

SHIRE MATTERS

Issue 174 - August 2023



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Early Mornings on the Jetty - K. Argent

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Cr Leslee Holmes
Ph. 0408 419 468

Home!

I am finally back in the land of the living after a gruelling 32-hour journey back home. Unfortunately, this is all part of travel these days as the flights are all completely full wherever you go. Even though it has taken a bit to get used to the change in weather I must admit it is lovely to be home.

We always hear that travel makes you appreciate where you live and while we take it with a pinch of salt, it is true on so many levels. During our time away we have seen so many reasons to celebrate our way of life here in WA.

GP Shortage Impacts

I am always interested Facebook comments on our doctor situation in Jurien Bay which is really the envy of most small communities in our area. Many regional towns have no doctors at all and yet we have been used to having three and are extremely lucky to have Dr Yuri and Dr Wee currently looking after our community.

I am fully aware that from time to time it is difficult to get an appointment in a short timeframe, however GP shortages exist across the world and our local duo already work long hours and try to see as many patients as they can.

The dreadful NHS in the UK is testament to that fact and there are people unable to make phone appointments (due to the reception not being able to keep up with demand), turning up at the surgery and waiting to be spoken to.

Hospitals are dealing with patients presenting at emergency as they just cannot get an appointment to see a doctor.

The Shire of Dandaragan is in regular contact with the Jurien Bay Medical Centre to get our residents the very best care that we can and we hope an announcement on a new female doctor won't be far away.



Better Roads Pave the Way

In my role as Shire President, I am constantly looking at how others in different countries approach the same problems that we face at home. Probably one of the things that stand out for me is the condition of roads in the places that we visited. While they do not have gravel roads in most places, the condition of the road surfaces is dire in country towns within the UK.

Residents have taken matters into their own hands by planting trees in the potholes and in one particular town the image of a large phallus painted between two potholes made a very entertaining point.

Subsequently, this made it all over the press countrywide but did result in the job being fixed quickly.

We are very proud of our roads and even though we have a large network, things are attended to in a timely fashion and our team are constantly across any problems that may arise.

Our Shire's Infrastructure team also work hard every year to secure both Federal and State funding to improve our sealed road network wherever they can.

Over the next couple of months we will be commencing Agaton Road after securing over \$4M from the Federal Government's Remote Roads Upgrade Pilot Program.

Addressing Housing Shortages

I was very happy to see the first project of its kind by the City of Fremantle in our suburb open last week. Eighteen newly built homes especially for older women experiencing homelessness in the local area were opened by Mayor Hannah Fitzhardinge.

They are a project by philanthropic developer My Home, which builds homes for people who are experiencing homelessness or are at risk of homelessness.

Fremantle are the first local government in WA to host the ground-breaking initiative which brings together government, non-government organisations, private sector, and community housing providers to deliver homes with personalised support services.

North Fremantle has a long history of involvement with social housing, and it makes diverse communities, better communities and a great place to live.

I am so happy to see this initiative and hope that we will see even more in the near future as housing is the most important matter before government at the moment that it needs to get on with.

Older women, through no fault of their own, often find themselves homeless and requiring help. They are an important part of any community, and we are fortunate to have so many single ladies in our Shire who are involved in community groups.

We absolutely could not do without them and with new research showing people are living longer than ever these days, we ladies are still outliving men, but that is another conversation to be had.

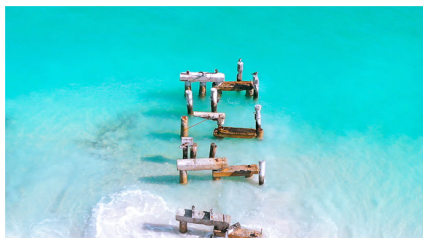
All's Quiet on the Holiday Front

I have noticed that the towns are not so busy this school holidays and businesses are perhaps feeling the pinch with interest rates steadily climbing of late. This month's recent reprieve by the Reserve Bank is welcome I'm sure, but there is still uncertainty around whether rates will continue to climb or not in the near future.

This is a killer for small business who are providing non-essentials.

As my Coral Coast Tourism Board role informs me, this is the case all up and down the coast.

People who had not travelled abroad for 4 years due to the COVID-19 pandemic are now on the move. Planes are completely full on the new route from Rome, with families desperate to catch up with loved ones.



Bali is certainly back on the list now with Australians again and they are experiencing greater volume of visitors than ever.

The problem now is that young Russian men, who are trying to escape being forced to join the army, are now in Bali in their thousands and behaving badly.

Local authorities are railing against them and making sure they now have correct visas and will expel them if they do not behave in a proper manner. I had heard that Australians will also have to have visas.

This affects local tourism for WA to a large extent as the cost of airfares and accommodation has remained very high in the coastal towns and people are largely voting with their feet.

Friends of ours who went to a popular coastal town after COVID and absolutely loved it have just discovered Bali and say they would not return to WA holidays as they had wonderful accommodation, food and service in a little island of Bali at half the price.

This is a real issue as we understand it is that wages play a huge part in the cost of local holidays, however, the bubble will burst unless hotels look at the future and not base prices on the past.

WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

We hope that the new Roberts Street Hotel/Resort will commence development soon to address the very enviable position we have in Jurien Bay with a lack of accommodation during busy times.

This project was ready to start before the global pandemic and then again soon after, but has currently stalled due to challenges around planning for long term coastal inundation.

We currently have an opportunity for a development at the Jurien Bay Marina which is very exciting for the town and the region overall, but this will also depend on the Marina being fixed before anyone will start building.

We are still pushing the State Government on this one but still without much luck at present.

However, it may end up as an election promise at the next State election, one can only hope this is the case.

October LG Elections

Speaking of elections, Local Government elections are due in October and once again, I ask you to seriously consider a role as a councillor. It truly is the most rewarding and interesting role I have ever undertaken in my life and I am happy to chat to anyone interested about what the role is about.

I also encourage anyone interested to attend a Council meeting to see what takes place.

Farewelling The Claytons

Late last month we farewelled both Scott and Zoe Clayton from the Shire after almost 50 years of service between them.

Scott started with the Shire as a Trainee in Dandaragan after completing his schooling to become well versed in just about every area of local government during his tenure of 27 years, while Zoe worked across all the finance and administration since she started in November 2000. During this time Zoe also took time away to away to raise their two children before returning in the role of Senior Finance Officer. As is their way, Scott and Zoe requested a low key send off with an emotional farewell from staff wishing them the best in their future endeavours. Their contribution to their local community, and the Shire as a whole, will see them greatly missed, not only by their colleagues but by close family and friends also.

On behalf of my fellow Councillors, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my greatest appreciation and thanks to both Scott and Zoe for their considerable efforts and contributions during their time with the Shire and for their great assistance and knowledge within their roles to help make the Shire of Dandaragan a great place to live.

They will be greatly missed for some time, and I wish them all the very best for their bright future ahead.

Council Meeting

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 24 August 2023 at the Jurien Bay Council Chambers, commencing at 4.00pm. Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend.

CBD DESIGN PLAN AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

In 2021 the Shire advertised a Draft Urban Design Plan for the continual redevelopment of the public realm within the Jurien Bay CBD.

A number of submissions were received on the Draft Plan at this time, and these have informed the revision of the Plan as now represented for comment.

The revision of Plan has also been heavily influenced by the development approvals issued in 2022 for the redevelopment of the Jurien Bay Tourist Park and for a four-storey motel on the corner of Roberts and Sandpiper Streets, respectively.

Both these approved developments result in significant changes to the road verges of Roberts and Sandpiper Streets as shown in the revised plan.

Other notable changes from the Draft Plan include:

- The removal of any indicative physical building alterations on private land which is not under the care and control of the Shire;
 - Identified parking layout changes throughout the CBD, including summary of current and future parking bay numbers;
 - Inclusion of the previously designed realignment of Bashford Street as a local main street for if and when an Indian Ocean Drive bypass is constructed;
 - Preservation of Roberts Street as vehicle thoroughfare, with the long-term access to be one-way between Bashford Street and Sandpiper Street in the direction of the foreshore; and
 - Inclusion of an indicative public amenities within Pioneer Park.
- An electronic copy of the revised Plan is available for download on the Shire's website, or a hardcopy version is available from the Jurien Bay Administration Centre.

Comments on the revised Plan are invited until close of business Friday 4th August 2023.

Should you require any clarification or would like to meet to discuss the revised Plan further, please contact the Shire's Principal Planning and Building Officer, Rory Mackay on 9652 0800 or rorym@dandaragan.wa.gov.au



ENGAGE DANDARAGAN & ENVISION 2033

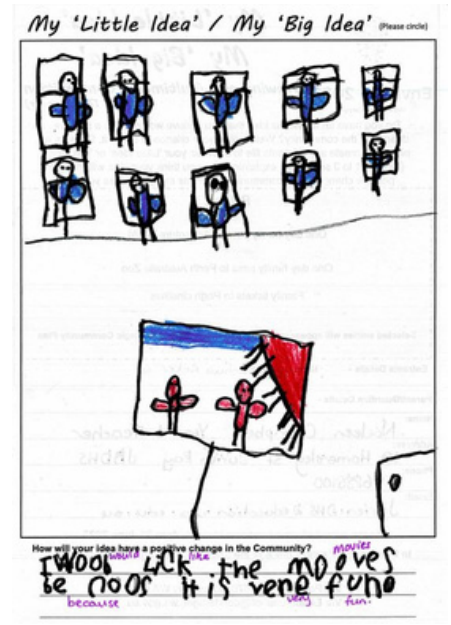
WINNERS OF OUR PHOTO & DRAWING COMPETITIONS



Alieah Bouve - Age 6



Jake Stenhouse - Age 6



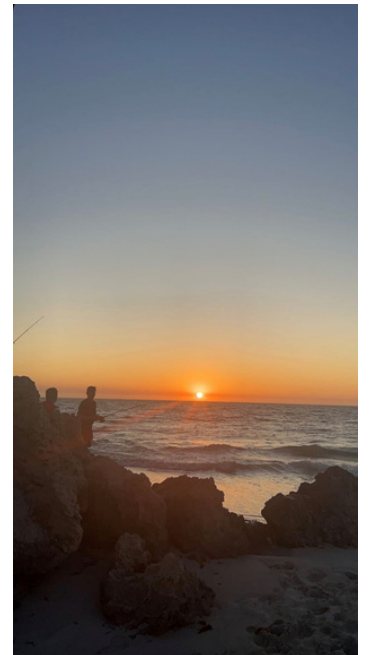
Joshua Reker- Age 6



Early Morning's on the Jetty by K. Argent



Sea puppy comes in for a cuddle by N. Winsloe



Golden Hour by K. Jones

We would like to thank everyone who participated in our competitions. All the ideas and photos submitted were fantastic and it was very hard to choose the winners.



Envision 2033

Shire Of Dandaragan

Exciting news!

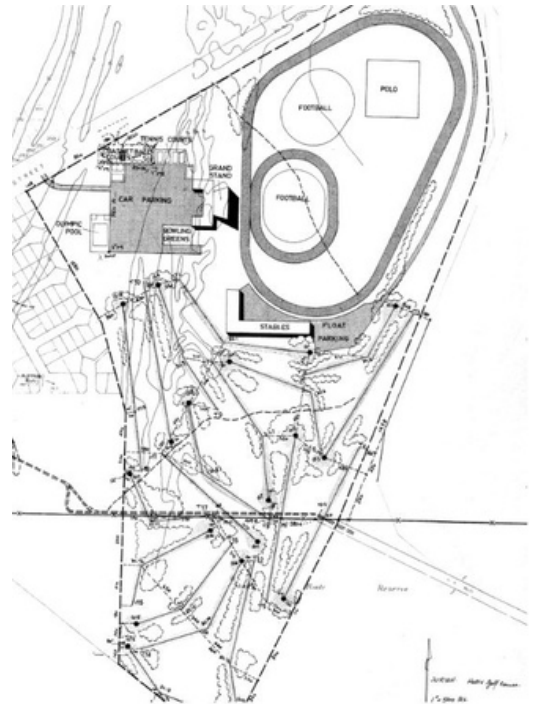
Be on the lookout for upcoming community workshops for the Council Plan, Envision 2033. Your ideas and initiatives are invaluable to us, and we're eager to hear your input. Don't miss this chance to help shape the future of our community together!

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Don't forget

Nominations for the Jurien Bay Sport and Recreation Precinct Working Group close on July 30, 2023, at 4 pm. Act fast to be considered for this important opportunity!

Nomination forms can be found on our Engage Dandaragan website or contact the Shire Administration Office on 96520800



Library Update

During the extended leave of our permanent staff member, the Jurien Bay Library will be managed and operated by the Jurien Bay Community Resource Centre (CRC).

From Monday August 7 until Friday November 3, the CRC will ensure the seamless continuation of library services and operations.

The Jurien Bay CRC is committed to providing the community with access to library resources, assistance, and a welcoming environment during this period. Should you require any library-related support or have any inquiries, please feel free to reach out to the Jurien Bay CRC.

Every Club Grant

We are delighted to announce that the Shire has been successful in securing the Every Club grant for our Club Connect project. This grant, spanning a duration of three years, will enable us to implement and enhance our initiatives to support local clubs and community groups. We extend our sincere gratitude to The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries for providing us with this invaluable opportunity.

To keep everyone informed and engaged, an email will be sent out to the local clubs and community groups shortly, providing detailed information about upcoming workshops, mentorship program, and volunteer recognition events. We are excited to collaborate with our community members and foster a thriving club culture through this project.

Once again, we express our appreciation to The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries for their support, and we look forward to embarking on this exciting journey with our local clubs and community groups.



Department of
**Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries**

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES



**Announcing Shire of Dandaragan
NEW Economic Development Grant**

\$5k - \$30k grant opportunity
Applicant cash co-contribution required
Supporting investment in small business, tourism, aquaculture,
renewable energy, and value adding to primary production.
Applications Open 3 July - Close 31 August 2023
Contact Trish Slee for information and an application package
edm@dandaragan.wa.gov.au or 9652 0800



Calling for Expressions of Interest from Local Businesses: Retailers, Contractors, and Service Providers

If you have a business located within the Shire of Dandaragan and have the capacity to service large development projects, please register your business profile with me.

Details of your business will be outlined in a document we can share with companies proposing new industry development projects within the Shire. This may include renewable energies, agriculture / horticulture / aquaculture intensive production or processing, construction, mining, and resource projects. Where realistic, we want to promote opportunities for major projects to engage local businesses, rather than suppliers outside of the Shire of Dandaragan.

To register or seek more information please email edm@dandaragan.wa.gov.au or phone Trish Slee on 9652 0800

From the AusIndustry Insights - Business Impacts weekly report - 14 July 2023

Multiple businesses report struggling with falling consumer demand, higher costs, and potential impacts of offshore renewable developments:

- The WA cray fishing industry reports concerns that the operation of offshore wind farms, which involve thrusting of pylons for wind turbine towers, will cause seismic waves that will stun crayfish in the surrounding areas and cause them to die.
- Local cray fishers also fear that these fishing areas will be considered no-go zones once the wind farms are operational.

If you are are a local Cray fisherman and have any feedback on this please contact Trish Slee on 96520800

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

| Grant Name | Grantor | Focus | Min / Max Grant | Closes |
|---|---|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Lotterywest Grants | Lotterywest | Community Development | \$15,000 to \$3,000,000 | Ongoing |
| Growing Regions Program Round 1 | Department of Industry Science and Resources | Economic Development / Community Infrastructure | \$500,000 to \$15,000,000 | 1 August |
| Regional Arts Foundation Project Fund WA | Regional Arts WA | Arts and Culture | Up to \$30,000 | 18 August |
| Economic Development Grant | Shire of Dandaragan | Economic Development | \$5,000 to \$30,000 | 31 August |
| Contemporary Music Touring Program | Australia Council | Arts and Culture | \$5,000 to \$50,000 | 5 September |
| Financial Support to Hire an Apprentice | The Australian Apprenticeships Incentive System (Incentives System) | Business and Industry | Variable | Ongoing |
| Funding for Major Events that Promote Tourism in WA | Tourism WA | Tourism / Economic Development | Variable | 12 months prior to proposed event |