

The Mother of all festivals

Showcase awards added to 2021 event

BY MATT FINDLAY

CENTRAL West Mums' showcase event Mumfest is returning to Orange this year and promises to be even bigger than the inaugural edition in 2019, particularly with the exciting addition of its very own awards - the Mummys.

The Central West Mummy Awards are being included in Mumfest this year, on November 6, to pay tribute to the both the amazing mothers in the region and also the outstanding businesses that support them in everyday life.

There will be six Mummys to be won in 2021 - Mum of the Year, Educator of the Year, Business of the Year, Hero of the Year, Angel of the Year and Garden of the Year - with nominations set to open on July 7.

Central West Mums founder Amorette Zielinski said the Mummys are another exciting extension of the community resources and support group, and it's not just pride up for grabs.

"We have almost \$3,000 worth of prizes to be won," she beamed.

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I received some amazing feedback after the last event and it re-affirmed my decision to build on it even further ... to support first time mums, new mums and welcome women to the Central West.

Central West Mums founder Amorette Zielinski

ing feedback after the last event and it re-affirmed my decision to build on it even further to include the Central West Mummy Awards."

Two years ago, Central West Mums hosted the inaugural edition of Mumfest with more than 300 women coming together to celebrate connection, friendship,



MUM'S THE WORD: Central West Mums founder Amorette Zielinski announced the addition of the Mummys. **Photo: JUDE KEOGH**

community and a shared love of motherhood.

Mrs Zielinski said the group's whole ethos was built on that sense of community foundation.

"Mumfest is an extension of the strong community built in a Facebook group established to support first time mums, new mums and welcome women to the Cen-

tral West," Mrs Zielinski said.

People will be able to nominate those they know or admire and vote in all six categories on Central West Mums' website in the com-

ing days.

The 2021 Mumfest event will be at the Greenhouse of Orange this November.

Tickets are available on the Central West Mums website.

Support for family of young crash victim

■ FROM FRONT PAGE

A statement on the GoFundMe page said it was set up after many people had offered assistance to the Keegan family.

"John has contributed to our community throughout his journey in many different ways including local sporting clubs and attending James

Sheahan Catholic High School," it said.

"John was a respected young man with an infectious personality and love for family, friends and life," it said.

"The Keegans are a loving and respected family, well known for their contributions to our sporting and

school communities.

"In response to the many messages and phone calls we have received requesting donations to the family, we thought we would take it upon ourselves to set up this GoFundMe to ease the family's financial and emotional burden with the affordability of two funerals."

James Sheahan CHS offered support to students and parents and opened the school hall to create a space for prayer and support.

Michael Tilston, the assistant principal teaching and learning, sent a note to the school community on Saturday. "It is with great sadness that we inform you of some

tragic news. Our Year 10 student John Keegan was killed in a car accident last night out on Molong Road," it said.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the Keegan family at this time, and we know this news will be difficult to bear for John's friends and peers."

Orange City's Facebook page said the Keegan family

had a long association with the club. "Yesterday we all woke to some very sad news, with the sudden and tragic passing of one of our own who played in the 16s, John Keegan," it said. "His family have been a part of our club since his father Jason strapped on the boots for us in the late 80s, 90s."

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