

Shire of Bruce Rock

Newsletter

February 2023



*Where friends become **family***

CEO Report

With 2022 behind us we are now focused on the year ahead with 2023 seeing some significant changes and exciting projects ahead. We have many new faces in the office and some new Works Crew onboard in our outside staff, which is great to see. There will also be some changes to Council later in the year when we reduce from nine to seven Councilors at the October 2023 Local Government Election. This year will see the new Supermarket come to fruition, as well as delivering our normal Local Government services, roads program, town maintenance and other budgeted projects. Below is a brief snapshot of current points, however if you want to know more or seek information on other Council related matters please contact the CEO or one of the Shire Councillors.

Supermarket Update

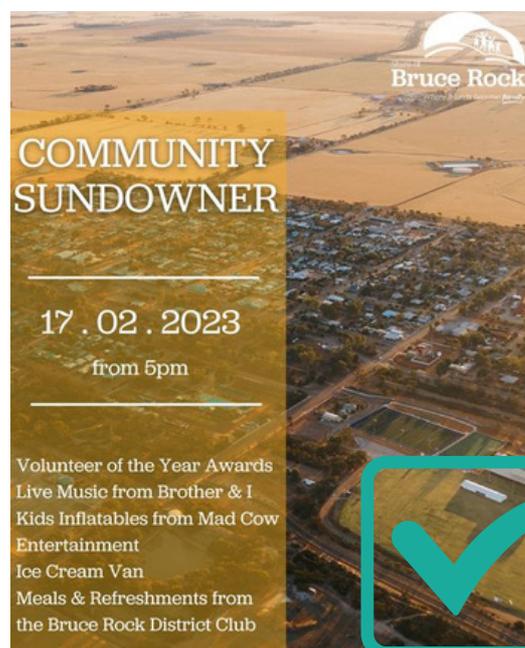
The construction of the new Supermarket is well underway, with a large portion of earthworks, pre-lay of electrical and water completed, and tilt up panel walls poured. Thanks to the public for their patience as we temporarily closed part of the footpath to allow the builders to access stormwater drainage culverts, this will be reopened this week. As the construction works continue Council has awarded the tenders for the refrigeration, coolrooms, furniture, checkouts, display cabinets and shelving, which will all fall in line with the timeframes set with completion to be around September / October 2023. The process has officially commenced to attract a suitable retailer and Council's retail Consultant is undertaking this process in close consultation with the Shire.

Community Sundowner & Volunteer Awards

Large numbers turned out to the Annual Community Sundowner and Volunteer of the Year Awards on Friday 17th February 2023, with the kids having fun on the water amusements, eating ice-creams while the adults enjoyed refreshments and meals provided by the District Club. Thanks to Suz & Rochelle for postponing the start of Bare Foot Bowls while the awards presentation took place. Congratulations to all of the finalists and winners for the outstanding contributions you have made to community. A full write up on the winners is provided in this newsletter.

Office Staff Update

I would like to thank the public for their patience and understanding over the past two months with the significant changeover of staff. The majority of the training has now been completed, including Transport Licensing, and staff look forward to offering full services again and serving the community. Council have also endorsed our new Communications Strategy which will ensure we continue to develop and improve our customer service and relationships with the public.



Darren Mollenoyux

CEO Report

Caravan Park Caretaker

After 14 years, Jack Andrews has decided to vacate the position of Caravan Park Caretaker for Bruce Rock. Jack has provided excellent service as Caravan Park Caretaker to all those who have visited and stayed at the Park over the years. Jack has been reliable and flexible in making sure that our tourists to town are well catered for and given great service, with countless number of feedback given from visitors to the Park praising him. Over many years Jack has played a key role in ensuring that our Vietnam Veterans "Back to the Bush" Reunion campers have been looked after, giving up his own time and leave to assist.

Advertising has commenced for a new Caravan Park Caretaker and we are hopeful of filling this position in April 2023



Caravan Park Caretaker

An opportunity has arisen for a friendly and enthusiastic person or couple to manage the Shire of Bruce Rock Caravan Park. Bruce Rock is ideally located in the Wheatbelt region just 245km east of Perth and has excellent services and facilities which make living in this great community very enjoyable.

The Bruce Rock Caravan Park has a reputation for friendly, exceptional customer service and cleanliness. The park provides 20 Powered Sites, town water, a newly appointed ablutions block and laundry, Campers' Kitchen and gas barbecues. There are also 6 Backpacker Huts for hire which can sleep 1-2 persons and 3 self-contained Chalets, 2 of which can sleep up to 4 guests.

Industry experience is ideal but not essential as we are more than willing to train and develop the required skills needed from a Caretaker with the right attitude.

The successful applicant will be responsible for:

- Bookings and Office Administration
- Customer Service
- Garden and Grounds Maintenance
- Cleaning

The applicant should also be solution-focused, with a positive attitude, committed to excellence in customer services in gaining knowledge of the local and surrounding area. They will manage the day to day operation of the Caravan Park under the guidance of Council's Executive Management.

A 2-bedroom residence onsite is provided rent-free inclusive of utilities as part of the Employment Package. This includes working 6 days per week including weekends and Public Holidays, with a day off mid-week.

The position will permanent flexible hours between level 4 (\$32.20 per hour) which includes Council's 5% over award experience.

Council is open to other flexible management options including gardening. Please call the CEO, Darren Mollenoyux if you are interested.

To obtain an information package contact Melissa Schilling at melissa.schilling@brucerock.wa.gov.au or visit the website www.bruce-rock.wa.gov.au. Applications, addressing the selection criteria, including a cover letter, should be received by Council on or before 12:00pm on 13 March 2023. "Confidential - "Caravan Park Manager" will be received by Council on or before 12:00pm on 13 March 2023.

Shire of Bruce Rock
Private and Confidential Caravan Park Caretaker
PO Box 113

VACANT
We are HIRING



Bruce Rock's Newest Aussie! Amoke Jegede



Where friends become **family**

Darren Mollenoyux

Spotlight on Staff!

WELCOME



Georgia-Mae Palmer (Creditors Officer)

Where you're from?

North Canterbury, New Zealand

What brought you to Bruce Rock?

A change of lifestyle

What do you like about Bruce Rock?

The people and very relaxed lifestyle

Hobbies and interests?

Hunting & fishing. Food and cocktails



Rachael Hearne (Customer Service Officer)

Where you're from?

Bruce Rock local

What brought you to Bruce Rock?

I have been involved in the community for a number of years

What do you like about Bruce Rock?

The people and community spirit

Hobbies and interests?

Watching dressage, reading and running around after my kids



Cinil Thomas (Finance Officer)

Where you're from?

South India

What brought you to Bruce Rock?

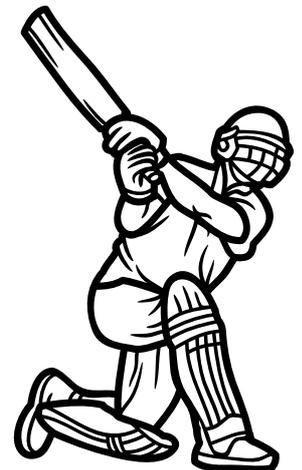
Job opportunities

What do you like about Bruce Rock?

The people and easy going pace of country life

Hobbies and interests?

Watching the cricket



Manisha Barthakur (Manager of Finance)

Where you're from?

Originally from India, migrated to Bruce Rock from Narrogin.

What brought you to Bruce Rock?

Started the new Job at the Shire.

What do you like about Bruce Rock?

The tranquillity around, progressive mindset and the friendly community

Hobbies and interests?

Travel and Dance

Update from the CDO

Aquatic Centre Update

The Bruce Rock Aquatic Centre celebrated Australia Day with free admission to the pool all day, and a free BBQ lunch. There were great numbers, with 136 patrons across the day. The pool and slide got a work out, as did Cr Rajagopalan, Cr Verhoogt and Mike Darby at the BBQ! Due to the end of school holidays and staffing requirements, the Aquatic Centre will be closed on Mondays for the rest of the season. The rest of the opening hours remain the same.

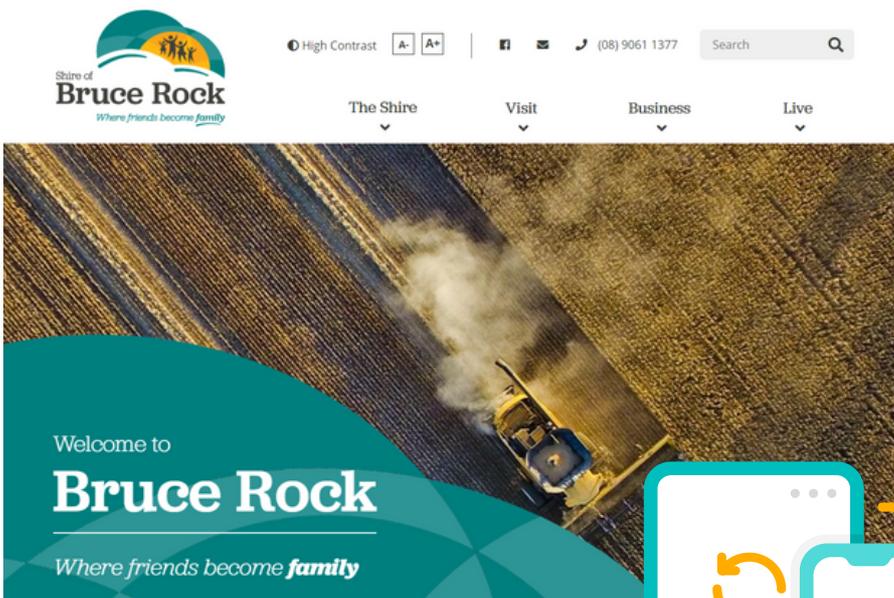
Can you accommodate a couple of medical students for three nights??



Wheatbelt Medical Student Immersion Program
TUESDAY 14 TO FRIDAY 17 MARCH 2023

Wheatbelt Medical Student Immersion Program

First year medical students from the University of Notre Dame are once again visiting Bruce Rock on the 14th - 17th of March. The aim of the program is to expose the students to the lifestyle of rural communities, and encourage them to consider practicing medicine in regional, rural and remote communities in the future. The program is a mixture of introducing the students to community groups and facilities and health professionals and facilities. To help the students gain a real experience of what living in our community is like, they are hosted by local families. If you are able to help out and host two or more students, please contact the Shire Office and we can pass your details on to Rural Health West



Website Updates

We are working to ensure our website is as current as possible. If your business, community group or sporting group's details are outdated or not on our website directory at all, please email the correct details to admin@brucerock.wa.gov.au. Thank you!

Caris Negri

Community Sundowner

On the 17th of February, Council held their annual Community Sundowner which this year also featured the presentation of the Volunteer of the Year Awards. It was fantastic to see so many community members come together to celebrate our volunteers. Thank you to all who attended and those who provided entertainment for the evening.

The recipients of the Volunteer of the Year Awards were:

Under 25 Volunteer of the Year

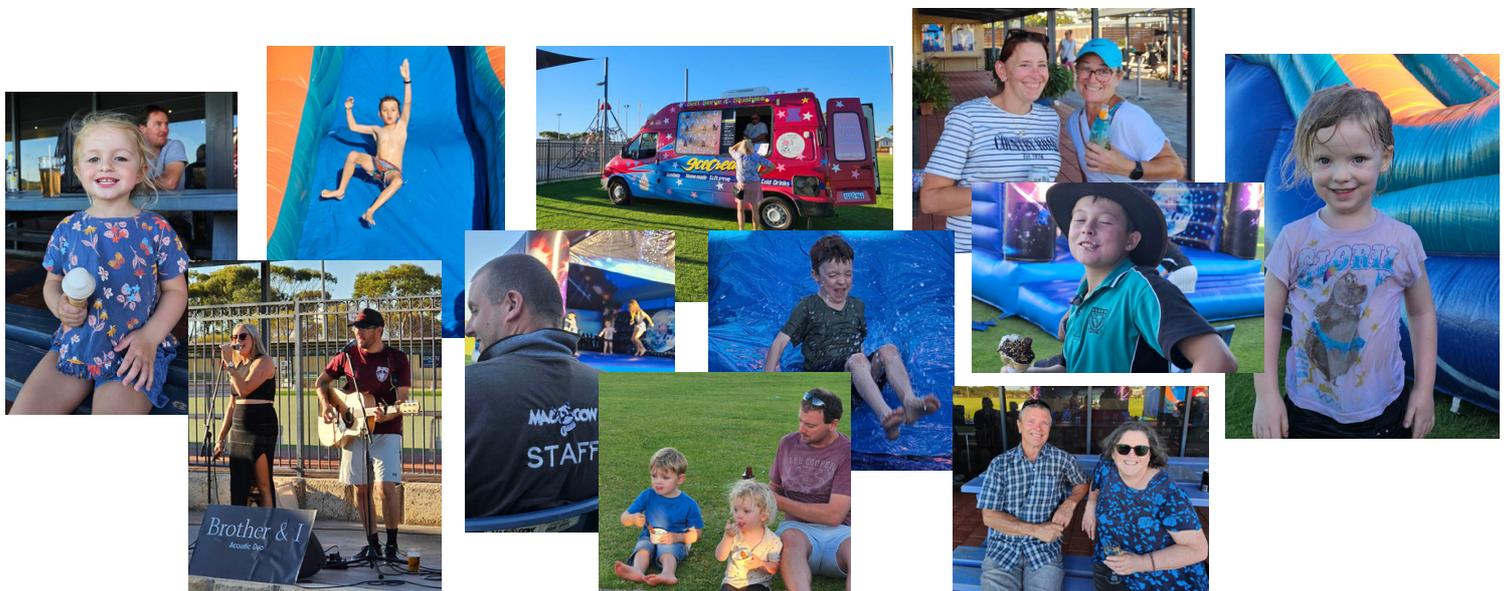
Lily Mollenoyux For her incredible work ethic and dedicated efforts in assisting Mike and Ram in the canteen over the sporting seasons. Although a junior, Lily displayed her enthusiasm by always making herself available when staffing was difficult. Lily would often take on extra shifts and would always provide quality service with a smile.

Adult Volunteer of the Year

Michael Buegge - for his longstanding dedication to voluntary work within the Shire and community. Michael has a deep love and dedication to his town and has volunteered in a number of community groups including: the Bruce Rock Agricultural Show, The Bruce Rock Hockey Club, Bruce Rock Open Gardens and many other events over the years. Michael also most notably dedicated significant efforts to the clean-up and assessment of damage done by the February 2022 fires that swept through the Bruce Rock and Corrigin Shires.

Community Group Volunteer of the Year

The Bruce Rock Progress Association- for their ongoing dedication to the provision of events and fundraising opportunities to help pay for the new Supermarket. The Bruce Rock Progress Association is a community group made up of dedicated and enthusiastic locals who are interested in making a meaningful contributing to fundraising efforts for our community.



Caris Negri

From the Works Manager

Road Construction Works

The Roads Construction Crew have had a busy start to the year with several major projects. The recent reconstruction works on Old Beverley Rd have now been sealed and new signage erected. The remaining Regional Road Group reseal works are booked for the middle of March 2023.

The Construction Crew are currently undertaking road construction works on Totadgin Rd. Please be patient during this time and abide by all traffic management signs that are in place.

Maintenance & Concrete Works

As part of Council's long term footpath plan and the 2023/24 budget, the Concrete Crew installed a new footpath on a section of Butcher Street. This also included several crossover driveways for residents. The next stage of the footpath program will continue in 2023/2024.

The Concrete Crew is currently on leave and therefore we have not been able to provide private concrete works, however we are still able to provide other private works such as delivery of sand/gravel or other minor works. When the Concrete Crew return from leave they will be undertaking several bridge culvert replacements throughout the Shire.





Sale of Surplus Items

Expressions of Interest are called for the outright purchase of the following item:

- 1 x Six Wheel Water Truck
 - The truck is a 2007 Isuzu Giga Max with an Eaton gearbox,
 - This truck is in a reasonable condition with good tyres and traveled only 178,856km, serviced by the Shires mechanics.
2. 1 x Loader
 - The Loader is a 2013 LW300K Ranger with quick hitch and hydraulic connections for attachments,
 - This loader is in good condition with good tyres and with only 1709hrs, it has been serviced by the Shires mechanics, with a new motor installed in November 2022 and run for only 2hrs.

For further information on the item or for inspection please contact the Manager of Works or Mechanic via the Shire office on 08 9061 1377 or admin@brucerock.wa.gov.au during business hours.

**** Please Note: All items are PICK-UP ONLY**

All tender submissions must be submitted by 4pm on Monday the 13th of March 2023, and be addressed to the undersigned in an envelope marked 'Private and Confidential - Sale of Surplus Items'

Darren Mollenoyux
Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Bruce Rock
PO Box 113
Bruce Rock WA 6418

64 Johnson Street,
Bruce Rock, 6418
PO Box PO Box 113, Bruce Rock WA 6418
Phone (08) 9061 1377
Fax (08) 9061 1340
Email admin@brucerock.wa.gov.au
brucerock.wa.gov.au



Dave Holland

Council Meeting Outcomes

The first Council meeting for 2023 was held on Thursday 16th February 2023, where Council considered various matters. Below is a brief overview of some of the items and Council decisions from this recent meeting.

Draft Disability Access & Inclusion Plan

In line with the provisions of the WA Disability Services Act, Section 28, Local Governments are required to review their Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) every five years. The most recent Shire of Bruce Rock DAIP ran from 2017-2022. Staff undertook a review of the previous DAIP, and information from recent improvements and public consultations e.g. the Public Health Survey have been included. Council endorsed the Draft Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2023-2027 (DAIP) and it is now open for public consultation/submissions for two weeks, after which the final DAIP will be brought back to Council in March 2023 for adoption and lodgement with the Disability Services Commission.

2023 Local Government Elections

In 2021 Council held its first Postal Election via the WA Electoral Commission and this saw a positive impact with a significant increase in voting, and voter returns of over 15% higher than the standard In Person Election. With the 2023 Ordinary Local Government Elections to be held in October this year, Council considered the merits of continuing to hold a Postal Election and this was endorsed at the February 2022 Council Meeting. In addition, you will recall late last year Council undertook a review of its Councillor numbers in response to the State Government's request to reduce Councillor Numbers to reflect population base. Bruce Rock was required to reduce to between 5 - 7 Councillors for populations under 5000. Following Council's Public Consultation last year and subsequent submission to the Local Government Advisory Board, the Minister has approved Bruce Rock's request, which will see our Councillor numbers reduce from 9 to 7 at the October 2023 Election. Further details of this year's election will be provided over the coming months.

New Supermarket Refrigeration and Fit Out

The final component of the new supermarket construction was tendered in December/January and following all submissions received, the Tender Panel reviewed and assessed in accordance with the criteria and a recommendation presented to the February 2023 Council Meeting. Council accepted the Tender Panel's recommendations and the Tender for the refrigeration was awarded to AJ Baker & Sons, whilst the furniture and fit out was awarded to Lane Industries. This is another exciting step in progressing to deliver a new supermarket back into Bruce Rock.

Council Meeting Outcomes

Community Grants

After a couple of years of not running the Community Grants Program, Council has agreed that this program will be back for the 2023/2024 financial year. This fund is open to local sporting and community groups to apply for small, one off grants to assist with specific projects that will improve the facilities. Further information, guidelines and eligibility of projects will be provided to sporting and community groups next month.

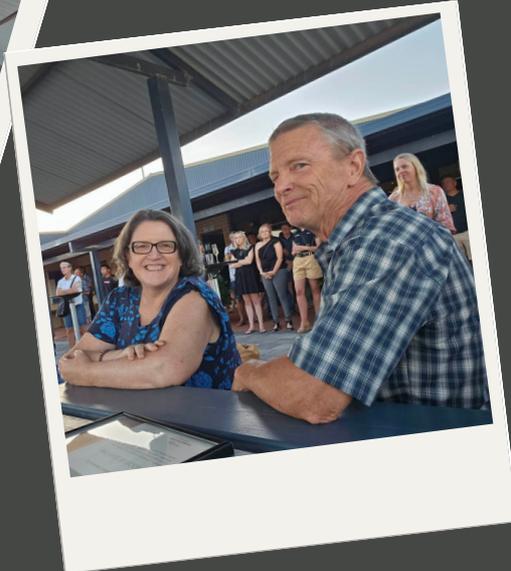
Draft Public Health Plan

Following the public consultation undertaken in the later part of 2022, Council's consultant has developed a Draft Shire of Bruce Rock Public Health Plan. This plan has been provided to Council for consideration and input. This will be addressed at the March 2023 Council Meeting, prior to final public consultation and input.

Restricted Access Vehicle (RAV) Routes

At the Councillor Information Session in February, Council discussed a matter raised during the 2022/2023 harvest period regarding the process and requirements for accessing RAV routes within the Shire. Main Roads WA, Heavy Vehicle Services received a large amount of RAV Route Requests from farmers and contractors throughout the farming regions. The assessment period by Main Roads WA Heavy Vehicle Services can take several months due to the large volume and applicants are strongly encouraged to make applications for inclusions on the RAV Routes as early as practical. To assist in clarifying the process, Council will be providing further information to locals regarding the process and requirements to make submissions. This information will be provided in the near future.





THANK YOU!

