

### President's Message

#### Shire President Steven Pollard

Many of you will have noticed how quickly construction work is coming along at the site of the new Aboriginal and Environmental Interpretive Centre in Minson Avenue. I am pleased to announce that Council at their May Ordinary Meeting have accepted the interpretive design concept presented, following a review of designs to include a stronger environmental element to the project. Council have authorised the project to progress through to tender documentation and procurement, and details of this design can be found on the Shire of Northam website.

The Aboriginal and Environmental Interpretive Centre is a large milestone in Council recognising the cultural and historical significance that aboriginal people have in our area, as is reconciliation week. This year, Council have decided to begin a project to give culturally and locally significant sites dual names to recognise reconciliation week. We will be erecting signage near the Avon River, and on Newcastle Road to begin this project, which we are hoping in time will develop into a cultural trail. Reconciliation week will run from 27 May to 3 June. For more information on this project, please contact the Northam Visitor Centre.

As Council is concerned with a variety of projects and issues spanning a wide range of areas, we often ask that the Community provide us some feedback on important issues we feel may affect you as residents. There are currently 4 topics open for comment in the 'Out for Comment' section on our website, and new items are added as they are raised. To have your say in these matters, please head to [www.northam.wa.gov.au/your-say-northam/](http://www.northam.wa.gov.au/your-say-northam/)

The cooler weather has now arrived, and events season will shortly be upon us. The activity this year begins with the launch of Tail End Charlie the tractor on July 7th, and I urge everyone to come out to wave the team off on their trek around Australia. For more information on upcoming events, follow Visit Northam on Facebook, or contact the Northam Visitor Centre for information on how you can stay informed about what's going on in town.



### Have Your Say in Helping Local Business

The Northam Chamber of Commerce are looking for a new Shop Local slogan to be used in a local advertising campaign.

The winning slogan will win \$200 and will be used on merchandising such as t-shirts and recycled bags, as well as promotions on various media.

Look for Northam Chamber of Commerce on Facebook and send them your ideas. Entries close Friday 9th June at 5pm.

Multiple entries allowed. The winning slogan will be determined by the Northam Chamber of Commerce board.

### 2017 National Ballooning Championships Colouring Competition

The Shire of Northam will be running a colouring competition in celebration of the 2017 National Ballooning Championships returning to Northam this year.

Prizes to be won include a selection of crafty kids goodies, and the winner will be announced at the Northam Balloon Fiesta on 2nd September.

For your copy of the picture, contact the Shire of Northam's Tourism & Events team on 9622 2100, or go to the Visit Northam Facebook page.

**Northam Balloon Fiesta**  
Henry Street Oval, Northam  
2nd September - 4pm

- LIVE STAGE SHOW
- BALLOON GLOW
- BALLOON DISCOVERY ZONE
- CARNIVAL RIDES
- GAME ZONE
- SHOW BAGS
- MARKETS
- FOOD & DRINKS
- GRAND FINALE- 7.30PM

### 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](mailto:events@northam.wa.gov.au)

**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

### Warning from Northam Police- Don't Leave Properties Vacant

Northam Police are warning that vacant houses are being targeted by crooks in the area. In their attempt to raise awareness on how to make it tougher for crooks, they are urging home owners to lock up your houses and visit them regularly, or have neighbours / family and friends visit at random times at all times of the day and most importantly, leave nothing inside. The Police have placed the following message in town, and will be displaying crime prevention messages from time to time as they see issues that affect the community.



### UPDATE - Avon Bridge Works- Newcastle Road

Main Roads are progressing with the works on the Avon Bridge on Newcastle Road. Works are currently on schedule for completion by the end of July 2017. Your continued patience with this closure is appreciated.

Phone: 138 138 for any further information.

### Volunteer Bushfire Brigade Member

Sue Brooker has been a member of the Clackline/Muresk Volunteer Bushfire Brigade since 1990. Sue took on the role of Training Instructor in 1997 with the Clackline/Muresk Bushfire Brigade to pass on her firefighting knowledge to the brigade's cadets. She was appointed the Shire of Northam's first female Fire Control Officer in 2008 and at the same time became the Shire of Northam's Communications Officer. For many years she has been the voice on the other end of the radio. Each morning without fail Sue gave the Shire's weather briefing and list of fire permits over the radio to all the brigades and Fire Control Officers. Sue has always been a "hands on" member of the brigade and has always been willing to help and mentor the younger members. Sue could not have been such a valuable member of the brigade without the love and support of her husband Brian Brooker who is always by her side.

The Clackline/Muresk Bushfire Brigade and The Shire of Northam would like to thank Sue for many years of service and tireless efforts to support fire fighters in incident control and fire management within our community.

The Shire of Northam and the community thanks you for your efforts

### CONGRATULATIONS TO



**Sue Brooker**  
Clackline Muresk VBFB