



Narrogin Narrative

September 2021



From Days Gone By – Nurses at Narrogin Regional Hospital about to set off on a bikeathon to Armadale to raise funds for the Ambulance. (Not in order) Susan & Margaret Hancock, Karen Jamieson, Lyn Fowler, Angie Kain, Mary Hooyer, Mal Hancock. Photo taken in 1975.

~ PRESIDENT'S POST ~

It is with pleasure that, on behalf of the Elected Members of the Shire of Narrogin, I present the Council's 2021/22 Budget.

COVID-19 continues to have dramatic impact on communities. The positive of this situation is that Federal and State Government continue to provide stimulus packages.

In 2020/21 funding was provided for the complete renovation on the Narrogin Railway station. This work continues with fit out remaining. In 2021/22 additional funding from the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCIP) will be used to expand the Narrogin Cemetery and undertake improvements to the Narrogin Caravan Park.

Other major projects planned for 2021/22 include the reconstruction of the Smith Street toilets, LED lighting of the hockey stadium, relocation of activities of Jessie House and Black Spot road improvements.

All in all, there is a very full capital works program for this year, encompassing virtually all Council's functional areas.

The Budget has been prepared with a rate increase of 2.5%, demonstrating Council's commitment to keeping increases low (noting in 2021/22 no increase was levied).

Please note that for the former Shire ratepayers, there is an additional "Parity" increase, as per the merger Memorandum of Understanding.

More details can be found on the Shire's website narrogin.wa.gov.au/live/services/rates-home. A copy of the Budget can also be found there.

The Council looks forward to another year in advocating for and investing in our infrastructure, our roads and other assets, and to further the work underway in restoring confidence in the housing and retail sector and the CBD.

I wish add to the end of my post that I am honoured to be elected unopposed as your Shire President for another term of four years. I am excited about where Narrogin is heading and I am committed to the sustainability and growth of the Shire. It's a fantastic place to live, work and play. I will continue to advocate for its sustainable economic development and also expanding the arts/culture and tourism programs.

Narrogin - Love the Life.
Leigh Ballard ~ Shire President

~ COUNCIL DECISIONS ~

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

Martial Arts Centre
An application for planning consent was approved for the Martial Arts Centre on Clayton Road.

Tourism Accommodation
Council approved an application for Planning Consent for tourism accommodation on farmland, on Kilpatrick Road, Nomans Lake.

Emergency Management
Council considered and adopted the five year review of the Local Emergency Management Plan.

~ LIBRARY NEWS ~

On the 14th September, we hatched the "Paint the Town REaD" mascot at the Narrogin Town Hall. This is a joint project between the Library, the Early Years Network, and Amity Health to participate in the Australia Wide "Paint the Town REaD" project.

Narrogin Primary School sang the song written for "Paint the Town REaD" by the project patron Lynda Hurley (wife of the Governor General). Jan Smith and Kay Weaver wrote an extra verse for Narrogin so the children could sing about their own community.

Our mascot will appear at local functions to promote Reading, Singing and Playing with children

"Let's all read with babies from birth so they are ready for school" – Barbie Bates (Paint the Town REaD CEO)

Boundary Encroachment

Council considered a boundary encroachment at 34 Parry Court supported it be advertised for public comment about partially or fully closing the public access way.

Rates Exemption Application

Council refused the application for rates exemption by the Education Department for property used by the High School on the basis it is not used wholly for public purposes.

Budget Adoption

Council adopted the 2021/22 Annual Budget for year ending 30 June 2022.

Corporate Business Plan

Council considered the annual review of the Corporate Business Plan (CBP) and adopted the Corporate Business Plan for 2021-25 as presented.

Statutory Review of Local Laws

Council resolved to invite public submissions about the intent to revoke old laws no longer required and to amend various continuing local laws for clarity and improved administration of the local law.

Health Local Laws

Council resolved to invite public submissions about the intent to revoke old outdated health by-laws of the former Shire and Town of Narrogin and provide laws to effectively provide an acceptable standard of public health in the community.

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 and a COVID Safety plan is in place for the venue. Entrance to the Council Chambers is via the door near the William Kennedy Way carpark.

~ SHIRE NOTICES ~

Citizen of the Year 2022

It's time to start thinking about who you know doing amazing things in our local community! Nominations can be made for contributions to education, health, fundraising, voluntary services, business, sports, arts, the environment, social inclusion or any other area that enhances the wellbeing of the community. Nominations for the 2022 Community Citizen of the Year Awards are now open until 31st October 2021 and can be submitted at citizenshipawards.com.au/nominate

Roadworks & Projects

We have checked for storm water damage to rural gravel roads and it is not as severe as first thought now that water levels have receded. Affected roads are being re-graded and minor gravel patching is now occurring.

National Category Winner

The Shire of Narrogin (State Winner 2020) was the finalist and joint winner in the Community Health Wellbeing and Interest award category for the National Australian Sustainable Communities Tidy Towns Awards. This is a great national recognition and achievement for Narrogin and testament to all of the efforts of Council, staff, local contractors, volunteers and community groups over recent years.

Street Trees

Is there a tree missing from the verge in front of your residence in the Narrogin or Highbury townsites? Why not request a verge tree to be planted by Shire staff? It is a great time for planting, please contact the Shire.

E-Rates—Go Paperless!

2021/22 Rates Notices have now been issued. Payment is due by 13 October. Sign up for eRates at erateswa.com/narrogin to receive future rates notices by email and save time, money and the environment.

Local Government Elections

Residents who are on the electoral roll or the Narrogin Residents and Ratepayers roll will soon be receiving by post their ballot papers for the 2021 Local Government Elections. It's important you have your say in who best represents you in your local government. Your completed ballot papers are required to be returned in the post or dropped into the Ballot Box before the poll closes at 6pm on Saturday 16 October.

The candidates who will appear on the ballot papers in the forthcoming election are: Tim Wiese, Clive Bartron, Tamara Alexander, Michelle Parker, Raelene Storey, Brian Seale, Roxanne McNab and Josh Pomykala. Profiles are posted on the Shire of Narrogin website narrogin.wa.gov.au/news

~ HOMECARE HIGHLIGHTS ~

The Team at Homecare is committed to ensure the safety of their clients. The staff who are in close contact with our valued clients have all rolled up and received at least one of their COVID-19 vaccinations. Be assured that we have plans in place, in the event of an outbreak, to ensure that all essential services will be maintained.

Do you think you might like to work in this sector? Homecare is seeking to fill a number of positions in this ever growing service. If you are seeking employment (or would prefer to volunteer) and you are a person with a caring and compassionate nature, we would be pleased to meet you. Full training and development opportunities are provided by Homecare in the field of aged and personal care services.

The Team at Homecare are a wonderful bunch, of all ages, headquartered at Jessie House on Clayton Road. Our employees, who already work at Jessie House with our local clients, find that their work in this industry is very rewarding. We'd love you to drop in with your resume if you believe you might like fulfilling work in this service.

From Wendy and the Homecare Team.

~ IMPORTANT DATES ~

Wednesday, 22 September, 7pm
Monthly Ordinary Council Meeting

Wednesday 13 October
Rates Payment due

Saturday 16 October, 6pm
Close of Poll LG Elections

Saturday, 16 October
Narrogin Agricultural Show

OUT 'n' ABOUT

Waiting for the Hatching



Children have been eagerly waiting for the hatching of the "Paint the Town REaD" mascot egg.

Mascot Safely Hatched



We are pleased to announce the safe hatching of the "Paint the Town REaD" mascot. Isn't he beautiful?

National Award Celebrations



Celebrating with Keep Australia Beautiful Council representatives the online awards at which Narrogin was announced Joint category Winner of the Australian Sustainable Communities Tidy Towns Awards 2021 in the category of "Community Health, Wellbeing & Interest".



Badge making at the Library for childrens' hats at Paint the Town REaD this week.