

# Council to Community

## Welcome Vanessa



We are pleased to welcome Vanessa Crispe as the Shire's new Executive Manager Operations & Assets.

Originally from Zimbabwe, Vanessa comes to us with several years of operational management experience in the private sector and over 14 years of local government experience, including senior operational management roles with the Shires of

Wickepin, Murchison, Lake Grace and Boyup Brook, as well as WANDRA project work with the Shires of Gascoyne Junction, Ashburton and Murchison.

Vanessa arrived in Australia in 1997 where, in addition to her busy career, she trained for and competed in numerous endurance sports, including ultra-marathons, triathlons, international horse endurance riding and long-distance cycling. She is currently training for the Gibb River Challenge in May 2022 which consists of cycling 660km in 4 days over dirt, dust and corrugations to raise money for the Kyle Andrews Foundation (children with leukaemia).

She is excited to be working for the Shire of Gingin and is looking forward to the challenges ahead and being part of to our region's success. We are very pleased to have her skillset on the Executive Management Team and hope the community will join us in making Vanessa feel welcome.

## Amnesty Period extended for Illegal Buildings

Last September the Shire offered an amnesty period to landowners with a building or structure on their property that had never received planning or building approval. This includes swimming pools and spas.

The amnesty provided a waiver for retrospective planning and building application fees and was scheduled to expire 31 January 2022.

We are pleased to report that the amnesty has been positively received and our Building Services team have received many enquiries. As a result, we are extending the amnesty to 30 June 2022.

If you are unsure if a structure or building is approved, you can request a copy of the plans of the structures on your property from the Building Services team or by completing an 'Application for Copy of Plans' via [gingin.wa.gov.au/building-forms-and-guides](http://gingin.wa.gov.au/building-forms-and-guides) and sending to the Shire for processing (please note an administrative fee will apply).

Enquiries may be directed to the Building Services team on (08) 9575 5100, (option 5).

## Fire Break Maintenance during Summer

Property owners are reminded that firebreaks need to be maintained until 31 May annually as per the Shire's Fire Break Orders.

While time can get away from us, it is essential to keep an eye on your fire breaks and continue maintaining them during the hot dry months of the Prohibited and Restricted Burning Periods.

If you need assistance with maintaining your fire breaks, you can find a list of fire break contractors in the 2021/22 Fire Break Orders which were posted out with your Rates or you can download a copy from our website (refer pg 12) - [gingin.wa.gov.au/fire-breaks-bans-information](http://gingin.wa.gov.au/fire-breaks-bans-information). No particular contractor is endorsed by the Shire of Gingin and their details are provided as a courtesy to the community.

## Wannamal Rd West - Damage Update

The Shire has had to partially close a section of Wannamal Road West because of culvert damage. There is now single lane access around the damaged section of road and a 5 tonne capacity limit for vehicles for the next few weeks while we seek quotes for its repair. Once work commences, the road will need to be fully closed for approximately 2-3 weeks.

In the meantime the area has been safety signposted and we ask anyone travelling on this section of road to slow down, check for oncoming traffic, and proceed with caution. We will provide updates when more information is available.



Example of a well-maintained fire break



# February

## #WeAreInThisTogether

### Music & Memories in the Park

It may have been a windy evening but Gabbadah Park in Guilderton was the place to be on Saturday, 8 January for the Music in the Park event.

Over 350 people enjoyed the live performance by Perth band Coastal Drift while enjoying the chilled party vibe under the trees with family and friends.

Kids loved the Bucking Bull ride, slushies and glo-sticks while the adults kicked off their shoes for a few dances. Redfield Park First Aid Post hamburgers and sausage sizzle were such a huge hit they actually sold out.

This was the 8th Music in the Park event which is part of the Shire's annual Summer Suite of Events and this year was supported by Bendigo Bank.



### Stable Flies

Horticulture growers and livestock producers along the Swan Coastal Plain north and south of Perth, are reminded to take action to minimise the build up of stable fly numbers.

There have been increased reports of stable flies in numerous areas due to unseasonably wet conditions over winter and spring that enabled larval developmental sites to stay active for longer.

Stable fly is primarily a pest of livestock, especially cattle and horses, while it also affects humans, dogs and other animal pets. The pest inflicts a painful bite and animals become agitated and can lose condition trying to avoid the flies.

Reports of stable fly bites to livestock, companion animals and humans can be directed to DPIRD via its MyPestGuide Reporter app or by calling the Pest and Disease Information Service on (08) 9368 3080. Reports can also be made via the Stable Fly Action Group's website [stableflyactiongroup.org.au](http://stableflyactiongroup.org.au).

To learn more about stable fly control methods, visit DPIRD's website - [agric.wa.gov.au/vegetables/stable-fly-western-australia](http://agric.wa.gov.au/vegetables/stable-fly-western-australia).

Further information is also available from the Shire's website - [gingin.wa.gov.au/stable-fly-management](http://gingin.wa.gov.au/stable-fly-management). Alternatively contact our Health department on (08) 9575 5100, option 5.

### Invitation for Public Comment Draft Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032

**Public comment is invited for the  
draft Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032.**

The Strategic Community Plan (SCP) is a major component of the Shire of Gingin's Integrated Planning & Reporting Suite together with the Corporate Business Plan, Annual Budget and Annual Report. Under the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* each WA local government is required to have these documents and to review them regularly.

The SCP is currently undergoing a major review (which occurs every 4 years) with community consultation undertaken last June via a public survey and community workshops held in Gingin, Guilderton and Lancelin. The draft document has been built based on the feedback provided by the community at the time of this consultation. Council however, is now offering a second and final opportunity to the community to provide feedback for this document before it is officially adopted.

To provide comment on the draft Strategic Community Plan before it goes back to Council for formal adoption, please visit the Shire's website ([gingin.wa.gov.au/forms/draft-strategic-community-plan-feedback/30](http://gingin.wa.gov.au/forms/draft-strategic-community-plan-feedback/30)) to complete the online form prior to the **closure of the comment period at 4pm on Thursday, 24 February 2022.**

Enquiries may be directed to Linda Fidge via [Linda.Fidge@gingin.wa.gov.au](mailto:Linda.Fidge@gingin.wa.gov.au).

**Les Crichton  
ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
OFFICER**



### SAVE THE DATES!

- **7 February 2022 - Community Funding Program application period opens.** Apply via [gingin.wa.gov.au/funding-and-grants](http://gingin.wa.gov.au/funding-and-grants)
- **15 February 2022 - Ordinary Council Meeting** at 3pm at the Shire Administration Centre, Gingin
- **20 February 2022 - Lancelin Triathlon** from 7am at Grace Darling Park, Lancelin. Registrations closing **11 February 2022**  
To find out more, visit the Shire's website/Facebook page

**Want to receive news from us in a monthly newsletter?  
SUBSCRIBE NOW (email or post) - call (08) 9575 5150**