



### SHIRE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I had the honour on Remembrance Day of laying a wreath at our local RSL club, on behalf of the Shire of Northampton. Cr Pike performed the same honour at the Kalbarri RSL memorial. The wreaths were Northampton-produced from locally grown wildflowers from Chally Bridge and it was a privilege to honour the fallen with such exquisite produce. After the service I enjoyed a light lunch provided by some hard-working volunteers who always show up to assist. That's about as good as it gets for me. As I look around, and I'm sure those volunteers won't mind me saying: I see them getting older. If you have the time and a small dose of energy, please consider getting involved in one of the many service organisations who do so much to make our communities better.

As I mentioned last month, Council has started its Strategic Community Planning. Please go to the website or pick up a paper form from the Northampton or Kalbarri Shire offices to complete the survey – which closes on December 4th. Next year in February, a round of community forums will be held to discuss how you'd like to see our communities change and improve.

This column has become somewhat of an acknowledgement to local residents who have passed away and this time I would like to acknowledge the passing of some significant older pioneers of our district who deserve recognition: Greta Johnson, Barry Reynolds and Bet Mitchell.

Greta Johnson (nee Kaiser) was the daughter of German parents who emigrated from Germany between World War 1 and 2. The family took up land at the north eastern part of our Shire at Helenore Farm. Greta was about 10 years of age when WWII broke out and her father was interned because he was German, by Australian authorities in Victoria, for the six years of the war. Together with her younger sister Elfie and her mother, they continued to live and farm at Balla/Yuna, despite her mother having no driver's licence. No doubt, this is where and how Greta learned to have such strength of character. Greta, a pre-teen,

periodically drove to Northampton and Yuna in a truck and no doubt on sandy tracks, to pick up supplies. Greta married Laurie Johnson and three of her four children, Kathy, Mark and Chris and their families are still farming in the shire.

Barry Reynolds was the eldest of five boys and two girls who lived on a farm at Alma. When Barry was just 22, knowing the farm was too small to support all the children, he moved to Mary Springs at Ajana. This was a large farming property north of the Murchison River, in the region where crop production meets rangelands. Barry married Lesley and they lived at Mary Springs for most of their married lives, clearing and developing the property. Barry's four other brothers also worked hard to establish farms in other areas north of Northampton. Mary Springs is still farmed by Barry's son, Glen. Barry was an absolute trooper and it's the first funeral I've been to where there was a video of Barry delivering some of his own Eulogy!

Finally at the time of writing this, I'm yet to attend Bet Mitchell's funeral – but it's appropriate to mention her here. Bet was an Atkinson who hailed from Ajana and married Neil Mitchell. For those who don't know, those names are about as "Northampton district" as you can get! Mrs Mitchell was an institution, teaching most of the young people of my era to play the keyboard. She was involved in almost every occasion in the local arts scene for decades; including concerts, fund raising events, and dances involving Northside band, which was famous across the Midwest. Neil was a brilliant photographer and their children all possess artistic talents. Bet was one of life's treasures. She was a tonic who would just make you smile when you saw or thought of her.

Finally, not quite as old as these three, but also somewhat of a legend, Rickie Maver recently passed away after a short illness. At Rick's funeral, I was reminded that the love and care from your family and friends is absolutely all you need when you depart this world. The stories told from his three kids about his

love of nature, the beach, friends and beer, were special.

As we roll into Christmas, spare a thought for each of these local legends, the lives they lived and the legacy they leave. They rightly leave a lasting impression on our communities.

I extend a safe and happy Christmas period to you all. Have fun, remember to extend the hand of kindness to those around you and never forget, we are so lucky to live in this special part of the world.

**Liz Sudlow**  
**Shire President**

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S MESSAGE**

As we enter the final month of the calendar year, I am pleased to report that we are on track to finalise the TC Seroja coastal infrastructure repairs in Kalbarri by the end of this month. This undertaking has come with considerable effort negotiating what could be replaced and what is not permitted under the Federal disaster relief funding program. The repair works completed may look a bit different to what used to be there, and this is primarily due to the use of current coastal engineering practices, standards and material availability.

Talking of disaster relief funding, the Shire of Northampton is now eligible to access funding for damaged roads and infrastructure following the heavy rainfall events that occurred in June 2024. Consultants GHD have been appointed to support the process and it is expected that where significant road damage is proven, the Shire will be able to access significant funds to repair the damage. Some urgent damage has already been repaired which should be covered by the funding, however other works will need formal approval before any repair works can be commenced.

Other major projects due to commence into the new year include the upgrade to the Port Gregory foreshore carpark, Stage 2 and 3 widening of the Kalbarri-Ajana Road (noting the Shire is still working through issues with the contractor for Stage 1 works), improvements to the Little Bay Road and a staircase at Whiting Pool at Horrocks, water supply at Port Gregory, and road, footpath and drainage works across the Shire district.

The Shire President and I have been working with Local Government partners for a consistent approach to how renewable energy is dealt with in Western Australia. We have been advocating to the State Government to ensure consistency is applied to renewable energy development that ensures the interests of local communities are protected.

Finally, I would like to wish Councillors, staff and the community best wishes for the festive period and we look forward to exciting times in 2025.

**Andrew Campbell**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

### **STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN**

The Shire of Northampton Strategic Community Plan review has commenced with a survey currently available for community input. Responses so far have been good and the Shire would appreciate as much early feedback as possible as this will assist to guide the process. This will then be followed up with community workshops in February 2025 as guidance for a finalised Strategic Community Plan at the end of April 2025.

### **KALBARRI FORESHORE MASTERPLAN PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

After the announcement of \$8.1M in funding for the Kalbarri Foreshore Revitalisation Project (Masterplan), the Shire has been requested to deliver the project by the Mid West Development Commission (MWDC). The Masterplan was a collaboration between MWDC and Tourism WA following preliminary consultation with the Kalbarri community in October 2021, six months after TC Seroja. From that point the Masterplan was developed and certain elements of it were funded by the State Government.

In consideration of the request to deliver the project, the Shire has identified that whilst targeted consultation has occurred with some stakeholders, a thorough public consultation process has not occurred. As a result, the Shire will be undertaking public consultation with the community to guide project delivery. Consultation is scheduled to occur in November 2024 and the Masterplan and funded elements will be available for viewing online on the Shire website with hardcopies available at Shire administration offices.

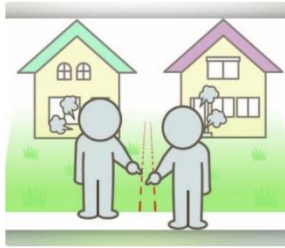
### **SHIRE ADMINISTRATION OFFICE CLOSURE OVER THE FESTIVE PERIOD**

The Shire administration offices will be **closed on Monday 23 December 2024 and reopening on Thursday 2 January 2025**. During this time the Shire will have a small number of staff available to respond to emergencies if required.

### **COMMUNITY GRANTS**

With the success of Round 1 of the Shire of Northampton Community Grants Program, Round 2 will be soon upon us. Applications will open in December 2024 with grant announcements occurring in March 2025. With the appointment of a Community Development Officer Andrea Teakle, dedicated support will exist to guide the community through the process. We encourage everyone to start thinking about your next community project or event.

## WHY ARE PROPERTY BOUNDARIES



### IMPORTANT?

Property boundaries define the extent of your land and are crucial for avoiding disputes caused by encroaching on your neighbour's property. Knowing where your property lines are located

is important for a variety of reasons, including:

- Establishing your property rights: Your property boundaries define your ownership rights, including the right to use, develop and transfer the property.
- Avoiding arguments with your neighbours: Property line disputes are common and can lead to friction, drama and even legal conflicts. Knowing your property boundaries can help you avoid encroaching on other people's property and vice versa.
- Compliance with zoning and building; Property boundaries are crucial in determining whether your construction or renovation plans comply with local zoning and building regulations.

While you can identify your property lines by looking at public records or using online mapping tools, it is not always accurate. More importantly, do not rely on the location of a neighbouring fence or structure to determine your lot boundary. Recently, a number of examples have come to light clearly illustrating that many structures are not accurately located within property boundaries.

So, in some cases you may need to hire a licensed surveyor who will accurately locate your boundary lines and mark those lines with survey pegs (or boundary pegs) which are driven into the ground at the corners of the property. The surveyor will produce a survey plan that accurately shows the location of property boundaries.

## SIGNAGE

If you are proposing to erect any form of advertising or signage (including feather/flutter flags) relating to your business or community group, you will need to refer to the relevant policies and guidelines that manage advertising. This includes Main Roads WA *Guide to the Management of Roadside Advertising* and the Shire's own signage policy. The purpose of the Shire of Northampton's Local Planning Policy (LPP) *Signage* is to provide guidance on design and placement of many forms of advertising within the Shire. This helps ensure the visual character and quality of locations is maintained, it minimises clutter and a proliferation of signage and maintains a degree of control appropriate to the locality. The LPP has guided decisions made in relation to advertising signs within the Shire since 2006. If you are thinking about a form of advertising for your business or community group, don't hesitate to contact the Shire's Planning Officer, Kaylene Roberts, by email to [planning@northampton.wa.gov.au](mailto:planning@northampton.wa.gov.au) or by phone to (08) 99341202.

## DIVIDING FENCES IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS

A standard dividing fence will not attract Planning or a Building Application, however, a variation needs to be looked at to satisfy street amenity and the structural integrity of the proposed variation.

A standard fence stands no more than 1.8m in high and recedes down to 1.2m maximum at the front boundary. The fence can be manufactured out of color bond, cellulose fibre, timber or masonry as standard products, other variations will require Planning/Building approval.

Unapproved variations may come under scrutiny by insurance companies during a wind event and become void due to being non-conforming with the manufacturer's specifications. Please also note that the Shire of Northampton is in a Wind Region B2 and certain construction requirements need to be adhered to.

## PLANNED RETIREMENT OF NORTHAMPTON OFFICE CLEANER MAUREEN DRAGE

Maureen Drage has tendered her resignation, with a planned retirement date of April 2025. Maureen is taking her long service leave/annual leave before retiring, commencing on Tuesday 26 November which means her last day in the office was 22 November 2024.

Maureen joined the Shire of Northampton some 37 years ago and has provided a dedicated cleaning service to the Northampton Shire Office over that time. We wish Maureen well in her future endeavours and look forward to celebrating her retirement with her at the Shire's end of year function.

## WELCOME TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER ANDREA TEAKLE

We are pleased to announce the recent appointment of Andrea Teakle as part-time Community Development Officer. Andrea commenced work recently with the Shire and is available to assist you with any project ideas or enquiries that you may have. (It is further noted that Cresta Viellaris and Andrea have been appointed as part time Community Development Officers for the Shire of Northampton with Cresta operating primarily from the Kalbarri Shire office and Andrea operating from the Northampton Shire office. We look forward to officially welcoming Cresta to her new role in coming weeks.)

In the meantime, please do not hesitate to reach out to Andrea to discuss your proposed event, idea or project idea.

## EVENT APPLICATIONS

Events are defined as regular or one-off events where people assemble for civic, social, educational, entertainment, sporting, religious, business, or other purposes. Examples include concerts, shows, festivals, exhibitions, and similar events.

To hold a public event in the Shire you need to apply for approval. This process involves providing a range of documentation with your application including site plans, evidence of public liability insurance, comprehensive risk, and emergency management plans. You may also need to consider and provide documentation and plans for traffic management, first aid and emergency service access etc.

As there are a number of laws to comply with, the application that you need to submit will depend on the type of event you are planning. As a starting point, you should consider contacting the Shire's Community Development Officer, Andrea Teakle by email to [andrea.teakle@northampton.wa.gov.au](mailto:andrea.teakle@northampton.wa.gov.au) or by phone to 99341202.



### CONTROLLING YOUR DOG

**Dogs play an important role in our community providing companionship and security.** But when dogs are

not cared for, they can have a negative impact on neighbourhoods and our environment. All dog owners have a responsibility to ensure their dogs are registered and are not left to wander. A wandering dog can be a safety risk to people and other dogs. As an owner you have a number of responsibilities as outlined in the *Dog Act (1976)*.

#### Your dog **MUST**;

- Wear a collar with an attached registration (Your name and phone number on an ID tag is also very helpful).
- Be registered and microchipped.
- Must not be able to escape your property.

#### You **MUST**;

- Only have two dogs residing at your property (unless approved by Ranger Services).
- Renew the registration when expired.
- Control your dog at all times even when off a lead.
- When your dog is off the lead, you **MUST** be able to control your dog to avoid a potential dog attack.
- If your dog is off the lead and runs up to another person, if that person feels fear that is classed as a dog attack. It is important you have the ability to be able to call your dog back to you should he run toward another person or dog.

### A dog attack is defined as:

- An attempt to attack or behave in such a manner toward a person that the person fears physical injury.
- Your dog rushing towards a victim acting aggressively.
- Attempting to attach. Tearing clothing. Biting.
- Causing any physical injury.

**If you have any questions, please contact Shire of Northampton Rangers on 99341202.**

## COUNCILLORS

**Cr Liz Sudlow, President – 0427 362 025**  
**Cr Rob Horstman, Deputy – 0418 795 368**  
**Cr Roslyn Suckling – 0429 200 143**  
**Cr Trevor Gibb – 0417 920 125**  
**Cr Des Pike – 0417 919 814**  
**Cr Richard Burges – 0417 912 901**  
**Cr Tim Hay – 0488 212 566**  
**Cr Karl Suckling – 0427 839 274**

## SHIRE ADDRESS

### Northampton Office

Hampton Road, Northampton

PO Box 61 Northampton WA 6535

Phone: 9934 1202 Opening Hours: Mon - Fri  
8.00am - 4.30pm (DOT closes at 4.00pm)

### Kalbarri Office

70 Grey St, Kalbarri

Phone: 9937 1097

Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 9.00am - 5.00pm  
(closed for lunch 12.30pm - 1pm)

## EMAIL

[council@northampton.wa.gov.au](mailto:council@northampton.wa.gov.au)

## WEBSITE

[www.northampton.wa.gov.au](http://www.northampton.wa.gov.au)

