

SHIRE MATTERS

Issue 123 - May 2019



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SHIRE OF DANDARAGAN LEEUWIN SCHOLARSHIP

The Shire of Dandaragan Leeuwin Scholarship is now open.

If you, or someone you know, is aged between 15-18 and would like to apply, go to www.dandaragan.wa.gov.au or email the community development officer at cdo@dandaragan.wa.gov.au.

Applications close 5pm 31 May 2019

SHIRE OF DANDARAGAN COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

The Tronox Management and Shire of Dandaragan Sporting & Recreation Facilities Fund, and the Shire of Dandaragan Community Grants are now open.

Please go to the Shire website or contact the community development officer for more information. Applications for funding must be received by the Shire by 5pm 31 May 2019

SHIRE OF DANDARAGAN ON FACEBOOK

The Shire of Dandaragan is using Social Media as a platform to connect with the public and promote our regional assets to potential investors and visitors.

Like us on Facebook for local events, promotions or information. Interact with other community members and Councillors. Stay informed with Shire specific information and environmental warnings. Share your photos and experiences within our Shire.



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Cr Leslee Holmes
Ph. 0408 419 468

Last month has been the busiest month in our Shire for a long time and I personally have had a very challenging but rewarding month. I started off in Northam early in the month for a two day meeting with the Wheatbelt Development Commission where the Minister for Regional Development, the Hon. Alannah MacTiernan, MLC, announced the worthy recipients of the Regional Economic Development (RED) Funding that our Board had been working on for some time. I was able to chat with the Minister and invited her to come to our Shire later in the year where she will visit the Lobster Shack and talk about the Turquoise Way Path, from Hill River to Cervantes, connecting the two towns. This is a great opportunity for our towns and our visitor economy in the region. We will be able to offer an attractive alternative to the South West for events and I am sure that when Minister MacTiernan gets here she will have plenty of other interesting places to see in our part of the world.

What a successful event the Spray the Grey Festival has become! The weather was very kind to us and the crowds continue to grow each year. Children of all ages enjoyed all the rides and entertainment in the beautiful park by the ocean. There can be no better way to showcase Jurien Bay than an event like this.

Congratulations to all those involved for their hard work and for making this event the huge success it is. Visitors to Jurien Bay were very impressed and many plan to be back again next year.

Easter in the Shire must have been one of the biggest ever! The Lions Market experienced their highest number of patrons who were literally shoulder to shoulder all morning taking in the great stalls and displays, and food outlets. The Lions are a small club who bat well above their average and give so much back to the community. Cervantes hosted the Jurien Bay Bulldogs in the football and again enjoyed massive crowds. I have never seen the town so busy with the Caravan Park full, the overflow camping stretched to the limit around the oval and the Lobster Shack hosting over 1200 visitors a day. I am sure the staff are having a much needed break now that things have calmed down a little.

The Cervantes Primary School again hosted the ANZAC Day service in Cervantes and as usual did a great job. There was a very large crowd for the Dawn Service and Councillor Wayne Gibson delivered a really heartfelt address about the Nurses who served, and still serve, in the armed forces. As usual the Cervantes Air Force did us proud with the fly over which we all value as it is something other towns don't have. Well done to our pilots led by John Bartle. Councillor Jason Clarke and Mrs Clarke attended a dawn service at Wedge Island which was very well attended also.

Later in the morning I was proud to be guest of honour at the Jurien Bay Service. This was a very well attended service as usual with our valued veterans marching and the Jurien Bay Emergency Services

Cadet Corps doing such a good job to make everything go smoothly. The Jurien Bay RSL put so much into this tribute and I know it is very well received by both community and the many visitors who joined us on the day. The choir really make such a contribution to ANZAC Day in Jurien Bay and I must mention the beautiful floral tributes made by the Jurien CWA. People come to look at them for many days after and reflect on the great losses made by our ANZACS.



On the evening of 27 April the Shire of Dandaragan hosted the West Australian Opera for "Opera in The Pinnacles". This is the third show that we have had here and the most successful to date. This event was completely sold out with fans arriving early to picnic among the Pinnacles and wait for the sun to go down and the excitement to begin.





It was a great honour to join the Hon. Laurie Graham, MLC, Yued Elder, Charlie Shaw, along with his grandson Caleb and daughter in law Annie on the stage to do the welcome speeches and Welcome to Country address. It was also my birthday and what a way to celebrate under the stars with such an amazing cast and enthusiastic audience.

It is now over three years ago that I first started the conversation about the possibilities of an event with WA Opera and it has grown from there and will continue to be a main event on both our calendar and that of the Opera

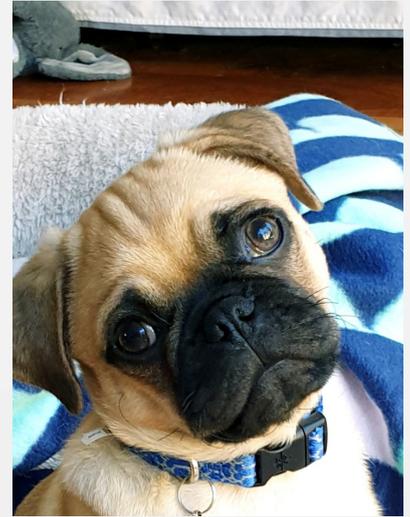
Brad Rushforth, along with the team at DBCA and the Pinnacles Visitor Centre, do a fantastic job that makes us very proud and we salute them for their efforts. Once again the audience respected the area and enjoyed the wonderful lighting that made the evening so special for us all. The Cervantes community make such an effort to volunteer for this event and I am sure they are appreciated by everyone. I can't wait until next year!



Earlier this month I was invited to address guests at the recent opening of the Badgingarra Wind Farm and congratulate the APA Group on the success of this project, including their contribution to the community with the donation of a state of the art TATRA Fire Truck. Minister for Energy, the Hon. Bill Johnston, MLA, also spoke about the importance of renewables and how this demonstrates the strength in economic diversity in our region. I asked him to prioritise the connection of our local energy grid to this wonderful resource so that our residents and businesses can benefit from the electricity our region is producing.



I have become a grandma for the fifth time; the last three being animals. Easier to look after than children you may think but the latest addition is a little pug who I have fallen hopelessly in love with. My son insisted that he knew what he was getting himself into when he purchased this little guy but of course he had absolutely no idea. I've always laughed at people who get stuck with their children's pets and never thought it would happen to me. Luckily my dog training skills are working and my son is becoming a very good Dad to him.



I am allowed to have him when he gets fed up but only if I don't spoil him too much. We forget how much joy animals can bring to us. I have managed to grab him this weekend so if you see me walking around the streets trying to make him walk on the lead without tripping me up please don't laugh!





SMARTER THAN SMOKING SPRAY THE GREY YOUTH FESTIVAL DONE AND DUSTED FOR ANOTHER YEAR

To our wonderful community. Thanks for all the support, feedback and help with the Smarter than Smoking Spray the Grey Youth Festival held last week - in particular the Jurien Bay Emergency Services Cadets. It was an amazing team effort and a real tribute to how many people chipped in and helped make it happen.

Enjoy these awesome pics of the day and don't forget to tag your mates in pics. Bring on STG 2020.

Last year, Mitchell Ballardin blew us away with his talent so we invited him back this year and he performed most of the day. Check out his original song which is kicking goals on Triple J Unearthed <https://www.triplejunearthed.com/jukebox/play/track/7717686>

Photo Credit: Dandyman Images



PAUL DICKSON – BUSHFIRE RISK PLANNING COORDINATOR

I have recently commenced in the role of Bushfire Risk Planning Coordinator based in Jurien Bay working with the Shires of Dandaragan, Coorow and Irwin, in partnership with DFES, to develop Bushfire Risk Plans, and I would take this opportunity to introduce myself give a brief snapshot of my career to date.

I have recently arrived in Jurien Bay having previously worked (in order of most recent job first):

1. SA Country Fire Service – Regional Prevention Officer - Naracoorte SA.
2. MacDonnell Regional Council – Manager Community Safety – Alice Springs NT
3. *SA SES – District Officer Outback - Roxby Downs SA
4. *Shire of East Pilbara – Manager Community Safety – Newman WA
5. *Shire of Broome – Manager Emergency, Ranger & Beach Services – Broome WA
6. Cardinia Shire Council – Emergency Management Coordinator - Pakenham Victoria
7. *Shire of Broome – Manager Emergency, Ranger & Beach Services – Broome WA
8. Jardine Lloyd & Thompson/LGIS – Senior Regional Risk Coordinator – Merredin WA
9. *Shire of East Pilbara – Manager Ranger & Emergency Services – Newman WA
10. Shire of Ashburton – Emergency & Safety Officer – Tom Price WA
11. *SA State Emergency Service (SES)/Disaster Management Services – Murray Bridge SA



Prior to the above I worked for the Department of Transport (SA) and was in the RAN for 12 years. My background is predominantly in Emergency Management, Community Safety, Fire Prevention & Planning and Human Resource Leadership & Training; I have qualifications, experience and training in all aspects of these areas. I have had significant involvement during the response and recovery phases of many significant events including the “Black Saturday” fires and the 2011 floods in Victoria and other less publicised events in SA, WA & Victoria including floods, bushfires, storms and cyclones. As Manager Community Safety with the Shire of East Pilbara, Manager Emergency, Ranger & Beach Services with the Shire of Broome and Emergency Management Coordinator for Cardinia Shire Council in Victoria I facilitated the provision of best practice emergency

management and oversee the fire prevention and planning function within the respective municipalities. I also coordinated Council support to the relevant HMA's/Hazard leaders and combat agencies in the event of any emergency (in WA this also included managing the response to bushfire by the respective Bushfire Brigades) and oversee the recovery effort following an emergency. I am very excited about the prospect of working with you, and all stakeholders, to develop plans and implement ideas to make our communities safer and more resilient. I look forward to catching up with you as soon I can, please feel free to pass this on to those that you feel may be interested.

My contact details for your information are e-mail – BRPC@dandaragan.wa.gov.au and phone numbers below.

Office: (08) 9652 0861 - Mobile: 0429 598 699



FIRE SEASON OVERVIEW

This fire season has been one of the busiest in a number of years with in excess of 50 fires reported and responded to through the Triple 000 service over the last 6 months.

Some quick analysis on this seasons fires shows that the majority of fires were started by lightning, with a range of other causes such as power poles, harvesting activities and vehicle movement in paddocks making up the rest. There was one serious structure fire in Alta Mare which sadly resulted in the total destruction of a dwelling. Most of the fire activity this year was to the Eastern side of the Brand highway.

We have three very active and committed Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades in our Shire being the Canover Brigade, Badgingarra Brigade and the Dandaragan Brigade. Additionally we have two Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service units being the Jurien Bay Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service and the Cervantes Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service.

Our Volunteer Fire Control Officer network and the local farming community also plays an equally important role as fire responders right across the Shire. Our farmers are often the first responders to fires and they turn out in great numbers bringing with them years of experience plus farming and earthmoving equipment that is integral to firefighting efforts.

The Shire is also fortunate to have a number of very experienced Parks and Wildlife personnel and their bush firefighting infrastructure based in Jurien Bay and on several occasions this year they have combined with our volunteer Brigades and the farming community to fight bush fires. Our own Shire employees also provide support through the operation of earthmoving equipment and water trucks when required as do many of our local earthmoving contractors.

The Shires thanks go out to everyone who has contributed to this seasons bushfire fighting efforts but particular thanks go out to those who volunteer their time and efforts in serving and keeping the community safe.

Please be conscious that as we continue to wait for the rain to arrive the bush around us is particularly dry for this time of the year and the risk remains high of controlled burns getting out of control so please be cautious if you decide to burn.