

Newsletter



July 2017

President's Message

The 2016/17 financial year has been a busy one in the Shire of Northam with a significant amount of major projects and developments beginning around town, many of which are due for completion in the coming months.

As the financial year comes to a close, Council have been reviewing progress from the tasks identified in the Shire of Northam Corporate and Strategic Plans. A number of public initiatives, internal process reviews, public opinion forums, and a review of current operations has ensured that we are on track to completing outlined tasks in their indicated timeframes. Once these tasks are completed, this will allow Council to review the Corporate and Strategic direction for the coming years. In 2017/18, we have a number of large-scale projects and events taking place, including the completion of the much anticipated Aboriginal & Environmental Interpretive Centre and the National Ballooning Championships among others.

In June, the Shire of Northam hosted a dinner for local volunteer firefighters to say thank you for their efforts during the year. These volunteers work tirelessly each year to ensure public safety, and it is important to see this recognised.

With the beginning of a new financial year come Council's budget deliberations. The Shire of Northam will be holding a Special Meeting on Thursday, 29th June to discuss the coming budget. Those wishing to attend can find further details on the Shire of Northam website.

Aboriginal & Environmental Interpretive Centre Content

Work is well underway on Northam's new Aboriginal & Environmental Interpretive Centre. Aside from the activity you can see on Minson Avenue, a lot of work is happening behind the scenes to get the content ready for the inside of the centre.

Recently, members of the local Aboriginal community came out to assist Council Staff by posing for a series of photographs that will be the start of the collection contained within the centre.

Here's a sneak peek for you, watch this space for more!



Harry Potter Pizza Party

On Thursday 6th July, the Northam Library will be bringing a touch of magic to the school holidays with a special showing of Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. Attendance is free, but bookings are essential for catering purposes.

To book your place, or for more information, pop into the Library, or call 9621 1600.

Attendees are welcome to dress in their wizarding best for the occasion.

Northam Balloon Fiesta Colouring-In Competition

To get your copy so that you can show us your creative side, pop into the Northam Visitor Centre, or visit our website. Entries close 1st September, and the winner will be announced at the Balloon Fiesta on September 2.

Event Participants Wanted

We are actively seeking stallholders for and local businesses/ groups wishing to be involved in the following events this year:

- Avon River Festival (August 4th)
- Northam Balloon Fiesta (September 2nd)
- Pink Ribbon Day (October 27th- No stallholders needed, but activity suggestions and participation are welcomed)
- Seniors Week Silver Fair (November 10th)
- Christmas on Fitzgerald (December 8th)

For information on how you can be involved in one of our upcoming events, please call our Tourism & Events team on 9622 2100, search for Visit Northam on Facebook, or email events@northam.wa.gov.au

Keeping Your Property Safe

Security is a key focus around Northam since the establishment of the Community Safety Committee. In addition to looking at the ways you can improve your business security, the Committee have also implemented a number of ways in which you can look after your own personal property:

Property Marking Pens

Call into the Northam or Wundowie Libraries to borrow a property marking pen, which will enable you to mark your valuables with ink that can only be seen under ultraviolet light. This makes property ownership clear, and gives you a greater chance of having your belongings returned if they are lost or stolen.

Bicycle Identification Cards

Your bicycle is a valuable item and it can be an easy target for thieves. Thousands of bikes are stolen each year and many of these are recovered by the Police. Most cannot be identified and returned to their rightful owner because the identifying features are not recorded.

Record your bicycle details using the Shire of Northam Bicycle Identification Card (which can be found on our website) and file it away. If your bicycle is ever stolen, you can provide this card to the Police and increase the chance of your bicycle being returned to you.

Solar Project Approved

Approval has been granted for a \$16million dollar solar farm on the Northam-York Road, Muluckine. The project is being driven by Carnegie Clean Energy Limited, and will consist of approximately 36,000 solar panels, which has the capability of powering around 3,800 houses.

Tail End Charlie Launch

On 7 July, you are invited to watch Tail End Charlie II set off from Wundowie for the 60th Anniversary Run around Australia. The event aims to increase awareness and raise funds for Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia (PCFA) and Breast Cancer Network Australia (BCNA).

Starting in Wundowie is significant as the Wundowie Foundry manufactured the pig iron that was used for the casting parts for Chamberlain Tractors at that time.

In 2007, the new Tail End Charlie took to the streets in a 50 year anniversary re-enactment of the 1957 Rally with Mr Ron Bywaters once again on the crew. The event took 38 days and raised \$22,000 for the Breast Cancer Association of WA and Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia. It is estimated that this year, they will complete the trek in a total of 57 days with the hopes of raising a higher amount for their chosen causes.

Shire residents will be able to see this historic tractor in Northam on July 7, with the Shire of Northam hosting a public luncheon to farewell the team following the Wundowie breakfast event.

Donations and Sponsorships are being sought; for more information, or to get your Tail End Charlie Merchandise, contact the Northam Visitor Centre on 9622 2100 or visit www.TailEndcharliethetractor.org



2017 AVON RIVER FESTIVAL
Minson Avenue- 4pm
Friday, 4 August

- Street Parade
- Markets
- Food Stalls
- Family Fun Zone
- Stage Show
- Sideshow Alley
- Rides for all the family
- Roving Carnival Entertainment
- Fireworks Finale

Avon River Festival

Join us on Friday, 4th August for an evening of excitement to launch the 2017 Avon Descent