

Shire of Bruce Rock

Newsletter

December 2022



Where friends become *family*

Supermarket Update

Whilst construction of the new Supermarket is now underway, there are still other areas that Council has been working on. Tenders are currently out for the refrigeration and fit out in line with the plans, these submissions close on the 6th January 2023 and will be awarded shortly after. Council has been continuing to work with its Retail Consultant in attracting the right person to lease the new Supermarket. This process was formalised once a completion date had been provided for the new building, as this was needed to market the lease and associated arrangements. Council will continue to provide further updates in the new year as we progress with the new Supermarket.

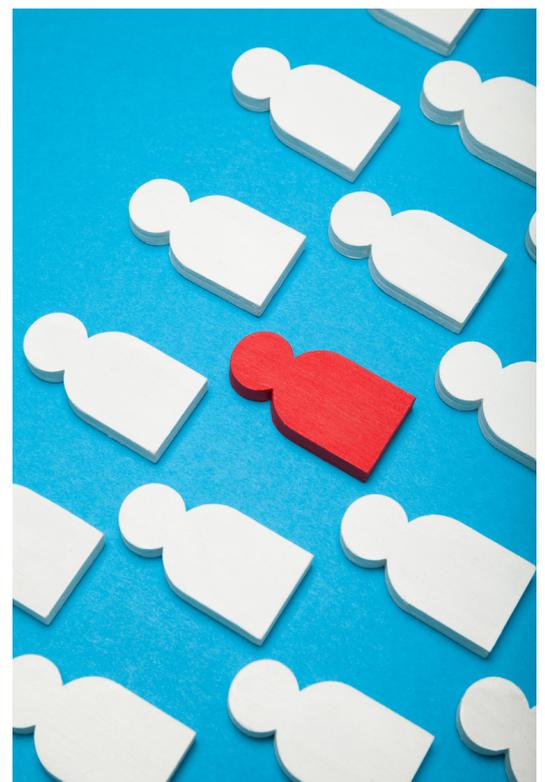
Shire Office Closure

The Shire Office will close for the standard days between Christmas and New Year (including the three public holidays), with the Office closing on Friday 23rd December 2022 and reopening on the 3rd January 2023. During this time we will have several staff available for emergency call outs and as the CEO, I will be assisting the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer to conduct the weather readings and management of Harvest and Movement of Machinery Bans. A full list of the Office Closure days and hours, and emergency contact details are provided in this newsletter as well as being advertised in the lead up to Christmas.

Office Staff Update

Over the next month we will be having a significant changeover of staff, particularly the front office & licensing. The Shire Office will be slightly understaffed as new officers come on board, learn their role and get to know the community.

Training is being undertaken by new staff to ensure we can continue to serve the community and provide good standards and customer experience. There may be some minor delays so we ask for your patience during this transition period and welcome our new team members to town. We appreciate your understanding





CEO Report

Office Staff Update

Some of the staff changes that have recently taken place or will occur in the next month are;

Engagement Officer:

Shayna Campbell has joined our team as an Engagement Officer. Her role includes assisting in the area of Community Development to backfill the days that our Community Development Officer (Caris Negri) is relieving the Executive Assistant (Melissa Schilling). Many of you will already know Shayna and to those who may not I am sure that in her role you will get to know her more as she works with different community members.

Manager of Finance:

With Jennifer Bow leaving at the end of the year to pursue the next stage of her life, we have appointed Manisha Barthakur as the Shire's new Manager of Finance. Manisha has accounting qualifications and a finance background and is currently working at the Shire of Narrogin, Manisha will be relocating to Bruce Rock. with her family, and commencing here in mid January 2023. We look forward to Manisha joining the Shire.

Finance Officer:

Maddison Aurisch is moving to Denmark at the end of the year to embark on her next chapter. This vacancy has been filled by Cinil Thomas who has recently moved to Bruce Rock with his partner, who works at the Hospital. Cinil commenced with us two weeks ago and Maddi has been assisting in training him in the Finance Officer role.

Customer Service Officer:

Kaitlin Smith has recently departed as the Customer Service Officer role, we wish her all the best in her new job.

We have been fortunate to find a replacement relatively quickly who will be a great asset to the front office, in Rachael Herne. Most people will know Rachael who has been working in the Temporary Grocery store over the past couple of years. Rachael is looking forward to a career change and will commence as the new Customer Service Officer on the 3rd January 2023. Bianca Dawson will be replacing Racheal at the Temporary Grocery Store.



Darren Mollenoyux

Farewell Maddi and Jen

Next week will see two of our long standing staff members leave to begin new chapters in their lives and whilst we will miss them greatly we wish them both the very best for the future and I am sure we will still see and hear from them on a regular basis.

Maddison Aurisch

Maddi has been with us since moving from the city back to her hometown of Bruce Rock. Maddi commenced work at the Shire as the Customer Service Officer, greeting everyone with her friendly personality and quickly learning her role. Maddi eventually made the step up to Creditors Officer. Maddi has developed her skills and become extremely competent in Creditors and Payroll. Whilst only being at the Shire for a short time, Maddi has been a great team member as well as a fun and enthusiastic person in the office, making her a pleasure to work with. Maddi will be missed but we all wish her the best for her next move, down south to Denmark.



Jen Bow

Jen started at the Shire Office 23 years ago, fresh out of university and into Local Government and has not looked back working her way through the organisation to be Manager of Finance.

Jen is our current longest serving staff member and has not only seen a lot of staff come and go over the years but has seen and been heavily involved in major changes throughout the years as the industry has developed and compliance and governance has significantly increased. Whilst Jen is greatly known for her financial management, of which she has done an exceptional job, she has contributed so much more to the Shire and community over her time at the Shire. Jen's heavy involvement through sport, school and community groups has also enabled her to have a greater insight into ensuring that we deliver for the needs of all. Jen has been involved in many projects whether in a financial management capacity or in providing valuable input into projects like the Bruce Rock Recreation Centre, Hockey facilities, housing, kitchen hall upgrade and many community events.

Farewell Jen and Maddi

Jen has helped to train and develop countless staff over the years, especially in the finance department, her skills, knowledge of the legislation and professional approach have ensured that the staff have received great guidance and support during their time here, and assisted in setting them up for other workplaces. Jen's professionalism and dedication to the organisation in ensuring the best financial management has been a great contribution that is appreciated by all staff, Councillors and the wider community. Over the years as the financial management of Local Government has grown and compliance has increased, Jen has always ensured that she has stayed at the forefront, ensuring the implementation of best practices.

Jen will be greatly missed by Council and staff, however I am sure we will still see Jen around Bruce Rock.



Bushfire Awareness

As part of the Shire's bushfire awareness campaign we have prepared a magnet that assists the public in understanding the new Australian Fire Danger System as well as other Fire Control and Prevention information. The magnets have dates of restricted and prohibited burning periods, new Lockwood District information with a QR code which takes you direct to the relevant rating system, and a QR code that takes you direct to Council's new online burning permit application. Magnets will be posted out shortly and also made available at the Shire Office.

Christmas Wishes

As the year draws to a close we reflect on another challenging, busy and productive year. We look forward 2023 and all the new projects, continued development of the Shire and community, the New Local Government Act implementation and changes, new staff coming on board but most of all, like the community, Council & staff look forward to the completion of the new Supermarket and become a reality.

Merry Christmas, stay safe, enjoy your break and Happy New Year.



Update from the CDO



Australia Day

January 26, 2023

Free BBQ at the Aquatic Centre

For details contact CDO (Caris Negri):
90611377 or email cdo@brucerock.wa.gov.au

Caris Negri

From the Works



Construction Crew

The construction program on the Old Beverley Road, is in progress and will be sealed in early January 2023. Totadgin Road works will commence just before Christmas, signage being in place, some clearing works, and will continue in the new year. The sealing works on the Shackleton-Kellerberrin Road and Doodlakine Road will be completed in March-April of 2023.

Maintenance & Patching

The patching truck crew have been continuing to patch in various places throughout the shire.

Town Gardens & Recreation Centre

The Town Gardeners have been busy, working hard to keep the town parks, garden beds and public areas tidy. If you see any breaks in the reticulation or water leaks, please let the Administration Office know so the issue can be rectified at the earliest possible convenience.

Town Crew

The Town Crew have been busy completing works throughout town. The Kerb program has been completed for this year, and Foot Path program has commenced on Noonajin Road and will be completed after the Christmas break. The Bridge Replacement Program will continue into 2023.



From the Crews

We would like to remind motorists to practice caution when travelling through roadworks. It is important to remember that every effort is taken to minimise the impact to traffic flow during roadworks. Please follow the directions of the signage and be patient. We thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

As we move into the summer break period, please be reminded there will be road users who don't usually travel on country roads. Please look out and be on guard, and slow down and drive to the conditions. Please have a safe journey wherever you travel around the area or state.

Works Manager

I would like to thank all my crew for the work they have done throughout the year.

I would like to make mention of the crew down at the Men's Shed, for the great work they did on the Bus Trailer. It looks great and your hard work should be commended.

As part of the budget submissions Council approved the purchase of various machines. We now have a larger loader, and a 30,000lt water tanker which will help out on fire grounds, with both vehicles just in time for fire season.

I would like to wish everyone a safe Christmas. Enjoy the time we have with our families over the festive season, and hope the new year proves to be a great year.

Dave Holland



Swimming pools, spas and portable/pop-up pools

Regardless of which pool you choose, if the pool when filled with water is more than 300mm deep then that pool MUST have a compliant safety barrier installed. The safety barrier is intended to help prevent the drowning deaths and injury of young children under the age of five years.

This requirement applies to:

- in-ground pools and spas;
- above-ground pools and spas (including inflatable and portable pools and spas);
- indoor pools and spas (but not spa baths that are normally emptied after each use); and
- wading pools (containing water that is more than 300mm deep).

This time of the year it is typical for those 'pop-up' type pools to be found in the Wheatbelt. Temporary or not, 'pop-up' pools, or portable/hired spas, the State Government of Western Australia has passed law that ALL pools holding more than 300mm of water need a compliant safety barrier.

There are options for pool and spa pool safety fences. Please contact the Shire of Bruce Rock EHO for further information.

NOTE: a cover over a spa pool is not an approved safety barrier. If a sales person tells you it is a compliant safety barrier they have committed an offence.





Council Meeting Outcomes

The last Council meeting for 2022 was held on Thursday 15th December 2022 where Council considered various matters. Below is a brief overview of some of the items and Council decisions from these recent meetings.

Council Representation Review

Following Public Consultation period, where no submissions were received, Council considered the options for Review of Councillor Representation and reduction of Councillor Numbers in line with the Local Government Reform proposals. Council has resolved to reduce from nine (9) down to seven (7) Elected Members. This decision has been submitted to the Local Government Advisory Board with a request to implement the reduction at the next Ordinary Local Government Election in October 2023.

Acceptance of Annual Report

The Audit Committee and Council received and accepted the 2021/22 Annual Financial Statements and Auditor Generals Report, these will be included in Council's 2021/22 Annual Report. That these will be received, Council set the Annual Electors Meeting for the 2021/22 period to be held in February 2023.

WEROC - Strategic Waste Management Plan

During 2022 Council has been working with its neighbouring Councils' through Wheatbelt East Regional Organisations of Council (WEROC) to jointly improve our waste management and strategies going forward. Council has supported to continue working on this project to assist in waste reduction, better management of waste facilities and associated regional initiatives. Further updates on this project will be provided in the new year.

CEACA

As the community would be aware the Shire of Bruce Rock have been heavily involved with CEACA which is working towards sustainable housing via its Independent Living Units and is now collaboratively investigating opportunities for additional accommodation funding for other in demand housing needs. The Alliance is also continuing to work on other key areas to support the strategies of the group.

Temporary Supermarket

Council was pleased to receive the latest monthly update on the Temporary Supermarket, noting that sales continue to grow, showing the great support that the community is showing towards the temporary arrangements and in turn will assist in the new Supermarket.





CHRISTMAS

Trading Hours

ADMIN OFFICE	CLOSED 1PM 23RD DECEMBER - 2ND JANUARY
RUBBISH TIP	CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY
RUBBISH COLLECTION	BRUCE ROCK, ARDATH, SHACKLETON & BABAKIN TOWNSITES: 28TH DECEMBER
RECYCLE COLLECTION	BRUCE ROCK & SHACKLETON TOWNSITES: 26TH DECEMBER
AQUATIC CENTRE	OPEN 3PM - 6PM CHRISTMAS DAY
SUPERMARKET	CLOSED 26TH & 27TH DECEMBER, 2ND JANUARY. EXTENDED HOURS TO 12PM ON 24TH & 31ST DECEMBER. ALL OTHER DAYS AS PER NORMAL HOURS

IN THE CASE OF AN EMERGENCY DURING THE ADMIN OFFICE CLOSURE, PLEASE CONTACT:

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	DARREN MOLLENOYUX	0428 611 377
CONSTRUCTION CREW SUPERVISOR	BROCK WILLIAMS	0499 599 468

MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

