

President's Report



Our community came together for NAIDOC week recently and celebrated the week with a host of indigenous themed activities and events. Council was supportive in celebrating the week and was also pleased to single out Rob Jetta for his commitment to our community and his role as an indigenous elder within our region. While the week is a culmination of organising efforts of our indigenous community, our staff and our local Police, the journey continues all through

the year towards making a real difference with the Shire of Waroona Aboriginal community.

Our Manager of Works and Services, Mr Murry Bracknell, will shortly move into retirement from our employment at the Shire and take some well deserved rest. Murry has been a very loyal servant of our Council and has been instrumental in delivering a high standard of public works across the Shire and has built up a very genuine rapport with our residents and suppliers. We all wish Murry the very best in retirement from this position and sincerely thank him for his efforts.

At our recent Bush Fire Advisory Committee, the annual election of the Chief BFCO for the Shire saw the election of Preston Beach bushfire brigade Captain Mr Steve Thomas to the position. Steve has held the position of Captain for many years and comes with a wealth of experience in all matters relating to fire

fighting. Steve takes this role on from Mr Brian Beales who has held the position over the past year and has given a significant amount of time to the role in brigade interactions and training programmes for brigades. Council thanks Brian for his ongoing commitment to emergency management and for future input in the BFAC. Steve's position is due to be ratified by Council on 26th July 2022.

Although I don't wish to mention Covid, it may be timely to take up the offer for a fourth vaccination against this insipid virus that continues to disrupt all our lives continually. It seems we will need to take all measures we can to keep up the fight against this virus and I sincerely hope everyone that can take advantage of this development will do so. Please take care to mitigate its spread and a speedy recovery to all those who contract it.



Review of the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007

The *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* (BAM Act) is the foundation that protects Western Australia's environment, agricultural resources and the lifestyle that Western Australians enjoy. It governs WA's responses to plant and animal pests, weeds and diseases, the use of agricultural and veterinary chemicals, and the safety and quality of our agricultural products.

The Act has served us well over the last 10 years, but it needs to be reviewed. With growing numbers of pest and disease risks putting pressure on WA's biosecurity system, changing consumer expectations of the integrity, quality and safety of food and agricultural products, and with new technologies and new ways of thinking at our doorstep, there is plenty to talk about.

The review is being carried out during 2022 by

an independent six-member panel appointed by the Minister for Agriculture and Food.

Meaningful engagement from WA's biosecurity and agriculture management stakeholders, including the general public, is needed. This will help the Review Panel understand how the BAM Act has supported WA's biosecurity and agriculture management over the past 10 years, and how it can continue to do so - and be sure that any recommendations coming from the review are well-informed and purposeful. The Panel has designed a three-stage engagement process:

- Stage 1 is open submissions and a survey to identify major themes and issues
- This will provide the foundation for Stage 2 - participatory processes to further explore the themes and issues
- Stage 3 will include broader engagement to get feedback on the findings and potential solutions

While the input from WA's agricultural industries is important, all Western Australians are encouraged to contribute. Invasive pests, weeds and diseases also affect fisheries, forestry, our land and aquatic ecosystems, our safety, and our way of life. Let's talk.

Review please go to:
<https://yoursay.dpird.wa.gov.au/bam-act-review-2022>



Alcoa Waroona Micro Grant Fund

NEW FUNDING ROUND CLOSES 15 AUGUST 2022

Do you have an idea that will help the Shire of Waroona community?

We're looking for local groups and organisations with fresh ideas to apply for funding through the Alcoa Waroona Micro Grand Fund.

For more details visit the Shire of Waroona website or call 9733 7800.

waroona.wa.gov.au

Alcoa Waroona Micro Grants Fund Opens

Round two of the Alcoa Waroona Micro Grants Fund (AWMGF) for 2022 is now open, with groups across the community encouraged to apply.

Formed through a partnership between Alcoa of Australia and the Shire of Waroona, the AWMGF supports community-based groups to deliver programs, projects, facilities and events that benefit the Waroona community.

Now in its second year, projects funded by the AWMGF must align with the Shire of Waroona 2030 Strategic Community Plan. Applications are invited twice per year with a maximum grant allocation of \$2,000 per community group or organisation approved in any given financial year.

Shire President Mike Walmsley urged all local groups throughout the Shire to look at taking advantage of the opportunity provided by the Fund.

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You can now register with the Shire of Waroona to receive your Rate Notices via email. This not only reduces the use of paper significantly but ensures you never miss a bill again!

By signing up, you can now receive Rate Notices, Instalment Notices, Final Notices, and any other important information relating to your rates and property in the Shire of Waroona directly to your email.

For more information or to register please visit www.erateswa.com/Waroona/ or visit the Shire of Waroona website and Facebook Page.

NAIDOC week celebrations throughout the Shire of Waroona

NAIDOC Week commenced on Monday 4 July with a Flag Raising ceremony at the Waroona Police station. The morning was then followed by a short walk to the Memorial Hall for an Official Opening and morning tea.

It was a beautiful winter's morning with the sun shining and a fabulous turn out from the community, coming together to celebrate, recognise the history, culture, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



The Shire of Waroona acknowledge the Bindjareb Nyoongar people as the Traditional Owners of the Waroona area and pay respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. NAIDOC Week provided the perfect opportunity for the Shire to assist (WATSIC) with funding, event planning and promotional support.

The Official Opening. Local elder, Robert Jetta, was presented with a certificate of appreciation in celebration of Robert's recent birthday and the many years of contribution makes for the Waroona community.



Shire of Waroona President Mike Walmsley, Robert Jetta and CEO Mark Goodlet

The morning continued with the kids and adults participating in Aboriginal artistic activities. It was great to see so many people getting involved Aboriginal inspired face painting, sand art, loom bands, beading and scratch art.



Tuesday morning involved Library Story Time and art activities at the Waroona Library. It was a great morning with Jennifer Turner reading Nyoongar story books, as well as teaching the kids the Aboriginal traditional way of each artistic activity. The lovely library staff, Annette Mason and Kathy Gurr, got involved and participated in the sand art activities.



For the rest of the week, the Aboriginal women were based at the Waroona Memorial Hall each day, facilitating traditional doll making, cultural cooking (Kangaroo stew and Damper), mask and scrunchie making with beautiful Indigenous fabrics as well as cushion covers and Aboriginal artistic activities. It has been great to see the Shire community attending each activity and participating to recognise the history and culture of the local Aboriginal community.

It has been a fantastic week supporting WATSIC and the community to celebrate NAIDOC Week 2022.

Next Council Meeting

Next council meeting will be 26 July 2022 at 4pm at the Waroona Council Chamber

WAROONA VISITOR CENTRE

Open 9:30am-3:30pm • 37 South Western Highway, Waroona
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