

Bridgetown Leisure Centre

Shire of
Bridgetown-Greenbushes



Lessons off to a Swimming Start!

Enrolments are now being taken for the Term 1 "Lil Fishes Learn 2 Swim" program due to commence Monday 13th February. The program, for babies and toddlers aged 4 years and under, kicked off with great success in December. Classes start at 9:15am to accommodate families who do the school drop off. NEMO classes are for ages 6-18 months, DORY classes are for ages 18mths to 2 years, and SQUIRT classes are for ages 3-4 years. For bookings and all session time, please contact the BLC.

BUBBLES sessions offer one-on-one and small group swimming lessons for children and adults with disability. Throughout Term 1, BUBBLES sessions will be offered free of charge as part of the ME 2! funding initiative. ME 2! programs are funded by the Disability Services Commission and aim to raise awareness and support inclusion in the community for people with disability. Parents and carers are encouraged to contact the BLC for session times and bookings.

Fit mums take over the BLC!

The Bridgetown Leisure Centre is excited to launch a fantastic new 7 week term program specifically designed for mums (and dads) with young children. Running from Tuesday 14 February to Thursday 30 March, FIT MUMS Bootcamp offers two 45-minute workouts per week – Tuesdays and Thursdays 9.15-10am – that promise results. The sessions offer a variety of activities where parents and children alike will be stimulated and challenged.

With no childcare required, parents have the opportunity to engage in regular weekly exercise in a supportive and inspiring environment surrounded by like-minded women and men who understand the demands of parenthood.

FIT MUMS Bootcamp costs \$22.50 per week. Places are limited and we encourage interested parents to contact the BLC for further information.

Teens Encouraged to Work Out!

Starting February, teenage residents can access BLC gym facilities and teen-specific fitness classes without having to attend with an adult. Patrons aged 16 & 17 can attend the gym without an adult. For those aged 13 and over, TEEN FIT is a great introduction to health and fitness through adult-supervised gym, circuit workouts and fitness classes.

The Leisure Centre aims to provide a safe, structured environment for teenagers to learn proper exercise techniques and gym etiquette while working towards their individual health and fitness goals. With an emphasis on fun, fitness and friendship, our programs encourage teens to enjoy being active and take an interest in their personal health & wellbeing.

TEEN FIT is conducted by qualified instructors and combines the latest music with a variety of modified age-appropriate training activities and exercises. Participants can come casually or join as a Gym or Health & Fitness member for unlimited sessions per week. TEEN FIT gym sessions will not disrupt general patron use. We encourage parents and teens to contact the BLC for more information on this program.

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

February/March 2017

Warren Blackwood Stock Route given the go-ahead by South West Development Commission and Lotterywest

The Shire is extremely pleased to share the news of the successful funding applications to both the South West Development Commission and Lotterywest for the third and final stage of the Warren Blackwood Stock Route.

The Warren Blackwood Stock Route is a Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils project led by the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes. So far the project has included a feasibility study, oral history project and planning stage. This has taken over 5 years, however, with the support of the South West Development Commission and Lotterywest, the project is now ready for the construction stage.

Upon construction the Warren Blackwood Stock Route is set to be a regional tourist attraction in the form of a 320 kilometre bridle trail, traversing some of the most scenic country the South West has to offer. The Stock Route will begin in Bridgetown with the southern leg heading through Quinninup and Shannon National Park to Broke Inlet and the Western Leg heading through Willow Springs and Nannup to Scott River. The Stock Route will include 12 campsites approximately 30km to 40 km apart. Each campsite will be equipped to support the needs of both riders (shelter, water tank and toilet) and their

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Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes President John Nicholas and Grants and Services Manager Megan Richards, with Regional Development Minister Terry Redman.



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President's Comment

I hope you all had a pleasant and enjoyable Christmas and although we are now near the end of February I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year.

We again had great numbers to our Australia Day breakfast at which we were able to celebrate the 2017 Australia Day 'Citizens of the Year Awards'. This year's Citizen of the Year is Leonie Eastcott. Leonie has contributed to the community of Greenbushes for more than 20 years as an officer bearer, volunteer and member of a number of community organisations.

In 2017 a new category of award was introduced, that being "Senior Citizen of the Year" and was awarded to Noel Holdsworth. Noel has generously supported and participated in the Bridgetown community over many years. He has been a significant contributor to many local sporting and other groups, particularly in respect to fundraising events.

The 2017 Junior Citizen of the Year was awarded to Emily Rae. Emily joined the St John Ambulance Association in 2014 at the age of 20 and since joining has already notched up 159 hours on call-outs and hopes to inspire more young people from our community to get involved in our Emergency Service organisations.

The Community Group or Event Award this year went to the Blues Committee in recognition of the many hours their volunteers contribute to ensuring the annual

*Continued
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*John Nicholas JP,
Shire President*



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), by emailing btnshire@bridgetown.wa.gov.au or by downloading from the home page of the Shire website www.bridgetown.wa.gov.au

Applications close on 24 February 2017, however 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.



Find us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/bridgetowngreenbushshire/>

Polling Places - March 11 State Elections

There will be 3 Polling Places set up in our Shire for the March elections, these being:

- Bridgetown Lesser Hall
- Greenbushes Primary School
- Yornup Hall

Polling times are 8.00am to 6.00pm. It should be noted that the elections are being conducted by the Western Australian Electoral Commission and the Returning Officer for the Warren Blackwood Electorate is Stephanie De Vaney. If you have any queries regarding the elections please contact Ms De Vaney on 0467 802 204.

Restricted Burning Time

We are currently in the Prohibited Burning Period, and the Restricted Burning period will commence Tuesday, 15 March 2017 (subject to weather conditions).

From 15 March up to 26 April 2017, any property owner or occupier of land wanting to burn a fire at their property (including garden refuse and rubbish) will need to obtain a Fire Permit from their Fire Control Officer. Bridgetown townsite permits are issued by Shire Rangers, Monday to Friday. A Permit is required for all cooking and camping fires during the Restricted Burning period. Gas barbeques can still be used during the Restricted and Prohibited Burning period. Check with your Fire Control Officer for any variation to fire restriction dates. Fire Control Officers for each area are listed in the Fire Break Order you received with your land rates and are available on the Shire website, www.bridgetown.wa.gov.au.

No Permits will be issued for burning on Public Holidays during the Restricted Burning period. Any queries should be directed to Ranger Services on 9761 1555 or 0428 911 847.

Welcoming our new trainee



In July 2016 the Department of Local Government and Communities announced the launch of the Country Local Government Fund - Youth Development Program, made possible through the Department of Regional Development and Royalties for Regions. One component of the fund is a traineeship program.

The Country Local Government Fund Youth Development Traineeship Program provides support to country local governments to employ young people, aged 24 years or under, in a traineeship program. The Shire successfully applied for funding of \$20,000 to assist with the employment of a Trainee Customer Service/Administration Officer. Jayne Dittich was the successful applicant and commenced her traineeship on 3 January. Jayne will complete a Certificate 111 in Business during the next twelve months.

During Jayne's traineeship with the Shire, she hopes to gain experience in the business environment and meet new people, and anticipates that this valuable training opportunity and qualification will assist her into the future. At the completion of her traineeship, Jayne intends to move to Perth to experience city life and further her studies.

Continued from President's Comment

Blues Festival remains one of the major events in Western Australia, attracting thousands of visitors to our Shire.

My sincere congratulations to these most worthy winners, all of whom have made a significant contribution to the communities of Bridgetown-Greenbushes. They are the fibre of everything that is great about our Shire.

In addition to the local awards, two other Bridgetown people were recognised at the Australia Day Breakfast. Bruce Maslin, who was born and grew-up in Bridgetown, was awarded the 'Order of Australia Medal' at the 2017 Australia Day Awards for his outstanding national and international contribution to Botanical Science. Secondly, John Tillman was awarded the 'Australian Fire Service Medal' for his distinguished service in this area, this award being the highest award made for meritorious service.

I was also pleased to present Achievement Awards to Derek Dilkes and Rodney Hester. Derek and Rodney have over many years been an integral part of our volunteer bushfire brigade network, helping to save many properties over the years, not only in our Shire but across the South West and Great Southern regions. Derek has been a member of the Catterick Bushfire Brigade for 53 years, 35 of which he served as its Fire Control Officer and also served as the Shire's Deputy Chief Fire Control Officer for a number of years. Rodney has been a member of the Winnejup Bushfire Brigade for 35 years, 24 of which he served as its Fire Control Officer.

Council at its final meeting in 2016 endorsed the draft "Youth Strategy" document and has advertised it for public comment. I would encourage all parts of the community to obtain a copy of the report and provide your feedback to Council so that the policy when adopted is a reflection of what the community feels is the appropriate approach to providing our youth with the facilities and services that they need and require.

I would also like to personally thank the myriad of paid and volunteer firefighters that acted so professionally in managing what could have been a disastrous situation along Eedle Terrace recently.

Together with the CEO, Councillors Pratico and Hodson, and Hugh Browne, I recently met with Minister Joe Francis to provide feedback into the planned establishment of a Rural Fire Service as recommended in the Ferguson Report. Whilst these are early days, and with the State election in March, the feedback we provided was positive and highlighted the need to protect what currently works well and fix those things that are not.

With summer now here and the threat of bushfire always ever present, 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.



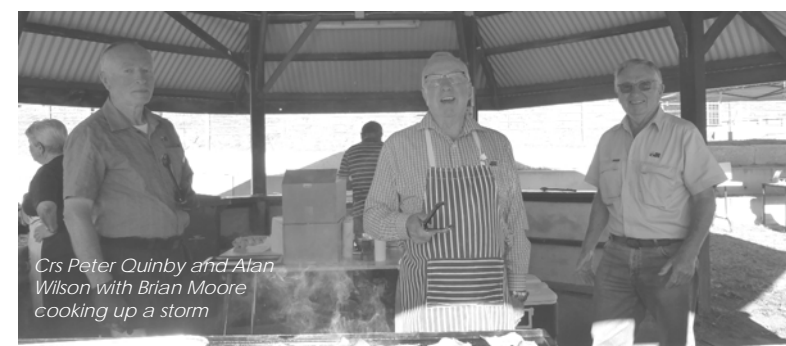
Australia Day Award recipients with Local MP's Rick Wilson & Robyn McSweeney, and Shire President John Nicholas



Cr Alan Wilson with Noel Holdsworth



Australia Day Award recipients Leonie Eastcott and Emily Rae with Achievement Award recipient Derek Dilkes



Crs Peter Quinby and Alan Wilson with Brian Moore cooking up a storm

Between the Lines *at your library*

CHANGES TO ONE CLICK DIGITAL AND ZINIO DELAYED

Changes to the One Click Digital and Zinio services that were to have occurred in January have been delayed until later in the year. Extensive testing is underway to ensure that the app is functioning well to give users a trouble free usage experience. The Service has been rebranded by RB Digital and will have a new webpage as well as the new app. Both Zinio and One Click Digital will be accessed through the one app. Current users should be notified directly via their device but if there are any problems accessing the service, please notify the library.

LIBRARY CLOSURE FRIDAY APRIL 7TH- WEDNESDAY APRIL 12TH

When the library changes over to the new operating system in April and becomes part of the "One Library" for the South West, it will necessitate the Bridgetown and Greenbushes Libraries closing for a few days while all the current library data is migrated to the new operating system and the data is tested to determine and correct any errors that may have occurred during transition. As this is to occur in Easter week, Library staff would appreciate patrons borrowing their Easter reading materials before Friday 7th April if possible.

The new operating system will give library staff and patrons enhanced functionality which will feel familiar to users of internet sites. By becoming part of "One Library", patrons will be able to:

- have access to the combined holdings of the 23 participating libraries
- borrow up to a total of 30 items from the 23 participating libraries in the South West
- return items to any of the participating libraries
- have one library card for use at any of the participating libraries
- reserve books online from any of the participating libraries and have them shipped to a nominated library for collection

ANN O'KEEFE RETIRES FROM THE LIBRARY

Popular library staff member Ann O'Keefe is retiring after ten years of dedicated library service. Ann is departing for the Scottish Highlands where she will run a popular tearooms and croft with her daughter. Although used to living in "fridgetown" this will take on a new meaning in the Scottish snow. We wish her every success in her new endeavour and know she will be missed here in Bridgetown especially by the library, the S.E.S., the Bridgetown High School where she has taught for 27 years and her many friends.



MEETING ROOM AND EXHIBITION SPACE HIRE

During library opening hours, the meeting room and exhibition space are available freely for community use and can be booked at the library circulation desk. Many groups have regular bookings so if your group would like to hold meetings in the library, now is a good time to book. The meeting room can comfortably hold 8-12 and with both rooms combined 20-25 people can be accommodated. Exhibitions of works are also very welcome subject to the Shire's exhibition's policy. Please ask at the library desk. Commercial interests are now also able to use the meeting room and exhibition space but are required to pay a fee according to the Council's list of fees and charges.

LIBRARY LOVER'S DAY 14TH FEBRUARY

Valentine's Day has also been chosen for the national Library Lover's Day. Come along to the library, have a blind date with a book and tell us what you love about the library. Enjoy a coffee with friends and spend some time reading, using the computers or wifi, doing a jigsaw or reading the papers. There is something for everyone in Bridgetown Regional Library.

Do you happen to be one of the incredible
Volunteers in our Community?

*If so, we invite you and your family to join us in celebrating the passion,
time and commitment you so generously give.*

Friday 31 March, 2017
6pm to 8pm
Bridgetown Memorial Park

Special Guest Entertainment
~ Bridgetown Singer/Songwriter Tracey Barnett ~
BBQ Burgers, Buns, Salad
Beer, Local Wines and Soft Drinks
Bouncy Castle for the kids

RSVP no later than Friday 24 March, 2017
Email tlockley@bridgetown.wa.gov.au or phone Tania on 9761 1555

If your organisation has achievement awards to present to volunteers you may take this opportunity to have them presented formally by either the Shire President or a representative from your organisation on the night - please call Tania on the number above to discuss this before the event.

The Community Bus will be available to transport Volunteers from Greenbushes. Pickup from Greenbushes CRC at 5.30pm, and drop back to Greenbushes CRC at approx. 8.30pm. Please register your intent to use the bus service with Rebecca Redman, Community Services Admin, on 9761 1555 by Wednesday 29 March, 2017.





FREE

Online Food Safety Training

Now available through the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes website.

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

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

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

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

Youth Leadership Team Present Draft Youth Plan 2017-2021

The Youth Leadership Team (aka HACK) addressed a Special Meeting of Council in December to share the successes of the youth consultation and present the Draft Youth Plan 2017-2021 to be approved for public comment.



The results of the consultation highlighted five top priorities for young people in the shire:

- Flexible physical spaces - that provide better recreational and social opportunities, and can adapt to the changing needs and interests of young people.
- Mental health and counselling services - advocacy and support for providers to ensure the need is met.
- Events and programs - that appeal to non-sporting interests - e.g. music, arts and technology.

- Inclusivity and accessibility - ensuring the lack of transport and other barriers to participation are reduced.
- Resilient, strong young people - creating a supportive, strong and respectful community approach that enables young people to continue to build their resilience, self-esteem, and self-confidence.

Council noted the Draft Youth Plan 2017-2021 and resolved to release it for a 6 week public comment period which commenced in January and will

close on the 24 February 2017.

The Draft Youth Plan 2017-2021 can be viewed at the Bridgetown Library, Bridgetown Leisure Centre, the Shire Administration Office, Greenbushes CRC, on the Shire website and a link on Facebook. Council welcomes all submissions from community members.

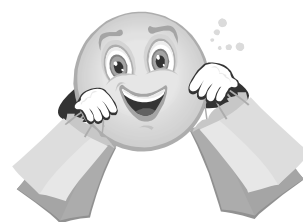
Public submissions on The Draft Youth Plan 2017-2021 should be made in writing and addressed to the CEO, Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes, PO Box 271, Bridgetown, WA, 6255 and be received no later than 4pm Friday, 24 February 2017. All relevant queries can be directed to the Grant & Services Manager, Megan Richards, on 97611555 or via email to mrichards@bridgetown.wa.gov.au.

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equine friends (yards and water trough).

The Warren Blackwood Stock Route is based on the stock routes used by the original farming families of the region. These families used to drive livestock to the coast for summer and back in Autumn and winter. To develop and record the cultural aspect of stock driving in the South West, funding was successfully secured by the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes to undertake a collection of oral histories of six farming families within the region to inform the construction and the interpretive experience of the trail.

The construction of the Warren Blackwood Stock Route will involve close working partnership between the Shires of Bridgetown-Greenbushes, Manjimup and Nannup and the Department of Parks and Wildlife. The construction of the trail will begin in July 2017. The estimated end date will be approximately August 2018.



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: **28 February, 14 March, 28 March, 11 April**

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

Schools are Back

The new school year has commenced and drivers are urged to be very aware of children, especially some of our very young children, crossing streets on their way to and from school. Several children will have new scooters, skateboards or bikes that they received as Christmas gifts and they may still be learning how to ride these safely.

Drivers are reminded to slow down to 40kms during the "school times" in the nominated School Zones. School times are 7.30-9.00am and 2.30-4.00pm.

Blessing of the Roads For Zero Deaths This Easter

The Shire's Roadwise Committee will again host it's annual 'Blessing of the Roads Ceremony' in the lead-up to Easter and encourages residents from our community to attend.

The *Blessing of the Roads* campaign is aligned with *Towards Zero*, WA's road safety strategy 2008 - 2020, which has a long term vision of a road transport system where crashes resulting in death or serious injury are virtually eliminated. Achieving this vision requires shared responsibility where we all have a role to play in working towards a safe system.

The date and venue of the 2017 ceremony has not been determined as yet but will be advertised in due course.

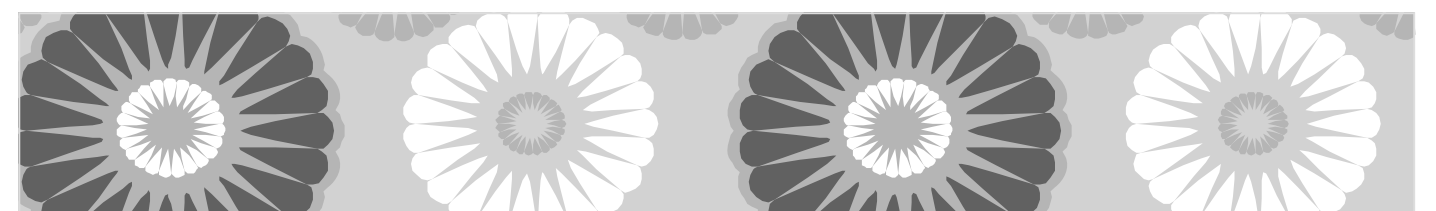
Roadwise Committee

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)
- Cr Julia Boyle
- Cr Peter Quinby
- Chris Mott, Bridgetown Primary School
- Kristine Williams, St Brigids School
- Lance Chambers, Community Member
- Glen Norris, 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
- Rob Brogan, Shire Support Officer

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

Roadwise - caring for the safety of our community



Emergency Numbers

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

Planning Updates

Home Business Regulatory Review

Council in January 2017 adopted Amendment No. 72 to Town Planning Scheme No. 3 (TPS3) relating to the Bridgetown townsite, and Amendment No. 70 to Town Planning Scheme No. 4 (TPS4) relating to the balance of the Shire, for the purpose of public consultation.

The purpose of the two amendments is to update the definitions and appropriate permissibility of a range of home based business activities for residents across the Shire. The two amendments better address the needs of the Shire and generally reflect the 'Model provisions' from the Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015, with the five types of home based business uses (in order of size) being Home Office, Home Occupation, Home Business, Cottage Industry and Rural Home Business.

A review of the Shire's current Home Occupation & Cottage Industry Policy has also been undertaken with the new draft Home Based Business Policy also adopted by Council in January 2017 for public consultation. The draft Policy addresses the five categories of home based business and aims *"To enable low scale businesses the opportunity to be conducted from home without having a detrimental impact on the amenity of the local area."*

The two amendments to TPS3 and TPS4 have now been referred to the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) for preliminary consideration, to then be formally advertised for public comment in the coming months, together with the draft Home Based Business Policy. Any queries should in the meantime be directed to Scott Donaldson, Manager Planning on 9761 1555 or sdonaldson@bridgetown.wa.gov.au.

Revised Relocated Dwellings Policy

Council in October 2016 adopted a revised Relocated Dwellings Policy for the purpose of public consultation. The draft revised policy incorporated significant changes to improve the formatting and background to the policy, and to simplify the applicable conditions, with the new Aim *"To ensure that any relocated dwelling meets an appropriate standard of appearance and condition, is in keeping with the character of the area, and to ensure that Council does not facilitate re-use of any asbestos materials within the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes."*

The revised Policy was advertised in November and December 2016 however no submissions were received, with Council in January 2017 resolving to adopt the revised Policy without further modification. A copy of the new Relocated Dwellings Policy is available on the Shire's website via www.bridgetown.wa.gov.au/your-shire/publications or by contacting Scott Donaldson, Manager Planning on 9761 1555 or sdonaldson@bridgetown.wa.gov.au.



Road Verge and Streetscape Information

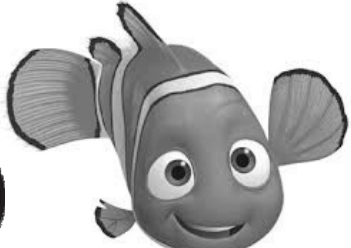
A street verge is the portion of a road reserve which lies between the edge of the road and the adjacent property line. The verge provides a safe pedestrian space, vehicular access to properties and also accommodates public service utilities such as telecommunication cables, water and power supply. This verge area is actually owned by the Crown but managed by the Shire to ensure that it is not mistreated or damaged and any utilities within the area are protected.

Residents are encouraged to maintain their verge (mowing or slashing) as Council does not have the resources to maintain all verges. The Shire does maintain some verges however these are generally those on the entry statements to our towns. The Shire is however responsible for tree pruning and/or removal.

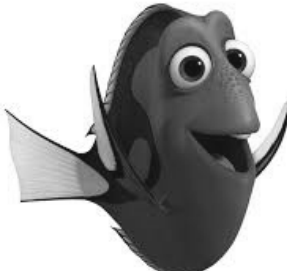
Maintaining your verge not only reduces any potential fire hazard, it also adds to the aesthetics and value of your property. Council developed a Policy in 2006 (Policy WS.4 Road Verge Development Criteria) which provides the process and criteria for those residents wanting to develop a garden style verge. This Policy and Council's applicable Local Laws can be viewed on the Shire's website (<http://bridgetown.wa.gov.au/your-shire/publications>). Residents seeking additional information are requested to contact a member of the Works & Services office staff.




LEARN 2 SWIM PROGRAMME




NEMO
Babies and Parents
(6-18 mths)
Mondays 9.15-9.45am
(20 & 27 Feb 8.15-8.45am)
(Ring floaties required for every lesson)



DORY
Toddler Aquatics
(18mths - 2 years)
Fridays 9.15-9.45am
(20 & 27 Feb 8.15-8.45am)
(Arm floaties required for every lesson)



SQUIRT
Preschool Lessons
(3 - 4 years)
Mondays 9.15-9.45am
(20 & 27 Feb 8.15-8.45am)



BUBBLES
*One on One introduction to water
& basic technique programme
for children with disability*
(Term 1 classes funded by ME2! Initiative)
Contact centre for Class Times

Lil Fishes – Learn 2 Swim is a fun activity that babies and young children can participate in physically and socially incorporating all of their senses and building basic water safe swimming skills. Taught by qualified Austswim instructors.

Lil Fishes – Learn 2 Swim engages children of all abilities with the introduction of a specialised one on one class for children with a disability.

NO Classes on Public Holidays.

Programme commences 13 February 2017. Contact the BLC on 9761 2966 for more info or to enrol

RANGERS

DOG OWNERS – STOCK ATTACKS REPORTED

Stock attacks have been reported in Bridgetown in recent weeks. All dog owners should be aware of where their dogs are at night as well as during the day.

PARKING OUTSIDE BRIDGETOWN MEDICAL CENTRE

Parking on the footpath outside the Medical Centre is illegal and causing problems, making access to the Medical Centre difficult and causing people to step into traffic.

Please be aware that signage was installed in 2016 and parking in this area will be monitored by the Rangers.

IS YOUR DOG OR CAT REGISTERED?

Residents are reminded that dog and cat registrations were due on 1 November last year. There are 3 payment categories – “1 Year”, “3 Years” or “Lifetime” with concessions being available for eligible Pensioners.

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

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

PLEASE PICK UP AFTER YOUR POOCH

Dog walkers are reminded that it is their responsibility to clean up after their dogs, otherwise they may find themselves receiving an infringement notice from one of our Rangers.

Dog droppings are a source of annoyance and potential health hazard to other users of our footpaths and recreational areas. The Shire provides ‘doggy’ bags at Memorial Park, Blackwood River Park, Bridgetown Showgrounds and the Bridgetown Sportsground – however their availability at these parks cannot always be guaranteed.

If no doggy bags are available any plastic bag can be used to pick up dog excreta so it’s a good idea to always take one with you when your commence your walk.



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.

<div><div>Government of Western Australia Department of Fire & Emergency Services</div><div>DFES Department of Fire & Emergency Services</div><div>BUSHFIRE WARNINGS: WHAT SHOULD YOU DO</div></div>		
ALERT LEVEL	WHEN WILL IT BE ISSUED?	WHAT SHOULD YOU DO
ADVICE Be aware and keep up to date Issues at 11am and 4pm unless the situation changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When a fire has started but there is no immediate danger• There is no known threat to lives and homes• The fire is likely to be small and may be causing smoke near homes• Firefighters will be able to control the fire	You need to be aware <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stay alert and monitor your surroundings by watching for signs of a bushfire, especially smoke and flames• Check the Fire Danger Rating for your area• Close all doors and windows• Turn off evaporative air conditioners but leave water running through the system if possible• Read through your bushfire survival plan. If you do not have one decide what you will do if the situation gets worse
WATCH AND ACT Put your preparations into action - do not wait and see Issued every two hours unless the situation changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When a fire is approaching and conditions are changing• There is a possible threat to lives and homes• The fire will be out of control. There may be smoke and embers around your home and roads• Firefighters will be working with machines to put in containment lines to stop spreading the fire	You need to leave or get ready to defend <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Put your bushfire survival plan into action• If you have decided to leave for a safer place, leave now and take your survival kit with you• Leave well before the roads are closed and full of smoke• If you are not prepared for a bushfire the safest place is to be away from the fire• If you plan to stay and actively defend make final preparations now
EMERGENCY WARNING Take immediate action to survive - you will be impacted by fire Issued every hour unless the situation changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When there is immediate danger and the fire will impact your home• There is a threat to lives and homes• The fire will be out of control and moving very fast. This is the highest level of warning• Firefighters will find it difficult to control the fire and it will take significant firefighting resources and a change in conditions to bring it under control• A siren sound called the Standard Emergency Warning Signal (SEWS) may be used to get your attention on radio and television	You need to act immediately to survive <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If the way is clear leave immediately for your safer place and take your survival kit with you• If you have not prepared your home, it is too late to do it now. Your safest option is to leave for a safer place, if the way is clear• Do not relocate at the last minute in a vehicle or on foot as this is deadly, leave immediately if the way is clear• If you are unable to leave you need to get ready to take shelter in your home and actively defend it.
ALL CLEAR Take care to avoid any dangers and keep up to date Issued when the threat has passed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When the danger has passed and the fire is under control• Firefighters will be working to put the last bits of the fire out and make the area safe• It may still not be safe to return home. Emergency services will advise when you can go home	You need to be careful <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remain vigilant in case the situation changes• When driving in the fire area you should take extreme caution and drive slowly• Dangers like smoke, fallen trees and downed power lines may be on roads and emergency services will still be working in the area

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

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