big thank you to Deidre for
organizing Daffodil Day.
\$402.15 was raised.

On another note.....Huge
Birthday wishes go to Janet
Ryan, hope your day was a
good one.



Rates – Council Pensioner Remission



Are you a Pensioner living in our Shire?
Have you applied for your Pensioner Remission?

The Etheridge Shire Council would like to advise all pensioners living in our Shire that are not currently receiving the Pensioner Remission to apply before the 30 June. Forms may be downloaded from our website: etheridge.qld.gov.au or by calling the Shire Office on 4079 9090.

MONTHLY MARKETS!!

Caschafor Park – Forsayth

Sunday 30th April 2023

9am – 2pm

Stalls welcome – BYO table

CWA small cent sale

Morning tea - \$5

Lunch – Steak/Sausage/Onion/Salad sandwich - \$10

All welcome!

Next dates

- Sunday 28th May
- Sunday 25th June
- Sunday 23rd July
- Sunday 20th August
- Sunday 17th September
- Sunday 29th October
- Sunday 26th November

It's FREE


Join Us

at the Georgetown
Library

**Books
Audio books
eBooks
Digital magazines
DVDs**

Sign up at TerrEstrial or
call us 40799027





FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER

CHRISTMAS NIGHT
MARKETS

Save the Date
&
Stall holders
wanted

40799027 || 0447180154

WENDI.FURBER@ETHERIDGE.QLD.GOV.AU



GEORGETOWN POST OFFICE NEWS

Open: MONDAY to FRIDAY from 9 am - 1 pm then 2 pm – 4 pm (excl. all public holidays)



VARIETY – THE CHILDREN'S CHARITY

Once again, the collection tub on the Post Office counter has been unsealed and all money donated to this charity has been counted and sent to them.

I am thrilled to report that **this community raised another \$498.70.** To ensure ALL funds raised went to this charity, costs associated with sending the money were part of a separate donation.

To all Georgetown residents, your support is amazing. Special shout out to Pauline Faulkner for her generous contributions. Thank You.

**** REMINDER ****

AUSTRALIA POST PAYMENTS

From **Monday 1 May 2023**, Australia Post will no longer accept cheque as a method of payment for Australia Post products and services.



The Australia Post products and services impacted by these changes include:

- Post Office Box Renewals
- Merchandise and philatelic purchases
- Payment of postage and packaging products

IMPORTANT – There is no change to the acceptance of cheques as a method of payment for Post Billpay or Bank@Post deposit transactions where this is offered by the agency or financial institution.

SIMON SAYS

Just because nobody complains doesn't mean all parachutes are perfect.

Gulf stockman's

Challenge Club Inc.



Shout out and big thank you to a special group of people, with whom the weekend would not have been possible.

Judges- Brett Blennerhassett, Bridie Hughes, Tracy Davies, Jessica Spoor



Hay donors Glen and Cheryl Connolly



Cattle donors Kelvin and Kelly
Bethel

Some of the Gulf Challenge Girls! Included is President/cattle donor/bar manager, hay donor/toilet cleaner, announcer, secretary, treasurer, penciller/backyard worker to name a few of the jobs these girls did (including competing!) Thanks so much for getting the job done. To all our Gulf Challenge members thank you all so much for your support and time. Everybody put in their share so thank you all so much for making our show a success. You should all be proud of the professional and well run event and looking forward to next year!





!! DGH Engineering Junior Campdraft !!

🏆 Lexi Sheahan - Creamy

🏆 Mason Sheahan - HP

🏆 Colton Kernan - Borrow

4th Harry Prior - Palacidia

5th Bobby Bethel - Red Frog

=6th Leon Kennedy - Dotty

=6th Lexi Prior - Mini Duck

🏆 Highest cutout - Lexi Prior Mini Duck

🏆 Encouragement awards donated by [Dare To Dream Ropes](#) was Lucy Terry and Hudson Dark



!! DGH Engineering Juvenile Campdraft !!

🏆 Jade Cowan - Luna

🏆 Claire Trimble - Bobby

🏆 Chloe Lough - Collingwood Pizazz

=4/5 Jade Cowan - Destiny's chic Olena

=4/5 Lachlan Tomasetig - Peppi

🏆 Highest cutout Chloe Lough



!! Waters Abrasive Blasting Novice Campdraft !!

🏆 Renee Bester - King

🏆 Kevy Taylor - Chevin Django

🏆 Kevin Taylor Boonara Sequin

4th Glen Connolly - Redfoo

5th Glen Connolly - Huonfela Cherub

6th Kevin Taylor - Iconic

🏆 Hotly contested highest cutout winner was the beautiful Taylor Taylor





!! Maranos Fuel Junior Challenge !!

🥇 Lexi Sheahan - Creamy

🥈 Colton Kernan - Borrow

🥉 Lucy Terry - Astrix

4th Reid Bassani - Blazer

5th Hudson Dark - Spin

6th Bobby Bethel - Banjo

🏆 Highest scoring dry work in first round Reid Bassani

🏆 Highest scoring wet work in first round Lexi Sheahan





!! S & K Civil Contracting Juvenile Challenge !!

🥇 Jade Cowan - Destiny Chic Olena

🥈 Claire Trimble - Kinara Titan

🥉 Chloe Lough- Benefactor

4th Lachlan Tomasetig

5th Claire Trimble - Bobby

6th Shayla Jerome - Comet

🏆 Highest scoring dry work in first round Chloe Lough

🏆 Highest scoring wet in first round Jade Cowan





!! Sunrise Helicopters Open Challenge !!

🏆 Brydie Hughes - Beniah

🏆 Brydie Hughes - Praise N Tassa

🏆 Brydie Hughes - Royale Double your Money

4th Aaron Prior - Wild Thing

5th Robyn Cowan - Destiny's Chic Olena

6th Robyn Cowan - Mr Sunny Hawke

🏆 Highest scoring dry work in first round Brydie Hughes

🏆 Highest Scoring wet work in first round tie between Brydie Hughes and Aaron Prior





!! Tomasetig Electrical Derby Challenge !!

🥇 Brydie Hughes - Praise n Tassa

🥈 Jessica Spoor - Starbar Perfume

🥉 Nathan Wilson - Collingwood Pisazz

4th Glen Connolly - Toomba Scarlett

5th Wayne Saunders - Just Right

6th Sarah Hardy - Srawberry Quick

🏆 Highest scoring dry work in first round tie Brydie Hughes and Jessica Spoor

🏆 Highest scoring wet work in first round Glen Connolly



!! TGT & Olssons Classic Challenge !!

🏆 Nathan Wilson - Metallic T Wood

🏆 Wayne Saunders - Pink N Metallic

🏆 Sam Trimble - Barmac Elmo

4th Katie Davies - Really Roanie

5th Shelly Taylor - Roches Gem

6th Sarah Hardy - Flamenco Miss

🏆 Highest scoring dry work in first round Chloe Lough

🏆 Highest scoring wet work in first round Bryan Emers





!! Rural Bank Encouragement Challenge !!

🥇 Jayden Simmons - Hughy

🥈 Renee Bester - King

🥉 Casey Hardy - Boons Showtime

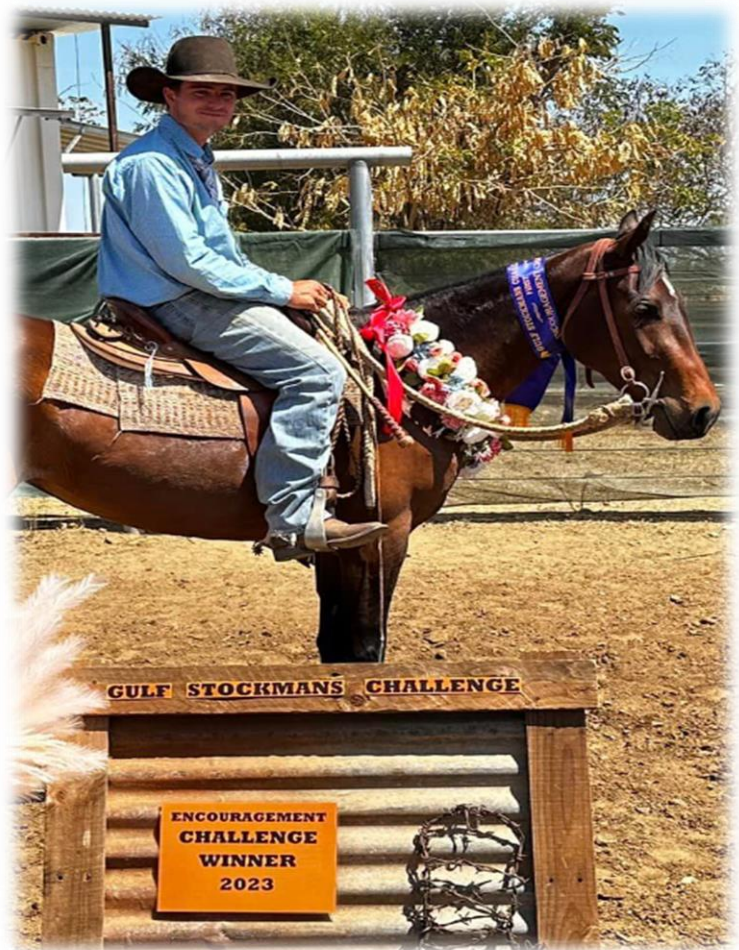
4th Clare Fitzgerald - New Blue Genes

5th Bridget Williams - Banjo

6th Brittany Stone - Ginger

🏆 Highest scoring dry work in first round Casey Hardy

🏆 Highest scoring wet work in first round Renee Bester



!! Sunset Ridge Rookie Challenge !!

🏆 Tracy Davies - Pepto too Stylish

🏆 Shelly Taylor - Roches Gem

🏆 Kevin Taylor - Boonara Sequin

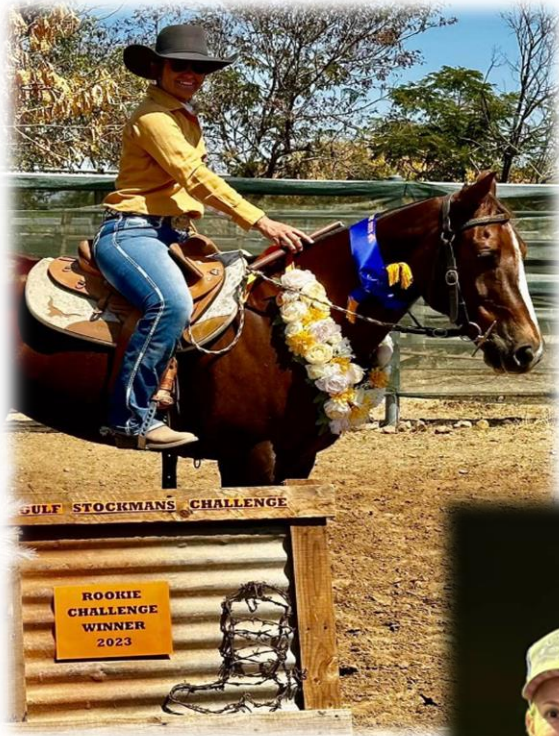
4th Robyn Cowan- Destiny's chic Olena

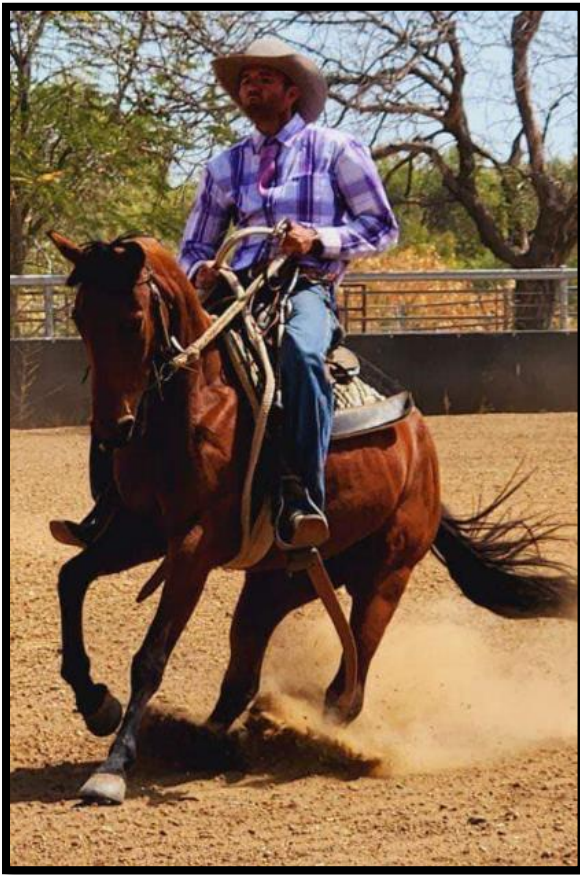
5th Liz Guldbransen -Mighty Dreamer

6th Sarah Hardy - Strawberry Quick

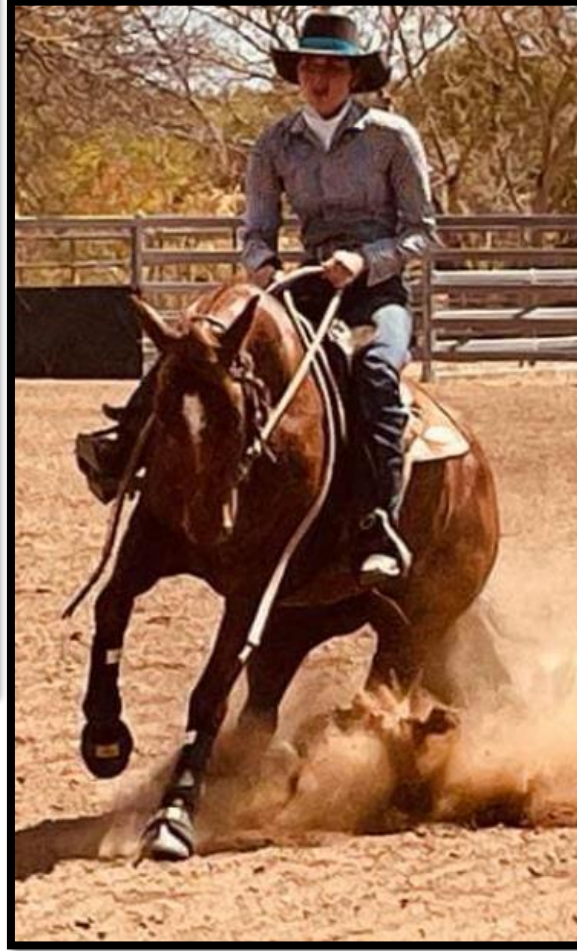
🏆 Highest scoring dry in first round was tie between Robyn Cowan and Wayne Saunders

🏆 Highest scoring wet in first round was tie between Robyn Cowan and Aaron Prior





Great action shots
on the day.



Cowgirls doing what
cowgirls do.....



Congratulation to all the students of Georgetown State School in competing in the Karumba Festival of Sports. They should very proud of themselves, bringing home many medals and trophies. A huge thank you to Gill Graham and Thomo for the time and effort they both put into training the children.



Karumba Festival of Sports - 2023





SAVE THE DATE

**GREGG BETHEL
MEMORIAL
CRICKET MATCH**

**SATURDAY 18TH
NOVEMBER**

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW

Tablelands Allied Health Outreach Service

Mt Surprise, Einasleigh, Forsayth, Georgetown & Croydon

What services do we offer?

**Dietetics
Social Work
Physiotherapy
Speech Pathology
Occupational Therapy**

To access these services please contact your local Primary Health Centre / RFDS who will assess your concerns and if appropriate, send the referral through to us. Once triaged, appointments will then be offered (via phone call) by our Atherton Outreach Team.

All referrals must be received at least two weeks prior to our visit.

TELEHEALTH SERVICES

If you miss out on an appointment or the service you require isn't visiting on this run, we also offer Telehealth and Telephone consultations with some of the Primary Health Centres.

Please contact Allied Health Admin on 40910467 to discuss an appointment.

2023 DATES (BY APPOINTMENT ONLY)

MAY	9 th – 11 th	Physio & Speech
JULY	18 th – 20 th	Physio, Occupational Therapy & Social Work
SEPT	12 th – 14 th	Physio, Speech & Occupational Therapy
NOV	14 th – 16 th	Physio, Dietetics & Social Work



UTREACH PHYSIOTHERAPY

The outreach Physiotherapist visits Mt Surprise, Einasleigh, Forsayth, Georgetown and Croydon on a 3-day trip 5 times each year.

Physiotherapists provide individual assessment and management for a range of conditions including:

Musculoskeletal injuries including fractures and muscle/joint pain

- Balance/walking difficulties/falls prevention
- Recovery after surgery, for example total knee replacement
- Pelvic floor health / return to exercise after pregnancy
- Lung conditions including emphysema and bronchiectasis
- Neurological conditions such as stroke, nerve damage, spinal injury
- Burns

Physiotherapy treatment generally consists of:

- Exercise prescription
- Mobility aid prescription
- Strapping/taping
- Facilitation of correct movement patterns
- Patient and carer education
- Manual therapy

If you think you may benefit from physiotherapy intervention, please discuss with the visiting RFDS Doctor or your local clinic nurse. If indicated, they will send a referral to us to follow up with you at our next visit. There is also Telehealth available where consults can take place via videoconferencing as appropriate.

WHAT IS SOCIAL WORK?

Social Work is an Allied Health Professional Discipline. Social Workers are dedicated to helping people achieve optimum levels of personal and social wellbeing.

This Atherton Hospital Social Work service provides support in the Health setting in the Community - Counselling, Education, Advocacy individual & group settings.

Social Workers can be accessed in the Community setting, and can also be accessed in Rural & Remote Communities via Tele Health/Video conferencing.

Atherton Community Social Work can provide assistance for consumers in the Remote areas accessing -

- Anti- natal care in the Outpatient setting,
- Consumers receiving Chemotherapy in an Outpatient setting,
- Consumers in a Community setting including youth to aged care needs.
- Carer support.
- Palliative care concerns.

Tele Health allows for consumers to have access to services sooner, removes the need to travel to another centre for care and allows interaction with Social Worker in a familiar environment.

If you would like to make a referral to Atherton Hospital Social Worker, or discuss a referral, please call 40910201.

Georgetown Progress Assoc Inc.
presents

*NB will not occur if it falls on
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Remote Area Families Service (RAFS) Factsheet

About RAFS and what it provides

The Remote Area Families Service is an Early Childhood program designed to support children and families in rural and remote Queensland and the Barkly Tablelands of the Northern Territory, who live beyond the reach of mainstream services. Our service aims to support parents' needs in relation to the early childhood development and education of their children in rural, remote and isolated areas. The focus of the service is directed at all families with children aged birth to 5 years regardless of their cultural or religious background.

RAFS operates throughout QLD from five bases:

- Charleville
- Emerald (based in Mackay)
- Longreach
- Mt Isa
- North Queensland (based in Mareeba)

Please note: We do not provide a babysitting service during any of our events. RAFS staff are unable to take sole responsibility of children during the play sessions.

Ways to access the service

The early childhood program targets children aged from birth to five years; however, if older siblings wish to participate, they are most welcome. The experiences that are planned for the birth to five year old children are play based and use the Early Years Learning Framework as a point of reference. The team will aim to be a consistent presence in the families and children's lives through a variety of ways. Families can contact the RAFS team and request face-to-face contact any time during the year.

Playgroups

RAFS playgroups are an excellent opportunity for families to come together and experience a wide variety of early learning activities. Playgroup allows children to play in a relaxed, informal setting, where they can interact with other children, make choices, explore, share ideas and learn to work cooperatively and independently.

Home Visits

Home visits, as the name suggests, are when a RAFS team visits a family, in their home, at a mutually suitable time. A home visit differs significantly from a playgroup. Spending one on one time with children is an opportunity for the RAFS team to tailor the program exclusively to each child. Sharing time with the whole family, being able to let children take the lead in showing the RAFS team their home, is wonderful for self-esteem and confidence building. Home visits will normally take the form of either a morning or afternoon/overnight visit.

Events

At times RAFS may be able to attend Community group or organization events outside the UnitingCare network. Examples include the Royal Flying Doctor Service and Schools of Distance Education. We do require a written invitation to attend these events, please contact your local RAFS team for more information.

Resources, support and guidance

RAFS teams offer guidance and support in the area of early childhood development and parenting by trained and/or experienced field staff. This can be done through:

- Referral to other professionals
- Art and craft resources
- Kit boxes and resources
- Newsletters
- Phone and email support
- Information and support packs

Contact us

Charleville

145 Alfred Street
Charleville, Q. 4470
P: (07) 4654 3890
M: 0439 922 815
charleville.rafs@ucommunity.org.au

Emerald

287 Shakespeare Street
Mackay, Q. 4741
M: 0439 932 958
emerald.rafs@ucommunity.org.au

Longreach

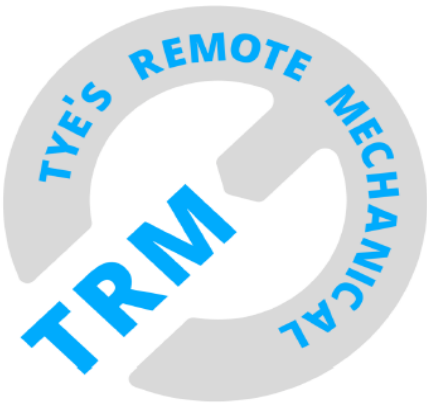
130A Eagle Street
Longreach, Q. 4730
P: (07) 4658 1104
M: 0439 963 603
longreach.rafs@ucommunity.org.au

Mount Isa

Shop 1/8 Sunset Drive
Mount Isa QLD 4825
P: (07) 4775 9188
M: 0439 912 957
mtisa.rafs@ucommunity.org.au

North Queensland

5 Macrae Street
Mareeba Q. 4880
P: (07) 4092 4318
M: 0447 115 083
nq.rafs@ucommunity.org.au



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**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

Calendar of Community Events 2023

October

ALL MONTH

Seniors Month

2nd – Kings Birthday – Council Office Closed

11th – Etheridge Shire Council General Meeting

14th – Silversmith workshop

18th – Rates Discount Ends

November

10th – Christmas Night Markets – Georgetown

15th – Etheridge Shire Council General Meeting

18th – Gregg Bethel Memorial Cricket Match



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 inform@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