



Narrogin Narrative

April 2026



Shire of Narrogin



Narrogin's First Post Office, Fortune Street, in 1908. Originally the mail service for Narrogin was cared for by John Chippers store near the railway station. However, in 1893 Rudolf Beidermann became Post-Master in the very first Narrogin Post Office. When a replacement was built in 1912, the two stood side by side with the original building serving as the Post-Master's Quarters, until it was demolished in 1961.

~ PRESIDENT'S POST ~

As we head into the seeding season, it's encouraging to see a solid 28.8mm of rainfall recorded in March—providing a welcome boost for our local farmers as they prepare for the months ahead.

Earlier this month, Council progressed the recruitment of a new Chief Executive Officer, with applications closing on 30 March. The next step will be interviews, with the aim of making an appointment at the April Ordinary Council Meeting.

Our community spirit continues to shine. From participation in regional initiatives such as the Ride for Youth, which supports important conversations around mental health, to the way residents have come together during recent local incidents, Narrogin consistently demonstrates care, connection and resilience.

We've also seen strong engagement on local matters, including vegetation management and development decisions. While not every outcome will align with all views, these discussions are vital to a healthy, active community, and Council remains committed to listening and acting in the broader public interest.

Looking ahead, April and May promise to be vibrant months. Our community calendar is filling quickly, with school holiday programs, youth initiatives, markets and sporting events. Highlights include the Flourish Youth Fest and the ever-popular Farmers and Makers Markets at the Narrogin Community Garden.

As the weather cools, I encourage everyone to continue supporting local—whether by attending events, shopping locally or simply checking in on neighbours.

Finally, I warmly invite you to join us for the ANZAC Day Service on Saturday 25 April at Memorial Park, commencing at 5.50am.

This is a meaningful opportunity for our community to come together in reflection and remembrance, honouring the service and sacrifice of those who have served our nation. Your presence helps keep the ANZAC spirit alive for future generations.

Narrogin - Love the Life
Leigh Ballard - Shire President

~ COUNCIL DECISIONS ~

Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting Outcomes

Council rescinded all other Bush Fires Act appointments previously made and approved new appointments. They also approved the dual Fire Control Officers for the surrounding Shires and approved the 26/27 Firebreak and Fuel Hazard Reduction Notice.

WALGA Sector Consultation – Compulsory and Voluntary Voting and Election Frequency

Council resolved to not support the introduction of full spill local government elections every four years and to retain voluntary voting.

Draft Renewable Energy Planning Code – Council Submission and Advocacy Position

Council endorsed the submission about the draft Code to the Western Australian Planning Commission.

They also advocated for minimum setbacks of three times turbine height from any non-participating property boundary including road reserves as well as mandatory Social Impact Assessments and Community Benefit Agreements for renewable energy developments.

Community Chest 2025/26 Round 2 Applications

Council approved grants for Creative Bytes Incorporated, Divine You Inc, Rotary, Narrogin and Districts Senior Citizens Centre and the Narrogin Junior Basketball Association, totalling \$11,800.

Narrogin Gymnastics Club – New Lease (3 + 2 Years)

Council approved entering into a lease agreement of the former Railway Institute Hall, being portion 105 (Lot 1679) Federal Street, Narrogin for another five year term.

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.

~ HOMECARE HIGHLIGHTS ~

Navigating Change Together in Homecare

As the autumn season settles across our region, the Narrogin Homecare team has been focused on maintaining continuity of care while navigating a period of significant change. Like many services across Australia, aged care is evolving, and our priority remains ensuring local residents continue to feel supported, informed and connected.

Over recent months, most of Narrogin's Support at Home clients have successfully transitioned to Silverchain. We are pleased that services have continued smoothly and would like to acknowledge the patience and cooperation shown by clients and families during this process. Change can be challenging, particularly in care services that people rely on daily, and this transition has highlighted the resilience of our community.

For clients receiving support through the Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP), services continue to operate as usual while we await a formal decision from the Department of Health,

Disability and Ageing regarding the incoming provider. We understand that planning is underway behind the scenes and remain hopeful for a positive and timely outcome. Importantly, there is no interruption to CHSP services currently or proposed.

One change we know is of particular importance to many in our community is the upcoming conclusion of the Group Activities program at Jessie House, which will finish at the end of May. These sessions have provided much more than activities, they have created friendships, routine and a sense of belonging for many older residents.

While Silverchain may not be in a position to continue this program, the Shire of Narrogin recognises just how vital social connection is to wellbeing. Work is currently underway to explore alternative providers who may be able to continue group activities in some form. While no decisions have been finalised yet, there is a strong commitment to finding a suitable and sustainable solution, and updates will be shared as soon as more information becomes available.

As we move into the cooler months, it's also a timely reminder to take a few simple steps to stay well. Keeping warm during early mornings and evenings, staying gently active, checking home heating for safety, and booking a flu vaccination when available can all help maintain health and independence.

Just as importantly, staying socially connected, whether through group activities, outings or a regular phone call, continues to play a key role in overall wellbeing.

From April, Narrogin Homecare's business hours have changed to Monday to Friday 9.00am to 1.00pm, for phone calls and in-person visits. While shorter, these hours allow the team to focus on service coordination and continuity during this transitional period.

Above all, we remain grateful to be part of the Narrogin community. Thank you to everyone who has placed their trust in local homecare services. Change may be ongoing, but our commitment to care, dignity and connection remains constant.

For more information, call us at 9890 0700 or visit Jessie House on Clayton Road.



~NARROGIN MONOPOLY PROJECT GAINS STRONG COMMUNITY SUPPORT~

The Shire of Narrogin's MONOPOLY Project has successfully completed its primary fundraising phase, with strong participation from local businesses and community groups.

The recent Silent Auction Dinner, held at the John Higgins Centre, attracted significant interest, with 78 registrations and 45 active bidders. The event raised \$43,493 (including GST) through the auction, supported by an additional \$2,859 (including GST) in event revenue, bringing total funds raised to date to approximately \$46,352 (including GST).

The project aims to deliver a customised Narrogin edition of the iconic board game, showcasing local businesses, organisations, and landmarks while promoting the town to a wider audience.

The next stage of the project will focus on finalising board design, including community voting on game tokens, and progressing towards production later this year, with the aim of delivering the Narrogin edition in time for Christmas 2026. Further updates will be provided as the project moves closer to delivery.



~ SHIRE NOTICES ~

Restricted Burning Period
The Restricted burning period is currently in place. Permits are required to burn until 1 May 2026.

To sign up for SMS notifications, contact the Shire Administration via enquiries@narrogin.wa.gov.au

~ IMPORTANT DATES ~

~ 22 April 2026 ~
Ordinary Council Meeting 7pm

~ 25 April 2026 ~
ANZAC Day—Dawn Service
5.50am Memorial Park

~ 28 April 2026 ~
UN World Day for Safety & Health at Work

~ LIBRARY NEWS ~

The Premier's Reading Challenge is Back! Running from 23 March to 12 June, this annual program encourages Western Australian students to discover the joy of reading while making literacy fun. Students who log their reading each week will go into the draw to win fantastic prizes, including a Nintendo Switch, Kobo eReaders, Yeti bottles, and a range of gift cards and vouchers.

School Holiday Fun at Narrogin Library! Join us for a variety of creative activities, including: DIY Phone Speakers • Book Safes • Phone Holders • Initial Crafts
Plus: Friendship Bracelets • Paper Snowflakes • Paper Mache Emojis • Cotton Pad Roses • Book Page Butterflies

Save on Power Bills This Winter. Borrow our Home Energy Audit Kit for free from Narrogin Library and learn how to reduce energy use and cut household costs.

