



Narrogin Narrative

March 2026



From Days Gone By - Nurse Ness and her horse Veg in the early 1890s. Nurse Ness was a prominent local personality and ran the Narrogin Maternity Hospital in the early 1900, one of the first private hospitals in Narrogin. Nurse Ness spent a number of years as the district midwife.

~ PRESIDENT'S POST ~

As we step into March, the first part of the year has already been full and productive for Narrogin.

January gave many families the chance to slow down and spend time together over the holiday period. At the same time, it marked the height of our fire season — a time when we rely heavily on the commitment and readiness of our local volunteers. I want to acknowledge and sincerely thank our Bush Fire Brigade members, SES volunteers and emergency service personnel who remained prepared throughout the summer months. Your willingness to step up when needed does not go unnoticed and is deeply appreciated by our community.

Fire season is not over yet, and I encourage all residents to remain vigilant, maintain their properties and ensure bushfire plans are up to date. Preparedness is a shared responsibility and an important part of living in regional Western Australia.

It is great to see our local businesses back in full swing following the Christmas and New Year break, employing locals, supporting local events and contributing to the town's character and vitality. I encourage everyone to continue supporting local wherever possible. Every dollar spent in Narrogin strengthens our community.

One of the highlights of the past two months was the success of the recent Welcome to Narrogin event. It was encouraging to see such strong attendance from new residents, community groups and service providers, helping people make connections, learn what's available locally, and feel part of the community from the outset. Feedback has been very positive, and it reinforces the welcoming spirit Narrogin is known for.

Council remains focused on delivering steady progress for our community — supporting growth, maintaining essential services and planning responsibly for the future.

Thank you to everyone who plays a

part in making Narrogin the strong and connected community it is.

Narrogin - Love the Life
Leigh Ballard - Shire President

~ COUNCIL DECISIONS ~

As its recent meeting of February, Council considered a range of financial, governance, property and strategic matters.

Financial Management & Budget:

Council adopted the Budget Review, including amendments to the 2025/26 Municipal Budget to ensure financial settings remain aligned with operational priorities.

These decisions ensure continued financial transparency and responsible management of community funds.

Property Leases Supporting Local Business & Services:

Council progressed several commercial and community lease arrangements:

30 Gray Street – Barra Early Learning (Zaydon Group)

Council approved a 10-year lease (subject to statutory approvals and public advertising requirements). This supports the continued growth of early childhood education services in Narrogin.

39 Federal Street – Lucky Cat Trading Pty Ltd

Council resolved to advertise a proposed two-year lease for an Asian Grocery in accordance with the Local Government Act 1995 prior to entering into a lease agreement.

45 Federal Street – Feddy's Diner
Council approved advertising of a proposed three-year lease with a two-year option, supporting activation of the Federal Street precinct and local business growth.

All lease decisions are subject to statutory compliance, including public notice and development approvals where required.

Governance – Model Code of Conduct

Council adopted the updated Model Code of Conduct for Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates in line with recent amendments to State legislation.

All local governments are required to adopt the updated Code by 1 April 2026. The updated Code applies to elected members and candidates only, with a separate Code continuing to apply to employees and volunteers.

CEO Recruitment & Interim Arrangements

Council formally noted the resignation of the Chief Executive Officer effective 1 May 2026 and resolved to commence recruitment for a new CEO.

Renewable Energy – Community Engagement

Council considered correspondence from the Narrogin East Neighbour Collective regarding the proposed Lightsource bp renewable energy project.

Council resolved to:

- * Note the concerns raised by local residents;
- * Confirm the Shire does not adopt a position of support or opposition prior to formal State referral and assessment;
- * Acknowledge the importance of meaningful community consultation;
- * Advocate strongly for Council's adopted policies, local planning instruments and cumulative impact considerations should a proposal be formally referred;
- * Provide information to the community about State assessment pathways and submission opportunities; and
- * Write to Lightsource bp requesting adherence to Council's adopted policies in any future development application.

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 ~

Narrogin Homecare has been busy supporting clients through an important period of change.

Here's a look at what's been happening across our services this month.

Silverchain has now begun transitioning all Support at Home (SaH) clients. Their priority is to make sure services continue smoothly, with minimal disruption for clients and families.

For our CHSP clients, the Shire has recommended Silverchain as the incoming provider for the Narrogin region.

The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing is expected to confirm the final provider and transition date around mid-March.

Until then, we are pausing further CHSP transition planning. We'll continue to keep clients informed as soon as new information becomes available.

Our Group Activities program will continue running as usual until 31 May 2026.

The Shire is currently reviewing the best way to deliver the program from June onward. Once a decision is made, we will share an update to ensure everyone has plenty of notice.

On 19 February, the Homecare team attended the Welcome to Narrogin event.

It was a great opportunity to meet new and long-term community members, answer questions about upcoming changes, and provide reassurance about what lies ahead.

We were positioned next to the Silverchain team, and it was encouraging to see clients engaging openly with both services.

Several clients have already signed up with Silverchain and provided positive feedback about the experience so far.

For more information, call us at 98900700 or visit Jessie House on Clayton Road.

OUT 'n' ABOUT

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

We proudly recognised Guy Maley for reaching an incredible milestone — 20 years of dedicated service to the Shire of Narrogin.

Guy has worked across almost every area of the Shire (everywhere other than our library!) and has spent the majority of his career serving in his current position as our Senior Ranger.

Guy continues to play a vital role in supporting community safety, compliance, and local pride.



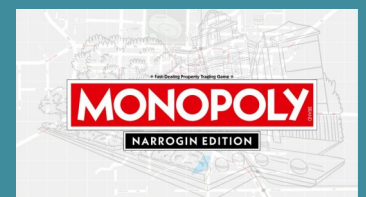
MONOPOLY: SHIRE OF NARROGIN EDITION

The Shire of Narrogin is excited to announce the creation of a custom MONOPOLY®: Shire of Narrogin Edition, a community legacy project celebrating local businesses, community groups and iconic landmarks.

Facilitated under licence from Hasbro, the game will showcase the region's character and diversity through a fully customised board.

Stage one launched with a silent auction on 6 March via GalaBid. A Silent Auction Dinner will be held on 20 March 2026 at the John Higgins Centre.

Learn more at narrogin.wa.gov.au



~ SHIRE NOTICES ~

Prohibited Burning Period Extended

Due to current conditions, the Prohibited Burning Period has been extended by 14 days.

What does this mean for you?

No burning permits will be issued until March 16, 2026

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

~ IMPORTANT DATES ~

~ 17 to 23 March 2026 ~
Harmony Week

~ 21 March 2026 ~

UN International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

~ 25 March 2026 ~
Ordinary Council Meeting 7pm

~ LIBRARY NEWS ~

The R.W. (Bob) Farr Memorial Library is excited to announce that Digital Literacy Lessons will be available every Saturday morning starting in April. If you'd like to make better use of your devices, need a hand troubleshooting, or simply want to feel more confident navigating the digital world, pop in and book a free one-on-one session with a member of the library team.

National Simultaneous Storytime is fast approaching. Save the date — 27 May — and stay tuned for more updates as the day draws closer.

Have you checked out the new Citizen Science Kits at the library? Anyone can be a scientist, and libraries across Australia are teaming up with the Australian Citizen Science Association to prove it. With these kits, you can help organisations such as NASA, iNaturalist, and Zooniverse collect valuable research data and make a real difference — all from your own backyard. Each kit includes everything you need to get started and is available to borrow with your library card.

