



### SHIRE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year to everyone and best wishes for a safe and rewarding 2024. I hope you were all able to enjoy a little down time over the festive season.

For me it's a time to enjoy my family. It's a crazy, chaotic time to be cherished, as visitors come and go. I often feel like I'm running a hotel, changing rooms, keeping the food up to everyone. This year was extra special as my three-year-old grandson delighted in the joy of Father Christmas – and for the first time in many years, the reindeer visited my front lawn and feasted on some of the hay and carrots we left out for them!

Before Christmas I attended a few Christmas Tree celebrations including the fantastic combined Emergency Services celebration at the VCR building in Kalbarri, where Santa arrived on a jet ski; the Ogilvie Christmas tree where Santa arrived to the newly renovated Ogilvie school, despite the fact that the Dads had all been fighting a fire at Howatharra and smelled of smoke, and the Alma Christmas Tree where Santa and his elf arrived in a James Bond-style, sleek, grey helicopter - doing a fly-by before they landed, to deliver presents to the children and their parents, who could not believe their eyes. The joy that these events bring to everyone, really is the magic of Christmas and community.

Family time for me, also means some time after Christmas, spent in Kalbarri. I try to read a few books, generally get lazier and lazier, and enjoy being a tourist in my own backyard. It is such a beautiful place where I can lol-about, enjoy the daytime view of the ocean, marvel at the magical nights and reset myself for the year.

Congratulations to Sandy Stock-Standen and the Horrocks Community for the fabulous family-friendly New Year's Eve event that was organised, complete with free live music. It was such a fun night.

In January, Northampton has lost two of its fabulous, community-minded and stoic women. Joan Teakle was a graceful, life-loving, hardworking champion for groups such as the Northampton Football Club (where she was a Life Member), the Country Club (NCC), the Ag Society and the Stud Breeders' Assoc. Gayl Wilson, also a community champion, loved her sport and was a hard-working member of local clubs such as hockey (yes, Northampton had a team in the Geraldton competition back in the day), golf, tennis and bowls, as well as the Ag Society.

Both ladies grew up in Northampton and knew the value of community and contribution. They both acted for the greater good and were not motivated by ego – they just got in and got the work done with a cheerful fun-loving, enthusiasm and kind-hearts.

Without exception, they made our town and the world, a better place. Both were taken way too soon and will be very sadly missed by so many in the community. Deepest sympathy to the Teakle, Box, Wilson and Teakle families, and to all Joan and Gayl's friends.

Welcome to Mr Brian Robinson, who has just commenced employment at the Shire, as the Executive Manager Community, Development and Regulation. We hope you enjoy your time here.

The start of February signals the start of school, so good luck to all the students across the Shire and their families, for the new experiences and the growth they will make this year.

Well done also, to the Northampton Tourist Association and the Kalbarri Development Association who each organise an event for Australia Day; one a community breakfast, helped out by the Lion's Club and one a family event which includes fireworks for the whole community to enjoy. And as a lamb producer, I think this year's Australia Day lamb advert is the best yet because, it focusses on acknowledging, but accepting our differences and coming together as a nation. At this time of the year, I believe it is so important to take some time to reflect on just how lucky we are to live in Australia.

Thank you to the volunteers from all of the organisations I've mentioned, who work so hard for our communities. So, as we get into the year proper, ask yourself – "what positive change can I make that will make my community a better place to live?"

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

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S MESSAGE

Firstly, I would like to welcome Brian Robinson to our organisation as the Executive Manager Community, Development and Regulation. Brian comes to us with extensive knowledge and experience from both Local Government and private enterprise. With a core qualification in Town Planning, on behalf of the organisation Brian will lead the areas of Planning Services, Building Services, Environmental Health Services, Ranger Services, Emergency Services and Community Services.

As we move into 2024, I am looking forward to the impact the Shire of Northampton can have on positive changes to the community. We are expecting significant progression of hydrogen/renewable energy and mining proposals in the region in 2024 which have the potential to significantly impact communities both positively and negatively. The role of the Shire of Northampton is to prepare the community for impacts of change through the application of

appropriate statutory approval processes and the development of preparatory strategies.

One of these strategies currently being developed is an Economic Development Framework. Council is likely to consider the Economic Development Framework at the Council meeting to be held on 15 February 2024. Once endorsed, the Economic Development Framework will establish a pathway to commence the future strategic planning for the district.

The Synergy Electric Highway is continuing to progress with the Kalbarri electric vehicle charging station set to commence construction in March or April 2024. Watch this space as representatives from Synergy will be available around that time in Kalbarri to answer questions and provide information.

The Shire is in the process of applying for grant funds for the Kalbarri Multipurpose and Evacuation Facility with the Disaster Ready Fund program just opening. In seeking \$3M of funding from the Federal Government it is considered the key to making the \$6.3M project viable for delivery to benefit the Kalbarri community.

Detailed design for coastal infrastructure repair in Kalbarri arising from TC Seroja is nearing finalisation with an expectation contractor procurement will occur by tender once the detailed design has been endorsed by the Federal Government. The project is on track to be fully completed by the third quarter of 2024.

I continue to raise the matter of development compliance in my messaging as it is becoming more apparent that there is a sufficient lack of understanding or ignorance being shown toward the law. To put it very simply, if you are intending to clear, develop, construct or modify/change your land, buildings or even business, you have an obligation to ensure you have necessary approvals in place prior to the activity occurring. All it takes is a call to the Shire to confirm requirements, we are happy to work through matters with you. With the recent employment of Brian Robinson, I expect our compliance enforcement to be on the increase.

**Andrew Campbell**  
Chief Executive Officer

## HORROCKS CHRMAP

Our coastlines are constantly changing – from natural events, climate change and from the presence of built infrastructure. The Shire's coastline is highly valued for its natural environment, landscape and sandy beaches.

In July 2013 the amended State Coastal Planning Policy No. 2.6 was gazette and a new provision was included within this policy requiring Coastal Hazard Risk Management and Adaptation Plans (CHRMAP) to be developed where existing or proposed developments are in an area at risk of being affected by coastal hazards over time. As a consequence, the State Government commissioned engineers to undertake a study to evaluate the scale and extent of coastal erosion in WA. A total of 55 locations were identified as 'hotspots' where erosion was expected to impact on public and private physical assets and would require management and adaptation action within 25 years. Horrocks was identified as one of those hotspots.

Therefore, the Shire and the community developed a Coastal Hazard Risk Management and Adaptation Plan (CHRMAP) for Horrocks to understand 'coastal hazards' and 'risks' that may impact the coastline in the future and what the options are for managing those. There are four main adaptation options for managing coastal risk.

- Avoid
- Planned or managed retreat
- Accommodate

- Protect

Different options are appropriate for different locations taking into consideration the type of coastline, community values, environmental impacts and cost implications.

### Future CHRMAP study

The next stage in the process is to identify what potential adaptation strategies are available to eliminate, prevent or reduce the impact of coastal processes on current and future assets. The CHRMAP includes a range of key recommendations, including:

- Undertaking further community consultation to ascertain the feasibility of managed retreat versus protection options;
- Placement of notifications on Certificates of Title advising prospective purchasers that the land is identified as being vulnerable;
- Updating of the Shire's Local Planning Scheme in preparation for future risks; and
- Prior to 2035, undertake a detailed assessment of seawall replacement/extensions feasibility.

### Funding of future studies

The reason we have a CHRMAP at Horrocks is to be able to access significant grant funding to do substantive, more permanent repairs such as rock revetment and sandbags. This involves specialist coastal engineering advice and strategy. Permanent solutions under CHRMAP are extremely costly and require significant contributions from the Shire of Northampton. As we are all aware, significant competing priorities have been encountered in recent times within the Shire due to the impacts of Cyclone Seroja and the Covid19 pandemic that means we are now in a position to explore strategies to address the funding impost. These explorations may include differential rating or a specified area rating of properties at Horrocks, subdivision and sale of additional land at Horrocks together with other possible forms of revenue generation.



## LIBRARIES and BORROWBOX

Membership is FREE to permanent residents of the Shire and current members of other Libraries. Proof of permanent residential address in WA and temporary address within the Shire of Northampton with a contact phone number is required for all memberships.

Travelers and non-permanent residents of the Shire are more than welcome to join our libraries. Joining is super-easy, and to do so you'll just need to bring in a few items:

- Current proof of your name and address.
- Contact details.

If you're under 16, you'll need mum, dad or your guardian to sign your membership application.

The libraries are part of the State Library of Western Australia, residents have access to state-wide library facilities. If you require information that isn't available in Northampton or Kalbarri, staff are

able to search the State Library's catalogue and request the information for you.

Joining means you also have access to a huge range of downloadable content to suit all interests and reading levels. You have free access to over 100,000 titles as eBooks, audiobooks, digital Magazines, films and documentaries. Digital content is chosen to extend, complement and duplicate print items to allow you to lend items suiting your personal preferences.

- BorrowBox for excellent Australian and international eBooks and audiobooks.
- Libby for outstanding eBooks and a growing collection of audiobooks.
- Kanopy for streaming TV series, feature movies and documentaries.
- Kanopy Kids offers positive content to children that is educational and entertaining.
- StoryBox Library a beautiful online 'reading room'.
- For the children Busythings and Bright Tomorrows.
- Hoopla another free e-resource for online magazines, comics, music, movies and books.

You will need a library membership to download this content. Each service has its own app to install on your mobile device. Follow the prompts to get started.

Northampton Public Library, located in the Northampton Shire Office. Open 8.00am – 4.30 pm Monday-Friday. 99341202  
Kalbarri Public Library, 70 Grey Street Kalbarri. Open 8.30am 12.30pm & 1.00pm-4.30pm Monday to Friday. 99371097

## ANNUAL ELECTORS MEETING

The next Annual Electors Meeting of the Shire of Northampton will be held in Council Chambers, 199 Hampton Road, Northampton on Thursday 8 February 2024 commencing at 5pm.

Order of Business:

1. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous year's Annual Electors Meeting;
2. To receive the Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2023; and
3. Any other business.

The annual electors meeting is open to residents, owners and occupiers of property within the Shire of Northampton.

To allow items of general business or complex questions to be answered, notice of such should be lodged in writing at the Shire of Northampton at least 2 working days prior to the meeting.

Copies of the Annual Report are available for inspection from the Administration offices in Northampton or Kalbarri during normal office hours or from the Shire's website [www.northampton.wa.gov.au](http://www.northampton.wa.gov.au).

## PROPOSED TEMPORARY WORKERS CARAVAN ACCOMMODATION FACILITY

The Shire of Northampton is in receipt of a development application to construct a Temporary Workers Caravan Accommodation Facility on Reserve 35559, Lot 500 (No. 25) Anchorage Lane, Kalbarri. Written submissions on the proposal are welcome and can be directed to the CEO either by post to PO Box 61 Northampton 6535 or by email to [planning@northampton.wa.gov.au](mailto:planning@northampton.wa.gov.au) and must be received no later than close of business on Friday 26 January 2024. A copy of the submitted application, as well as a submission form can be obtained from the Shire website at

[www.northampton.wa.gov.au/public-notice.aspx](http://www.northampton.wa.gov.au/public-notice.aspx) or by visiting either of the two Shire of Northampton Offices.

## REGISTER FOR FUTURE SHIRE OF NORTHAMPTON E-RATES

Would you like to receive your rates notice in a convenient electronic form? Then contact the Shire's Rates Officer, Sharon Blight by email to sign-up for Shire of Northampton e-Rates [rates@northampton.wa.gov.au](mailto:rates@northampton.wa.gov.au).

## INTERPRETING AS3959 WITH REFERENCE TO BUSH FIRE PRONE AREAS

A Bush Fire Attack Level Assessment (BAL) report is required for habitable buildings if it falls within the DFES bush fire mapping system. If your lot falls within this area, certain structural requirements are needed to safeguard the dwelling so that it can maintain some sort of fire resistance during a fire event. With reference to class 10a buildings, ie sheds, carports or garages, within 6m of a Dwelling, fire mitigation is required for those buildings that fall within the zone and will require the use of fire-retardant products such as wall linings.

To see if your lot is affected, please check the DFES web site under Bush Fire Prone areas and if your lot is in a pink zone, a BAL assessment is required.

## EVENT APPLICATIONS

Events are defined as regular or one-off events where people assemble for civic, social, educational, entertainment, sporting, religious, business, or other purposes. Examples include concerts, shows, festivals, exhibitions, and similar events.

To hold a public event in the Shire you need to apply for approval. This process involves providing a range of documentation with your application including site plans, evidence of public liability insurance, comprehensive risk, and emergency management plans. You may also need to consider and provide documentation and plans for traffic management, first aid and emergency service access etc.

As there are a number of laws to comply with, the application that you need to submit will depend on the type of event you are planning. As a starting point, you should consider contacting the Shire's Environmental Health Officer, Wendy Dallywater by email to [eho@northampton.wa.gov.au](mailto:eho@northampton.wa.gov.au) or by phone to 0429 341 228.

## REFUSE SITE OPENING TIMES

### Kalbarri

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

### Northampton

Wednesday 1-00pm to 5-00pm

## BEACH EMERGENCY NUMBERS (BEN)

The Beach Emergency Numbers (BEN) system - named in honour of fatal shark bite victim Ben Gerring – is a coding system that aims to improve emergency response times by installing signs with unique codes at beach access points.

These signs provide specific location information which is vital when emergency services are deployed in the event of a shark sighting, bite or other beach emergency.

In December 2017, the Western Australian Government launched a grants program to provide financial assistance to Local Government Authorities from Geraldton to the South Australian border to introduce BEN signs at beaches. In December 2020, the program was extended to the 12 coastal LGAs from north of Geraldton to Kununurra.

In Northampton Shire 23 BEN signs have been installed at various locations and will be managed by DBCA, Department of Transport, the Shire and Yamatji Southern Regional Corporation.

When visiting the beach, users should become familiar with BEN signs and take note of the unique code on the beach access point they use. In the event of an emergency, dial 000 and quote the unique code and specific location information. Where possible, the caller should wait at the beach access point until emergency service crews arrive.

## 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](mailto:planning@northampton.wa.gov.au) or by phone to (08) 99341202.

## 2024 COUNCIL MEETING DATES (now held the third Thursday of the month)

- 15 February - Allen Centre Kalbarri
- 21 March – Council Chambers Northampton
- 18 April – Council Chambers Northampton
- 16 May – Allen Centre Kalbarri
- 20 June – Council Chambers Northampton
- 18 July – Council Chambers Northampton
- 15 August – Allen Centre Kalbarri
- 19 September – Council Chambers Northampton

## 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)

