

Bridgetown Leisure Centre

Shire of
Bridgetown-Greenbushes



GROUP FITNESS TIMETABLE

Time/Day	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
9.15am	Hatha Yoga 70 minutes	FITMUMS 60 minutes	Hatha Yoga 70 minutes	FITMUMS 60 minutes		
10.30am	COTA GYM 60 minutes		FIT50s Plus GENTLE YOGA 60 minutes		COTA GYM 60 minutes	YOGA
11.45am	FIT50s Plus FITNESS CIRCUIT 60 minutes		COTA GYM 60 minutes		FIT50s Plus FITNESS CIRCUIT 60 minutes	
1:00pm			FIT50s Plus FITNESS CIRCUIT 60 minutes			
4:00pm	KIDFIT CIRCUIT School terms only 45 minutes		KIDFIT CIRCUIT School terms only 45 minutes			
4.30pm						
5.00pm	TEENFIT GYM 5.00-6.30pm		TEENFIT GYM 5.00-6.30pm			
5.30pm			LES MILLS BODY PUMP 60 minutes			

***TEENFIT CIRCUIT AND TEENFIT GYM** Gym and Group Training especially for teens in a controlled environment to ensure the safety of growing minds and bodies. * Now Available – Youth Memberships and discounted casual entries for youth aged 14-17 years.

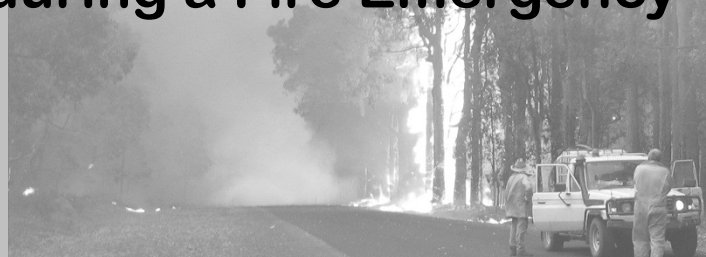
***KIDFIT CIRCUITS** run during school terms only. Classes \$8.00 per session.

DIRECT ALL ENQUIRIES TO THE BRIDGETOWN LEISURE CENTRE

Important information during a Fire Emergency

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

Local AM frequencies are 588, 684 and 1044.



Visit: www.areyouready.wa.gov.au

INSIGHT

Bridgetown-Greenbushes Shire Newsletter

February/March 2018



The Queen's Baton Relay is coming to Bridgetown on Friday 23 February and you can be a part of its journey to the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.

The Queens Baton Relay was launched from Buckingham Palace on 13 March last year, containing a message from Her Majesty the Queen. The Baton has travelled to all nations and territories of the Commonwealth before arriving in Australia last December where it has been and will travel across the nation for a period of 100 days before arriving at the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony on 4 April 2018. At the opening ceremony Her Majesty's message will be removed from the Baton and read aloud to declare the Games open.

Across Australia approximately 3,800 baton bearers are participating in the Queens Baton Relay. For the Bridgetown leg of the relay 11 baton bearers are participating of which 6 (Leonie Eastcott, Neil Hornby, Sinead Jameson, Jenny Linto, Di Hollett and Graeme Campbell) are Shire residents.

It is an honour for Bridgetown to be one of only 20 host communities (of which only 6 are in regional areas) in Western Australia and the Shire has been working with the organising committee for the Commonwealth Games and Queen's Baton Relay to deliver a memorable experience for the community.

The baton relay will be commencing at Bridgetown Primary School at approximately 9.30am and proceeding past St Brigid's Primary School and up to Bridgetown High School before coming back into the town centre and finishing at Memorial Park at 10.00am. Spectators are welcome to line the route and cheer the baton bearers as they pass. We hope that spectators will follow the relay to its conclusion in Memorial Park and join us in celebrating its arrival.

At the community celebration the baton will be officially welcomed and this will be followed by presentations and musical performances from school students. The Jubilee Singers will also be performing. A free sausage sizzle will be available for those in attendance.

To facilitate the journey of the Queen's Baton Relay through Bridgetown traffic management will be in place. Although roads won't be closed some disruption to traffic will occur.

President's Word

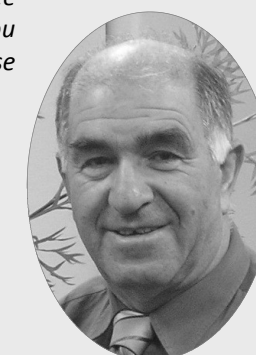
I would like to welcome everyone to a fantastic 2018, wishing all community members a Happy New Year and 150th Anniversary. I hope this year is a prosperous one for everyone.

The recent Australia Day ceremonies held in Bridgetown and Greenbushes were both very successful events again. I offer my warmest congratulations to our newest Australians, Bronwyn Klette and her children Kirsty and Samuel and again congratulate our Australia Day Award recipients – Barbara Johnson (Citizen of the Year), Rita Baldock (Senior Citizen of the Year), Douglas Sumner-McGhie (Junior Citizen of the Year) and the Greenbushes Tidy Towns Committee for the Group or Event Award.

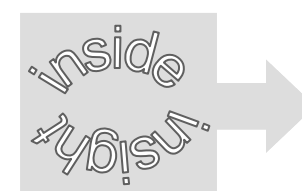
I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved with the planning, set-up/take down and cooking at both the Bridgetown and Greenbushes events – it's great to see the community come together and enjoy the Australia Day events.

We have some incredible events organised for our 150th Birthday Celebrations, a programme can be seen on page 11 of this edition of the Insight.

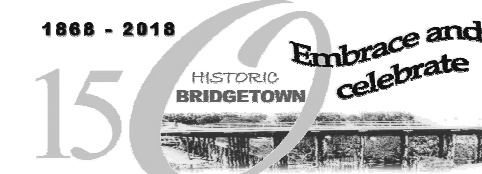
I hope to see many of you support these celebrations.



Tony Pratico,
Shire President



Shuttle Bus	2
Sustainability Advisory Committee	3
Bridgetown Celebrates Australia Day	4
Vollies Corner	5
Planning News	6
Closure of Greenbushes Green Waste Disposal	7
Roadwise Message	9
Between the Lines	10
150th Birthday Celebration Programme	





Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes SHUTTLE BUS

The Shuttle Bus trial continues with the route covering small townships and localities within the Shire, including North Greenbushes, Greenbushes, Hester, Glenlynn, Yornup and Bridgetown. The service runs morning, midday and afternoon on Mondays and Thursdays, stopping at designated places along the route and returning to Bridgetown after each northern and southern leg.

Users of the service will be able to embark and disembark at any of the identified bus stops throughout the day for a one-off fare of \$4. Timetables are available at Shire reception and around town. For updates or changes to the service, keep an eye on the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes Facebook page.

At the conclusion of the trial, Council will decide on the feasibility of continuing the service based on the financial sustainability and success of the trial.

Final call for 2018 - 2019 Community Grants & Service Agreement Applications

Application packs for Community Grants and Service Agreements for the 2018-2019 financial year are available for collection from the Shire Office (Customer Service Front Counter) or by emailing btnshire@bridgetown.wa.gov.au.

Applications close on Friday 23 February, with grant funds available to successful applicants later in the year, once the 2018-2019 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. For more information contact Community Services at the Shire on 9761 0800.

COMMUNITY GROUPS Do we have your details right?

The Shire's Community Services Department keeps a database of community groups who are contacted from time to time regarding grant funding (both Shire and external) and news relevant to their organisation.

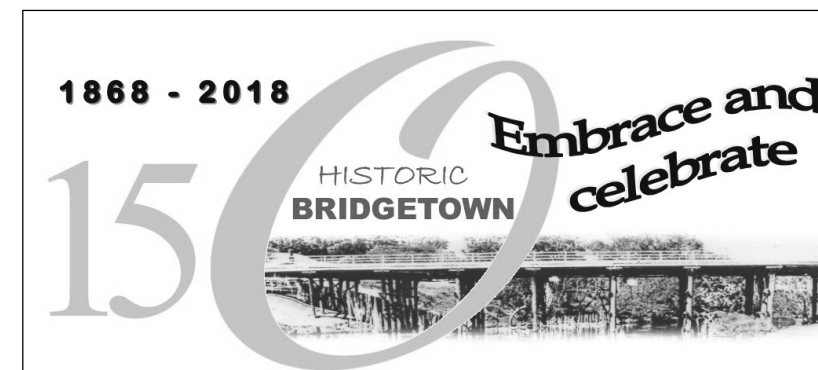
Community groups are encouraged to keep the Shire up to date with its office bearers, postal address and other contact details to ensure important correspondence is not missed.

To update your group's details, or be added to the database, please contact Rebecca Redman by emailing lpoad@bridgetown.wa.gov.au or calling 9761 0800.



Katelyn (Katie) McCoy has recently been appointed as the Shire's new "Trainee Customer Service/Administration Officer" and commenced her traineeship on 2 January. Katie will complete a Certificate III in Business during the next twelve months.

Upon completion of Katie's traineeship she is hoping to move to Perth to begin a double degree in Law and Arts at Murdoch University. Katie wishes to have commerce and media focus in law, and complete a bachelor in screen arts concurrently. Whilst Katie is with the Shire she will continue developing her skills and expanding her knowledge of a business environment and is thoroughly enjoying the opportunities this position is presenting to her. Katie looks forward to applying the knowledge she will have attained to her life at University.



Primary celebration events include:

- ✿ 24 February 2018, Outdoor Concert on the Blackwood River - Blackwood Rhapsody - Featuring Deborah Conway, Bridgedale House (ticketed event)
- ✿ 9 June 2018, Free Community Street Celebration - long table afternoon tea, entertainment, light and projection show, live music
- ✿ 12 August 2018, Banquet on the Bridge - culinary experience celebrating Bridgetown's cultural diversity, history and local produce (ticketed event; date to be confirmed)
- ✿ 6 October 2018, Free Event - Cavalcade of Transport - a parade of all modes of transport that has traversed through Bridgetown over 150 years will pass through the town, arriving at the Showgrounds for an exhibition display and fete
- ✿ 31 December 2018, Free Event - Community Film Night (Australian Theme) with live music to conclude the year of celebrations

Additional community led activities will be added to the calendar of events. The calendar of events can be viewed at www.bridgetown.com.au

For more information, please contact the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes on Telephone: 9761 0800 or Email: btnshire@bridgetown.wa.gov.au

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.



Between the Lines *at your library*

"Library Lovers' Month" in February

To celebrate Library Lover's Day on 14 February, the Bridgetown Library will host activities and a display throughout February. The initiative, coordinated by the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA), celebrates the services which Australia's public libraries offer to support lifelong learning.

Why do you love Bridgetown Library? Contribute to our noticeboard with your own messages of love by writing on love hearts to add to the display.

Blind date with a book! Take a chance on a wrapped novel for a blind date with a difference. When you return your date (book) we ask you to write a brief note to say what you liked about it.

Artist in residence for the month of March, Jan Dedman "Pastels, Pencils & Paints"

Local artist Jan Dedman is the artist in residence for March. Jan will be exhibiting in the Gordon Holdsworth Exhibition Space and will be available from 10am to 2pm on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays to showcase and talk about her work. Pieces will be available for purchase.



Library Bookclub looking for new members

The Bridgetown Library hosts a Book Club on the third Thursday of each month from 1pm to 2.30pm in the meeting room. The Book Club provides a title and discussion notes supplied by Book Talk for a cost of \$10 per month. If you are interested in joining please contact the Library on 9761 2503 or library@bridgetown.wa.gov.au.

Back to school

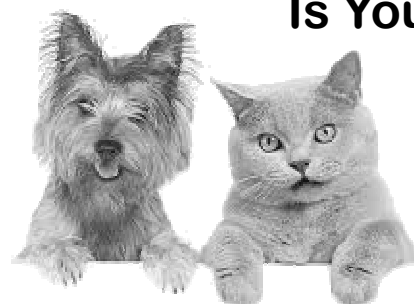
Remember, Studiosity is available to members of the Bridgetown Public Library. Studiosity provides on-demand study including a 'Writing Feedback' service and a 'Connect Live' service. To access Studiosity just use your Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes library card and sign in at <https://studiosity.com/connect/clients/shire-of-bridgetown-greenbushes-public-library/> authenticate.

Studiosity

Did you know the Shire is an Agency for the Department of Transport?

The Shire has been an Agent for the Department of Transport for many years now however some of our newer residents may not be aware of this. So instead of paying your licence renewals on-line, just pop into the Shire's Customer Service area when you are down town and our staff will be happy to assist you.

Our office hours are 9.00am to 4.30pm. It should be noted however that although our staff can process most licence applications or renewals we are unable to process Firearms licences or traffic infringements. Information on where you are to pay for these should be included in the documentation you would have received through the mail.



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 could advise the Shire office of 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.

Sustainability Advisory Committee

What is the Precautionary Principle?

Basically the Precautionary Principle is "if in doubt don't do it". It is not absolute or extreme. It does not stop an activity until the evidence is clear. But it does change the belief of freedom to exploit to a belief of conservation.

It is based on the idea that where there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage a lack of evidence based certainty is no reason for failing to prevent that damage. The principle should encourage and oblige decision-makers to consider **all effects** of their

activities on the environment before they do those activities.

For example, this is why you cannot personally bring honey into Western Australia. It is to prevent the introduction of any disease/hive pest into our hives that would seriously affect our ability to produce honey and pollinate crops. Honey imported into WA has to be heat treated and certified so that it does not carry any biosecurity risks for our bees.

No one is able to ask all the right questions, let alone find the answers about what we do to the environment. Science does not give absolute proof; it is by nature "soft"

and its results are open to interpretation. The appropriate use of common sense, ethics, intuition, memory and reason can help to overcome this problem.

Development that is sustainable meets the needs of the present without destroying the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Thus decision-makers need to consider the economic, social, and environmental impacts of their actions on community and biosphere, and adopt a long-term view rather than a short-term view. In this the Precautionary Principle produces a better mix of considerations into decision-making.

Bridgetown Rainfall 2017

We can learn a lot from the rainfall figures. The rainfall figures for Bridgetown 2017 are shown in the table below, along with the heaviest one-day falls for each month. Below those figures are the Mean monthly rainfall, the Median monthly rainfall and the Modal monthly rainfall (since 1975) for Bridgetown.

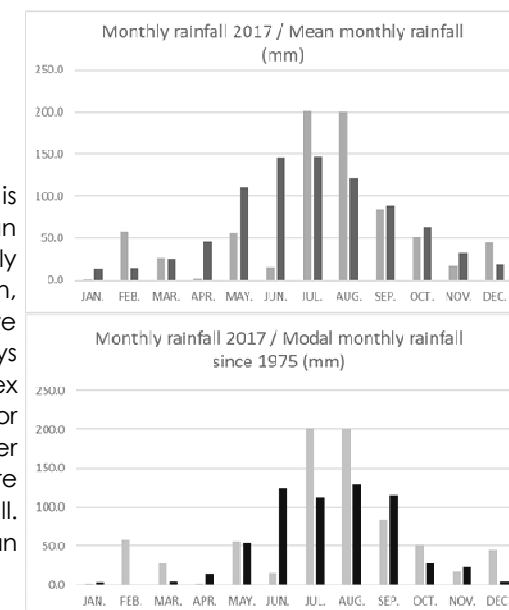
Let me explain these terms; their differences are important. The Mean is simply an average of all the figures; the Median is the middle value when looking at all the figures from the lowest to the highest; and the Modal rainfall is the rainfall total we receive most often, measured since 1975 (because a 'step down' in rainfall occurred then as a result of our drying climate and decreasing rainfall).

The Modal rainfall is a good measure on which to estimate water harvesting from roofs and to plan tank sizes. (The Shire stipulate tanks of 75kL for new properties, but in some situations larger tanks may be appropriate).

(All figures in mm)	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY.	JUN.	JUL.	AUG.	SEP.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	ANNUAL
ACTUAL MONTHLY RAINFALL IN 2017	1.6	58.2	26.6	2.2	56.4	16.0	201.4	200.2	83.8	51.6	17.2	45.2	760.4
HEAVIEST ONE-DAY FALLS	0.6	26.8	12.8	0.8	12.6	3.8	27.5	52.4	29.4	14.6	14.6	24.0	
MEAN MONTHLY RAINFALL	13.9	14.8	26.2	46	110.4	146	147.1	121.9	87.9	62.8	32.3	18.9	828.2
MEDIAN MONTHLY RAINFALL (DECILES)	6.1	6.8	19.2	43	106.9	132.2	140.8	119.4	79	56.5	29.7	13.1	752.7
MODAL MONTHLY RAINFALL SINCE 1975	3.6	0	4.2	14.6	54.6	124.6	113	128.8	115.2	27.2	22.4	4.8	612.9

From the figures in the table two graphs have been constructed. The first is the 2017 Total monthly rainfall (grey bars) compared to the long term Mean monthly rainfall (black bars). For the first half of 2017, the rainfall was highly variable. In February we received almost 4 times the Mean February rain, yet in January, April, and June we received very little rain. In May we received only half the Mean monthly rainfall. High variability has always been the case with summer rains. It largely depends on the tracks of ex tropical cyclones. But what is developing into a pattern is the smaller or later 'opening rains' to the autumn/winter seasons. This means that water resources (dams, tanks etc) must last longer into the year. Things were looking dire as June 2017 recorded only a tenth of its Mean rainfall. However July and August were exceptional, both beating the Mean figures, and September, October, and November also performed well.

The second graph shows the monthly 2017 rainfall Totals compared to the Modal rainfall, which is the rainfall we receive most often. This gives a different picture for the hotter months of the year. The Modal rainfall for January through April and for December is usually very low and not to be relied on. The Modal rainfall in May is half the Mean rainfall, and so what we received in May was what we can now expect to receive most often. June was very low compared to the Modal value as well as to the Mean value. It was July and August that saved us from a very dry year. Note that in comparing graphs most years we now expect less rain in July (Modal) than the Mean suggests. August and September appear to be our most reliable rainfall months, where the Modal rainfall is now larger than the Mean rainfall. There were heavy one-day falls in February, July, August, September and December. Heavy rain on bare ground initiates more loss of soil and fertility than the runoff generated from the same storms. Keeping the soil covered should be an objective of all land managers, particularly those concerned with the productivity of their soil and their financial bottom line.



Bridgetown celebrates Australia Day

Ideal weather conditions saw a turnout of around 350 people enjoying breakfast on Australia Day, cooked by Councillors with assistance from their partners and Shire staff at the Agricultural Showgrounds. This annual event provides an opportunity for friends and neighbours to catch up with each other, new citizens to pledge their allegiance to Australia and it also provides an opportunity whereby members of our community can be recognised for their achievements. The official segment commenced with Bronwyn Klette and her children Samuel and Kirsty becoming our community's newest Australians.

This year Barbara Johnson was named the 'Citizen of the Year' in recognition of her forming of the Probus Club of Bridgetown Blackwood Valley Inc. in 2014, being the inaugural President and the current President. Barbara's organisational skills, enthusiasm, energy and community spirit have driven the success of the Club which, during 2017, culminated with the local Club hosting the South West Get-Together, a gathering of Probus Clubs predominately from the South West which but for 2017, included members from metropolitan Clubs. Barbara's leadership of the local Probus Club has enhanced the lives of many retirees from Bridgetown, Greenbushes, Balingup and Boyup Brook.

Rita Baldock was named the winner of the 'Senior Citizen of the Year' in recognition of her service and dedication to the community during the past 59 years. Rita's culinary skills are well known in the district and over the years she has cooked for almost every community organisation, sporting club and any fellow citizens who may be in need. Rita has also been an amazing sportsperson. She has,

in a voluntary capacity, taught many people over the years to play badminton, tennis and golf. After teaching golf for over 30 years, Rita announced her retirement at the end of the 2017 winter golf season.

A young lad from Greenbushes, Douglas Sumner-McGhie was announced the winner of the Junior category. Dougie (as he is fondly known) was recognised for his involvement in rescuing native fauna and sharing his knowledge and information with his school friends and the Greenbushes community. The work Dougie does is helping to maintain the biodiversity of animals and birds in the forest through his protection of native species. He actively participated in Greenbushes 2017 bid for the National Australian Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards where he was nominated as a 'Young Legend of Greenbushes'.

The Community Group or Event Award this year went to the Greenbushes Tidy Towns Committee in recognition of the many hours their volunteers contribute to the projects as part of the Keep Australia Beautiful Tidy Towns Sustainable

Communities Awards. The Greenbushes Tidy Towns Committee is a sub-committee of Grow Greenbushes and has been entering the town in the annual Awards for more than 20 years. Working towards the Awards each year has given the group the impetus to develop and deliver projects that have enhanced the environment, economy, history and culture of the town. The enthusiasm and hard work ethos of the volunteers led to the group winning the Western Australian Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards in 2016 and then going on to represent WA in the National Awards in Tasmania in May 2017. To attain this award the town of Greenbushes recorded 14,921 hours of volunteer time on projects for the previous 12 months.



Citizenship – from left to right; Hon Terry Redman, MLA, Bronwyn Klette, Kirsty & Samuel (in front) and Shire President Tony Pratico



Winners – from left to right; back row- members of the Greenbushes Tidy Towns Committee; front row Hon Terry Redman, MLA, Rita Baldock, Barbara Johnson, Douglas Sumner-McGhie and Shire President Tony Pratico



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.

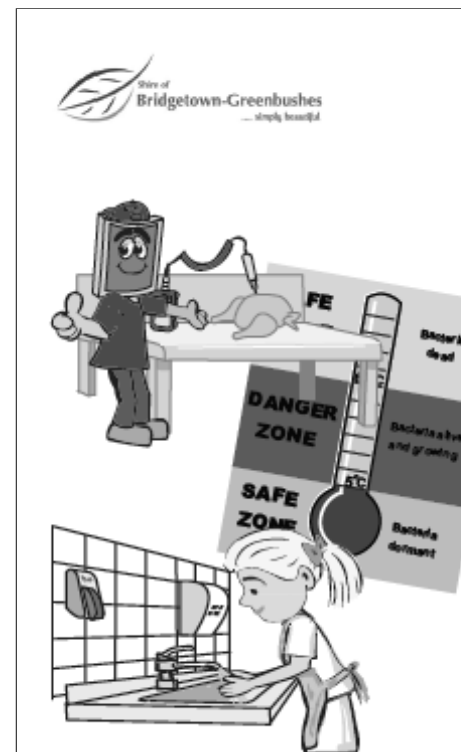
Blessing of the Roads For Zero Deaths This Easter

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 of this year's ceremony will be Wednesday, 28 March (the Wednesday before Easter) however the venue and commencement times have not been finalised as yet but will be advertised in due course.

Roadwise – caring for the safety of our community



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.

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

Interested in Volunteering?

Are you interested in doing something for our community? The Bridgetown-Greenbushes Visitor Centre is searching for a volunteer to work with a staff member on Saturdays from 10 am – 3 pm. We would like to find someone who is friendly, motivated, and who has a good knowledge of the area.

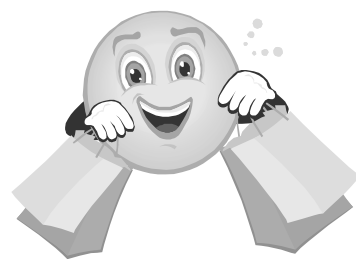
The Visitor Centre assists people with accommodation bookings and provides information and maps regarding attractions in the area, as well as selling event tickets and making arrangements for bus travel to and from Bridgetown.

We display and sell locally made products and the Centre also houses a heritage museum and the famous Brierley Jigsaw Gallery, the only gallery of its kind in the southern hemisphere.

If you are interested in helping others and can devote 5 hours a week, we'd love to hear from you. The position requires computer skills and preferably previous customer service experience, although full training will also be provided.

Please contact Darrel Hodgins on 9761 1740 or email dhodgins@bridgetown.wa.gov.au for further information or to register your interest.

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 departs Bridgetown for her return journey from outside Blackwood Butchers at 11.30am. Parcels may be deposited in the bus anytime between arrival and departure, so heavy shopping does not have to be carried.

Scheduled Dates: **13 February, 27 February, 13 March, 27 March, 10 April, 24 April**

For more information please contact Rebecca Redman at the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes Community Services Department on 9761 0800.

Restricted Burning Time

The Restricted Burning Period will commence 15 March (subject to weather conditions). From this date up to 26 April 2018, 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.

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 0800 or 0428 911 847.

SHIRE VOLLES CORNER



Stuart Godwin
Volunteer, Boys Shed

It's often said that great things come from humble beginnings – and people don't come much more humble than Stuart Godwin.

"It's not about me, it's about the kids," says Stuart, of his volunteer work at Bridgetown Primary's Boys Shed. 2018 will be the third year of the program which Stuart facilitates on Tuesdays. Each semester, ten Year Six students are selected to learn woodworking skills and workshop safety under Stuart's guidance.

It all began one afternoon at a garage sale at Stuart's house. Bridgetown Primary's then school chaplain Carol Stokes saw Stuart tinkering in his shed and persuaded him to get on board with her idea of a Boys Shed. Fast forward two years and the program has seen four groups of boys transform recycled materials like fence posts, old bits of wine barrel and plain old pine into shelves, cutting boards, bowls, platters and more.

"At the start, I demonstrate all machines to them. I show them how to use everything safely, and give them practice runs. At first the kids say 'I can't do

The Shire will be shining a light on the many volunteers who work tirelessly for the betterment of the community. The Shire would also like to express its gratitude to the many volunteers through "Volles Corner". Each edition of the Insight will feature one of the community's numerous volunteers.

this, I can't do this.' Then you see their confidence start to build – it's great," says Stuart.

In 2016, the boys worked on a team entry for the Bridgetown Agricultural Show – a large head with cogs called How the Mind Works (AKA Jeff). In 2017 the Show asked for students to submit individual entries and two Shed boys were awarded the 1st and highly commended prizes for their entries. Of seeing the students' success, Stuart says it validates the work he puts in.

"Their chests come out, they are so proud of what they've done. Parents are surprised at what their 10 or 11 year old child can do when given the chance."

But it's not all about the creative process.

"In the Shed, safety comes first," Stuart explains. "We teach the boys to ask before doing anything – is it safe? Is it going to hurt me or someone else? The boys use eye protection, dust masks and are shown how to do things the right way. We give them some workshop nouse before they go off to high school."

Other Shed projects have included a giant Kerplunk set for the junior primary and an oversized Connect 4 game for the school. In 2018 Stuart has plans for the boys to build a public bench for the community centre.

"It's good to teach the kids to

give back." Stuart certainly speaks from experience, having donated many of the tools used in the Shed from his own collection. He encourages others to give volunteering a go, saying his efforts are well rewarded.

"It's a lot of hard work as all the tables and vices need to be pulled out and bolted down every Tuesday, then put away again. But it's good to do something. I've lived in Bridgetown for four and a half years, so it's nice to give back." Principal Judith Dadson says that Stuart has been a welcome addition to the school community. "Stuart volunteering his time at Bridgetown Primary each week has provided us with the fantastic opportunity to operate our Boys Shed. Stuart is a marvellous, positive role model and mentor to the boys whilst enabling them to develop hands on woodworking knowledge and skills. There has definitely been a positive impact on the students – improved self-esteem and pride in their work, increased resilience and a greater passion for learning. We can't thank Stuart enough for his dedication to our students."

The Boys in Sheds program runs on volunteer time and donated equipment. If you'd like to put your hand up to help out, or have tools you'd be willing to donate, please contact Judith Dadson on 9761 1102.

... PLANNING DEPARTMENT NEWS ...

State Heritage Grant Awarded to Paterson & Co Fruit Packing Shed Complex

The Heritage Council of Western Australia has recently awarded a State Heritage Grant for the repairs of the Paterson & Co Fruit Packing Shed which is situated on Hampton Street, Bridgetown, opposite the Bridgetown Fire Station.

The Paterson & Co Fruit Packing Shed Complex is one of ten rural State heritage listed places awarded funding through the State Heritage Grant Scheme, receiving \$40,000 for repairs to the former office building which has been damaged by white ant activity. The Grants Program offers dollar-for-dollar funding for grants of up to \$100,000 for repair/replacement works and/or conservation plans to help guide works.

In providing the grants the Heritage Council of WA stated that owners of heritage properties are custodians of our cultural heritage, with staff at State Heritage WA available to assist owners in respecting, conserving and revitalising heritage properties into contemporary places that embrace their heritage significance and provide functional living, work and leisure spaces.

The Packing Shed Complex is a privately owned property, managed by Mrs Sue Doust, with the Shire extending congratulations to Sue for the successful grant application, and wishes her well for the upcoming restoration works planned for later this year. Acknowledging this award coincides with the current review of the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes Municipal Heritage Inventory and the important contribution that places of cultural heritage significance make to the local community.

The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes currently has thirteen places listed on the State Register of Heritage Places with those privately owned eligible to apply for State Heritage funding through the annual grants scheme. For further information go to <http://www.stateheritage.wa.gov.au/state-heritage-register/owners-tenants-managers>.



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.

RANGERS

ARE YOU READY?

The Rangers are currently inspecting properties for 2017/18 Firebreak Order compliance and may issue non-compliant rate-payers with on-the-spot fines. If you are unsure of the requirements for your property and would like to avoid an on-the-spot fine, please obtain a copy of the current season's Firebreak Order by visiting our website or contacting the Shire. Being unaware of requirements is an invalid excuse!

A further reminder that all firebreaks and hazard reduction must be maintained until 26th April 2018.

Closure of Greenbushes Green Waste Disposal Area

At its January meeting the Council resolved to discontinue the practice of allowing disposal of green waste at the current location adjacent to the Greenbushes Sportsground (or any other alternative site). Measures will be taken to close the current green waste disposal area facility and remove the accumulated green waste.

As background, in recent years the free disposal of green waste has been allowed at a site adjacent to the Greenbushes Sportsground. Initially the site was only used by the Shire's parks and gardens crew for storage and eventual disposal of tree prunings and other green waste collected in the Greenbushes locality. Once the site became known it began to be used as a dumping facility by local residents as an alternative to having to take their green waste to Bridgetown for disposal.

The existence of this site has generated significant community discussion with opinions divided on the need for such a facility. In recent months the use of the site by commercial contractors escalated and caused the volume of material to substantially increase.

Access to the site has been unlimited and persons can, and on occasions have, disposed of other rubbish at the site. There have been concerns raised in the past about potential

asbestos disposal and on at least one occasion an investigation of disposed materials has occurred.

Having an uncontrolled site available for use by anyone poses significant financial and risk implications – the costs of managing the volume of waste, the disposal of the waste and the potential for hazardous materials to be disposed within the green waste. For these reasons Council has elected to close the current disposal area and not create a new alternative site in or near Greenbushes.

Council did consider engaging with the community to consult on this issue before making its decision. Noting the importance of community consultation Council elected to make the decision to close without consultation for the following reasons:

- Council hasn't ever resolved to provide the green waste disposal facility for public use. The practice of the public using the facility was never endorsed by the Council with it commencing once the public became aware of the green waste pile created by the parks and gardens crew. Whilst some may argue that discontinuing the provision of a green waste disposal site is a reduction in service the reality is that this has never been a formal service provided to the community.

- Assuming a consultation might conclude that there was a desire for a green waste disposal site to be provided, Council would still have to determine how such a site could be effectively and economically managed to restrict commercial operators from using it and put in place risk management strategies to prevent the disposal of other waste, in particular hazardous waste.

With the decision to close the Greenbushes green waste disposal site, a change in work practices by the Shire's parks and gardens crew will be required. Currently all green waste collected in Greenbushes is disposed of at the current site adjacent to the Greenbushes Sportsground. With the site being closed the parks and gardens crew will have to transport green waste back to the Bridgetown Waste Disposal Site. Smaller loads of green waste could be transported back by them on the same day, however there may be occasions where large limbs or loads of green waste are generated beyond the capacity of the vehicle being used on the day. The practice in these instances would be to pile the green waste onsite and arrange for larger equipment and vehicle (s) to dispose of the green waste within a few days.