

SHIRE MATTERS



Issue 180 - March 2024

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NEWSLETTER TRIAL PERIOD

We are trialling new ways to inform our community about news and information from the Shire.

During the months of April and May, we will be conducting post office box drops and publishing in local newspapers to determine the most efficient way for you to access our Shire Matters.

Additionally, we will begin an E-newsletter in April. To subscribe to the E-newsletter, please sign up on our website or complete the form at the back of this Shire Matters edition and return to our Shire Administration Office, or email it to council@dandaragan.wa.gov.au.



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Cr Tony O'Gorman
Ph. 0407 799 620

Extraordinary Election

The Shire of Dandaragan is having an Extraordinary Election to elect a replacement Councillor. The extraordinary election is being conducted as a postal ballot via the West Australian Electoral Commission on behalf of the Shire.

The election day is Friday 12 April 2024. The polling booth on the day will be the Council Office between 8:00am and 6:00pm with counting to commence at the close of the ballot at the Council offices.

Postal ballots should be arriving to registered residents & ratepayers via mail.

I encourage all eligible voters to cast their vote early, it is really important to have as many votes as possible to ensure that we have good representation from across the Shire.

There are two excellent community candidates in the field for this election. The newly elected Councillor's term will be until the next general Council election in October 2025.

The two candidates are: Jason Harris and Graham Lethlean, both profiles are on the Shire of Dandaragan website.

International Women's Day Event

Each year the Shire acknowledges the role women play across our region by holding an event on International Women's Day 8 March. This year the event was held at Aggie's Cottage in Dandaragan.

The Event theme this year was Inspire Inclusion, Count her in, Invest in Women and Accelerate Progress. The Shire aspires to all those things not just by holding the event on International Women's Day but by including women in decision making at the highest level. We currently have three very strong female Councillors. Deputy Shire President, Maddi McDonald, Councillor Rosemary Glasfurd and Councillor Sharon Young.

The event this year was hosted by the Deputy Shire President Maddi McDonald and Caroline Ashby was the guest speaker. Caroline is a local woman that has achieved international recognition as an athlete competing in Ironman competitions across the world.

Caroline provided an inspirational look into her career so far. I am sure she has many more challenges that she will undertake in her future career.



Catering was undertaken by another local business woman Jennifer Browne of Jenovation in Dandaragan.

The revamped Betty van under the new owners Sarah and Tom Whitlock of Cervantes, provided the much loved coffees and teas. I wish them well in their ventures.

Ruby Miguel of Boutique Music provided the entertainment throughout the event, another great young women embarking on an exciting career.

Georgie Girl Florals provided beautiful bouquets, which 6 lucky ladies who were randomly selected got to take home.

Meghan Hucker from Cervantes provided the ladies beautiful handmade cookies for the day.

The Shire would also like to thank Peter Mair who drove the bus to get multiple attendees from Jurien Bay & Cervantes to and from the event safely.



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Shark Attack Response

As we all know Jurien Bay hit the news recently with reports of the shark attack off Sandland Island. We send our best wishes to the victim and wish her well for a speedy and full recovery.

The attack happened during the very busy tourist season, and with greater numbers of people and boats in the water shark sightings are becoming more prevalent in our waters. While the Shire has no jurisdiction on the water we work closely with the many state agencies operating within our boundaries.

I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the excellent response from the state agencies including Fisheries, DBCA, Jurien Health Centre and the volunteer emergency services that responded to the attack. All these agencies worked seamlessly together to ensure that the person involved received the best possible care from the moment the attack was reported to the evacuation via chopper to Royal Perth Hospital where the medical staff took over the care of the patient.

Fisheries responded immediately to the distress call from the tour operator and organised the required equipment to be at the jetty side when the tour operator docked.

Jurien Bay Fire and Rescue responded along with St Johns Jurien Bay. The patient was transported to the Health Centre where our fabulous local medical staff stabilised the patient ready for transport. The chopper was on its way from Perth while all this was going on.

The quick response and coordination has insured a better outcome for the patient.

A heartfelt thanks from me to each and every responder of the incident including the tour operator, St John's Jurien Bay, Jurien Health Centre, Jurien Bay Fire & Rescue, DBCA and Shire staff for the coordinated and extremely professional response to this incident.

It is great to know that we have such dedicated and well-trained people in our towns to respond so professionally to incidents.

Jurien Bay Medical Centre

We have all experienced delays in trying to book appointments with the medical centre since Dr Katia left last year. This has been exacerbated recently with the departure of Dr Yuriy. Dr Yuriy has left to work with remote communities and Dr Katia left to work in the eastern states.

A huge thank you also to Dr Rudy for carrying the load by himself during the period it has taken to recruit the replacement doctors..

Our thanks to Dr Katia and Dr Yuriy for the time they spent looking after our medical needs.

Replacing the doctors has been difficult and the Shire CEO Brent Bailey has continually liaised with GP providers to replace both doctors.

Unfortunately the system has changed for the accreditation of overseas doctors and has been taken over by the Royal Australian College of GP's.

There is now another step into the process that requires overseas trained doctors to undergo a period of one month

supervised practice in a surgery other than their employing surgery. This practice needs to be undertaken exclusively by one supervising doctor. That means the supervising doctor cannot see their own patients. (Hence, they do not get compensated for their time supervising). This makes it very difficult to find a supervising doctor.

Medibizz have worked to secure a supervised placement for our new doctor. Arrangements are now being negotiated to ensure that Jurien Bay's new female doctor will be in place as soon as the supervised period is concluded.

We should be welcoming Dr Lily Day to our community within the next couple of months.

Recruiting of doctors across Australia is very difficult and Medibizz have endeavoured to ensure that our practice is well serviced with both male and female doctors but in such a tight market it is difficult to attract applicants to our area when every other jurisdiction across Australia is offering more and more to get the best outcomes for their community.

It would be a great help if both Federal and State Governments could ensure that organisations like the Royal Australian Association of GP's couldn't manipulate the system. I will be writing to both Minister Butler and Minister Sanderson requesting that they immediately take action to ensure communities like ours can recruit the medical professionals we need in an appropriate time frame.

Council Meeting

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 24 April 2024, at the Badgingarra Community Centre, Badgingarra, commencing at 4:00pm. Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend.

2023 LOCAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK REPORT OF REVIEW

The Shire concluded a review of its Local Planning Framework in November 2023 whereby the following recommendations were resolved by Council:

Pursuant to Regulation 66(3)(a) and (b) of the Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015 recommend to the Western Australian Planning Commission that:

- a) The Shire of Dandaragan Local Planning Strategy 2020 not be reviewed as it is satisfactory in its existing form.
- b) The Shire of Dandaragan Local Planning Scheme No. 7 should be repealed, and a new scheme prepared in its place.
- c) As part of preparing a new scheme an assessment be made of:
 - I. Existing structure plans and development plans to determine which plans (if any) should be amended / revoked.
 - II. The relevance of existing local planning policies to determine which policies (if any) should be amended / revoked and whether any new policies are required.

The Western Australian Planning Commission advised in February 2024 that it agrees with the above recommendations. As such, the Shire will begin the drafting of a new Local Planning Scheme No. 8 in accordance with the above noted Regulations. This will include a comprehensive consultation process with affected stakeholders. This exercise is expected to conclude with the adoption of the new Local Planning Scheme No. 8 in 2026.

Should you wish to seek clarification on the above please do not hesitate to contact the Principal Planning & Building Officer, Rory Mackay at the Jurien Bay Administration Centre.

RESTRICTED BURNING SEASON

Restricted Burning Season has commenced.

To obtain a permit to burn throughout this period you will need to contact your local Bush Fire Control Officer. Given the dryness across much of the Shire, Officers may not approve a permit to burn as it may pose too much of a risk. Location, current forecasted weather conditions, and the measures you have in place to safely undertake the activity will heavily contribute to the Officers decision.

Authorised burning is only permitted on days where the fire danger rating for the district does not exceed High, unless a Fire Weather Officer deems it safe with additional precautions taken.

For the full list of Fire Control Officers in your area, see page 17 in the Fire Break and Hazard Reduction Notice, or check out the Bushfire page on the Shires website.

Check the fire danger rating for Lesueur (west of Brand Highway) or Yarra Yarra (East of Brand Highway) Fire Weather District at the Bureau of Meteorology website.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of our International Women's Day event, it was a great morning.

We extend our gratitude to the exceptional efforts of Bettyvan, Georgie Girl Florals, Jennovation, Meghan Hucker, Ruby Miguel, Caroline Ashby, Peter Mair and Aggie's Cottage. Your contributions were incredible in making this event such a huge success, and we are sincerely thankful for your support and dedication.



SPORTING AND RECREATION FACILITIES FUND GRANT - NOW OPEN

Tronox Management and Shire of Dandaragan Sporting and Recreation Facilities Fund is now open. Grants are available to assist local organisations to provide or improve sporting and recreation facilities and to purchase or improve items of durable equipment. Applications must have a total project cost of less than \$50,000. Funding will not be greater than 50% of the total cost of the project described in the application and the grant is on the basis that the organisation will match the grant on a dollar for dollar basis. The Shire of Dandaragan and Tronox Management have offered this annual funding for over 40 years. Applications must be submitted and be complete with all components and documentation by 4pm 30 April 2024 for projects in the 2024/25 financial year. For more information, please visit the Shire website.

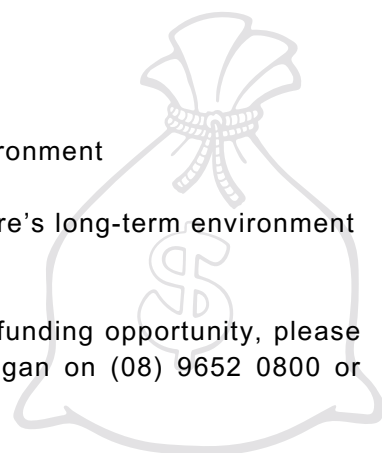
ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTS PROGRAM - NOW OPEN

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 programs seek 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 capacity of the community to address environmental sustainability
- Deliver short-term, tangible, environmental results that are consistent with the Shire's long-term environment 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 on (08) 9652 0800 or email mccs@dandaragan.wa.gov.au. Applications closes 4pm 30 April 2024.



SHIRE COMMUNITY GRANT - OPENING SOON

The Shire of Dandaragan Community Grants program is opening soon.

Grants of up to \$2,500 are available under this program for events, projects and initiatives. The application form and guidelines is now available on the Shire Community Grant Webpage.

If you would like to discuss your ideas or require further information on future funding opportunities, please contact Kayla Jones on 9652 0800 or email cdo@dandaragan.wa.gov.au.

The Community Grant Program opens 1 April 2024 and closes 4pm 10 May 2024.

LEEWIN SCHOLARSHIP – OPENING SOON

Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWS

GROW YOUR BUSINESS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT – NOW OPEN

- Looking to build the capability or capacity of your SME business?
- Diversifying or intensifying your agriculture, aquaculture, horticulture, forestry, or fishing production enterprise?
- Investing in new technologies, aged care services, civil works, air services, renewable energy, manufacturing, or processing within the Shire?
- Planning to host a significant local event that will bring tourists and multi-night visitors to the Shire?

Apply before 30 April 2024 for an Economic Development Grant of \$5,000 to \$30,000 on a '50% minimum co-contribution' basis for your project. Grant guidelines are available from the Economic Development section under the Services tab on the Shire's website or contact Tricia Slee for an application form via email edm@dandaragan.wa.gov.au.

GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES

Registrations are invited for a one-day Grant Writing Workshop, to be facilitated by Tara Whitney of Whitney Consulting and hosted by the Shire of Dandaragan.

Tara is a former assessor of Royalties for Regions grants and managed over \$1 billion of grant funded projects across a variety of sectors, including tourism, housing, recreation, aged care, health, transport, and specialised community infrastructure projects for LGA's. Visit her website for more background.



If you're seeking a grant from state or federal government departments, or you plan to apply to an industry fund, then you will find this workshop of great benefit to your chance of future success in winning grants and government funding.

Register with Tricia Slee by COB 2 April edm@dandaragan.wa.gov.au Numbers are limited. Proposed workshop date is Friday 3 May.

SHIRE CAMPGROUNDS TRANSITION TO ONLINE BOOKINGS

The Shire is in the process of transitioning its campgrounds to an online booking system. The new platform was trialled over the March long weekend at the Jurien Bay Overflow Campground, and with just a few minor tweaks, it is going live for bookings for Easter and the April school holidays. Feedback from guests was positive and the administration requirements for bookings was reportedly substantially reduced by using the online platform.

The Dandaragan Transit Park bookings will move to the new platform in May - June and online bookings will be implemented for the Sandy Cape Recreation Park during the low season, in the new financial year.

Why move to a digital booking system? Research from across Australia shows that online booking systems have the following positive outcomes:

- Reduce crowding at campgrounds.
- Reduce environmental impacts.
- Improve the visitor experience.
- Improve visitor behaviour.
- Increase compliance with campground fees.
- Develop a sustainable economic model for campground management.
- Measure and manage campground visitation and impacts.

Statistics (Staylist 2023) reveal a clear inclination toward online accommodation booking systems in Australia, from 68% in 2021 to ~78% in 2023. Local governments and land managers across Australia are moving to online booking systems to provide a better visitor experience whilst ensuring more sustainable environmental and administrative management of campgrounds.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Grant Name	Grantor	Focus	Min / Max Grant	Closes
Innovate to Grow	CSIRO / DPIRD	Innovation in the agrifood sector	10 week mentoring program	24 March
Rebates to Improve Digital Connectivity for Farmers	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, <u>Communications and the Arts</u>	A rebate of up to \$30,000 to cover up to 50% of the cost of eligible digital farming technology.	\$3,000 - \$30,000	31 May 2024 AEST
Economic Development Grant	Shire of Dandaragan	Economic development within the Shire	\$5,000 to \$30,000 Min. 50% co-contribution	
Financial Support to Hire an Apprentice	The Australian Apprenticeships Incentive System	Business and Industry	Variable	Ongoing
Farm Household Allowance Program	Services Australia	A payment for farming families in financial hardship	Case by case basis.	Ongoing.
Funding for Major Events that Promote Tourism	Tourism WA	Tourism / Economic Development	Variable	12 months prior to proposed event

THANK YOU – KEY WORKER HOUSING SURVEY

Thank you to all the local businesses who took the time to respond to the Wheatbelt Development Commission's 'Key Worker Housing Survey'. The Shire of Dandaragan had the most respondents, so hopefully, your feedback will guide the WDC and State Government in future housing developments within our Shire.

USEFUL TOOLS AND RESOURCES FOR SME'S

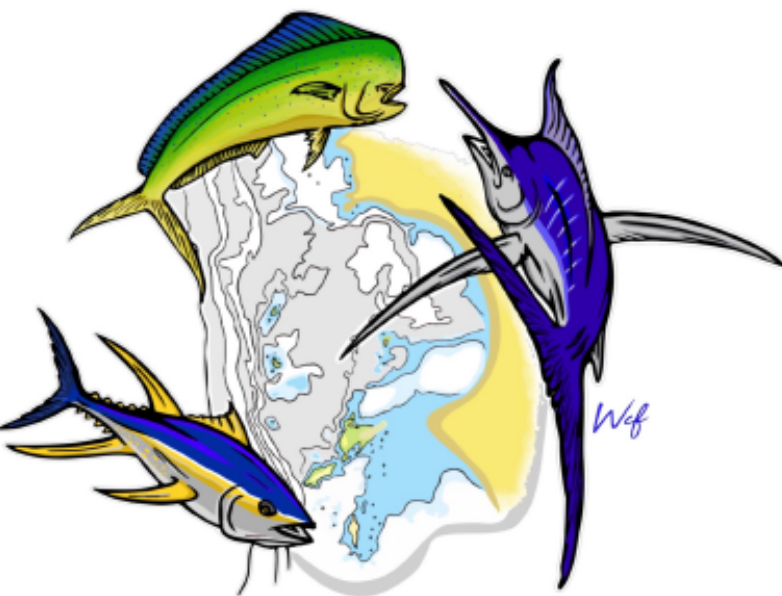
Small Business Cyber Security Guide: www.cyber.gov.au

Business Tools and templates finder: www.business.gov.au

Tourism Toolbox: www.tourismwacouncilwa.gov.au

Any questions, suggestions or updates, please email edm@dandaragan.wa.gov.au

COMING UP



Jurien Bay
WA Open 2024

April 5th to 7th

www.pgfc.com.au contact@pgfc.com.au



SHIMANO



Mentorship Sessions

We have secured mentoring sessions for our local sporting and recreation clubs on roles and responsibilities in committees, governance, strategic planning, risks, and finance.

The mentoring sessions will be delivered online by Linkwest in an hour-long session. If your club is interested in accessing one of the sessions, please contact cdo@dandaragan.wa.gov.au to secure your spot.

These are the proposed times, if they do not suit your club, please let us know and we will do our best to accommodate with your requested time.

Tuesday 2 April
1.00pm - 2.00pm
or 2.00pm - 3.00pm

Wednesday 29 May
1.00pm - 2.00pm
or 2.00pm - 3.00pm



LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXTRAORDINARY POSTAL ELECTION
ELECTION NOTICE
Shire of Dandaragan
(Local Government Act 1995, s4.64)

The Shire of Dandaragan is holding an extraordinary election by postal vote on Friday, 12 April 2024 to fill vacancies in the offices of Councillor as listed below:

District 1 Councillor
LETHLEAN, Graham
HARRIS, Jason

Election Packages will be sent to all electors on the local government electoral roll where there is an election in their electorate.

You may hand deliver your postal voting papers, or obtain a replacement package (if the package is not received, or should any papers be missing), during business hours before election day from the following location:

Shire of Dandaragan, 69 Bashford Street, JURIEN BAY

Post your vote early. Completed postal voting packages must reach the Returning Officer by 6.00pm on election day, Friday, 12 April 2024.

You may hand deliver your postal voting papers to an electoral officer, or obtain a replacement package (if the package is not received, or should any papers be missing), between 8.00am and 6.00pm on election day at the following location:

Chief Polling Place:
Shire of Dandaragan, 69 Bashford Street, JURIEN BAY

The count of votes will commence after 6.00pm at the Shire of Dandaragan, 69 Bashford Street, JURIEN BAY.

Electronic Counting Place
Level 2, 66 St Georges Terrace, Perth may be used as an electronic counting place.

ROBERT KENNEDY
ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER 13
63 06



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
Electoral Commission



SPRAY THE GREY YOUTH FESTIVAL



**WEDNESDAY 10TH APRIL
11AM - 4PM**

FAUNTIEROY PARK, JURIE BAY

RIDES

AMUSEMENTS

FOOD TRUCKS

GAMES

WORKSHOPS



FREE!

**lotterywest**
supported


SHIRE OF
DANDARAGAN


healthway


GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Department of
Communities

Transport available for Badgingarra & Dandaragan depending on numbers
RSVP by 3rd April: (08) 9652 0800 or council@dandaragan.wa.gov.au

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR E-NEWSLETTER

Email Address

Organisation or Community Group, if applicable

Title

First Name

Last Name

E-newsletters

- ☐ Shire Matters
- ☐ Community Matters
- ☐ Business Matters

RETURN TO OUR SHIRE ADMINISTRATION OFFICE, OR EMAIL IT TO
COUNCIL@DANDARAGAN.WA.GOV.AU.