



# Narrogin Narrative

February 2023



## OUT 'n' ABOUT



2023 Citizen of the Year Pip Porter with Shire President Leigh Ballard



2023 Community Citizen of the Year (Senior) Coral Mahony



2023 Community Citizen of the Year (Youth) Dakoda Bolton-Black with Shire President Leigh Ballard



Representatives from the Narrogin Bushfire Brigades accepting the 2023 Active Citizenship Award with Shire President Leigh Ballard

## ~ PRESIDENT'S POST ~

Welcome to 2023 and I hope you all had an enjoyable break with family and friends. Our start to the year has been somewhat relaxed compared to this time last year, where I was writing to thank our wonderful community for all the support and kindness that they showed each other during the horrific Narrogin East Bushfires. Although the recovery is a slow and ongoing process, the community continues to rally behind those affected.

Our thoughts go out to those in the north of Western Australia and also to those on the east coast who have again been impacted by floods.

I would like to offer congratulations to all our winners of the Australia Day Awards and also extend a warm welcome to the 4 new Australian citizens. The Australia Day breakfast was held this year at Alby Park and was well attended. Thanks must go to the army of volunteers, who without their help, the event would not happen.

This is also a timely reminder that although we don't currently have a COVID 19 outbreak, it is still important to protect yourself and your community through hand washing and staying home if you are feeling unwell.

Lets hope that 2023 brings us all happiness and the continued good fortune to live in a community like Narrogin.

*Narrogin - Love the Life*

Leigh Ballard ~ Shire President.

## ~ COUNCIL DECISIONS ~

Council decisions made at the meeting held on 14 December 2022 include:

### Meteorological Mast at 248 Cornwall Road, Minigin

Council approved the construction of a Meteorological Mast Tower which will be located at 248 Cornwall Road, Minigin. This is also subject to the conditions imposed by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority.

### Proposed Clothing Retailer at Unit 7, 40 Federal Street Narrogin

Council granted approval for the establishment of a Children's Clothing Boutique at 40 Federal Street. "Bubbles & Squeaks Children's Clothing Boutique" is proposed to operate 6 days a week.

### Western Australian Local Government Association Governance Review

Council also considered the Western Australian Local Government Association's Governance Review and agreed to support the proposed principles of the WALGA future governance model.

*The full minutes can be found on the Shire's website. Council Meetings commence at 7pm and are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Community members are most welcome to attend.*

### Australia Day Awards

The Australia Day Community Breakfast was held this year at Alby Park and the crowd was entertained by the dulcet tones of local musicians Russell Gooley and Matt Hough.

In addition to the awarding of the Citizenship Awards, 4 people were warmly welcomed as Australian Citizens.

Congratulations to the winners of the Citizen of the Year Awards.

Community Citizen of the Year (Youth)-Dakoda Bolton-Black - an inspiring young Aboriginal woman active in the community in the reconciliation and cultural awareness space with leadership roles as a Narrogin Senior High School prefect and a member of the Youth Advisory Council.

Community Citizen of the Year (Senior)- Coral Mahony - in recognition of her role in the street numbers project, which saw reflective street numbers installed outside of each house in Narrogin to assist Emergency services find properties. Coral is also a tireless volunteer with local community groups, a CATS car driver and a dedicated volunteer at the Shire's visitor centre.

Active Citizenship (Group or Event) - The Narrogin Bush Fire Brigades, led by Chief Bush Fire Control Officer Pip Porter and his Deputies Stuart Moyses and Vern Gibson. The group helped manage and control the Narrogin East fires in February 2022 along with 176 volunteers. The fires lasted for five days with the volunteers monitoring them around the clock, challenged by strong wind conditions and extreme temperatures.

Community Citizen of the Year - Pip Porter for his outstanding role during the Narrogin East bushfires in February 2022. Pip demonstrated an extraordinary ability to oversee and manage the volunteer firefighters during this extremely stressful time. Pip is also very active in the Highbury community, with the tennis club, Highbury District Community Council and the annual ANZAC service, both in Highbury and Narrogin.

Two Certificates of Appreciation were also presented to BlazeAid for its invaluable effort in assisting local farmers to recover from the Narrogin East Fires and also to the Street Numbering project (Trish Moulton and Coral Mahony) for this outstanding project which now assist Emergency Services in locating properties within the Shire of Narrogin.

## ~ SHIRE NOTICES ~

### Roadworks & Projects

The Council approved in the 2022/23 Budget, the purchase of an additional three - 2 bedroom x 1 bath accommodation units for the Caravan Park. The existing three units have proven very popular and are consistently booked out. The new units are currently being constructed and are due for installation around July/August of this year.

We have recently taken delivery of two solar pole radar speed units and these will be installed in the coming weeks. These two units are relocatable and will be seen at various locations in Narrogin and Highbury and will be moved monthly. The units will display drivers speed on approach and indicate the speed with either a smiley face or



From Days Gone By - 1989 Fashion Show at the Town Hall.

sad face depending on the speed. It is hoped that these units will improve road safety and assist drivers in and around areas of their locations.

## Funding Opportunities

The Shire of Narrogin provides funding assistance through the biannual Community Chest funding program to eligible community organisations for events or projects which benefit the Narrogin community, to a maximum of \$2,500 with organisations that were successful in the preceding financial year ineligible to apply.

After reading the guidelines, and prior to submitting an application, applicants are encouraged to discuss their application with the Shire's Administration Officer (Development & Regulatory Services) by email

to enquiries@narrogin.wa.gov.au or by telephoning 9890 0900 to discuss the project, or to obtain a copy of the application form or by visiting [www.narrogin.wa.gov.au/your-shire/projects-and-development/shire-grants.aspx](http://www.narrogin.wa.gov.au/your-shire/projects-and-development/shire-grants.aspx). Round 2 opens 1 February closes 28 February.

The Shire's Landcare Project Fund provides funding assistance for up to 50% of the total spending on native plants (up to a maximum of \$5,000) to rural property owners to purchase native plants for land rehabilitation on their property. Apply before 28 Feb.

Details about funds and grants can be found on the Shire's website or by telephoning the Administration Office.

## ~ HOMECARE HIGHLIGHTS ~

The cottage clients said a sad farewell to their trusty Cook Ron Meier as he moves on to a new career. They wrote him a song to perform on his last day and he was given an amazing send off

in thanks for his amazing meals and care he showed to the Jessie House Clients. Filling his shoes was going to be difficult but we commenced our search for a new Cook to create new and nutritious delights. We are pleased to say that we have found an amazing cook with a wealth of experience and would like to welcome Lesley Booth to the new role. Lesley visited the cottage last Tuesday to introduce herself and was interviewed by the clients and she keenly took note of individual favourites. I am sure everyone will welcome Lesley into the fold and soon she will feel a part of the family.

As we move through the hotter months we are taking extra special care to look out for signs of dehydration and have educated our staff also to try and stay hydrated whilst out in the community.

We have also had to say a sad goodbye to a couple of our beloved clients this month. Wish the families of those beloved clients our condolences as they grieve the loss of their loved ones and thank them for the kind words expressed to Homecare in supporting their parents/grandparents.

## ~ IMPORTANT DATES ~

**22 February 2023**  
Ordinary Council Meeting

**28 February 2023**  
Close of applications for both the Community Chest Fund and Landcare Project Fund.

**22 March 2023**  
Annual Electors Meeting

**22 March 2023**  
Ordinary Council Meeting

**25 April 2023**  
ANZAC Day

## ~ Library News ~

As the online book club has come to a close, if you are interested in starting a book club in the library, please call the library on 9881 1751 or email [mls@narrogin.wa.gov.au](mailto:mls@narrogin.wa.gov.au). During the school holidays, children were delighted to meet Nelly, our Paint Narrogin REAd numbat mascot at Coles for a reading stories session and at a Teddy Bear's Picnic in the library.

If you would be interested in attending or presenting at a Health Expo, produced by the library later in 2023, please let us know of your interest.

Please remember that the Narrogin Community Garden and the library host a free Forget me not café each month time. This is not a respite service.



Shire of  
**Narrogin**  
*Love the life*

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