

SHIRE MATTERS

Issue 175 - September 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
September Council Meeting / Portable Advertising Signage	3
Local Government Alert / New Australian Citizens	4
Smoke Column	5
Engage Dandaragan / Envision 2033	6
Library update	7



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Cr Leslee Holmes
Ph. 0408 419 468

In Memory

Sitting in my very chilly office thinking about the events of the last month in our Shire and reflecting on some of the good and some of the sad things that have taken place.

Recently, our community tragically lost a young beloved Jurien Bay local, Dashell Normington, and while I did not know Dash personally, I was well aware of his drive and passion in establishing Jurien Bay's new local gym, Gansta's Paradise back in 2022.

By all accounts, from people I have spoken to who knew Dash, he was a handsome and confident young man loved by many, and who will be greatly missed.

On behalf of all Councillors and staff at the Shire of Dandaragan, I would like to take this opportunity to express our deepest sympathy to Dash's Mum, Penny, his sister and brother, Gypsy and Clancy, and to all their family. We hope that their beautiful memories of Dash, along with the support of family and friends, help them through this very difficult time.

NAIDOC Week

The Shire celebrated NAIDOC week at Cervantes with Local Yued Elder Charlie Shaw from KMAC doing a Welcome to Country and a Smoking Ceremony.

Shire Deputy President, Peter Scharf made a speech on behalf of the Shire, and

community members enjoyed a lovely morning tea inside the Gallery where they were able to view various artefacts from KMAC.



Cervantes Country Club

On Monday, 17 July, Council met to discuss the future of the Cervantes Country Club. This is a subject close to my heart as I lived in the little town for 20 years.

The wonderful volunteer group that have been keeping the Club open have finally been worn down and are just hanging on until we find a solution to keep the place going.

The Cervantes Club was built by locals many years ago when the lobster industry was flourishing, the town was full of people, and very vibrant. Over the years it has been more and more difficult to run a building of its size, and make money to do all the repairs and maintenance that is required to keep it going.

I hope that we will be able to come to an arrangement that sees the Club grow and flourish into the future.

Volunteer struggles

It is difficult these days to find anyone to volunteer. The baby boomers were really the last generation that took to and enjoyed helping and keeping all the clubs and sporting organisations going. They were, in the main, retired and loved having something relevant to do. There are many reasons why the time poor younger people are unable to answer the call to help.

The government has put so much red tape around this that most people find it financially difficult with all the checks and balances that are required to become a volunteer.

Working with Children is a must and most important, especially in the light of some of the revelations that we see in the press every day, however, volunteers should not have to bear the brunt of this expense.

We see so much money wasted on other things when this may help a seriously eroding necessity. I try very hard not to blame young people who are trying to get by with children, housing issues and no time even for themselves let alone volunteering.

In other words, we need to go back a few steps and see the real reasons why so many organisations are finding it difficult to operate and fix some of the problems that can be fixed.

Community Development

The Shire of Dandaragan Community Development Team have been working on a new initiative to help and encourage our citizens to be a part of our planning and decision making for the future. You can go to our website, via our home page to "Have your say" or through engage.dandaragan.wa.gov.au.

We are very excited to be able to offer you a chance to be at the beginning of what we are doing and not at the end. I encourage you to become part of this process which will be a great help to us in planning for your future.

Elections

This brings me to the upcoming Local Government Elections. There has been a push from certain areas to abolish Local Government and have it run by the next level. We need your help to protect your future as it would not be easy to have your problems aired if everything went through Perth and we are already finding it difficult to be heard on many issues. Please think about how you can help by putting your hand up for council. I can be contacted, as can my other councillors, for information and I know you would find it very rewarding. There is a small remuneration that goes with the position which certainly helps if you are in business and need to cover your time away with staff.

Council Meeting

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, 21 September 2023, at the Dandaragan Community Centre, commencing at 4.00pm. Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend.

PORTABLE ADVERTISING SIGNAGE

Are you a business that currently uses portable advertising signage? If so, are you aware of the Shire's amended Advertising Devices (Signage) Local Planning Policy which was adopted by Council on 22 June 2023?

This new Policy outlines the following requirements for this type of signage:

- Not exceed one sign per tenancy.
- Only be displayed during normal operating hours of the business to which they relate and be removed thereafter.
- Not exceed dimensions of 1.2m in height or width, with an area of not more than 1m².
- Be located on private property or the immediately adjacent verge area.
- Be secured and stabilised.
- Not be placed so as to obstruct pedestrian walkways, car parking bays, motorists or pedestrians.
- Not be placed on Shire infrastructure and vegetation, including public turfed areas.

A three-month moratorium from the amended Policy adoption date is currently in place before regulatory compliance on non-complying signage is commenced throughout the Shire.

This means only non-complying signage continuing to be displayed after 30 September 2023, will be impounded by the Shire Rangers at a fee of \$50 per sign.

Should you require any further clarification on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Rory Mackay, Principal Planning & Building Officer on rorym@dandaragan.wa.gov.au or 9652 0800.

As a result of this mandate, the Shire of Dandaragan is investigating the introduction of a public advertising scheme by which business can pay for the right to advertise in defined locations. Should this be of interest to you, please contact Trish Slee, Economic Development Manager on edm@dandaragan.wa.gov.au or 9652 0800.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT ALERT

Local government elections are scheduled for Saturday 21, October 2023.

The significant reforms of the Local Government Act 1995 include important changes to how people will vote.

This year, voting will be under the Optional Preferential Voting system, and for many large councils there will be direct elections of Mayors or Presidents for this election cycle.

To help the local government sector communicate election related changes to ratepayers, the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) has put together an easily downloadable suite of communication tools including:

- posters
- motion graphics
- readymade social media posts.

In the near future, the toolkit will also include a range of materials you can use to promote the value of voting and the importance of the work that local government does for the community.

Download the toolkit from the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries.



LGAlert))

Toolkit to communicate local government election changes to ratepayers

NEWEST AUSTRALIAN CITIZENS

On Thursday, 27 July 2023, we had four members attend a Citizenship Ceremony and become the newest Australian Citizens living in the Shire. The Ceremony, held in Jurien Bay Council Chambers, was officiated by Shire President, Leslee Holmes, in the presence of Councillors, staff and Citizen's guests. Congratulations to all.



Rudolf & Camille Wee



Sean Trudeau



Evan Bradshaw



The Smoke Column

FIRE SEASON IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

With fire season not that far away, it is time to put your thinking caps on and find out how you're going to protect your home, family, and livelihood from the threat of bushfire through the coming months.

Now is a good time to get ahead of the rush and book your fire break contractors ready for 1 November. Some contractors have a wait time of six weeks to get through their list of clients' fire breaks so it's best you make the call soon. It is also a great time to clean the gutters, knock down the weeds surrounding your house and sheds, and create a bushfire plan; that's right, we will be nagging about this one for a while!

During times of intense stress and panic, our ability to think on the fly goes out the window. It is important that you make a plan, so you are prepared when a bush fire is heading in your direction.

Let's have a think about the following questions:

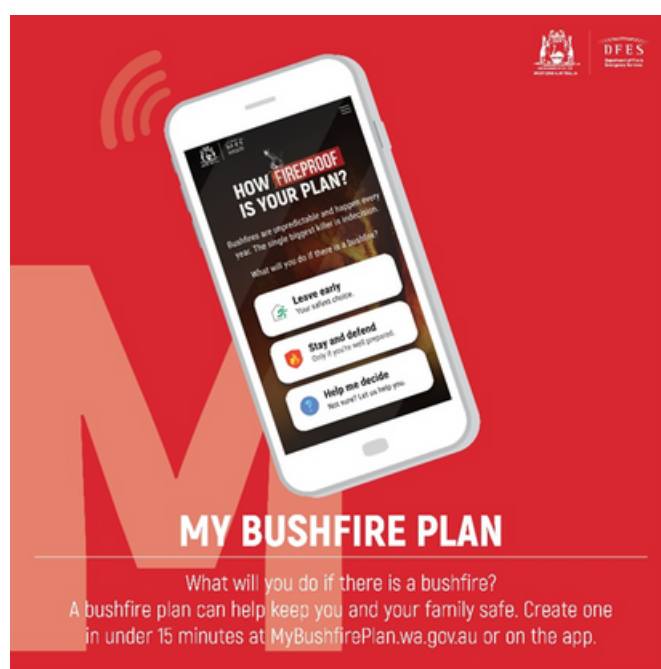
- **Do you live in a rural area within eyeshot of bushland, or have vegetation on or near your property?**
- **Do you have belongings, photos and documents that are sentimental to you?**
- **Do you have dependents, pets, or livestock?**
- **Are you unsure of whether you will stay and defend, or evacuate and find refuge?**

If you answered yes to any of these questions, it is important that you have a bush fire plan in place before summer.

Check out www.mybushfireplan.wa.gov.au on your PC or download the app via the App Store on your phone or tablet. This helpful guide, tailored to your family's needs, will help you reduce the stress and panic when a fire is coming towards you.

It is best if you sit down with your household, have a chat and make the plan together. It is important that everyone understands the plan, knows their role, and provides input to ensure everything that is important to you and them remains safe this fire season.

For more information contact the Shire on 9652 0800 or email fire@dandaragan.wa.gov.au



Community Workshop Envision 2033



Envision 2033

Shire Of Dandaragan

Join us for a community workshop as we chart the course for our Shire's future through Envision 2033. We value your input and want to hear your ideas and initiatives that can bring lasting benefits to our Shire. Your voice matters, so come and have your say!

Badgingarra: Tuesday 22 August, Badgingarra Community Centre - 3:30pm-5:30pm

Jurien: Wednesday 30 August, Turquoise Visitor Centre / Library - 3:30pm-6:00pm

Dandaragan: Friday 15 September, Dandaragan Community Resource Centre 3:30pm-5.30pm

Cervantes: Wednesday 6 September, Cervantes Pinnacles Motel Function Room 4:00pm-6:00pm

- Engage in open discussions and brainstorming sessions with community members
- Share your ideas, suggestions, and initiatives that can shape our Shire's future positively



No need to commit to the entire workshop. Pop in at your convenience and share your thoughts, suggestions, and initiatives that could benefit our Shire.

Food and non-alcoholic drinks provided. Family-Friendly event: Everyone is welcome!



4 September – 27 October

**Scribblers Festival
Explore the World of Creative Bravery**

Scribblers Festival celebrates creativity, literacy, and the special place local libraries hold in the hearts of children and parents. Each year over 15,000 feather shaped bookmarks are hidden in the children's and young adult section of libraries across Western Australia with five rare Golden Feathers waiting to be found by lucky young readers as part of the annual Golden Feather Hunt.

Feather finders have the opportunity to win a variety of prizes, but most of all, fuel their love of reading and libraries.

The Scribblers Festival is an annual festival of literature and arts for young people. It invites young people and the young at heart to celebrate the magic of storytelling and brings together authors, illustrators, and other storytellers from Perth, across Australia, and around the world to empower and engage young readers through interactive sessions and workshops.

Sound like fun? Feather shaped bookmarks are scattered throughout the children's and young adult sections of our Shire of Dandaragan libraries.

Don't miss any of the action - Golden Feather Hunt at your local library.

How To Start Your Hunt:

1. Visit your local Shire of Dandaragan Library
2. Select a book you would like to borrow
3. Check out the book with the help of your friendly librarian
4. Cross your fingers and open the book...
5. If there is a feather-shaped bookmark inside do a victory dance and bring the feather to the librarian who will know exactly what to do next
6. If there isn't a feather-shaped bookmark inside, chin up - you still have a great book to read AND you can have another hunt when you borrow your next book.

Golden Feathers - There are only FIVE of these rare feathers hidden in the whole of WA. The lucky finder of one of these, wins the grand prize of a VIP Festival Pass, iPad, and signed book pack

Silver Feathers - There are only 20 of these lucky feathers in the hunt. Find one of these and you win a signed book

Ruby Feather - Each participating library has one of these hidden in the shelves, and comes with an instant book prize

White Feathers - Colour these in, post a pic to social media tagging us @scribblersfest and @shireofdandaragan and you could win an instant prize!