





MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Hello and welcome to the Mayor's report



This month I can report that the process of selecting a new Chief Executive Officer for Etheridge Shire has been completed and that Mr. Mark Watt is the successful applicant who has been appointed by council to the position.

Mark comes to Etheridge with a wealth of knowledge and experience across the landscape of Local Government and governance delivery.

What this means moving forward is that Ken will be around for another six weeks or so, to finalise the transition period across to Mark.

So while the transition period is being carried out I would like to take this opportunity to recognise and acknowledge the contribution that Ken has bought to the table whilst carrying out his role as CEO of Etheridge.

It is very rare indeed to have the opportunity to work alongside someone who has such deep knowledge and experience spread over forty years of being in Local Government, and seeing that being applied in delivering benefit to myself, councillors, staff and the wider community. Ken's contribution to the Emergency Services through his commitment and dedication to the Rural Fires network as well as the Local Disaster Coordinator's Role, has seen a vast improvement in the service delivery rollout, and preparedness, in disaster response situations.

Ken and Jo have been strong supporters of the school and wider community, contributing to a wide and varied array of activities over the years and Jo's contribution to the school sporting activities have been greatly appreciated by both parents and students alike.

So after four years of servicing Etheridge it is getting close to saying "see you later" to Ken and Jo rather than saying "goodbye," because this community has grown on them both and they will be back at some point in time down the track.

Community Connect visits have commenced with the first being held in Mt Surprise last week where a couple of people from the community turned out to discuss concerns, queries, and ideas with Council in an open session format. Council then runs with the normal workshop Wednesday program in that community and whilst in Mt. Surprise we were treated to a visit to the State School and spoke briefly to the students and staff with a guided tour of their facilities. A big thank you to Principal Brooke, staff and students for their hospitality.

Georgetown is the next community in line for the Community Connect to be held on Wednesday 9th October.

This month will see Deputy Mayor Laurell and I travel to Julia Creek for the North West Regional Organisation of Councils meeting, then travel to Cairns early October to attend the North Queensland ROC meeting. Ken and I recently travelled to Mt. Isa to attend the Western Alliance of Councils gathering which takes in the North West ROC, Central West ROC, as well as the South West ROC. This alliance consists of twenty four regional councils that forms a formidable advocacy body to ensure that Governments are fully informed of the grass roots issues impacting Local Government in the bush.

Once again, I had the opportunity to push topics such as funding the completion of the sealing on the Kennedy Highway, Savannah Way, Health Service shortfalls in our region, Gilbert River Bridge upgrade and add support to push back on the cost shifting exercises that all Local Governments are experiencing coming from central governments.

Etheridge Shire hosted the Regional Roads and Transport Technical Group this month who travelled to inspect current and completed projects under the TIDS program. This visit also presented the opportunity to inspect the Gilbert River Bridge and explain the safety issues along with the supply chain breakdown due to prolonged flooding during the wet season. The group consists of Engineers and works overseers from all the North Queensland ROC Councils plus Executive Staff of ROC. As part of the visit an inspection of the Genex Site at Kidston renewable energy hub took place which included a journey over the Gregory Highway to the Oasis for an overnight stay.

Encouraging comments with regard to seeing firsthand the issues, and a far greater understanding of the ramifications around funding shortfalls, ageing infrastructure, and the need for greater pointed advocacy to take place were received as feedback.

Next month we welcome Year 6 students from around the shire to attend the October General Meeting where their ideas are put forward to council they experience first-hand the way a council meeting is conducted.

These are always good sessions I look forward to having this time with potential future leaders of our region.

Until next month, Happy Trails.

Regards, Mayor Barry Hughes

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

CEO - 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!



2024 General Meetings

Etheridge Shire Council wishes to advise that in accordance with Section 254B of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the General Meetings to be held by Etheridge Shire Council for the 2024 Calendar year are to be held on the following dates in Georgetown:

Month	<u>Date</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Time</u>
October	Wednesday, 16 th October 2024	Georgetown	9:00am
November	Wednesday, 20th November 2024	Georgetown	9:00am
December	Wednesday, 18 th December 2024	Georgetown	9:00am

Please note dates, times and locations are subject to change. If you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact Council on 4079 9090

Ken Timms PSM Chief Executive Officer



Mayor Barry Hughes 0458 621 233 Mayor@etheridge.qld.gov.au



Deputy Mayor Laurell Royes 0459 278 377 Cr.Royes@etheridge.gld.gov.au Cr.Tincknell@etheridge.gld.gov.au



Councillor lan Tincknell 0459 136 283



Councillor Seven Ryan 0448 089 144 Cr.Ryan@etheridge.qld.gov.au



Councillor Ian Carroll 0459 623 582 Cr.Carroll@etheridge.qld.gov.au

ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL

Monthly Community Connect Sessions

Come and have a chat with your local Councillors!

Mt Surprise Hall, Mt Surprise 9AM THURS, 12 SEPTEMBER 2024

- Georgetown Sports Centre, Georgetown 9AM WED, 9 OCTOBER 2024
- Einasleigh Hall, Einasleigh 9AM WED, 13 NOVEMBER 2024
- Forsayth QCWA Hall, Forsayth 9AM WED, 4 DECEMBER 2024

For more information please contact Council on (07) 4079 9090







PUBLIC NOTICE

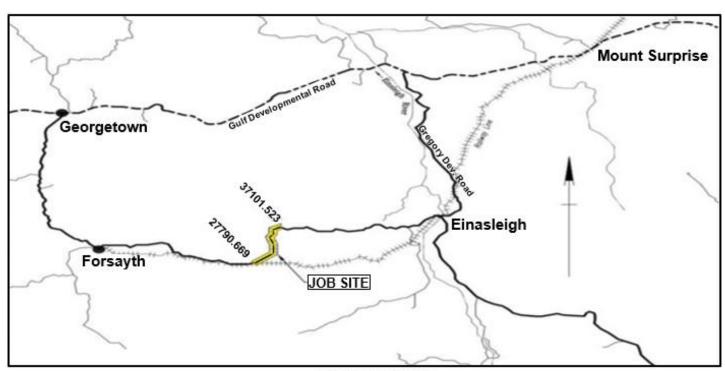
Etheridge Shire Council wishes to advise of the Forsayth to Einasleigh Road Construction Project

Road works will be undertaken from Chainage 27.79 to 37.10 and there will be side tracks in use.

Works to be undertaken will involve drainage works and bitumen sealing of this section of road.

Please obey all road work signage.

Please be patient during the construction of this project as there will be a lot of machinery and construction vehicles working in this area.



LOCALITY PLAN

Ken Timms PSM
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Etheridge Shire Council
PO Box 12
GEORGETOWN



PUBLIC NOTICE

Etheridge Shire Council wishes to advise the public of the construction of box culvert activities at the Queenslander Creek crossing.

Road works will be undertaken on the Cobbold Gorge Road near the Queenslander Creek and there will be side tracks in use.

Please obey all road work signage.

Works Starts: Thursday 22nd August 2024 Completion: Thursday 12th December 2024

Council apologies for any inconvenience this may cause

Should you have any queries in respect to this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Council on (07) 4079 9090

Ken Timms PSM Chief Executive Officer





PUBLIC NOTICE

Copperfield (Kidston) Dam

The Department of Resources wishes to advise the public of the upcoming Copperfield (Kidston) Dam closure.

The Dam will be closed from:

Wednesday, 2nd October 2024 to Mid November 2024

due to planned maintenance works.

Council apologies for any inconvenience this may cause

If you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact Council on 4079 9090

Ken Timms PSM
Chief Executive Officer



ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL WISHES TO ADVISE

RADF Community Funding ROUND 1 Will open for applications on Monday, 23rd September

Up to \$10,000.00 is available for the Etheridge Shire Community for Arts, Crafts and Cultural Activities.

Application Forms can be emailed or picked up from the Council Office in Georgetown. Alternatively, please download a copy from the Councils website – www.etheridge.qld.gov.au

CLOSING DATE for applications is 7th October 2024

Please contact

Andrea Kernan, Community Development & Events Officer,
PH: (07) 4079 9090 or Email: andrea.kernan@etheridge.qld.gov.au
For application forms or for further information or assistance.

Ken Timms PSM

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Etheridge Shire Council

HIRING

Currently seeking applications for

- PLUMBER
- PLANT OPERATORS/TRUCK DRIVERS
- LEADING HAND ROAD CONSTRUCTION
- + OTHER ROLES

For Job descriptions, please visit www.etheridge.qld.gov.au

Email us your application: info@etheridge.qld.gov.au Subject: Position Applied - Surname

POSITION VACANT APPRENTICE DIESEL FITTER

Etheridge Shire Council is seeking applications from highly motivated, enthusiastic and team orientated persons to assist and support the Councils Workshop Staff, in the fabrication, repair and maintenance of Council's plant and equipment whilst obtaining a Certificate III (Engineering Mechanical Trade).

Council is happy to accept applications from apprentices that have already commenced their trade and or new to trade applicants.

Applications are to include a covering letter, resume and at least 2 references. Applications can be posted, delivered to the Administration Office, faxed or emailed to:

Position Vacant – Apprentice – Diesel Fitter The Chief Executive Officer Etheridge Shire Council PO Box 12 GEORGETOWN QLD 4871

Fax: 07 4062 1285

Email: info@etheridge.qld.gov.au

Further information can be obtained by contacting the Workshop Supervisor Lachlan Bester on Ph: 07 40799090 or Councils website www.etheridge.qld.gov.au

Th Applications close at 4 pm 11th October 2024

Ken Timms PSM
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

PROJECT UPDATE MT SURPRISE BUS STOP



The Mt Surprise Bus Stop project is progressing well and is expected to be completed by November 2024. Funded by the Passenger Transport Infrastructure Investment Program, this initiative aims to upgrade the bus stop in Mt Surprise to meet Australian Disability Standards for accessible public transport.





SENIOR'S PAMPER & PAINT DAY

Join us for a day of catching up with old and new friends! There will be plenty to do including haircuts, massages, pedicures & prizes.

Plus more:

- Painting with Bekky
- Smorgasbord of nibbles
- FREE Emergency Starter Kits

Please join us



9.00AM, 22ND OCTOBER 2024



SHIRE HALL, GEORGETOWN

RSVP

Andrea Kernan,
Community Development & Events Officer

07 4079 9090 andrea.kernan@etheridge.qld.gov.au



Snap Send Solve

See something, Snap something



Snap a photo

Open the app, select 'Snap' and add your photo.



Confirm Snap location

Confirm your Snap's location either using the map pin or address bar.



Select incident type

Select the relevant incident type for your snap.



Send your Snap

Select 'Send Snap' to send your Snap off to be solved.



Solve

The Relevant Solver will receive your Snap, so that it can be solved.





Download to Snap!

Find it on (\$ >





Queensland Government

Activity notice

Georgetown AEM survey

Geoscience Australia, in collaboration with the Geological Survey of Queensland, will be carrying out an Airborne Electromagnetic (AEM) survey with 20km line spacing over a large area of north-east Queensland from June to November 2024. The survey is part of a larger geophysical survey program that aims to gather new information about the potential ground water, mineral and energy resources concealed beneath the surface. This information will lead to more informed resource management and to better targeted investment.

Why is this survey important?

This survey is being carried out to obtain data that will enhance understanding of geology and natural resources of the region. This information will support future informed decision making for resource management.

Survey Method

Light aircraft are fitted with instruments to map variations in the natural electrical conductivity of the ground to a depth of several hundred metres.

During the survey, a signal will be transmitted from the aircraft into the ground. The signal is similar to that produced by a power line, passing quickly as the aircraft moves. Towed antennae can detect the returned signals. The nature of these signals are analysed to map variations in the electrical conductivity of the ground caused by the presence of groundwater and some minerals.

How AEM surveys work: https://youtu.be/p3gK786PRfo

Further information about AEM surveys can be found at: https://www.ga.gov.au/scientific-topics/disciplines/geophysics/airborne-electromagnetics

What you may see or hear

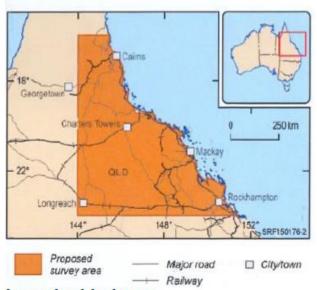
A small aeroplane (Cessna) towing equipment below, will fly at approximately 120 metres above the ground, along east - west flights paths 20 kilometres apart. If you have any concerns with this activity, please contact Geoscience Australia.



Figure 1: An AEM system in action.

Timing and location

The airborne survey is expected to be carried out between June and November, working in stages across the area outlined in the figure below.



Important to know

Pre-competitive data acquired by GA will be publicly available after quality control and assurance checks have been performed. Public release of this information may contain explicit spatial location information, such as specific deployment locations and/or areas which may be interpreted as containing groundwater and resource potential.

This survey is one of a series of airborne surveys being planned by Geoscience Australia and the Geological Survey of Queensland in 2024. The surveys are being centrally coordinated and you can obtain further information about any of these surveys using the contact details below.

For further information

Geoscience Australia

Email: geophysical.surveys@ga.gov.au

Phone: 1800 800 173 Mobile: 0427 192 745



PUBLIC NOTICE - WILD DOG BAITING CAMPAIGN

Council advises that a baiting campaign utilising 1080 Poison will be occurring throughout the Region from 30 September 2024 to 31 October 2024.

It is anticipated that baiting will occur on properties in or about the following areas. Baiting preparation stations will be established at the location and dates below.

Individual notices to adjoining properties must be delivered by participating properties providing a minimum 72 hours notice.

DATE	LOCATION	
Monday, 30 September 2024	Mirtna	
Tuesday, 01 October 2024	Moonoomoo Turn Off	
Wednesday, 02 October 2024	Scartwater - Bundabaroo Turn Off	
Thursday, 03 October 2024	Slogan Downs Airstrip	
Friday, 04 October 2024	Red Hill - Campaspe	
Tuesday, 08 October 2024	Nevena Water Facility	
Wednesday, 09 October 2024	Ballabay Water Facility	
Thursday, 10 October 2024	Barrington	
Monday, 14 October 2024	Hillgrove	
Tuesday, 15 October 2024	Paynes Lagoon Airstrip	
Wednesday, 16 October 2024	Hidden Valley	
Thursday, 17 October 2024	Cardigan	
Friday, 18 October 2024	Silver Valley Turn Off	
Monday, 21 October 2024	Rangeview Turn-off	
Tuesday, 22 October 2024	Christmas Creek	
Wednesday, 23 October 2024	Myola	
Monday, 28 October 2024	Nulla Nulla	
Tuesday, 29 October 2024	Dosey Springs Airstrip	
Wednesday 30 October 2024	Valley of Lagoons	
Thursday, 31 October 2024	Camel Creek	

For further information, please contact Council's Land Protection Team on 4761 5300.

Martin Drydale Chief Executive Officer PO Box 189 CHARTERS TOWERS QLD 4820

For more information:

PH. (07) 4761 5300 | E. mail@charterstowers.qld.gov.au | www.charterstowers.qld.gov.au

Queensland Housing Finance Loan



REGIONAL TRIAL

We're extending the income eligibility of the Queensland Housing Finance Loan

- Variable or fixed interest rate
- Minimum deposit of 2% of the purchase price
- No monthly account keeping fees
- ► No lenders mortgage insurance



The 2-year trial is for people living in 45 rural and remote councils, earning less than \$201,000 per annum



Scan the QR code to check your eligibility or contact **1300 654 322** for more information.





Flood and bushfire preparedness

Researchers at UNSW are conducting a project about flood and bushfire preparedness in Australia. All Australian residents over 18 years old are invited to take part in either one or both surveys on flood and bushfire preparedness. Your input is invaluable in developing knowledge that can inform policies on emergency response strategies and community resilience.

Scan to Participate in **Flood** Research

Scan to Participate in **Bushfire** Research



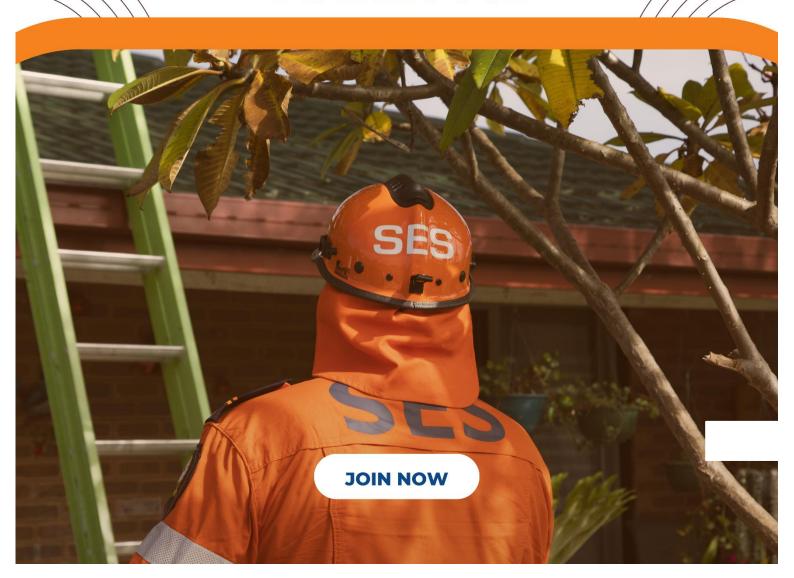


GEORGETOWN STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE

WE NEED YOU

Come and join our amazing team! Please contact Julie on:

0428 997 748





Please <u>do not</u> call the SES/ QRFS (Queensland Rural Fire Services) volunteers directly.

To expedite the process please call 000.

If in the event of an emergency this is the <u>fastest</u> way to get our volunteers on site and into action.

000

INFORMATION ON HOW TO ACCESS THE HEALTH CENTRE FOR EMERGENCIES AFTERHOURS AND NON-URGENT BOOKINGS IN BUSINESS HOURS.

OPENING HOURS:

Mon – Fri 9am -12pm & 2pm – 4pm Sat/Sun/Public Holidays 10pm – 12pm

OR PRESS THE RED EMERGENCY BUTTON AT THE HEALTH CENTRE MAIN FRONT DOOR

When calling 000 select the option for ambulance. The call centre will take your details then contact us. It is important when you hang up from the ambulance that you stay off your phone so that the nurse can call you back directly.

The health centre phone number is 4062 1266. This number is available in business hours only. The number may be diverted in these hours if the nurse is on fatigue or an ambulance job. *Please do not contact nurses on social media or private phone numbers*.

For non-urgent health care needs please call the health centre to make a booking before you arrive, and on arrival please press the doorbell at the waiting area door and take a seat inside the waiting area and the staff will attend to you.

Georgetown Primary Health Centre



Hello everyone and we hope you are all travelling well.

Well, we are moving thick and fast through the year, and it's certainly been a busy few months, as is expected for our health centre at this time of the year. We would like to thank you all for your patience while we navigate through the busy season.

We would like to thank our operational service staff for their amazing work supporting us as we deliver patient care. We wouldn't be able to do our job without them!

Spring is here and it's getting hot! Remember to keep up with your fluids, especially when working outside, and remember to protect your skin from harmful sunshine rays. Rates of skin cancer are disproportionatley high in this part of the country, so remember the importance of prevention rather than cure.

To all the mums, dads and carers of young children and babies in the community, we would like to apologise that over the last few months we have had limited child health services visiting with th RFDS. Please be reassured RFDS have been working on staffing in this area. We now have a child health nurse booked at least for the next few months and I have been contacting those on the waitlist to ensure to get your little one booked in. Jas and I are both qualified child immunisers, so please don't hesitate to book in with us if the Doctors day is not convenient for you.

As always, please remember it's important to keep your health in check with a health check-up, as evidence supports, regular health checks are the best way to ensure a healthier life into the future, as it's an opportunity to make any necessary changes that prevent chronic disease. Please call us if you would like to have a health check.

Finally, and very importantly don't forget to look after your mental health. Mental health is important and inextricably linked t ooptmal physical health. Mental illness does not discriminate, so if you feel you are not coping with the stressors of life, please come and see us so that we can refer you to someone that can help. Be reassured, that all your persona information is highly confidential and sometimes just that bit of support is all you need to get ourselves back on track. Don't forget, if you notice someone is not travelling so well, bravely ask them if they are ok, although this can seem awkward, it could be the moment that changes their lives in a positive way.

Georgetown Primary Health Centre



Upcoming RFDS Clinic Dates:

20.09.2024 FRIDAY 26.09.2024 THURSDAY 03.10.2024 THURSDAY 10.10.2024 THURSDAY 18.10.2024 FRIDAY

Upcoming visiting health teams:

WOMENS HEALTH NURSE (Cher Heritage)

Phone Georgetown Clinic for appointments 4062 1266 12.11.2024 TUESDAY

NWRH (Mental Health support)

Face to face
Telehealth is offered
Referrals can be self-referral, Dr or Nurse referral
Please call us 4062 1266 for more information or NWRH 4781 9300

ALLIED HEALTH

October - MONDAY 21st to WEDNESDAY 23rd

DENTAL

November - Friday 18th to TUESDAY 22nd (Adult)

FLU VACCINES

We have plenty of Flu vaccines so please contact the clinic to book in. I would highly recommend you have this vaccine, despite it not being the start of the year. Influenza A is rampant across the country, and you can become infected throughout the year. We are happy to supply this for fee to all of those that wish to have this.

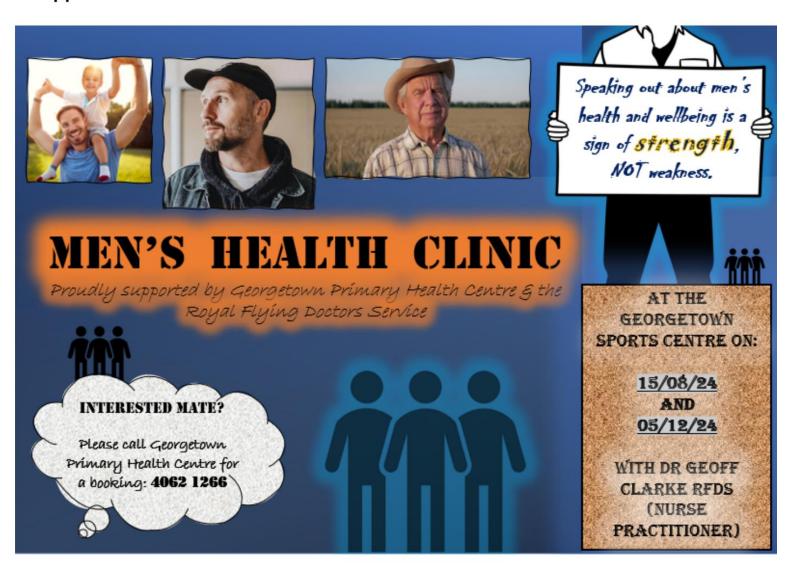
Georgetown Primary Health Centre



MEN'S HEALTH CLINIC

Speaking about men's health is a sign of strength not weakness, we are lucky to have Dr Geoff Clark form RFDS who is a Nurse Practitioner, is coming to the Georgetown sport's centre on 05.12.2024 (date changed) to provide a men's health clinic.

Please phone the clinic on 4062 1266 to discuss more or to make an appointment!



Thank you and Kind Regards,
Serena Mulholland with and on behalf of Jas Murray

Tablelands Allied Health Outreach Service

Mount Surprise, Einasleigh, Forsayth, Georgetown & Croydon



The first visiting services will be Physiotherapy & Social Work

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 in conjunction with some of the Primary Health Centres. Please contact Allied Health Admin on 40910467 to discuss an appointment.

Monday 21st - Wednesday 23rd October, 2024

The clinicians for this trip are Renee Silvestro (physiotherapist) and Elouise McGregor (social worker).

Their contact number for the trip is **0458 510 938.**

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.

What services do we offer?

Dietetics

Social Work

Physiotherapy

Speech Pathology

Occupational Therapy



We aim to provide face-to-face outreach services three times per year in 2024. In between these visits, Telehealth and Telephone service can be utilised. Our outreach team consists of a Physiotherapist, an Occupational Therapist, a Speech Pathologist, a Dietitian, and a Social Worker.

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 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 4091 0201.

Cairns and Hinterland

Hospital and Health Service















OUTREACH 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/tapingFacilitation 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.

Cairns and Hinterland

Hospital and Health Service

















Seniors Legal & Support Service

How can we help?

ADA Law's Seniors Legal & Support Service provides free advocacy and legal services for older people at risk of or concerned about elder abuse including financial matters.

Our outreach service can help older people with:

- · conflicts with family and friends
- family agreements
- · family or friends using money
- · how they are taken care of at home.

What can we do?

Our Seniors Legal & Support Service team can provide:

- information, legal advice and support regarding concerns about money, family property, and care arrangements
- information on future planning documents and your legal rights
- referrals to other legal, consumer and support services
- representation before tribunals.

We also provide information sessions for community groups and organisations on rights in decision making and elder abuse awareness and prevention.

Who are we?

Our Seniors Legal & Support Service is part of ADA Australia, an advocacy organisation and registered Queensland Community Legal service (ADA Law).

How do we work?

Our Seniors Legal & Support Service team consists of a solicitor and a social worker, who will be your first point of contact. We will work hand in hand with a client until the matter is resolved. Support can be provided via phone and video link but we will also make in-person visits where possible.

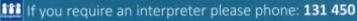
What are we unable to assist with?

ADA Law's Seniors Legal & Support Service does not provide legal support for criminal matters or general civil matters such as neighbourhood disputes or injury claims. However, we will refer people to the right legal support.

Where can we help?



FREECALL: 1800 232 529 (1800 ADA LAW) e: info@adalaw.com.au









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 on 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)
- Mt Isa
- North Queensland (based in Mareeba)

<u>Please Note:</u> 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 FAFS 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 School 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 training 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@uccom

charleville.rafs@uccommunity.org.au

Emerald

287 Shakespeare Street
Mackay, Q. 4730
M: 0439 932 958
emerald.rafs@uccommunity.org.au

Longreach

130A Eagle Street Longreach, Q. 4730 P: (07) 4658 1104 M: 0439 963 603

longreach.rafs@uccommunity.org.au

Mount Isa

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

North Queensland

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

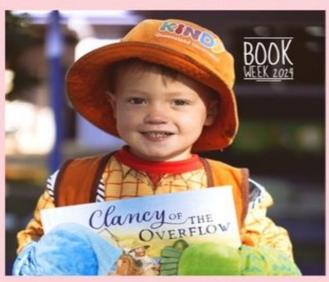




BOOK WEEK





















Oak Park hosted and engaging charcoal workshop that brought together art enthusiasts of all skill levels. Led by Katie Jones, participants were guided throught the fundamentals of charcoal drawing, from basic techniques to more advanced applications



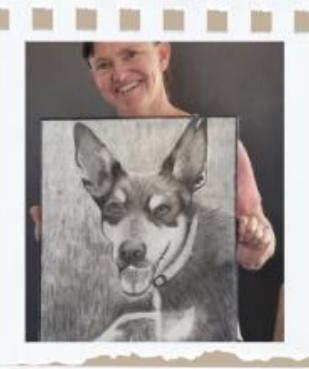






Forsayth hosted the second of the charcoal workshops delivered by artist Katie Jones.

Many budding artist were quite surprised at their hidden talents. The supportive atmosphere allowed participants to share their work and receive constructive feedback, fostering a sense of community and collaboration.



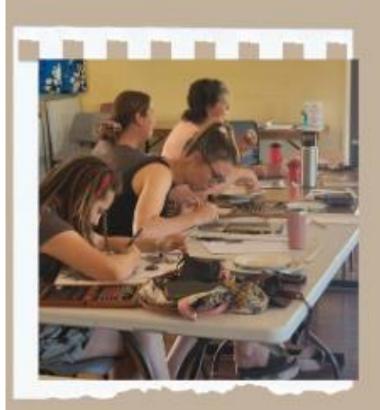






Forsayth charcoal workshop continued...

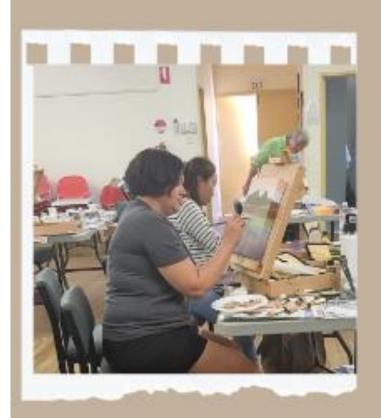
By the end of the workshop, many left with not only finished pieces but a newfound confidence in their artistic abilities.







The last weekend workshop was focused on oil painting and was held in Mt Surprise. Once again artist Katie Jones led the workshop which attracted both novice and experienced painters eager to enhance their skills and explore the versatility of oil paint. Thank you to all the women who catered for these events - very much appreciated.











A Night to Remember

Etheridge Shire QCWA Debutante Ball 2024

The Etheridge Shire QCWA Debutante Ball, held on the 17th of August 2024, was a memorable evening of elegance, tradition, and community spirit. This special night marked an important milestone for the nine debutantes: Misses Maddison Brown, Montanna brown, Haley Butler, April Keough, Kadey Pedracini, Emma Pickering, Josie Prior, Gracie Tincknell, and Sascha Young, proudly introduced by Ms. Alana Young. The debutantes chaperoned by Mrs. Amanda Butler, Miss Kylie Treen and Mrs. Pam Swain were formally presented to the Mayor and Lady Mayoress, Mr. Barry Hughes and Mrs. Tammy Hughes, as well as the the president of the Georgetown QCWA, Mrs. Pauline Tincknell by Matrons of Honour, Ms. Shirlee Young and Mrs. Cindy Hughes, with the evening graced by flower-girl Aurora Kernan and page boy Master Morgan Le Brocq who attended the official party.

The event began with the presentation of Year Six students - Liam Fox, Montanna Green, Bailey Hughes, Molly Mosch, and James Terry - who will soon embark on the next chapter of the academic journey at boarding school. We wish them the absolute best in their future endeavours.

Following this, the debutantes were elegantly presented, glowing in their stunning dresses, with their partners looking dashing in suits from Tittley's of Charters Towers. The beautifully crafted bouquets and corsages for the debutantes, partners, flower girls, and official party were meticulously created by Miss Kylie Treen and Mrs. Daphne Treen, who have our sincere thanks for their creativity and dedication.

The Mayor, Lady Mayoress, and Mrs. Tincknell warmly welcomed the debutantes into society, acknowledging the deep significance of this rite of passage. The evening's formalities included a beautiful rendition of the traditional "Pride of Erin' dance, performed by the debutantes and their partners to Forster and Allen's "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling", accompanied by the delightful music of Kurdaz Country Band. This moment captured the joy and grace of the night.

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One of the highlights was Debutante Maddison Brown's honour of cutting the debutant cake on behalf of all the debutantes. The cake, a masterpiece created by Mrs. Daphne Treen and Miss Kylie Treen, was as delicious as it was visually stunning. Their ongoing support, travelling from Mareeba each year, has been integral to the success of these debutante balls since the Jubilee Balls began in 2005, and their contributions are deeply appreciated.

A light supper, generously provided by the community, followed the formalities. Special thanks go to Quille and Deanne for overseeing the catering, ensuring a steady flow of delicious dishes. The sandwiches, created by Mrs. Dawn Butler, Mrs. Ursula Ryan and Ollie and George, were thoroughly enjoyed, as were the beautifully designed cupcakes by Mrs. Cindy Attwood and celebratory biscuits adorned with the QCWA logo by Mrs. Kris Pirantozzi of Innisfail.

The QCWA Georgetown Committee extends heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to making the evening a success. The hall decorations, created by a team of local ladies including Ms. Amahlia Pedracini, Mrs. Melissa Pedracini, Ms. Laurell Royes, Mrs. Jodi Kernan, Mrs. Anna Bethel, Mrs. Amanda Butler, Mrs. Pauline Tincknell and others. Kiera Zammit and Caitlin Robinson, transformed the space in a magic setting. Thank you also to Mrs. Jodi Kernan and Mrs. Andrea Kernan for their hospitality at the door, and to Mr. Michael Le Brocq for his assistance in hanging the Deb Ball sign. Special appreciation goes to Ms. Jess Blakeney from Charters Towers for teaching the debutantes and partners the "Pride of Erin," and to Mrs. Janell Zahner, Mrs. Veronica Loudon, and Mrs. Pauline Tincknell for providing additional remedial dance training.

Technical support was expertly provided by Ms. Seven Ryan and Mrs. Danni-Lee Moxham, while Mr. Paul and Mrs. Cindy Attwood skillfully managed the bar. We are also grateful to Mrs. Renee Bester and Mr. Soonmin Kwon for capturing the evening in photographs, preserving these treasured memories. Security for the event was provided by Gulf Training and Security, with thanks. Thank you Dawn and Will Attwood who travelled from Cairns to help with the evening.

We also wish to acknowledge all those who provided supper, as well as the parents, grandparents, and supporters who helped prepare the debutantes, partners, and flower-girls for their special night. Your efforts made the debutantes - and indeed, the entire Etheridge Shire Community - proud. A special thank you goes to Mrs. Vicki Kieoskie of VK Vinyl for her thoughtful contribution to the gifts for the debutants, adding a personal and memorable touch to their evening.

Thanks also go to those who assisted with the clean-up on Sunday: Ms. Shirlee Young, Mr. Noel Young, Ms. Seven Ryan, Miss Sasha Young, and Miss Sheridan Young. The smooth execution of the clean-up is a testament to the strength of our community spirit. Finally, we extend our deep appreciation to the Etheridge Shire Council, the Community Assistance Grant, and the Etheridge Shire ratepayers for all the financial support. Without this, the night would not have been possible. Our gratitude also extends to the Mayor, Lady Mayoress, Councillors, and the official party for volunteering their time to help make this night so special.



The 2024 Etheridge Shire QCWA Debutante Ball was more than just an event, it was a testament to what can be achieved when a community unites. We are particularly thankful to Mrs. Pam Swaine for her tireless vision and guidance, ensuring the continuation of this cherished tradition. To everyone who participated, supported, and contributed - thank you for making this night a resounding success. You have created lasting memories for all, especially the debutantes, who will carry the significance of this night with them for many years and, hopefully, attend their Golden Jubilee celebration in fifty years' time.

From the QCWA Georgetown Committee to the Etheridge Shire Community, a humble and heartfelt thank you!



Etheridge Shire Council would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to the QWA Committee for their outstanding efforts in organising the 2024 Debutante Ball. The countless hours you've invested in planning and coordinating every aspect are deeply appreciated, and it's evident that your hard work has created a beautiful experience for everyone. Thank you for your commitment to making this event a success!







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GOLDFEILDS CARAVAN PARK

SEPTEMBER

17TH.18TH,19TH,20TH,21ST.

NOVEMBER

6TH,7TH,8TH.

CONTACT US; 0430023029





Winner of the 2024 Etheridge Shire NRL Footy Tipping Competition – George Smith





Georgetown Cricket Blast
Gregg Bethel Oval
Tuesdays from October 1st
New to Cricket - 3:30pm - 4:30pm
Intermediate to Advanced - 4:30pm - 5:30pm







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GEORGETOWN SS P & C

25Th dctober

4 pm - 11pm GREGG Bethel oval

Spake clothes & towel will be needed

obstacle course

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BBQ

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lolly bags

night time

soccer game

Sack Races
3 legged Race
IRON Man challange

egg & spoon race

thong throwing broom throwing

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to get the best effect with the colour please wear white



SCOULS

JOIN THE ADVENTURE!



Scouts Queensland's ScoutReach program provides flexible, virtual, and remote Scouting for young people in rural and remote Queensland, who wish to participate in Scouts by undertaking Scouting at home!



For more than 90 years, Scouts Queensland has provided a Lone Scouts program to support participation of Scouts in rural and remote areas, expanding over the years to welcome youth members who have personal and work circumstances make it difficult to regularly meet with a local Scout Group.

From 5 to 26 years old, joining ScoutReach means you can still take part in a range of fun adventures Scouts has to offer, even if you do not have access to a local Scout Group. If you have ever wanted to be a Scout but thought you lived too far away or had no fellow Scouts your own age, ScoutReach might be for you!

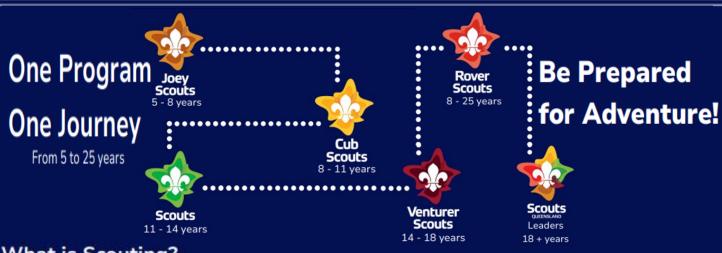
ScoutReach operates like a distance learning group with:

- Program meetings provided via Microsoft Teams by experienced Scout Leaders (with communications via email, internet, and mail)
- Regular program resources available so that members can make the most out of their Scouting.
- Overnight and holiday meetings, activities, and camps
- Opportunities to participate in other Scout Group activities that are nearby.
- Opportunities to participate in Queensland, National and International Scouting Events

There is a set of criteria that applicants must meet to join ScoutReach:

- · Must live a minimum of 12 km from the nearest Scout Group, or
- Cannot access their local Scout Group due to their personal needs or is attending a boarding school with after school activities that are prescribed, such as sport, extra specialist classes (eg. Music), or
- Cannot participate locally due to work commitments (eg. Shift work), or
- Member of a regional Scout Group who cannot access their age program at a particular time, through their local Scout Group (ie. No Scout, Venturer Scout, or Rover Scout Unit at their local group).

To express interest in joining ScoutReach, please contact the Group Leader via email contact@scoutreach.scoutsqld.com.au or visit our web site - scoutreach.scoutsqld.com.au



What is Scouting?

Scouts is Australia's largest youth leadership organisation and we provide real opportunities for young people. Surveys prove that Scouts are 9.4% more likely than non-Scouts to hold more hope for a positive future. How does this happen? Through the **Scout Method**.

Scouting delivers to our community resilient young people who have gained leadership experience, are physically active and who care for others.



Youth Leading, Adult Supporting

A youth movement, guided by adults, where youth are increasingly selfmanaging.



Patrol System

A way to develop interpersonal and leadership skills through teamwork, responsibility and belonging.



Learning by Doing

Learning through practical experiences and activities.



Nature and the outdoors

The outdoors is the primary setting for learning and encourages a two-way relationship between the individual and the natural world.



Community Involvement

Active exploration of an individual's commitment and responsibility to their community and wider world.



Personal Progression

A learning journey focused on challenging the individual to do their best through a range of experiences.



Promise and Law

Scouting values and ideals that underpin all activities and interactions



Symbolic Framework

A unifying structure of themes and symbols that facilitates that awareness and development of an individual's persona journey.





Scouts Queensland is a Child Safe organisation with zero-tolerance for any harm, abuse or neglect. We value the diversity of our members, including gender, sexuality, race, religion and ability. Visit our website for more information.

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- Learn how to maintain composure when there are bumps and holes in the road of



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About Allan Parker OAM

Allan Parker OAM is a micro behavioural neuroscientist, whose first book, Switch on your Brain has been a best seller since its publication in

Allan is embarking on an extraordinary journey through the heart of regional Australia, bringing insights, skills, and compassionate guidance to communities and individuals. Allan's workshops delve into the neural pathways that govern our thoughts and behaviours, offering tools for a Calming Brain Reset (CBR).

UNDERSTANDING THE BRAIN

A deep dive into how our brain works and how to have a healthier one throughout your life.

How to talk about pressure and lower it with five techniques for handling tension and emerging calmer on the other side.

How to have calming conversations rather than reactive debates to produce a healthier brain and a better understanding of others.

Reset your brain to have clearer thoughts, less stress.

MYTHS OF BRAIN FOOD & EXERCIS



Join the Gulf Savannah NRM team! Work for a not-for-profit organisation delivering projects to support healthy landscapes and resilient communities across the Northern Gulf region.

Gulf Savannah NRM is seeking **Team Leaders** to lead multi-disciplinary professionals working across natural resource management programs. The position will be responsible for ensuring the needs of their team are being met, including human resources management, workplace health and safety, fleet and asset management and IT systems.

- Part time (48-60 hours per fortnight).
- · Fixed term for 24 months.
- · Location: Mareeba, Croydon or Georgetown.

Applications close 9am Monday 30 September.

For more information and to apply, visit gulfsavannahnrm.org/employment.



Have you, or someone you care for, had a concussion?

Get recovery support and guidance on managing concussion while contributing to new Australian concussion research







- Track & manage your symptoms
- · Advice & support
- Information & resources



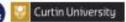


The AUS-mTBI Study aims to gather vital insights to predict long term outcomes following concussion.

@ausmtbi (O) (1) (in) X

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Walton's Picket Straightening will be working through northern Queensland over the next couple of months! From FNQ to the Top End and everywhere in between! (Min. 400 as we do not charge for travel)

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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.

SCAN TO ACCESS HOW-TO-GUIDE

With Links to the full asset pack



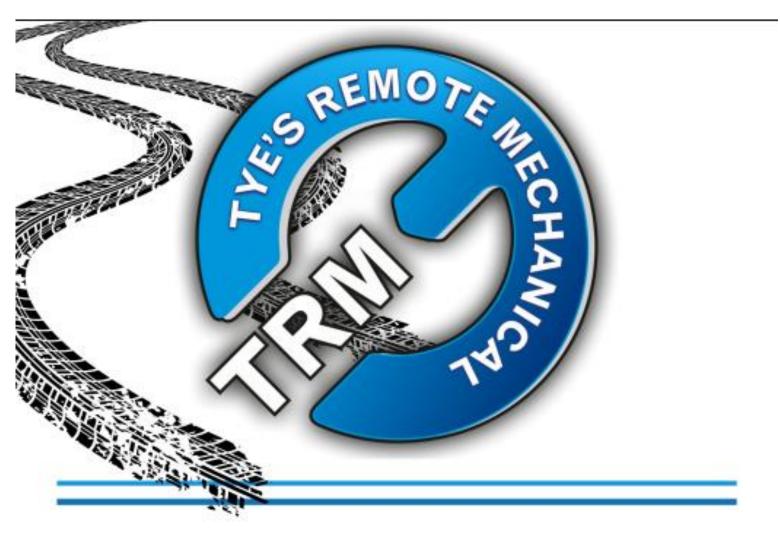
Please address any questions and feedback you have about the campaign to B-cycle:

> contact@bcycle.com.au 1300 853 820



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

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



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Hello, Rob Silk here from Silk's Rest Camping Ground.

I am trying to locate the sign that has gone missing from the grid which is located 3km out of Einasleigh towards Forsayth. A reduce speed sign had been put in its place and Council confirmed that they did not have anything to do with it.

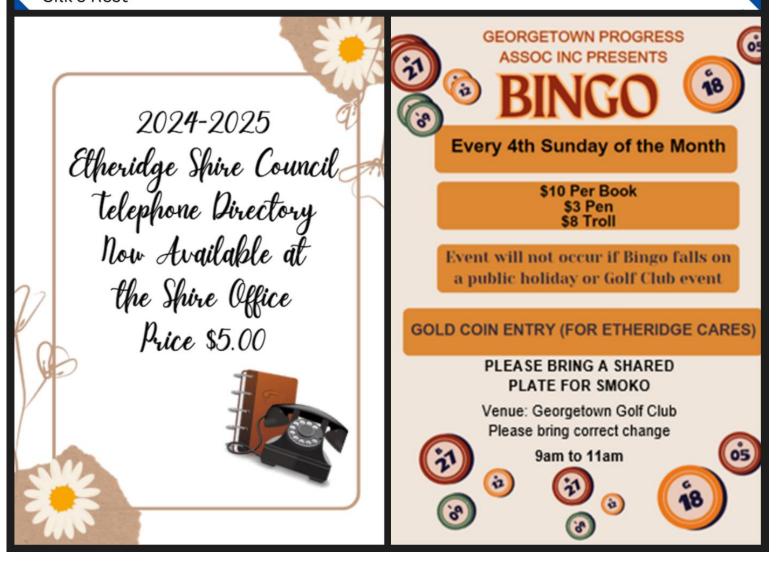
The Council has since removed the reduce speed sign and with their support we are now trying to locate the Silk's Rest sign.

It was put up 3 years ago, encouraging tourist to come and enjoy this beautiful part of the Etheridge Shire. We would really appreciate to have it back, so if anyone has any information, please contact 07 4062 5266

Sign Details: 1500mm Aluminium 1.6mm with 3x rails on the back.



Thanks for your support, Silk's Rest



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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

OCTOBER

Seniors Month

5th Bushman's Ball

6th Georgetown Bush Races

7th Kings Birthday

22th Seniors Day - Georgetown Hall

25nd Georgetown P&C Colour Fun Run



5th Melbourne Cup

9th-10th 20/20 Cricket Carnival

11th Remembrance Day

22nd Christmas Night Markets

23rd Gregg Bethel's Memorial Cricket Match

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

25th Christmas 26th Boxing Day 31st New Year'<u>s Eve</u>

1st New Year's Day 17th-19st 2025 Goldfield Ashes Cricket Carnival 26th Australia Day

JANUARY

COUNCIL IS COMPILING AN ETHERIDGE SHIRE EVENTS CALENDAR AND WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU! SHARE YOUR 2024 EVENT DETAILS WITH US.

INFORM ARTICLES

The Inform will be distributed on the <u>last Thursday of each month</u> unless unforeseen circumstances prevent this. Articles need to be submitted electronically by no later than <u>1.00pm on the Wednesday prior</u>. Late articles will not be published.



inform@etheridge.qld.gov.au

Previous versions of the Inform can be found at



www.etheridge.qld.gov.au