



SEA TO SCARP

ISSUE NUMBER 173

SHIRE OF WAROONA



Shire President's Message

Once again the month of October has been a busy and interesting time with an exciting array of activities for everyone to enjoy. The action commenced with the wonderful Waroona Agricultural Show which was held on Sat. 13th October and despite the somewhat inclement weather still managed to attract a large number of visitors. As always this show provided an interesting range of exhibits for all age groups to enjoy and as everyone will tell you the look on the faces of the young ones when they get up close to the farm animals on show is special. Well done to the hard working, dedicated committee and volunteers whose wonderful efforts have once again ensured another memorable Waroona Agricultural Show and of course it is important that we acknowledge the outstanding contribution from such a diverse range of exhibitors.

ART EXHIBITION

Following close on the heels of the show we then had the Annual Sea to Art exhibition which was held on Friday 19th October at the Waroona Visitor Centre. Now in its 5th year, this event again attracted a large group of invited guests to the official opening and as a result of the passion and dedication of so many talented people of all ages we were certainly treated to an exciting and vibrant display. One could not help but notice there was a distinct lack of empty wall space which clearly served to highlight the fantastic response by our local artists to this exhibition and for this we say a big thank you to all concerned. We must also acknowledge all those who have worked so hard in putting this event together.

OCTOBERFEST

Saturday 20th October saw the action move out to the coast for the Preston Beach Octoberfest at the local community hall. This is a fun family



• Octoberfest celebrants

oriented day that was enjoyed by a large group of locals and visitors, many of whom got into the spirit of the day by dressing up for the occasion. It was certainly a day of fun and laughter with live music and authentic German fare.

PRESTON FIRE AWARENESS

Still at Preston Beach, the Preston Beach Progress Association, combined with the PB Volunteer Fire Brigade, organised a 'Bush Fire Aware' presentation. This was attended by many locals interested in getting the right advice to best assist them to prepare and plan for the rapidly approaching bush fire season. This very interesting talk was provided by Simon Harrison and Rachel Jones from FESA. The consensus among those present was that this was a very informative session with an opportunity to ask questions.

Following this meeting the members of the Preston Beach Volunteer Fire Brigade were presented with a new 2.4 fire appliance which will remain at Preston Beach until such time as the promised new 3.4 vehicle is built and delivered.



Firebreak information

With reference to Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act, 1954, you are required to carry out fire prevention work on land owned or occupied by you in accordance with the provisions of this order.

If your land is over 2500m2 you must have a firebreak installed immediately inside all external boundaries and also immediately surrounding all buildings situated on the land. Bringing the land back to mineral earth. This firebreak must be no less than three (3) metres wide and a four (4) metre height clearance.

If your land is less than 2500m2 you must remove all flammable material

on the land except living standard trees, from the whole of the land.

You are required to have your firebreaks installed by no later than the 17th November 2012. Penalties apply if you are found not in compliance of the Bush Fires Act 1954 where a penalty of \$250 applies. The Shire Ranger will conduct inspections.

If you believe your property may be exempt from the above restrictions you must apply in writing to the Council by Thursday 1st November 2012 for a Property Variation. This includes strategic breaks and also irrigation areas.

Lower Harvey River project

The Lower Harvey River Project is a partnership between the Harvey River Restoration Taskforce (HRRT), Shire of Waroona, Main Roads Western Australia, Peel Harvey Catchment Council, South West Catchments Council, Water Corporation, and Department of Water. This is one of three major river systems flowing into the Peel Harvey Estuary. This project has seen the installation of floodway inlets designed to reconnect the river with its floodplain, bank revetment and in-stream works designed to reduce erosion and sedimentation, and reinstatement of riparian vegetation

to increase channel roughness and diversify habitat.

In addition, annual community 'River Rambles' and the installation of an interpretive trail continue to promote the ecological, cultural and historical significance of the area to a wider community audience.

The project has been nominated and are finalists in the WA Environment Award's in both the Rivers, Estuaries and Wetlands and Bush, Land and Waterways Categories. The WA Environment Awards night will be held on Friday 9th November.

New cat legislation

From November first this year, legislation governing cats will be phased in. The Cat Act 2011 and Cat Regulations will commence operation with the Act setting out the requirements for responsible cat management. It covers many areas including registration, micro chipping and sterilisation of cats.

The legislation will be similar in some ways to the existing dog legislation which has been around for a considerable time. There is a transition period until the 1st November 2013 for the implementation of all the provisions of the Cat Act.

For the first 12 months, it is not mandatory to have a cat sterilised, micro-chipped or registered.

The Big Question: What does this mean for the Cat Owner?

From November 1st 2013 a cat owner needs to know:

- Cats over the age of 6 months must be registered with the Shire
- Cats must wear a collar and identification tag
- Cats must be confined within the boundaries of the cat owners property
- All cats over the age of 6 (six) months must be sterilised
- Cats over the age of 6 (six) months must be micro chipped

For further information, the Cat Act can be accessed and viewed on the Department of Local Government and Regional Development website:

<http://dlg.wa.gov.au/Content/Legislation/ProposedCatAct.asp>

Annual meeting of electors

The Shire of Waroona 2011/2012 annual electors meeting will be held at the Council Chambers, Hesse Street, Waroona on Tuesday 18 December 2012 commencing at 6.00pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting and any questions that require prior research are to be submitted to the shire office by no later than Friday 14 December.

December, January, February Council meetings

Details of Council meetings for the next few months are as follows:

- December Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 18 December 2012 at 4.00 pm.
- There will be no January Council meeting
- February Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 19 February 2013 at 4.00 pm.

Waroona Visitor Centre News

Sea to Art Exhibition
The Sea to Art official opening kicked off on 19 October with more than 100 people attending the evening. The exhibition will run until the 30 October.

Seniors Afternoon Tea
50 people attended the complimentary Seniors Afternoon Tea held on 23 October. A wonderful afternoon was enjoyed by all.

Centre Revamp
The Visitor Centre will be getting a face lift with new art rails, lights,

fresh paint, revamped windows, new window treatments, plus new doors and reworked disabled access.

Geocaching Zoom-Ins
Ursula (geocaches as Me&B) dropped in recently to introduce herself and to let staff know that she is in the process of finalising the zoom-in trail for Waroona. Co-ordinates take you to a spot and from there you need to identify a small part of a building, artwork, statue, etc from a

corresponding black and white photo. This form of caching truly involves the cacher in the art and heritage of an area because they really need to look closely in order to identify the piece in the photo.

Like us on Facebook

The Waroona Visitor Centre & Gallery page is slowly but surely gaining followers with 65 Likes to date. Statistics for the page are very interesting and feedback has

been excellent. This medium is a wonderful way of getting story lines out while they're current, and to a wide demographic. Another benefit is the reach of each message beyond those who have liked the page. The aim is to cover a wide variety of topics, events and activities of interest to both locals and visitor's, and to promote local business and tourism operators.

Next Council Meeting
Next Council Meeting will be 27th November at 4.00pm at the New Shire of Waroona Council Chambers behind the administration office.

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Alcoa proudly supports the Shire of Waroona Sea to Scarp Newsletter.

The Buller Road Refuse Site is open 10am to 4pm Thursday to Tuesday for your convenience.

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Lake Preston Trail upgrade Weir signage installed

The Shire of Waroona in partnership with the Preston Beach Progress Association and Department of Environment and Conservation are working on a project to improve the current Lake Preston Walk Trail and surrounding area.

The improvement of this trail will provide an educational, recreational and interactive trail for the community, visitors and tourists to the area. We have been fortunate enough to receive grant funding from both the South West Catchment Council's

On-ground Incentive Funding 2011-2013 and also the State NRM Program Community Grants 2012. The area has already undergone some weed management to assist in eradicating onion weed in preparation for revegetation work next year.



Community Development Grants

The Council at its Ordinary Council meeting in September awarded Community Development Grants of up to \$800 each to the following organisations -

- Really Free Markets/ Mark Farrell
- Waroona Youth Centre
- Waroona Community Resource Centre
- Waroona St John Ambulance
- Waroona Historical Society
- St Joseph's School
- Waroona Bowling & Social Club
- Waroona Lions Club
- Waroona Playgroup

A total of \$5447.60 in funds were approved. Congratulations to those organisations on their success.

ARE YOUR FIREBREAKS IN ORDER?

RESTRICTED BURNING TIMES

Please note that the restricted burning season is about to commence, whereby fire permits must be obtained from your relevant Fire Control Officer for burning off during the following periods:

- Zone 4 – Nov 9 to Dec 21, Feb 15 to Mar 29
- Zone 6 – Nov 2 to Dec 14, Mar 1 to Apr 12
- Zone 8 – Nov 2 to Dec 14, Mar 15 to Apr 26

For further information contact the Shire office on 9733 7800.



Exhibition and Sale

- ▶ Artists from Peel and South West
 - ▶ Quilts and patchwork
 - ▶ Crafts from wood to tatting

Tea, coffee, light lunches, sausage sizzle

Enjoy a great day out in the beautiful Lake Clifton area

SUNDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2012
10AM - 4PM
LAKE CLIFTON HERRON COMMUNITY CENTRE
TUART GROVE AVE
LAKE CLIFTON

Visit www.lakeclifton.com.au for more details and location

Make a full day of it and also take in Thrombolites, Preston Beach and local tourist attractions (see website for details)

Sea to Scarp Summer Event



Asset management policy set

The Shire of Waroona is the custodian of an extensive range of community assets which represents a vast investment over many generations. In order to fulfil its obligations in delivering a variety of services to the community, the Shire must ensure that the assets supporting these services are managed in a way that guarantees maximum performance for the lowest whole of life cost. In addition millions of dollars are spent annually managing, renewing and maintaining the Shire's infrastructure and it is imperative that the best management skills and practices are utilised to ensure related services are delivered economically and sustainably. Asset management is critical as it aims to create linkages between levels of service, asset condition, asset replacement and budgetary provisions.

In the past Local Government's have met community needs through investment in creation of new infrastructure without always formally recognising the long-term life cycle costs associated with the ongoing operation, maintenance and renewal. Improving the management of infrastructure can bring major benefits by ensuring that scarce resources are used in the most cost effective manner. This will enhance economic growth and improve environmental sustainability.

Along with customer service delivery and governance, asset management is one of the core business activities of local government. The Shire of Waroona recognises that asset planning is an organisational responsibility and requires the commitment of the Executive Management within the Shire, for it to succeed. Council has embarked on a program to improve its asset management practices and processes through a planned approach that addresses community needs and expectations. Council is determined to ensure that its assets are managed in ways that ensure that the quality and standard of all its assets meets the community's requirements and expectations now and in the future.

Vision

The Shire of Waroona has adopted an Asset Management policy that incorporates a vision for the Shire: ".....The Shire of Waroona will continue to provide and deliver effective and efficient services to its residents through a responsive, united and democratic system of local government, that is a reflection of our community....."

To fulfill this vision the Shire is currently developing management plans for all its assets. Asset

Management Plans are concerned with outlining optimal life cycle management strategies. The identification of future needs, management options and cash flows provides the ability to even out peak funding demands. Asset Management Planning is the means for documenting management, financial, and technical practices to ensure that the level of service required by customers is provided at the lowest long term cost to the community.

The main benefits derived from AM planning are:

- Improved understanding of service level options and standards;
- Minimum lifecycle costs are identified for an agreed level of service;
- Better understanding and forecasting of asset related management options and costs;
- Managed risk of asset failure;
- Improved decision making based on costs and benefits of alternatives;
- Clear justification of forward works programs and funding requirements;
- Improved accountability over the use of public resources;
- Improved customer satisfaction and organisational image;
- Limiting the rate of deterioration of infrastructure.

The Shire of Waroona delivers a variety of services to the community and in doing so, must ensure that the assets supporting these services are managed in a way that guarantees maximum performance for the lowest 'whole of life' cost.

The asset management plans are prepared under the direction of Council's vision, goals and objectives, from the Strategic Community Plan;

- We want the Shire of Waroona to be a vibrant place with a dynamic rural economy, building on existing strengths and new opportunities that align with the vision.
- We value the unique aspects of our natural environment, coast and countryside, and want to see them conserved and appreciated by all residents and visitors.
- We wish to have access to services and facilities that suit the needs of all our citizens.
- We want to be a strong and resilient community that celebrates its past but looks to the future.