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FAREWELL ALISON SLYNS

The Shire’s Economic Development Coordinator, Alison Slyns, has resigned from her position after 5 years working with the organisation. Alison commenced her employment on an initial two-year contract that evolved to the current role and has been involved in a number of exciting projects such as opening the Jurien Bay Visitor Information and Civic Centre, installation of caravan dump points, opening free camp rest stops, establishing online bookings for local tour and accommodation businesses and implementing the Shire’s new corporate branding. Alison is taking up a role with the Small Business Development Corporation in Perth but will remain active in the local community as a member of the Jurien Bay Youth Group, managing her home in Jurien Bay as a holiday rental and supporting her husband Darren in his continuing role as a Shire Councillor.

SHIRE OF DANDARAGAN

Leeuwin Scholarship

The Shire of Dandaragan Leeuwin Scholarship is now open. If you, or someone you know, is aged between 15-18 and would like to apply, go to www.dandaragan.wa.gov.au or email the community development officer at cdo@dandaragan.wa.gov.au. Applications close 5pm 31 May 2019

Community Grants Program

The Tronox Management and Shire of Dandaragan Sporting & Recreation Facilities Fund, and the Shire of Dandaragan Community Grants are now open.

Please go to the Shire website or contact the community development officer for more information. Applications for funding must be received by the Shire by 5pm 31 May 2019
A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Cr Leslee Holmes  
Ph. 0408 419 468

Last weekend we were very fortunate to host a Star Gazing event in Cervantes through the wonderful Carol Redford of Astrotourism WA who chose Cervantes for its potential in this area. Astrotourism WA said that Cervantes was the best event yet! The night sky really showed off at Lake Thetis to the estimated 80+ attendees who were able to access up to 7 telescopes to view the night sky up close.

Cr Jason Clarke and Carol Redford estimated more than 60% of attendees were from out of town with quite a number from the Perth Astrophotographers Facebook Group. Fantastic! It was great publicising this event through Perth as it really demonstrates how popular this type of activity can be and how people are willing to travel to such events.

While the Facebook event had 42 going, 655 interested and 68 shares. That’s great promotion!

Three groups also booked accommodation and several people had meals at the Tavern which is great for our local businesses. Some of those who were travelling back to Perth stopped in at the Pinnacles on the way home once they knew they could access the park after dark.

By the end of the night everyone really understood how artificial light impacts the view of the night sky and were wowed by the number of stars that can be seen on a dark night. The Moon then rose and we had some gorgeous views of reflections in the water. Here I’d like to share some comments provided on the night:

"I’d happily pay for this experience."
"I’m going to do something about this light pollution issue!"

"Astrotourism is amazing at getting people interested in looking up at the night sky rather than down at their phones. We have the best night sky views in WA and Astrotourism is promoting this brilliantly."

Moving on, I was very honoured to open the Hawaiian Ride for Youth at the Turquoise Coast Visitors Centre last week.

The Hawaiian Ride for Youth is held annually in March across 4.5 days with riders covering over 700kms on their way from Albany or Jurien Bay to Perth to raise funds and awareness for Youth Focus. While cycling through towns in WA’s South West, Great Southern, Wheatbelt and Mid West, the riders visit high schools to engage with students on issues of youth suicide, depression, anxiety and self-harm. The purpose of the Hawaiian Ride for Youth is to remove the stigma surrounding youth mental health, raise essential funds to enable Youth Focus to build a more resilient community, and to have fun!

Although the Ride provides opportunity for personal growth and achievement, particularly for participants who do not come from a cycling background, the main objective of the Ride will always remain a charitable one.

We are getting close to finalising the draft of Envision 2029 and should have this new Strategic Community Plan out for public comment in the near future.

A key feedback issue is the need to promote and further develop residential and health facilities for our aging population. Our community wants to age in place and we are already holding discussions with key industry players in this space at the moment.

On Tuesday night I attended the first official meeting of the Turquoise Coast Tourism Association and was very happy to see some great contributors put their hand up for the committee. This is a great leap forward for tourism in the Shire of Dandaragan and I wish them well with all their planning. The Committee will initially provide recommendations and advice to guide visitor servicing in the Shire but the ultimate goal is to establish an independent tourism association to manage destination marketing, visitor servicing and industry support with assistance from the Shire.

On a final note, I would like to wish everyone a very happy and safe Easter and hope that all our businesses do very well over the break as nearly all accommodation sites are fully booked already.
Spray the Grey Youth Festival is now in its fifth year having originally started at Weld Park. The theme was Spray the Grey, which was formulated because the major focus was to use a graffiti artist to create an art scene on the old skate park that was so badly dilapidated. The first two events were held at Weld Park but quickly outgrew the space. The third festival moved to Dobbyn Park then finally to its current location at Fauntleroy Park. Fauntleroy Park has more than enough space for the many rides and attraction that the Shire hosts for the biggest Youth Festival on the Turquoise Coast. The main feature of this year’s festival is the introduction of Circus WA who will perform two shows in the main area. The performers will then hold two circus skills workshops for the youth of the Shire. Once again we have live music with Mitch Ballardin returning for the second time. There will be lots of free rides and a free sausage sizzle provided by the Jurien Bay Lions Club. Face painting has always been a huge success and will be back to create some more fantastic fantasy faces. There is plenty to do and see for the adults as well with our favourite Betty van percolating coffee throughout the day. Bob’s Potatoes will be there so Mums maybe you can avoid cooking dinner and just sample a spud or two. For those with an artistic streak why not get over to the Parks and Wildlife stall and paint a craypot float and generally learn something about our marine environment.

Spray the Grey is supported by grants from Healthway, Lotterywest, Smarter than Smoking, the Department for Communities. The government of Western Australia, the Jurien Bay Lions Club and is underwritten by the Shire of Dandaragan

WELCOME TO OUR NEW AUSTRALIAN CITIZEN

The Shire’s own Julie Rouse from Jurien Bay received her Australian Citizenship certificate from Shire President, Leslee Holmes, at her citizenship ceremony on 28 March 2019 in the Jurien Bay Council Chambers.

Julie has been in Australia for many years and has called Jurien Bay home for the past three years. Congratulations Julie and family.

Photo credit - Jurien Bay Crc

LEEUWIN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT - LAILAH WOODFORD PRESENTS TO COUNCIL

At 28 March Ordinary Council Meeting, Councillors and staff were lucky enough to have Leeuwin Scholarship recipient Lailah Woodford give a presentation about her experience on the Leeuwin Youth Explorer voyage she participated in late last year. Lailah's presentation highlighted what an incredibly worthy recipient she is with her confidence and go-getter attitude and we think she’ll be an amazing young leader in the community.

Lailah was encouraged to apply by her teacher, Glen Auzins and supported by her family. If you, or a young person you know, would be interested in applying for the 2019/20 Shire of Dandaragan Leeuwin Scholarship, go to Shire of Dandaragan website www.dandaragan.wa.gov.au or contact the community development officer on 9652 0800.
EASTER RUBBISH COLLECTION
There will be no scheduled changes to the rubbish collections over the Easter Holiday Period. All pickups will remain the same as usual.

BADGINGARRA COUNCIL MEETING - WEDNESDAY 24 APRIL 2019
The Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held at the Badgingarra Community Centre on Wednesday 24 April 2019 commencing at 4.00pm.
Should you have any items requiring Council's attention please email Robyn Headland, robyn@dandaragan.wa.gov.au at the Jurien Bay Administration Centre by Monday 15 April 2019.
We look forward to hearing from you.

Request for Proposal
Jurien Bay Foreshore Commercial Development - RFP 19/001
The Shire of Dandaragan is seeking Proposals for suitably qualified people and/or organisations for the development of the Jurien Bay Foreshore public open space for various commercial and associated tourism activities.
The focus of this process is to establish a commercial lease over the paved area near the jetty to facilitate place activation and amenity improvements
The Deadline for Proposals to be submitted is 14 May 2019 at 2.00pm.
Request for Proposal documents are available from www.tenderlink.com/walga/. Further information in regards to this Request for Proposal can be obtained from Krystle O’Neil on (08) 9213 2517.
Proposals must be submitted electronically via the WALGA Provider Portal. Information on portal access is provided within the Request for Proposal.

Brent Bailey
Chief Executive Officer