

# AUGUST 2019

## FROM THE SHIRE PRESIDENT

I hope for those residents and ratepayers with school aged children, that you have managed to have a safe and enjoyable July School Holiday Break. For all of us in the Shire, I hope that you continue to enjoy our cool, crisp mornings. Winter provides us with the opportunity to enjoy different aspects of what the Shire of Northam has to offer.

The Avon Descent is back! We are heading closer to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this major event for the Shire of Northam. The event was first held in 1973. The weekend starts with the Avon River Festival and Street Parade in Northam on the Friday night, then there is the start of the race on Saturday morning.

Well done to all of the competitors of the Avon Descent, and to all the hard work in preparing for the event. Thanks to the Northam Avon Descent Association, and the many other volunteers who make the event happen. Apart from the Shire of Northam, Lotterywest is one of the event's major sponsors. All of the sponsors assist with making the event a success.

Whether you're visiting as part of the Avon Descent, passing through, or are local, there are many attractions to see or do.

Events during August detailed on the Shire of Northam Calendar include – Lions Community Markets, Avon Valley Show jumping and Pony Club Rally, Buckland Estate Wedding Open Day, Link Theatre Productions, Quiz Nights and the Northam Art Prize. Other regular events and attractions include Balloon Flights and many activities at El Caballo.

You may notice any number of private developments in the Shire, including those located in Yilgarn Avenue to others in Fitzgerald Street and Minson Avenue.

These new developments, along with all of the successful existing local businesses, not only promote the Shire, but also provide employment opportunities. To make our businesses successful, be part of the Northam Chamber of Commerce "Be Local, Buy Local" Campaign.

The Shire's Aquatic Centre Development continues to be on track, with an anticipated opening in January 2020. We are lucky to live in a great part of the world, and you are part of this. Your involvement and participation continues to help make the Shire of Northam a better place.

Take care  
Shire President Chris Antonio

## PARVOVIRUS INFECTION

### What is Parvovirus?

Canine parvovirus (Parvo) is a highly contagious infection that affects all dogs of any age. The virus is very aggressive and has an extremely high mortality rate if left untreated. Parvo attacks the lining of the dog's gut and also the bone marrow which produces white blood cells. In survivors, parvovirus can be shed for 5-21 days after infection, dogs who have recovered from parvovirus should not be walked in public for several weeks.

### How can my dog become infected with Parvo?

The main source of Parvo is in the faeces/poo of infected dogs. Your dog can catch this by swallowing the virus. Dogs will usually become ill or show signs of illness 7-10 days after being infected with Parvo.

Parvovirus can live for very long periods of time, and can be brought into your home or garden on your shoes or car tyres. If your dog doesn't leave your property they are still at risk of catching Parvo.

### What are the symptoms of Parvo?

Not all dogs will show every sign of Parvo, if your dog shows any sign of illness you should contact the vet as soon as possible. Symptoms of Parvo can include:

- Vomiting
- Diarrhoea, including bloody diarrhoea
- Loss of appetite
- Lethargy and depression

### How do I protect my dog against Parvo?

Parvo is an easily preventable disease through vac-

ination. Contact your local vet to check your dog is up to date with its vaccinations or to schedule a vaccination.

### Can my dog pass Parvo onto my family or other animals?

There is currently no evidence that Parvo can be caught by humans or cats.

### Where can I find more information?

For more information on Parvo, contact your local vet:

- Northam Veterinary Centre: 9622 1000
- A Country Practice: 9622 7479
- Bakers Hill Veterinary Clinic: 9574 1061

## NIGHT HOOPS IS BACK!

For one term only Saturday 10th August – 14 September 2019.

Night Hoops is a fully supervised basketball program that engages and mentors young people between the ages of 12 – 18, making a positive difference to their lives and to the community.

Participants play lots and lots of basketball, participate in life skills and inspirational workshops, and receive a hearty evening meal before being driven safely home at the end of the night.

In 2017 the Night Hoops Program was successful in reducing the numbers of young people hanging around the streets at night during the course of the program.

To run a program like this requires volunteers. We require basketball umpires (paid), youth

## FIREBREAKS & FUEL LOADS

Rates Notices will soon be sent and accompanying them is the annual Firebreak Notice which gives specific information related to Firebreaks and Fuel Loads. Please remember that these requirements are due by 1 November each year. Many small landowners find it beneficial to spray their firebreaks in the lead up to the 1 November deadline as a preventative measure leading to less effort later if grading or whipper snipping. If considering burning, the open season usually runs to 30 September. Please check details of burning periods prior to burning, on our website at <https://www.northam.wa.gov.au/services/fire-emergency-management/burning-times-and-fire-bans.aspx>

If you are a **TENANT** please check with your Landlord and Tenancy Agreement to ensure you are aware of whether you are being held responsible, as the requirements are more specific than merely "maintaining the garden". Please refer to our website for a copy of the Notice <https://www.northam.wa.gov.au/council-business/fire-and-emergency-management/firebreaks-and-fuel-loads.aspx>

## RECREATION CENTRE SOCIAL SPORTS

Pop on down to the Rec centre Wednesday nights from 6pm-8pm. Call or email the centre for Nomination forms on 9622 5153 or recreation@northam.wa.gov.au

workers and general helpers. All volunteers must be over the age of 18. Whether you can commit to just 1 night or the full 6 week program, we'd like to hear from you.

Register to volunteer at <https://nighthoops.wufoo.com/forms/night-hoops-volunteer-registration-northam/>  
Register to play at <https://nighthoops.wufoo.com/forms/player-registration-northam-aug-10-sept-14/>

## WHAT'S ON IN AUGUST

**SATURDAY 10**  
Night Hoops

**WEDNESDAY 14**  
Council Forum

**THURSDAY 15**  
Local Government Elections Webinar

**WEDNESDAY 21**  
Council Meeting

**THURSDAY 22**  
NDIS Readiness Workshop

**FRIDAY 23**  
NDIS Toolkit Workshops

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

## SEEKING COMMUNITY FEEDBACK.

Do you find value in the newsletter being published in the newspaper monthly?

Call 96226100 or email [rec-ords@northam.wa.gov.au](mailto:rec-ords@northam.wa.gov.au) and let us know.

Visit <https://www.northam.wa.gov.au/your-say-northam/> to have your say.

## CURRENT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Plant Operator - general maintenance	Closes Friday 16 August at 4PM
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