

SHIRE MATTERS



SHIRE OF
DANDARAGAN

Issue 139 - September 2020

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Restricted Burning Time

NOTICE TO ALL OWNERS AND OR OCCUPIERS OF LAND WITHIN THE SHIRE OF DANDARAGAN – RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD

Please be advised, the Shire of Dandaragan will be entering into the Restricted Burning Period as of 19 September 2020 and up to and including 31 October 2020, permits to burn are required.

A permit to burn must be obtained from your local Fire Control Officer during the restricted burning period. Permits are subject to a number of conditions but will not be issued for burning on Sundays or public holidays, unless approved by the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer.

If you cannot make contact with your closest possible Fire Control Officer to arrange a permit, please call the Emergency Management Co-ordinator on 9652 0800 or 0428 114 221.

Please take all necessary precautions when burning, ensure you read and understand the conditions of the permit before commencing. The Shire of Dandaragan must be notified of all permit burning before commencing. Ensure you notify all your neighbours including the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions if your property adjoins their land. If the fire danger forecast for the day issued by the Bureau of Meteorology is forecast for very high or above, all permits are cancelled and the burn cannot be implemented.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Cr Leslee Holmes
Ph. 0408 419 468

As I write this it's hard to believe that we are almost in September. With so much going on in the world at the moment it also highlights just how much is going on in our own communities too.

Out and About

Earlier this month the Tourism Council of WA hosted a workshop in Jurien Bay where attendees learnt the benefits of how their business can fit into the broader tourism industry and how to actively become part of the tourism network. This workshop was of great benefit to attendees who also had the opportunity to hear from Australia's Coral Coast CEO, David O'Malley about how the tourism industry affects us all.

Following the workshop we all met for networking drinks with Evan Hall, CEO of the Tourism Council of WA. Evan spoke about the challenges that tourism has faced with the closing of borders and other restraints, and is a very vocal champion of the industry.

Last week I travelled to Muresk with the Wheatbelt Development Commission (WDC) for a two day workshop. While it was cold and wet at times, the whole countryside is very beautiful and the farmers in that region are very happy with the rain we have been getting.

It was a very busy couple of days and it is a pleasure to be Vice-Chair of such a dynamic group of people working to make opportunities in the Wheatbelt important to this government.

Closer to home, the Cervantes Chamber of Commerce hosted Mayor of Wanneroo and WALGA Chair, Tracey Roberts, and City of Wanneroo CEO, Daniel Simms, at its August Chamber meeting and dinner. Forty nine people attended, among them representatives from the Jurien Bay Chamber of Commerce. WDC CEO, Robert Cossart, along with Daniel Waterhouse, joined lots of interested business people from all over the Shire. We were interested to hear Tracey and Daniel speak about Wanneroo and its challenges, and are keen to explore the synergies between them and our Shire. They had a good look around and are keen to bring a group of their Economic Development staff for a meeting and workshop in Cervantes in the near future. We want to show them what we have to offer in the tourism sector for their residents. It was great to see Tracey Cook and Richard Cooper from Dandaragan Organic Beef enjoy the evening and also connect with Wanneroo. Huge shout out to them for their success in the Australian Certified Organic audit. We are so proud of this wonderful business leading the way in their field.

David O'Malley, visited our region again to discuss a stronger relationship with his group given that Cervantes is 'The Gateway to the Coral Coast'.

David acknowledged how much we have grown and the plethora of 'things to do' on offer along the coast for visitors.

He was particularly interested in expanding the promotion of the wildflower season in the Shire with opportunities for the inland towns to feature in future planning.

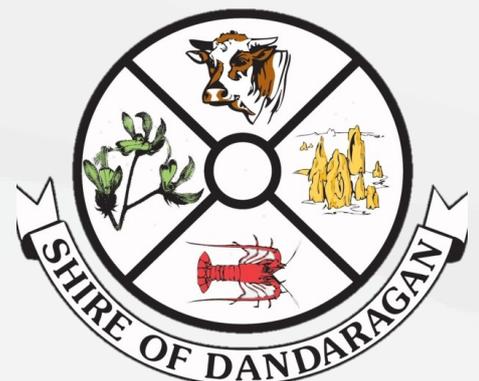
Tronox and Community Grant Funding

Following the review and assessment process Council endorsed the grant committees' decisions at its Ordinary Council Meeting held on Thursday 27 August. This is always an exciting time of the year and there are some very worthy recipients. We look forward to seeing some great community projects completed within the coming months.

A Sad Farewell

It was with a heavy heart that I attended Mike Sheppard's funeral last Wednesday in Perth. It was a privilege to be able to speak about a dear friend and much respected member of the Jurien Bay community. Mike had written his own eulogy which was both interesting and amusing, and added another layer to what we already knew about his life.

Mike was sworn in as a Councillor on 8 May 2008, following an extraordinary election. He was then re-elected in 2009 & 2013 and retired in 2017, providing 9½ years' service on the Shire overall.



Mike was a very level headed Councillor; when he spoke, people listened and took notice, and during his time as a Councillor was a Shire Representative on the following committees.

- Audit Committee
- Jurien Bay Chamber of Commerce
- Jurien Bay Ratepayers and Progress Association
- Leeuwin Scholarship Panel
- Central Coast Health Advisory Group
- Marketing and Promotions Committee

Mike had a keen interest in local community affairs, being one of the founding members of the “Save the Jurien Jetties” Committee and the Steering Committee responsible for the establishment of the Dandaragan–Coorow Community Bank. Mike was heavily involved with many community service groups and projects over many years, serving terms in the role of President of the Jurien Bay Progress Association, Jurien Bay Community Centre Association, Jurien Bay Community Festivals Association, Vice-President of the Jurien Bay Men’s Shed, and Chairman of the Bendigo Bank.

Mike was instrumental in the development and coordination of many new projects including the Jurien Bay Easter Festival, Keep Australia Beautiful – Tidy Towns, Music in the Park sessions, and the Jurien Bay Beach Clean Up days. As coordinator of these beach clean-up days, Mike was instrumental in Jurien Bay winning the 2012 WA Clean Beaches Award. Mike was responsible for setting up and coordinating the annual Jurien Bay Triathlon, as well as running the Jurien Bay Junior Fishing Competition during the Easter holidays. Mike was also a member of the Jurien Bay Badminton Group and although they do not have a formal committee Mike had acted as their representative, attending meetings on their behalf for several years. As an active volunteer at the Jurien Bay Visitors Centre, Mike helped visitors to enjoy their experience in the Shire of Dandaragan.

Mike’s passion for making our community a better place to live and selfless service to make things happen is an inspiration to all. The countless hours behind the scenes preparing and attending community events and activities does not go unnoticed and he has the respect of the wider community. Mike was not a member of the Lions Club of Jurien Bay but he regularly helped out on market days and at other Lions activities, always willing to step up to lend a hand without waiting to be asked. He was a source of information and guidance for other less experienced volunteers and a perfect example of the type of person who makes Jurien Bay a great place to live.

On behalf of Mike’s family and the myriad of community groups he was involved with, I would like to take this opportunity to extend an invitation out to the community to a memorial service being held for Mike on Saturday 19 September 2020. The service is to be held at the Old Jurien Bay Jetty Rest in Reef site commencing at 10.00am, followed by refreshments at the Jurien Sport and Recreation Centre. For those of you who can attend please bring a plate of food to share. Thank you.

ABC Radio Weekend Evenings

I was very flattered to be invited to talk about our beautiful part of the world on ABC National Radio earlier this week. This program provides the opportunity for Mayors and Shire Presidents to talk about where they live, how their communities are commenting on COVID-19, and our plans for the future. I had 20 minutes which was a great opportunity to let the rest of Australia know what a great place the Wheatbelt is to live and how the Shire of Dandaragan are forging ahead despite all that is happening around us.

COVID-19 Impacts

I understand how sad and frustrating it is for anyone with relations that they are unable to see at the moment and hope and pray that some kind of normality is returned soon. My grandson Ryder in Melbourne actually had a conversation with us via Zoom for his 14th birthday. He usually only grunts when being dragged to the phone to talk to grandma and grandad but he is so bored with being locked up that he actually participated in conversation. Some good things come out of the disaster. I feel for my daughter being locked up in the house with two teenagers. She insists on them joining her for a run every morning as they are lucky to be near a lovely park with a lake. Then she bullies them into school work with the rest of the day taken up with arguments about who watches what on the television!

The weather here is amazing and it is bringing many fishermen from all over. The boats in Cervantes all left early this morning for a hopeful day on the water. Ex-West Coast Eagles star, Mark LeCras, arrived with his new boat last night so the dhufish must be out there.

One final word - we have been getting all sorts of information from towns in the North West indicating it is very busy up there. If you are travelling please make bookings and expect long delays for food and drinks. Most of the popular towns are very short staffed without the usual backpackers bolstering their regular staff, so you will need to be very patient.

VALE MIKE SHEPPARD

The Shire of Dandaragan staff and Councillors would like to pay tribute to former Shire Councillor Mike Sheppard, who died recently.

Mr Sheppard dedicated nine years to serving the Shire of Dandaragan community as a Councillor from 2008, until retiring from Council, in 2017.

Mike was well-loved and respected by staff as a Councillor with a passion for community and advocating for projects that involved as many people as possible, and during that time he made an impression on anyone who met him.

Mike was a key participant in the Jurien Bay Jetty Working Group, in addition to his involvement with Jurien Bay Progress Association, Jurien Bay Community Centre (now Jurien Sport and Recreation Centre) committee, Jurien Bay Community Festivals Association and Jurien Bay Men's Shed.

He was instrumental in the development and coordination of projects such as beach clean-ups, Keep Australia Beautiful – Tidy Towns, Jurien Bay Easter Festival, and the Music in the Park sessions. He was instrumental in Jurien Bay winning the 2012 WA Clean Beaches Award.

He held positions of President for Jurien Bay Progress Association and the Jurien Bay Community Festival Association, Chairman of the Bendigo Bank Board and Vice President of the Men's Shed, among many other positions over the years, whilst also volunteering at the Turquoise Coast Visitor Centre.

Mike's passion for making our community a better place to live was an inspiration to all. The countless hours of service he contributed both as Councillor but also behind the scenes in community events and activities was always noticed and earned him a valued and respected place in the Shire's hearts.

Even after Mike's retirement from Council, and up to only weeks ago, he would still arrive at Council meetings and sit in the public seating area, ready with questions and comments to Council and staff, but always with his gentle demeanor and respectful mannerisms.

Mike will be missed by all at the Shire of Dandaragan and our deepest sympathy goes out to his much-loved wife Jean, sons Daniel and Brendan, and the rest of Mike's family.





ADMINISTRATION / LIBRARY & VISITORS CENTRE OPENING HOURS

Current opening hours to the walk-in public for the Shire of Dandaragan Administration Centre / Library & Visitors Centre are Monday - Friday from 9am - 4pm. If you would like to meet with a staff member outside of these opening hours, please call or email to make an appointment.

SHIRE OF DANDARAGAN 2020 / 21 RATE NOTICES

The Shire of Dandaragan rate notices were issued on 7 August 2020 with payment due by 5.00pm on Friday 11 September 2020.

Any rates paid after this date will not receive the discount. If you have not received your notice, please contact the Shire as soon as possible on rates@dandaragan.wa.gov.au or 9652 0800.

More information can be found on the Shire website <https://www.dandaragan.wa.gov.au/your-shire/rates>

Council Meeting

DANDARAGAN COUNCIL MEETING - THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2020

The 24 September 2020 Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held at the Dandaragan Community Recreation Club commencing at 4.00pm. Should there be any items you feel require Council's attention please contact Robyn Headland at the Jurien Bay Administration Centre via email council@dandaragan.wa.gov.au or phone 9652 0800 by Monday 14 September 2020. We look forward to hearing from you.



Do you know someone who makes a difference in our community?

Nominate them today for a Citizen of the Year Award!

2020 OUTSTANDING CITIZEN / OUTSTANDING YOUNG CITIZEN AWARDS

The Shire of Dandaragan is again inviting nominations from clubs, organisations and citizens within the Shire for the above mentioned awards. Nomination forms may be obtained from the Shire office in Jurien Bay or downloaded from the Shire of Dandaragan's website www.dandaragan.wa.gov.au. Nominations close 31 October 2020.

The awards ceremony will be at the Cervantes Community Centre on Tuesday 9 February 2021 commencing at 7.00pm.

The ceremony is open to all members of the Public and supper and refreshments will be provided.



AVON CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL CYCLING STRATEGY PUBLIC CONSULTATION OPEN

The Department of Transport (DoT) is partnering with the Shires of Dandaragan, Gingin, Chittering, Toodyay, Northam, York and Beverley to develop a regional strategy for the Avon and Central Coast sub-regions in relation to cycling networks and infrastructure.

The Avon Central 2050 Strategy will set out a long-term vision to create a safe cycling network which connects towns, key attractions and destinations, and the final strategy will be used to apply for future funding applications.

Initially planned for early 2020, the consultation was delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions. Community and stakeholder feedback will now be gathered on preliminary networks and themes between September – October 2020. Input will be invited on a range of opportunities across the region, from improving the bike friendliness of main streets, to making better use of disused rail corridors and developing cycling routes along coastal and river foreshores, in, around and between towns.

The DoT have developed an online portal www.mysaytransport.wa.gov.au/avon-centralcoast-cycling-strategy to engage with community members on this strategy which will be live by mid-September. A link to this will also be available from the Shire website's Current Consultation / Public Consultation pages.

This online portal will have a collaborative network map, a short survey, and a forum for any additional comments, as well as host all the information on the project – such as information sheets on the themes and opportunities, project timelines, and information about the network hierarchy.

Locally, DoT, along with Shire of Dandaragan Councillors and staff, will be hosting face to face community engagement sessions at markets in Jurien Bay and Dandaragan over the coming months.

In addition, information, maps and surveys will be available at locations around the Shire.

The Shire of Dandaragan encourages all community members to take the opportunity to get involved in having their say on this project.



DEEP BLUE INNOVATIONS FOR SCIENCE WEEK IN JURIEN BAY

To celebrate Science Week 2020, a range of events and activities for all ages, including Lego builds, a taxidermy sea lion pup and virtual Sci VR event, were held in Jurien Bay in August.

Science Week, which ran from 17-23 August, focused this year on Deep Blue: innovations for the future of our oceans.

The Shire of Dandaragan, in partnership with Jurien Bay Community Resource Centre (CRC), and Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) held a range of activities and events for people of all ages to learn about science.

Students, young and older people, did a collaborative Under the Sea Lego build where participants could drop in to the Library add a bit to the build over the week. The collaborative build resulted in a set of Under the Sea themed Lego creations that fit with the marine science theme.

In the same week, Jurien Bay CRC held a Sci VR event 'The Universe is Waiting to be Discovered'. Two virtual events for adults and families were held, with families receiving free headsets to enjoy the virtual event and a free live stream of the event.

Static displays available for everyone to enjoy (or marvel at) included a taxidermy sea lion pup, whale vertebrae and baleen plate, turtle and seal heads, and a variety of shells and sea life, on loan from DBCA Jurien Bay office. DBCA also provided colouring and science experiment handouts and DCBA Marine activity packs.

For those inspired to know more about marine science, the library displayed non-fiction and fiction books throughout the week, with tales of the ocean and its' amazing creatures and organisms to read about.

Come down to the Jurien Bay to see the Under the Sea Lego creations while they're on display for a few weeks.

SHIRE SEPTIC TANK PUMP OUT SERVICES ON HOLD



The Shire of Dandaragan advises that its Septic Tank Pump Out Truck is currently unavailable to service the community for the next 4-6 weeks.

Residents who require a septic tank pump out can contact the following organisation or business to make arrangements:

- Shire of Moora - 9651 0000
- Greenhead Plumbing and Gas - 0429 966 700

The Shire would like to thank you for your patience and will provide notification of when this service becomes available again.



SHIRE OF DANDARAGAN LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Some people in our community might not be aware that the Shire of Dandaragan has a very active Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) working away in the background on its behalf.

The LEMC is formed under the requirements of the State Emergency Act 2005 operating with a community focused and coordinated approach to the management of all potential emergencies within the Shire of Dandaragan. The committee is an advisory and planning committee and generally has no direct operational involvement in response to an emergency but is directly involved in considering what emergency management risks might threaten our community and how best to mitigate those risks.

Over the last couple of years the LEMC has been working with a wheatbelt cluster of adjoining Local Governments in considering and assessing some of the key risks that might threaten our community as part of the State Level Risk Assessment Program. Some of the specific risks that have been assessed by the LEMC are;

- Flood
- Storm
- Human Epidemic
- Animal and Plant Biosecurity (specifically foot and mouth disease)
- Earthquake
- Bushfire

The membership of the LEMC is a mix of Shire of Dandaragan elected Councillors, Shire of Dandaragan employees, representatives of various government agencies such as Main Roads, Department of Health and Department of Communities and others as required. Additionally response agencies such as St John Ambulance, Western Australian Police, Volunteer Fire and Emergency services, Volunteer Fire and Rescue Services and Volunteer Bushfire Brigades are also members of the LEMC. All of these various people and organisations are providing input into the work of the committee.

Every year the committee aims to run some form of emergency response exercise so that it can practice its local emergency management arrangements. Last years exercise was a full day exercise that incorporated a marine rescue, a car crash exercise with multiple casualties and a bushfire scenario. The exercise involved a large number of people from several different agencies and also included Emergency Services Cadets who were in Jurien Bay on the annual state camp. Post incident debriefs were held so that the learnings from the days exercise could be shared among all of those present. Planning for the next emergency exercise which will focus on some form of mass evacuation is about to commence.

The LEMC meets on a quarterly basis or as needed and the Shires Emergency Management Coordinator directly supports the committee between meetings.

The LEMC is an important part of the Shires Emergency Response capability and regular articles informing about the work and purpose of the LEMC will be included in Shire Matters moving forward.