

Newsletter



May 2017

President's Message

Shire President Steven Pollard

For those of you who have lived in the Shire for some time, you may be aware of the availability of the free bulk bin service available to residents in the Northam Townsite. We are pleased to announce that this service has now been extended to rural properties located outside of the town. As part of the bulk bin scheme, a free skip bin is available to residential properties for one week per financial year for domestic waste. Those interested in taking advantage of this initiative should contact Avon Waste on 9641 1318.

The Shire of Northam is involved in a number of different projects at any time, which often includes planning or development applications. We value community feedback on the future direction of our Shire, and one way in which you can provide your comments is by visiting our website to see what we're currently involved in. On the Shire's home page, you will find an 'out for comment' button on the left-hand side, which will lead to a range of documents and information on matters we are currently seeking feedback on. For further information on how to find this information, or for information on any of the specific projects outlined on the site, call the Shire of Northam's administration centre on 9622 6100.

May is a busy month around the Avon Valley, and two areas of particular interest are National Volunteering Week, and Reconciliation Week. The Shire of Northam is actively involved in the planning and advertisements of as many events as possible, but if you, your community group, or your organisation would like to speak to us about organising any events to coincide with these important recognition weeks, then please feel free to get in touch with Shire staff. We recognise the importance of volunteers to our community, and ask that anyone interested in volunteering locally get in touch with the Wheatbelt Volunteer Hub, located in the Northam recreation Centre.

Finally, I would like to pay special thanks to those of you who were able to attend a commemorative service around the Shire in this important 100th anniversary year of various World War 1 battles, and to the RSL for yet another exemplary year of commemorations. We recognise the significance of these community based events, and are proud to see that the spirit of Anzac remains strong in the Shire of Northam community.

Winter Social Sports

Please see below details of this year's winter social sports, including our new addition- dodgeball!

Team nominations close on the 27th April 2017 and we commence the competition on 1st May 2017.

At The Northam Recreation Centre



Winter Social Sports 2017

Have Fun and Keep Fit

Week nights from 6pm

Senior Players: \$7.50
Junior Players: \$6.00

- Mixed Social Floorball
- Mixed Social Basketball
- Mixed Social Soccer
- Badminton
- Mixed Social Netball
- Mixed Social Dodgeball



Registrations Close: 27th April 2017

For more information
9622 5153
recreation@northam.wa.gov.au

www.facebook.com/NorthamRecreationCentre

2017 National Ballooning Championships

The National Ballooning Championships 2017 will take place between 2 and 9 September 2017 in Northam. The event is just around the corner and the Planning Committee is busy making preparations for the event.

There will be an increased number of people in Northam during this event. This will provide the perfect opportunity to run an activity or to open your business as people will be looking for things to do, places to eat and things to see during their visit to Northam.

Limited edition Ballooning badges are now available for \$5 (plus postage if required). These can be purchased from the Northam Visitor Centre or you can place an order for a badge via email bbaclements@bigpond.com.

Would you like to be amongst all the action and join us for a week of fun and do something you'll never forget? The Committee is searching for volunteers for a number of tasks.

For further information on any of the above information, contact the Shire of Northam's Tourism & Events team on 9622 2100

Night Hoops

The Shire of Northam is proud to announce that Night Hoops is being introduced to young people aged between 12-18.

Night Hoops will consist of two 6 week basketball tournaments to be held on Saturday nights from 7pm-12pm at the Northam recreation Centre, the first of which will begin on 22 July 2017.

The Night Hoops initiative is made possible by funding from the WA Police as part of the Community Crime Prevention Fund.

Mitchell Avenue Improvement Works

Mitchell Avenue Improvement Works are due to commence shortly, which will include an asphalt overlay between the Northam swimming pool and Robinson Street, along with associated drainage improvements. Pedestrian refuge islands will be constructed at key locations to link existing footpaths on the northern side of the road to the new dedicated dual use footpath which will be constructed to replace the current narrow footpath on the Southern side of the road. The southern side of Mitchell Avenue will see the installation of tree plantings, which when mature, will create a colourful formal entrance to the town site.

Traffic flow will be interrupted during this time, and your patience is appreciated while we make these necessary improvements. For enquiries, please call 9622 6100.

Tail End Charlie

On 7 July, Tail End Charlie II will 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 hoped 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 Northam Shire hosting a public event to farewell the team.

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

Lock & Light Program

Together with key partners, the Shire of Northam is committed to ensuring continual improvements to community safety with a particular emphasis on minimising the occurrence and opportunity for criminal activity.

One of the objectives of the Shire of Northam Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan 2016-2020 is to 'Reduce the opportunity for crime or offending behaviour'. The crime statistics together with Police intelligence indicate that one of the most prominent priorities for the Shire of Northam is currently 'target hardening' as community members that are targeted are not often taking precautions to reduce the opportunity for crime in their homes. A collaborative 'Lock & Light Program' has been identified as an action in the Shire of Northam Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan 2016-2020 to achieve this.

The Lock & Light Program will support vulnerable residents who make up the majority of the soft targets in our community to live independently through improving their personal safety when in their homes. The program aims to increase their sense of wellbeing and improve their resilience to crime, whilst reducing their sense of vulnerability.

The program will provide the opportunity for our vulnerable residents to have a home security assessment undertaken which will raise their awareness about what aspects of their homes are not secure. Each vulnerable resident will then be able to apply for funding up to an agreed limit for the installation of home security devices such as security doors, window locks, door peep holes, window security screens, sensor lighting, UV pens for property marking and identification purposes and information about crime prevention.

The installation of home security devices will decrease the opportunity for home burglary related crimes within our community. Publicity undertaken to support the project will also encourage the general community to become more safety conscious with their homes and this will contribute to the reduction of crime in the Shire of Northam.

A partnership approach is viewed by the Shire of Northam as particularly important to deal effectively with the variety of factors that influence Community Safety and the program is supported by the following organisations:

- Shire of Northam
- WA Police
- Share & Care Community Services Group
- Northam Mitre 10
- Northam Home Maintenance Services
- Wundowie One-Stop Thrifty Link
- Wundowie Men's Shed

For more information on how the above stakeholders are supporting the project, or to find out more about the Lock & Light program, please visit our website at www.northam.wa.gov.au, or call us on 9622 6100.

Dogs & Cats

All animal owners are reminded that their pet's registrations expire on 31 October each year relevant to the period paid for. To avoid the newly increased modified penalty rates of \$200.00 per offence, owners are reminded to ensure that their pet's registration remains current so no breaches of the Dog Act 1976 or the Shire of Northam's Dogs Local Law 2008. Both documents can be viewed on the Shire's website at www.northam.wa.gov.au

There has been an alarming increase in dog attacks in recent times. Dogs must be contained within their property and held by a leash by a person capable of controlling it whilst in public. Dogs in designated exercise areas must be under total control otherwise they should also be held by a leash.

Modified penalty for Dog attack causing injury or property damage - \$400.00 or \$200.00 without injury or damage.

Please feel free to speak to the Rangers team on 9622 7267 regarding any matters that we may be able to assist you with.

Like us on Facebook for updates on what's happening in the region www.facebook.com/shireofnortham

For further information visit www.northam.wa.gov.au