

FIT MUMS BOOTCAMP

(DADS WELCOME)



FULL BODY
WORKOUT

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS
2nd May – 22nd June 2017
2 Session Times Available

9:15am – 10:00am: Mums with Babies 0- 2 years old
10.30am – 11.15am: Mums with 2 years + year olds

A health & fitness destination specifically designed for parents

Fit Mums Bootcamp offers:

- Quick and effective 45 minute workouts that will get you results
- A mixture of sessions where your child will be stimulated (with and without you)
- Session times run to coordinate with your child's age so they too can benefit with an age appropriate activity.
- Suitable for all fitness levels, from beginners to advanced
- Qualified and experienced trainers who are also mums themselves
- All the guidance and support you need to achieve your goals

We guarantee you will:

- Love coming to your workouts!
- Exercise with no guilt, as your children will love coming too
- Join a community of like-minded women/men who support, motivate, encourage, and inspire each other.
- Be part of a group that understands the demands of parenthood!

\$22.50 week*

**Bridgetown
Leisure Centre**

Bridgetown-Greenbushes



For more information on programs and lessons at the BLC, drop in and speak to our friendly staff, or give us a call on 9761 2966.

INSIGHT

Bridgetown-Greenbushes Shire Newsletter

April/May 2017

Bridgetown announced as a celebration community for the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen's Baton Relay

The Queen's Baton Relay is coming to Bridgetown and you can be a part of its journey to the start of the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018).

The Queens Baton Relay recently launched from Buckingham Palace in London on 13 March, containing a message from Her Majesty the Queen. The Baton is travelling to all nations and territories of the Commonwealth before arriving in Australia where the Baton will travel around Australia for 100 days.

The eyes of the Commonwealth will be on Bridgetown on Friday 23 February 2018 as the Baton journeys towards its final destination, the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018) Opening Ceremony on 4 April 2018.

When the Queen's Baton arrives at the Opening Ceremony of the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games, Her

Majesty's message will be removed from the Baton and read aloud to declare the Games open.

GOLDOC Chairman Peter Beattie AC said "As it travels through the country the Baton will bring people together from across our nation's vast and varied landscapes, from red deserts to rainforests, and mountains to islands, from our city precincts to beyond the black stumps. It's a journey that is sure to increase our sense of connection and understanding of each other."

Information on the route of the Queen's Baton Relay through Bridgetown will be released later this year.

Across Australia approximately 3,800 batonbearers are needed to share the dream of the 'friendly Games' as part of the Queens Baton Relay.

Continued over Page

President's Comment

Since my last report there seems to have been a lot happening and all of it very positive.

In late February a good number of people turned out to the public meeting at Nelsons to hear my report on the progress of the Local Area Tourism Association and to provide feedback to the Alliance of Councils on its proposal "The Future of Tourism". The feedback was very positive, as was feedback at the other venues in Nannup, Manjimup & Walpole. The Alliance will progress this proposal through the establishment of a working party made up of interested people from within the three Shires. I certainly look forward to this progressing in a positive manner.

Another very good outcome for the Shire is the Greenbushes Tidy Towns Committee being awarded the National Prize for 2017. I was fortunate to meet National Judge Jill Grant in Greenbushes last week as she was briefed on the achievements that have won this group this prestigious award. Apart from Committee members, Cr Pat Scallan and Shire CEO Tim Clynnch will be in Triabunna, Tasmania for the National Awards.

For the second year in a row the Bridgetown Live Longer Live Stronger (LLS) program has featured in COTA WA's Active Aging Awards. Petra Sevier was selected as the Most Outstanding Regional Participant of LLS. Petra's award and recognised her long and consistent efforts that have seen her gradually increase her

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John Nicholas JP,
Shire President



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From front page

A community nomination program will offer the residents of the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes and the surrounding region with an opportunity to carry the Baton.

It is an honour to be chosen as a celebration community for the Baton Relay. Our community is filled with people who inspire others and the honour of participating in the Queen's Baton Relay would be a fantastic way of recognising their contribution.

Batonbearers are people of all abilities who inspire others to be great. Batonbearers will represent a community with pride and showcase to the world the region's landscapes.

To nominate visit www.gc2018.com/qbr and write 100 words about why someone inspires you. GC2018 are looking for people who:

- Have achieved something extraordinary or inspired others to achieve something extraordinary; or
- Have made a significant contribution to either sport, education, the arts, culture, charity or within their community; or
- Have excelled, or aspire to excel athletically or personally; or
- Contribute to a fun, friendly, vibrant and inclusive community;
- Are at least 10 years old as at 25 December 2017; and
- Are an Australia Citizen or lawfully entitled to reside in Australia during the Relay period (25 December 2017 – 4 April 2018).

The closing date for nominations is 15 May 2017.



Find us on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/bridgetowngreenbusheshire/>

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

ANZAC Day – 25 April



ANZAC Day services will be held at Greenbushes and Bridgetown with times as follows:

6.00am – Greenbushes
10.00am – Bridgetown

Greenbushes Service

People participating in the march are requested to assemble opposite the Greenbushes RSL Hall by no later than 5.45am. The parade will commence the march to the Cenotaph at 5.50am. Parking will be available behind the shops and on Telluride Street behind the school. A gunfire breakfast will be held at the Greenbushes Hall at the conclusion of the service for a gold coin donation.

Bridgetown Service

People participating in the march are requested to assemble in the Post Office carpark by no later than 9.30am. The parade will commence the march to the Cenotaph at 9.45am. Morning tea will be provided by Bridgetown Red Cross in the Lesser Hall at the conclusion of the service.

International Fire Fighters Day Memorial Service



In recognition of International Fire Fighters Day, the Shire will host a memorial service on Thursday, 4 May 2017 at the Bridgetown Bush Fire Service Headquarters (Les Woodhead Avenue, adjoining the trotting track and football oval) to remember those fire fighters who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

The service, which will commence at 9.30am, is open to all emergency service agencies personnel and their families and members of the Bridgetown-Greenbushes community.

For further information please contact Chris Sousa on 0428 611 125.

2017

ARCHIE

EXHIBITION

23 JUNE - 7 JULY

BRIDGETOWN POTTERY

TEAROOMS & GALLERY

2016 Archie winner *The Dog and His Man* by Simon Sieradzki

ENTRY FORMS AVAILABLE FROM SHIRE RECEPTION OR THE POTTERY TEAROOMS & GALLERY

GRAND OPENING

FRIDAY 23 JUNE

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY

Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes ... simply beautiful

blackwood valley ARTS ALLIANCE INC.

2017

LANDSCAPE

EXHIBITION

14-28 JULY

BRIDGETOWN POTTERY

TEAROOMS & GALLERY

2016 Landscape winner *Laurie's Field* by Rebecca Heggors

ENTRY FORMS AVAILABLE FROM SHIRE RECEPTION OR THE POTTERY TEAROOMS & GALLERY

GRAND OPENING

FRIDAY 14 JULY

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY

Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes ... simply beautiful

blackwood valley ARTS ALLIANCE INC.

Between the Lines *at your library*

ONE LIBRARY

Bridgetown Library is now part of the exciting library service being implemented in the South West. When the library reopened on 12 April patrons experienced a few changes to borrowing and requesting practices. If you haven't been in yet, please present at the information desk in order to confirm your library details, register a PIN and be updated with the new terms and conditions.

When all 23 cooperating libraries have joined the management system, patrons will be able to search all catalogues and request items. The items will then be shipped to the library nominated by the patron as the collection point. Library users may borrow up to 30 items from participating libraries, although local rules still apply limiting total borrowing from individual libraries. Your Bridgetown library card will enable you to borrow from any of the participating libraries – you will not have to have multiple library cards.



NEW FACE ON FRIDAYS

The library has been lucky to gain the services of a trainee on Fridays. Local student Caitlin Pees-De Bruce is in Year 11 at Manjimup High School, studying Certificate II in Business and Certificate II in Information and Cultural Services. As an adjunct to her studies Caitlin is working at the Bridgetown Regional Library for her practical experience.

COTA WA Active Aging Awards

This is the second year running that Bridgetown's Living Longer Living Stronger program is feted in COTA WA's Active Ageing Awards – they celebrated a win for their Instructor Tina Christensen in 2016, and now their participant Petra Sevier has been selected as Most Outstanding Regional Participant of Living Longer Living Stronger 2017.

Participants are the lifeblood of Living Longer Living Stronger, serving as the champions of the communities that make the program so vibrant. The camaraderie and fellowship offered by the best participants is often what motivates the whole group to keep returning and improving their health. As well as participants' functional ability, health, quality of life, sense of wellbeing and personal achievements, the Outstanding Participant Award celebrates the positive effect

on the peers and their efforts to promote the program in the wider community.

Petra celebrated her 10th year in the Living Longer Living Stronger program this year and her consistent efforts have seen her gradually increase her physical ability to full functioning.

She joined the program with a legacy spinal injury that impeded her mobility - records show that she was only able to complete three sit-to-stands with an aid. She is now able to walk unaided and travel without difficulty – engaging in regular caravanning holidays with her husband in the last five years and enjoying regular time grandparenting. Her recent battles with shoulder pain have led to surgery but she engaged diligently in preparatory exercise to the event in order to reduce recovery time, and

collaborated with her Physiotherapist to ensure that her overall fitness did not suffer.

Her enthusiastic participation in Seniors' week events and other social functions are an inspiration to all around her, not least the staff and Instructors at Bridgetown-Greenbushes Leisure Centre.

She is a deserving and inspirational winner of this year's Most Outstanding Living Longer Living Stronger Regional Participant Award.



Residents urged to help stop spread of tomato potato psyllid

- From the Department of Agriculture & Food

The Department of Agriculture and Food is urging home gardeners to do their bit to help stop the spread of the tomato potato psyllid, a destructive insect pest which has been discovered in Australia for the first time.

The psyllid feeds on a range of plants, including potato, tomato, eggplant, capsicum, chilli, tamarillo and sweet potato. Many of these vegetables are widely grown in backyard plots. The tomato potato psyllid was first detected in Perth in February and has since been found on more than 60 properties, including commercial horticulture properties and home gardens. The majority of detections have been in the metropolitan area, with a small number confirmed in regional areas.

A Quarantine Area Notice, consisting of designated control and suppression zones, is now in place for residents in the Perth metropolitan area and some regional shires.

Under the conditions of the Notice, residents in the metropolitan area, Mandurah and the Shires of Murray, Chittering and Gingin must not take selected home-grown vegetables, including tomato, eggplant, capsicum, chilli and tamarillo, outside of the control zone.

Residents in the suppression zone, in the Shires of Augusta-Margaret

River, Beverley, Boddington, Boyup Brook, Bridgetown-Greenbushes, Brookton, Capel, Collie, Dandaragan, Dardanup, Donnybrook-Balingup, Harvey, Manjimup, Moora, Nannup, Northam, Toodyay, Victoria Plains and Wandering, and the cities of Bunbury and Busselton can move produce within the two zones, but not outside this area.

Residents in both these zones should not move these identified home-grown plants, to reduce the potential of spreading the pest.

Department Chief Plant Biosecurity Officer John van Schagen said the restrictions on the movement of non-commercial home-grown fruit and vegetables were in force from today (Monday 27 March).

"We are making every effort to stop the spread of this pest and are urging local residents in the affected zones to support our valuable horticulture industries and make sure they don't move this targeted home-grown produce, out of the Quarantine Area," he said.

"The tomato potato psyllid is very destructive and we need to work together to ensure that we do what we can to reduce the impacts on both home and commercial growers.

"Complying with these movement restrictions is one

way the community can help limit the spread of the pest into regional areas."

Home gardeners in the metropolitan area who have the psyllid are advised to control the pest, with a range of options including chemical and eco-oil controls available on the department website.

"Ongoing surveillance by the department in regional areas will help determine the extent of the spread of this pest and how to contain and control it," Mr van Schagen said.

"For that reason, we are asking residents in regional areas to continue reporting any suspect detections to the department." Regional residents who suspect they may have tomato potato psyllid should send a photo to DAFWA via the [MyPestGuide Reporter app](#) available from [Google Play](#) or the [App Store](#), or email photos with your name, address and mobile number to info@agric.wa.gov.au.

Alternatively, call the Pest and Disease Information Service on 1800 084 881.

The psyllid does not pose a risk to human health.

To find out more about tomato potato psyllid, including the list of approved control options and a map of the Quarantine Area, go to the department's website agric.wa.gov.au/tpp.

Emergency Numbers

Fire or life threatening emergencies	000
SES Emergency Assistance	132 500
Emergency Information	13 DFES (13 13 37)

Bridgetown will be 150 Years Old in 2018!

How should we celebrate this special anniversary?

Although settlement by a small number of land owners occurred in the 1850's and early 1860's the town of Bridgetown (originally Geegelup) was settled in 1868, specifically 4 June 1868. This means the 150 year anniversary of settlement will occur on 4 June 2018.

Council intends to work with a number of community groups to celebrate this special anniversary. Although it is over 12 months until the anniversary there is a need to commence planning for the event. Therefore Council has resolved to establish a Bridgetown Sesquicentennial Working Group to recommend to Council proposals for celebration of the anniversary.

Council has determined the membership of the Bridgetown Sesquicentennial Working Group to be three councillors, a representative from the Bridgetown Historical Society, a representative from the Bridgetown Greenbushes Business & Tourism Association and three other members of the public as selected by the Shire President.

If you would be interested in being considered for one of the three "public" memberships of the working group could you please submit a written nomination to the Shire explaining the reasons why you wish to be a member. The closing date for lodgement of nominations is Friday 5th May 2017.

Bridgetown Electric Vehicle Recharge Station Operational



The RAC Electric Highway™ provides a network of fast recharging facilities which will allow Electric Vehicles (EV) to drive to and from Perth and throughout the South West. Recharge stations have been established at Fremantle, Mandurah, Harvey, Bunbury, Busselton, Margaret River, Nannup and Donnybrook. Bridgetown is the last of the initial towns to have an operational recharge station with our station going online in February. The Bridgetown electric recharge station is located in the car

park adjacent to the town square which can be accessed from Spencer Street.

Very few electric vehicles currently exist in Western Australia and the Electric Highway is an initiative by the RAC to promote their further use. Electric vehicles provide a realistic carbon emission free alternative to petrol/diesel vehicles. The electric highway provides drivers of electric vehicles access to popular regional areas in the South West. Showing that electric vehicles are no longer restricted to local or central areas will help improve the viability of electric vehicles to purchasers whose number one concern is limited range. In creating the electric highway, Western Australia can reaffirm its commitment to advanced environmentally friendly technologies and maintain our image as an innovative state.

Charges apply to users of the recharge stations on the RAC Electric Highway™ and these were determined in a partnership by the participating local governments. In 2016/17 the charge is \$0.45 cents per kWh. Users will pay for the use of the electric vehicle recharge station with a specially issued swipe card. The fee of \$0.45 cents per kWh covers the cost of electricity and maintenance of the recharge station and has not been set to provide profits to the participating local governments.



TEEN FIT

13 to 17 years

Teen Gym

Monday & Wednesday
4.30pm to 6.00pm

Teen Circuit

Tuesday & Thursday
5.00pm to 5.45pm

KID FIT

8 to 12 years

Tuesdays
3.30 to 4.30pm

Saturdays
9.30am to 10.15am

Commencing Term 2 - FREE



Road Safety Message from the Roadwise Advisory Committee

On Wednesday, 5 April the Roadwise Advisory Committee again hosted the annual "Blessing of the Roads Ceremony" with the 'road safety' addresses being presented by Roadwise Chairman, Cr Joann Moore, DFES & Bridgetown Volunteer Fire & Rescue representative, Peter Thomas and local Police representative, Sgt Phil Nation. Students from the four schools in our Shire also read messages relating to road safety, targeting the areas of:

- Bridgetown Primary School – Wearing of Seat Belts
- St Brigids Primary School – Speed
- Greenbushes Primary School – Driver Fatigue
- Bridgetown High School – Distraction (ie; mobile phones / audio systems / eating & drinking whilst driving, etc)

Towards the end of the ceremony, the Blessing and Prayers were conducted by David Bardsley and Sue Kemp on behalf of all the Churches in our Shire.

The ceremony, which was attended by approximately 120 residents and visitors, also recognised the 195 people killed on our roads during 2016, 120 of which occurred in regional and rural Western Australia, as well as the 235 people seriously injured during the same period. The Roadwise Advisory Committee takes this opportunity of thanking those emergency services personnel and members of the community and visitors who were able to attend the 2017 ceremony. Although the Blessing of the Roads ceremony is specific to the Easter holiday period, the messages relating to road safety are for all road users whether we are driving, riding, cycling or walking, every day of the year so please take care on all roads wherever you may be travelling.

Roadwise Committee

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

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| • Cr Joann Moore (Chairman) | • Mike Smith, Bridgetown Police |
| • Cr Julia Boyle | • Doreen Hornby, Bridgetown VFERS |
| • Cr Peter Quinby | • Erica Duffett, St John Ambulance |
| • Chris Mott, Bridgetown Primary School | • Mark Dent, St John Ambulance |
| • Kristine Williams, St Brigids School | • Gail Hay, Bridgetown CWA |
| • Lance Chambers, Community Member | • Rob Brogan, Shire Support Officer |
| • Glen Norris, Shire Support Officer | |

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

Roadwise – caring for the safety of our community



New pest rabbit biocontrol plan for Australia

A new 20-year national biocontrol plan for pest rabbits got underway in the first week of March 2017 with the release of a new strain of the Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease Virus, called RHDV1 K5, commencing at more than 600 sites across the country.

In Western Australia there have been 135 release sites.

K5 is not a new virus, but is a naturally occurring Korean variant of RHDV1 already present in Australia. A Czech strain of RHDV1 was first released in 1996, and is now widespread.

It is expected that K5 will work better in the cool-wet regions of Australia, where the Czech strain has not been so successful.

Rabbits are Australia's most destructive agricultural and environmental pest animal, costing upwards of \$200 million in lost agricultural production annually, and the new strain is expected to slow down the increase in pest rabbit numbers.

K5 will not however result in a 90% reduction of pest rabbit populations, as was seen 20 years ago. Rather it is expected to 'boost' current

management.

To maximise the effectiveness of K5, the Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia (DAFWA) is issuing the following information to release site managers, communities and the general public:

- Domestic rabbit owners are advised to seek advice from their local veterinarian and use protective biosecurity measures to help keep their rabbits safe from infection. For more information visit DAFWA's RHDV web pages – agric.wa.gov.au/rhdv.
- The release of K5 provides no greater risk to pet rabbits than the existing RHDV1 strain which has been present in Australia for 20 years. Domestic rabbits with up to date vaccinations for the existing strain are likely to be safe from K5.
- RHDV will be most effective if supported by integrated pest management, with conventional control measures being undertaken following release of the virus. A series of instructional 'how-to' videos on best practice rabbit control has been released by the Invasive Animals CRC.
- The video series can be downloaded from the PestSmart website. All release sites should have received a

USB of the video series along with their information and sampling kits.

- Release sites, landholders located close to release sites, and members of the public are urged to get involved by using the RabbitScan (FeralScan) app to report rabbit sightings or signs of disease. This will help track the spread of the virus. The RabbitScan app is available from iTunes or GooglePlay, or can be downloaded from the FeralScan website.
- Land managers are strongly encouraged to carry out concurrent control for predators such as foxes (potentially looking for alternative food sources in the absence of rabbits).
- The Invasive Animals CRC issues regular RHD Boost E-updates to report on progress of the release program. To subscribe go to pestsmart.org.au/subscribe.

The release of K5 comes after more than five years of testing through the Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre RHD Boost project, with major financial and in kind resources provided by the Australian and state governments, and industry and non-government organisations.

Continued from President's Comment

ability to full function. COTA Active Aging Manager WA said "She is a deserving and inspirational winner of this year's award".

I was a little disappointed that more volunteers did not attend last Fridays "Celebration of Volunteers Day" in Memorial Park, however, those who did attend were provided with good entertainment, food and refreshments. Community Volunteer Certificates were presented to two groups, Greenbushes Tidy Towns Committee, Greenbushes Belles (CWA) and 6 members of the Blackwood Youth Action Group for their involvement with the Youth of Bridgetown. My congratulations go to winners, and my heartfelt thanks go to all of you who give up your time to volunteer and make this such a great place to live.

As you all are now aware 2018 is the 150th anniversary of Bridgetown and we intend making it a great year with the help of a 150th Anniversary Committee which will provide the Shire with guidance as to what the celebration will look like. I encourage you all to get involved at whatever level is appropriate for you. Also in 2018 Bridgetown will host a leg of the Queens Baton Relay for the Commonwealth Games.

Finally, it's that time of the year when we all spend more time on the roads and so do many others, so wherever you drive, please drive safely and help make this Easter break and the school holidays enjoyable for everyone.

Accessing Your Community

Council has an active interest in ensuring all members of the community have equal opportunity to be involved in every aspect of life in the Shire. They understand that inclusivity means providing "universal access". Universal access is a term that relates to more than accessing a facility, it also relates to accessing services, information and being part of the community.

Council's focus is on ensuring that residents and visitors within all towns and settlements of the Shire are welcomed and included in events, facilities, services and civic life. This vision and commitment is reflected in the Strategic Community Plan, Age Friendly Communities Plan, Youth Plan and the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan. Council's strategic plans can be viewed on the Shire website www.bridgetown.wa.gov.au.

Council also invests in access and inclusion by supporting the Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee which advises Council on the issues affecting residents and the

implementation of relevant community strategies and activities. This Committee is a direct link between residents and Council in relation to access and inclusion matters and is made up of service agency representatives and community members.

The Access and Inclusion Committee is hosting the biannual community morning tea for residents over the age of 60. The morning tea is a great way to stay connected and share information with Councillors, Shire officers and the Access and Inclusion Committee members. The Committee invite all Shire residents (60 years and over, or 50 years and over for people with disability), to Tasty Edibles for morning tea. This annual event offers residents the opportunity to meet and familiarize themselves with members of the Committee, Officers and Councillors. It is hoped that this will facilitate an ongoing community conversation.

The **FREE** Community Morning Tea will be held at Tasty Edibles

in Greenbushes on 24th May between 10am and 11.30am. All Residents of the Shire 60 years and over are invited to attend this Council sponsored event.

For more information please call Megan or Bec on 9761 1555.

Contact Group

The Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee have started a Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes email contact group for people over 60. The Contact Group facilitates two way communication between members of the community and the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes. This group ensures community members stay in touch and up to date with what is happening in the Shire. Members of the contact group will receive information on up and coming events and current issues.

Please contact Megan Richards on 9761 1555 to have your name and email included on the contact group.



Greenbushes to Bridgetown Shopping Bus Run



The Community Bus "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 leaving the Stables IGA at 11.30am for the return trip. Parcels may be deposited in the bus anytime between arrival and departure, so heavy shopping does not have to be carried.

Scheduled Dates: **9 May, 23 May, 6 June, 20 June**

(Please note the bus will not run on Tuesday 25 April - ANZAC Day, and will not be scheduled for an alternative date.)

For more information please contact Rebecca Redman at the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes Community Services Department on 9761 1555.

RANGERS



DOG ATTACKS

There have been a large number of dog attacks in the Shire in the past months. Most of these attacks have been due to dog owners having insufficient arrangements to confine their dog to their property. All dog owners are reminded that they are responsible for confining their dog to their property – the Dog

Act 1976 (as amended) stipulates the maximum penalty for a dog attack is \$10,000. Bridgetown-Greenbushes local law stipulates a penalty of up to \$2,000 for insufficient confinement of a dog.

A recent court hearing caused a Busselton resident, whose dogs were roaming uncontrolled resulting in an attack on a person, to be fined \$4,000 and banned from owning a dog for 3 years. The Dog Act now allows for dog owners who have been previously convicted of two or more offences against the Dog Act to be banned from owning a dog permanently or for a specified period.

FIRE PERMITS

Residents are reminded that under the Bush Fires Act 1954 (Section 18) permits are required for any burning undertaken during the Restricted Burning Period from 15 March to 26 April. Permits must be obtained from a registered Fire Control Officer, listed on the 2016-17 Firebreak Notice and on the Shire's website under Bush Fire Control. Some key points to remember – you must notify your neighbours, the Shire, DPAW and the DFES Communications Centre before undertaking any burning. These contact details and all other conditions are listed on the permit. You must have adequate means to control and extinguish the fire, and at least three capable persons must be in attendance at all times while the fire is burning. The permit must be produced when requested by an authorised officer. All permits to burn are automatically cancelled when the Bureau of Meteorology fire rating is Very High or above. Daily fire rating information can be found at www.bom.gov.au/wa/forecasts/fire-danger.shtml

PARKING FOR SCHOOL PICKUP



To ensure the safety of our local kids before and after school, Rangers regularly patrol school zones to ensure drivers are complying with local parking laws and signage. Drivers are reminded that parking is only permitted in marked bays – for Bridgetown Primary School, these are located on Roe St,

with limited bays on Forrest Street. Take note of markings indicating no parking zones, do not block driveways and do not park on verges or in bus zones. Infringements of up to \$75 per offence may apply.

Is Your Dog Microchipped?

The Dog Act 1976 provides that on and after **1 November 2015**, the owner of a dog that has reached three months of age must ensure that the dog is microchipped.



How do I get my dog microchipped?

A veterinarian (vet), veterinarian nurse or a person with the relevant qualifications from a registered training provider is able to implant a microchip in your dog.

To find out how you can arrange for your dog to be microchipped, contact your regular vet or local government to obtain information on where you can take your dog to be microchipped.

My dog is old and unwell, is it still required to be microchipped?

A dog is exempt from the microchipping requirement if a vet issues a certificate stating that the implantation of a microchip in the dog may adversely affect the health and welfare of the dog. Such a certificate cannot apply in respect of a dog that is under three months of age.

When will I be required to prove my dog is microchipped?

When you re-register your dog, you will be required to provide proof that the dog has been microchipped by providing the local government with the microchip number.

How will microchipping my dog assist me?

If you lose your microchipped dog, it will make it easier for you both to be reunited. The dog's microchip can be scanned by the ranger or a vet, which will reveal the owner's contact details.

If your dog is impounded and it is discovered that it has not been microchipped, you may be liable for a fine. So it is in your best interests to ensure your dog is microchipped.

What happens if I do not get my dog microchipped?

A person who fails to ensure their dog is microchipped on and after **1 November 2015** is liable for a fine of up to \$5,000.

Youth Plan and New Youth Services Advisory Committee Adopted By Council

On Thursday 30 March Council adopted the revised Youth Plan 2017-2021. This document will guide the decisions of Council in matters concerning young people in the community and the resources needed to meet their needs over the next 5 years.

Council also decided to endorse the establishment of a Youth Services Advisory Committee. This committee will advise Council on the changing needs of young people in the community and inform council regarding the youth services environment and gaps in service provision.

Council is hoping to attract representatives from each of the following, service agencies, community groups and young people in the community, to form the Youth Services Advisory Committee.

The Committee will have a maximum of 11 community/service agency representatives.

Appointed members:

- One (1) representative from Bridgetown High School
- One (1) representative from Child Protection
- One (1) representative from SW Mental Health
- One (1) representative from Bridgetown Medical Centre/Health Professional
- One (1) representative from Police

- One (1) representative from Blackwood Youth Action Inc.
- One (1) representative from Blackwood Parent Support
- Three (3) representatives from youth community (preferably of different age ranges for example; 12-15, 16-18, 19-24.
- One (1) participant at any one time from the Youth Leadership Program.

With this model Council hopes to support the two distinct aspects of youth development within the community that needs inclusion in a holistic youth services model;

- Young people willing and interested in developing their leadership skills and civic awareness as a means of engaging with other young people across different socio economic and geographical backgrounds. Including these young people increases the breadth of potential engagement with other young people within the community and increases civic input from young people in the community.
- Engaging with young people who are "at risk" or marginalized within the community and supporting the service agencies and community groups working to support this sector of the youth community.

Both aspects of youth development are important and can be pursued with equal purpose. Social equity and civic responsibility necessitates that the needs and concerns of marginalised or "at risk" young community members are included in both the strategic direction and considerations of Council. Equally, young people in the community willing and interested in leadership roles should be nurtured and encouraged to develop capacity, take chances, drive programs and make decisions with the potential outcomes limited only by their imaginations.

Meetings will be once per quarter and Council will be inviting members of each of the agencies to express interest in becoming a committee member on the Youth Services Advisory Committee by submitting their expressions of interest to Mr T Clynch, tclynch@bridgetown.wa.gov.au or PO Box 271, Bridgetown, WA 6255.

Council is also hoping to attract the interest of young community members to be involved in the committee. If you have any questions or would like to be involved please contact Megan on 9761 0822 or come into the Shire Administration Building and ask for Megan.