



# Narrogin Narrative

October 2021



**From Days Gone By** - Agricultural show display made out of their farm 'Balaling' produce by Mr and Mrs W F Wiese in 1929.

## ~ PRESIDENT'S POST ~

At the October Council meeting, our three new Councillors Elect, Tamara Alexander, Roxanne McNab and Josh Pomykala, will attend their first meeting in their official capacity, as well as Cr Tim Wiese and Cr Brian Seale, who were re-elected for another four-year term. Congratulations to all and thank you to the candidates for nominating and showing such interest in the Shire's business. Former Councillor Clive Bartron was not re-elected, and I thank him for his five years he has served for the Shire and also for his service as a councillor for the former Town of Narrogin since 2013.

On behalf of the Shire of Narrogin, I sincerely thank the two retiring Councillors, for their commitment, service and dedication to the Shire. Most notably, Cr Geoff Ballard has served for an admirable 16 years on Council—for the former Shire of Narrogin from 2005-2016, and the current Shire to 2021. Cr Sophie Lushey resigned mid term owing to relocation for professional reasons, and we thank her for her dedication and contribution during her two years.

The month has been met with the sad occasion of the passing of former Shire President Richard Chadwick. Mr Chadwick served the former Shire of Narrogin both as a councillor from 2003-2005 and as Shire President from 2005-2016. He was a valued community member and served as the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer for many years. The Shire flew the flags at half mast in his honour.

Congratulations to the Shire on their successful application to Lotterywest's COVID-19 Crisis Relief Fund being awarded \$95,000, which will enable the makeover of eight existing walk trails located in Foxes Lair, Railway Dam, and Archibald Park reserves, the Griffon mountain bike trail and the Noongar Dreaming Path in Gnarrojin Park. This project will see the implementation of the Shire's 2019 Walk Trails Master Plan.

With Narrogin being within easy reach of Perth, we are well positioned to take advantage of the growing popularity of bushwalking and other recreational activities.

Another huge drawcard for Narrogin is its recognition as an official Astrotourism Town, and has been added to the WA Astrotourism Towns map. The star gazing sites in Narrogin, chosen by Astrotourism WA, are Yilliminning Rock and the Narrogin Golf Club's carpark. The Shire's Tourism Strategy has highlighted the economic and community benefits to Narrogin of being an Astrotourism town. Significantly from an economic standpoint, dark sky tourism necessitates one or more overnight stays, thereby increasing visitor spending in the local economy.

*Narrogin—Love the Life*  
Leigh Ballard—Shire President

## ~ COUNCIL DECISIONS ~

The Council decisions made at the meeting held on 25 September 2021 include:

### Easements in CBD

Council authorised the formalisation of a Right of Way on the laneway running behind the Town Hall between Fortune and Park Street through the creation of an easement in the CBD, which affects Federal and Fortune Street property owners. The purpose of the easement is to manage stormwater drainage that runs through multiple properties as well as provide rear access to shops for both patrons as well as employees of these businesses.

### Road Seal 2021/22

Council considered the Shire's request for quote for road seal in the current financial year budget and awarded the contract to Downer Infrastructure for the sum of \$700,151.

### Community Chest

Council considered Round 1 of the Community Chest Fund and endorsed the recommendations of the Community Chest Fund Reference Group.

Funds were distributed to applicants as follows: Narrogin Art Group receives \$2,500 cash towards the purchase of a new pottery kiln subject to their successful grant application from Lotterywest. Narrogin Soccer Club to receive \$1,050 for the hire of inflatables to encourage young people to participate in the Narrogin Soccer Festival 2022. The Calisthenics Assoc will receive \$800—a 50% contribution to the purchase of an air conditioner.

Bindoon Mobile Recovery Campaign Inc to receive \$800 towards volunteers' accommodation and meals and costs to attend the Narrogin Agricultural Show, raising suicide awareness in the region. KEEDAC to receive up to \$1,000 towards the purchase of kitchen equipment to support the opening of the Aboriginal Community Centre.

Applications for the 2nd round of Community Chest Funds opens 1 February 2022. Applicants are encouraged to read the fund's guidelines and discuss their proposed projects with the responsible Shire Officer prior to submitting an application.

See the Shire website for grant funding opportunities.

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

## ~ SHIRE NOTICES ~

### Roadworks and Projects

At the Caravan Park, refurbishment is well underway. Although rain has hindered progress, it is anticipated the sites will be completed by early November.

The Cemetery extension is commencing this week with the addition of 80 general graves and 120 lawn grave sites.

The Wagin Wickepin Road seal extension has commenced. This involves a further four kms of gravel road being sealed.

Narrogin—Wandering Road has had some holding repairs carried out on it until January, when corrective stabilisation works will occur to correct pavement failures.

Maintenance grading of the Shire's gravel roads is ongoing and is approximately 80% complete. Rural verge spraying has been completed.

### Railway Precinct Masterplan

The Draft Narrogin Heritage Railway Precinct Masterplan has been released and is now open for public comment. This masterplan presents suggestions on providing an improved visitor experience, developing a civic and cultural heart, while also greening the CBD.

More information is available on the Shire website. The last day to submit

your comments on the Masterplan is Monday 22 November 2021.

### New Town Planning Scheme

The Shire of Narrogin has released the Draft Local Planning Scheme No. 3 for public advertising and is seeking your comments.

If you have questions about the Draft Planning Scheme then come along to the John Higgins Community Centre, Thursday 21 October, from 11am to 2 pm and also from 5 to 8 pm. Staff will be available to address your concerns. If you missed the two information days that were held by the Shire, make a call to our Planning Officer who can answer your questions. The draft scheme is available on the Shire website. The last day to submit your comments on the Draft Local Planning Scheme is Monday, 22 November 2021.

## ~ HOMECARE HIGHLIGHTS ~

What a month it has been with a trip to Wave Rock which was enjoyable, apart from the rather large mosquito's.

At Jessie House, clients have been enjoying the warmer weather and activities. Friday's are presently full and Wednesday's are also filling up fast.

We still have some places left on our Tuesday group and Thursday exercise groups. Homecare has definitely outgrown its current space and we are looking forward to being able to spread our wings when we move into the new Jessie House building next year.

## ~ IMPORTANT DATES ~

### ~15 October~

Burning permits are now required until the Prohibited Burning Period from 1 November through to 1 March 2020.

### ~31 October~

Nominations close for the 2020 Australia Day Citizen of the Year Awards. Nomination forms are available at the Shire Administration Office and the Library, or nominate online at: [citizenshipawards.com.au/nominate/](http://citizenshipawards.com.au/nominate/).

### ~31 October~

Dog and cat registrations have been posted and are due. If you have not received your renewal, please contact the Shire. Renewals must be paid in person at the Shire's Admin Office, and a new tag for your pet's collar will be issued. All cats and dogs over the age of three months must be registered.

## ~ LIBRARY NEWS ~

Our new mascot, the yet-to-be-named Numbat, went along to the Narrogin Agricultural Show and enjoyed meeting many children and handing out free children's' books.

On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November, the R.W. (Bob) Farr Memorial Library will run a 'Poetry under the Stars' evening, in the garden outside the library. A barbecue meal will be provided, bring your own drinks. Tea, coffee and water provided. This is to restart the original poetry café that used to occur bi-monthly. Come along and share your own poetry or song, read poems that you enjoy, and share a lovely, outdoor evening with like-minded people. Cost \$20 per person. \$10 per child under 12 years.

We look forward to seeing you there for some poetry fun.

*"Reading should not be presented to children as a chore or duty. It should*

## OUT 'n' ABOUT

### Narrogin's New Aussies



On 17 September, 23 Narrogin residents became Australian citizens on Australian Citizenship Day.

### Smith Street Ablutions



The new ablutions facility on Smith Street near Coles is well underway. The new facility will provide a combined accessible toilet/parent change room, along with new male and female cubicles. The facility will be open in time for Christmas.

### Paint Narrogin REaD



The kids are entranced as the Numbat paints Narrogin Red. What a great day it was when the Numbat was hatched and there is a competition to name him (or her). If you can think of a great name for our Numbat, contact the Library 9881 1751.

