

# Bridgetown Leisure Centre

Shire of  
Bridgetown-Greenbushes



## BORN TO MOVE



### 2 – 5 YEARS AN IMAGINATIVE ADVENTURE OF ACTION AND SONG

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

Born To Move  
Wednesday and Saturday  
@  
9.15am- 10.00am  
Morning tea provided



Department of  
Sport and Recreation



Shire of  
Bridgetown-Greenbushes  
... simply beautiful



Zumba is a lively and exciting dance program that makes it feel like you are not even exercising.

It is a fun and effective workout for your whole body that burns calories and improves your fitness through the joy of dance.

**Tuesday and Thursdays 6.35pm**

All enquiries welcome, please contact the  
Bridgetown Leisure Centre on 9761 2966

# INSIGHT



Bridgetown-Greenbushes Shire Newsletter

August/September 2016

## Council adopts 2016/17 Budget

On 11 August 2016 Council adopted its 2016/17 Budget. Set out below is a summary of funding for some of the key features of the Budget and other related subjects.

### 1. Road Works

The budget provides for construction works on the following roads:

- Winneup Road (progressive reconstruction)
- Nelson Street (asphalt section completed in 2015/16)
- Hester Street (reconstruct between Lockley Street to Henry Street)
- Hampton Street (reconstruct John Street to Walter Street)
- Henry Street (reconstruct Allnutt Street to Scott Street)
- John Street (reconstruct between Hampton Street and Coronation Street)
- Padbury Road (reconstruct Steere Street to Turner Road)
- Kendall Road (continuation of upgrade)
- Walter Willis Road (gravel resheeting)
- Dalmore Road (gravel resheeting)
- Grange Road (gravel resheeting)
- Wilga Road (2<sup>nd</sup> coat seal)

### 2. Footpaths

The budget provides for the following footpath projects:

- Forrest Street (Gifford Road to Padbury Road)
- Hester Street (Nelson Street to Lockley Street)
- Installation of nibs on Steere Street between Hampton Street and railway crossing in order to improve pedestrian crossing of Steere Street.

### 3. Drainage

The budget provides for the following drainage projects:

- Phillips Street
- Palmers Road

### 4. Recreation

- Staged replacement of exercise equipment in Somme Creek Parklands
- Completion of planning and commencement of construction of the proposed regional bridle trail
- Installation of irrigation/reticulation at Memorial Park
- Completion of works at Leisure Centre to allow 24 hour member access to gym
- Improvements to potable water supply at Bridgetown Sportsground

### 5. Fire Prevention/ Emergency Management

- A new light tanker for the Yornup Bush Fire Brigade, proposed for delivery in June 2017.

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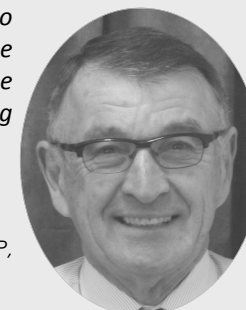
## President's Comment

I recently attended the Fire & Rescue Services Presentation, where a number of volunteers received long service awards. Geoff Fisher received a rare honour, being presented with a badge and framed medallion in recognition of his 60 years of service. This is an outstanding contribution to the Fire Service in Bridgetown. Congratulations Geoff. I also attended both the Lions and Rotary changeover's in July which saw the reinstatement of Michael Fetter as Lions President and Jacqui Jones as President of Rotary. The work these two service clubs and the volunteer fire fighters do within the community is awe inspiring and makes this community such a great place to live.

From a Council point of view we have just endorsed the Aged Friendly Communities Plan and through the Access & Inclusion Advisory Committee will work through the Plan prioritising the action items. In respect of the Youth Strategy, consultation has taken place with young people from within the Shire at each High School to identify young leaders from within the groups. From this array of input a draft plan will be constructed and then circulated for community consultation.

On Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup> July I was privileged to be able to unveil the Somme Park memorial which was a joint project of the Bridgetown RSL and Shire to create a memorial to those soldiers who gave of their lives in the Battle of the Somme in France in 1916. The memorial has on it a brief account of the battles and the names of the soldiers who perished. It was pleasing to see some of the relatives of those men attending the service.

John Nicholas JP,  
Shire President



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## Fire Season Hazard Reduction Works Compliance Date Change

ALL firebreaks and hazard reduction works need to be completed by **1 November 2016** (for Plantations) and for all other properties **15 November 2016** (please note this is 2 weeks earlier than in previous years) and maintained until **26 April 2017**.

2016 - 2017 Firebreak Orders will be posted to all landowners (after 19 August) stating the requirements for hazard reduction, fire breaks and burning garden refuse. Property owners and occupiers are encouraged to read their Firebreak Order carefully to ensure they are aware of ALL conditions.

If you would like any further information, please contact the Shire's Rangers on 9761 1555 or 0428 911 847.

## Extractive Industry Regulatory Review

Council at the Ordinary Meeting on 30 June 2016 resolved to make the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes Extractive Industries Repeal Local Law 2016 which came into effect on 19 August 2016, thereby repealing the current Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes Local Law 2002. Council on 30 June 2016 also adopted the new Extractive Industry Town Planning Scheme Policy to replace the superseded Extractive Industry Town Planning Scheme Policy TP.15, with the new policy now in effect.

Extractive industry within the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes will therefore no longer be regulated by a local law and extractive industry licences will not be required. Extractive industry will instead be regulated through the development application process pursuant to the Shire's Town Planning Scheme No. 3 or Town Planning Scheme No. 4. The Shire will be contacting all extractive industry operators to then seek necessary approvals and bring any unauthorised operations into compliance.

A copy of the new Extractive Industry Policy are available on the Shire's website [www.bridgetown.wa.gov.au](http://www.bridgetown.wa.gov.au) or by contacting Scott Donaldson, Manager Planning on 9761 1555 or via [sdonaldson@bridgetown.wa.gov.au](mailto:sdonaldson@bridgetown.wa.gov.au).

## Shire farewells Ranger Riff and welcomes John

The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes has bid farewell to long serving Senior Ranger 'Riff' after a 10 year stint that commenced in April 2006.

John Drew has been appointed as the Shire's new part-time Senior Ranger and commenced in July. John joins us from Busselton Rangers & Emergency Services where he had worked as a Ranger for the past three years and is looking forward to continuing his career working with our local community.



Find us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/bridgetown6255?ref=hl>



Me 2! is a BRAND NEW Program offered by The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes as part of the Community Services Strategy. Activities will be available in a term program format over the next 18 months as a way of encouraging community members (with all levels of ability and skill) to actively participate.

Each term program offered under the Me 2! Banner will be FREE for participants. Each activity will be offered once per week over one term. Term programs will include supported vacation swimming opportunities, after school swimming lessons, fitball soccer, volley-big-ball, aqua aerobics, Tell My Story at the Library, gymnastics, Zumba, and more!!

Each of the activities will be facilitated by one of our shire facilitators, trained specifically to encourage participation in a non-competitive environment.

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

Fitball soccer was really popular last term with an average of 18 participants per class. The next scheduled activity is Volley-Big-Ball during third term.

### Where?

Bridgetown Leisure Centre

### When?

Saturday 23 July - Saturday 17 September,

### Age/Time?

7 years to 11 years - 10.00am to 10.45am  
12 years and over - 11.00am to 11.45am

If you have any queries or wish to express your interest in participating please call the Bridgetown Leisure Centre on 9761 2966.

There are also opportunities for people with disability to receive **reduced cost personal training and gym membership** (minimum age 16 years to attend the gym alone). For enquiries about this OR other activities planned please call Megan Richards (Grants & Services Manager) on 9761 1555.

## Accessing Your Community

### Age Friendly Communities Plan

Council's Age Friendly Communities Plan 2016-2020 was adopted in June 2016 after a 4 week period of community comment. The Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee have already begun prioritizing the action items to provide guidance to Council to assist in its implementation. If you would like to highlight a difficulty with inclusion or access within the Shire, please approach one of the Access and Inclusion Committee members or call Megan Richards on 9761 1555.

### Red Cross TeleCHAT

Red Cross provides a regular telephone call to people who would benefit from a social chat. Friendly volunteers call participants at an agreed time, generally once a week, to share a conversation and catch up. Participants are matched with volunteers based on their interests, hobbies and availability.

This service is for people who would enjoy some social contact via the phone. It may benefit people who:

- Live alone
- Find it difficult to get out of the house
- Live in a remote location
- Are living with a disability

### Red Cross - Telecross

Telecross provides daily phone calls to check on the wellbeing of people who are at risk of an accident or illness that may go unnoticed, such as a fall and being unable to call for help. The calls provide reassurance as well as help to maintain independence.

A friendly volunteer makes calls each morning, 365 days of the year. If the call is not answered, they take action to make sure you are ok.

Telecross is for people who live alone and are at risk of an accident or illness that may go unnoticed. In particular, people who:

- Are frail and aged
- Have a disability
- Are housebound
- Are recovering from an illness or accident

People can refer themselves or be referred by a relative, friend, health professional or community service provider. For more information about accessing Telecross or TeleCHAT please call Red Cross on 1300 885 698.

### 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 communications 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.

For further inquiries or to be added to the contact group please call Megan Richards or Julie Pike on 9761 1555.



# Between the Lines *at your library*

## HAVE YOU TRIED THE LIBRARIES E-RESOURCES YET?

The library has a wide range of books, audio books and magazines available for download. All you need is a current library card. You can access these resources from links on the library web page <http://www.bridgetown.wa.gov.au/your-community/library>. Library staff will be happy to guide you in setting up the services on your mobile devices if you need assistance. There are books for all ages available through these services and they may prove popular with children and teens.

### E-Magazines

Zinio for Libraries provides public library members with access to a large range of magazine titles that can be downloaded to their desktop or mobile device via an app. Currently the State Library supplies 234 popular magazine titles across a wide variety of genres. There is no reserve period. Once downloaded you are able to keep the magazines for as long as you want them. They contain all the articles available in the printed copies plus additional digital content. There is no limit to the number you can download.



### E-Books and E-Audiobooks

E-books and e-audiobooks are available for download through the Western Australian Digital Media Collection. Contact the library for the pin number to access this collection. The borrowing period is one of 7, 14, or 21 days. If items are currently on loan, you can place a hold on the item.



E-books and e-audio books are also available through Borrow Box designed and powered by Bolinda. Apps are available for free download from the App Store and Google Play.



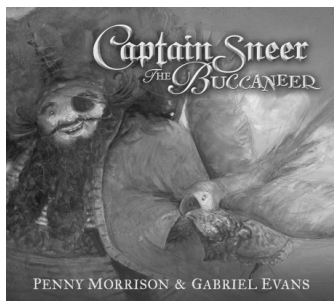
An alternative source of e-audiobooks supplied through a library subscription, gives variety and a certainty that a book will be available when you need it. There is no waiting period for books on loan as many borrowers can access the same title at once.



## UPCOMING LIBRARY EVENTS

### BOOK LAUNCH – GABRIEL EVANS - 15<sup>TH</sup> SEPT 5.45PM

This promises to be an exciting event. With Gabriel's well known talent for storytelling and his magnificent illustrations it will be an evening not to be missed.



### OCTOBER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Look out for an exciting school holiday program during the October holidays. Information will be posted on the web page [www.bridgetown.wa.gov.au](http://www.bridgetown.wa.gov.au), on the Shire Facebook page and on posters and flyers in the library.

## BRIDGETOWN-GREENBUSHES VISITOR CENTRE

### Support Your Locals!

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

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

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

So come on in, we love visitors!

## RANGER SERVICES

**The Dog Act 1976 requires all dogs over three (3) months of age to be microchipped; and registered with the Shire.**

**Registration Fees** - The registration period is from 1 November to 31 October the following year.

Registration Type	1 Year	3 Years	Lifetime
Unsterilised Dog	\$50.00	\$120.00	\$250.00
Sterilised Dog	\$20.00	\$ 42.50	\$100.00
Pensioner Concession	50% of Registration Fee		
Working Dog Concession	75% of Registration Fee		

The concession for a sterilised dog can ONLY be obtained upon production of a registered Veterinary Surgeon's Sterilisation Certificate (or Statutory Declaration signed by the owner) and proof of microchipping and the microchip number.

If your dog is not registered, please make arrangements to do so as soon as possible. Failure to register your dog may result in a \$200 on the spot infringement.

If you have changed your address since registering your dog, please give the Ranger Services Team a call on 9761 1555 to update your details.

**The Cat Act 2011 requires all cats over six (6) months of age to be sterilised (unless exempted-see below), microchipped; and registered with the Shire.**

There is a limit of three cats per property unless you have a cattery licence or obtained a permit from the Shire. This permit is subject to inspection and certain conditions.

**Registration Fees** - The registration period is from 1 November to 31 October the following year.

Registration Type	Fee
1 year registration	\$20.00
3 year registration	\$42.50
Lifetime registration	\$100.00
Pension Concession	50% of Registration Fee
Breeding Cat	\$100.00 per cat

Registration can only be obtained upon production of a registered Veterinary Surgeon's Sterilisation Certificate (or Statutory Declaration signed by the owner) and proof of microchipping and the microchip number.

Your cat may also be registered if you provide an Exemption Certificate from Sterilisation or Microchipping from your Veterinarian or if you apply and are granted with a breeders permit from the Shire.

Whether you register your cat in January or in May there will be a flat registration fee of 50% of the annual fee to cover registration from 1 November 2016 to 31 October 2017. All cats are required to wear their registration tag if in a public place. It is recommended that your cat also wear an owners name and address tag attached at all times. This will help our Rangers to contact you should your cat become lost.

If your cat is not registered, please make arrangements to do so as soon as possible. Failure to register your cat may result in a \$200 on the spot infringement.

If you have changed your address since registering your cat, please give the Ranger Services Team a call on 9761 1555 to update your details.

## Pensioner Concessions on Shire Rates in 2016/17

### What rebate can I receive if I am pensioner or senior card holder?

If you are a Pension card holder with or without a dependent spouse and have been living at the property you want to claim the rebate on, since 1 July of that financial year, you are then entitled to a 50% rebate for pensioners and a 25% rebate for seniors on the rates and ESL (emergency services levy) portion of your account. In 2016/17, both the pension rebate and the seniors rebate will be a capped amount as determined by the State Government (see section below on the explanation of the capped amounts for pensioners). Rebates apply to current rates and emergency services levy only, and not to rubbish collection and other charges, which must be paid in full by the due date shown on your rates notice.

### Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for concessions under the Rates and Charges (Rebates and Deferments) Act 1992, an applicant must:

- Hold a Pensioner Concession Card (50% rebate); or
  - State Concession Card (50% rebate); or
  - Commonwealth Seniors Health Card and a WA Seniors Card (50% rebate); or
  - WA Seniors Card (25% rebate).
- AND**
- On 1 July of the current financial year, own and occupy the property as your 'ordinary place of residence'.

To own means you must:

- Be the owner or co-owner of the property registered on the Certificate of Title (where the property is subject to co-ownership a partial concession may apply); or
- Have a "right to reside" at the property under the terms of a Will and be responsible to pay the rates and charges; or
- Hold a long-term lease in a retirement village, park home, lifestyle village or caravan park.

### How do I claim a concession?

If you satisfy the eligibility criteria

above, you can register for a pension concession by contacting the Water Corporation. To register over the phone call 1300 659 951.

### Cap on Local Government Rates for Pensioners from 2016/17

The State Government has approved a \$750 cap for local government rates applying to pensioner households as of 1 July 2016.

Local Governments are required by legislation to implement this policy change on behalf of the Government when they issue rates notices to affected pensioners.

This means your local government rates notice now includes a concession that is the lesser of \$750 or 50% of the rates payable.

Note: Seniors cardholder rates concessions remain unchanged at 25%, up to a capped amount, as has been the case for many years.



## Road Safety Message from the Roadwise Advisory Committee

### Have you seen the flashing 40kmh School Zone Lights?

Flashing lights have now been installed in Steere Street to highlight the school zone times. Even during the foggy and wet weather conditions encountered since their installation, the flashing lights are certainly very prominent and provide drivers with a timely reminder to slow down. The Roadwise Committee extends its thanks and appreciation to Main Roads for installing the lights.

### Don't Drink and Drive

Drivers should be aware that alcohol affects their decision-making ability, reaction times, speed and distance judgments, concentration and perception, balance and alertness. It can also give a driver a false sense of confidence and competence, which may encourage risk taking.

Alcohol-related fatal crashes cost the Western Australian community in excess of \$235 million each year. The hospital and rehabilitation costs of alcohol-related crashes where people are seriously injured are even higher. If you make the decision that you are going to go out and drink, don't drive – consider in advance how you can get back home – make arrangements for your partner, family member or friend to pick you up; elect a skipper if you are in a group; catch a taxi home; if you are at a private party stay the night. There are several alternatives you can select but don't get behind the wheel of a vehicle if you have been drinking, it's just not worth it.

The Road Safety Commission has advised – if you have a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.05, the risk of being involved in a crash is doubled. With a BAC of 0.08, you are 7 times more likely to crash, and 25 times more likely with a BAC of 0.15.

### Roadwise Committee Members

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

Cr Joann Moore (Chairman)

Cr Julia Boyle

Cr Peter Quinby

Chris Mott, Bridgetown Primary School

Kristine Williams, St Brigids School

Bec Carney, Bridgetown High School

Rob Brogan, Shire Support Officer

Mike Smith, Bridgetown Police

Doreen Hornby, Bridgetown VFRS

Erica Duffett, St John Ambulance

Mark Dent, St John Ambulance

Gail Hay, Bridgetown CWA

Lance Chambers, Community Member

Glen Norris, Shire Support Officer

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

**Roadwise – caring for the safety of our community**

# 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](mailto:tlockley@bridgetown.wa.gov.au)



## Greenbushes to Bridgetown Shopping Bus Run

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

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

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

Scheduled Dates: **13 September (CANCELLED), 27 September, 11 October, 25 October**

For more information, please contact Julie Pike at the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes Community Services Department on 9761 1555. 13 September cancelled due to no bus driver being available.

# TRAILS TO EXPLORE

The Shire's Trails Development Advisory Committee is continuing to seek to develop and promote a variety of trails for local and visitors to access. Two new trails recently launched are the Little Schools Trail and the Blackwood River Organic Garden Trail.

The Little Schools Trail is a 212km self-drive trail that explores the region's long association with "little schools", often no more than a verandah off a farmhouse or a single room building. Until the advent of the school bus system in 1944, there were 25 little schools in the area with the first one established in 1903. Little schools sprang up wherever the school-aged population was high enough to support them. The Little Schools Trail was originally developed by the Bridgetown Country Women's Association and the Bridgetown-Greenbushes Visitor Centre with support from the Greenbushes Country Women's Association and the Shires of Bridgetown-Greenbushes and Boyup Brook. This latest review and reprint has been undertaken by the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes with the support of the Bridgetown Historical Society. Further information and the self-drive map are contained in a brochure available from the Visitor Centre.

Blackwood River Organic Garden Trail is another self-drive trail that allows you to explore various gardens that use biodynamic, organic or permaculture practices. Entry is by donation and is sometimes free however bookings are required in most cases. Individuals, groups and self-organised school excursions are welcome and some gardens also offer specialised guided tours by arrangement for a reasonable charge. Currently there are 7 gardens in the Blackwood River Valley, with two in each Bridgetown, Balingup and Nannup and one in Greenbushes. It is hoped that more gardens join the trail in the future. The trail was originally developed for the Margaret River region and its expansion into the Warren Blackwood region was facilitated by the Blackwood River Valley Marketing Association. For more information please visit the trail's website, [www.organicgardentrail.com.au](http://www.organicgardentrail.com.au) or pick up a brochure from the Visitor Centre.

Another exciting development in the trails program project is the official launch of the Old Abattoir Walk (previously known as Hester walk number 1) and the Wandoo Walk (previously known as Hester walk number 2). It takes a lot of persistence and work to have a trail officially sanctioned with the Department of Parks & Wildlife and this is a great outcome of the work by the Trails Development Advisory Committee. The Committee are hosting the official launch. These trails are open to everyone wanting a picturesque walk in the bush; each trail offers a number of walk options of various levels of difficulty to cater for almost all needs.

As part of the ongoing commitment to trails development (locally and regionally) the Shire also contributes to the Warren Blackwood Alliance of Council's Managed Regional Trails Website which can be viewed at [www.totaltrails.com.au](http://www.totaltrails.com.au). For more information on trails please contact Megan Richards (Grants & Services Manager) on 97611555.

## Somme Creek Plaque Dedication

The Battle of the Somme, also known as the Somme Offensive, was a battle of the First World War fought by the armies of the British and French empires against the German Empire. It took place between 1 July and 18 November 1916 on both sides of the upper reaches of the River Somme in France. The battle was intended to hasten a victory for the Allies and was the largest battle of the First World War on the Western Front. More than one million men were wounded or killed, making it one of the bloodiest battles in human history.

On July 23, the 100 year anniversary of the Battle of Pozieres Ridge (part of the Somme Offensive), members of the Bridgetown-Greenbushes Council, Bridgetown RSL and the community gathered at Somme Creek to witness Shire President, John Nicholas, unveil the dedication plaques in memory of the 23 Bridgetown men who lost their lives during the Battle of the Somme. We were also honoured to have quite a few descendants of those killed present at the ceremony and to honour the memory of their loved ones.

The memorial consists of 2 plaques, one listing the names of the men who died, the other providing details of the history on the Battle of the Somme.



# archie & landscape art exhibitions

The opening of the 2016 Archie & Landscape Art Exhibitions proved to be a popular highlight of the Bridgetown art and cultural scene and Winter Festival. The Exhibitions are sponsored by the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes in partnership with Pip and Bevan Mills of Bridgetown Pottery Restaurant and Blackwood Valley Arts Alliance (BVAA).

The Archie and Landscape Exhibitions open during the winter festival to add yet another exciting event to the festival calendar and to encourage tourists and locals alike to view art works from some of the amazingly talented local and regional artists. This year a total of 31 works were entered in the Archie Exhibition and 30 works were entered in the Landscape Exhibition.

Both opening nights were a great success thanks to the supportive arts community, the beautiful art on display and delicious nibbles provided by Bridgetown Pottery Restaurant.

Judges Julian Bowran and Kim Perrier (Archie) along with Sue Berguis-Garde and Mary-Lynne Stratton (Landscape), generously donated their time and expertise in judging the exhibitions. The support from local musicians who provided entertainment for the exhibition opening functions, Martin Cropper (Archie Exhibition) and Shane Thomas aka "Late Horse" (Landscape Exhibition), added to the atmosphere and success of the events.

Council would like to offer congratulations to this year's winners:

**Archie Best on Show** – Simon Sieradzki "The Dog and his Man on the Blackwood"

**Archie Best Local Identity** – Tania Lockley "Wombat"

**Archie People's Choice Award** – Merle Davis "Man of Wood"

**Landscape Best on Show** – Rebecca Heggers "Laurie's Field"

**Landscape Highly Commended** – Lynette M Robinson "Cycles of Renewal"

**Landscape Highly Commended Streetscape** – Nic Fabiszak "Bridgetown Greenbushes Streetscape – A Different Perspective"

**Landscape People's Choice Award** – Carol Thompson "A Misty Morning"



Dalini, Bevan Mills, Muni & Pip Mills



Sue Berguis-Garde, Nic Fabiszak, Heidi Wares  
Artwork - Bridgetown Greenbushes Streetscape – A Different Perspective



Mal Lockley, Jane Bell (BVAA), Tania Lockley, Megan Richards and Shire President John Nicholas – Artworks - 'Listen' and 'Wombat'



Marie Hill, John Pearson, Carol Stokes, Richard Blithe, Trish Durham, Jane Bell (BVAA)

All photos courtesy of Lee Steinbacher - Padalacs Photography





- A new heavy tanker for the Maranup Bush Fire Brigade, proposed for delivery in June 2017.
- A new garage for the Bridgetown Bush Fire Brigade.
- Continuation of funding for employment of a fire mitigation officer for 16 weeks – this person will assist the Community Emergency Services Manager, Ranger staff and bush fire brigade volunteers in completing hazard reduction burns.
- Erection of a static water tank for the Sunnyside Bush Fire Brigade.
- Carry-forward of funds for the construction of a satellite fire shed in Highland Estate for the Hester Brook Bush Fire Brigade.
- Purchase of a new generator for the Bridgetown SES.

#### 6. Community Services

- Funding for implementation of the Seniors (Active Ageing) Strategy
- Funding for administration and progressive implementation of the Access and Inclusion Plan
- Funding for various youth programs and completion of a youth strategy
- Funding for the continuation of the summer evening outdoor film festival
- Upgrade of Visitor Centre website
- In 2015 Council adopted a new Community Development Strategy. This strategy was developed to ensure Councils approach to service delivery is focused on inclusion within Shire owned facilities. This strategic direction will allow for long term sustainability by realistically assessing Council's capacity to deliver services and to add value to the extensive infrastructure investments Council has made in recent years. Programs such as the Disability Services Commission and Shire funded "Me 2!" is an example of this strategy affecting service delivery and 2016/17 will be

the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of delivery of this program. The funding was secured to provide access to a wide range of sport, recreation, education and cultural activities within the Shire, over a 2 year period, for people with disability, their family members and carers. This sector of the community is not traditionally a user of the library or leisure/recreation centres. It is anticipated that this program will remove perceptions around the usability of these facilities (and the activities offered) to encourage greater ownership of these facilities/services and ongoing, increased participation within this sector of the community.

#### 7. Building Improvements

The building maintenance/building capital works program includes the following significant works:

- Bridgetown Sportsground – complete works and fitout for new change rooms
- Shire Administration Centre – C o m m e n c e m e n t o f progressive program to repair and renovate external walls of the building, repairs to lead light glass, installation of ventilation
- Greenbushes Hall - level floor and replace stumps, repairs to damaged internal walls, internal painting, replace foyer/toilets roof and other roof repairs and kitchen repairs/reconfiguration
- River Park Ablutions – replace septic tank with larger tank and replace cisterns
- Greenbushes Pool - treat deck woodwork
- Greenbushes Shire Office – replace front doors, repair gutters and exit doors
- Greenbushes Golf Club –repairs to floors in change rooms, install gutters on west side of building
- Bridgetown Old Gaol – repairs to window shutters and rear verandah
- Bridgetown Railway Station – removal of internal lining to

facilitate full condition assessment of the building

- Shire Depot – replace termite damaged internal wall and door frames and secure roof on shed
- Hampton Street ablution block – internal painting
- Recreation Centre – replace all court lighting, repair roof leaks, annual reseal of courts
- Yornup School (office of Bridgetown Historical Society) – upgrade switchboard
- Bridgetown Civic Centre – extensive work proposed to remove bee nest in main hall, replace roof sheeting in atrium and various renewal works
- Settlers Rest – remove drinking fountain and upgrade of slab seating
- Asbestos assessment and preparation of asbestos register for all Shire buildings
- Termite prevention/management for all Shire buildings
- Greenbushes Cemetery – replace storage shed
- Bridgetown Cemetery – construct toilet facility

#### 8. Community Grants and Service Agreements

\$160,000 has been allocated for community donations including \$72,155 for the continuation of existing service agreements or new service agreements, \$10,897 for new community grants, \$41,615 for funding of the Bridgetown-Greenbushes Community Landcare Officer and \$23,883 rate discount for Geegeelup Village.

#### 9. Waste Management

For many years Council has adopted the principle that waste management should be funded on a cost recovery basis. This means that all the expenses associated with waste management are funded by the kerbside rubbish collection charge, kerbside recycling collection charge, the Landfill Site Maintenance Charge plus other waste income such as

recycling subsidies and tipping fees.

Council charges on all rateable properties a landfill rate under Section 66 of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007. This section of the Act allows a local government to impose on rateable land within its district, and cause to be collected, an annual rate for the purpose of providing for the proper performance of all or any of the waste services it provides.

In 2015/16 the necessary statutory approvals were obtained for construction of a new tipping cell at the Bridgetown Waste Disposal Site. Construction of this new cell occurred during the year. The new cell was required because the former approved area for disposal of rubbish was nearing capacity. The 2016/17 budget includes expenditure for installation of additional groundwater monitoring bores and for regular testing of these bores.

Two new outright plant purchases for the waste disposal site are intended in 2016/17:

- \$100,000 for purchase of a new waste truck compactor unit as the existing compactor unit, which is reaching the end of its working life, will be disposed of with the changeover of the Hino rubbish truck.
- \$120,000 for purchase of a second hand BOMAG waste compactor. The intent of purchasing this machine is to achieve higher levels (2-3 times) of waste compaction in the waste cell than can currently be achieved by the Shire's tracked loader. The BOMAG waste compactor will provide greater ground pressure, surface penetration and crushing loads and its use will significantly prolong the life of the waste cell.

Commencing 1 July 2016 several

additional areas in Bridgetown and North Greenbushes have been provided a rubbish collection service. As of this date a new contract commenced with Warren Blackwood Waste for kerbside collection of rubbish and recycling bins, and the transport and processing of bulk recycling.

In summary, the budget shows the following waste management charges:

- Rubbish Collection Charge - \$87.00 (increase of \$4 from 2015/16)
- Recycling Collection Charge - \$73.00 (decrease of \$1 from 2015/16)
- Landfill Site Maintenance Rate (all properties on minimum rate) - \$171.00 (increase of \$3 from 2015/16)

The budget contains funds for an increase in street rubbish bins in the Bridgetown town centre.

#### 10. Other

- Continuation as a member of the Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils and funding of regional trails website and events website.
- Funding for progressive acquisition of land adjacent to Geegeelup Brook.
- Increased budget allocation for Christmas decorations.
- Updates to signage at information bays at northern and southern entrances to Bridgetown.
- New "upcoming events" signage, to be erected on the entrances to Bridgetown.
- New niche wall at Bridgetown Cemetery.

#### 11. Loans

No new loans are proposed in the budget for 2016/17.

#### How much will my rates go up?

The budget provides for an overall rate increase of 4.3%. However this does not mean that all properties will have a rate increase of that amount. The amount of rates attributed to a

property is dependent upon the valuation of the property, as determined by the Valuer-General and the rate in the dollar.

Within the Shire land is rated as either Unimproved Value (UV) or Gross Rental Value (GRV). The rating principles of the Local Government Act require rural land to be rated on its Unimproved Value (UV) and non-rural land is rated on its Gross Rental Value (GRV).

Note if property owners are of the view that the valuation attributed to their property is incorrect they can seek a review by the Valuer –General. Further information on this process can be obtained from Stephen Roberts or Darren Wilson at the Shire Office.

#### Early Payment of Rates Incentive Prizes

Once again it is proposed to offer incentives for the early payment of rates. Property owners who pay their rates in full by 23 September 2016 are able to lodge an entry into a draw. The draw will be conducted by the Shire President at the September 2016 Council Meeting.

Prizes to be offered this year are:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: \$600 Community Cash Vouchers
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: 2 night stay at Perth Ambassador Hotel including breakfast (valued at \$442)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize 1 x double pass to WASO's performance of *Asher Fisch & WASO: Stuart Skelton Sings Wagner*. (double pass valued at \$182)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Prize 1 x double pass to WASO's performance of *Asher Fisch & WASO: Stuart Skelton Sings Wagner*. (double pass valued at \$182)

