



Narrogin Narrative

December 2019



OUT 'n' ABOUT

Getting ready for Christmas Cheer



The clients and volunteers at Homecare are getting in the Christmas spirit. Up goes the tree at Jessie House!

Thank You Volunteers



Volunteers were recently recognised at an event for Thank a Volunteer Day and heard from entertaining guest speaker Priya Cooper (OAM) one of Australia's leading Paralympians.

High School Career Expo



The Shire was represented at the High School's Career Expo. Shire employees attended this fantastic event and were able to speak to students on prospective careers and job opportunities in Local Government

Memorial Park



Construction of the new ablutions and shaded area is underway in Memorial Park. It is anticipated that M&V Ranieri Building Contractors will have these ready for public use by March 2020.

~ PRESIDENT'S POST ~

In reflection of the Council's progress over the past year, I congratulate and acknowledge the Shire Administration led by CEO Dale Stewart and his Executive Team for achieving an outstanding overall 93% of capital projects and under budget for the last financial year.

The Administration has delivered a number of Masterplans that lays down the blueprint for the ongoing development of Narrogin and will assist when sourcing funding for projects in future years. A number of Masterplans have been put to the community and have been established for the development of Gnarrogin Park and the Railway Dam, establishment of Walk Trails, a Public Art Strategy and a feasibility study for a Pump Track & Mountain Bike Trail. Narrogin is enjoying new business momentum and Council continues to look at ways to support and invigorate the township and CBD with such plans.

The year saw the end of the repairs to road damage from summer storms in 2017 that were fixed by the Shire's own crews under the WANDRRA scheme. We were pleased to be able to have our own skilled and local workforce complete these works and should an event occur in the future, the innovative model the Shire of Narrogin laid down may well be taken up by other local governments.

We continue to work at making Narrogin an attractive place for visitors to stop and stay. We get many comments about how tidy and neat Narrogin is from travellers and we have provided a free overnight stop area in both Narrogin and Highbury for tourists with self-contained RVs. The Caravan Park is undergoing renovations to the toilet block and demand for unit-style accommodation has seen the Shire source cabin-style accommodation units which will be built early in 2020.

The new sensory garden at the RW (Bob) Farr Memorial Library has provided an attractive space in the CBD which is well utilised by the Library staff and patrons for activities as well as the general public. Congratulations to all involved in converting this area into a welcoming and well-utilised space.

Thank you to the Elected Members. All have shown guidance and dedication to working towards obtaining the desired outcomes of the community's strategic plan. I would like to thank outgoing elected members, Colin Ward, Paul Schutz and Nathan Walker for their dedication, contributions and strategic thinking and welcome re-elected Cr Murray Fisher and new members to Council, Cr Graham Broad, Cr Sophie Lushey and Cr Jacqui Early.

Thank you to all our hard-working volunteers, community groups and clubs, local leaders and our emergency services personnel who keep us safe and for making our community the great place it is in which to live. Remember that it is up to all of us, in whichever way we can, no matter how small or seemingly unimportant, to

continue serving our community and helping build and grow it.

Stay safe and well and enjoy the holiday season and don't forget to... Love the Life!

Leigh Ballard ~ Shire President

~ COUNCIL DECISIONS ~

Decisions made at the meeting of 27 November 2019 include:

Proposed Consulting Rooms – Planning approval was granted for 'Remedy Physio and Pilates' to operate from 21 Egerton Street, subject to conditions.

Automotive Dismantling Wreckers – Planning approval was granted for an Automotive Dismantling Wrecker business to operate from 24 Stewart Road Narrogin, subject to conditions.

Home Occupation - Fitness - Planning Approval was granted for a Home Fitness Business to operate from 1 Federal Street Narrogin, subject to conditions.

Waste Local Law - The proposed Waste Local Law 2019 was advertised for public comment and after consideration of submissions, Council resolved to make the Local Law. The new law provides for the management of local government waste as defined by the Waste Avoidance & Resource Recovery Act 2007 and the operation of the waste collection and management facilities.

Adoption of Narrogin Local Heritage Survey 2019 - Following the closure of public advertising Council adopted the Local Heritage Survey.

Smith Street Ablutions - Council was asked to consider the proposed building designs for redeveloping the ablutions on Smith Street and deferred the decision until the Townscape Advisory Committee could make an assessment of strategic implications.

Awarding of RFQs (Request for Quotes) - Council approved the supply to the Shire of a new backhoe to JCB Construction for the sum of \$194,400 and a new multi-tyre roller to WesTrac for \$164,480, ex GST.

Rates Exemption - An application from Foundation Housing was considered for rates exemption for their charity providing low cost social housing at 56 Lock Street. Council granted the exemption.

Annual Closure of Shire Offices - Council approved the closure of the Administration Office, Works Depot, Library and Jessie house during the Christmas New Year break and also resolved to make this a policy of Council.

Citizen of the Year Awards - Council went behind closed doors to consider the nominations for the Citizen of the Year Awards. The winners will be announced at the Australia Day Celebrations on 26 January 2020 in the Town Hall.

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



From Days Gone By – A Fordson tractor and wagon (C1910) with the Cornwall Hotel in the background and Kelliher Bros Blacksmith shop on the right.

fourth Wednesday of each month. Community members are most welcome to attend. Entrance to the Council Chambers is via the door near the William Kennedy Way carpark.

~ SHIRE NOTICES ~

Roadworks & Projects

The festive season is nearly with us so this is a timely reminder to take extra care on roads whilst driving during the holiday period. The Road Ribbon for Road Safety campaign is still currently running with key messages for road users on road safety to reduce accident to zero being obey all road rules, take breaks to avoid fatigue and please don't speed.

Capital works are progressing well. Some projects planned to start in January are: Cemetery road sealing, asphaltting of Ensign Street and Earl Street between Park and Fortune Streets and gravel re-sheeting on identified rural roads.

There will also be some new bin surround installations for the CBD to replace some of the remaining round tin bins.

Waste Management Facility
Closed - 25 & 26 December and 31 December & 1 January. It will be open the usual hours between 27-30 December. See website news.

Rubbish collection days will remain unchanged during the holiday period.

~ HOMECARE HIGHLIGHTS ~

Homecare is changing... from February next year, Narrogin Homecare is introducing some new and exciting

programs. Jessie House will be open five days a week with new activities and excursions.

Additionally, we are proudly introducing an internet café, a men's shed and other group activities.

We will have a dementia-specific day as well as mainstream group activity days with a focus on fun, wellness and meaningful activities. In addition, there is always a freshly cooked morning tea and lunch to look forward to.

To find out more, or how you can join in, simply call 9890 0700 and have a chat to one of our friendly staff for more information.

~ IMPORTANT DATES ~

26 January

The Shire of Narrogin will celebrate Australia Day on Sunday 26 January 2020 from 7.30 am at the Narrogin Town Hall, commencing with the Community Breakfast and followed by the presentation of the 2020 Australia Day Citizen of the Year Awards. The on-stage program will include entertainment by the NPS Choir, The Bush Poet and much more. Afterwards, over at the Narrogin Regional Recreation Centre, free entry to the aquatic centre for the whole family between 10 am and 3 pm.

1 February

Round 2 of the Shire's Community Chest Fund 2019/20 opens. Applications from eligible community groups are invited. Guidelines and application forms are available from the Administration Office, alternatively they can be found on the Shire's website.

~ LIBRARY NEWS ~

We have recently assessed the age of the library collection through our statistics. 70.35% of the collection is aged 5 years or less; 19.95% is aged 5 – 10 years; and 9.70% is aged over 10 years - the classics and historical collections.

This means the Library holds a vibrant, up-to-date collection. Please let us know if there is something you would like and we will assess its possible acquisition against the budget. We try to satisfy as many requests as we can within our limits.

The children's activities are always popular at the Library. We run Children's Storytime on Wednesday 10.30am and Rhyme Time Thursday 10.30am every week of the year including school holidays. New children and their families are always welcome.

We also facilitate a successful home-schooling group during school terms on Thursdays at 1.30pm. During all school holidays we run a two week program of free art and craft activities at 1.30pm on weekdays. There is no cost to any Library activity for children.



Shire of
Narrogin
Love the life

89 Earl Street, (PO Box 1145)
Narrogin WA 6312
enquiries@narrogin.wa.gov.au
Tel: (08) 9890 0900
www.narrogin.wa.gov.au



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