



Narrogin Narrative

March 2025



Shire of
Narrogin

OUT 'n' ABOUT

Full Steam Ahead for Narrogin's Rail Precinct

A special delivery is on its way! The historic 1933 ARM 357 Sleeper Carriage is heading to Narrogin to join the iconic Pm706 locomotive at the Train Station Goods Shed. Meanwhile, restoration works at the Goods Shed are well underway, giving new life to this treasured space.



Australia Day 2025 Citizen of the Year Winners!

- Mia Ewen
Young Citizen of the Year
- Colin Ward
Senior Citizen of the Year
- Divine You
Active Citizenship (Group/Event)
- Vicki Chadwick
Community Citizen of the Year

Congratulations to all nominees and recipients for their outstanding contributions!



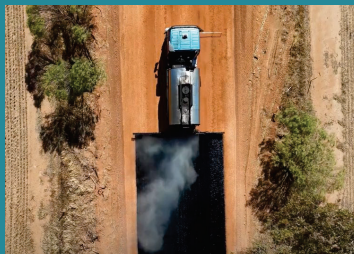
Welcome to Narrogin Event

February's 'Welcome to Narrogin' event was a fantastic celebration of community spirit. New residents connected with local groups, explored volunteering and job opportunities, and discovered all that Narrogin has to offer. A big thank you to everyone who participated and made the event a memorable success!



Roadworks Update

The final 12km of Whinbin Rock Road is now sealed, improving safety and connectivity. The \$2.1M upgrade was jointly funded by the State Government and Narrogin Council. The Wandering Road project is also complete, with the final 3km sealed in early March. This \$801,266 project was funded 93.33% by the Federal and State Governments, with 6.33% covered by the Shire. Both upgrades greatly improve Narrogin's road network.



From Days Gone By - Narrogin's original Post and Telegraph Office in 1908. By 1912 the current Post Office has been constructed next to the original. The two stood side by side for some time, before the original building was demolished.

~ PRESIDENT'S POST ~

As we welcome 2025, I trust everyone enjoyed a safe and restful holiday period. The start of the year has been filled with exciting developments and events that highlight our wonderful community spirit.

I'd like to begin by congratulating the recipients of the 2025 Community Citizen of the Year Awards. From youth leaders to dedicated volunteers, these individuals have made remarkable contributions to our community. Their dedication and hard work inspire us all, and I thank them for their outstanding efforts in making Narrogin an even better place to live.

The 'Welcome to Narrogin' event in February was a fantastic success. It was wonderful to see residents, both new and long-standing, connecting with community groups, learning about local services, and discovering new ways to get involved. Events like this remind us of what makes Narrogin such a special place to live.

The completion of the Whinbin Rock Road sealing project has significantly improved connectivity and safety, marking a major achievement for our region. This upgrade will support our local industries and ensure smoother travel for residents and visitors.

Excitingly, the historic 1933 ARM 357, a 16-berth sleeper carriage, is currently on its way to Narrogin to join the much-loved PM706 locomotive at the Narrogin Train Station Goods Shed. Once it arrives, this addition will no doubt become a treasured attraction for railway enthusiasts and locals alike. Meanwhile, the Goods Shed itself is undergoing an impressive transformation, ensuring this historic site continues to shine as part of Narrogin's growing rail precinct.

Looking ahead, with the State Election now concluded and a Federal Election on the horizon, I encourage everyone to stay engaged in these important democratic processes. Your voice matters in shaping our future.

I look forward to continuing to work alongside our community throughout

the year ahead. Together, we can build on our successes and ensure Narrogin remains a fantastic place to live, work, and visit.

Narrogin - Love the Life
Leigh Ballard - Shire President

~ COUNCIL DECISIONS ~

A Summary of the Council decisions made at the meeting held on 19 February 2025 include:

Fenced Off-Leash Dog Park:

A fenced off-leash dog park will be established in Gnarojin Park, between the outdoor gym and former Tennis Courts on Hale Street, subject to 2025/26 Budget consideration at an estimated cost of \$80,000.

Proposed Motel at 115 Federal Street:

The Shire will notify adjoining property owners regarding a proposed motel at Lot 89, 115 Federal Street, Narrogin. If no objections arise, the application will be approved with conditions for design, completion, and landscaping.

CBD Footpath Plaques Policy:

A new CBD Footpath Plaques Policy has been adopted, recognising Freeman, Citizen of the Year recipients, and other notable locals. A \$10,000 allocation is proposed in the 2025/26 Budget for priority plaques.

Revised Ten-Year Public Art Program 2025-2035:

A revised Ten-Year Public Art Program for 2025-2035 has been adopted, with an annual allocation of \$25,000 planned, alongside grant and sponsorship exploration.

Narrogin Railway Precinct Pathway:

The Council accepted a \$50,000 Streets Alive Grant to begin stage one of the Railway Precinct Pathway, with further funding planned to complete the \$100,000 project.

Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Updates:

The Audit & Risk Committee has been renamed the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee, with new terms of reference. Independent presiding and deputy presiding roles

currently being advertised, closing 31 March 2025.

Local Government Election Process:

The Council has accepted a quotation for a postal election for electors to elect three Councillors and the Shire President. The WA Electoral Commissioner will oversee the process to ensure fairness and smooth conduct at a predicted cost of \$30,000. The Election is in October 2025.

Presiding Members Appointments:

The Council has endorsed new appointments for Presiding Members across several committees, reinforcing strong leadership within the local government.

Compliance Audit Return 2024:

The Council adopted the 2024 compliance audit return. One matter of non-compliance was noted among 94 questions, underscoring a commitment to transparency and continuous improvement.

Lease Renewal for Community Support:

A five-year lease renewal was approved for the Narrogin Community Support Association Inc. at Mackie Park, starting 1 March 2025.

Information Handling and Breach Policy:

The Council adopted a new Information Handling and Breach Policy, authorising the CEO to implement procedures for improved data security.

CEO Annual Appraisal:

The CEO's annual appraisal was completed, with approved remuneration adjustments and updated performance criteria.

Change in Council Meeting Date:

The Council meeting scheduled for 25 June 2025 has been rescheduled to 18 June 2025 to allow the Shire President and CEO to attend the National General Assembly in Canberra.

For more details on these decisions and their implications, please visit the Shire's website or contact the Shire office directly by emailing enquiries@narrogin.wa.gov.au.

~ HOMECARE HIGHLIGHTS ~

Narrogin Homecare's much-loved Gadabout Trips continue to offer

fantastic outings for clients. In March, the group will visit the York Motor Museum and Penny Farthing Sweets, while April's trip will feature a Pingelly Town Crawl, including stops at the museum, community craft centre, and op shop.

For more details or to book, contact Narrogin Homecare at (08) 9890 0700.

Important changes are coming to Homecare!

From July 2025, Homecare Packages will transition to the new Support @ Home funding model. Clients will be asked to sign updated agreements to reflect this change. Narrogin Homecare is committed to making this process as smooth as possible, and clients can expect clear communication and support throughout the transition.

~ SHIRE NOTES ~

Restricted Burning Period

The Prohibited Burning Period has now ended, but the Restricted Burning Period remains in place until 1 May. During this time, a permit is required for any burning activities. To obtain a permit, please contact your local Fire Control Officer for guidance and to ensure all safety measures are followed.

While conditions may be easing, we urge everyone to remain vigilant and follow permit requirements to help reduce fire risks and keep our community safe. For further information, visit the Shire's website or contact the Shire Office by email enquiries@narrogin.wa.gov.au or telephone (08) 9890 0900.

~ IMPORTANT DATES ~

~ 15-21 March ~
Harmony Week

~ 21 March ~
UN International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

~ 26 March ~
Ordinary Council Meeting 7pm

~ 31 March ~
Budget Submissions close

~ 10-17 April ~
Youth Week

~ 18 April ~
Public Holiday (Good Friday)

~ 21 April ~
Public Holiday (Easter Monday)

~ LIBRARY NEWS ~

The R.W. (Bob) Farr Memorial Library is very excited to be joining with hundreds of libraries across Western Australia for the Switch Your Thinking Energy Efficiency Pilot Project. This project enables us to offer a Do-It-Yourself Home Energy Audit Kit for loan from the library. These kits are designed to help you identify energy inefficiencies in your home and take steps to improve comfort and reduce costs. They are equipped with a thermal imaging camera, water flow cup and power meter to help you spot areas where you may be wasting energy, and provide practical tips for improving your energy usage.

There are also free online workshops available for homeowners and small business operators. If you would like to find out more, please visit the library.

And there are even prizes up for grabs for participants in the project – including energy efficient appliances. Simply borrow a kit and take part in the follow up activities to be eligible to enter!