



SHIRE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'm certain that the second half of the year passes more quickly than the first! Welcome to Spring – although sadly for many in our Shire, Winter has been sadly lacking in the rainfall department, which is devastating for those growers who may not get much use from their header this year. Whilst this will not be so good for the wildflower season, there does appear to be many tourists passing through our communities, which is fantastic to see.

At the end of July, a function was held at the Horrocks Community Centre to formally farewell Garry Keeffe. Messages were read from Ron Allen, our Shire Freeman and past President Gordon Wilson, who were unable to attend. Other past Presidents, George Parker (also a freeman of the Shire) and immediate past President, Craig Simkin attended and spoke about working with Garry over many years. Garry was CEO for over 26 years and will always hold a special place in the history of the Shire of Northampton for the extensive infrastructure that was secured during that time. Garry's love of and pride in our communities was always at the forefront of everything he did. Garry and Terri are about to head overseas on holiday and we wish them a wonderful holiday.

Recently, along with Councillors Pike and Burges, Tony and I visited the Shire of Ashburton to meet the President, CEO and some of the staff. This was organised by Andrew Campbell and was an excellent opportunity to visit another Shire, which like ours, has a number of towns to service.

Prior to our last Council meeting on August 18, Ellen Nightingale presented a report on consultation work she did with the Kalbarri Development Association. She met with many of the volunteer organisations in Kalbarri to speak with community members and carried out a SWOT analysis to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats to the Kalbarri community. Ellen undertook this project as part of a leadership program with Leading Australian Resilient Communities (LARC). The report outlines a number of priorities and will be used in conjunction with our next Strategic Community Plan, which is due for review next year. My congratulations to Ellen for being part of the LARC program and for the valuable work she has achieved for the KDA and for Kalbarri.

On the 23rd of August, the Mid West Development Commission held a Community Chat afternoon at the NCC where an impressive line-up of speakers presented on the developments at the Oakajee Strategic Industrial Area and about green energy and hydrogen production. Given the Midwest has been earmarked by the world as an ideal location, the opportunities for our region are extensive. It was great to see residents and landowners from across the Shire in attendance to learn about how our area could be impacted in the

future. It's important that as a community, we keep informed as this new phase begins.

Also on the 23rd of August, CEO Andrew and I attended a 40th celebration of GMA, which was hosted by the MWCCI in Geraldton. The Port Gregory operation is the largest garnet mine in the world, with about 80% of the world's garnet extracted from deposits within the sandy soils. The quality is some of the best in the world. Garnet is a tiny, very hard, purple gemstone that is used for sand blasting and cutting. I had the opportunity to speak, and after acknowledging the work of Ray and Dean Clarke, especially in the very early days, I explained that the construction of George Grey Road, which was initially a Shire road, was highly important for access to the mine site. Of course, that road has also been so important for Kalbarri residents and for tourism in our area.

From the 8th – 17th September, Horrocks will host the Bushtacker Owners Group, which is an off-road caravan club, where approximately 60 vans equating to 120 people, will come together to enjoy our part of the world. So, if you see these visitors about the Shire, please extend your hospitality to them. During their meet, funds are raised and these will be donated back to local community groups.

It is a busy time coming up with our local Show on September 16th. I encourage everyone to get involved. This could be by entering exhibits, volunteering for one of the many organisations who help to make the day, or by just attending the event.

Liz Sudlow
Shire President

COUNCIL MEETING DATES

- 15 September 2023 – Council Chambers Northampton
- 20 October 2023 – Council Chambers Northampton
- 17 November 2023 – Allen Centre Kalbarri
- 15 December 2023 – Council Chambers Northampton

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S MESSAGE

TC Seroja Update

At the meeting held in Kalbarri on 18th of August, Council resolved to endorse the concepts for the reinstatement of Blue Holes and Jacques Point infrastructure under the Disaster Relief Funding Arrangements program. That marks a significant milestone for Shire managed infrastructure repair with all concepts for reinstatement now endorsed and able to proceed to detail design, final approval, procurement, and construction.

EV Charging Stations

The Synergy Electric Vehicle Charging station in Kalbarri was given development approval by Council in the Allen Centre long vehicle car park area. Works will now commence when Synergy finalises electricity approvals and can schedule the installation.

2023/24 Annual Budget

Council considered the 2023/24 Annual Budget at the Council meeting held in Kalbarri on 18th of August. A rate increase of 6% was made with 2% of that rate increase quarantined for future health service provision. Council considers health services to be a critical issue for local communities and is taking an active leadership role to ensure funding exists to contribute to future needs such as medical, mental health and aged care services.

Andrew Campbell
Chief Executive Officer



NOMINATE

Do you know someone who makes your community a better place?

Every community has local heroes. Auspire – Australia Day Council WA, Community Citizen of the Year Awards is your opportunity to acknowledge those making an outstanding contribution to your local community.

Outstanding contribution and community service includes areas such as: education, health, fundraising, charitable and voluntary services, business, sport, arts, the environment, social inclusion or any other area that contributes to the advancement and wellbeing of a community.

We encourage you to provide as much information as possible about your nominee to provide them with the best opportunity for consideration during the shortlisting and selection process.

Reflect, Respect and Celebrate community contribution across our state. We are all part of the story.

Nominations for 2024 Community Citizen of the Year Awards are now open. To nominate, please go to – <https://citizenshipawards.com.au/nominate/>

SIGNAGE

If you are proposing to erect any form of advertising or signage (including feather/flutter flags) relating to your business or community group, you will need to refer to the relevant policies and guidelines that manage advertising. This includes Main Roads *Guide to the Management of Roadside Advertising* and the Shire's own signage policy. The purpose of the Shire of Northampton's Local Planning Policy (LPP) *Signage* is to provide guidance on design and placement of many forms of advertising within the Shire. This helps ensure the visual character and quality of locations is maintained, it minimises clutter and a proliferation of signage and maintains a degree of control appropriate to the locality. The LPP has guided decisions made in relation to advertising signs within the Shire since 2006. If you are thinking about a form of advertising for your business or community group, don't hesitate to contact the Shire's Planning Officer, Michelle Allen, by email to planning@northampton.wa.gov.au or by phone to (08) 99341202.

BUSHTRACKERS OWNERS GROUP

Look out Horrocks, the Bushtracker Owners Group are coming for their Annual AGM and Muster this year.

The Bushtracker Owner's Group have members all over Australia and each year they choose a different town in a state for their

2023 COUNCIL ELECTIONS Call for Nominations

An Ordinary Postal Election will be held on Saturday, 21 October 2023 in the Shire of Northampton to fill the following vacancies:

- 4 x four year terms
- 1x two year term

Nominations Open on Thursday, 31 August 2023.
Nominations Close at 4:00pm Thursday, 7 September 2023.

Nominations must be lodged with the Returning Officer:

- at any time during the above period by arrangement; or
- between 2:00pm and 4:00pm Thursday, 7 September 2023 (close of nominations) at the Shire of Northampton, Hampton Road, NORTHAMPTON.

Nominations must be lodged with the Returning Officer. See further details on the Shire website or contact the Returning Officer, Luisa Stade on 0476939174.

Annual AGM and Muster. They had planned to be in Horrocks in September 2021, however, due to COVID concerns, the visit was postponed until now. They will be in Horrocks from 7th – 17th September, with the organising members arriving in town from 4th September.

Approximately 61 caravans will be part this event, and of these 10 will be staying at the Horrocks Beach Caravan Park. Council has given permission for the remaining caravans to be parked on the Horrocks Oval and the south part of the Golf Course.

Each morning there will be announcements made via a PA / speaker system to let members know what activities might be happening that day. There will be a few member functions held in the Horrocks Community Centre. Members anticipate travelling about the Shire and see our many sights and visit other townsites. We hope they enjoy their stay in our beautiful part of the Midwest.



FRUIT FLY OR VINEGAR FLY?

A local resident advised that he thought he had a particular fruit fly on his property which he noticed after he had discarded some fruit waste to his compost. He also said that he has seen fruit fly at other properties that had fruit trees ripening and then falling onto the ground.

So was it Fruit Fly or was it a Vinegar Fly? The description was that it had a reddish head and he was able to catch it using a cup with some vinegar in it. In this case I would say it was a Vinegar Fly.



Examples of the Common Vinegar Fly (*Drosophila melanogaster*) shown above.

If you see these small flies flying about fruit in a fruit bowl on the bench, look through the fruit and remove any fruit that is getting a bit old or has soft spots, or alternatively, put all the fruit into the refrigerator. Once the attraction has been removed, the Vinegar Fly will leave your home.

What about Fruit Fly?



In Western Australia the Mediterranean Fruit Fly (*Ceratitidis capitata*) pictured above is also commonly known as the Medfly, and is a serious horticultural pest as it attacks a range of cultivated fruits and some fruiting vegetables. The female Medfly “stings” the unripened fruit to lay her eggs. This usually happens from Spring through to Autumn. From the eggs they become larvae and then turn into pupae which is when they can either continue to grow inside the fruit or fall onto the ground below to continue its life cycle to become an adult fly.

To control Fruit Fly you should each day collect any fallen or rotting fruit off the ground and on the tree. This rotten fruit should be frozen for at least 24hrs or sprayed with a pesticide suitable for killing Fruit Fly and then placed in a sealed container for several days before disposal. Disposal of the fruit should be in a sealed container and put into your rubbish bin to go to the landfill site. You can put the fruit into your compost pile, but it must be buried at least 100mm below the surface. If you turn your compost regularly, then you need to check that all parts of the rotting fruit are always buried well below the surface.

For more information on Fruit Fly please go to:

The WA Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development’s website –
<https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/fruit/mediterranean-fruit-fly>

The Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry’s website –
www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/pests-diseases-weeds/fruit-flies-australia

REFUSE SITE OPENING TIMES

Kalbarri

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

Northampton

Wednesday 1-00pm to 5-00pm
Saturday & Sunday 8-00am to 5-00pm

WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY

WHAT ARE PSYCHOSOCIAL HAZARDS AT WORK?



Psychosocial hazards that may arise at work

- Job demands
- Low job control
- Poor support
- Lack of role clarity
- Poor organisational change management
- Inadequate reward and recognition
- Poor organisational justice
- Traumatic events or material
- Remote or isolated work
- Poor physical environment
- Violence and aggression
- Bullying
- Harassment including sexual harassment
- Conflict or poor workplace relationships and interactions

9% of all serious workers' compensation claims are work-related mental health conditions. 7,984 Australians are compensated for work-related mental health conditions each year. Psychological injuries usually have longer recovery times, higher costs and mean more time away from work than physical injuries.

FRADULENT BUILDING ENGINEERING REPORTS

The Shire of Northampton Building Services are receiving a number of fraudulent Engineer Certifications relating to Building Applications. Most of this region is rated as a Wind Region B2, category N3 or N4 depending on the topography and shielding of the proposed building as a minimum.

Contact has been made with the authors of questionable Certificates who have indicated they are not authentic and to disregard their reference to the Building Application

If you have purchased a building product and have paid for an Engineering Certification, please make sure the certification is at least up to this level as a minimum requirement, also check that the document has not been excessively photo copied which questions its authenticity. An authentic certification should have a recent date and make reference to the building/land in question.

For further information and if there are any concerns regarding the documents authenticity, please contact the Shire of Northampton Building Surveyor on 99371097.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

POSITIONS VACANT

1. **PLANT OPERATOR - GRADER. (L4)**
2. **PLANT OPERATOR - TRUCK. (L4)**
3. **GARDENER – NORTHAMPTON (L3)**

Shire of Northampton is seeking applications from suitably qualified person/s for the above full time permanent positions.

Conditions of employment are in accordance with the Shire of Northampton – Collective Agreement 2021. (Local Government Industry Award 2020).

A position description is available from the Northampton office (99341202) or on the Shire of Northampton Website at

<https://www.northampton.wa.gov.au/>. Personal inquiries on the position can be made to Mr Neil Broadhurst on 0428 341 202.

Written applications detailing qualifications, experience and addressing the Selection Criteria including the names of two (2) referees must be received by the undersigned no later than 4.00 pm on Wednesday 13th September 2023, and marked "Shire of Northampton – Positions Vacant".

Email applications will be accepted and can be sent to finance@northampton.wa.gov.au or mailed to P.O. Box 61, Northampton, WA 6535.

COUNCILLORS

NORTHAMPTON WARD

Cr Liz Sudlow, President – 0427 362 025
Cr Rob Horstman, Deputy – 0418 795 368
Cr Roslyn Suckling – 0429 200 143
Cr Tim Hay – 0488 212 566

KALBARRI WARD

Cr Trevor Gibb – 0417 920 125
Cr Des Pike – 0417 919 814
Cr Richard Burges – 0417 912 901

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

