

SHIRE MATTERS

Issue 158 - March 2022



69 Bashford Street / PO Box 676, Jurien Bay WA 6516 - Phone 08 9652 0800 - Email council@dandaragan.wa.gov.au - Web www.dandaragan.wa.gov.au



IN THIS ISSUE:

COVID-Readiness Plan for Household	1
Message from the President	2-3
Canine Visitors	3
March Council Meeting / Administration Centre Opening Hours / Spray the Grey Postponed	4
Environmental Grants Now Open / Restricted Burning	5
COVID-19 Restrictions Update / Job Vacancy Community Development Officer	6
Shire to Distribute Pulse Oximeters	7
The Smoke Column / Jurien Bay Library New Youth Space	8
Harmony Week	9
Federal & State Funding for Upgrades to Indian Ocean Drive - Jurien Bay to Brand Highway	10
Development Approvals	11

COVID-READINESS PLAN FOR HOUSEHOLDS



Are you COVID-Ready? With more COVID-19 cases now in WA, now is the time to get COVID-ready.

To help families and households prepare, the Shire of Dandaragan has developed a resource to help.

Our COVID-Ready Household Plan has been developed to provide our community with an easy check list to assist them should they, or one of their family members test positive to COVID, or become a close contact of someone who has tested positive.

These resources will be available for community members to pick up at the Shire of Dandaragan libraries, Community Resource Centres, Shire Administration Centre, or they can be downloaded at the Shire's website <https://www.dandaragan.wa.gov.au/covid-19.aspx>.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Cr Leslee Holmes
Ph. 0408 419 468

When I got the reminder about getting my President's report done this month I found myself at a complete loss as to what I should cover for all those who take the time to read it.

These are unprecedented times in the world for all of us and it is so hard to comment on any of it. It is very difficult for anyone to wake up in the morning and have a happy outlook and to be able to get on with the daily duties when, at the back of our minds we all have people relying on us being positive, and in my case, promoting positivity in a leadership role.

The dreadful scenes that we see from Ukraine will be planted in our minds forever. The poor women and children who have had to flee, leaving the males in their families behind must be so brave and we cannot begin to understand how that must feel. Having to leave all your belongings behind and just take what you can carry on your back is one of the most awful things you could imagine happening to anyone. This along with the harsh reality that you may never see your husband, father, and brothers ever again. The sheer resilience of these women is just incredible, and we all pray that they will find a safe haven in a close country to wait out the inevitable consequences of war. Like many of you, I never expected this kind of conflict in 2022.

The act of a despot can have such power over so many and there are so many leaders in the world today that seek absolute power and revenge against their neighbours.

The big difference in this war is social media. Often slammed for the adverse effects, it certainly has allowed the rest of the world a window into what is going on and to be able to see where we can all help in some way regardless of how small. As a lover of pugs, I follow a page that is worldwide and two ladies from Kiev reached out to all pug lovers to help them as they needed to leave their country and have 4 pugs. Two of their pets are very old and blind and the owners could not use the internet reliably to seek accommodation that would allow their animals to stay with them. Some wonderful breeders in America got together and found them suitable accommodation in Romania where they will also be able to work. Mum in this case, is an accountant and her daughter a hairdresser, and they are safely on their way to their new home. They, like so many others, have left everything behind but are so grateful to everyone who helped them. I am sure this story is replicated with great people all over the world heading to social media to help out.

We are all in awe of Ukrainian President, Volodymyr Zelensky, and his strength and inspirational leadership. We have all been outraged by the moral weakness of so many world leaders that the sight of a country's President, alongside his people in the middle of the war, is arresting.

He is so calm and humble, and deeply authentic that surely other leaders should look to him for what we all expect to lead our nations.

This whole world needs to recalibrate and start to recognise true values and the real needs of its people. The disgraceful wealth of the Russian oligarchs that is seen all over Europe when many ordinary Russian citizens are so very poor, is now exposed for the rest of the world to see. Many own so much property in the UK and are fully entrenched in London society with their blood money. This invasion, if nothing else, will take some steps to make sure that these men never have the standing that their money has allowed them in the past.

In our own country, the terrible floods and losses felt all over NSW and Queensland have deeply affected all Australians. The reported slow response from the federal government is hard to understand but at least now they are acting even if the poor souls affected feel it is too late.

Leadership, as mentioned above, is what is needed. You cannot manage disasters from the comfort of an office somewhere. Real leaders need to be amongst the most affected to listen to their stories and give them hope. The Australian Defence Force have been stretched to the limit with COVID, fires, and now floods, and we are deeply grateful for their help, but more is needed. The incredible volunteers in all the affected places show us how Aussies band together in times of need but they also need to know help is on the way.

We will recover from all these disasters, but life will never be the same and we have to force our leaders to learn from it and put into place some very real plans, not only for recovery, but for future events.



A big shout out to all those small businesses who are doing it so tough at the moment. We all recognise things are disproportionately tough on small business, and many will not be able to keep going under this enduring strain. We need to be aware that our great run of tourists will certainly slow down with the escalating price of fuel and I hope that something can be done at a government level to ease this and help us to at least survive this mess.

Once again, our little communities are resilient, and your Shire Councillors and staff will support you in any way that we can to make sure that when it all opens up again we are ready.

The Shire's Vice President, Cr Peter Scharf, recently composed a prayer for these times, and I've included it this month for reflection on the current world and all who are suffering at this time. We do not have to be religious to appreciate his words and perhaps you may use this prayer to consider others and their struggles, and to wish them well for the future.

O God, our Father in heaven, we ask that you bring calm into a world troubled by the threat of conflict between nations. Let your Holy Spirit into the minds and hearts of world leaders that a just resolution is achieved that respects the sanctity of all human life.

We ask you to be with our nation as we struggle with the outcome of natural disasters, particularly those people who have lost family and property in the floods. Help this country, that is so rich in resources, to reach out to those who are in need. Let us all be true neighbours; even to those whom we do not know. Amen



WE WELCOME CANINE TOURISTS

Are you keen to bring your furry friend with you on your travels to the Turquoise Coast?

Jurien Bay and Cervantes have beaches set aside as off-leash 'salty playgrounds' for your pooch. Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) in Cervantes have free day use kennels to keep Fido comfortable whilst you visit their national parks. Jurien Bay has a local dog-sitter who provides cuddles, pats, belly rubs and accepts slobbery pooch kisses.

Both Sandy Cape and Milligan Island campsites are dog-friendly and there are pet-friendly accommodation providers in Cervantes and Jurien Bay.

So wind down your windows and bring your canine companion for a drive with lots of tail wagging and memorable new smells to take home.

For more helpful information about your next trip north, go to www.visitturquoisecoast.com.au.

Australia's Coral Coast #wonderoutyonder
#turquoisecoast #indianoceandrive #roadtrips #waisok
#westernaustraliauncovered



Council Meeting

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 24 March 2022 at the Council Chamber, Jurien Bay commencing at 4.00pm. Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend.



ADMINISTRATION / LIBRARY & VISITORS CENTRE OPENING HOURS

Current opening hours 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.

SPRAY THE GREY YOUTH FESTIVAL POSTPONED

Due to recently announced level 2 COVID-19 restrictions and the increasing numbers of cases in WA, the Shire has made the hard decision to reschedule Spray the Grey. We know there'll be some disappointed young people but we want to make sure we can provide a safe and exciting festival and we think we can do this more effectively later in the year. We are looking at a September event, and will announce the new date soon.





ENVIRONMENTAL GRANT ARE NOW OPEN – CLOSING 5 APRIL 2022

The Shire of Dandaragan Environmental Grants Program supports projects that benefit the environment and community through environmental improvement, sustainability education and the promotion and enabling of sustainable living as a way of life.

Applicants are encouraged to consider how their proposed project may address issues such as climate change, waterwise community spaces, biodiversity, recycling and waste avoidance.

The Grants Program seeks to deliver the following objectives:

- Benefit the environment through local projects;
- Involve the local community in project design and delivery;
- Raise awareness and understanding of environmental and sustainability issues;
- Support people to take action and share skills and knowledge about the local environment;
- Build the capacity of the community to address environmental sustainability;
- Deliver short-term, tangible, environmental results that are consistent with the Shire's long-term environmental sustainability direction.

If you would like to discuss your project idea or require further information on this funding opportunity, please contact the Manager Customer and Community Services at the Shire of Dandaragan Administration Office on (08) 9652 0800 or email mccs@dandaragan.wa.gov.au.

Applications are open until 5pm Tuesday 5 April 2022. Download the application form and guidelines at the Shire's Environment Grants Program webpage <https://www.dandaragan.wa.gov.au/.../environmental-grants...>

RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD TO COMMENCED TUESDAY 1 MARCH

Restricted burning period commenced 1 March 2022. Burning is now permitted if you obtain a permit from your local Fire Control Officer. For more information please refer to the Fire Break and Fuel Hazard Reduction Notice at the Shire of Dandaragan website



Photo Credit: D Lucas

COVID testing clinics

COVID clinics provide testing for suspected coronavirus cases



MASK WEARING IN SHIRE OF DANDARAGAN NOW COMPULSORY IN INDOOR PUBLIC SETTINGS

Mask wearing is currently required in indoor settings in the Perth, Peel, South West, Wheatbelt and Great Southern regions. This also applies to anyone who has been in these regions and has since travelled to another region - visit <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/covid-19-coronavirus/covid-19-coronavirus-latest-updates> for latest information. Face masks are not recommended for infants and children 3 years of age.

The Department of Health is continuing to work through reported cases identifying close and casual contacts.

If you have been to an exposure site which requires testing, or are showing symptoms, please get tested immediately and follow the health advice provided to you.

View the full list of testing clinics at www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/covidclinics

JOB VACANCY - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

We are seeking a proactive, innovative and experienced Community Development Officer to develop and deliver community and social programs and projects.

This position will support the Shire by:

- Planning, developing, implementing, and evaluating community development and community engagement initiatives to deliver the Shire's strategic goals.
- Delivering individually assigned community development portfolio initiatives.
- Undertaking research, compiling, and analysing data from community feedback and preparing evaluation reports pertaining to community development initiatives.

You will have demonstrated knowledge of community development/capacity building principles and practices in asset-based community development. You will possess well developed skills and demonstrated ability to conduct research and apply this to planning and implementing community development reports, funding submissions, project, programs and/or events. Above all, you will live our values of commitment, teamwork, courage and respect that allow us to come together to lead and support the community.

An information package including the Position Description can be obtained email to cghr@dandaragan.wa.gov.au.

Further information about the position is available by contacting Michelle Perkins, Manager Community & Customer Service, on 08 9652 0800.

Applications close at 4pm on Thursday 31 March 2022.

The Shire of Dandaragan is an equal opportunity employer.

This is a re-advertised position. The Shire of Dandaragan reserves the right to close the ad prior to the advertised closing date

Brent Bailey
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

SHIRE TO DISTRIBUTE PULSE OXIMETERS THROUGH WA COVID CARE AT HOME

To enable West Australians to receive clinical support and monitoring in the comfort of their own home and alleviate unnecessary pressure on our hospital system, WA Health has established a Home Monitoring Program (WA COVID Care at Home). The majority of West Australians who contract COVID-19 will be able to manage their symptoms at home on a self-care pathway and therefore should not need to visit their local hospital or health service.

WA COVID Care at Home will provide care to those patients deemed high risk due to identified medical and social risk factors and symptoms. The program will assess and manage the status of those people who require support when COVID-19 positive, but do not require hospitalisation. People that require monitoring as part of the program can do so with the help of a pulse oximeter; a handheld, non-invasive, peg-like device that can clip onto a person's finger to measure oxygen saturation and heart rate.

- Are you non-Aboriginal and over 65?
- Are you Aboriginal and over 50?
- Are you pregnant?

If you answered YES to any of the above – collect a free pulse oximeter from the Shire of Dandaragan Administration Centre today. For those in Badgingarra and Dandaragan, if you answered YES to any of the above, please phone 9652 0800 to register and your pulse oximeter will be delivered to the Dandaragan Community Resource Centre for collection.

The pulse oximeter takes only one minute to work, is reusable and can be shared between other people in your household. If you become COVID-19 positive, you may need to be remotely monitored through the WA COVID Care at Home program. By having a pulse oximeter already in your home, a health professional can assess you and provide health advice from the comfort of your home. Each eligible household can receive one pulse oximeter but supplies are limited.

Do not pick up a pulse oximeter if you are already COVID-19 positive. If you have already received a positive COVID-19 test result, the Department of Health will contact you and provide further information.

Visit Healthy WA for more information. <https://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/.../WA-COVID-Care-at-Home>



THE SMOKE COLUMN

Restricted burning season is now upon us, with the Un-restricted Burning Period to commence in the coming month. This means fire permits may be available via request to your local Fire Control Officer however, they may choose to use their discretion if they don't deem it safe for you to be burning. When burning off, it is important to check the weather forecast for the week ahead to be sure any adverse fire weather conditions are not on the horizon. Given the current dryness levels across the Shire, it's not rocket science to understand that a fire may get away easily if not carefully managed.

Permit holders are encouraged to ring DFES Communications Centre on 08 9395 9209, ten minutes prior to lighting. State that you would like to register your burn and the operator will ask for the address of the burn, your phone number and expected time frame of the burn. Your burn off will now show up on Emergency WA for the length you specified, which may prevent unnecessary calls to 000 from a passer-by or neighbour. If it does get called in, the communication centre will call you directly to check if everything is under control; saving the time of fire brigade volunteers who would otherwise have to investigate. If you see smoke during the Restricted Burning Period and are unsure of its origin, it's best to investigate further, or check www.emergency.wa.gov.au for current incidents or registered burns, before calling 000.

If you want to get in touch with your Local Fire Control Officer, refer to the back pages of the Fire Break and Fuel Reduction Notice. Hard copies are available at the Jurien Bay Shire of Dandaragan Office or check the website at www.dandaragan.wa.gov.au (Services > Emergency Management > Bushfire).

The image below was taken at an incident in Hill River during February where lightning started a fire by the riverbed on private property. A Watch and Act alert was issued for nearby residents while volunteer and Parks and Wildlife crews worked hard to contain and control the blaze for several days.



NEW YOUTH SPACE AT THE JURIEN BAY LIBRARY



Jurien Bay Library now has an inviting new youth space.

A designated youth section in our library was recently completed. The youth space is for young people to hang out, enjoy a book, use our free Wi-Fi, chat with a friend or play one of our many games.

Open Monday to Friday 9am until 4pm - come down and check it out. For more information about what's on at the library, call 96520810, email jblibrary@dandaragan.wa.gov.au, or go to the What's on at the Library page on the Shire of Dandaragan website for all our upcoming activities <https://www.dandaragan.wa.gov.au/services/community/libraries/whats-on-at-the-library.aspx>

This Harmony Week event aims to celebrate our cultural diversity whilst respecting each other and our differences.

Join us at the Jurien Bay Library as 'Together We Grow'

- Plant Herb Seeds 9.30am Thursday 24 March
- Create Seedling Planters 10am Friday 25 March
- Plant Herb Seeds 3.15pm Friday 25 March



All ages welcome. To book call 9652 0810 or email jblibrary@dandaragan.wa.gov.au



FEDERAL AND STATE FUNDING TO PROVIDE JURIEN BAY TO BRAND HIGHWAY UPGRADES TO INDIAN OCEAN DRIVE

A \$55million joint funding project between both Federal and State Governments to upgrade Indian Ocean Drive between Jurien Bay and the Brand Highway are due to commence later this year by Main Roads WA.

Significant traffic increases have highlighted deficiencies in the existing section of road from Jurien Bay through to the Brand Highway. Upgrade works will include 65kms of widened road, new passing lanes, audible edge lines, and realignment of curves. These upgrades will significantly improve road safety and provide a safer route to cater for the increase in commuter and tourism traffic.

The project will be undertaken in two stages with Stage 1 due to commence late 2022 and take approximately 5 months to complete. Stage 2 is planned to commence late 2023.

For more detailed information on the planned upgrades and traffic impact, please refer to the attached Project Update Information Sheet.

Indian Ocean Drive Jurien Bay to Brand Highway



In 2021, \$55 million in joint funding, (Australian Government \$44 million, and State Government \$11 million) was committed to upgrade Indian Ocean Drive between Jurien Bay and Brand Highway.

The coastal towns between Jurien Bay and Dongara are home to a large fishing and lime sand industry. The route has seen significant increases in traffic volumes as it provides enhanced light vehicle and tourist accessibility and separation from heavy vehicles on Brand Highway. Increases in traffic have highlighted deficiencies in the standard of this section of Indian Ocean Drive and the need for widening and dedicated passing lanes along the route.

The upgrade includes:

- 65 kilometres of road upgrade;
- Construction of two new passing lanes;
- Installation of audible edge lines;
- Realignment of curves.

Community Benefits

Upgrades will improve road safety, transport efficiencies, and provide a safer route for the increase in commuter and tourism traffic.

Project Scope

This project will be constructed in two stages.

Stage 1 is between Jurien and Leeman. Work includes shoulder sealing and installation of audible edge lines.

Stage 2 is from Leeman to Brand Highway. These upgrades include widening, realignment, installation of audible edge lines and two new passing lanes.

Traffic Impact

Stage 1 will involve construction under live traffic. Traffic management and speed restrictions will be implemented.

The Stage 2 works require more significant works and Main Roads is assessing the impact of a temporary detour using Eneabba-Coolimba Road and Brand Hwy to minimise the environmental footprint and reduce construction timing of the works.

Community Information

If you are part of the local community and would like further information please contact Main Roads on 138 138.



For illustrative purposes only: example of shoulder sealing and audible edges lines on a completed project.

You can also subscribe for updates on the Main Roads website www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/iod-jurien-brand

Timing

Work on Stage 1 is planned to commence late 2022 and take approximately 5 months to complete.

Stage 2 is planned to commence late 2023.

DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS

The Shire has recently taken successful compliance action against a landowner with a number of unapproved structures on his land. Most of the structures had to be removed at the owner's expense and retrospective approval sought for those remaining.

Landowners are reminded that Shire approval may be required for a range of developments on their land. This may include Development Approval in the first instance, followed by a Building Permit.

Effluent disposal systems require approval at premises where reticulated sewer is not available, and also greywater re-use systems which may be installed in either sewered or unsewered areas. Typically, approval may be required to operate a business from home or rent out a house as a commercial holiday home.

The Shire's website contains general information regarding these approvals. If you are still unsure whether approval for your development is required, please contact the Shire's Development Services staff for further advice. They will be able to guide you through the required approval process, legislation, policies and guidelines relevant to your development to ensure that your development is legally approved, avoiding costly and time consuming legal proceedings, penalties and retrospective applications.



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, promotion 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.