



## Shire President's Message

against community expectations which are always in excess of what Council can reasonably provide. Council has resolved to offer an exemption from instalment charges and interest to those fire effected properties. Further details can be found in the article below. The budget must also be reflective of our Long Term Financial Plan and Corporate Business Plan which ultimately reflect the vision and goals of our community. For further information in regard to 2016/17 budget please refer to additional information contained within your rates notice or contact Council staff.

### COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

During the remainder of 2016 Council will be conducting a community consultative process in order to update its Community Strategic Plan. This document provides the vision and direction for future decision making by Council and I encourage all residents to be involved be having your say when invited.

### LOCAL GOVERNMENTS JOIN FORCES – LIBRARY SERVICES

A group of 11 South West local governments have created a first in WA by agreeing to begin implementation of a shared 'one card' library system. Under the joint initiative, library members, using their home library card, will be able to access resources from any of the 11 participating local government libraries and then return items to any other within the group. The one-card system will be the first of its kind in WA and the group will commence implementation of the new shared software soon. The local governments participating in the new one-card system are: Boyup Brook, Bridgetown-Greenbushes, Bunbury, Busselton, Capel, Dardanup, Donnybrook-Balingup, Harvey, Manjimup, Nannup, and Waroona.

### NAIDOC CELEBRATIONS

On Monday the 4th of July, the local Aboriginal community, in collaboration with the Shire of Waroona, held a very successful NAIDOC Celebration. This

was only the second NAIDOC event that the local Aboriginal community have organised with the Shire, and it was great to see it so well supported.

The event boasted Aboriginal culture with the celebrations opening with a Welcome to Country by Mr Jetta, flag raising by Rick Jetta Jr and Skye Bennell, and traditional dancing by the local Bindjareb Middar dance group. Following this was a football clinic run by former Greater Western Sydney AFL player, and current captain of Peel Thunder Football Club Gerald Ugle, and a basketball clinic run by Mandurah Magic Basketball Association. The Youth Advisory Council organised a number of fun-filled family friendly activities throughout the event including face painting, badge making, boomerang painting, colouring in competitions, helium balloons and more. A traditional lunch was cooked as well as sausage sizzle and bacon and egg burgers provided by the Waroona Leos Club.

### 2016/17 BUDGET

Management of financial resources continues to be one of the most difficult tasks of a Local Government Council. Our Council is no different and the 2016/17 budget preparation was considerably difficult this year due to a number of issues including the January 2016 bushfire. It is highly likely that the financial effects of this terrible event will continue to pose significant challenges for at least the next 12-24 months. There are strong and valid reasons to exercise constraint with many residents in our community facing hardship and this needs to be balanced

## COUNCIL BUDGET 2016/17

The Shire of Waroona 2016/17 budget was adopted by the Council on 2nd August 2016. In addition, the Council's Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) and Corporate Business Plan (CBP) by which the budget is based, were also adopted.

Budget preparation has been made more difficult as a result of the devastating bushfire which was experienced in January 2016. With many residents facing hardship, the Council faces the challenge of recognising this impact together with continuing to maintain community expectations. Loan funds of \$200,000 are proposed to offset fire losses, however this matter will be reviewed in February 2017 prior to taking up the loan.

As a result the Council has resolved to offer an exemption from instalment charges and interest to those fire affected properties who choose to pay their 16/17 rates by instalment. Full details of this incentive will be provided direct to individual owners.

Resource sharing is now a key component of the Council's operations with health, information technology and ranger services being shared with our neighbouring Council, the Shire of Murray. This provides the Council with access to expertise and staffing which would otherwise be beyond our limited resources.

### Rates

Rates have been increased by 6.95% in accordance with the Council's Financial Plan realising total income of \$4,390,922. Minimum rates have been increased from \$940 to \$1,010.

Methodology calculating rates is contained within the "Rate Setting Statement" available on the Council's website.

This process carefully considers what is required to maintain service delivery at an acceptable level but also what funding will be available for asset renewal and the creation of new facilities.

Many costs that are highly relevant to Local Government are actually priced by the State Government and therefore there is little resemblance to CPI when setting Local Government rates.

A selection of key components from the budget are as follows:

### Road Construction Program (Significant Projects)

Somers Road – Reconstruction	\$200,000
Lake View Road – Reconstruction	\$115,000
Dorsett Road – Realign and reconstruct	\$544,000
Buller Road – Reconstruct and widen	\$360,000
Weir Road – Safety improvements	\$138,500
Elliott St – Drainage and kerbing	\$50,000

### Other Capital Expenditure (Significant Projects)

Showgrounds – reseal carpark	\$30,000
Oval reticulation upgrade	\$45,000
Construction Lake Clifton Fire Station	\$136,786
Memorial Hall – external refurbishment	\$78,000
Library – shelving replacement (stage 2)	\$12,100
Community Resource Centre – construct disabled access	\$20,000
History book reprint	\$18,500
Contribution to Wheeler Field airstrip upgrade	\$20,000
Install generator – emergency centre operations	\$85,000
Recreation Centre – Plant and equipment repairs	\$19,500

Further information on the 2016/17 budget can be obtained from the Council office, with rate notices or the Council's website [www.waroona.wa.gov.au](http://www.waroona.wa.gov.au)

## 2016/17 RATE NOTICES

Shire of Waroona rate notices will start to arrive in letterboxes commencing the 19th August. This mail out is the initial rates run for the 2016/17 financial year with rate payments due by the 23rd September. Council continues to make it as convenient as possible to pay rates with a range of instalment and payment options available. This year we are pleased to offer BPAY, see BPAY article included in Sea to Scarp.

Tip passes will be attached to the base of all notices where the ratepayer is paying a service fee for rubbish and recycling. Ratepayers who own a rural property with a dwelling will be required to collect their rural tip pass from the Shire of Waroona Administration Office. In addition to your rate notices, your envelope will also contain an information booklet which will include all you need to know about your local Shire.

To assist in the rates process, please ensure your current mailing address is correct. Ratepayers who have not received their rate notices as a result of change of address (change of address is required in writing) will continue to be subject to debt recovery action for late payment of rates. It is your responsibility to contact us should you not receive your notice.

Should you be eligible for a pension/seniors rebate on your property please ensure your application is submitted as soon as possible. To be eligible for a 50% pension rebate you must hold a current pension concession card or a commonwealth seniors health card and a seniors card. To be eligible for a 25% seniors rebate you must hold a current seniors card. To be eligible you must be the owner of the property and reside there as your permanent place of address as at the 1st July 2015. You may also apply for a rebate on your Shire rates by calling the Water Corporation on 1300 659 951. Please note that pensioner rebates will be capped at \$750 and senior rebates at \$288.70.

If you have any queries in relation to your rates please do not hesitate to contact our Senior Rates Officer Kirsty Ferraro on 08 9733 7800 during normal business hours.

## AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP

The Age-Friendly Community Working Group met at the Waroona Community Resource Centre on Wednesday the 20th of July. This group consists of the project consultant Liz Storr, Shire of Waroona Community Development Officer Brad Vitale, Shire of Murray Coordinator Recreation & Community Development Jodie Doherty, councillors, community organisation representatives and local residents from both shires, as well as a number of health services that provide for both shires. This was one of the most progressive meetings yet, with the group investigating the results of the surveys and forums which were held recently. Liz provided a presentation of the findings, and a draft of possible strategies and objectives that may be included in the final Age-Friendly Community Plan. The next stage is for Liz to compile and collate all the information into a final plan, which will hopefully be completed in the coming weeks.

**Next Council Meeting**  
Next Council Meeting will be 23rd August at 4pm at the Shire of Waroona Council Chambers behind the administration office

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**ALCOA**  
*Alcoa proudly supports the Shire of Waroona Sea to Scarp Newsletter.*

**Waroona Licensing Centre is now located within the Shire Administration Office to the left of Reception. 9733 3021**

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## FRIENDS OF HAMEL

On Thursday the 14th of July, the Friends of Hamel group braved the cold and assembled at the Hamel Hall for their second meeting. Dave Charles from Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPaW) provided an insight into how the Friends of Hamel group could assist the department in the management of the Hamel area, and what the next stage is in formalising the group. DPaW have completed a visitor risk assessment of the Hamel Nursery, as well as an arborist report, and will be completing any recommendations that resulted. As the Hamel area has now been included in the Master Burn Plan, prescribed burning will hopefully commence shortly. The Friends of Hamel group received maps distinguishing which areas of Hamel are managed by DPaW, Forest Products Commission, National Trust and Shire of Waroona, which will be helpful in future project planning. The members of the group felt positive and welcomed DPaW's interest in improving the management of the area, and appreciated the engagement with local residents to consider their views. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 11th of August from 7pm at the Hamel Hall. All who have an interest in the group and the Hamel area are welcome to attend.

## CONGRATULATIONS LEOS

On Monday, the 18th of July, the Waroona Lions Club held an induction for their new junior division Waroona Leos Club. Special guests on the night included Terry Collinson – District Governor, Grant Hewitt – Vice District Governor, and Dora Bushe-Jones – District Leos Advisor. Lions President Larry Scott ensured the proceedings stayed on track with a huge spread of delicious dinner and dessert provided by the Western Front fundraising group. Twenty five members, ranging from 12 years to 17 years old, officially pledged to uphold the principles of the Leos Club. The executive of the Leos were sworn in, with the positions filled by Reegan Davis as President, Jalen Anzellino as Vice President, Asha Comisso as Secretary and Jack Dwyer as Treasurer. Leos Advisors, and Lions Club members John Clare and Lisa Fry were acknowledged for their efforts in the development of the Leos Club. Lions Club Treasurer Louie Chiera was also recognised for his management of Waroona and Harvey Lions Club funds during the fire donation period. The Leos Club have already demonstrated their eagerness to contribute to the community through their assistance with the recent NAIDOC Celebrations, and have a number of great projects to come.



## YOUTH CONTRIBUTING TO COMMUNITY AWARD

To conclude the Leos Induction, Reegan Davis and Jalen Anzellino were surprised with receiving a Youth Contributing to Community Award. This award is an initiative to identify and acknowledge young people in the Shire of Waroona who are voluntarily contributing to the community in a positive way. The boys had the exact same nomination as they are practically joined at the hip. They received their award for the significant time and effort that they provide to assist a number of local community groups and organisations such as Waroona Football Club, Waroona Amateur Basketball Association, Quambie Park, Waroona Lions Club and Waroona Leos Club. Both boys played a significant role in developing the Leos Club, reaching out to other youth around town from all age groups, schools and backgrounds to make up numbers. As a result, the Leos Club now boasts a large group of 25 keen and dedicated members. Fittingly, Reegan has been elected as President of the Leos Club, and Jalen as the Vice President. Both boys also volunteered as Camp Counsellors at Camp Kulin, which was organised for fire affected children from

Waroona and Yarloop. As part of a school trip, they travelled to Flores, Indonesia to live in and help out villages, participating in duties such as working, painting, planting, visiting schools, and teaching and playing sports with disadvantaged children. The positive impact that Reegan and Jalen have already had on their peers is remarkable, and with their eagerness and enthusiasm to get involved, it won't be long until the youth of the community make pace in local community groups and clubs.



## BPAY PAYMENT SERVICE NOW AVAILABLE

The Shire of Waroona are pleased to announce the introduction of BPAY as an additional payment option for payment of rates and debtors. BPAY is a bill payment services that enables you to pay your bills day or night, through phone and internet banking. BPAY gives you total control of your payments. You can pay one-off bills or schedule payments for later or periodically. Our BPAY service will allow you to make payments from your savings account or credit card. BPAY will replace the current BPOINT service. BPOINT will cease to be available after Friday 12th August 2016.

## SWIMMING POOL INSPECTIONS

The Building Regulations 2012 require that private swimming pools comply with the appropriate legislation and are required to be inspected. If you have received a pool inspection letter, please contact the Council Building Surveyor Paul Sportel on 9733 7800 and arrange a time that the mandatory inspection can be carried out.



**Exhibition open to Local Artists**  
Residents of Shire of Waroona, Coolup & Yarloop are invited to exhibit in the Sea to ART Exhibition to be held throughout November 2016. Categories include painting, drawing & printmaking in any medium; mixed media art; works in fine metals, jewellery & glass; works in fibres & textiles; fine wood craft, etc.

**Entry forms due in by  
3pm Friday 30/9/16**

Forms available from:  
Waroona Visitor Centre, 37 South West Hwy  
Shire of Waroona Office, 52 Hesse St  
or email request to [visitorcentre@waroona.wa.gov.au](mailto:visitorcentre@waroona.wa.gov.au)



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## FRIENDS OF HAMEL

This meeting is to progress the formation of the Friends of Hamel group following the last meeting held in June.

The aims of the group are to:

- Bring together people with a common interest in the Hamel site.
- Provide support for and foster public awareness of the historic Hamel Nursery and Welland areas.
- Assist with maintenance, care and special projects selected by the Friends, in consultation with the Shire of Waroona and Department of Parks and Wildlife.
- Ensure that Hamel is known as a place that people want to visit, care for and respect.

**Date:** Thursday, 11th August  
**Time:** 7pm  
**Venue:** Hamel Hall



Tea and coffee provided.

To show your interest in becoming a member of the Friends of Hamel group, or for more information, please contact:  
Shire of Waroona  
Ph: 9733 7800  
Email: [cdo@waroona.wa.gov.au](mailto:cdo@waroona.wa.gov.au)

