



December 2012

www.wickepin.wa.gov.au

Newsletter of Wickepin Shire Council

THE SHIRE...



Letter from the Editor...



Dear reader,

I would like to introduce to you 'The Shire', our new quarterly newsletter.

We want to be able to keep you updated with interesting and noteworthy stuff happening around the Shire.

This is my first time as an 'editor' so I'm extremely optimistic.

So take a read, and of course, suggestions are always welcome!

I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and stay safe!

Leah Pearson
Executive Support Officer



Wickepin has been Bowled Over

The fitting of the new synthetic Bowling greens at the Wickepin District Bowling Club was completed in early October 2012 and seem to be a success with the community.

The opening of the new bowling greens took place on Sunday 14 October 2012, and it was a day to be enjoyed by all with games of bowls and lunch provided.

The Wickepin Bowling Club is the most highly used sporting venue in the Shire of Wickepin, playing on more days throughout the year than any of the other sporting clubs in Wickepin.

The new synthetic bowling greens will be a cost effective upgrade and Council are hoping they will encourage a greater participation in bowls, and to ensure the sustainability of the Wickepin Bowling Club and the District Sports Club.

The new Synthetic Bowling Greens were made possible through grants from the Royalties for Regions CLGF and the Department of Sport and Recreation CSRFF.

2012 Community Awards

Australia Day BBQ at Yealering

26 January 2013 @ 8am

Form more information please call the Shire office on 9888 1005 or email eso@wickepin.wa.gov.au.



Christmas Office Closure



Friday 21 December	Open as normal
Monday 24 December	Closed
Tuesday 25 December	Closed - Public Holiday, Christmas day
Wednesday 26 December	Closed - Public Holiday, Boxing Day
Thursday 27 December	Closed
Friday 28 December	Closed
Monday 31 December	Closed
Tuesday 1 January	Closed - Public Holiday, New Years Day
Wednesday 2 January	Open as normal



Thankyou Tom and Helen!

The Shire would like to say a big thank you to Tom Sands who has been the Pool Manager for over the last 10 years.

Tom always went above and beyond the call of duty. I'm sure he has a story or two to tell about his time at the swimming pool.

You will be missed by locals and staff alike!

We would also like to say thank you to Helen, who has also gone out of her way to help out.



SPLASH SPLASH SPLASH

Welcome to the New Pool Manager...

The Shire would like to give a friendly Wickepin welcome to the new Pool Manager Demian Morrison.

Demian has been at the pool for over a month now and is enjoying his time here.

Demian has lots of new ideas, so keep an eye out for any changes around the pool, be it big or small!



Wickepin Swimming Pool



Wickepin Community Centre



Re-fitting of Reticulation October 2012

Wickepin Community Centre

The Community Centre has the ability to hold all sorts of different sports and classes. The whole community is always welcome to participate in any of the activities available. To obtain more information about what's on and when, pop down to the Shire and we will let you know, alternatively email admin@wickepin.wa.gov.au.

Council has recently undergone a re-fitting of a new reticulation system on the oval. Although it was looking a little dead for a while, in the long-run it will improve the quality of the oval. At least the summer rains will be useful for something! Thanks to all the works staff that contributed to the re-fitting.

RU 2 CLOSE? Project

Funding of \$7,500 was obtained from Curtin University Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA to support the R U 2 Close initiative.

This project encourages drivers to adhere to appropriate following distances behind vehicles and provides free car stickers and large magnetic signs. The stickers and signs have been very popular.



Yealering Cemetery Upgrade

The Yealering Cemetery Upgrade was a major project undertaken by the Community Development Officer Natalie Manton during 2012. The cemetery upgrade formed one of the six 2010/2011 Royalties for Regions - Country Local Government Funding Local Projects. The project was also supported with funding from the Norm and Ellen King Trust Fund.

The cemetery redevelopment design was completed by local Yealering resident Sara Hills, with assistance from architect Judith McDougall and includes a new entry gazebo, niche wall, rock walls, paths and landscaping. Construction of the gazebo and niche wall commenced in July 2012 and is expected to be completed by the end of the year, along with the paving, kerbing, rock pillars and walls.

Valuable assistance and advice was provided by Sara Hills, Karen Jespersen and Mike Fradsham to develop a waterwise landscaping and reticulation plan. The Shire of Wickepin intends to relocate the plaques and cremated remains from the existing niche wall to the new wall when it is complete. The new niche wall will accommodate the new standard size containers which are larger than previously used.



New gazebo and niche wall at Yealering cemetery

KIDSPORT
Because every WA kid deserves a fair go
The Shire of Wickepin assisted the Department of Sport and Recreation and local sporting groups to implement the Kidsport program. The Kidsport program involves the distribution of vouchers by local governments to children to assist them to play organised sport. To date the Shire of Wickepin has processed vouchers to the value of \$2526 for 33 local children to play 6 different sports.

Old Road Board Building Restoration

Funding from Lotterywest Conservation of Cultural Heritage funding was used to fund the restoration of the Old Road Board building in Wickepin during 2012. The building was constructed in 1912 and urgent work was necessary to repair damage to the lower walls caused by rising damp. Problems with the drainage were addressed and the building will be allowed to settle before lime washing the internal and exterior walls in 2013.



Old Road Board Building Restoration



Don't tip it!

Asbestos do's and don'ts...

Don't cut it!

If you are thinking about renovating, you must be aware of asbestos. It is important for home owners and renovators to be aware of how to safely manage asbestos in and around the home.

Don't drill it!

Don't saw it!

Asbestos fibres were used widely in building materials before the mid-1980s.

Don't drop it!

If your house was built or renovated before the mid-1980s, it is likely to contain asbestos cement materials.

Don't sand it!

You may be surprised at the various types of products that were made from bonded asbestos cement included fibro sheeting (flat and corrugated), water drainage and flue pipes, roofing shingles and guttering, even the backing of vinyl sheet floor coverings.

Don't scrub it!

Don't scrape it!

Don't demolish it!

If you do need to work with any material that may contain asbestos, always work so there is minimal dust or small particles released from the asbestos materials.

Don't dismantle it!

If you have any building related queries, please contact the Environmental Health Officer Allan Ramsay on 9888 1005 or email eho@wickepin.wa.gov.au.

Don't waterblast it!

And whatever you do...

Don't dump it!

Trivia Time!

When was the Albert Facey Homestead moved into Wickepin's main street and opened to the public?

Win!

The first to come into the Shire and provide an answer will receive a set of 4 Shire of Wickepin coasters!



Harvest Ban Alerts
via SMS

The SMS (Text) alert service is in operation over the harvest period. If you have not registered your number previously, please contact Leah or Lou at the Shire office on 9888 1005 or email

admin@wickepin.wa.gov.au
to get your details added to the system.

BUSH FIRE INFO

It's that time of year where we have to take that extra care to avoid bush fires. All homes near bush land are at risk from bush fires. This means that direct flames, radiant heat and burning embers may affect your property in the event of a fire near your home.

If you live close to a bush land reserve, your property has the potential to be affected by bush fire. Embers are the main cause of houses catching alight during bush fires. Burning debris such as sparks and embers are carried by wind. They can fall on or around the home, igniting small spot fires where they land.

These spot fires can destroy your home if you are not prepared.

Preparing yourself, your family and your property for bush fire requires careful thought and planning. Simple steps such as cleaning leaves out of gutters and mowing long grass around your home can assist, but to improve your chances of success you need to consider the following "Five Areas for Action":

1. Manage the vegetation around your home.
2. Design and construct new homes or modify existing homes so they are better able to withstand a bush fire.
3. Undertake regular home maintenance activities.
4. Have the appropriate fire fighting equipment.

Harvest Ban Hotline: 9888 1312



YOUR WASTE AND RECYCLING...



Household Rubbish

- General Rubbish
- Nappies
- Meat/bones
- Food scraps
- Meat and food trays
- Kitty litter
- Broken glass/ceramics
- Non-recyclable plastics
- Soft plastics (cling wrap)



Recycling

- Glass bottles and jars
- Paper packaging
- Milk and juice cartons
- Cardboard packaging
- Newspapers and magazines
- Aluminium and steel cans
- Waste paper
- Plastic bottles and containers



GET THE FACTS

For every 1 tonne of waste paper that gets recycled, 13 trees are saved.

Paper breaks down slowly in landfill due to a lack of oxygen. As a result methane is released in large amounts, having a greater greenhouse gas impact than carbon dioxide.

It takes 2.5 tonnes of radiate pine to make just one tonne of newsprint.

By recycling one kilogram of paper and cardboard, you reduce the production of greenhouse gases by one kilogram.

One tree makes approximately six reams or 3077 pieces of A4 paper.

Making paper from recycled materials uses 99% less water and 50% less energy than if produced from raw materials.



Waste Not Want Not

Western Australians throw away close to one million tonnes of greenwaste annually, producing harmful methane gases at overcrowded landfill sites. Minimise your rubbish mark on the environment, whilst helping your garden grow....

MULCH

Mulch can be used on your gardens beds as a protective cover to help reduce water evaporation and weeds. Large, coarse pieces of plant material that absorb little water and let water through to the soil beneath, are ideal. Mulching your garden can reduce water evaporation by up to 70 per cent.

COMPOST

Compost is partially decomposed greenwaste. When mixed with your soil it gives it structure, adds missing nutrients and helps it absorb and hold water. Most food scraps (not meat and dairy) and garden waste can be composted. Compost will help you reduce your garden's water consumption and the need for fertiliser.

WORM FARMS

Feeding your fruit and vegetable scraps to worms is a cheap and easy way of making great natural fertiliser for your garden.



Great Southern Waste

The Shire of Wickepin tendered out its refuse and recycling collection to Great Southern Waste Narrogin in June 2012 and they started the collection of waste and recycling around the Shire on 1 September 2012.

YOUR COUNCILLORS...



A word from the President...

As the end of 2012 draws near, I would just like to give an update of the progress of the year.

Congratulations to everyone involved in the fitting of the Synthetic Bowling Greens at the District Sports Club. Your efforts have been exceptional. The greens are looking excellent and I'm sure are a delight to play on. The opening day on the 14th of October was a success all round with a lovely lunch provided.

I would like to give a big congratulations to Natalie Manton our Community Development Officer for the upgrade of the Yealering Cemetery, and to all the others that dedicated so much of their time to the new cemetery. I advise community members to take a look, its well worth it.

A big thank you goes out to Tom and Helen Sands, who, after more 10 years, are retiring from the management of the Wickepin Swimming Pool. Welcome to Demian Morrison the new Swimming Pool Manager, who has driven over from South Australia, with his family to join him in Wickepin in the new Year.

The new reticulation on the Wickepin Oval has now finished and should be green again in no time!

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



President

Cr SJ (Steve) Martin

Retiring 2013

RMB 134

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