

COUNCIL TO COMMUNITY

Gingin Guilderton Lancelin Ledge Point Seabird



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

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Thank you to Bendigo Bank for sponsoring the
2019 Rates Incentive Prize Night

Annual Rates Mail Out

It's that time of year once more where you can expect to receive your Rates Notice in the post within the next few weeks following the adoption of the Shire's Budget on 28 July. Rate payers this year can expect to receive 3 separate mail outs from the Shire.

The following **documents highlighted in bold all Ratepayers should keep** as these documents you may be required to action or they may be necessary information for you to read and retain. Documents not highlighted in bold are provided as a courtesy to Ratepayers. They contain information on topics that the Shire would like to communicate this year but Ratepayers are not required to retain this information if they don't wish to.

- **Rates Notice**
- **Tip Pass**
- **Parking Permit**
- Budget Bulletin
- ESL Levy
- **Fire Break Orders**
- **Recycling Calendar**
- Asset Protection Zone Fact Sheet
- Fuel Loading Fact Sheet
- Green Waste Kerbside Collection (keep if you desire to participate)

If you would like any further information on the documents you are required to keep or action, please contact the Shire.

Rates Freeze

In recent months many in the community would have heard discussion in the media in relation to a rates freeze for 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Like many Councils across WA, the Shire of Gingin will be freezing rates for the 2020/21 financial year and will only collect the same amount of rates revenue as last year. This will allow the Shire to continue supply our usual services to the community whilst some large one-off projects will be set aside for the next little while until the community has had a chance to recover further from the COVID-19 Pandemic.

However, your rates may still go up or down as a result of the valuation process undertaken by the State Valuer General. This is because rates are calculated by multiplying the rate in the dollar (calculated by the Shire and frozen for this year) by your property value (set by the Valuer General). That is, if your home has greater potential rental return than your neighbours, you will pay a higher share of the total rates budgeted by Council. This changes from

year to year which is why sometimes your rates may go up or down or stay the same from year to year.

WHAT YOU PAY



MULTIPLY
the rate in
the dollar

X



BY YOUR
property value as set by the
Valuer General - either
Gross Rental Value (GRV)
or Unimproved Value (UV)

=



TO CALCULATE
your rates for
the year

Further information about how your rates are calculated and the rates freeze for this year is available online from <https://walga.asn.au/About-Local-Government/Rates>. Alternatively, contact the Shire's Rates department on (08) 9575 5100 - option 2.

Welcome to Amy

The Shire would like to welcome Amy Gibbs to our team as the Shire's new Community Events & Services Officer. Amy grew up on a small farm in Albany and attended Perth Modern School. She attended Murdoch University from 2011-13 to undertake a Bachelor of Arts with a Double Major in International Aid and Community Development, Politics and International Relations and a Minor in Public Policy and Management. She was also awarded the George Alexander Foundation Scholarship for Leadership and Academic Excellence.

Some of her previous jobs include being the Co-Founder and Director of Adopt Nordic WA Inc. (a not for profit organisation to prevent human trafficking), a Research Officer for the Department of Premier & Cabinet and a Marketing and Communications Assistant for the University of Notre Dame Australia.

Amy takes over from Cher Groves who now operates as the Shire's Recovery & Facilities Officer. The Shire hopes that the community will make Amy feel welcome in her new role.



You can now **SUBSCRIBE** to receive this newsletter via email or post! Contact the Shire on (08) 9575 5100

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

#WeAreInThisTogether



Mitigation Works - Lancelin

The Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) in collaboration with the Shire of Gingin are continuing with mitigation works being carried out south of the Lancelin townsite to reduce the bush fire risk adjoining the town and subsequent fire impacts to the community.

To date, DFES has engaged an accredited environmental contractor to carry out a targeted weed management program from Walker Avenue around to the rear of the Angling Club. This work is critical in the plan going forward to reduce the bush fire risk to the community with the added complexity of the Threatened Ecological Community (TEC), one of the last remaining Coastal Sedgeland in WA, as detailed previously in the Coastal Courier. This work is ecologically sensitive and will continue at various stages throughout the year to target specific weeds during their growth cycles and therefore reduce the fine fuels that contribute to extreme fire behavior as seen last year in Lancelin.

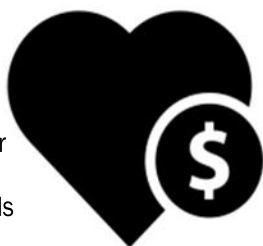
Following the wildfire last year which threatened the Lancelin community there has been a significant amount of mitigation carried out to further reduce the bushfire risk to the community. Further to this, it has provided DFES and Local Government with an opportunity to develop a plan for the management of this area going forward. The mitigation works that have been carried out also have additional benefits with the mulch layer providing added weed suppression as well as minimising any sand-drift concerns.

Fencing works have also commenced in this area which follows the boundary of the crown land. This is to minimise/restrict access by 4WD's and motorbikes which will aid in retaining the environmental values of this area and minimising fire ignition sources. Gates will be installed to ensure access during an emergency and pedestrian access will also be provided for the community to continue to enjoy the area. This area will be re-vegetated so as to provide an aesthetic appearance on the approach into town in addition to creating and maintaining separation distance in the event of another bush fire.

Free Dress Friday Fundraiser

Have you ever noticed that Shire staff don't seem to wear uniform on Fridays when you visit the Gingin Administration Centre? Well this is because staff participate in 'Free Dress Friday' to raise money for worthy causes within and outside of the local community.

Since commencing the program in June 2012, staff have raised over \$8,300. Donations have been made to various community groups including Chittering-Gingin St John Ambulance, Lancelin and Coastal Districts St John Ambulance, Gingin Red Cross and the Gingin Men's Shed. Funds have also been contributed to several local community members experiencing times of hardship, and other notable charity organisations such as Drought Angels, RFDS, Queensland Floods Appeal and the Cancer Council.



Phase 4 Easing of Restrictions

With the pushback of Phase 5 to 29 August in WA, community members should note that Phase 4 easing of COVID-19 restrictions still remain in place. This means the following Shire services have reopened/been continued:

- **Libraries (Gingin & Lancelin)** – open again. Rhyme & Story Time have restarted as of 17 June. Maximum capacities still apply given that the 1 person per 2m² rule remains in effect.
- **Front desk** – open again in both our office locations (Gingin & Lancelin). Maximum capacities apply given that the 1 person per 2m² rule still remains in effect.
- **Granville Civic Centre (Gingin)** – available for hire again. Cleaning procedures and 1 person per 2m² apply.
- **Sound Shell (Gingin)** – available for hire again for events – limit of 500 people per event.
- **Skate Parks & Playgrounds** – reopened for public use as of 6 June.
- **Council Meetings** – open to the Public but limited numbers only due to the 1 person per 2m² rule still being in place (this will likely change for the September Council Meeting if Phase 5 goes ahead as planned on 29 August). Contact the Governance Support Officer (9575 5127) in advance to register to attend a Council Meeting. Submit questions for Public Question Time in advance of the meeting. Please visit the Shire's website (www.gingin.wa.gov.au) for further information on how to do this.

Some services/facilities still remain unavailable to the public for the time being until further restrictions are relaxed. Namely this includes:

- **Community Bus** – bookings for this Shire service and facility remain unavailable for the time being.

Please Remember: social distancing measures still remain in place if you visit our facilities. Please maintain 1.5m between yourself and the nearest person. We encourage you to make use of hand sanitiser which is available when you visit our facilities. Most importantly though, if you are unwell please stay home.



COVER COUGHS
and sneezes with
a tissue or use
your inner elbow



WASH HANDS
often with soap or
hand sanitiser



STAY HOME
from work or school
if you are sick

Save the Dates!

- **15 September – Ordinary Council Meeting at 3pm**
Shire Administration Centre, Gingin – physical attendance at Council meetings by members of the public is restricted. Please check in advance with the Shire if you plan to attend the meeting as COVID-19 restrictions may have changed by then. Contact the Shire's Governance Support Officer on (08) 9575 5127.