

SHIRE OF BRIDGETOWN-GREENBUSHES'  
SUMMER OUTDOOR MOVIE FESTIVAL


# THE JUNGLE BOOK

102min (PG) Mild Threat and Violence


Bridgetown Memorial Park (opposite the Visitor's Centre)  
Saturday, December 17th  
Arrive at 7:30 for an 8pm start  
Children must be supervised by an adult  
Movies may be cancelled if inclement weather is forecast

Admission Fee: Adults - \$5, Under 16s - \$2, Family Pass (Two adults & two children) - \$10


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 **Hunt for the Wilderpeople** Bridgetown Memorial Park  
January 14th 2017  
96 min (PG) Mild themes & coarse language


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 **ZOOTOPIA** Thompson Park, Greenbushes  
(opposite Greenbushes PS)  
January 28th 2017  
104 min (PG) Mild themes and threat, some scenes may scare young children

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 **ADVANCED Style** Bridgetown Memorial Park, February 11th 2017  
75 min (PG) Mild coarse language

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 **THE BFG** Bridgetown Memorial Park  
March 11th 2017  
120 min (PG) Some scenes may frighten young children

 For more information contact the Shire's Community Services  
Department on 9761-1555.

# INSIGHT

Bridgetown-Greenbushes Shire Newsletter

December/January 2017

## Strategic Community Plan

What is a Strategic Community Plan, why is it being reviewed and why do we need your input?

The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes has been encouraging residents and business owners to get involved in planning for its future, calling for community participation in the review of its 10+ year Strategic Community Plan.

Council's existing Strategic Community Plan was prepared (in consultation with the community) in 2011/12. The current review is a comprehensive review of the Plan, incorporating a renewed long-term visioning process in order to ensure the community priorities and aspirations are

kept up to date and relevant.

The Strategic Community Plan is a strategy and planning document that reflects the longer term (10+ years) community and local government aspirations and priorities. The Plan outlines our visions and aspirations for the future and how the Shire, over the next decade, will work towards achieving these.

The Strategic Community Plan responds to three questions put to the community and the local government:

*Continued Page 6 ....*

## President's Comment

*I had the privilege of being able to attend the Armistice Day Service at the war memorial on 11 November 2016, and on behalf of the Shire and its residents, lay a wreath in commemoration of this significant event in Australian history. The event was well attended by RSL veterans, Hon. Robyn McSweeney MLC, members of the public and a small group of school children.*

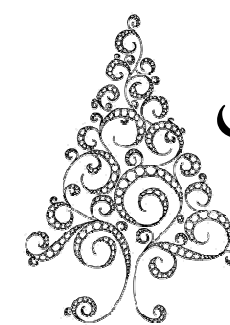
*Council is once again saddened, this time by the passing of Sue Hodson, wife of Councillor Steve Hodson, after a short illness. Condolences, both personal and from fellow Councillors, are extended to Steve and family.*

*With the Strategic Community Plan workshops now over, I hope you took the opportunity to have your voice heard at one of the community engagement events held in late November and early December. The Strategic Community Plan can only be effective and meaningful when the community is fully engaged in the process, after all, it will determine what the Shire will focus its development upon over the next five to ten years.*

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

*With Christmas and the New Year just around the corner I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year and urge that if you intend driving that you take care and return safely. I look forward to seeing you all fit and well in 2017.*

John Nicholas JP,  
Shire President



## Seasons Greetings

*Councillors and Staff of the Shire of  
Bridgetown-Greenbushes would like to wish everyone  
a safe and happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year*



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## 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	26.12.16	3.1.17
Library	24.12.16	3.1.17
Leisure Centre	25.12.16	26.12.16 *
Visitor Centre	25.12.16	26.12.16 #
Shire Depot	22.12.16	9.1.17
Bridgetown Waste Facility	25.12.16	26.12.16

\* Fitness classes will not be available from 23 December until 10 January 2017 – gym and aquatic facilities will be open except for the dates listed above

# Opening hours for the Visitor Centre on Boxing Day and New Years Day will be 10.00am to 1.00pm

## Change of Venue for December 2016 Council Meeting

The December Meeting of Council will be held in the Meeting Room at the Greenbushes Community Resource Centre this year. The meeting will be on Thursday, 15 December 2016 commencing at 5.30pm.

Members of the public are invited to attend and will have the opportunity to address Council during the 'Public Question Time'.



Find us on Facebook

[https://  
www.facebook.com/  
bridgetowngreen  
busheshire/](https://www.facebook.com/bridgetowngreenbusheshire/)

## Prohibited Burning Time / Fire Hazard Reduction

All residents and landholders are reminded that fire prevention work should have been carried out by 15 November. Please remember properties must be maintained throughout the fire season up to 26 April 2016 to ensure any fire hazard is removed.

Rangers are currently carrying out firebreak inspections and anyone not complying with the Firebreak Order requirements faces an on the spot penalty of \$250 and fines of up to \$5,000 for non-compliance.

The prohibited burning time commences as from 15 December and continues through to midnight on 14 March and it should be noted that no open campfires are permitted during the prohibited burning period. It should also be noted that these dates may change due to weather conditions.

## 2017 - 2018 Community Grants & Service Agreement Applications

Application packs for Community Grants and Service Agreements for the 2017-2018 financial year are now available for collection from the Shire Office (Customer Service Front Counter) and the Shire's website ([www.bridgetown.wa.gov.au](http://www.bridgetown.wa.gov.au)). It should be noted that while applications close on 24 February 2017, the grant funds will not be available to the successful applicants until later in the year, once the 2017-2018 budget has been adopted by Council. This will most likely occur at the July or August Council Meeting. All applicants will then be advised in writing of the outcome of their application.

Applicants MUST have submitted grant acquittals for any previous service agreements and community grants received.



26 January 2017

On Thursday, 26 January we will once again celebrate Australia Day with the Shire sponsored traditional "Aussie Breakfast" commencing at 7.30am at the Bridgetown Showgrounds.

Come along and enjoy a hearty meal prepared and cooked by your Councillors and CEO.

The presentation of the prestigious Australia Day Awards will take place around 8.45am.

## Mobile Phone Towers for Maranup & Winnejuip

Recently the Commonwealth Government announced the locations to receive funding under its Round 2 of the Mobile Black Spot Program. Round 2 will deliver 266 new or upgraded mobile base stations around Australia.

Under the program two new towers have been approved for locations in the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes – **Maranup** and **Winnejuip**.

The Maranup site is particularly pleasing to have approved as that site has been the priority for Council due the benefits it will provide for bushfire/emergency management in the areas south and west of Greenbushes. Council's Bush Fire Advisory Committee has been pushing for a solution to the mobile phone blackspot in Maranup for many years. The South West Development Commission also lobbied for this site as one of its highest priorities in the south-west region.

The specific details of the towers, including actual locations, are yet to be determined and will no doubt occur in the next few months.

Further information about the outcomes of round 2 is available on the Department of Communications and the Arts' website at [www.communications.gov.au/mobile\\_coverage](http://www.communications.gov.au/mobile_coverage).

Under rounds 1 and 2 of the program, 765 new or upgraded mobile base stations will be deployed across regional and remote Australia. A map of locations which will receive new or upgraded coverage under rounds 1 and 2 of the program can be viewed on the National Map at <http://nationalmap.gov.au>.



## 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](http://www.areyouready.wa.gov.au)**

## Worried About Your Christmas Shopping?

The Visitor Centre supports local producers and suppliers by stocking as many local products as possible. There is a delightful range of locally handmade soaps, olive oil, preserves and pickles, books by local authors and art by local artists.

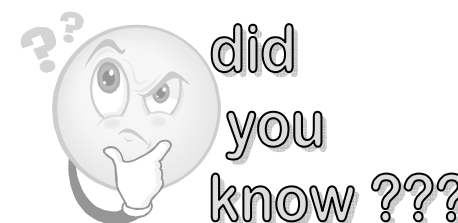
Support your community – buy local! Visit the Centre for unique Christmas gifts this year.

The Visitor Centre's hours over the public holidays are:

- Christmas Day - closed
- Boxing Day & New Year's Day – open from 10am to 1pm

Standard opening hours are in place at all other times as follows:

- Monday: Friday: 9am – 5pm
- Saturday: 10am – 3pm
- Sunday: 10am – 1pm



- The Shire is an Agent for the Department of Transport and is able to process all licence renewals and transfers, Monday to Friday between the hours of 9.00am and 4.30pm.
- The 'Mobile Muster' program makes it easy for you to recycle your old mobile phones and batteries. Simply drop them into the specially marked bins located in the Shire's Customer Service area and at the Bridgetown Waste Facility.
- The Bridgetown Waste Facility also has a specially marked bin for the collection of 'compact fluorescent light bulbs'





# Between the Lines *at your library*

## CHANGES AHEAD FOR THE LIBRARY SERVICE

Exciting changes are ahead for libraries within the southwest area. Within the next 6 months libraries, with exception of the Shires of Collie and Augusta-Margaret River, are joining together in a consortium to form "One Library". All the participating libraries will operate with a shared software management system. Patrons will be registered members of the library branch in the Shire where they live but will be able to use any library in the "One Library" consortium. "One Library" will have a centralized catalogue listing all the items of the participating libraries. Patrons can then borrow items from any of the libraries in the consortium. Only 1 library card will be necessary to borrow items from any of the libraries. Items may also be returned to any "One Library" branch.

All libraries in the consortium are currently engaged in updating and standardizing their records ready for the change to the new software management system. Unfortunately during the change to the new system, borrowing history will be lost. If patrons would like a copy of their borrowing history for future reference, please contact the library and it can be arranged.

## OVERDUE LIBRARY ITEM AMNESTY

As part of the changeover to the new library management system, between January and April 2017, there will be an amnesty on fines currently owed for overdue library items. During this time no further overdue fines will be issued. All patrons will commence membership of "One Library" with a clean slate. The library welcomes the return of any outstanding items. There is an after-hours return chute in the library entrance for patron convenience

## SUMMER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Join libraries across Australia celebrating the summer by taking part in the annual Summer Reading Club. This year's theme is Heroes & Villains. Self-directed activities are available for families visiting the library in January and children may also enrol in the holiday activity sessions listed below:

### Friday 6 January, 2.30pm-3.30pm: Calendars (ages 12 & under)

Start the year with a bang. Who are your heroes? Someone you know, unicorns, Spiderman? Bring in some small pictures you can use or choose from our collection to stick, collage and glue into your own 2017 calendar.

### Monday 9 January, 2.30pm-3.30pm: Scratch Art (ages 7 & under)

Scratch off the black coating on scratch boards to unmask hidden creations.

### Wednesday 11 January, 2.30pm-4.00pm: Computer Cartoons (ages 8-12)

Use "Scratch" computer software to make cartoon adventures about your heroes and villains.

### Wednesday 18 January, 2.30-4.00pm: Knight Puppets (ages 8-12)

Make a string puppet out of paper cups and cardboard, then write a script and have mock adventures with your friends.

### Friday 20 January, 2.30pm-4.00pm: Drawing Superheroes & Villains (ages 8-12)

Learn basic skills to draw different cartoon/comic book characters. Create your own superhero or villain.

### Monday 23 January, 2.30pm-3.30pm: Mask Making (ages 7 & under)

Become your favourite superhero by designing and making your own mask.

## FLORAL PRINTS EXHIBITION

When visiting the library during December, take the opportunity to view the floral prints which will be on display in the Holdsworth Exhibition Space. The delicate watercolour renderings of native sedges and grasses were commissioned by the Blackwood Environment Society and painted by Lynne Thompson. The Blackwood Environment Society donated the paintings to the library and this is the first exhibition of the works to be held in the library exhibition space.

## CHANGES TO ONE CLICK DIGITAL AND ZINIO

Users of the e-audiobook service One Click Digital and the e-zine service Zinio will notice changes to the platform in January. The services have been rebranded RB Digital and have a new webpage and a new app. Look out for the new apps and links which will be added to the library website. Current users should be notified directly via their device but if you have any problems accessing the service, please notify the library.

## You CANNOT rely on scheme water supplies during a bushfire

Residents living in or near bushland are reminded that they cannot rely on public water supplies if they plan to stay and defend their homes during a bushfire.

**If you plan to stay and defend your home you must have an INDEPENDENT water supply and pumping capability.** Scheme water may not be available due to damaged infrastructure, extreme demand depleting supply and pressure, or a cut to power which is used to pump water.

Water Corporation has made preparations for the 2016-17 bushfire season by readying equipment and systems to cope with extreme conditions. Despite these efforts, it is likely there will be a reduction in water pressure, and scheme water supply tanks may run empty in the event of fire.

For more information about preparing a bushfire survival plan and what you will need to actively defend your home, visit the Department of Fire and Emergency Services website

[www.emergency.wa.gov.au/prepare](http://www.emergency.wa.gov.au/prepare)

### A message from the Department of Water

The Department of Water has advised people in bushfire prone areas with bores and access to surface water that they can take and store water to support bushfire plans.

For more information on how the Department of Water's rules support bushfire preparedness, visit [www.water.wa.gov.au/fireplanning](http://www.water.wa.gov.au/fireplanning)

## Emergency Numbers

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

## Road Numbering, Naming and Emergency Response

*This Could Save Your Life or Your Home (previously published in February 2016)*

The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes, in consultation with Landgate, completed the review and allocation of urban street numbering for Bridgetown, Greenbushes and Hester townsites in early 2016. Through this review many road naming anomalies have been discovered, triggering rationalisation of some road names to improve road legibility and allow allocation of appropriate urban and rural street numbers.

Landowners and tenants are requested to clearly display their street numbers at the front of their house, shop or factory, and to remove any lot or incorrect street numbers. Additionally, the roll out of Rural Street Numbers (RSNs) was completed some time ago with new RSN tags allocated for new properties as need. Landowners can still display their lot number and/or family name on the front

fence if they wish to but need to start using the RSN address.

With the bushfire season upon us Chris Sousa, Community Emergency Services Manager encourages "landowners in town and built up areas to clearly display their street numbers and rural landowners to continue using their RSNs when requesting emergency assistance. Finding the right property, even within town, can be difficult given the terrain and dense vegetation, and sometimes dwellings are set well back from the road. Responding quickly to a house fire, bush fire or other emergency is critical to save a house or more importantly to save a life."

Chris Mott, Senior Ambulance Officer says "In an emergency when minutes and seconds can

*literally mean the difference between life and death, finding the right address is crucial. Landowners should display their house or shop numbers clearly to help the Ambulance or other emergency service find their property. Using reflective or illuminated numbers is also helpful. Too often valuable time is lost trying to find the right address, and taking five or ten minutes to put up a number could actually save the life of a loved one."*

Landowners are encouraged to contact Shire staff with regard to any road naming issues, and urban or rural street numbering matters, with all queries to Michelle Donaldson, Planning Administration Officer on 9761 1555 or [mdonaldson@bridgetown.wa.gov.au](mailto:mdonaldson@bridgetown.wa.gov.au).

## Council & Standing Committee Meeting Dates for 2017

Members of the Bridgetown-Greenbushes community are invited to attend Council and Standing Committee Meetings during 2017. Meetings commence at 5.30pm and those attending have an opportunity to address Council during the 'Public Question Time' segment (at Council Meetings only). All meetings are held in the Council Chambers except the December Council Meeting which will be held in Greenbushes.

### Council Meeting Dates:

25.1.17	23.2.17	30.3.17	27.4.17	25.5.17	29.6.17
27.7.17	31.8.17	28.9.17	26.10.17	30.11.17	21.12.17

### Standing Committee Meeting Dates:

9.2.17	9.3.17	13.4.17	11.5.17	8.6.17
13.7.17	10.8.17	14.9.17	9.11.17	

As 2017 is an election year for Local Government there will be no Standing Committee Meeting in October. Agendas will be available for inspection from the Library and the Shire website 4 days prior to Meetings.

## State Planning Policy 2.5 - Rural Planning

The Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) has recently concluded the review of State Planning Policy 2.5 – Land Use Planning in Rural Areas, with the new SPP 2.5 – Rural Planning gazetted on 1 December 2016, which is available on the PlanningWA website at [www.planning.wa.gov.au/ruralpolicies](http://www.planning.wa.gov.au/ruralpolicies).

The changes to SPP 2.5 introduce policy direction for animal premises (such as poultry farms, abattoirs and piggeries) and incorporate policy measures for basic raw materials outside of the Perth and Peel regions. The gazettal of SPP 2.5 also revokes

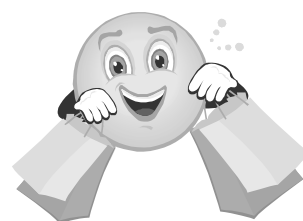
State Planning Policy 4.3 - Poultry Farm Policy.

The WAPC has also released an updated suite of rural planning documents which support and complement SPP 2.5, including Development Control Policy 3.4 Subdivision of Rural Land, the Rural Planning Guidelines, and Fact Sheets to assist local governments assess applications associated with basic raw materials, piggeries and poultry farms.

The Rural Planning Guidelines (Guidelines) have been prepared to assist local governments and the planning industry in dealing with issues associated with planning for

rural areas. The Guidelines provide explanatory detail to assist the implementation of SPP 2.5 and DC 3.4 and can be used in the preparation or review of regional schemes, regional strategies or frameworks, sub-regional strategies, local planning strategies and schemes, structure plans, other planning instruments such as local planning policies and any amendments to these documents.

The Department of Planning has also developed a rainfall calculator to assess rainfall as an alternative water source for rural living proposals where reticulated water is not available.



### 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 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: **20 December, 3 January, 17 January, 31 January, 14 February**

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



## Road Safety Message from the Roadwise Advisory Committee

### ROAD SAFETY MESSAGE FROM THE ROADWISE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

With the Christmas holiday season and school holidays almost with us, many people will be travelling on the roads to visit family or friends or travelling to go on holidays so this is a timely reminder.

If you are driving, please remember:

- Don't drive tired, if driving a long distance to reach your destination, stop every 2 hours and take a break. Stopping for just 10 - 20 mins will refresh you so that you can continue your journey safely;
- If you have a time deadline, leave much earlier in case there are roadworks or other incidents that may slow your journey and cause you stress;
- Don't drink and drive – if you are intending to drink alcohol don't think you will be OK, nominate a skipper who will not be drinking alcohol and will get you home safely;
- Don't become distracted whilst you are driving. A good tip is to turn your mobile phone off before you start your journey so that you are not tempted to answer the phone whilst driving. Being distracted can also include changing channels on the vehicle radio or when you are streaming music through an ipod or other device.

Our warmer weather will also see an increase of cyclists on our roads so please be vigilant about these cyclists especially when driving into the sun when vision is sometimes more difficult.

The Bridgetown-Greenbushes Roadwise Committee wishes all residents are safe and happy festive season.

*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)



## 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.malart.com.au](http://www.bridgetown.malart.com.au) to conduct the training now.

Young Leadership Team  
Engagement Events  
- a Great Success

The review of the Youth Friendly Community Plan has been underway for several months. The community consultation has been driven by the Shire's new youth leadership team, HACK. HACK is made up of 11 young, energetic and committed people from the Shire.



HACK facilitated 2 events recently as a way of engaging with young people in the community, a dunk tank at the Blues at Bridgetown and a Bridgetown Leisure Centre Take Over. Both events were great fun and a success. What better way to bring young people together than to offer them a chance to dunk their favourite teachers and community leaders!!

Willing dunkies below :)



BLC Open Day

On Saturday 5 November 640 people joined in the fun activities at the Bridgetown Leisure Centre on its Open Day. The weather was perfect to kick off the 2016-17 aquatic season, and to officially open the new 24-Hour-Gym.

At the Open Day, patrons enjoyed free entry to all areas of the centre and participated in various activities and classes. Program events included group fitness class tasters, supervised gym sessions, 24-Hour-Gym inductions, table tennis, badminton and a beach volleyball competition. Local sporting clubs including Bridgetown Swimming Club and Bridgetown Basketball Association offered various activities, while Praetorian Mixed Martial Arts students presented a fantastic demonstration of their mixed martial arts skills.

Walter the "Watch around Water" Dog was there to meet and greet the public and, along with his friend Bob the Minion frolicked around handing out balloons and small prizes to the visiting children. Shire Councillors and staff were on hand to cook and serve a complimentary sausage sizzle which was very popular amongst patrons.

Feedback from the day has been extremely positive with over 85% of people surveyed during the day reporting that the day was "fantastic". Almost 70% of people surveyed felt "fired up" about getting involved in health and fitness activities at the BLC. This achieved one of the aims of the day which was to provide the community with an opportunity to observe and participate in the activities on offer at the BLC.

Since the Open Day, over 1600 people have attended the aquatic complex; 50 new memberships (including Family Aqua Memberships) have been taken up. The Family Aqua Membership offers significant value to families during the summer. The new 24 Hour Gym is proving popular also, with 482 people having used this facility since the Open Day (including 71 inductions for the 24 Hour Gym). These usage statistics demonstrate that over 45% of BLC gym members have used the 24-hour facility since the launch.

If you are interested in the 24 Hour Gym, inductions can be booked by contacting the BLC on 9761 2966. Sessions are available every day. BLC Memberships start from as little as \$19.10 per month.



BRIDGETOWN-GREENBUSHES VISITOR CENTRE

Update to the Bus Timetables & Conditions

Please note changes to South West Coachlines.

The Visitor Centre, as the agent for both Transwa and South West Coachlines, can book your tickets for travel between Bridgetown and Perth and other destinations.

It is recommended that you book your bus travel because unless the buses have ticketed passengers to pick up, they are not required to stop at the bus stop. Tickets can be booked at the Visitor Centre up to 24 hours prior to travel, and price concessions apply on presentation of valid cards. Please note that we must see your concession card in order to provide the discount.

From	To	Departs	Arrives	Frequency
<b>Transwa</b>				
Bridgetown*	Perth Station	12.47 pm	5.12 pm	Daily
Perth Station*	Bridgetown	9.30 am	1.17 pm	Daily
* Combined bus/ train service to Perth Railway Station				
Bridgetown*	East Perth	9.40 am	2.00 pm	Mon
Bridgetown*#	East Perth	8.55 am	2.00 pm	Tue, Thu
East Perth*#	Bridgetown	12.15 pm	5.20 pm	Mon, Wed
East Perth*	Bridgetown	11.15 am	3.32 pm	Fri
East Perth*	Bridgetown	2.30 pm	6.47 pm	Sun
* Stops at Mandurah and Cockburn Central				
# Via Boyup Brook and Collie				

South West Coachlines – Amended Oct 2016

Bridgetown	Elizabeth Quay	7.05 am	11.45 am	Mon-Fri
Elizabeth Quay	Bridgetown	1.20 pm	5.55 pm	Mon-Fri

NB. 1 South West Coachlines also service the airports

NB. 2 South West Coachlines are no longer open on weekends

Printed timetables are available from the Visitor Centre; opening times are Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm, Saturday 10am – 3pm, Sundays and public holidays 10am – 1pm.



**RURAL IN REACH PROGRAM**

- Free video conferencing and phone counselling support
- Health and well-being community information sessions and workshops
- Privacy and confidentiality

To find out more call 1800 998 399 (Women's Health & Family Services) or 1800 673 350 (South West Women's Health and Information Service). [www.ruralinreach.whfs.org.au](http://www.ruralinreach.whfs.org.au)

Proudly supported by

Government of Western Australia  
Department of Regional Development

ROYALTIES FOR REGIONS

Western Australian Community Resource Network

The Shire of Australia Regional

In partnership with  
SOUTH WEST Women's Health & Family Services

Supporting the health and well-being of rural Western Australia

Continued from front page ....

- Where are we now?
- Where do we want to be?
- How do we get there?

The comprehensive review of the Shire's 10+ year Strategic Community Plan will link the community's aspirations for the future of Bridgetown-Greenbushes with Councils vision, to create an exciting road map for future community planning and development.

Community input into the review of the Strategic Community Plan is crucial. Previously the Shire conducted a community survey and received some excellent responses and in the last week of November and first week of December a series of community engagement sessions were held in Bridgetown, Greenbushes, Catterick and Yornup. These sessions saw some great discussion between participants and plenty of feedback to the Council to use when preparing the new updated Strategic Community Plan.



A report on the main findings of the recent community workshops will be completed prior to Christmas and will be considered by council in the new year together with the summary of responses from the community survey previously conducted. From there your Council will prepare a new draft Strategic Community Plan and release the draft for community consultation – that is expected to occur in March or April 2017. This will be a further opportunity for interested members of the community to ensure the long term goals and aspirations of the Council are reflective of its community.

Thank you to all that participated in the recent community engagement sessions – your vision for the future of our district was overwhelmingly positive and was a strong indication of why we all choose to live in this wonderful part of the world.

### Congrats to our Rates incentive prize winners!

- 1<sup>st</sup> prize – Brad McGinty
- 2<sup>nd</sup> prize – Trent Jackaman
- 3<sup>rd</sup> prize – John & Robyn Platt
- 4<sup>th</sup> prize – Joanne Elliott

(Winners were drawn at the Council Meeting on 29 September 2016.)

## 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.

## Time to Start Thinking About the Bushfire Season

Having an emergency kit is an important step to prepare and protect your household for an emergency such as a bushfire.

Keep your Emergency Survival Kit in a storage container in a location that is easy to get to and where the whole family knows about.

Things to include in your kit are:

- Portable battery-operated AM/FM radio
- Waterproof torch
- Spare batteries
- First aid kit with manual
- Candles with waterproof matches
- Clothing and Woollen blankets
- Phone and charger
- Water
- Money
- Toiletries
- Scans of Important Documents
- Copies of important photographs
- Photographs of valuable household items
- Emergency contact numbers

And don't forget to prepare for your pets as well. Make sure your pet is wearing an identification tag. If you're leaving, take a leash, basket, medication, food and a familiar toy for your animal. It will help reduce their stress.

For more information:

- Visit the DFES website at [www.dfes.wa.gov.au](http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au)
- Contact DFES Community Engagement on 9395 9816
- Visit the Red Cross website at [www.redcross.org.au/prepare.aspx](http://www.redcross.org.au/prepare.aspx)



## 'Christmas in the Park'



The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes invites you and your family to attend

## 'Christmas in the Park'

Friday 16 December  
Memorial Park  
4pm to 6.30pm

**Santa**  
**Food Stalls**  
**Jubilee Singers**  
**Coconut Shy**  
**Bouncy Castle & Slide**  
**Firies Foam**  
and  
**A Giant Slip 'n' Slide!!**

Bring your bathers, towel & dry clothes!

If you have any queries please contact  
Tania Lockley on 9761 1555. Please note times  
have been bought forward after community feedback.

We hope to enjoy your company  
at this year's festive season celebration!