

# Council to Community October

Shire news and information for our Gingin country communities



Gingin Administration Centre

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## General News & Information

### Welcome Evan!

We are pleased to welcome **Evan Lawrence** as the Shire's new Bushfire Risk Mitigation Coordinator.

Originally from the Blue Mountains in NSW, Evan grew up surrounded by volunteer bushfire fighting with his father as Deputy of his local brigade. Evan has been involved with bushfire fighting himself for 23 years and comes to us from the Water Corporation where he held the position of Bushfire Mitigation Officer.

He continues to be an active member of the Wanneroo Central Bushfire Brigade where he has served as Lieutenant from 2018-2020 and Captain from 2020-22 before stepping back to a position as Crew Leader in May this year.

The position of BRMO covers the Shires of Gingin, Dandaragan and Victoria Plains, however Evan will undertake his tri-agency role primarily from the new Gingin Emergency Services Centre.

In his own words: "I'm looking forward to working across the three Shires to deliver mitigation treatments that have a direct impact to the safety of the community, and will lessen the impact of bushfire on the community in general."

Evan lives in Currabine with his wife and daughter, enjoys running and going to the gym, and spending spare time with family and friends... although he often spends summer weekends fighting fires.

Please join us in making Evan welcome in the Shire of Gingin community.



### Dog & Cat Registration Reminder



Dog and cat registrations are coming up for renewal on **31 October 2022**. All dogs and cats within the Shire of Gingin are required by law to be registered:

- Dogs - aged 3 months & over
- Cats - aged 6 months and over

If your address or contact information has changed, please let us know in writing ASAP to [mail@gingin.wa.gov.au](mailto:mail@gingin.wa.gov.au).

Also, don't forget to let us know when your fur baby has passed away so we can amend our system accordingly.

**Are you a new resident in the Shire?** Please remember to complete a Registration Transfer for your pet.

### Message for Farmers & Stock Owners

Are you a stock owner? Please make sure Ranger Services have your **NLIS tag number** and your contact details in case of an escapee.

### Shire CEO to Commence Monthly Visits to Coast

Shire CEO Aaron Cook will be heading to the coast on the 4th Monday of each month to visit residents and ratepayers who may wish to discuss issues.

If you live in Guilderton, Seabird, Ledge Point, Lancelin, and neighbouring Rural Residential Areas, and would like to meet with Aaron, please contact Karen at [karen.okely@gingin.wa.gov.au](mailto:karen.okely@gingin.wa.gov.au) or 9575 5100 to make an appointment.

Aaron's first monthly coastal visit is scheduled for **24 October**.



## General News & Information

### Gravity Discovery Centre & Gingin Jam Award Finalists

Congratulations to local businesses Gingin Jam and the Gravity Discovery Centre & Observatory for making it as finalists in the **Wheatbelt Business Excellence Awards 2022**.

The Wheatbelt Business Network received a record number of high-calibre entries this year, so two Gingin Shire businesses making the list is an outstanding achievement.

Individual category winners and the Business of the Year will be announced at the WBEA Gala Awards night on 22 October in Merredin.

We wish Gingin Jam and the Gravity Discovery Centre every success on the night.



### Congratulations Roz!

Our very own Building Surveyor **Roz Bonser** has completed her Advanced Diploma of Building Surveying.

She commenced her studies in 2017 and has conscientiously worked her way through all the required units (while working full-time) until completion last month.

Roz started out at the Shire as a Customer Service Officer back in 2002 and eventually transferred into administration for Regulatory & Development Services where she has served for the last 15 years. Since then she has gained a vast amount of knowledge in this area and has steadfastly worked her way to become a qualified Building Surveyor.

"While these studies were at times stressful and challenging, I received a lot of encouragement and support from my colleagues and family, and I'd like to thank the Shire for allowing me to pursue this career path," said Roz.

Bob Kelly, Executive Manager Regulatory and Development Services (*pictured with Roz above*) added: "We're very proud of Roz for her commitment to both her studies and career with the Shire, and wish her every success as our new Building Surveyor."

## Council Decisions

The following decisions were made by Council at the Shire's **September** Ordinary Council Meeting:

- Amendment of speed limit on section of Gingin Brook Road running from Brand Highway west to Coonabidgee Road from 110kph to 80kph to reduce danger to traffic—*approved by Council*.
- Re-establishment of Upper Coastal Sporting Facilities Working Group for purpose of undertaking a review of priorities within the Upper Coastal Sporting Facilities Master Plan—*approved by Council*.
- Exercise power of sale for Lot 339 Casuarina Drive, Nilgen for the recovery of rates—*approved by Council*.
- In addition, 12 other items were presented to / deliberated by Council.

More details on the above items of business and any other matters from this meeting can be found in the Meeting Minutes which are available for viewing at [gingin.wa.gov.au/council-meetings](http://gingin.wa.gov.au/council-meetings), or in person upon request at either the Gingin Administration Centre or Lancelin Office.

## Shire Notices

### Periodic Review of Local Laws

The Shire of Gingin is reviewing its current local laws in accordance with the provisions of Section 3.16 of the *Local Government Act 1995*. The local laws under review can be found on the **Community Consultation** page of the Shire's website [gingin.wa.gov.au](http://gingin.wa.gov.au).

Members of the public are invited to make submissions in relation to any or all of the listed local laws as part of the review process. In order to be considered, submissions must be received by 4.00pm on **Tuesday, 1 November 2022**.

### Time to Get Your Firebreaks Ready!

Owners and/or occupiers of land within the Shire of Gingin have a legal requirement under the *Bush Fires Act 1954* to install and maintain firebreaks from **1 November to 15 May** every year.

Your firebreak should be 3 metres wide with a minimum vertical clearance of 4 metres to enable fire vehicles to drive along the firebreaks without access being obstructed.



Please don't leave your firebreaks until the last minute—start maintenance tasks now. For more information about firebreak compliance go to the Shire's **Firebreak Orders & Bushfire Information** by scanning the QR code.

## Projects Update

### Our Coast, Our Journey—Nominate for the Coastal Planning Community Panel

The Shire is entering the next consultative phase of the CHRMAP and Coastal Management Strategy project, and is seeking nominations for an upcoming Community Panel which will help inform future actions to deal with erosion and inundation issues at our coastal towns.

For more information and how you can get involved, please visit the **Community Consultation** page of [gingin.wa.gov.au](http://gingin.wa.gov.au) or contact Amy Gibbs, Coordinator Community Development & Services on 9575 5162 or [amy.gibbs@gingin.wa.gov.au](mailto:amy.gibbs@gingin.wa.gov.au).

## Save the Dates!

**Aussie Bird Count**—17-23 October. For details on how to get involved, visit [aussiebirdcount.org.au](http://aussiebirdcount.org.au).

**Ordinary Council Meeting**—Tuesday 18 October at 3.00pm, Shire of Gingin Council Chambers. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

**Australia Day Award Nominations Closing Date**—31 October. To find out more and to nominate, visit: [citizenshipawards.com.au/nominate](http://citizenshipawards.com.au/nominate).

**Importance of Having a Will Seminar**—Wednesday 26 October, 10.00am at the Gingin CRC.

**Seniors' Week Movie Matinee Event**—Wednesday 9 November. Screening of "Elvis" at Gingin Men's Shed. *Details coming soon*.

For more information on these events, please go to the **Events Calendar** on [gingin.wa.gov.au](http://gingin.wa.gov.au).

If you have a community event to promote in the Shire, please email Olivia at [cdo@gingin.wa.gov.au](mailto:cdo@gingin.wa.gov.au) and we will include it on our Events Calendar and promote it on our Facebook page.