

INSIGHT



Bridgetown-Greenbushes Shire Newsletter

June/July 2016

Bushfire Planning Reforms - New Bush Fire Prone Areas

Vast areas of the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes were designated as being bushfire prone by the Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner in late 2015.

The Map of Bush Fire Prone Areas was released in tandem with the Planning and Development (Local Planning Scheme) Amendment Regulations 2015 and new State Planning Policy 3.7: Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas (SPP 3.7), together forming the State Government's bushfire planning reforms.

The Department of Planning on 23 May 2016 released the latest version of the Map of Bush Fire Prone Areas prepared by the Office for Bushfire Risk Management. The updated Map shows both the 'new' bushfire prone areas and those 'continuing' from the first edition of the Map released in December 2015.

A new four month transitional period up to 21 September 2016

will apply to some planning and building requirements for areas identified in the 2016 version of the Bushfire Prone Area Map. Thereafter, and in many cases, landowners will need to undertake a Bushfire Attack Level (BAL) Assessment prior to applying for development approval and/or a building permit for a dwelling, other habitable building and some non-habitable buildings, unless otherwise exempt.

The Shire strongly recommends that an Accredited Level 1 BAL Assessor or experienced Bushfire Planning Practitioner undertakes the BAL Assessment and provides professional advice on other bushfire risk management measures.

Further information on the Bushfire Planning Reforms is available via www.planning.wa.gov.au/bushfire.

President's Comment

A number of Councillors and I visited the Shires of Northam and Toodyay as part of a knowledge gathering exercise that is undertaken by Council each year. This particular visit was aimed at ascertaining knowledge from these Councils, both Councillors and staff, in respect of issues related to the maintenance of assets, particularly heritage buildings, waste management and integrated planning. They were also keen to hear from us about recreational facilities development so these trips are a two-way learning process. I felt that both parties benefited from the visit.

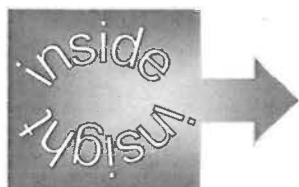
In a similar vein I, together with the CEO and The Executive Manager Community Services, met with the Shire President and staff from the Shire of Plantagenet to provide them with our experiences, both good and bad, related to the redevelopment of our aquatic facility. They have a similar dilemma regarding the question of refurbishment or replacement. It is always helpful to be able to liaise with other Councils in respect of any number of issues particularly when they have had first-hand experience in that area.

It's that time of year when Councillors are deeply involved in the formulation of the budget for next financial year. Being able to generate sufficient revenue to meet all the competing demands of the community is always a challenge and this year that process will be as demanding as it always is.

I encourage all community members to be fully involved in

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John Nicholas JP,
Shire President



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Parking in Bus Bays at Bridgetown Primary School

In recent times the Shire has received a number of complaints from school bus operators and the Bridgetown Primary School about people parking in the school bus bays on Roe Street during the bus periods. Just a reminder that on school days between 8.15 and 8.45am and 2.45 and 3.15pm no parking within the bus bays is permitted and any breaches of this restriction can result in a traffic infringement being issued.

It is acknowledged that particularly in the morning that some parents use the bus bays as a drop off point for their children to exit the car for school. This practice is acceptable as long as the drop off is done in a prompt manner and does not require the driver to turn off the car engine and/or leave the car to assist the children to unload items, etc. Where more than an immediate drop off is to occur the driver must park in a designated parking bay elsewhere near the school.

Upon request from the school the Rangers will be patrolling the bus bays on a regular basis and will be issuing warning and/or infringements where necessary.

Infirm Parking Permits

The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes provides "Infirm Parking Bay Permits" for people with mobility issues. These permits allow individuals to use the "Infirm Parking/ACROD bays" in Bridgetown.


These designated bays are located within close proximity to essential services and shopping.

Should you require a Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes Infirm Parking Permit, applications can be obtained from main reception. Illness or permanent disabilities need to be confirmed by a qualified and practicing medical practitioner with the signed application form returned to the Shire Office. For more information please contact Julie Pike at Community Services on 9761 1555.

LANDSCAPE art exhibition

Bridgetown Pottery
Opening Night - Friday 1 July - 6pm

Entry forms are available from the Shire Office (Customer Service Front Counter) and the Shire's website
www.bridgetown.wa.gov.au



Me 2!

Health, fitness and fun

FitBALL SOCCER

You haven't played soccer until you've played Fitball Soccer!

This modified indoor soccer game, using a giant exercise ball, is easy to play.

The focus is on inclusion and participation in a fun and safe environment.

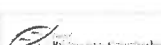
Fitball Soccer is suitable for all ages and skill levels with no previous soccer experience required.

This exciting NEW Term Program is part of Me 2! and is FREE for everyone to play.

Fitball Soccer will be held every Saturday from 30th April 2016 - 25th June 2016.

10.00am - 10.45am (7-11 years)
11.00am - 11.45am (12 years +)


For further information please contact the Bridgetown Leisure Centre on 9761 2966



Me 2! is all about FUN so the activities are designed to promote health, fitness and friendship in a non-competitive, stress-free environment.

There are opportunities for people with disability to receive 10 personal training sessions for FREE and 50% reduction in "gym only" membership costs (minimum age 16 years to attend the gym alone).

For enquiries into reduced rates call Megan on 9761 1555.



BORN TO MOVE

LESMILLS

Wednesday & Saturday @ 9.15am

Department of Sport and Recreation

2 - 5 Years

An imaginative adventure of action and song.

Children in this age group respond best to stories, so the lyrics in this 45 minute class are written to involve them in a narrative. As they move they develop their balance, weight transfer and concentration skills, while also learning how to interpret music and move to a beat. The class is built on the latest scientific research into child development and will leave them feeling great.

Call 9761 2966 for more information.

Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes
... simply beautiful

July School Holiday Library Activities

See details on the library website, Shire Facebook or in the library

Wednesday 6 July 2.30pm - 4.00pm Ages 6 to 12	Wooden Boomerang Painting - come along and celebrate NAIDOC week by making your own boomerang and decorating it with dot painting.
Friday 8 July 2.30pm - 4.00pm Ages 6 to 12	Aboriginal Sand Art - come along and celebrate NAIDOC week by decorating an Australian animal sand art picture.
Monday 11 July 2.30pm - 3.30pm Ages 5 to 10	Stained Glass Windows - make a pretty stained glass window design out of cellophane to stick on your bedroom window.
Wednesday 13 July 2.30pm - 3.30pm Ages 8 to 14	Tea Light Candle Holders - make a pretty tea light candle holder to give away as a gift to someone special.



President's Comment Continued ...

this year's "Bridgetown in the Winter" which will have its official opening on 2 July at the Town Hall at 5:30pm. I look forward to seeing you there.

As you know the Fixed Wireless technology was launched in 2015 and is available to those premises within the footprint. NBN has said it is encouraged by the response from its customers to the service. These customers are experiencing up to 50/20mbps upload & download speeds.

The NBN satellite service known as Sky Muster will become fully operational in May 2016. If your residence is not covered by Fixed Wireless or Fixed Line services you will be able to access this NBN service after April 2016. Further information can be found on the Shire's website and more detailed information can be accessed from the Bridgetown Community Resource Centre.

I want to thank the Roadwise Committee for staging the Blessing of the Roads Ceremony prior to Easter and to thank all of those, particularly the local school students, who made the event so meaningful. This is a great tradition that we should all be proud of.



RANGER SERVICES

Horse Droppings on town foot paths and the River Walk

Horse droppings have become the subject of complaints to Council in recent times. Under the law there is no compulsion for an owner/rider to pick up droppings from their horse.

Unlike dog faeces, which carry Toxocara Canis and is hazardous to health, horse droppings are effectively made up of digested grass and present no threat to human health.

However, Council strongly encourages horse riders to be courteous and take account of other users of public spaces and local walk paths.

If your horse defecates on a multi-use path, especially on a path used by walkers, cyclists, wheelchairs, gophers or prams, it is courteous and responsible to position your horse at the side of the path if you can, or dismount and kick the droppings to the side of the path, into the bush or the verge.

When riding your horse in areas where you know there are multiple users of a path, trail or route, please be considerate of the impact your horse's droppings may have on others and attempt to minimize this. Areas of particular note include the River Walk and the route from Geegeelup Village to town

People using gophers and mobility devices are not as nimble on their feet nor have the same capacity to avoid piles of manure on paths and travel routes.

Little Schools Trail

Revised Map Launch - Bridgetown Pottery Restaurant



The "Little Schools" trail map was originally developed by the Bridgetown Country Women's Association and the Bridgetown-Greenbushes Visitors Centre as a Bicentennial project in 1988.

The Little Schools Trail is a 212km drive featuring the sites of 25 little schools which served the Bridgetown-Greenbushes district for various lengths of time between 1903 and 1984. The opening of the Glenlynn School, in a room of a farmhouse near Sunnyside, marked the beginning of the district's long association with little schools which proliferated throughout the surrounding farming communities and townships of the Shire.

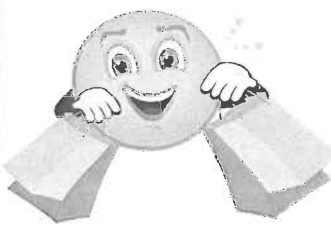
The reason behind the need for little schools was the difficulty of transport between properties and settlements. Schools sprang up wherever the school aged population was high enough to warrant it. Other schools were formed in conjunction with the establishment of satellite industries such as timber felling.

In 2014 long term local resident Pip Mills highlighted the need for a revised and reprinted version of the Little Schools Map, as there were only 2 of the original maps left in existence. The Trails Development Advisory Committee then began the task of finding the plaques that identify where the schools were located and recording the co-ordinates, reviewing the content of the original map and, with a great amount of assistance from the Historical Society and the Bridgetown CRC, locating and identifying little schools photographs and records and scanning documents.

After 18 months and many hours, the Shire announced the launch of the Little Schools Trail Map on the 17 June at Bridgetown Pottery Restaurant. All ex-students of little schools within the district were invited to attend the launch.

The details and map have been uploaded onto the regional trails website totaltrails.com.au and are also available from the Bridgetown Visitors Centre and the Greenbushes Discovery Centre.

The Shire would like to thank the Historical Society, Pat Scallan, Pip and Bevan Mills, the Bridgetown CRC and the Trails Development Advisory Committee members for their efforts.



Greenbushes to Bridgetown Shopping Bus Run

The Community Bus "Rosie" shopping run service continues to operate on alternative Tuesdays from Greenbushes to Bridgetown (and back again!). This service is available at a cost of \$8 return to ANYONE living in Greenbushes who would like to come to Bridgetown for the morning – shopping, medical appointments, whatever you need!

The bus run operates every second Tuesday departing Greenbushes Roadhouse at 9.00am then leaving IGA at 11.30am.

Anytime between arrival and departure of the bus in Bridgetown, parcels may be deposited in the bus, so heavy shopping does not have to be carried.

Scheduled Dates: 21 June, 5 July, 19 July, 2 August, 16 August

For more information, please contact Julie Pike at the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes Community Services Department on 9761 1555.

Extension of Rubbish Collection Areas

In recent years the Shire has received a number of requests from property owners to consider extending the kerbside rubbish and recycling collection services. Accordingly in February correspondence was sent to a number of property owners in prospective areas capable of accommodating a kerbside collection service. This was sent to of a total of 306 property owners in the following localities:

- Four Seasons Estate
- Properties to the south of Four Seasons Estate
- Windy Hollow Estate
- Kangaroo Gully south of Windy Hollow Estate
- North Greenbushes

The affected land owners were provided with an opportunity to comment on the suitability or otherwise of Council extending the rubbish/recycling collection area to include their property.

Responses were received back from a number of property owners indicating that general support for kerbside collection services existed in some areas but not in other areas.

Where a rubbish collection service is provided to a locality, initially only those lots with a completed dwelling are

provided with a rubbish collection service. If a lot does not have a dwelling it would not be provided with a service and therefore would not be charged a rubbish collection fee. However once a dwelling is constructed on a lot the rubbish service is automatically provided and the rubbish collection fee imposed.

Following the close of the comment period the matter was presented to Council and the following decisions were made:

- Feedback from residents in Windy Hollow Estate and Kangaroo Gully indicated a low level of support for the introduction of kerbside rubbish and recycling services therefore such services will not be provided at this stage.
- Within Four Seasons Estate it was deemed that sufficient interest was demonstrated from property owners for introduction of these services and therefore will be provided.
- Other than properties fronting Whittells Road there was insufficient demand from owners of properties south of Four Seasons Estate therefore

such services will not be provided.

- In North Greenbushes there exists sufficient demand for kerbside rubbish and recycling services to be introduced to properties on James Street, Greenbushes-Grimwade Road and Forest View Court therefore such services will not be provided.

Where a kerbside rubbish and recycling services isn't automatically provided, property owners, if seeking such services, can make application. The Shire can then consult with the rubbish collection contractor to determine if the contractor is prepared to provide a service to that property at the normal collection rates.

Kerbside collection service to the new areas is scheduled to commence on Wednesday 6 July 2016.

Note: properties provided with the kerbside services are provided with a Shire supplied bin and are not able to use other bins for kerbside collection. This is so that the contractor only empties bins where the service is being paid for as well as ensuring that the bin is the appropriate size and design for the truck's hoist lift.

writingWA... Words in the Valley

Readers & Writers Festival 30 - 31 July

Bridgetown Regional Library (Please book for the events at the Library)

Sat 30th July 9.00am-12.00pm	Writing Workshop: Once upon a time: Crafting stories - anyone can do it!	Sarah Evans	\$25
12.30pm-1.30pm	Author Talk: Personal Reflections on Poetry	Andrew Lansdown	Gold coin donation
2.00pm-5.00pm	Writing Workshop: Traditional Japanese Poetic Forms for Contemporary Australian Poets	Andrew Lansdown	\$25
Sunday 31st July	"Blake in the Blackwood" Poetry Prize - Presentations and readings		

Volunteers' Corner



This month's remarkable volunteer is Emily Rae. By day Emily works as an administration and customer service officer at the Shire, however, by night she volunteers her time as an ambulance officer for St John.

Emily is 22 years old and has been volunteering for St John for the last 2 years.

Emily moved here with her parents and younger brother from Rockingham when she was 7 years old. Her parents were originally born and bred in Donnybrook and Boyup Brook and wanted to raise their children in a country environment.

Emily was identified as a likely candidate for St John after she completed her first aid certificate. To become a volunteer for St John all that is needed is a current first aid certificate and a current driver's licence, the training and uniforms are provided by St John free of charge. Emily said "St John is very careful with their volunteers to ensure they are not exposed to or expected to undertake anything the volunteers will not be able to handle".

Emily is on call every week on a three week rotating roster. The first week she is on call 6pm to 6am, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The second week she is on call 6pm to 6am Thursday and Friday and the last week of the rotation she is on call 24 hours for the entire weekend. Emily's duties as a volunteer involve providing first aid assistance

and patient support at emergency call outs, patient transfers, house calls and accident attendance.

Emily volunteers for St John because she likes to be a positive part of the community and she likes to provide comfort, support and relief to people who are vulnerable and in need. The Bridgetown Branch of St John functions entirely with volunteers. Emily has been inspired by their dedication to the best pre-hospital care and their professionalism. She suggested that she couldn't ask for better mentors in the volunteers she has worked with over the last two years.

St John are always looking for new volunteers so if you are interested in supporting the community in this crucial role, please call St John administration on 9761 1049.

Accessing Your Community

In April 2015 an important accessibility issue was brought to the attention of the Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee. Members of the community reported a major accessibility issue with the Bridgetown Police Station. It was practically impossible for people with mobility restrictions or people in wheelchairs to access the local police station.

Once this issue was minuted, Shire officers contacted the Bridgetown Police Station where the Acting Officer in Charge, Sergeant Mike Smith, initiated the required process with the Building and Maintenance Department of the WA Police to proceed with an inspection of the Bridgetown Police Station. Shire officers met with the Police Department building inspectors and the local Police Officers to discuss and review the access of the station with a speedy and positive decision to rectify the accessibility to the entrance of the station as soon as possible.

Work began early this year and is now complete, guaranteeing all members of the community access to the police station. This was a great result for the Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee and an example of the important work they undertake in communicating community concerns and pursuing an outcome.



BRIDGETOWN-GREENBUSHES VISITOR CENTRE

Support Your Locals!

At the Visitor Centre we endeavour to support our community by stocking as many local products as we can. We have a lovely range of locally handmade soaps, olive oil, dukkah, pottery and wooden products, honey and preserves, plus books by local authors and art by local artists. Support your community – buy local!

If you are travelling overseas and wish to take some souvenirs with you, we have Bridgetown-branded souvenirs that don't weigh too much, too.

The Visitor Centre's hours are 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday, 10am - 3pm Saturday and 10am - 1pm Sunday.

So come on in, we love visitors!



Pampas grass is a Declared Pest Plant in the Shire of Bridgetown Greenbushes under their Pest Plant Local Law. This gives the Shire some powers to be able to enforce weed control on private land. The process is one of communication and education, and enforcement is a last resort.

Pampas grass is a hardy perennial that is showing a strong resurgence after a number of bush fires which have disturbed the country. Pampas does well in wet locations, disturbed areas, plantations, and creeklines.

Pampas has the ability to produce vast quantities of windborne seed; up to 100,000 seeds per flower head. It creates a fire hazard through the build-up of dead foliage within the plant clumps which may also harbour vermin. Once established it can be difficult to remove or eradicate.

Flower heads should be removed and bagged for disposal is the first step of controlling this plant. Fire can be a good method for destroying these. Mechanical removal of entire plants is the most effective form of permanent control. Removal of all root material is necessary to stop re-sprouting.

Chemical control can be achieved through the foliar application of an approved herbicide such as glyphosate. Always read and follow the label instructions, wear the appropriate protective clothing and avoid off-target damage through spray drift.

For further information contact the Shire's Environmental Officer or the Community Landcare Officer.

Pest Plant Local Law

There are a large number of invasive weeds which are spreading throughout the Warren Blackwood Region. Under the BAM Act the Local Government can declare a plant as a Pest Plant; such a plant must then be actively controlled within that defined district.

The Pest Plant Local Law is a component of the Shire's Weed Strategy.

The aim of declaring Pest Plants is to eradicate or prevent that species from infesting land across the Shire. Under the Local Law the Shire can declare weeds (Schedule 1 of the Local Law), and treat these weeds in the same manner as DAFWA address declared weeds. This gives the Shire some powers to be able to enforce weed control on private land. It is envisaged that there is a process of communication and education and that enforcement is a last resort.

The most cost effective, sustainable, and successful way to control weeds is to combine or integrate a number of different control methods. The method that is chosen needs to target the weed species when it is most vulnerable. Thus control programmes should effectively slow, stop, and eventually eradicate the targeted weed.

Integrated weed management is the combination of social, economic and technical approaches that lead to successful weed management. It involves the Shire, private landowners, and the community. Integrated weed management involves community education and involvement with any or all suitable control methods.

The mechanism of integrated weed control provides a framework to allow decisions for weed control priorities to be transparent. At a local and patch scale it is rare for a single approach to be adopted but rather a combination.

By targeting these declared pest plants the Shire is hopeful of slowing, stopping and eventually eradicating these known invasive weed species from the Shire.

For further information contact the Shire's Environmental Officer.

Pensioners pay for State limit on rates rebates

Starting from July, the State Government will impose a cap on the rebate pensioners will receive on their Local Government rates. Previously pensioners could claim up to half their rates back but from next month that has been limited to \$750.

The decision comes as part of the State Governments attempt to correct its poor financial position and is an indicator of tighter financial times ahead.

Government cost cutting is an accepted practice in response to tight economic conditions, but this decision ignores the fact that many pensioners have a

fixed income and will find it difficult to adapt to the change. This is not the fault of pensioners, who planned for the future in good faith based on the conditions that prevailed at the time of retirement. And yet, they are being asked to pick up the tab for the State's economic mismanagement.

Not surprisingly, the State isn't doing much to communicate these changes to affected residents. It may well be the State thinks it has the perfect smoke screen in that pensioners don't deal with the State but with the Local Government who claims the reimbursement on their behalf. A fact that can often be

missed by those reading their rates notice, as is the case with rates collected on behalf of the State such as the Emergency Services Levy. Whilst included on Council rates notices, these funds are gathered in behalf of and transferred to State Government and are used to fund State services such as fire stations, volunteer fire brigades, and State Emergency Services units. Similarly this rates concession, although provided as part of a rates notice is due to policy decisions made by the State.

- Exerpt from WALGA - Cr Lynne Craigie, WALGA President

Municipal Heritage Inventory Review

Council at the April 2016 meeting, noted the appointment of Annette Green from Greenward Consulting as a heritage advisor; supported renaming of the Shire's Municipal Inventory as the Municipal Heritage Inventory; and, adopted a Draft Assessment of Cultural Heritage Assessment Policy for the purpose of public consultation. The Policy is currently being advertised with written submission invited up to and including **Thursday 30 June 2016.**

Shire staff are continuing a comprehensive 'in-house' review of the Shire's Municipal Heritage Inventory (or MHI) as required under the Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990. The MHI is a comprehensive list of places and buildings that are considered to be of cultural heritage significance for the local community and its basic purpose is to:

- Provide a cultural and

historic record of the local district;

- Assist in determining local heritage conservation policies; and
- Provide information about local heritage that may be required under the Local Planning Scheme.

The review will provide updated and improved information about each place currently on the MHI. The review of current Bridgetown places is almost complete, and a review of current Greenbushes and Rural places is continuing. Additional places already nominated for inclusion in the MHI will then be assessed later in 2016, before being presented to Council for support.

All queries on the Municipal Heritage Inventory Review should be directed to Michelle Donaldson, Planning Administration Officer on 9761 1555 or mdonaldson@bridgetown.wa.gov.au.

Meet our Newest Member of Staff

Joseph Jones has recently joined the Shire team in the role of Human Resource Officer. Joseph has a wealth of knowledge having undertaken similar roles in the private sector as well as working for the Health Department. Originally from



Cornwall in the UK, Joseph applied for the position when it was advertised as he saw this as a 'life-style' opportunity of getting away from the city and allowing he and his wife Sasha to raise their children in a rural setting. The family have all embraced the move and have already acquired several pets.





Road Safety Message from the Roadwise Advisory Committee

Are You Ready for Winter Road Conditions

The storms that hit the South West Land Division during May were a timely reminder that winter has arrived. If you haven't had an opportunity to check the tyres and brakes on your motor vehicle or bike, now is a good time to do so to ensure your vehicle or bike is safe. For vehicles, also remember to check your windscreen wipers as these tend to perish from the heat during our summer months.

Up to the middle of May there had been 75 fatalities on Western Australian roads, 56 of which occurred on regional or rural roads. This is way too many and a sad time for families and communities that are mourning the loss of their loved ones.

Don't become another statistic, when driving during the winter months, turn on your lights during foggy, wet or overcast weather to ensure that vehicles travelling in the opposite direction can see you clearly; lower your speed and drive to the road and weather conditions; be aware that with the sun rising later and setting earlier this may affect your vision when driving to and from work.

Towards Zero Strategy

The Road Safety Commission's *Towards Zero* is Western Australia's road safety strategy for the period 2008 – 2020. *Towards Zero* aims to improve road safety through four cornerstones, being:

- Safe Road Use – improving road user behaviour
- Safe Roads and Roadsides – improving road infrastructure improvements
- Safe Speeds – ensuring speed limits and travel speeds are appropriate given the safety of the road infrastructure
- Safe Vehicles – improving the safety of the vehicles on the road.

Road Safety Commissioner, Kim Papalia stated "Over the past three decades, we have halved the number of road crash fatalities in Western Australia while our population has nearly doubled. Despite this, our performance compared to other Australian jurisdictions has recently dropped. When compared with a range of other nations, WA is an average performer in terms of deaths per 100,000 population. The situation on regional roads is similar to that in low-income developing nations. We do not and cannot accept the current level of death and injury. This strategy aims to deliver further substantial improvements."

Roadwise Committee Members

Do you know who the members of the Roadwise Advisory Committee are? There are representatives from several organisations within our Shire, with the current members being:

Cr Joann Moore (Chairman)

Cr Julia Boyle

Cr Peter Quinby

Chris Mott, Bridgetown Primary School

Kristine Williams, St Brigids School

Bec Carney, Bridgetown High School

Rob Brogan, Shire Support Officer

Mike Smith, Bridgetown Police

Doreen Hornby, Bridgetown VFRS

Erica Duffett, St John Ambulance

Mark Dent, St John Ambulance

Gail Hay, Bridgetown CWA

Lance Chambers, Community Member

Glen Norris, Shire Support Officer

The Committee also receives support from Roadwise South West and Main Roads WA.

Roadwise – caring for the safety of our community



Between the Lines *at your library*

"DO YOU KNOW?"

Every year, frequently asked questions and comments in the responses to the library user survey, show that some community members are unaware of the library opening hours, the extent of the services provided by the library, how the library system in Western Australia functions and how the Bridgetown Regional Library does its best to satisfy members' needs. Here are the answers to some common questions and comments:

Q. I didn't know about the Home Delivery service. How can I access it?

A. The Home Delivery service operates every second Tuesday to deliver books, DVD's and talking books to library members who are unable, due to health and mobility issues, to attend the library in person. This is a service for people who are permanently incapacitated, but if necessary deliveries can be arranged on a temporary basis whilst patrons are recovering from illness or injury. Volunteer drivers deliver items to Geegeelup Village, Geegeelup Hostel, Bridgetown Hospital and to private residences in Bridgetown. Currently there is no delivery to Greenbushes but this can be arranged if anyone is in need of the service. Contact the library to request delivery or to offer your services as a volunteer.

Q. The library hours are not long enough. You should open at night and on weekends.

A. The library is open on Thursday evenings until 7.00pm and on Saturday mornings between 9.00am and 12.00pm.

Q. No new titles/Not enough books/ need wider variety of books/ more current best sellers.

A. The State Library of Western Australia provides each public library with library items. Each month, Bridgetown receives a shipment of new items (currently about 120 per month). This shipment is divided between books, large print books, DVD's and talking books. It is also divided into three age categories, children, young adult and adult, and also there is a component of non-fiction and fiction. The fiction component must be spread across all the different genres. The library also has an annual budget allocation for the purchase of new titles and receives donations from members of the public. Again, these items are divided between relevant categories to ensure that all membership groups and all interests are catered for. So, although the library receives about 2,000 new items annually (2,340 in the 2015), they are spread throughout the library collection and it may not seem as if many new items are added to stock. For this reason the new adult fiction items receive a NEW BOOK sticker and the books are displayed for three months after they arrive to make it easy for library members to see them. Because the State Government budget for library items is limited, and the new items spread between all the public libraries in the State, it is possible to request additional titles via the inter-library loans system. See the question below.

Q. What are inter-library loans?

A. Although the State Library buys multiple copies of popular items, they cannot provide one item of everything that is published to all 232 public libraries in the state. The inter-library loans system mobilizes library resources and makes them available to any public library patron. If a patron requires a particular title or books by a particular author and they are listed in the State Library catalogue, we will arrange for the items to be sent to Bridgetown to satisfy the request. Once received the patron usually has four to six weeks to use the item before it is returned to the lending library. Requests can either be made online or by contacting the librarians who will initiate the requests on behalf of the patron. Obviously, with really popular new titles there may be many requests for the item and it may take some time for all the requests to be satisfied. In these cases the borrowing period may be shortened to allow requests to be met within a reasonable timeframe. Bridgetown Library patrons made 3,381 successful interlibrary loan requests in the 2014-2015 Financial Year.

Q. Meeting room would be much improved if a data projector and screen were available.

A. A data projector and screen are available on request.

Q. How can I make suggestions for items to be included in the library stock?

A. Patrons are always welcome to suggest current titles for addition to the library stock. Ask library staff for a suggestion slip. These titles are recorded and considered when selecting items from the library suppliers. Patrons need to be mindful that due to budgetary constraints, items added to the stock of the library must have wide appeal.

Survey – Opening Hours of Bridgetown Waste Disposal Site

Council often receives feedback from members of the public that the opening times of the Bridgetown Waste Disposal Site should be amended to better meet the demand from users.

Earlier this year a survey was conducted to determine if any changes to current opening times were required. A total of 53 survey responses were received of which an overwhelming majority of 44 supported the retention of the current opening hours of the facility.

The survey results were presented to Council and it was resolved that no changes to the current hours

should occur. Therefore the opening hours of the Bridgetown Waste Disposal site will remain as:

- Wednesday
7.30am-12.00pm (4.5 hours)
- Thursday
7.30am-12.00pm (4.5 hours)
- Friday
7.30am-11.00am (3.5 hours)
- Saturday
9.00am-4.00pm (7 hours)
- Sunday
9.00am-4.00pm (7 hours)

Fire safety in your home this winter

Winter sees an increase in fires in the home, often due to our need for heating appliances.



When heating your home:

- Make sure all items are at least a metre away from the heater
- Never leave heaters on in bedrooms, especially children's
- Heaters should be checked once a year to make sure they are in working order, worn out electrical cords and plugs should be replaced immediately
- Make sure your heater, fireplace brickwork, chimney and flue are clean before lighting the first fire of the year
- Guard open fires with a mesh screen to prevent sparks and logs rolling out and extinguish all flames and embers before going to bed or leaving the house
- Never leave children or animals unsupervised near heaters or open fires
- Always read the manufacturers instruction before using your electric blankets

It is important for you and your family to develop a Home Fire Escape Plan and practise it regularly.

Visit the DFES website at www.dfes.wa.gov.au

Contact DFES Community Engagement on 9395 9816.

Bushfires Are Your Legal Documents Safe? Get Prepared for next Bushfire Season

Further to articles in the February and April editions of the Insight, the Shire still has 40 "Bushfire Emergency USBs" available for eligible Age Pensioners or Seniors' card holders to enable important and legal documents to be scanned to them so that in the event that personal documents are lost due to fire, a back-up copy would be available.

Residents interested in obtaining one of the USBs should contact Glen Norris at the Shire Office on a Monday or Tuesday, or via email: gnorris@bridgetown.wa.gov.au

Roadside Spraying Program

The Shire's Parks & Garden crew will commence spraying Shire verges around the town sites in approximately two (2) weeks time, depending on weather conditions.

Anyone with concerns about the proposed spraying program should contact Derek Duffett on 0428 788 691.

Hampton Street Works

For a few months the asphalt surface of Hampton Street near its intersection with Steere Street has risen to create a trip hazard for pedestrians crossing the road. Main Roads Western Australia has advised the Shire that later this month (subject to suitable weather) they will be re-profile (cut back) the raised asphalt surface. Traffic management will be in place during the period of works.

Bridgetown Leisure Centre

Share of
Bridgetown-Greenbushes



TELL YOUR FRIENDS

Member Referral Program

20% off

When you renew
your membership
for 6 or 12 months!
*** Conditions apply**

Participating in our referral program is easy!
Refer a friend, family member or co-worker to the
Bridgetown Leisure Centre

Simply pick up a member referral card today,
fill in the blanks, and give it to someone who you
think would like our Centre

If they join up for a 6 or 12 month membership,
you may be rewarded



Refer a friend and be rewarded!

Referring Member:

Full Name: _____

Signature: _____

New Member:

Full Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Conditions apply please refer to
terms and conditions

Member Referral Program Terms & Conditions

- Referral Cards to be completed by current members only. Limit of 1 referral card per person. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.
- This program is for new guests and current members only.
- The referred individual cannot have been a previous member in the last 12 months.
- The referred individual must present a completed referral card upon their first visit and sign up for either a 6 or 12 month membership agreement for the member to receive their reward.
- The referring member will receive 20% discount when they renew their membership for either 6 or 12 months.