



## May 2018

### President's Message

I hope that you've had a chance over the recent school holidays to enjoy time with all your family as well as your children.

It was heartfelt to see the number of Schools, Communities and the RSL within the Shire of Northam who held ANZAC day services in honour of those who have served and sacrificed for our Country. Make the time and effort to remember those who have fallen, and those who have returned and deserve our respect.

The first of the Reconciliation Working Action Plan Group Meetings was recently held. This first meeting started the process of reconciliation by setting the parameters on how we proactively move forward.

If you're thinking of becoming involved in sport within the Shire, the winter sport season has just begun. If you need direction of who to contact, start with the Northam Recreation Centre.

If sport doesn't suit you, there are many of community groups that you could possibly be involved with. You can either contact Community Services at the Shire Office for some assistance or go to the Northam Visitor Centre.

Not only does the Northam Visitor Centre have a list of events within the Shire, they can also provide contacts with the organisers of these events. Helping with those events may suit how you wish to be involved with the community.

During May, the Forum and Ordinary Council Meetings are being in Wundowie. This is both a great opportunity for the Councillors and Ratepayers to catch up, both in an informal and formal manner.

Keep an eye out for your local Councillor at other events and functions as well, and feel free to say hello. There will always be a Councillor or two and the Lions Markets or the Northam Farmers Markets. Remember to follow me in Instagram, maybe even get a "selfie" with me. Look for shire\_of\_northam\_president and use #snaptheprez.

As we continue into the year, keep an eye out for some of the major projects nearing completion. The Bilya Koort Boodja Centre nears completion. The Northam Aquatic Facility preparation work has begun, and the Youth Precinct ground work is commencing.

The Shire of Northam continues to be an exciting place. It's a great place, and I encourage you to be part of what's happening, now and during 2018. Your involvement only makes the whole Shire stronger.

Take Care

Shire President Chris Antonio

### Community Safety Committee

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 antisocial and criminal activity. By improving the community safety and crime prevention of the area, the Shire of Northam seeks to achieve our vision for Northam to be a vibrant growing community that is safe, caring and inclusive.

The Committee includes representatives from: the Shire of Northam; local Police; the Northam Roadwise Committee; Department of Health; Local Drug Action Group; Northam Chamber of Commerce; Department of Education; Department of Sport and Recreation; Housing Authority; Youth Services; Community members; Department of Main Roads; Department of Child Protection and Family Support; and the Department of Fire and Emergency Services.

The Committee is here to discuss matters of safety concern on behalf of the community and find viable solutions where possible. Any issues can be raised by sending an email to the Chair of the Committee Cr Julie Williams via records@northam.wa.gov.au.

### National Road Safety Week

The key message for this year's National Road Safety Week, from 29 April to 6 May, is 'Drive so others survive'.

The Wheatbelt region continues to experience

very high rates of fatal and serious crashes relative to other regions of the state. Previously high risk road segments along routes in the Wheatbelt region have been identified for attention.

There are a number of things we can do to reduce the number of accidents on our roads.

- Avoid all distractions: put your mobile away, check the map before leaving and take a break rather than eating or drinking while driving.
- Don't drive tired: swap drivers where possible, stop for coffee, breaks and naps.
- Don't drink and drive: plan to stay the night or organise a designated driver.
- Wear your seatbelt.
- Slow down, enjoy the ride.

Help make our roads a safer place to be.

### Reconciliation Week

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) occurs on the 27 May - 3 June and is a chance for all Australians to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and achievements and our shared histories.

The theme for NRW 2018 is **Don't Keep History a Mystery.**

This year, Australian's are invited to Learn, Share and Grow - by exploring our past, learning more about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, and developing a deeper understanding of our

### What's on in May

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|--------------|--|
| Saturday 5   | Lions Community Markets                              |
| Sunday 6     | Northam Stakes Day                                   |
| Wednesday 9  | HatchOUT Meet UP                                     |
| Saturday 12  | Northam Farmers Market<br>Dusty and Friends          |
| Sunday 13    | Dusty and Friends                                    |
| Tuesday 15   | 123 Magic and Emotion<br>Coaching                    |
| Saturday 19  | Women's Auxiliary 8th<br>Birthday                    |
| Sunday 20    | Northam Poultry Auction                              |
| Tuesday 22   | 123 Magic and Emotion<br>Coaching                    |
| Wednesday 23 | Do what you can do BBQ<br>and Wellbeing Day<br>MIFWA |
| Thursday 24  | Biggest Morning Tea                                  |
| Saturday 26  | National Sorry Day<br>Northam Farmers Markets        |
| Wednesday 30 | Community Meeting<br>Bakers Hill                     |
| Thursday 31  | RSL Boer War Wreath<br>Laying                        |

Visit [www.northam.wa.gov.au](http://www.northam.wa.gov.au) for more information.

In the new term the Northam Recreation Centre will be running the next Social Sports competition, Netball and Floorball. Contact the Rec Centre on 9622 5153 for more information.

### At the Library

NORTHAM LIBRARY	
Every Monday 10.30-11am	Activity Time for 0-5 yrs
Every Wed 10:30-11am	Story Time with Craft 2-5 yrs
Every Friday 9:30-10am	Baby Rhyme Time 0-2 yrs

All activities are open to all residents of the Shire of Northam free of charge.

national story.

The Bilya Koort Boodja Centre, opening later this year, will provide the opportunity to do so. The Centre will protect, celebrate and share the culture of the Nyoongar peoples and highlight innovative land management practices that draws upon the knowledge of the land's traditional custodians.

### Tidy Towns

The Shire of Northam is registered to enter into this year's Tidy Towns Competition.

Keep Australia Beautiful WA's annual awards program, Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards acknowledges and celebrates regional and remote communities who take positive action to protect and enhance their environment.

The seven awards encompass initiatives as diverse as litter prevention, environmental education, preserving heritage, community action, and youth leadership.

The seven categories include:  
Litter prevention and waste management  
Community action and wellbeing  
Environmental sustainability  
Young legends  
Heritage and culture  
Environmental education  
General appearance

Tell us about your community projects that help Keep the Shire of Northam Beautiful.