

Bridgetown Leisure Centre

Shire of
Bridgetown-Greenbushes




LET'S GET PERSONAL

Get the support you need to succeed!

- Personal training sessions individually tailored to your goals and fitness level
- Learn proper exercise techniques to avoid injury
- Exercise plans and nutritional guidance
- Ongoing motivation to help you reach your potential
- Single or multiple sessions available

For more information on personal training or gym memberships, contact the BLC on 9761 2966 or email recreation@bridgetown.wa.gov.au

INSIGHT

 **Bridgetown-Greenbushes Shire Newsletter**

October /November 2019

Council Election Results

The 2019 local government elections for the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes generated significant interest in our community. Elections were held in both North and South Wards with 11 candidates across both wards.

The results of the elections were:

Candidate	Votes	Percentage	Result
LINGANE, Dennis	89	17.49%	Unsuccessful
PRATICO, Tony	262	51.47%	Successful – 4 Year Term expiring 21 October 2023
MOORE, Joann	158	31.04%	Successful – 2 year Term expiring 16 October 2021

Candidate	Votes	Percentage	Result
QUINBY, Peter	622	14.45%	Successful – 4 Year Term expiring 21 October 2023
MACKMAN, Doreen	495	11.50%	Unsuccessful
NICHOLAS, John	574	13.33%	Successful – 2 year Term expiring 16 October 2021
CARROLL-NEWTON, Lani	278	6.46%	Unsuccessful
JOHNSON, Barbara	680	15.80%	Successful – 4 Year Term expiring 21 October 2023
IURETIGH, Anita	488	11.34%	Unsuccessful
MOUNTFORD, Jenny	776	18.03%	Successful – 4 Year Term expiring 21 October 2023
MATTHEWS, Andrew	392	9.11%	Unsuccessful

Continued page 3....

President's Word

Firstly, I would like to congratulate our new Councillors, Barbara Johnson, who was also elected Vice President, Peter Quinby, and Jenny Mountford on their election to Council, and returning Councillors Joann Moore and Tony Pratico. I would like to thank Councillors for their support in electing me to the position of Shire President.

It was made very clear to me that the community is seeking change and I will be working collaboratively with all Councillors to identify where change can be made that will bring benefit to all in the community.

I encourage all of you to contact your local Councillors to bring to their attention your suggestions and concerns so that they may be considered in this process. We will be making every effort to ensure that there is an improvement in communications between Council, the Shire and the community as a whole.

I am personally looking forward to the next two years as President and will do all that I can to deliver meaningful, collaborative and effective governance.

Finally, I would like to thank Councillor Pratico for his leadership over the last two years and express my thanks and that of all Councillors and to retiring Councillors Pat Scallan and Doreen Mackman for their contributions to Council and the community during their respective terms on Council.



Cr John Nicholas
JP, Shire President



A brief message from Past President, Cr Pratico ...	2
Community bus available for hire	2
Council Election Results - cont.....	3
The people have spoken!.....	4
Is your property Bushfire ready?	6
Save the date - Christmas in the Park	8
Be Bee Friendly	9
Visitor Centre volunteer opportunity.....	9
Changes to parking bays in Bridgetown.....	10
Between the Lines at your Library	11

Community Groups Stay in the Loop

The Shire's Community Services Administration Officer keeps a list of community group and club contacts. The Shire distributes information on grant funding and other opportunities that may benefit your group. Club committee members and contact details change from time to time.

To ensure you don't miss out on vital information from the Shire, please update your club's contact details with us. Send an email to rredman@bridgetown.wa.gov.au with the name of your committee and the one or two best contacts, including their name, role/title and email address. A postal address and phone number are also useful.

Community Bus available for hire

The Shire's Community Bus 'Miss Rosie' is available for hire by community groups, businesses and individuals for journeys around the south-west and beyond. The bus seats 20 including the driver.

The driver must hold a minimum current LR driver's licence – however an F-endorsed licence is required if the driver is transporting school children or receiving a reward for driving.

Bus hire fees:

- Booking fee (Includes administration and cleaning) \$50

Hire fees (per km driven)

- Stakeholder Groups \$0.90/km
- Community groups \$1.30/km
- Private Groups/Individuals/Businesses \$1.70/km
- A \$300 bond applies to all hires.

To book 'Miss Rosie' or find out more, call 9761 0800



A brief message from past President, Cr Tony Pratico



It has been an absolute pleasure serving as Shire President to our incredible community for the past 2 years. I had decided to not nominate for the position this term, to make room for another Councillor to experience the same honour.

The past two years have seen many fantastic projects get off the ground, the 150 Celebrations, the Bridle Trail, and the Commonwealth Games Baton Relay, just to name a few.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to my fellow Councillors for the hard work and effort they have put in, and to the community for your support. I wish Cr Nicholas all the very best in his new role as Shire President, congratulate our new Councillors and look forward to watching the community continue to grow.

SHIRE BYTES

Want to know about upcoming Shire events, special meetings, fire and weather alerts and more?

Email your details to
Tania Lockley at tlockley@bridgetown.wa.gov.au

Find us on Facebook

[https://](https://www.facebook.com/bridgetowngreenbushesshire/)

www.facebook.com/bridgetowngreenbushesshire/



Between the Lines *at your library*

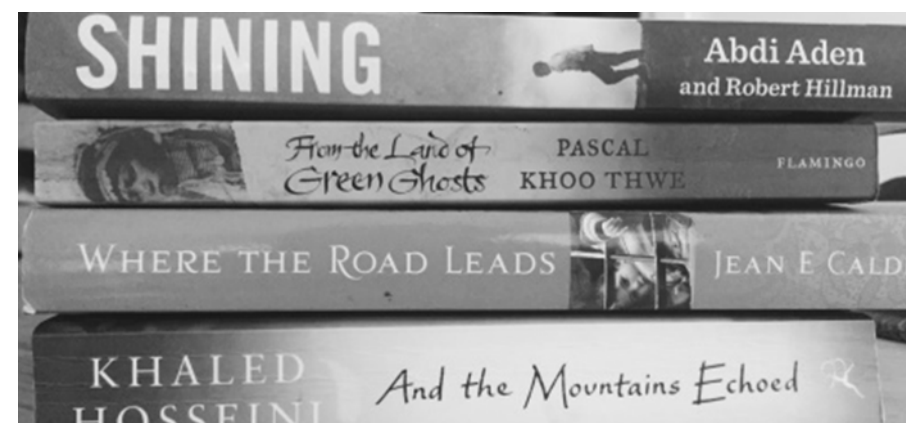
During July and August the Bridgetown Library ran a poetry contest for children under 16 years in conjunction with the Words in the Valley Readers & Writers Festival.

Children were asked to find book spines that sparked their interest & then to play with different combinations, like a puzzle to explore and create a poem, when viewing the spines directly. They were required to photograph it & send to the library. Well done to all who entered. Our winners have been announced...

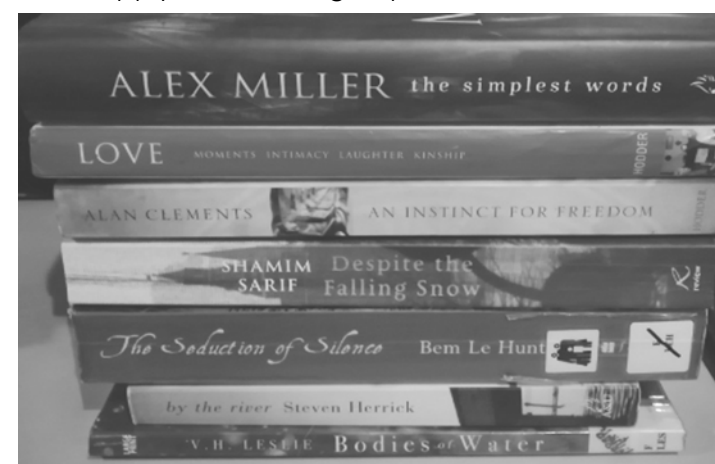
First Prize of the \$50 Community cash voucher, a journal & pen went to Kirralee Smither, aged 12 for her cutting edge poem -



Second prize of journal, pen & booklight went to Jirra Kitchener, aged 14 for his poetic verse -



Third prize of a journal, pen & booklight went to Lola Seppiyo for the longest poem -



We created a fourth prize for the best rhyming poem by Lizzie, Malissa & Sammi all aged 12, who spent a creative afternoon at the Bridgetown Library. They have won some Hot Chocolate & biscuit vouchers to use at the library.



Changes to parking Bays in Bridgetown

Recently new ACROD parking bays have been installed next to the lawyer's office in Hampton Street and in the lower level of the Civic Centre car park. With the new ACROD bays being installed the former infirm parking bays on Hampton Street and the upper level of the Civic Centre car park have been removed and replaced with ordinary parking bays.

These changes were the culmination of a 3 year parking review undertaken by Council. The review began as a result of a community consultation with seniors to develop the Age Friendly Community Plan, and included a number of complaints from infirm parking bay users regarding the difficulties associated with using those bays. Council's Access & Inclusion Committee, which contains a number of community representatives also advocated for the replacement of the infirm bays with proper ACROD parking bays.

The review identified a number of issues associated with the infirm parking bays;

- The infirm parking bays were exposing users and Council to risk as a result of the failure to meet Australian Standards required for disability parking bays. In particular, the standards relating to parallel parking (width, length, shared access area and kerbing/ramp requirements).
- Infirm parking bays were sign posted for people with disability (blue wheel chair) without the elements that provide for the safety of the users of ACROD parking bays, particularly those with mobility issues and/or wheel chairs.
- At the time of the review there were 6 active infirm parking permit holders entitled to use the infirm bays and 248 active ACROD parking permit holders who are entitled to use the infirm parking bays and ACROD parking bays.
- The same requirements and costs are necessary to obtain an infirm parking permit and an ACROD permit. ACROD permits can be used throughout Western Australia whereas infirm parking permits couldn't be used outside this Shire.

Council engaged an "Access and Inclusion" consultant to identify the best locations to install the ACROD parking bays. Due to its width Hampton Street isn't able to accommodate ACROD bays as the passing traffic is too close to the sides of the parking bays.

There are significant constraints which prohibit the installation of ACROD bays off the main street, as both car parks (behind IGA and the car park next to the bakery) and their pathway connections do not meet minimum standards for gradient.

There are now 7 ACROD parking bays managed by the Shire, 2 at the Bridgetown Leisure Centre, 1 at the Library, 2 in railway car park, 1 in Civic Centre car park and 1 adjacent to the lawyer's office in Hampton Street.

To compensate for the loss of infirm parking bays Council reduced the time limit for parking along the front of IGA from 2 hours to 1 hour to increase parking turnover and access to IGA. Council also reduced the time limit for the parking bays either side of the nib at the Northern end of IGA (old infirm bays outside of the Pharmacy and IGA)) from 2 hours to 20 minute parking to increase access for people with mobility issues that want to be close to IGA and the Pharmacy.

Access and inclusion and community safety is of the upmost importance to Council. Opportunities to install other ACROD bays in and around Hampton Street will continue to be assessed.



Council Election Results (continued from front page)

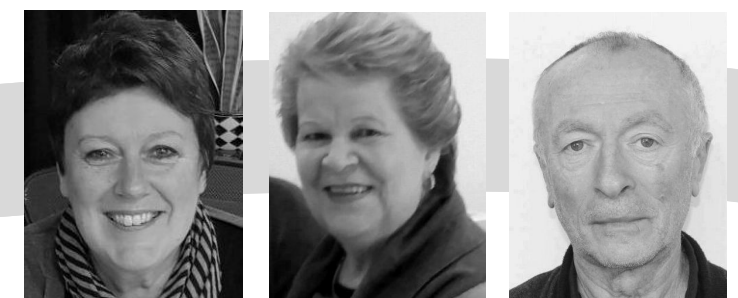
Congratulations to all candidates, both to those that were successful and also to those that were unsuccessful, for putting their hand up to seek the support of the electors of the Shire to represent the community.

The voting participation rate was similar in both wards – 44.76% in North Ward and 46.29% in South Ward. This is far in excess of the average across all local governments in Western Australia of approximately 27%. The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes has always had above-average voter participation in its elections with the 2017 elections having a turnout rate of 48.39% and in 2015 a turnout rate of 39.41%. This reflects the interest our community has in the work of the council.

Pat Scallan tended his resignation prior to the 2019 election, ending a 18 year term as councillor for the North Ward, and opening a 2 year term for this election. Pat made an incredible contribution to council over this long period with particular highlights being his chairmanship of the Audit Committee, Shire representation on the Regional Road Group, contribution to the development of trails within the Shire and contributions to many projects and initiatives in Greenbushes and across the Shire.

Doreen Mackman served on council for 8 years and was always a strong advocate for the community. Doreen was a strong contributor to Council including in her role as a member of the Sustainability Advisory Committee, Access and Inclusion Committee and CEO Performance Review Committee.

Introducing and welcoming our three new faces to Council; Cr Jenny Mountford, Cr Barbara Johnson and Cr Peter Quinby



Election of Shire President and Deputy President

A Special Meeting of Council was held on Monday 21 October, 2019 to swear in our newly elected Councillors and to elect the President and the Deputy President for the 2019-2021 term of office. Congratulations are extended to Cr John Nicholas, elected to the position of President and Cr Barbara Johnson elected to the position of Deputy President.



FREE

Online Food Safety Training

Now available through the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes website.

The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes takes food hygiene within our shire very seriously. All food businesses have obligations and the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes is assisting food businesses to meet these obligations by providing free access to this exciting new training tool.

There is a high demand for training within the food sector. This training will assist food handlers in developing the required skills and knowledge to ensure food is handled in a safe and hygienic manner.

The program is easy to follow, includes an entertaining presentation as well as interactive quizzes and the ability to view Chinese text and captions. A training acknowledgement form can be printed upon completion and be kept as a part of your staff records.

Visit www.bridgetown.imalert.com.au to conduct the training now.

The people have spoken!

2019's People & Places exhibition was a resounding success, with 50% more entries than the previous year and an increased pool of prize money with a total of \$6,000 on offer. Throughout the exhibition, visitors voted on their favourite pieces in each category. People & Places will be back in 2020 – so artists, start thinking about entries for next year!

The winners of the People's Choice awards are:

John Sanders – The Evolution of Horses

Sculpture category winner - \$250 prize sponsored by Clovers Store

David Barrett – Clearance Sale at Winnejup

Photography category winner - \$250 prize sponsored by Noel Holdsworth

Barbara Maumill – Palgarup Dawn

Landscape category winner - \$250 prize sponsored by Talison Lithium

Nic Fabiszak – Familiar Faces

Portrait category winner - \$250 prize sponsored by Rotary Club of Bridgetown

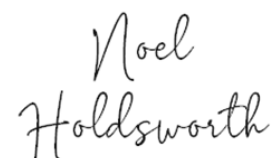
Lola Seppiyo – Time Flies in My Grandma's Eyes

Youth category winner - \$250 prize sponsored by Blackwood Valley Arts Alliance

Those who were at the exhibition's opening night may remember that the judges elected not to award prizes in the Youth Portrait and Youth Landscape categories, which had one and two entries respectfully. In light of this decision, the sponsors for those categories decided to use the prize money to acknowledge and reward those students who did enter, while also encouraging more young people to enter the exhibition in coming years.

Artistic Achievement awards (and a cash prize) were presented to the following students in recognition of their courage to put themselves and

Finally, thank you to the sponsors for supporting our local artists and for making the exhibition possible:



their artwork out there for everyone to see:

Portrait category: Lola Seppiyo (year 10)

Landscape category: Cadel Brown (year 6) and Alana Dixon (year 8)

Congratulations again to all the winning artists and to all who entered on an outstanding exhibition – we can't wait to see what you come up with next year!

Thank you to the volunteers who assisted with running the event, and to the venues and their owners who made the exhibition a success and helped draw visitors to our town: Jenny Mountford at The Rabbit Hole, and Pip and Bevan at Bridgetown Pottery.



Lola Seppiyo and her winning portrait with Jacqui Jones (Rotary) and Jenny Mountford (BVAA)



Nic Fabiszak's winning portrait, Familiar Faces, took out the Portrait People's Choice prize.



Greenbushes to Bridgetown Shopping Bus Run

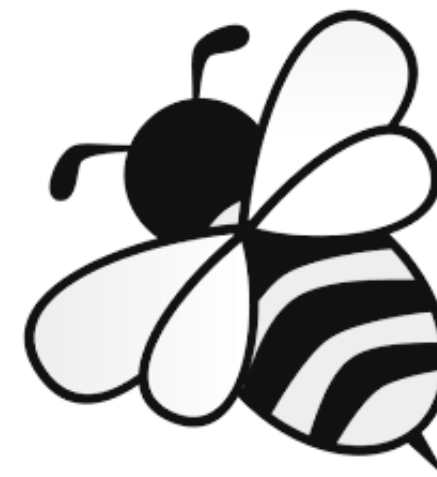
The Community Bus "Miss Rosie" shopping run service continues to operate on alternative Tuesdays from Greenbushes to Bridgetown and return. This service is available at a cost of \$8 to anyone living in Greenbushes who would like to come to Bridgetown for the morning – shopping, medical appointments,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

The bus run operates every second Tuesday departing Greenbushes Roadhouse at 9.00am and departs Bridgetown for her return journey from outside Blackwood Butchers at 11.30am. Parcels may be deposited in the bus anytime between arrival and departure, so heavy shopping does not have to be carried.

Scheduled Dates **29 October, 12 November, 26 November, 10 December**

The Greenbushes Shopping Run service will recommence in January 2020.

For more information please contact Rebecca Redman at the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes Community Services Department on 9761 0800.



Be Bee Friendly

One in three bites of the food we eat depends on bees. Why should bees be special? Poor bee nutrition and insecticides are already depleting bee populations but now a parasite, the Varroa mite, is carrying bee-killing diseases that are completely wiping out hives. Luckily we do not yet have this mite in Australia, but it is only a matter of time. Such is the effect of this mite that in China the native bee is so few that farmers now painstakingly hand-pollinate crops. Pollination occurs through insects (such as the bee), wind, birds, and bats transferring pollen in the flower so that the flower can then produce a fruit. Grains are usually wind pollinated but fruit, vegetables, and coffee are insect (bee) pollinated.

Doing your bit for bees is as simple as planting more bee friendly flowering plants, not using any chemicals (pesticides and herbicides) and buying local honey. Bees are attracted to some flowering plants more than others (ask at nurseries). Reducing the use of chemical fertilizers and all "icides" will also have a positive effect on soil organisms (microbiome) that will improve plant health and help the insect pollinators that we rely upon for pollination.

And we can then continue to enjoy the diverse range of food that we need to survive.



Visitor Centre Volunteer Opportunity

Are you passionate about Bridgetown, Greenbushes and the amazing things we have to offer visitors and locals? If yes, you might like to explore the opportunity of volunteering at the Visitor Centre.

We are looking for friendly, outgoing, enthusiastic people who enjoy interacting with others and would provide high quality customer service in supporting our Visitor Centre staff. Competency with computers is required, along with local knowledge.

Volunteer induction and training are provided. To obtain an information pack for volunteering with the Shire, please ask at the Visitor Centre.

Save the date!



The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes
presents

'Christmas in the Park'

Friday 13 December - 4.30pm to 7.00pm
Memorial Park, Bridgetown

More details coming soon!

Stallholder applications available,
please email Tania Lockley
tlockley@bridgetown.wa.gov.au



Morning Tea for Seniors in Greenbushes

Tasty Edibles in Greenbushes was "standing room only" when community members from across the Shire attended Council's annual Seniors Morning Tea on 4 of September. Run by Council's Access and Inclusion Committee, the annual morning tea was a great success. The annual morning tea is always a fantastic way for people to network with each other and chat with Counsellors, local service providers and committee members. This year was no different.

Cecilia Aldridge, the co-ordinator from Community Home Care, gave a very informative and interactive presentation which encouraged a lot of discussion about home care packages and access to home care support. The Access and Inclusion Committee will follow up on community feedback by organising more information sessions on home care packages over the next 6 months with the support of local service providers. Keep an eye out on the Shire Facebook Page and Insight for dates and times in Bridgetown and Greenbushes.

Another regular occurrence at the Seniors' Morning Tea is the "Question for Council" forms offered as a way for community members to provide feedback to Council. Several of these were received and are currently being addressed.

This year a larger number of people from Bridgetown and surrounding areas attended the Greenbushes morning tea. This was great to see as the Seniors' Morning Tea is a whole of community event that alternates each year between Bridgetown and Greenbushes. Many community members arrived on the community bus (Miss Rosie), provided by Council for community members to attend the annual event.



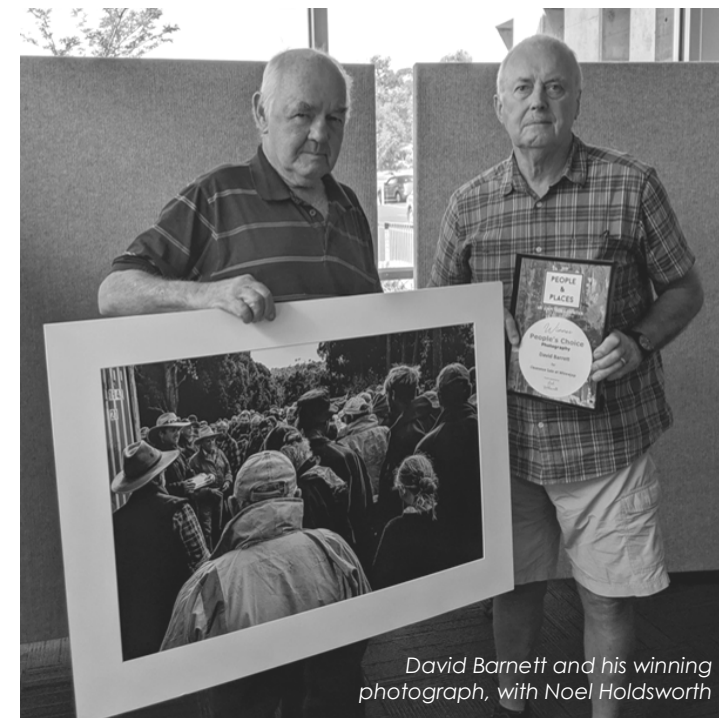
Tidy Towns

Sustainable Communities

Bridgetown is a Tidy Towns Finalist in the Community Action and Wellbeing Category.

Nominated for the suite of community events and activities that made up the Bridgetown's 150th celebrations in 2018, Bridgetown was considered by the judges to be a strong contender in the category for a community-driven project that also included sustainable and ongoing outcomes, like the art trail and film festival.

Stay tuned for news on the judges' verdict in the coming months.



David Barnett and his winning photograph, with Noel Holdsworth



Barbara Maumill with her winning landscape, Palgarup Dawn, and Craig Dawson (Talison Lithium)



John Sanders' sculpture *The Evolution of Horses* (below) won the People's Choice vote – pictured with Jacqui Jones (Clovers Store)



Is Your Dog or Cat Registered?

Residents are reminded that dog and cat registrations are due annually on 1 November. There are 3 payment categories – "1 Year"; "3 Years" or "Lifetime" with concessions being available for eligible Pensioners.

It would be appreciated if pet owners could advise the Shire office if their registered dog or cat is deceased to enable the Shire's records to be updated.

For further information on registering your dog or cat please speak to one of our helpful Customer Services Officers on 9761 0800.



IS YOUR PROPERTY

BUSHFIRE READY?

Bushfire Preparation

Are you aware that your home phone, computer or other electronic devices connected to the NBN will not work if there is a power failure during an emergency?

This means you may not be able to call 000 to access emergency services from your home phone or receive an emergency alert or warning message.

For further information regarding the NBN during a power outage please visit the NBN website at <https://www.nbnco.com.au/learn/what-happens-in-a-power-blackout/emergencies-and-outages>

Also visit the Fire Chat website at <https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/firechat/Pages/default.htm> and use the Bushfire Preparation Toolkit to prepare your property and create a plan that outlines what you will do if a bushfire occurs.

Is your Property Bushfire Compliant?

All plantations are required to be compliant with the requirements of the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes 2019/20 Firebreak and Fuel Hazard Reduction Notice by **1 November 2019**. All other properties are to be compliant by **15 November 2019**.

From these dates Rangers will be commencing property inspections to check for compliance and property owners that haven't carried out the necessary hazard reduction works run the risk of receiving a \$250 infringement and/or a work order requiring additional works to be carried out.

All property owners will have received a copy of the 2019/20 Firebreak and Fuel Hazard Reduction Notice with their rates notice. If you have misplaced your copy it can be viewed on the Shire website at https://www.bridgetown.wa.gov.au/Profiles/bridgetown/Assets/ClientData/Documents/2019-2020_Firebreak_Order.pdf



YOU CAN'T OUTRUN IT, OR OUTLAST IT.
SO TAKE 5 MINUTES TO OUTSMART IT.

ARE YOU
BUSHFIRE
READY?

FUEL HAZARD REDUCTION & RESTRICTED/PROHIBITED BURNING

Fuel Hazard Reduction – 2019-20 Fire Season

Owners and occupiers of land in the Shire should have by now received their 2019-20 Firebreak and Fuel Hazard Reduction Notice. It is important that the notice is read and understood as there have been several changes to requirements this year, including the addition of a new category for properties of 0.5 hectares (5000m²) or less.

Change to Restricted Burning Period dates

Due to weather conditions, the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer has given notice that the Restricted Burning Period will commence in the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes from Friday 18 October 2019. This means that all fires lit from 18 October require a permit from a Fire Control Officer.

Furthermore, a ban on lighting up any pile of green waste larger than 2 cubic metres in size, or any harvested plantation is prohibited under section 46 of the Bush Fires Act, is effective from 11 October 2019 until lifted. Exemptions to this clause apply where burn offs are undertaken by a prescribed fire agencies approved by the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes.

Unless notice is otherwise given, **the Prohibited Burning Period will commence on 15 December**. No permits to burn will be issued during the Prohibited Burning Period.

For more information, please refer to the 2019-20 Firebreak and Fuel Hazard Reduction Notice which came with your rates notice, or pick one up from the Shire Administration Office.

Closure of Commonwealth Bank in Bridgetown

The recent decision of the Commonwealth Bank to close its Bridgetown branch has been met with considerable disappointment in our community as the presence of the Commonwealth Bank in Bridgetown has been long and significant.

After the decision was announced the Shire communicated with the bank's national manager for regional banking, requesting a review of the decision and advising that if closure proceeds the Shire, despite being a long-term customer of the Commonwealth Bank, will initiate a change in its banking provider. The alternative banking arrangement proposed via Australia Post will not suit our circumstances, and the other alternative of attending the Manjimup branch some 35km away is also not practical.

In asking for a review of the decision advice was provided on recent and forecast population growth and the significance of tourist related expenditure, particularly cash expenditure.

It is recognised that banking is changing and less customers rely on branches and even ATMs for cash banking. However cash transactions are still a common transaction for retail businesses and those businesses need a local bank branch to deposit that money.

In our communications with the bank we indicated that there exists a "buy local" philosophy in our community and this could influence whether people chose to conduct their banking out of town.

Notwithstanding our preference was for the Bridgetown branch to remain open a fall back position was also proposed, noting the Commonwealth Bank's ownership of Bankwest. Our suggestion was for the Commonwealth Bank to utilise the existing Bankwest branch in Bridgetown to provide banking services from both banks from the same building. We suggested that a trial could be conducted in Bridgetown to determine if a co-location model for both banks can work, utilising the same staff in a co-badged branch. Such a model could also have secured the viability of the local Bankwest branch in this era of digital banking.

Unfortunately the Commonwealth Bank's response was that it hadn't any intention of reviewing its decision to close the Bridgetown branch and as the Commonwealth Bank and Bankwest are run as separate banking entities with different banking platforms the Shire's suggestion to co-locate the two banks wasn't possible.