

Sea to Scarp

SHIRE OF WAROONA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | MAY 2025



SHIRE PRESIDENT'S REPORT



A society grows great when old men plant trees under whose shade they will never sit" is a poignant old proverb that underlines forward planning and strategy. It's particularly true when looking at areas in our shire that can benefit from more canopy and colour. With this in mind our outside crew are recommending the tree planting programme that was supported by grant funding

last year. In time, these selected tree species will provide habitat and help in cooling areas that are currently exposed in summer.

The current road construction programme is drawing to a close with shoulder widening on Dorsett road and the completion of another section of Preston Beach Road. With many roads to maintain and attribute funding for, council recently endorsed the Road Hierarchy Management Plan to assist in guiding future allocation of

resources to roads on a designed set of topics. Road construction and maintenance forms a large part of the annual budget for council and is a critically important function of local government.

Work is due to commence on the Harvey River bridge on Coronation road on the 13th of May. This will include the full closure while works are carried out and will cause disruptions to all users of Coronation and Peppermint Grove Roads. Water Corp have advised the works will take several weeks to complete. Detours will be in place during this time.

Waroona West Volunteer Bushfire Brigade has farewelled its longest serving Captain, Mr Greg Lewis. Greg was the heart and soul of the brigade for decades and attended multiple fires across our shire and across the state. He accommodated the unit at his property for many years and was instrumental in the brigade establishing a station to become a home for training and building a cohesive brigade. Our sympathies go to Greg's family and his legacy and dedication to helping protect life and property will not be forgotten.

Cr Mike Walmsley
Shire President

EMPLOYMENT

WORKS ADMINISTRATION OFFICER

The Shire of Waroona, nestled in the picturesque Peel region, offers an enviable small-town country lifestyle. With stunning forests to the east and beautiful beaches to the west, Waroona provides the perfect balance of nature and convenience, just a short drive from the vibrant hubs of Mandurah and Bunbury.

Are you the kind of person who gets a little too excited about colour coded calendars and ticking off to-do lists? Perfect, because we are on the lookout for a Works Administration Officer who can keep our team organised and running like a well-oiled grader. You'll be right at the centre of the action, supporting the crew that looks after the roads we drive on, the parks we play in, and the facilities we count on.

As the Works Administration Officer, you will provide friendly front-line customer service at the Shire's Works Depot, managing phone and in-person enquiries, while offering timely administration support to the Director Infrastructure Services, and works team.

This role offers some flexibility to suit your lifestyle, with options ranging from five days per week school hours through to full-time employment. Whether you're looking to re-enter the workforce, balance work with family commitments, or take on a full-time role in a supportive team, we'd love to hear from you.

Work type: Part-time / Full-time

Salary: LGOA Level 4 + OA - \$65,750 to \$68,300 (pro-rata for part-time)

Closing date: Friday 23rd May 2025 @ 4pm

To be considered for the position, applicants must submit a cover letter, resume and address the selection criteria as per the instructions provided in the application package which may be obtained by visiting the Shire of Waroona website www.waroona.wa.gov.au or by email request to Hayley Vantwist at rates@waroona.wa.gov.au. Further information about the position can be obtained by contacting Bradley Oborn, Director Infrastructure Services on (08) 9733 7800.

The Shire of Waroona is an equal opportunity employer. We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all employees.

MR M GOODLET
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

LOCAL NOTICE

Local Government Act 1995
Shire of Waroona
Proposed Local Government Property and Public Places
Local Law 2025

The Shire of Waroona proposes to make a local law relating to local government property and public places related matters.

The purpose of this Local Law is to consolidate and make one local law which enables Council, and its employees and appointed volunteer rangers, to regulate the care, control, and management of all property of the Shire of Waroona, thoroughfares, and public places.

The effect of the proposed Shire of Waroona Local Government Property and Public Places Local Law 2025 is to control the activities that occur on local government property, thoroughfares and public places. Some activities are permitted only under a permit or under a determination and some activities are restricted or prohibited. Offences are created for inappropriate behaviour in or on local government property, thoroughfares, and public places.

A copy of the proposed local law may be inspected at or obtained from the Shire's office at 52 Hesse Street, Waroona, between 9.00am and 4.00pm Monday to Friday. A copy is also on the Shire's website www.waroona.wa.gov.au.

Submissions about the proposed local law may be made to the Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Waroona, PO Box 20, Waroona WA 6215 by 4pm Friday, 4 July 2025.

MARK GOODLET
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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Get in touch!
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PRESTON BEACH
BIGGEST MORNING TEA
31st May | 10am - 12pm
Venue | Community Hall
\$5.00 Entry
Raffles, Prize Wheel
Tea & Coffee
Sandwiches
Cakes & Slices

All money raised will
be donated to the
Cancer Council of WA

STRATEGY!

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2025-2028

The Shire is pleased to announce the formal adoption of its new Community Development Strategy 2025-2028, along with the first annual Community Development Action Plan. These key documents will guide the delivery of initiatives that support community wellbeing, cohesion, and resilience over the next three years.

The strategy sets out a clear and structured framework for community development, built around six foundational pillars: Safe, Connected, Empowered, Celebrated, Healthy, and Engaged. Each pillar reflects the priorities identified during recent community consultation with key groups and stakeholders.

To support the implementation of the broader strategy, Council will release annual Community Development Action Plans that identify specific priorities and initiatives. These plans will be responsive to community feedback and aligned with available resources, ensuring flexibility and relevance throughout the life of the strategy.

The development of the strategy followed consultation with local organisations, service providers, and community members, helping shape a shared vision for the future. It also reinforces Council's commitment to fostering a socially inclusive, resilient, and vibrant community.

NEW CITIZEN



New citizen Davis Ramones with Shire President Mike Walmsley.

VISITOR CENTRE NEWS

Fairy Nook Fun Adds a Sprinkle of Magic

A sweet new addition has popped up at the Waroona Visitor Centre & Gallery — a whimsical Fairy Photo Nook that's already casting its charm on visitors of all ages.

The nook was lovingly created by our team of artists and volunteers, building on the growing Fairy Town theme that's captured hearts around Waroona. It's a delightful spot to bring the little ones for a photo (or two), complete with mushroom stools, toadstool table, and a touch of fairy sparkle. Dress-ups are welcome — and yes, we have wings!

The inspiration continues to flow from the magic already well established in town, thanks to the enchanting work of Annette and Brian at the Magic Barn Fairy Garden, whose creative efforts have helped sprinkle a little fairy dust throughout the community.

Whether you're passing through or planning a special fairy-themed visit, the nook is a great place to take a moment, snap a picture, and enjoy the imagination that runs through our local spaces.

Keep an eye on our socials for more ways to get involved in the fairy fun — and don't forget to tag us in your magical moments!

#FairyTownWaroona @Waroona Visitor Centre & Gallery

It's a Wrap Peel Open Studios 2025

The Waroona Visitor Centre & Gallery artists and makers were once again proud to be part of Peel Open Studios, a region-wide celebration of creativity presented annually by the City of Mandurah. This popular event invites the public to step into the working spaces of local artists across the Peel region — and for the Gallery, that meant nine vibrant days filled with live demonstrations, great conversations, and a chance to showcase the depth of local talent.

Throughout the event, visitors were treated to a dynamic mix of creative practices, with artists sharing their skills across a wide range of mediums — from the traditional to the unexpected. Each day offered something new to see, try and learn, giving visitors an insight into the creative process behind the work on display.

A highlight of the nine days was the Meet the Makers Morning Tea, where a table full of homemade treats brought people together over stories, techniques and shared interests. It was a relaxed and welcoming opportunity for artists to connect with each other and talk to visitors about their work.

And while Peel Open Studios may be over for the year, the creativity certainly isn't. Maker's Days will continue to pop up on selected weekends throughout the year, with artists spending time at the Centre to demonstrate their work and engage with visitors.

Keep an eye on the Waroona Visitor Centre & Gallery Facebook page to see who'll be in next — and don't forget to Like, Follow and Share to help others discover what's on.

With such a wide range of handmade items available year-round — from functional to decorative, delicate to bold — you might be surprised whose work you'll recognise on the shelves. Whether you're browsing for five minutes or lingering for longer, the Gallery offers a welcoming window into the heart of Waroona's creative community.



Creatives Alana Rainer & Polly Bonner



Christine Hyde, Marilyn Lochowicz, Cameron from Cameron Collects, Rose Reynolds, Everlyn Sturges, Polly Bonner



Gallery Creative Carmen Tyrer with guest Lidia Urdinez



Volunteers Polly Bonner, Jackie Langdon & Kathy Krauth

Framing the Journey: Claudia Franks

Photographer Claudia Franks is one of the newest creatives to showcase work at the Waroona Visitor Centre & Gallery. From childhood curiosity to formal training and a rekindled passion, her path has always led back to the camera.

"I've always had a love for photography," Claudia shares. "When I got my first throwaway film camera, I took photos of everything — family, friends, wherever we went. I was just fascinated by it."

That early fascination deepened in high school, when she discovered the magic of black and white film, developing prints in the darkroom, and studying the pioneers of photography. "That was when I really fell in love with it. We touched on digital photography too, but my heart was in the process — learning how it all worked."

Though life took her in other directions for a time, Claudia never truly stepped away. Her first digital camera, a gift from her husband, sparked new enthusiasm and the start of her formal training. She completed a Diploma of Photography in 2015 and, after a short hiatus, is once again focused on her creative journey.

While travelling around Australia with her husband for work, Claudia captured the places they visited along the way. "It's given me new inspiration. We've seen some amazing parts of the country, and being able to document that through photography has reminded me why I started."

Claudia says being involved with the Waroona Gallery has been a positive experience. "There's such a friendly, welcoming atmosphere. I love the variety of artworks on display, and the way the team makes the space look beautiful. Everyone pitches in, whether it's keeping the gallery fresh or helping out at events like the Meet the Artists Morning Tea."

She's particularly enjoyed seeing how artists and volunteers support each other — and the town. "There's a real sense of community spirit. It makes you want to be part of it."

Staff and volunteers at the Waroona Visitor Centre & Gallery are dedicated to showcasing the creativity of our Shire and are always on the lookout for new works to display on consignment. Whether you create paintings, textiles, woodwork, jewellery, photography or something entirely unique, we'd love to hear from you.

If you'd like to exhibit your work, volunteer your time or simply learn more about what's involved, get in touch with Visitor Centre Manager Tracy Goldsworthy on 0472 595 266 to arrange a time to drop in for a chat.



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