



## Shire Presidents Monthly Message

Greetings,

February brought us together at our annual electors meeting in Ongerup, where the community actively participated. Discussions ranged from the possible sale of the Ongerup Community Centre to addressing issues at the Ongerup tip, improving recycling, and enhancing bushfire risk mitigation. A special shoutout to the inquisitive students from Ongerup Primary School's senior room, who im-



pressed us with their questions during public question time at our February Meeting and then gave us a tour of their wonderful school.

As we plan for the future, renewable energy, parks and gardens, the 2024 Business Leaders Forum, tourism, roads, services, waste management, and industrial and residential land development are key considerations. We eagerly welcome suggestions from the community on how we can enhance services and promote development within our Shire.

We bid a fond farewell to Councillor Greg Stewart, who dedicated many years to the Shire, contributing significantly to many committees and initiatives. Congratulations to Shelley Hmeljak, who won the election unopposed and will serve until the October 2025 elections, when our council will be comprised of seven representatives.

We are thrilled to welcome Daniel Biddulph, the Shire's new Fire Mitigation Officer, to our dedicated team. In our region, bushfires and the reduction of fire risks are critical concerns. Daniel will be working full-time, sharing his time evenly between the Shire of Gnowangerup and the Shire of Jerramungup. His role extends beyond administrative boundaries, emphasizing the importance of a unified approach to fire control and mitigation. Daniel will also work closely with our local Noongar community. This collaboration is integral to enhancing our collective efforts in fire management. We look forward to the positive impact Daniel will undoubtedly bring to our community's safety and resilience.

To keep you updated in real-time, we're exploring the idea of a Councillor Instagram page. Stay tuned as we progress with this initiative. We're committed to improving communication and value your input.

Our doors are always open for discussions. Reach out to your elected members with ideas, concerns, or suggestions. We are here to represent you and work collaboratively for effective solutions.

Kate O'Keeffe JP

Shire President



# Gnowangerup Shire News

March 2024



On Saturday 3 February the Shire's President and CEO attended a luncheon in Albany with the new Minister for Local Government, Hannah Beazley. Minister Beazley was most interested in hearing about some of the challenges we have in the Shire, so much so she asked this be put in writing for her to consider.

Concerns raised included availability of housing, the cost of medical services and the difficulty the Shire is experiencing in attracting staff.



## Community Welcome Pack

The Shire provides a free welcome pack for new community members with Information on Tourism, dining out, sporting facilities and local businesses Pop into our Shire Office and see our friendly staff for your free pack.

**Welcome Pack  
for New  
Community  
Members**



## Ordinary Meeting of Council

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held at the Shire Council Chambers, 3:00pm  
Wednesday 27 March 2024

## Community Engagement

Come and have a cuppa & a chat with our CEO between 10am—12pm on the following dates within our Shire

Borden NSPNR Building—First Thursday of the month

Ongerup CRC—Second & Third Thursday of the Month

Gnowangerup CRC—Fourth Thursday of the month



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# Gnowangerup Shire News

March 2024



## Welcome Mike Richardson

### The Shire's new Executive Manager Infrastructure and Assets



A little bit about me. I've been married to my lovely wife for 31 years and have 3 wonderful kids and 1 granddaughter. I'm a pretty active person and love running, hiking, surfing, stand up paddle boarding and gardening. I'm also a motorcycle enthusiast and have owned motor bikes for over 40 years with a passion for MotoGP and Formula 1.

Professionally, I started my career in local government in 1993 with the then Shire of Albany (before it was a City) as a horticulturist leading their parks and gardens team. As the City grew so did my career and over 27 years, I had various different roles ranging from Parks and Gardens Coordinator, Works Manager, Waste Manager, Operations Manager and Acting Director Infrastructure and Environment.

In 2019 I followed the sun and took up a position with the Shire of Exmouth as Executive Manager of Development Services and was with them for over 4 years.

In my new role with the Shire of Gnowangerup I'm really looking forward to working with Shire staff, councillors, and the community to deliver their goals and aspirations. I'm also hoping to contribute to building a confident, strong and resilient Shire team.



### To Gnowangerup Shire Community,

DFES would like to say a big thank you to the support provided by you at the Green Range fire in February. Whether you turned up to assist at the fire or raised your level of vigilance to fill gaps left at home. It all counts and is a testament to your Shire and Community.

### Availability of Annual Report 2022/2023

The 2022/2023 Annual Report including the Annual Financial Report is available for viewing at the Shire Office or via the Council website [www.gnowangerup.wa.gov.au](http://www.gnowangerup.wa.gov.au)



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@shireofgnowangerup007



# Gnowangerup Shire News

March 2024



Breakfast in the sunshine was on the menu for Shire of Gnowangerup residents recently.

Community members enjoyed a delicious breakfast in Gnowangerup courtesy of The Soul Van and in Ongerup at Yongergnow Australian Malleefowl Centre on Saturday 17 February in an event hosted by North Stirlings Pallinup Natural Resources and Yongergnow and assisted by Shire staff.

The breakfasts have become an annual event to celebrate the local community and the significant role that land management has in our Shire where agriculture is the main employer.

The event was part of a project managed by North Stirlings Pallinup Natural Resources. The not-for-profit organisation is based in Borden and has a management committee and four part-time staff. It provides advice and support to land managers in the Shire of Gnowangerup and the localities of Broomehill East and Gnowellen.

Peter Callaghan  
(NSPNR Vice Chair)  
Kevin Wise  
(Treasurer),  
Vanessa Stone  
(Secretary)  
Laura Page  
(Project officer)



The *Expanded predator control program in the Fitz-Stirling Corridor* project aims to reduce pressure on native animals — including malleefowl, chuditch and Carnaby's black cockatoo — in the area between the Stirling Range and Fitzgerald River national parks. The project is supported by funding from the Western Australian Government's State NRM Program.

## Work Health & Safety: Working in Heat

This month there has been a number of extremely hot days of 35 °C or higher and everybody has felt it!

When planning your work days in heat we need to review the risks presented in our workplace on a regular basis, reviewing as the weather increases

For information relating to Working Safely in the Heat I recommend reviewing the resources from **Safe Work Australia** which can be found here: [www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/doc/guide-managing-risks-working-heat](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/doc/guide-managing-risks-working-heat)

