

SHIRE PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Our shire hosts very passionate and successful sporting clubs. It is certainly an indication of a healthy active community when council sees various clubs in the process of expanding facilities to cater for increased numbers and improving current infrastructure.

During a council briefing session recently, the Waroona Demons Senior Football Club president outlined the future plans for the club in catering for the women's team change-rooms funded through the state government's election commitment.

Council also noted through the Recreation Advisory Committee, future plans for improved cricket club and croquet club facilities. Good luck to our three cricket teams who are competing in finals this year.

Renewable energy transition is continuing to create conversations. While the push to increase its capacity is occurring, communities are being faced with issues about their placement and environmental impacts. Council has taken a position that serious and strenuous planning considerations should be undertaken in any project and wind turbines should not be permitted within 25 km's of our Ramsar listed wetlands or in the northern jarrah forest without detailed planning and scientific assessments. Waroona will have significant battery energy storage facilities and solar farms into the future, coupled with already significant transmission infrastructure. We will certainly be playing a role in the renewable energy space and have a planning policy in place to provide guidance about suitable locations and conditions for renewable energy projects.

One of the main focuses on all levels of Government currently is housing. Delivering housing across our state has presented challenges with demand outstripping supply and increasing costs coupled with serviced land availability. With this situation in mind, council has moved to commence a major land transaction and subdivide and develop freehold land on lot 43 Eastcott

Street. The intent is to create 8 potential housing lots on this area and build appropriate housing on them. The subject land contains a shire owned house currently and adjoins the rear of the community centre and playgroup facilities. Public notice for this development will commence shortly and given the economic modelling and future benefits of this asset for the community, it will be a prudent investment for the future sustainability for the shire.

I recently attended the Preston Beach Progress Association's annual general meeting with Director Infrastructure Services Steven Watson and enjoyed giving an update on council business and answering questions on a few interests that members had. Congratulations to the new president, Mr Jim Undersultz and the committee. The meeting was positive and at the centre of the Preston Beach community, is a good heart that has a good strong volunteering element. Testament to this is the community garden, which is looking tremendous and the energy at the golf club. Well done to everyone that contributes at Preston Beach as it is certainly a special place.

CR MIKE WALMSLEY
SHIRE PRESIDENT

NEW CITIZENS



Waroona's newest Citizens - Isabelle Menbdoza, Vicky Fitzpatrick and Larissa Heta & Lucien Schoepfer with Shire President Mike Walmsley.

FOOTPATH UPGRADE

Recreation and Community Shared Path Upgrade - McDowell Street and Shannon Avenue

The Shire of Waroona is pleased to announce the completion of the next and final stage of the Recreation and Community Shared Path upgrades. This project was jointly funded by the State Government and the Shire of Waroona through the WA Bicycle Network Grants Program.

This initiative has enabled the Shire to enhance its shared pathway network along key routes, delivering improved connectivity and safety outcomes for the community.

The new pathway along McDowell Street provides a safer and more accessible route for people walking, wheeling or riding, by offering a designated pathway and removing the need to walk along the roadway.

Locating the pathway on the northern side of the street further improves safety by separating pedestrians from residential driveways where vehicles frequently reverse, reducing the risk of vehicle-pedestrian conflicts.

This project supports Western Australia's long-term cycle network, aiming to provide a continuous, seamless network that helps people to move around town in an active, environmentally friendly and cost-efficient way.

The Shire of Waroona is proud to deliver a network that gives locals and visitors more choice in how they get around. We're committed to delivering future shared path upgrades where there are opportunities to do so. Continued investment in walking and riding infrastructure will help improve accessibility, connectivity and safety across the community, supporting active transport and encouraging greater use of shared pathways by residents of all ages and abilities.



CEO Mark Goodlet and Shire President Mike Walmsley discussing the pathway upgrades.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Local Government Act 1995
Shire of Waroona
Fencing Local Law 2026

The Shire of Waroona has resolved to make the Shire of Waroona Fencing Local Law 2026.

The purpose of this local law is to prescribe a sufficient fence and the standard for the construction of fences throughout the district.

The effect of this local law is to establish the minimum requirements for fencing within the district.

A copy of the local law may be inspected at or obtained from the Shire's Administration 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

The local law was published in the Government Gazette on Friday 6 March 2026 and will come into operation on Friday 20 March 2026.

MARK GOODLET
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

WAROONA VISITOR CENTRE: CONNECTING TOURISM, CULTURE AND COMMUNITY

Western Australia's tourism recovery is in full swing, and regional destinations like Waroona are well positioned to welcome visitors exploring the south west. In the 12 months to October 2025, the state welcomed a record-breaking 1.024 million international visitors, surpassing pre-COVID numbers and outpacing the national recovery.

With road trips in the spotlight through Tourism WA and CamperMate's Drive the Dream in WA campaign, travellers are discovering local highlights such as Yalgorup National Park and the thrombolites, Preston Beach's 4WDing and fishing, Lane Poole Reserve and the Darling Scarp's ancient trees and geological features, and other Shire attractions and activities.

At the heart of this is the Waroona Visitor Centre, which plays an important dual role in the Shire. It supports the Shire's commitment to visitor servicing, helping tourists connect with local operators, accommodation, experiences and businesses, while also providing an accessible space for local artists and craftspeople to exhibit and sell their work.

Visitors can enjoy an authentic glimpse of Waroona's culture and creativity through a year-round exhibition of rotating art and craft. Visitor numbers, enquiries and gallery sales remain strong, reflecting the ongoing appeal of the Centre for tourists and locals alike.

Outside, Mooriel, everyone's beloved life-size fibreglass bovine with a passion for fashion, and the tourist bay yarn bombing, add year-round fun, colour and whimsy to the precinct.

Volunteers are central to the Centre's operations, supporting day-to-day functions as well as specific projects that enhance the facility and visitor experience. For those with a flair for creativity, there is also scope to develop new initiatives within the Centre.

The Waroona Visitor Centre demonstrates how tourism, culture and community engagement can come together in one place. It's where visitors discover the town's character, residents share their creativity, and volunteers help create a welcoming and vibrant hub.

Local artists interested in exhibiting work, and anyone keen to volunteer, are encouraged to contact Manager Tracy Goldsworthy on (08) 9733 1506.



Photos from top left, clockwise.

- Volunteer and local artisan Carmen Tyrer demonstrating her unique Euclay at the Centre.
- Another delighted visitor, leaving with a unique purchase and plans to return to explore.
- An American-born Waroona resident found a special piece of home in this striking eagle by a local artist.
- Mooriel enjoying a relaxed summer look.

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