



## SHIRE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Council was invited by the Dept of Jobs, Tourism Science and Innovation (JTISI) to attend a briefing session with Murchison Green Energy on the 14<sup>th</sup> March, regarding the proposed development. The Midwest Chamber of Commerce and Industry is hosting an information day in Northampton on the 28<sup>th</sup> March. If you're interested in learning about renewables, including the implications for our region, please endeavour to attend as many information sessions as you can. Information and knowledge is essential if we are to advocate as individuals and strengthen our communities.

I was thrilled to attend the opening night of the exhibition at the Hampton Gallery on Fri 15<sup>th</sup> March. The Creative Obsessions group are to be congratulated on the impact they have made to Northampton and to the wider Midwest region. In the short time they have been operating, they've attracted a wide range of members, have had two exhibitions, a school exhibition and have been involved in two art trails. The impact this has on tourism and economic development is not to be underestimated. The exhibition is on for a month at the gallery.

Recently, I attended a local celebration in recognition of 100 years of the Country Women's Association in Geraldton. This was off the back of a celebration in Perth and launch of 'Women of Spirit', a book which celebrates a centenary of CWA stories. In the book, there are many stories of individuals and groups who have contributed to the fabric of communities throughout Western Australia, by way of their association with the CWA. There are a number of women recognised in the book who have a local connection:

Heather Allen, who runs a farming business with her family in Ogilvie, was the State President from 2016-2019. She was awarded Life Membership in July 2023. Perhaps her greatest achievement was her determination for CWA to advocate for regional education and hold a rally outside Parliament House to protest against budget cuts, including the planned closure of Schools of the Air and funding cuts to Agricultural Colleges.

Lyn Diepeveen, was the daughter of Ken and Mary Veal who ran a supermarket in Northampton. After working and travelling away from Northampton, Lyn married Joe, a Dutchman who after working as a shearer, took up a conditional purchase farm at East Binnu. Lyn held many roles with CWA over her 51-year

membership, and was passionate about public speaking. She was awarded Life Membership in 2013. Sadly, Lyn lost her battle with cancer at the end of 2022. Lyn's son Piet and daughter-in-law Dale live at Binnu and run the farm.

Lillian Higgins, moved with her husband, John (Jack) to take up a conditional purchase property in Wandana, Yuna in 1930. Lillian is credited with starting a kindergarten and helping to educate students via correspondence in Yuna, as well as starting the Yuna CWA branch. This is while living 26 miles north-east of Yuna on a virgin block with no running water, no power and no telephone – and through the Depression years, and with a mobility disability. Lillian was awarded Life Membership in 1961. Lillian is the mother of Noelene Drage, who sadly passed away last year, and grandmother of Robin Simkin from Kalbarri and Mick and Simon Drage of Northampton.

Agnes Barnes (nee Patrick), was my paternal grandfather's sister and is credited with starting the CWA Cookery book. Before she married a farmer from Doodlakine, Agnes along with her parents and family took up land north of Northampton. Her niece is Northampton resident, Mary Pluschke. I'm proud of Agnes' legacy, and my favourite recipes from the book are Pikelets (no 1) and Honey Bread (Very Good) - which is a perfect choice for when the chooks aren't laying! Sadly, I'm not sure Agnes' cooking skills have passed the genetic test – I'm not much of a baker! But I share her advocacy for country women and aspire to have just a pinch of her determination and persistence.

Other 'almost locals' acknowledged in the book are Sue Collingwood, for her poetry and Bloom Again calendar, and Pam Batten who, as well as also being a State President, played a huge role in the compilation of the book.

The book is a great tribute to the spirit of women and a wonderful read. Contact the Northampton branch of CWA or Heather Allen if you'd like a copy.

Finally, I'd like to wish everyone a safe and happy Easter and to the school students, enjoy your first term holidays. I can't believe how quickly the days are passing, but I'm definitely ready for those cooler Autumn days. I just love the softer light that Autumn brings and the anticipation of some nourishing rains... fingers crossed!

**Liz Sudlow**  
**Shire President**

## ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S MESSAGE

With our Chief Executive Officer – Andrew Campbell currently enjoying some much deserved leave, I was asked to step into the role of Acting Chief Executive Officer for a period of 3 weeks.

Having only started with the Shire in mid-January, I have had the pleasure of meeting with a number of landowners and key community groups to discuss various development proposals and issues facing the Shire of Northampton and its communities. I look forward to continuing to assist applicants and community groups as much as possible.

In my short time at the Shire, it has become clear to me that there are a number of significant challenges to be faced by the Shire and our communities in the near future. These challenges include, but are not limited to:

- a) Responding to, and managing growth and change within our communities that will come as a result of significant mining and hydrogen-based proposals within the Shire;
- b) Addressing numerous compliance issues, ranging from developments completed with no approvals, encroachment on Shire and other lands and the unauthorised placement of sea containers; and
- c) Responding to and management of sand drift issues, particularly on vacant lots in Kalbarri.

Shire Officers are working with your elected members to develop comprehensive responses to these issues.

Shire Officers also continue to liaise with Murchison Green Hydrogen over their proposed Hydrogen facility north of Kalbarri, attending several meetings including a briefing on what has been identified as a proposal of State Significance. Current information regarding future employment numbers could see the population of Kalbarri double in a short time frame. Every effort is being made to ensure that this growth occurs in a sustainable manner.

In last month's issue of the Shire Bulletin, our CEO highlighted that the Shire was having some difficulties managing the Port Gregory Water Supply due to power outages and air locks in the system. Shire employees have worked very diligently to rectify these issues and some significant leaks. Whilst the system seems to be working fine now, please continue to be mindful of your water consumption in Port Gregory so that we can all minimise water wastage and disruption to service.

A special thanks to those staff members, elected members and members of the community that have made me feel welcome.

**Brian Robinson**  
Acting Chief Executive Officer

## WELCOME TO TWO NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Two new employees have recently commenced employment with the Shire. We warmly welcome Antony Farmer (Andy) to the position of Plant Operator and Mark Blackburn to the position of Maintenance Labourer.

## EASTER HOLIDAY AND ANZAC DAY RUBBISH COLLECTION

During the Easter weekend all residential and commercial properties will receive a normal waste removal service except for Good Friday (29 March). Those customers will receive a collection service on Saturday 30 March.

### Normal Collection Day

- Monday 25 March No change
- Tuesday 26 March No change
- Wednesday 27 March No change
- Thursday 28 March No change
- Friday 29 March (Good Friday) Sat 30 March

## POTENTIAL BLACK SPOT AUDITS WITHIN THE SHIRE

A Regional Road Safety Advisor from Midwest WALGA has been providing assistance to the Shire and as a consequence the Shire has instigated a request to Mainroads WA to consider undertaking a Black Spot Audit of the following location:

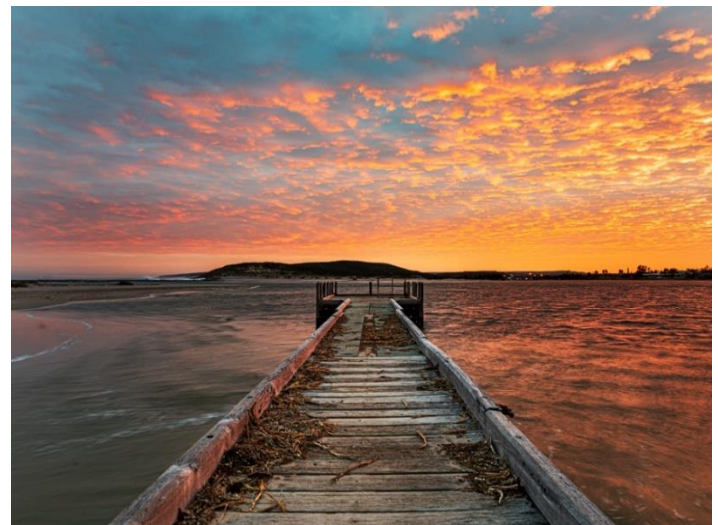
- Turn off from Port Gregory Rd to Horrocks Rd to ascertain the need for an exclusive left turn lane;

Parking, pedestrian crossings, other road users, road counts are some of the matters reviewed within the Audit which is the starting point required to identify potential funding options to undertake works.

## WORKS UPDATE

Works are ongoing and/or planned in the following locations:

- Binnu East Road pavement repair
- Road widening construction works on Ajana-Kalbarri Rd
- Reseal works of eastern end of Kalbarri Rd
- Reseal of 15 kms of Balla-Whellara Rd.



## FINAL NOTICE OF COMPLETION FOR BUILDING PERMITS (BA7 FORM)

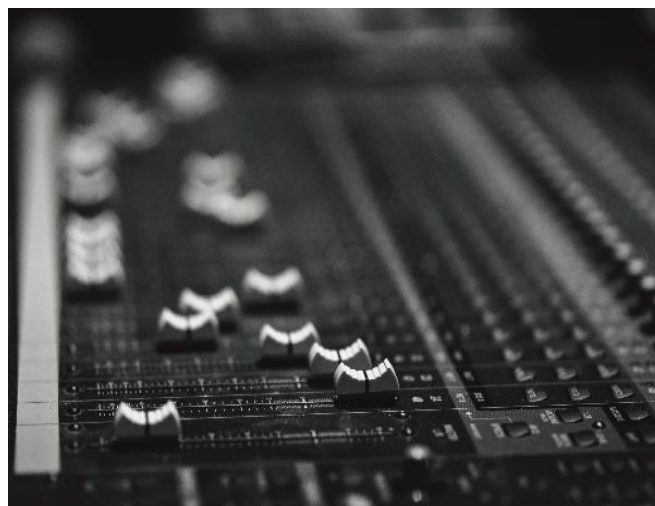
For Builders and Owner Builders who have completed their building work as per the submitted plans, you are required to submit a Final Certificate of completion.

A Building Approval can last up to two years and it is a legal requirement to submit a Notice of Completion to the Local Government upon completion. The BA7 Notice of Completion form can be obtained from the Shire of Northampton web site, the Department of Mines Industry and Regulation web site or from the Shire office. Once building works have been completed the builder/owner-builder is responsible for lodging the BA7 form within seven days of the completion of works. It is a legal requirement that this form is submitted.

If you have any further enquiries, please contact the Shire Building Surveyor, Trevor Brandy, on 99371097 or 0429 341201.

<https://www.northampton.wa.gov.au>

<https://www.dmirs.wa.gov.au>



### REFUSE SITE OPENING TIMES

#### Kalbarri

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday  
and Sunday  
9-00am to 2-00pm

#### Northampton

Wednesday 1-00pm to 5-00pm

### KALBARRI OPEN AIR MUSIC EVENT

The Kalbarri Open Air Music Festival (KOA) was held at the Kalbarri Oval and Kalbarri Sport & Recreation Centre on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2024 and occurred without incident. The Kalbarri Police attended both days and were happy with the management of the event.

Jamart Sound Lounge from Perth organised the event and from all accounts this was the first music concert held in Kalbarri since Daryl Braithwaite who came to Kalbarri in 2015. There were 14-16 live bands who performed each day, and many of them had travelled from Perth and South-West and Peel Regions.

Events like this can be significant contributors to a community's vibrancy and in this instance economic benefits have been enjoyed by local groups and businesses including accommodation providers, food vendors and local not for profit organisations. The local community greatly assisted by erecting tents and marquees for the organisers and by working at the event in several different capacities.

Jamart Sound Lounge has previously indicated that they would like the Music Festival to be an annual event. If you have any thoughts on this or the type of music you want to see, please don't hesitate to contact Jamart Sound Lounge directly.

### COUNCILLORS

Cr Liz Sudlow, President – 0427 362 025

Cr Rob Horstman, Deputy – 0418 795 368

Cr Roslyn Suckling – 0429 200 143

Cr Trevor Gibb – 0417 920 125

Cr Des Pike – 0417 919 814

Cr Richard Burges – 0417 912 901

Cr Tim Hay – 0488 212 566

Cr Karl Suckling – 0427 839 274

(please note that as of 21 October 2023 the Shire of Northampton has no Wards)

### SHIRE ADDRESS

#### Northampton Office

Hampton Road, Northampton

PO Box 61 Northampton WA 6535

Phone: 9934 1202

Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 8.00am - 4.30pm (DOT  
closes at 4.00pm)

#### Kalbarri Office

70 Grey St, Kalbarri

Phone: 9937 1097

Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 9.00am - 5.00pm  
(closed for lunch 12.30pm - 1pm)

### EMAIL

[council@northampton.wa.gov.au](mailto:council@northampton.wa.gov.au)