



Shire of Northam
Heritage, Commerce and Lifestyle



September 2017

President's Message

The Shire of Northam is constantly looking at ways to provide better customer service to our Community. With this in mind, Council has recently reviewed the process for how customer requests are handled, with the changes being implemented in the coming weeks. Some of the key changes include implementing a generic acknowledgement and removing the completion letter for requests. These changes are an outcome of the review in an attempt to improve the efficiency and allocation of resources. Council will also be implementing an online function through its website for people to submit and track their requests.

An error due to a software upgrade with the pensioners rebate was identified on 14th August. All pensioners records were checked manually. Those that required correction were corrected and the revised rate notices were resent on the 16 August 2017. We are confident that all pensioner rebates are now correct however should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Council's Rates Officer on (08) 9622 6100.

A preliminary design for the Youth Precinct has been completed based on the information received from the community through workshops held in January. This design will be taken to the community for feedback on Thursday, 31st August through two community sessions. The Shire is seeking additional funding to assist with this project.

Council has voted to commence the development of a new 50m outdoor pool to be located at the Recreation Centre. \$1.5M in funding was received from the State Government's Community, Sport and Recreation Facility Fund and a further \$3.2M from the Federal Government's Building Better Regions Fund to support the development.

The National Ballooning Championships will take place from the 2nd – 9th September. Each day will bring new experiences, packed full of community activities. A highlight of the event will be the Balloon Fiesta held from 4pm at the Henry Street Oval on Saturday 2nd September. The 2017 Northam Agricultural Show will be held on 8th – 9th September at the Northam Showgrounds on Peel Terrace. As always, the show will be celebrating all that Northam has to offer over two action packed days.

Main Roads is responsible for administering road access for Restricted Access Vehicles (RAVs) and works collaboratively with the relevant road asset owner (Council) to ensure roads are suitable for RAV access. RAVs must only operate on roads approved by Main Roads, under either an order (notice) or a permit. There are many types of RAVs and each of them has different performance characteristics, require a different amount of road space when operating and have a different impact on the road infrastructure. For this reason, it is necessary to assess the roads these RAVs operate on to ensure the road is suitable for the particular type of vehicle and the safety of other road users is not compromised. RAV Networks are maintained for the various types of RAVs and are published on Main Roads website. Please ensure that you are familiar with these requirements if this is applicable to you.

Bushfires are a part of every Australian summer. They can start suddenly, move quickly and affect large areas. Bushfires can be devastating and have a lasting impact on communities and therefore I ask that residents be aware of their responsibilities in respect to managing their properties, Council's restricted burning periods and be 'Bushfire Ready'. More information can be found on the Shire of Northam and Department of Fire and Emergency Services website.

President
Steven Pollard

Snakes Alive!

The Shire of Northam would like to remind the community that this time of the year there are a lot more snakes about doing what snakes do, looking for food and water.

Like most wild creatures they are more afraid of us than we are of them and will usually scurry away before we have even seen them. However if you do see one the best answer is avoid it as most snake bites occur when we try and chase them or worse still catch or kill them!

If you feel you would prefer to have the snake relocated here are some useful numbers to call as the Rangers are not authorised to deal with them.

Ray Adams (Northam Area) - 0429 910 321
Bryan Pettersen (Bakers Hill area) - 0427864 019

Other useful info can be found on this web site <http://www.dec.wa.gov.au/management-and-protection/animals/living-with-wildlife/dealing-with-snakes.html>

DrumMuster

The next DrumMuster in the Shire of Northam is scheduled for Friday, 15 September at Old Quarry Road Landfill Site.

DrumMuster is aimed at recycling clean and dry drums from growers, farmers and chemical users throughout Australia. Eligible containers are those marked with the DrumMuster logo, before being recycled the drums must be triple rinsed or cleaned with high pressure and left with lids off to dry.

Once the containers are received, they are crushed or shredded and transformed into practical items such as plastic cable covers, wheelie bins, bollards and irrigation pipes. More information is available from the DrumMuster website: www.drummuster.com.au

To participate in the Northam DrumMuster, please contact Susan Burley at the Shire of Northam on 9622 6113 to arrange a drop off time and advise the number of drums you will be delivering.

Lock and Light Program

The Lock & Light Program supports vulnerable residents who are seen to be soft targets in or community to live independently through improving their personal safety when in their homes. The programs will provide the opportunity for these residents to have a home security assessment undertaken which will raise awareness about what aspects of their homes are not secure.

For more information about the Lock and Light program, contact the Shire of Northam's Community Development Officer on 9622 6100 or email cdo@northam.wa.gov.au.

What's on in September

Friday 1	Rock N Roll Whiz Night
Saturday 2	Northam Balloon Fiesta Northam Community Markets
Saturday 2-9	2017 National Ballooning Championships
Friday 8-9	Northam Show
Saturday 9 & 23	Northam Farmer Markets

Visit www.northam.wa.gov.au for more information.

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

At the Library

NORTHAM LIBRARY	
Every Monday 10.30-11am	Activity Time for 0-5 yrs
Every Wednesday 10-11am	Story Time with Craft 0-5 yrs
Every Friday 10-11am	Baby Rhyme Time
Sat 2 September 10am	UP Movie Screening
Tues 26 September 10am	Lego Creations
Thurs 28 September 9:30am	Creative Writing Workshop
IT CLASSES	
Thurs 7 September 6pm	How to Use Word
Thurs 14 September 6pm	Editing photos without Photoshop
Thurs 21 September 6pm	Boosting Your Business with Facebook
Thurs 28 September 6pm	Skype - Intro to Video Calling
WUNDOWIE LIBRARY	
Tues 12 September 6pm	How to Use Word
Tues 19 September 6pm	Editing photos without Photoshop
Tues 26 September 6pm	Boosting Your Business with Facebook

All activities are open to all residents of the Shire of Northam free of charge. Bookings are essential for the IT classes at either the front desk or by calling the Northam Library on 9621 1600 or the Wundowie Library on 9573 6205.

At the Recreation Centre

SOCIAL SPORTS	
Every Monday 6pm	Floorball
Every Wednesday 6pm	Soccer
Every Thursday 6pm	Netball

Cost per game is \$7.50. Register to play by emailing commsoft@northam.wa.gov.au