

SHIRE MATTERS

Issue 177 - November 2023

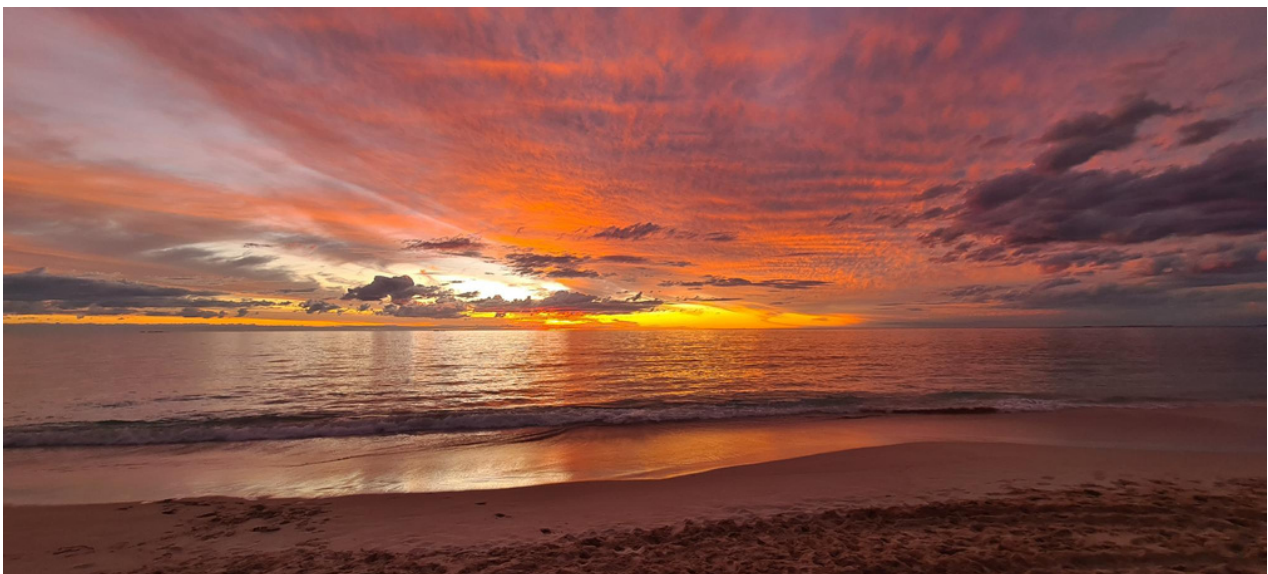


69 Bashford Street / PO Box 676, Jurien Bay WA 6516 - Phone 08 9652 0800 - Email council@dandaragan.wa.gov.au - Web www.dandaragan.wa.gov.au



IN THIS ISSUE:

Message from the President	2-3
Message from the CEO / Cr Holmes Retirement	4
November Council Meeting / Election Outcome	5
Community Updates / Community Recognition Awards	6
Australian Citizens / Snake Awareness	7
Smoke Column	8
Cervantes & Jurien Coastal Adaption Investigation / Jurien Bay CBD Urban Design Plan	9
Economic Development News	10-12



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Cr Tony O'Gorman
Ph. 0407 799 620

Through these roles Leslee has always promoted the Shire of Dandaragan and made sure that the Shire was known as a major primary producer and tourism destination.

I would like to personally thank Leslee and the departing Councillors for their dedication to the Shire of Dandaragan.

I hope that my experience assists me in leading the Council to responsible and brave decision making.

I would also like to thank the current Councillors for placing their trust in me to lead the Council for the next two years and hope that I can live up to all expectations.

While I am acknowledging people I would like to thank Jason Harris for nominating for Council. Unfortunately Jason was the candidate that missed out. It takes a lot of courage to put your name out there and then accept the result with grace when you are the one that didn't achieve your goal. I hope Jason will consider putting himself forward at a future election.

This is the first of my Shire President's reports, so it will be a short one as I have only been in the position just over one week.

Thank you to the retiring Councillors

Firstly I would like to acknowledge the four retiring Councillors for their service and hard work over the years they have been on Council.

Councillor Peter Scharf, who was the Deputy Shire President, Councillor Rudy Rybarczyk, and Councillor Ann Eyre who unfortunately passed away on 6th October just prior to her term finishing. It was fitting that the new Councillors were sworn in on 23 October as this would have been Ann's 72nd birthday. Ann was the first person to encourage me to run for Council after I retired from the Shire in 2022.

Councillor Leslee Holmes is our departing Shire President and has shown strong leadership not only across the Shire but across the Wheatbelt and the Coral Coast with her roles in both of these organisations as a board member.

New and returning Councillors

The election has seen the return of one of our long standing Councillors, Councillor Wayne Gibson whom tells me that he still has some unfinished business.

Particularly in regards to the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network (WSFN). The WSFN is the main source of funding for roads that service primary producers and lime sands operations.

We also get the added advantage of having excellent roads across the Shire due to Councillor Gibson's efforts. For these we thank him.

Councillor Sharon Young is a newly elected Councillor who brings with her a strong understanding of our community and of living in the regions.

I am sure Councillor Young will bring a new perspective to our Council decision making.

In my new role, I come to you as a former employee of the Shire and a former State Government Member of Parliament.

The first weeks

It has just been over a week since the election and we are all still coming to terms with a new Council structure and a reduced number of Councillors. It has been interesting learning all the new roles we have, learning the meeting rules and the way that items are dealt with.

There have been two Council Meetings, a Special Council Meeting and an Ordinary Council Meeting. At the Special Council meeting the Shire President and Deputy were elected. Councillor Maddi McDonald has been elected as the Deputy Shire President. Maddi is our youngest Councillor but she embraces the role with all the vigour that only young people can bring to a role. Congratulations Councillor McDonald I know you will excel in this new role.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Ordinary Council Meeting

Just four days into the new Council we had to find our way around a Council agenda with some very important items to deal with.

We dealt with a large array of very important items which are laid out in more detail on the Shire's website, it was straight to work for us making sure that Council is continuing to deliver good governance and maintain the momentum that is making our Shire a great place to live.

Economic Development Grants

This is the first time that the Economic Development Grants have been offered by the Shire (previously the grant was called the Major Event Grant).

This new Grant acknowledges that Economic Development is not solely based on running events.

The Economic Development Grants can also be sought by businesses within the Shire to promote the development of business capacity and capability, which in turn will drive job growth, investment and business development. This newsletter includes details about the grant recipients in the Economic Development news section.

Congratulations to all the grant recipients and we look forward to seeing the events and businesses grow as the funds are expended.

Wheatbelt Development Commission Regional Economic Development Grants (REDS)

One of the great things about being a Councillor and particularly Shire President is that I get invited to many events across the region.

On Tuesday I had the pleasure of meeting the Minister for Regional Development, Disability Services, Fisheries, Seniors and Ageing and Volunteering at the presentation of the Wheatbelt REDS grants ceremony. There were six recipients of the grants and one of them was Brad & Belinda Trist of Jurien Bay, Panel and Paint.

Congratulations on receiving the REDS grant and we are really looking forward to the developments that you will make to your premises with the grant funding you have received. Already you have shown that you are an innovative business and have a diverse workforce.

Councillor Contact

As has always been the case individual Councillors can be contacted by individuals or groups if they require assistance. Contact details are on the Shire website and I am sure that I speak for all Councillors when I say we welcome your feedback and are always ready to answer your questions to the best of our ability.



A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

I would like to take a moment to acknowledge and express my deep appreciation for the contributions and dedication of our retiring councillors. As we bid farewell to these valued members of our council, it is essential to recognise their significant efforts and commitment to the Shire of Dandaragan.

I would like to acknowledge these retiring councillors, including Cr. Holmes, Cr Scharf, Cr Rybarczyk, and Cr Eyre. Each of them have played an integral role in shaping our community and advancing our shared vision. Their hard work, insights, and tireless dedication have had a lasting impact, and we are deeply thankful for their service.

Their legacy will undoubtedly continue to influence our Shire and community long into the future. I am confident that the groundwork they have laid will serve as a strong foundation for the continued growth and prosperity of our community.

As we transition and welcome new faces to our Council, let us remember the achievements and leadership of Cr. Holmes, Scharf, Rybarczyk, and Eyre. Their service exemplifies the spirit of community and public service that we hold dear.

I extend my best wishes to our retiring Councillors in their future endeavours, and I look forward to the continued success and progress of our Shire with the ongoing support of our dedicated members.

Brent Bailey
Chief Executive Officer

CR HOLMES RETIREMENT

On October 22, friends, colleagues, and well-wishers gathered to honour Leslee at her retirement part. The event, held at the Lobster Shack, was a heartfelt tribute to Leslee's remarkable career and the impact she has had on all of us.

Leslee's retirement party showcased the deep respect and admiration that her colleagues and friends have for her. It was a testament to the meaningful relationships she has built throughout her career.

In the midst of the celebration, Leslee expressed her gratitude for the support and camaraderie she has enjoyed over the years. It was a night of mixed emotions, as we bid farewell to a wonderful colleague and friend, but also looked forward to the adventures that retirement will undoubtedly bring.

Leslee's retirement party was a fantastic evening filled with warmth and appreciation, reflecting the incredible impact she has made on our lives and the organization. As she embarks on this new chapter, we wish her all the happiness and relaxation that retirement has to offer. Congratulations, Leslee, and here's to an exciting and well-deserved retirement!



Council Meeting

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, 23 November 2023, at the Pinnacles Motel, Cervantes, commencing at 4.00pm. Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend.

ELECTION OUTCOME

On Saturday, October 21 we held our election for 3 new members of Council. We are thrilled to announce them below.

Councillor Wayne Gibson (re-elected)
Councillor Tony O'Gorman
Councillor Sharon Young

On October 23 we held a Special Council Meeting to swear in the new Councillors, elect a Shire President and elect a Deputy Shire President.

Now begins a new chapter in our community's leadership. We are excited to announce that Councillor Tony O'Gorman has been elected as our Shire President, and Councillor Maddi McDonald as our Deputy Shire President.

We look forward to working alongside you all and know you will bring positive and enthusiastic leadership for our community.

To our dedicated existing council members, your ongoing commitment to our community is deeply valued. You've played a vital role in our progress, and we look forward to your continued contributions. Please share your best wishes and support for our newly elected and existing members of Council.



COMMUNITY UPDATES

SAVE THE DATE - COMMUNITY RECOGNITION AWARDS EVENT

The Shire of Dandaragan presents the Community Recognition Awards.

This event combines the Citizen of the Year Awards and Thank a Volunteer events.

The Community Recognition Awards will take place at Fauntleroy Park, Jurien Bay, on Sunday, 4 February, from 4.30pm-7.30pm.

Further information about this sundowner event will be announced in the coming weeks. Stay Tuned.

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION AWARDS - NOMINATIONS OPEN

We are thrilled to announce the addition of two new award categories to our Community Recognition Awards evening.

Club, Community Group or Association of the year

An award will be given to the club, community group, or association that operates in a professional manner, is innovative, and provide a range of opportunities for its members and the community to succeed.

Service to Club, Community Group or Association

An annual award for an individual who has contributed to outstanding service to a Club, Community Group or Association in the Shire of Dandaragan over an extended period.

Nominations open today, 1 November, and closes at 4.00pm on Friday 1 December.

Go to our Shire website for more information on the two new award categories.



NOMINEES SO FAR

Outstanding Citizen nominees:

<u>Name of Nominee</u>	<u>Nominating Organisation(s) or Person</u>
Gael Palmer	Cervantes Historical Society
Jade Williams	Badgingarra Community Association
Amanda Wallis	Jurien Bay CWA
Justin Lofthouse	Dandaragan Community Recreation Club
Chrissy Hue	Jurien Bay Marine Rescue

Outstanding Young Citizen nominees:

<u>Name of Nominee</u>	<u>Nominating Organisation(s) or Person</u>
Dylan Forbes	Badgingarra Community Association

NEWEST AUSTRALIAN CITIZENS

On Thursday, 28 September 2023, we had two members attend a Citizenship Ceremony and become the newest Australian Citizens living in the Shire. Our newest Citizens are Helle Rasmusen and Sroeum Phan.

The Ceremony, held at the Dandaragan Community Recreation Club and was officiated by Shire President, Leslee Holmes and Shire Deputy President Peter Scharf in the presence of Councillors, staff and Citizen's guests. Congratulations to all.



SNAKE AWARENESS

As temperatures rise and nature awakens, it's important to be mindful of the fact that snakes are becoming more active.

With the change of season, these fascinating creatures are venturing out, seeking warmth and sustenance. It's essential to exercise caution and respect their space - they are more scared of you than you of them.

Stay vigilant, wear appropriate footwear, gives snakes space, keep your yard tidy and educate yourself and children.

First point of contact to remove a snake is DBCA - (08) 9688 6000. Shire Rangers may be able to help in a public space or home emergency if DBCA are unavailable (08) 9652 0800.



FIRE BREAKS & FUEL HAZARD REDUCTION NOTICE REQUIREMENTS DUE NOW

Authorised Officers have now commenced property inspections to ensure your property is compliant to the requirements of the Firebreak and Hazard Reduction Notice.

Officers will commence inspections in areas of higher bushfire risk, before undertaking inspections in more built-up or lower risk urban areas throughout the month of November.

Please take the time to review the Notice, if you are still unsure of your properties requirements, you can speak to one of our officers on (08) 9652 0800.

Warning notices for non-compliance are issued in the first instance; infringements and contractor fees will be applied if the landowner fails to rectify the offence by the due dates set.

Harvest & Vehicle Movement Bans

Visit the Bushfire page on our website to subscribe to our SMS alert system, alternatively, drop into the Shire office to complete the form.

Prohibited Burning Season 1 Nov - 1 Mar

Prohibited burning season has commenced in the Shire of Dandaragan. If you see smoke or fire anywhere in the district between now and the 1st of March you should report it to 000 immediately.



Campfires are now prohibited unless it complies with the Shire's Camping and Cooking Fire Policy.

Check the Policy Manual on our website to find out more.

dandaragan.wa.gov.au

Total Fire Bans

On a day where a Total Fire Ban has been declared you must not:

- Light any fire
- Use a woodfired bbq, smoker or pizza oven
- Operate any internal combustion powered engine on or near vegetation (certain agricultural activities exempt)
- Conduct hot works such as welding or grinding outdoors
- Use a bee keeping smoker

For more information visit www.dfes.wa.gov.au/hazard-information/bushfire/total-fire-ban

FOR MORE INFO VISIT:

dandaragan.wa.gov.au

for local emergency information, contacts and regulations.

emergency.wa.gov.au

to view all active incidents, hazard advice warnings, total fire bans, fire danger ratings, registered burn offs, helpful information and more.

dfes.wa.gov.au

for tips to help you prepare for fire season and other emergencies.

mybushfireplan.wa.gov.au

How fireproof is your plan?

Prepare for a bushfire now and protect what matters most.

CERVANTES & JURIEN BAY COASTAL ADAPTATION INVESTIGATION

At the 26 October Council Meeting, Council endorsed the Cervantes and Jurien Bay Coastal Adaptation Investigation which identifies the coastal management options for the central townsite coastal management units in Cervantes and Jurien Bay.

The two primary coastal management actions recommended by the investigation for mitigating coastal erosion hazards in the study areas are:

- **Planned / Managed Retreat:** Use land-use planning instruments and long-term strategy to systematically move assets with low adaptive capacity out of the hazard zone. This is recommended for all of Jurien Bay central foreshore and the southern end of Cervantes central foreshore. As no built assets are projected to be unacceptably vulnerable until 2070 initial recommendations focus on coastal monitoring and appropriate land-use planning to allow for implementation of voluntary acquisition if required in future decades.
- **Protection by Beach Groynes:** Undertake the construction of groynes with beach renourishment as necessary to prevent erosion of natural and built assets. This is recommended for the northern end of Cervantes central foreshore.



Jurien Bay Central Business District (CBD) Urban Design Plan

Council also endorsed the Jurien Bay CBD Urban Design Plan at 26 October Council Meeting. This plan will be used as a reference document to guide the continual redevelopment of the public realm within the Jurien Bay CBD to be a clearly defined area which is connected, vibrant, responsive, and diverse with high levels of utilisation and functionality which attracts private and public investment.

Both these strategic planning documents are available for viewing on the Shire website.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWS

SHIRE OF DANDARAGAN 'ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT' RECIPIENTS 2023-2024

The Shire's Economic Development Grant, with an annual pool of \$30,000, was offered for the first time this year.

Through this grant program the Shire aims to attract and support activities that align with its key strategic economic development priority areas of:

- Small Business Development
- Agriculture / Horticulture / Aquaculture (production, value adding production)
- Tourism
- Renewable Energy

We thank all grant applicants for their interest in the grant program, and congratulate this year's grant recipients, as follows:



Scene Brewing, based on a farm near Dandaragan, was awarded \$7,500 to help build a large cool room for storing Scene Brewing's growing range of preservative free beers. This business enhancement will allow development of the brewery's capacity and capability to increase on-farm production, and supply locally produced value-added products to more outlets within the Shire and across the State.



Dandaragan Heritage and Cultural Centre received \$5,000 to develop architectural and engineering drawings required for the development of a concept plan for the new Dandaragan Heritage and Cultural Centre building. This initiative will support local jobs and contractors, and once built, will attract tourists to the town, which will positively impact retail trade for many local businesses.



Infinity Skate WA, based in Geraldton, will bring the regional Revolve Skate Series to Jurien Bay in 2024 with grant support of \$4,658. Positive economic outcomes from this event include increasing overnight visitors, expenditure at local hospitality venues and on tourism activities, plus more business opportunities being created for local retailers. There will be additional skill development opportunities for local youth created in partnership with the Shire.



Perth Game Fishing Club was awarded a grant of \$5,000 to support the West Australian Open 2024 game fishing competition to be hosted in Jurien Bay. Economic benefits from this event include increased overnight visitors, and increased expenditure at hospitality and tourism providers. From a tourism perspective, state-wide promotion of the competition and visiting competitors will highlight the unique tourist attractions found here and the attractive 'liveability' opportunities available in local communities.



Sports Performance and Management will utilise a grant of \$6,600 to host the 2023 Wildflower Festival of Running Turquoise Coast Run in the Pinnacles and along the Turquoise Way Path. This event continues to support the local hospitality and tourism sectors with visitors staying in local accommodation and increased external spending over several days at local hospitality, tourism, and retail businesses.

We look forward to witnessing the various economic benefits that these projects will deliver across the Shire, which include creating more local jobs, attracting more visitors, building the capacity and capability of local businesses, and attracting investment in the Shire.

Are you our next grant winner? Local businesses with a project that will create economic benefits within the Shire are encouraged to apply for the next round of the Economic Development Grant program. Applications will open in March 2024 and grants will be awarded in July 2024.

Please call me if you'd like further information or discuss your application on 9652 0800 or email edm@dandaragan.wa.gov.au

SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES

Travel and Accommodation Subsidies for Apprentices / Trainees / Cadets

Visit the Department of Training and Workforce Development (DTWD) website to register for financial subsidies available to assist apprentices and trainees (and their employer) with travel and accommodation costs related to the completion of their off the job training component.

WA Agrifood and Beverage Voucher Program

- Are you looking to grow your Food or Beverage manufacturing business?
- Do you need expertise in the areas of business planning, manufacturing for growth, sales & marketing, financial health or environmental sustainability?

Eligible businesses can apply for up to two vouchers with a combined maximum value of \$20,000 to engage a consultant or technical expert.

Visit the Department of Primary Industries, Research and Development for more information.

Farm Investment Loan

Loans of up to \$2 million are available from the Regional Investment Corporation. The loans can be used to strengthen your farm business, take steps to access markets interstate or outside Australia, and, to prepare for, manage through, or recover from severe business disruptions.

You can use this loan to:

- Fund risk management - Prepare for natural disasters, biosecurity risks, market closures or other disruptions such as diversifying markets or farm production.
- Enhance productivity - Invest in new infrastructure, machinery, or productivity enhancements to support growth.
- Refinance debt - Refinance existing debt at our low interest rate to improve cash flow.

Chambers of Commerce and Industry

If you run or manage a business in the Shire of Dandaragan, have you joined your local Chamber of Commerce and Industry? Members share the vision for the Shire of Dandaragan to be the best place to live and do business. A range of business development and advocacy activities are held regularly.

The Jurien Bay Chamber will host an 'early Christmas' business networking evening at Kakka Alley Brewery on Wednesday 15th November. To register your interest to attend please contact Sue Campbell (Vice Chair) on 9652 2425, or manager@jurienbaycrc.net.au

The Cervantes Chamber has recently 'reformed' after a COVID induced hiatus. If you are interested to attend the Christmas business networking event, please contact Lauren on 0408 265 344.

WHEATBELT REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (RED) GRANT

More grant winners! Congratulations to Brad and Belinda Trist of Jurien Bay Panel and Paint on being awarded a RED grant of \$110,000.

Jurien Panel and Paint will use the grant funds to expand its workshop and to purchase new equipment to meet growing demand.

Once complete, this project is expected to increase regional capacity and job pathways, along with providing an expanded local service to keep more smash repair activity in the local Shire of Dandaragan area.

Jurien Bay Panel and Paint was one of six grant recipients selected from the thirty-three round six grant applicants.

Jurien Panel and Paint joins a growing group of innovative small business owners from the Dandaragan Shire to win RED grants. These include:

- Maincamp at 'Waslee Downs' in Badgingarra, received \$100,000 for their North Deep Water Bore project in Round 3.
- AGRIfresh, citrus producers based near Dandaragan, won \$100,000 for a passionfruit research and production project.
- Barhyd Pty Ltd in Badgingarra won a \$100,000 grant last year to expand their heavy machinery servicing business to provide increased locally based capabilities to the agriculture, mining, renewable energy, and eucalyptus oil distilling industries throughout the Wheatbelt.

The next Wheatbelt RED grant round will open for applications in May 2024. Applications close in June, and winners are usually announced in November. Please contact me for application information edm@dandaragan.wa.gov.au.

Pictured below L-R: Shire of Dandaragan President Tony O'Gorman with RED Grant winners Brad and Belinda Trist of Jurien Bay Panel and Paint, and the Hon. Don Punch, Minister for Regional Development.

