



Shire Presidents Monthly Message

Greetings,

As I reflect on the current weather, I trust you all are relishing the welcome coolness.

My thoughts extend to the students who commenced the term amidst a heat wave, and I hope they are settling into the new school year with joy. Best wishes to families navigating the challenges of boarding school beginnings or returns – a period I vividly remember.

Let me begin by extending heartfelt congratulations to Cassandra Beck, the well-deserved recipient of the Australia Day Citizen of the Year 2023. Her tireless efforts in promoting the Shire Of Gnowangerup through GNP360 and the Horsepower Highway have made a significant impact.

Equally deserving of praise is the Ongerup community, honoured with the Community Award for the opening of the Ongerup Hotel. This transformative project has injected vitality into Ongerup and the Shire, offering a gathering place for people to connect, dine, and stay. Recognition for their dedicated community work is truly gratifying.

A sincere thank you to those who took the time to nominate individuals and community groups. It's heartening to celebrate the outstanding contributions made by volunteers within our Shire. The Australia Day breakfast in Borden was a delightful occasion, made possible by the efforts of the committee and the splendid venue of the Borden Pavilion.

Looking ahead, mark your calendars for the Annual Electors Meeting in Ongerup on February 28th. I extend an open invitation to all Shire residents to attend and voice their opinions.

Wishing you an enjoyable month ahead – stay well and stay safe

Kate O'Keeffe JP

Shire President

Gnowangerup Shire News

February 2024



Australia Day 2024

The 2024 Australia Day celebrations took place at the Borden Pavilion. It was a great day with approximately 80 people in attendance.

The event started at 8am with delicious breakfast cooked by our Shire Councillors.



Councillor Miniter opened the event by playing the didgeridoo and Welcome to Country, paying respect to the traditional owners of the land of the Goreng people.



This year we had a Citizenship Ceremony where we welcomed a new Australian to our community. Congratulations to Rizahlee Jamisola on receiving her Australian Citizenship



Each year we recognize local individuals and groups who have achieved incredible things in our community. Congratulations to the 2024 winners of the awards Community Citizen of the Year—Cassy Beeck Active Citizen, Group of Event—Ongerup Future Funds



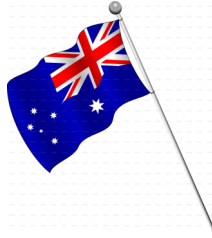
Gnowangerup Shire News

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Throughout the morning we had incredible live music from Adrian Kenyon and his band and were treated to lovely coffee from The Woolly Sheep Coffee Van. There were outdoor games and activities for the kids as well as some fantastic facepainting artwork by Lyndall.

The Shire would like to thank all our staff and Councillors that worked and assisted at the event and everyone who took the time to come and celebrate this special day



Shire of Gnowangerup SMS System Did you know?

Text messages sent to you by the Shire is sent from a dedicated number so please feel free to save the number on your mobile as "Shire of Gnowangerup SMS". The number is **0421 268 868**.

You can subscribe to the text messaging system by completing the online form on the Shire's website at - <https://www.gnowangerup.wa.gov.au/forms/sms-registration/4>

You can unsubscribe to the number by reply text sending the word "STOP". It will automatically unsubscribe you from the text messaging system.

Text messages are sent to either inform, alert or ask for assistance in times of an emergency like a bushfire, flooding, road conditions or any other event the Shire deems necessary like, harvest & vehicle movement bans, total fire bans, community events, etc.

High volumes of text messages may be sent during emergencies.

It is NOT a free service and comes at a cost to the Shire. As much as the Shire would like to convey personal messages of thanks to the community, the Shire is unable to do it due to budget restraints and the cost involved.

By replying yes to the Shire's SMS after you have responded to a bushfire incident, the data is used to complete incident reports. These Incident reports are recorded and it is vital that we try and capture accurate data for in case it is ever needed, so please remember to send that "YES" after you have attended an incident.

If you require any other information in relation to the Shire's SMS system to contact the Shire on 9827 1007.

PLEASE JOIN THE SHIRE AT OUR ANNUAL ELECTORS MEETING ON 28TH FEBRUARY 2024 AT ONGERUP TOWN HALL

2:00pm - 3:00pm Ordinary Council Meeting

6:00pm - 6:15pm Light Refreshments

6.15 - 6.45pm Annual Electors Meeting

7:00pm Networking nibbles and drinks at Ongerup Hotel

Special Council Meeting

A Special Meeting of Council will be held at the Shire Council Chambers, 3:00pm Wednesday 7 February 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—Forth Thursday of the month



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**LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXTRAORDINARY ELECTION
CLOSE OF ENROLMENTS
Shire of Gnowangerup
ROLL CLOSE: 5.00pm Thursday, 15 February 2024**

You may be eligible to be enrolled to vote in the local government extraordinary election on 12 April 2024 if you live in or are an owner or occupier of rateable property in the Shire of Gnowangerup.

Residents

You are automatically enrolled to vote if you are on the State Electoral Roll as at 5.00pm Thursday, 15 February 2024. If you are not already on the State Electoral Roll and meet the eligibility criteria, or if you have changed address recently, you must complete an enrolment form.

Enrolment Forms

You can enrol or update your details online, or download an enrolment form, via the Western Australian Electoral Commission website (www.elections.wa.gov.au/enrol). Forms are also available from the Australian Electoral Commission (<http://www.aec.gov.au/>). Enrolments and updates must be completed and received by 5.00pm Thursday, 15 February 2024.

Non-Resident Owners and Occupiers

If you are a non-resident owner or occupier of rateable property in the Shire of Gnowangerup and are on the State or Commonwealth Electoral Roll, you are eligible to enrol to vote. If you are **not** on the State or Commonwealth Electoral Roll and own or occupy rateable property in the Shire of Gnowangerup you may be eligible to enrol to vote. This applies if you were on the last electoral roll for the Shire of Gnowangerup prior to May 1996 and have owned or occupied rateable property in the district continuously since this time. Please contact your local government for details. Owners of land who were on the last Local Government roll continue to retain that status until they cease to own the rateable property to which the enrolment relates. Occupiers do not have continuous enrolment and should contact the Shire of Gnowangerup to confirm their enrolment status. To be eligible to enrol as an occupier, you would have needed to have a right of occupation and paid rent of at least the prescribed amount for the whole period of 12 months prior to making the claim and need to have a right of continuous occupation under a lease, tenancy agreement or other legal instrument and be liable to pay rent for at least the prescribed amount for at least the next three months following the date of the application to enrol.

Joint Owners and Occupiers

If a rateable property is owned or occupied by more than two people, a majority of the owners/occupiers may nominate two persons from amongst themselves who are on either the State or Commonwealth Electoral Roll, to enrol as owner/occupier electors.

Corporations

A body corporate that owns or occupies rateable property may nominate two people who are on either the State or Commonwealth Electoral Roll to enrol as owner/occupier electors.

Claims – Non-Resident Owners and Occupiers Only

An eligibility claim must be lodged with the Chief Executive Officer by 5.00pm Thursday, 15 February 2024. Further information can be obtained from the Shire of Gnowangerup.

ROBERT KENNEDY
ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER
13 63 06



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
Electoral Commission