

Council to Community

Beach Emergency Numbers Launch

On Friday, 30 October in Guilderton at the foreshore the Shire of Gingin conducted an official launch for the Beach Emergency Number (BEN) signage system.

Approximately 35 key stakeholders were in attendance including community groups who were consulted and funding partners.

The BEN system is named in honour of fatal shark bite victim Ben Gerring, who lost his life after a shark bite incident in 2016. At the time, there were concerns about emergency services locating the closest beach access point. The BEN signs were consequently created to be a coding system that aims to improve emergency response times by installing signs with unique codes at public beach access points. These signs provide specific location information which is vital when emergency services are deployed in the event of a shark sighting, an attack or another beach emergency.



The locations chosen for each of these signs throughout the Shire of Gingin were determined by the Shire in consultation with the DPIRD, the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) and with relevant community stakeholders and organisations – of which there were many.

The launch location of Guilderton was chosen because it was here in the Moore River that 2 drownings have occurred during the past 2 summer seasons. Sadly this beautiful location is one of the Shire's most deadly so it was felt that it would be fitting to install the first of the Shire's 66 BEN signs at this site. The remaining signs will gradually be installed and should be in place by the end of November from Wilbinga in the south of the Shire to Lancelin in the north and also at some inland locations.

Bob James from St John Ambulance, Lancelin was asked by the Shire President, Wayne Fewster, to unveil the first of the BEN signs in Guilderton. He was instrumental in assisting the Shire, the DPIRD and the DBCA with this scheme and its installation.

Bob identified many locations on behalf of St John's First Aid services where ambulance pickups occur most frequently within the Shire and he was also involved with consolidating and providing information on the best tracks to take to access the BEN locations and the type of vehicles required.

The Shire would like to acknowledge and thank Bob and the key funding parties and organisations involved with the implementation of this system including the DPIRD, the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, Landgate, WA Police, the DFES, St John Ambulance, DBCA, Shire staff (in particular Helen Sutherland & Renier De Beer) and the many community groups and organisations who donated their time and knowledge to help determine the locations for each sign.

Upgrades for the Lancelin Off-road Vehicle Area

If you've visited the Lancelin Off-road Vehicle Area over the past couple of weeks then you may have noticed some activity in the area.

The Shire has busily been installing brand new signage throughout the Off-road Vehicle Area as part of safety upgrades. The area is very popular with 4 wheel drive enthusiasts and many tourists who visit Lancelin or are passing through the area.



The new signage will better clarify how to use the area safely with the designated sandboarding area and 4 wheel drive area more clearly defined. Unfortunately the area has seen accidents and in the past, even deaths. The signage includes safety instructions and speed limits so it is Council's hope that

drivers and pedestrians will be able to use the area more safely and therefore, reduce or potentially even stop accidents from occurring in the off-road vehicle area. Additionally, the signage has been designed to be informative for visitors and to also brighten up the area.

Last week the new entrance was predominantly completed with vehicle physical delineation (bollards and signage) and sealing works (approximately 50m from the entrance) still to be undertaken. A pedestrian access is also yet to be created.

The Shire hopes both residents and visitors to the area will enjoy these new upgrades.



Welcome to Dr Dapo



The Shire of Gingin is pleased to announce to the community that it has successfully negotiated the services of Dr Oladapo Alegbe (Dr Dapo) to take on the Gingin Medical Practice.

Cr Kim Rule, the Chairman of the Medical Centre Committee, feels this is a terrific result. "Dr Dapo brings a great deal of experience to the practice," he remarked. "The Committee and I hope that the community will be very welcoming of Dr Dapo who brings over 20 years of general practice proficiency to Gingin."

Additionally, Dr Dapo will be providing extended hours to the practice and it will remain open to everyone. I'd like to thank the community on behalf of the Committee and the Shire for their patience over the past few months. I'd also like to encourage community members to come in and make themselves known to Dr Dapo who is really looking forward to meeting the community."

Dr Dapo has had vast exposure to country service delivery over the past 15 years and he also has extensive experience in chronic disease management, mental health care, child health, women's health, men's health, geriatric skin care, skin cancer management, simple surgeries, emergency and acute care management, etc.

Dr Dapo is a very experienced and professional General Practitioner who brings his wealth of knowledge and country experience to Gingin. The Gingin Medical Centre is very fortunate to have secured his services for the next five years. Council and staff look forward to working with him in future and hope that the community will enjoy and greatly benefit from Dr Dapo's service.

Upcoming Roadworks

The following roadworks are in progress for the next month:

- Orange Springs Rd upgrade – 10.4 km sealed
- Preparation works for bitumen resealing program underway
- Fire breaks completed across the Shire
- Slashing of regrowth verges continuing
- Gravel road maintenance grading continuing

Further enquires about these works may be directed to the Shire's Operations team on (08) 9575 5100, option 7.

Council Meeting Dates – 2021

Members of the public are advised that at its meeting on 17 November 2020, Council agreed to set the following dates for Ordinary Council Meetings in 2020:

19 January 2021	20 July 2021
16 February 2021	17 August 2021
16 March 2021	21 September 2021
20 April 2021	19 October 2021
18 May 2021	16 November 2021
15 June 2021	21 December 2021

Unless otherwise advertised all meetings will be held in the Council Chambers at the Shire of Gingin Administration Centre, 7 Brockman Street, Gingin, commencing at 3.00pm.

Aaron Joseph Cook

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

This edition of the Shire of Gingin's Council to Community is bought to you by:

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Thank you to Bendigo Bank for sponsoring the 2020 Rates incentive Prize Night.

SAVE THE DATES!

30 November – Submissions close for Food & Beverage Capability Guide

This **FREE** guide allows you to showcase your food and beverage product range to wider audience of consumers and buyers. Visit www.gingin.wa.gov.au/central-coast-wheatbelt-food-capability-guide.aspx to apply now!

15 December – Ordinary Council Meeting at 3pm at the Shire Administration Centre, Gingin

Physical attendance at Council meetings by members of the public is restricted (unless COVID-19 restrictions have changed by then). Please register to attend Council Meetings by contacting the Shire's Governance Support Officer on (08) 9575 5127.

4pm, 24 December – the Shire Administration Centre (Gingin) and Lancelin Office will close for the Christmas/New Year break period until 4 January 2021

See the Shire's website for closures for other Shire facilities including landfill sites, Libraries, Aquatic Centre, Gingin Medical Centre, etc.