

# Council to Community

MERRY Christmas MERRY Christmas MERRY Christmas MERRY Christmas

## Three Bridges Mitigation & Pest Flora Management

Over the past eighteen months the Shire of Gingin, in partnership with the Department of Fire & Emergency Services (DFES), has been undertaking an extensive works program around the Three Bridges in Gingin. This work has been carried out directly by Natural Area Consulting Management Services and has predominantly been to manage non-natives within the Brook, particularly Arum Lilies at this time of year. It has also been to reduce the risk of fire travelling along the Brook and destroying the historical bridges on the stock route. In addition to reducing fire fuel loads, these works have biodiversity and agricultural benefits with declared weeds, Weeds of National Significance (WONS) and weeds which are toxic to stock being managed. Other species being managed include Brazilian Pepper, Honeysuckle, Common Fig, Taro, Blackberry and Apple of Sodom.

This work forms part of a sustained program over 3 years to manage non-natives in the area that pose a fire threat and to re-vegetate with fire resistant natives. In relation to species of ferns that are native to the area, there are two being:

### BRACKEN FERN (*Pteridium esculentum*)

<https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/57>

Bracken fern is the large species which is being managed near the Three Bridges site. This is naturally occurring species and as a pioneer species, it colonises disturbed and open ground in the absence of competition. While it does play a role in protecting bare soil and providing habitat, it can become dense and as it's lifecycle grows and dies off, it can lead to a build-up of dry material and it will choke out of other native species. Bracken is toxic to livestock, especially cattle.

### SWAMP FERN (*Cyclosorus interruptus*)

<https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/54>

Cyclosorus is the smaller 'lusher' looking species found along the Brook. It is commonly recorded in the Kimberly, the north of Australia and along the eastern coast. Its range extension into the Perth/Gingin area is something of an anomaly. Its habit is not as vigorous as the Bracken Fern so it is not being actively managed as part of these works. From a fire management point of view, it is of little concern as for most of year it is quite lush and green.

A post placed on the 'Gingin Western Australia Community Noticeboard' page on Facebook on 20 November (since deleted) expressed concerns over ferns which had died around the brook near the boardwalk entrance at Pioneer Pavilion. After investigation, the ferns that had died were the Swamp Fern and they were not sprayed by the Shire/DFES as part of their mitigation works which have been taking place over at the Three Bridges section of the brook.

After consultation with flora experts, the ferns were determined to have likely died back due to natural occurrences – most likely the onset of summer. The dead foliage is considered a low fire risk as the area is still very wet. There is no cause for the community to be concerned about the die back of this fern along the brook.

Works over the next 18 months for the remainder of this program will include further woody weed treatment and removal, further weed control as weeds present throughout different seasons and maintenance on revegetated areas.

Any queries about this program may be directed to David Wilson, the Shire's Bushfire Risk Management Planning Coordinator, on 0412 716 577 / [bushfirerisk@gingin.wa.gov.au](mailto:bushfirerisk@gingin.wa.gov.au).

## Review of Weir/Pool – Draining of Gingin Brook

The community may have noticed some activity recently around the Weir/Pool in Granville Park. The Shire has drained the brook in order to undertake a required assessment of the structural integrity of the concrete basin, walls and other accompanying structures, as well as to review the environmental aspects surrounding the water flowing through the brook. This also includes sediment assessments, water testing and the removal of sediment.

All of the information gathered from this assessment will be utilised to design the replacement weir structure that is better suited for safety and environmental impact as the current structure is significantly aged. The Shire has engaged an engineering consultant to undertake this review with the brook drained to allow the consultants the best opportunity to view all of the structural components, as well as to undertake a survey of the area.

All care will be taken to ensure that there is minimal environmental impact to the area and once the assessment has been undertaken, the area will be returned to its usual state until such time as the new weir is ready to be installed.

Enquiries may be directed Contact Renier De Beer, Coordinator Assets/Projects, on (08) 9575 5149.



# December

## #WeAreInThisTogether

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### 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:

- Ongoing construction of the Orange Springs Road \$5.2 million 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 2021:

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!

**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.