



“Wishing everyone a safe and happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year”

~ Councillors and Shire Staff

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.

Important information during a Fire Emergency

During a fire emergency all residents and landowners are encouraged to listen to ABC radio as it is the official emergency broadcast station.

Local AM frequencies are 588, 684 and 1044.

Visit: www.areyouready.wa.gov.au

INSIGHT

Bridgetown-Greenbushes Shire Newsletter
December/January 2020



The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes
presents

‘Christmas in the Park’

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

*Featuring ~ Santa, Mr Scoop n Serve,
Giant Water Slide, Bouncy Castles,
Lions Sausage Sizzle!*

(Don't forget bathers, towel and warm clothes)



President's Word

I had the pleasure of attending the Youth Awards on 15th of November and I want to again congratulate all the nominees and winners of the awards. I feel this community is in good hands just looking at, and listening to, the stories of this fine group of young people.

I also had the opportunity to visit the Agricultural Show at the invitation of the Committee, and I wish to express my appreciation to them for that invitation. Again, there was a wide array of events, displays and information for all attendees. My congratulations to all the prize winners who made such a great effort with their products and livestock. Keep-up the great work and let's see this event thrive and grow into the future.

With summer now here and the threat of bushfire always evident I urge everyone to be extremely careful during this time of increased threat, and ask that you remain vigilant in following any bush fire warnings that are issued.

With Christmas just around the corner I would like to wish everyone a Happy and Peaceful Christmas period and a safe and enjoyable New Year. If you are intending to drive during the festive season, take care and return safely.

Help to support your local businesses by buying those Christmas presents, food and drinks locally. Remember to, "Grow your community, Buy local".



*Cr John Nicholas
JP, Shire President*



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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



AUSTRALIA DAY BREAKFAST



& our Journey to Reduce Waste

Sunday 26 January ~ 7.30am

NEW VENUE

Memorial Park, Bridgetown

2020 ~ we're changing it up AGAIN!

*Join us at Memorial Park for our annual free brekkie ~
bacon & egg roll or sausage in a roll (vegan option
available) ~ wrapped in paper*

*We encourage everyone to bring their own bowls,
cups and cutlery for cereal, juice, tea and
coffee and help us reduce waste!*

The morning will include an *Australian Citizenship Ceremony* and the presentation of the prestigious *Community Australia Day Awards* so come along and enjoy a free breakfast prepared and cooked by your Councillors. There will be a cold water wash station to give your crockery a rinse.

The *Grow Greenbushes Committee* will also host an 'Aussie Breakfast' with this being held in Thomson Park commencing at 7.00am.

Between the Lines at your library

Supporting a better beginning for you and your child

Better Beginnings was developed by the State Library of Western Australia as a family literacy program that supports parents as their child's first teacher. The program is based on strong partnerships with public libraries, local governments, health professionals and schools to:

- build awareness in the whole community of the value of reading and sharing stories with young children from birth;
- encourage and support parents in sharing books and activities that foster language and a love of reading with their young children; and
- promote the vital role of public libraries as community hubs that provide ongoing support to parents and caregivers in giving their children a love of reading.

Through Better Beginnings, we want every child to have the wonderful and very important experience of sharing books and stories with the adults in their life right from the time they are born. Better Beginnings supports parents in reading to children so that they build the early literacy skills they need to become good readers and succeed at school.

As a parent, reading to your young child is one of the most important things you can do to build the skills they need to learn to read and do well at school. The stronger a child's literacy skills – and the more they are encouraged to read – the better chance they have to explore new ideas and pursue their interests. The more a child reads the more options they have as they grow. Children learn to read from being read to and from watching their parents read. Better Beginnings aims to develop literacy skills in young children through fostering a love of books and language by:

- Introducing children to developmentally appropriate books and language activities through free books and reading packs to parents of newborns and children beginning kindergarten and preschool.
- Supporting parents as their child's most important teacher in modelling early literacy practices by providing interactive literacy and parenting information sessions.
- Raising awareness of the value and pleasure of reading. Linking families to the resources and services that libraries offer people of all ages.

Since its launch in 2005, Better Beginnings has reached over 250,000 families throughout Western Australia. Join us and become a Better Beginnings family today. Contact the Bridgetown Library on 9761 2503 or library@bridgetown.wa.gov.au or call in and see us at 75 Steere Street, Bridgetown. Check out the Better Beginnings programs online <https://www.better-beginnings.com.au/programs>

The Library runs Rhyme Time for Babies every Wednesday during school term at 10am, contact the Library for more information.



Find us on Facebook

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

www.facebook.com/bridgetowngreenbushes/



BRIGHT SPARKS SCRUB UP FOR 'YOUTH AWARDS' DINNER

On Friday 15 November, the second annual Bridgetown-Greenbushes Youth Awards Dinner was held at Emporium Bistro. Shire Councillors joined the Youth Leadership team in recognising 10 nominees across four categories. Each nominee was chosen for their outstanding achievements in, or contribution to, a specific field. Nominations were submitted by educators, coaches and club members, community group members and individuals.

Shire President, John Nicholas remarked that the calibre of the individuals nominated bodes well for the Shire. "The future of our area is in good hands," he said. The nominations were considered by the Shire's Youth Leadership Team. The Shire's Youth Officer Stuart Redman said that the team took the process of selecting the Award winners very seriously.

"Each nomination was individually considered on its own merits. Every nominee was outstanding and

deserving of recognition, but winners had to be selected. In the end, each winner was chosen because of their dedication, persistence and contribution to their field," he said.

The fifth Award category, Leadership in Technology, received no nominations this year.

Thanks go to all the nominators who put forward nominees for the awards; parents, friends, teachers and supporters of the nominees who came to celebrate the evening; Shire Councillors for their support of the awards and youth activities in Bridgetown-Greenbushes; and to Emporium Bistro for providing wonderful food and beverages for the evening.

Attention now turns to next year's Youth Awards. Members of the community are encouraged to keep an eye out for potential nominees for next year. Nominations will open in September 2020.

If any young people aged 12-18 wish to join the Youth Leadership Team, please get in contact with the Shire. We're looking for dedicated, enthusiastic individuals to help the Shire to be a more inclusive and enjoyable place for young people to live and thrive.

2019 Bridgetown-Greenbushes Youth Awards Nominees & Winners

Leadership in the Arts
Sophie Boswell
Lola Seppiyo – winner

Leadership in Sport
Mikaela Fairman
Eli Holdsworth
Jordan O'Brien - winner
Lewis Richings - winner

Leadership in the Community
Jay Tonai-Moore
Blair Bermingham - winner

Challenge & Change Award
Josh Scovell
Crystal Lynch - winner



Nominees and Winners - Back L to R - Jay Tonai-Moore, Shire President Cr John Nicholas, Eli Holdsworth, Lewis Richings, Jordan O'Brien and Blair Bermingham
Front L to R - Sophie Boswell, Lola Seppiyo, Mikaela Fairman, Josh Scovell and Crystal Lynch



Youth Leadership Team - L to R - Isabelle Lockley, Liam Donaldson, Ella Richards, Shire President Cr John Nicholas, Jay Tonai-Moore, Blake Munday, Louis Meagher, Seb Doust and Shire Youth Officer, Stuart Redman



Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities



Bridgetown was recently announced the 2019 winner of the Community Action and Wellbeing category of the State Tidy Towns Awards. Nominated for the community sesquicentenary celebrations that took place in 2018, Bridgetown was recognised for the collaborate effort involved in undertaking the large scale celebration designed to bring together the "past, present and future" of Bridgetown.

The nominated project was the Suite of Events delivered in 2018 to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of Bridgetown's Gazettal.

These events were created, co-ordinated and delivered by community members Pip Mills, Adrian Elder, Jenny Wright, Tessa Dittrich, Harold Thomas and Councillors Tony Pratico, Alan Wilson and Julia Boyle. Unfortunately none of the committee members were able to attend the Awards ceremony. The Shires' Executive Manager Community Services, Elizabeth Dennis, attended to accept the Award on their behalf.

There were six other entrants in this category and the judges' comments included:

A Community Group was formed to help Bridgetown celebrate 150 years since the town was gazetted. The celebration theme was "What it means to call Bridgetown home". The committee consisted of community members, Councillors and Shire staff.

The group planned a series of events to be held over the year, sought funding and technical expertise. Students were engaged in event generation. This was clearly a community-driven project bearing in mind sustainable outcomes such as building on the art trail, music and film festivals.

Pictured - Executive Manager Community Services Elizabeth Dennis receives the Community Action and Wellbeing Award on behalf of Bridgetown.

The Town Hall Revitalization Project

The Shire has recently submitted two grants, one with Lotterywest and another with the South West Development Commission in the latest Regional Economic Development funding program to revitalize the Town Hall and Civic Centre. The Shire has been recently notified by Lotterywest that the application for a sum of \$204,000 for renovations to the town hall was successful. The Shire is now waiting to hear from the South West Development Commission regarding funding before beginning to plan for the commencement of the Town Hall Revitalization project.

The intention of the Town Hall Revitalization project is to revive the heritage of the Bridgetown Town Hall and Civic Centre, restoring it to its former glory with the addition of modern technology and servicing. This will result in the development of a Civic Centre and performance venue capable of hosting a range of contemporary visual and performance art events, gallery style exhibitions and conference events. The revitalized Town Hall and Civic Centre will also provide a state of the art facility to comfortably fulfil community and civic uses whilst maintaining its historical importance and heritage values.

Community members will be kept up to date on the progress of this important project through Facebook and the Insight. Please feel free to contact Megan on 9761 0800 regarding any enquiries relating to this project.

SEEKING TRAIL BLAZERS

Trails are considered a unique community asset, creating economic, social and environmental value for local community members and visitors to the region. We are seeking community members with an interest in trails development to join the Trails Development Advisory Committee. Becoming a member of this Committee provides members with an opportunity to support the local community and be involved in the development of trails throughout the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes.

Over the last year the Trails Development Advisory Committee have worked on or completed the following projects;

- The Birdlife WA brochure,
- The Walk Trail Booklet,
- Jarrah Park signage upgrade,
- The Warren Blackwood Stock Route,
- Maintenance of current walk trails and
- The Geegelup Mountain Bike Trails Network.

If you are interested in working with a passionate group of trails enthusiasts to develop trails opportunities within the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes please send an email to tclynch@bridgetown.wa.gov.au and nominate to be included on the Trails Development Advisory Committee.

Gym Expansion Update

The construction of the gym extension is well underway, despite some initial delays due to unforeseen site preparation and earth work challenges. The project is officially due for completion in March 2020, however if things continue to go as well as they have since then, an official opening in February is looking likely.

Staff at the BLC are busy organising the official opening which will include the opportunity for everyone to explore the expanded facility and new equipment, learn how to safely use the equipment, explore membership options and be in the running for some great prizes. The date will be advertised as soon as possible in the New Year.

Bridgetown Leisure Centre

The Bridgetown Leisure Centre Swimming Pool opened this Season on the 2nd of November. Despite the cold weather we had an impressive turnout of 168 people over the weekend. Thanks to everyone who came and embraced the chilly weather in true Bridgetown fashion.

This year we are happy to announce the continuation of aqua aerobics, swimming lessons and swim club. A new Master Swim Club for adults is also available this season. We have a new alfresco area which has been receiving many favourable reviews from customers. As always, George the inflatable Caterpillar is ready for another season of fun and we look forward to seeing everyone down at the pool over the summer.

Casual pool entry costs \$6.20 for adults or \$3.60 for children. Concession card holders receive a 10% discount on entry fees, and you can gain additional savings on either a 10 entry pass or season memberships. Call the friendly team at the BLC on 9761-2966 for more information regarding programs and entry fees.



Greenbushes Shopping Run

The Greenbushes to Bridgetown Community Bus service operates every second Tuesday from Greenbushes to Bridgetown and return. This service is available at a cost of \$8.50 to anyone in Greenbushes who would like to come to Bridgetown for the morning – shopping, medical appointments, whatever you need! Parcels and shopping may be stored on the bus during the trip.

9am: Service departs Greenbushes Roadhouse towards Bridgetown.

11:30am: Service departs from across the road to The Barking Cow, returning to Greenbushes.

Cost: \$8.50 return (cash only)

For any queries regarding the Greenbushes Shopping Run, please contact Rebecca Redman at the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes Community Services Department on 9761 0800.

Special Christmas Eve Bus Run

A festive Christmas Eve Shopping Run will occur on Tuesday 24 December at the usual times and stops.

Join the regulars for Christmas lollies and maybe a song or two as we wrap up 2019 in festive style. This is the perfect opportunity to pick up last minute gifts, food and drinks from Bridgetown for Christmas – or simply come along for the trip and enjoy a coffee and chat.

2020 TIMETABLE

January	7, 21
February	4, 18
March	3, 17, 31
April	14, 28
May	12, 26
June	9, 12
July	7, 21
August	4, 18
September	1, 15, 29
October	13, 27
November	10, 24
December	8, 22

Let's Move

The Community Services Team have recently applied for funding from the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries to provide more opportunities for community members across all age groups and physical abilities to become more active. The plan is to provide something for everyone and help us all get involved!

If we receive the funding, Let's Move will be an expansion of term programs. Each term program will be offered as a "pilot" to allow each program to be assessed in terms of its popularity and sustainability. The focus during the development of each term program will be increasing participation in active recreation and /or sport, healthy lifestyle choices, partnerships with community and sporting groups and creating and exploring healthy environments. The pilots will be developed in consultation with community members, so please keep an eye out for opportunities to get involved.



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 to volunteer at the Visitor Centre.

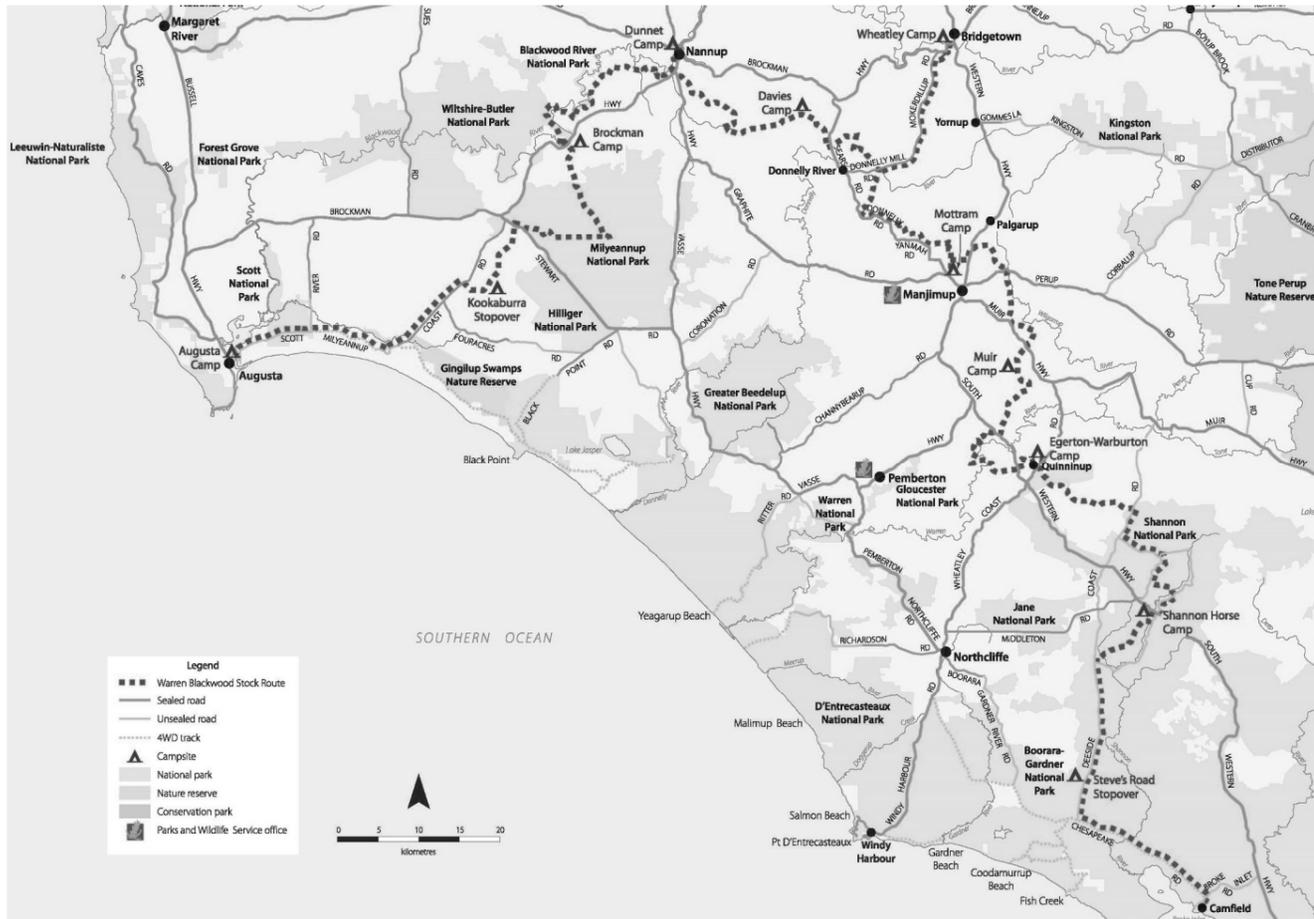
We are looking for friendly, outgoing, enthusiastic people who enjoy interacting with others and would provide high quality customer service in supporting our Visitor Centre staff. Competency with computers is required along with local knowledge.

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

Warren Blackwood Stock Route Possible Augusta Extension

The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes is working closely with the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River on a proposal to extend the Warren Blackwood Stock Route from Scott River in the Shire of Nannup along Mileannup Coast Road and Scott River Road into East Augusta.

The proposed extension will include the installation of a campsite on Shire land in East Augusta. This proposal offers the perfect opportunity to complete the trail near the coast at Broke Inlet in Augusta and results in a 360km marked and signed bridle trail with 9 horse friendly camp sites (including shelter, horse yards, toilet and water) and 2 informal stop-overs. Interpretive signage is expected to be installed in late December 2019.



Council Meeting Dates for 2020

Members of the Bridgetown-Greenbushes community are invited to attend Council Meetings during 2020. Meetings commence at 5.30pm and those attending have an opportunity to address Council during the 'Public Question Time' segment.

All meetings are held in the Council Chambers except the December Council Meeting which will be held in Greenbushes.

30.1.20	27.2.20	26.3.20	30.4.20	28.5.20	25.6.20
30.7.20	27.8.20	24.9.20	29.10.20	26.11.20	17.12.20

Agendas will be available for inspection from the Library and the Shire website 4 days prior to Meetings.

Shire Facilities – Christmas/New Year Shut Down

Our facilities will be closed during the Christmas/New Year holiday period as follows:

Facility	First Day Closed	Day Re-Opened
Admin Offices	Wednesday 25 December	Thursday 2 January
Library	Wednesday 25 December	Thursday 2 January
Leisure Centre *	Wednesday 25 December	Thursday 26 December
Visitor Centre	Wednesday 25 December	Thursday 26 December
Shire Depot	Friday 20 December	Tuesday 7 January
Bridgetown Waste Facility	Closed Christmas Day and New Years Day	

* Fitness classes will not be available from 20 December until 6 January 2020 – Leisure Centre facilities will be open except for the dates listed above

Shelter found at Visitor Centre for meaningful sculptures

The Shire's newest art acquisition is now on display in Bridgetown.

Constructed from historic roof shingles salvaged from Bridgetown's Bridgedale House, the two figures – titled Human Shelter, His and Hers – stand proudly in the window at the Visitor Centre.

After taking the opportunity to salvage half a ton of Westralian Sheoak roof shingles during Bridgedale's restoration, artist Tony Davis discovered they were in very sound condition considering they had spent 50 years under the sun and rain. Once redressed and sealed, the shingles were restored to their original beauty and became the basis of the sculptures.

An exploration on the theme of "shelter" the pair of figures, a male and a female, play on the tension between the softness of the human form and the static nature of the timber shingles. The two forms, in context with one another, retain the sublime dynamic of male and female despite the hard, static materials from which they are constructed.

Originally displayed at Sculpture by the Sea in Cottesloe back in 2011, the pieces were listed for auction at Donnelly Auction House earlier this year. The pieces were formerly owned by Sol Raiter, an esteemed

optometrist and private art collector.

The deceased estate auction was advertised and came to the attention of Pip Mills. Knowing the significance of the sculptures to Bridgetown's history, Pip knew the opportunity to acquire the pieces could not be lost. With just four days until the auction, a coordinated effort by Pip brought about a series of financial contributions. The then Shire President Tony Pratico agreed to commit the President's annual art acquisition budget of \$1,000 to the cause. Another patron of the arts donated \$2,000, then another patron came forward with \$1,000. A final donation of \$250 gave a total of \$4,250 to be bid on the sculptures – enabling the effort to make competitive bids on auction day.

On the day of the auction, Pip was bidding remotely from Bridgetown but had contacts in the room at the auction house. Other bidders had expressed interest in purchasing the pieces but, when they heard the Shire and community where the shingles originated was seeking to purchase them, all but one pulled out of the bidding.

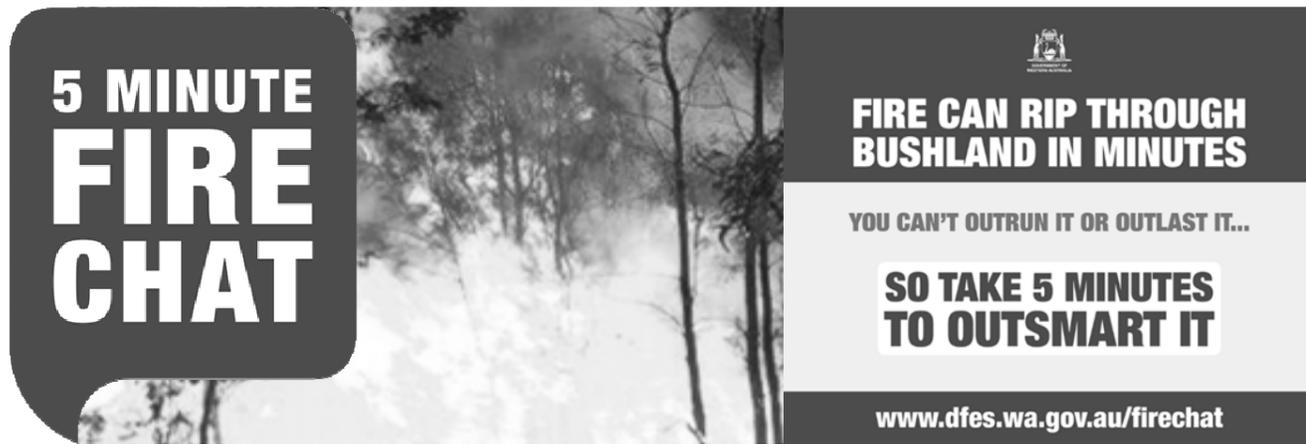
The auction began and bidding was on between the Bridgetown effort and the other interested party.

With the knowledge that Bridgetown's collaborative fundraising effort meant a limited budget, a third individual at the auction offered to continue bidding on Bridgetown's behalf if the price rose beyond the Bridgetown budget. Their intention was to donate the pieces to the community if successful. Fortunately, the collaborative effort led by Pip was effective and the shingles, in the new form, came home to Bridgetown.

After a brief stint in the window at Emporium, *Human Shelter, His and Hers* is now on display at the Visitor Centre for Bridgetown locals and visitors to enjoy.

Tony Davis is a sculptor, painter and furniture maker. Originally from Wyalkatchem, and having lived in Bridgetown for many years, Tony has had artworks displayed and commissioned all around the world. Tony lives in Gelorup with his wife Merle.





Bushfires are a serious threat.

You can't outrun it, or outlast it. So it's worth taking 5 minutes to outsmart it. In a bushfire every five minutes counts – especially your next five minutes.

Bushfires are unpredictable and happen every year.

The single biggest killer is indecision.

To survive a bushfire you must be prepared to make your own decisions.

A bushfire plan is crucial to ensure you know what to do when the time comes to act.

Fire Chats are quick but meaningful conversations that covers the following questions:

1. **WHEN** will you know to leave?
2. **WHERE** will you go?
3. **WHICH** way will you go?

Having the **Fire Chat** is a great first step to protect your family, so you know what to do in case of an emergency and are able to enact your plan calmly and swiftly.

Do you need help choosing or refining your bushfire plan?

- Visit dfes.wa.gov.au/firechat to use the online guide;
- Hester and Kangaroo Gully both have Bushfire Ready Groups who can assist residents in those areas with arranging their bushfire plan;
- Or, contact the Shire's Community Emergency Services Coordinator Chris Sousa on 0428-611-125 and he will discuss your requirements and put you in touch with an appropriate person to assist you.

On the DFES website dfes.wa.gov.au/firechat you can also:

- Download the Fire Plan Template to be completed with your family
- Download the Preparing Your Emergency Kit checklist
- Download the Property Preparation Checklist

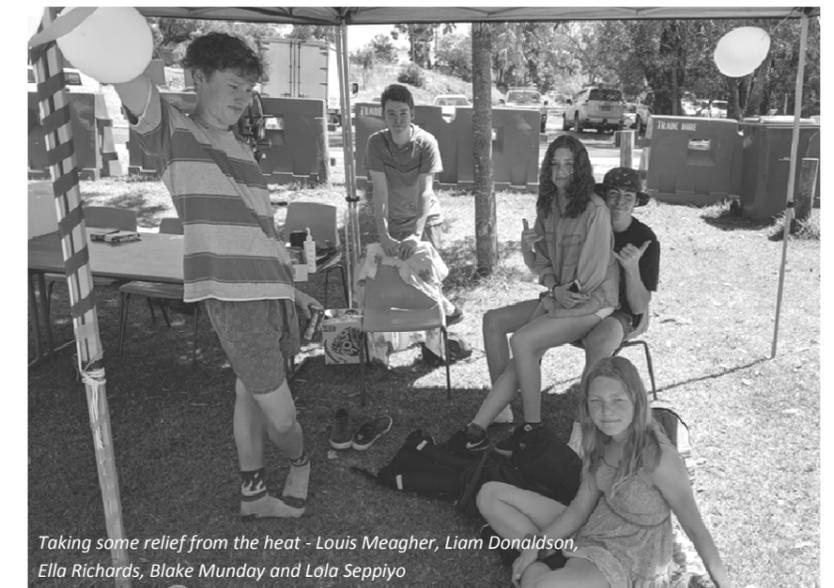


HEAT NO OBSTACLE FOR YOUTH LEADERSHIP TEAM

On Saturday 9 November, Council's Youth Leadership Team (YLT) joined the Blues Street Party with their own stall with a difference, an inflatable obstacle course! Facilitated by the Manjedal Activity Centre and Scouts Association of Australia, the obstacle course pitted teens against each other in a race to the top (and back down again on the other side).

Access to the course required completion of the YLT's youth survey. The survey questions were designed by the Youth Leadership Team to help understand the needs of local young people.

Warm temperatures on the day meant that entrants to the obstacle course were a little lower than expected – we did spot a number of young people taking refuge in shady spots throughout the Blues! Because the survey information is important for the Leadership Team to help plan to meet the needs of young people in the future, surveys have also been provided to Bridgetown High School to complete.



ACTIVELY SEEKING STATE GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

With the growth of the Talison lithium mine in Greenbushes continuing over coming years, the Shire has prepared a growth strategy to maximise the opportunities presented by the mine's recent and projected expansion. The strategy contains key projects identified by the community over recent years as being highly valuable - and necessary - to improve and enhance quality of life in both Bridgetown and Greenbushes.

We are actively lobbying the State Government to commit to ensure continued prosperity and liveability for the people in the Shire, as well promoting greater tourism and local business investment by providing funding to progress key projects from the growth strategy.

These key projects have been consistently identified in community consultation over the past 4 – 5 years through a variety of forums and are reflected in the Shire's Strategic Community Plan and Corporate Business Plan. The growth strategy is a succinct document which has 4 primary development categories that align to population growth associated with the mine expansion. These are:

1. Economic development
2. Improving opportunities for our youth and lifestyle
3. Preserving our heritage and boosting tourism
4. Improving safety and supporting industry

Specific projects within these categories include the development of a light industrial area; redevelopment of the Blackwood River Foreshore, Greenbushes Recreation Precinct and Bridgetown Youth Precinct; restoration of the Greenbushes and Bridgetown Railway stations; revitalization of the Bridgetown Town Hall; and CBD parking and safety enhancements in both Greenbushes and Bridgetown.

Because these projects are already identified within the Shire's Corporate Business Plan, staff continue to progress the planning stages and are actively seeking grant funding. Lotterywest recently approved a \$204,000 grant to assist with the costs associated with the Bridgetown Town Hall refurbishment. Lobbying of relevant State Government Ministers will continue leading into the 2020-2021 State budget preparation.