



## *FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK...*



Last time I wrote this report I alluded to the fact that by now it may be showing signs of some spring weather. That may have been for a few days but we seem to be back into winter now. I have been able to travel all around the Shire recently and can report that it is looking absolutely wonderful. The fields of canola on the way to Dandaragan are a treat and the lake at Aggie's Cottage is so pretty I suggest a drive out to see it all should be on everyone's agenda before the summer weather. There is a new restaurant/café opened at the Redgum Village and by all accounts is serving lovely food and coffee.

Shire CEO, Tony Nottle and I were at meetings in both Moora and Gingin last week and had the pleasure of meeting the new owners of the Badgingarra Service Station and Caravan Park. We wish them well and I am sure they will do well in such a friendly and welcoming community. The wildflowers are really looking lovely and there are caravans everywhere hoping to get that special photo.

I was delighted to be invited to the Cervantes Ambulance Sub Centre on 8 August, to celebrate with the large crowd assembled, them now being a fully-fledged Sub Centre. The group elected their new Leadership Group and Committee at their AGM. This wonderful group of dedicated volunteers were joined by St John

Ambulance Management and other local stakeholders to make it all official. Cervantes are very proud of them. The Cervantes Pinnacles Caravan Park is busy even though the works have started in earnest and hopefully will be completed for the main holiday season. We are very fortunate to have both RAC in Cervantes and the Layman Family in Jurien Bay doing extensive work on our parks. This higher level of accommodation will attract more and more visitors to the region which in turn will bring jobs and businesses.

On Thursday, 18 August 2016, Tony Nottle and I attended the Jurien Bay RSL Sub Branch's Vietnam Veterans Day Memorial Service followed by a BBQ at the Jurien Bay Bowling Club. The Jurien Bay Emergency Services Cadet unit (formerly known as Police Rangers) did a wonderful job of assisting the RSL Sub Branch in coordinating this event. This renamed Cadets unit continues to hold the position of Honorary Wardens of the Jurien Bay War Memorial, a position they have held since March 2002.

Last Thursday I had the pleasure of officially opening the Jurien Bay Old Jetty Heritage Memorial along the foreshore in Jurien Bay. This project was instigated by long time Jurien Bay resident, Mr Jim Clarke back in 2014. Jim's vision was to see the region's pioneers acknowledged and recognised for their contribution and perseverance to the area when they originally settled on the Dandaragan plateau in the mind 1840's. And so, in partnership with the Jurien Bay Progress Association, the Department of Parks and Wildlife, and the Shire of Dandaragan, this important project has now been completed. Key stakeholders and descendants of the region's pioneers attended the opening, as well as a large group of Year 5 and 6 school students from Jurien Bay District High School. Following the opening guests were invited to attend a morning tea back at the Shire offices.

Following this morning tea these students then attended the Shire's Ordinary Council Meeting. It was great to be able to answer all their very well scripted questions. These young people are the next generation of ratepayers and it was interesting to see how they wanted to see their town and region.

The new cycle path has now been surveyed to Hill River and quotations for works are now being sought. This is a very exciting time for us all as this will be a great attraction for cyclists from all over the world when it is completed. The Jurien Bay Chamber of Commerce are having talks for an event next year which should be a great boost to tourism.

Last Sunday Tony Nottle and I attended a Community Reception with State Cabinet Ministers in Moora as part of the State Government Regional Cabinet meetings held quarterly within WA. This event gave us a great chance to talk to ministers and let them know of our concerns and aspirations for our region. It was a great function and a chance to catch up with old friends. Member for Moore, Mr Shane Love, was able to introduce us to some people we had not met before. Shane is such a hard worker and great advocate for our region. The catering deserves a mention as it was done by a fundraising group from Dandaragan and I have never had such beautiful finger food. They did an amazing job and it was mentioned by everyone. As many of these people attend such functions on a regular basis that is a very good recommendation indeed.

Yesterday was one of the most rewarding days in my role as President of the Shire. The Hon Colin Barnett, Premier of Western Australia, and the Hon Terry Redman, Minister for Regional Development, officially opened the Mid West Coastal Nodes project at Sandy Cape. This project was made possible by the State Government Royalties for Regions program and involved collaboration between the Shires of Coorow, Dandaragan, Irwin and Northampton.

It was a pleasure to be at Sandy Cape on such a magnificent day and to be able to walk along the beach with the Premier and his party to showcase what has to be one of the most beautiful camping areas in WA. It was a great experience for me. The day just kept getting better with the large group moving on to the Jurien Bay Marina where Terry Redman announced \$8.7m for the Stage 2 redevelopment of Jurien Bay Boat Harbour. This funding is from the Royalties for Regions program and is considered a major economic driver for tourism development to complement existing attractions and activities. The Premier then moved to the start of the bike path from Jurien Bay to Cervantes. The successful application by the Jurien Bay Chamber of Commerce for \$200k from Royalties for Regions Wheatbelt Regional Grants scheme and the \$1.2m State Government investment from the Department of Transport and Royalties for Regions has enabled this most important tourism project to begin.

I then hosted a Tourism conference which the Premier convened at the Jurien Bay Civic Centre. Many of the main tourism businesses from Lancelin to Dongara attended and were able to voice their opinions of how they saw the future of the coast and how the government could help. Having the Premier as Tourism Minister is a great boost for tourism in WA as he is able to work across all departments and get things done more quickly. The very hard working Alyssa Hayden, Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier and Member of the Legislative Council, listened closely with the Premier to all that was brought forward and I know that together they are a very strong team and will help us to create a very strong product to present to the tourism market for the future.



Tuesday morning I will be taking Alyssa Hayden to see Cervantes and having a visit to The Lobster Shack. David Thompson from Indian Ocean Rock Lobster spoke at the Tourism meeting about his concerns with getting important infrastructure to Cervantes so that he could grow his business. His very passionate address certainly interested the assembled group and the Premier has promised to visit Cervantes soon to see for himself.

This has probably been the most exhausting 10 days of my time in council. I will be looking forward to not having to get up at 5.30am and put on my makeup, read my notes and get on the road. I will be having a couple of days in Perth with family to reflect on all that has happened. I am so grateful to be able to hold the position of your Shire President and look forward to what the future brings in for our region.

## RDA Wheatbelt Road to Riches Directory Launched

Regional Development Australia Wheatbelt have developed a directory of Federal programs and services to assist agribusiness enterprises in the Wheatbelt to access and navigate business development options and opportunities. The six documents give a comprehensive guide to the programs and details on how to make contact with the various programs. This Directory was launched at the Grower Group Alliance Annual Forum on Friday 19th August 2016.

[Please visit the R.D.A. latest news page to download the documents.](#)

- 1 – Optimising existing funding and support services,
- 2 - Becoming investment ready,
- 3 – Innovative, high value markets,
- 4 - Succession planning and strategies,

## RDA GRANTS & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

[Young Carer Bursary Programme.](#) Up to \$3,000 to help relieve the financial pressure on young carers and increase the opportunity for young carers to remain in, or return to, education or training leading to improved employment opportunities and long-term finances. Closing 14 Sept.

[Regional Grants Scheme.](#) Grants from \$50,001 to \$300,000 for infrastructure projects, project development activities, non-capital projects. Funding is also available to assist with costs associated with headworks undertaken by essential service providers.

[Community Chest Fund.](#) Up to and including \$50,000 for smaller community projects including but not limited to events, community enhancements and project planning. Applications for both funds close at 12pm Tuesday 20 Sept.

[Small Grants for Rural Communities.](#) Grants of up to \$5,000 are available for projects and activities that offer clear public benefit for communities in rural, regional or remote Australia. Priority to communities of 10,000 or fewer. Closing 7 Oct.

## Ever thought of being a Visitor Centre volunteer?

If you live anywhere in or around the Shire of Dandaragan, please consider becoming a Turquoise Coast Visitor Centre volunteer. It's fun! We have a great group of volunteers but need to fill in a few more gaps in our roster. Assorted shifts are available Monday to Saturday, full training and support provided. If you'd like to know more, even if you're not quite sure it's the right volunteering role for you, please phone Alison on 08 9652 0800 or email [asluns@dandaragan.wa.gov.au](mailto:asluns@dandaragan.wa.gov.au)



## 2016 YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

and

## 2016 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Shire of Dandaragan is again inviting nominations from clubs, organisations and citizens within the Shire for the abovementioned awards.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the Shire office in Jurien Bay or off the Shire of Dandaragan's website [www.dandaragan.wa.gov.au](http://www.dandaragan.wa.gov.au).

### NOMINATIONS CLOSE

**FRIDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2016**

The awards ceremony will be held at the Cervantes Community Centre in February 2017 (date yet to be confirmed) commencing at 7.00pm. Supper and refreshments will be provided.

## BADGINGARRA COUNCIL MEETING - 22 SEPTEMBER 2016

The Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held at the Badgingarra Community Centre on 22 September 2016 commencing at 4.00pm.

If you have any items requiring Council's attention could you please email Robyn Headland at the Jurien Bay Administration Centre on 9652 0800 or by email: [robyn@dandaragan.wa.gov.au](mailto:robyn@dandaragan.wa.gov.au) by Monday 12 September 2016



## Versatile new patrol vessel for Mid-West

- \$934,000 PV Lesueur joins Department of Fisheries patrol fleet
- Patrol vessel designed for shallow water work and at-sea inspections

*The PV Lesueur, on patrol off Jurien Bay*

Fisheries Minister Joe Francis visited Jurien Bay to inspect and officially launch the newest vessel in the Department of Fisheries' patrol fleet. Mr Francis said the 12 metre diesel-powered patrol vessel (PV) Lesueur would increase patrol capability in the Mid-West by monitoring fishing activity along the coast between Lancelin and Dongara.

"With its waterjet propulsion, PV Lesueur will be able to work in the shallower areas of the Jurien Bay Marine Park, reef inshore areas along the Mid-West coast and also at the Abrolhos Islands, if required," he said.

"The Jurien Bay Marine Park is sheltered by islands and reefs that make the surrounding ocean perfect for water activities, and suitable vessels are needed to enable Fisheries and Marine Officers to carry out compliance work.

"While the region is popular with recreational fishers, commercial activity includes rock lobster fishing and wetliners catching sharks and demersal species, such as pink snapper and dhufish. There is also a developing octopus fishery and deep sea crab operations."

The \$934,000 PV Lesueur is capable of operating up to 100 nautical miles offshore, providing wider flexibility for at-sea operations.

"Like the majority of the department's patrol vessels, PV Lesueur is fitted with a soft collar to allow it to come alongside commercial and recreational vessels at sea," the Minister said.

"This means inspections can not only be conducted at sea, but also in a range of weather conditions, while reducing the likelihood of property damage or injury to people."



## WALGA's BANNERS IN THE TERRACE

Some 59 communities entered banners in the competition run by WALGA as part of its annual Convention at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre. The Shire of Dandaragan's entry this year was by the Badgingarra Primary School. Unfortunately we did not win, it was won by a banner depicting iconic images from the Goldfields entered by Coolgardie.



### Local government

Western Power is currently changing the process for the reporting of graffiti on their equipment. This is a result of a process review for the ongoing management of graffiti affecting their assets.

In the meantime, we would like to advise of the change to our graffiti reporting arrangement:

- If you notice any offensive graffiti, or would like to report via the phone, please call 1800 662 008 (24 hours)
- Use the form on the Western Power website ([www.westernpower.com.au](http://www.westernpower.com.au)) under "Report an issue", or
- Alternatively, you can email [enquiry@westernpower.com.au](mailto:enquiry@westernpower.com.au)

## Rates

Our Rates notices were sent out on Thursday 18 August 2016 with the due date being Friday 23 September 2016. If you have not received your rates notice please contact the Shire as soon as possible on 9652 0800.

### Pensioner Rates Rebate/Deferment

Pensioner and Senior card holders may be entitled to claim a rebate. The rebate is applicable to Rates, Underground Power and Emergency Services Levy only, with all other charges to be paid in full.

To be eligible you must be the owner and reside at the property on or prior to 1<sup>st</sup> July of the rating year.

- If a Pensioner, either
  - Be in receipt of a Pensioner Concession Card or State Concession Card; or
  - Hold both a Seniors Card and a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card; or
- If a Senior, hold a Seniors Card issued by the Office of Seniors Interest
- You must register your entitlement with the Water Corporation (concessions only apply once your application is received and registered)

To apply for a concession, please go to [www.watercorporation.com.au](http://www.watercorporation.com.au) and click on 'Apply for a Concession', or call 1300 659 951.

## SHIRE OF DANDARAGAN COUNCIL MEETINGS IN THE MONTHS AHEAD

DATE	VENUE	TIME
22 September	Badgingarra	4.00pm
27 October 2016	Jurien Bay	4.00pm
24 November 2016	Cervantes	4.00pm