

G'day Goomalling



Jurokine Coach House | Jennacubbine

"Diversity is the mix.
Inclusion is making the mix
work." - Andres Tapia

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Swimming pool closure

Last day of the pool season **Thursday 31 March**

Easter trading hours

Administration Office

Closed – Friday 15th April

Reopen – Tuesday 19th April, 8.30am

Road Construction & Gardens/Maintenance

Closed – Friday 15th April (Good Friday)

Reopen – Wednesday 20th April

Refuse Site (Tip)

Closed – Friday 15th April (Good Friday)

Open – Sunday 17th April

Medical Surgery

Closed – Friday 15th April

Reopen – Thursday 21st April, 9.00am

Double Demerits

Double demerit penalties will be in place for offences such as speeding, driving under influence, failing to wear seatbelt, use of mobile phone.

- during the Labour Day long weekend from **Friday 4 to Monday 7 March** (incl.)
- Easter break from **Thursday 14 April to Monday 18 April** (incl.) and
- ANZAC Day **Friday 22 April to Monday 25 April** (incl.)

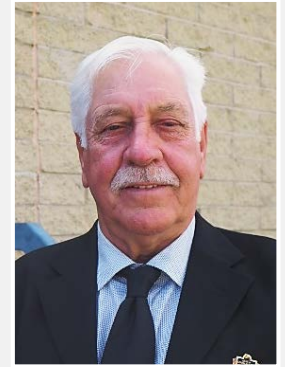
Shire President's Greetings

Welcome to 2022 where we continue to live in a rapidly evolving COVID environment and endeavour to adapt to changing government directives.

Over the summer months Goomalling has recorded its longest dry spell on record with 93 consecutive days without rainfall, from 10 November 2021 to 11 February 2022, which fortunately was broken with some much needed rain, although a lot more would be very welcome for our ovals, garden and sub soil moisture.

To make it easier for members of the community to connect with Council we have (re)commenced 'Cuppa with a Councillor' where you can discuss any Council related matters in an informal manner. Cr Julie Chester will be available for a chat over a cuppa at Lot 39, at 10am on the second Wednesday of each month.

Congratulations and good luck to the newest business in Goomalling, the Rusty Gate Café, who will now operate from the Goomalling Railway Station currently opening on Thursdays, Fridays, Sundays & Mondays. In these uncertain times it is extra important to support our local small businesses.



Cr Barry Haywood
Shire President

Staff movements

Tahnee maternity leave

Tahnee and Jordan have welcomed their little boy Boston into the world on 20 January. We wish them all the best during this exciting new chapter in their lives.

Karen Mannaerts has come back into the role of Executive Assistant (part time) during Tahnee's leave. The Community Development side of Tahnee's role has been allocated/shared between various admin staff, with many of the bigger projects on hold within the current environment.

Outside Crew

Over the past couple of months we have welcomed on board Ron Dadd as Parks & Gardens Coordinator, Allan Gregson as Refuse Site Attendant, and Bruce Salter as casual Machine Operator. We look forward to having them on our

team and hope they enjoy their time working for the Shire.

Monique

After 18 years at the Goomalling Shire, Monique has decided to embark on a new adventure and make the move to the big smoke.

Monique started as Gym Instructor when the Goomalling gym was located in the Town Hall. During that time she was awarded as "Most Outstanding Regional Instructor" at the 2010 Living Longer Living Stronger Awards. She will be missed at the gym and around town, but we wish her all the best for the future.

Condolences

Our sincere condolences go out to Chloe on the sudden and tragic passing of her father.

Submissions to Council budget

Interested community organisations and individuals are invited to submit projects and expenditure requests for consideration in Council's 2022-23 Budget.

Community groups that have projects in the pipeline that would like to request Council contribution, must make a formal request or are at risk of project being delayed until the following financial year.

Budget submissions are due no later than 31st March 2022.

Tourism updates

Avon Valley Tourism

The Shires of Beverley, Goomalling, Northam Toodyay and York have partnered with Destination Perth to promote the **Avon Valley** as a tourism destination under the *Hello Perth* umbrella.

A fresh new brand has been designed to capture the feel of the Avon Valley region. Keep an eye out



for the free map and brochure that will be ready for distribution towards the end of March. The Avon Valley will also have a stand at the Perth Camping & Caravanning Show from 23-27 March at the Claremont Showgrounds.

Goomalling tourism

Council's admin officers with a creative eye, Jessika and Tahnee, have given our tourism **website** www.visitgoomalling.com.au a full makeover with an entirely new look and design.

The Goomalling tourism **brochure** has also been updated ready for the upcoming tourism season.

SAVE THE DATE



THE HOMESTEAD MARKETS

SATURDAY 30TH APRIL - GOOMALLING

COVID Update

The situation with COVID-19 is changing rapidly with cases escalating and the definition of a close contact and isolation changing. More information will come in the form of our next public notice however the basics still apply:

- Mask wearing is mandatory in indoor public settings
- The 2 metre rule applies to all entertainment outlets
- Visitation at residential aged care facilities, residential disability care facilities and hospitals limited to 4 visitors per patient/resident per day

At the moment, at Public Buildings such as:

- The Halls, Jenna, Konno and Goomalling, Railway Station
- Shire Office,
- the Recreation Centre including the Changerooms and Gym,
- Swimming Pool Changerooms,
- Caravan Park Campers Kitchen and office,
- The tennis pavilion, Golf Club, Senior Citizens Hall (Masonic Hall)

Masks must be worn except for the consumption of food and drink or;

- the person is engaged in an activity involving swimming; or
- the person is consuming food or drink; or
- the person is running or jogging or otherwise engaged in some form of strenuous or vigorous exercise or physical activity; or

The 2 square metre restrictions will apply at;

- Hospitality venues (including pubs, clubs and restaurants)
- Fitness venues (including gyms, pilates, yoga and dance studios)
- Entertainment venues
- Cultural venues
- Places of worship
- Hairdressers and beauty services
- Home gatherings are now limited to a total of 30 people
- Private outdoor gatherings (not at a private residence) limited to a total of 200 people

What does quarantine mean?

People need to quarantine if they have been assessed as being at greater risk of having COVID-19 (for example they may have had close contact with someone who is unwell with COVID-19 or have just returned from overseas or interstate).

Quarantine means you must remain in your home, hotel room or other accommodation for 7 days, unless otherwise directed by an authorised officer.

During this period, you should not have contact with anyone else who resides in the premises chosen for your quarantine. You must take all precautionary measures to ensure you remain a physical distance of at least 1.5m.

What are the rules if a member of my household is a close contact and told to self-quarantine?

I am a close contact, and quarantining at home, do other people in my household need to self-quarantine?

No. We require people to take extra precautions and have no interaction with close contacts, however only close contacts of a positive case need to self-quarantine.

I am a parent/guardian of a child, who is a close contact of a positive case from school, do I need to self-quarantine with my son/daughter?

Not always, if a child can quarantine independently in a separate area of the house and does not require hands-on care. If a child needs care throughout their self-quarantine period, the parent/guardian does need to self-quarantine with a close contact of a positive case.

What does isolation mean?

People need to isolate if they have tested positive to COVID-19.

People who test positive to COVID-19 will need to stay in isolation until they are cleared by WA Health.

Assistance for people in quarantine or isolation**How do I manage food or medication?**

- Ask your family/friends/others for assistance, such as to obtain groceries or medication.
- Consider using on-line shopping to order groceries and contacting your local pharmacy directly to organise supply of regular medication.
- Ask people making deliveries to your home/accommodation to leave the items at the door or in your letterbox.
- If you are unable to access food, medication or other essential items via family, friends or on-line shopping contact 13 COVID (132 6843).

Proof of vaccination is required locally in the following settings;

- All hospitality venues, food and licensed venues:
 - including restaurants, dine-in fast food, cafés, bars, pubs, clubs, taverns, licensed commercial boats
 - excluding food and beverage takeaway; food courts; roadhouses, and petrol stations
 - excluding a vessel providing ticketed public transport such as a ferry service to Rottnest Island
- specified galleries and museums,
- a cinema, including a drive-in cinema or outdoor cinema
- a theatre
- a concert hall or other live music venue
- a gym, indoor sporting centre, health club, or dance studio (including a centre offering yoga, barre, pilates, aerobics, dancing, spin facilities or other fitness class), except when community sport is being played
- an indoor play centre
- an amusement park which was ticketed/managed entry
- any other indoor entertainment venue that is open to the public and not otherwise referred to above
- Residential aged care and hospitals (exceptions apply).
- Indoor events with over 500 patrons, specified outdoor high-risk events (as designated by the State Emergency Coordinator or the Chief Health Officer or their authorised personnel) and outdoor music events with more than 500 patrons.

Staff who work at these premises and events, who did not previously fall under the WA Government's mandatory vaccination policy, will need to be double dose vaccinated to continue to work or have an approved medical exemption. From 31 January 2022, staff will need to have at least a first dose to continue to work and on and from 28 February 2022, will need to be double dose vaccinated, unless medically exempt.

People are required to show proof of their COVID-19 vaccination, either in a digital or paper-based form, along with approved identification.

Both venues and patrons have a shared responsibility when it comes to proof of vaccination, with venues required to ensure that each patron must produce evidence of their vaccination status and take reasonable steps to ensure patrons do not enter the premises without producing evidence of their vaccination status.

Emergency

- You are permitted to leave your home during self-quarantine or self-isolation if it is a medical emergency or if there is a risk to your immediate safety.
- If it is an emergency call 000 and let emergency services know you are in isolation or quarantine.

Medical assistance

- If you require urgent medical assistance, you may travel to a hospital by private vehicle, taxi, or rideshare service but you must not use public transport such as a bus or train. You must let your driver know that you are in isolation or quarantine.
- Contact WA Police (13 14 44) and inform them that you have left quarantine or isolation to travel to hospital.
- If you're not travelling to the hospital by ambulance, call the hospital before you arrive to inform them you are in quarantine or isolation and inform hospital staff immediately on arrival.
- You must wear a face mask from the time you leave your place of quarantine or isolation, until you return to that place.

Non-urgent medical assistance

- For non-urgent medical assistance call Health Direct on 1800 022 222 or call a General Practitioner (GP) in WA for advice. You must inform them that you are in quarantine or isolation.
Note: If you are subject to a COVID-19 public health order requiring you to quarantine or isolate, you will be able to access Medicare subsidised telehealth services without needing to demonstrate an established relationship with the GP providing you with telehealth support.
- Please see a list of contact details for after-hours GP services available in WA on the following page.

Other assistance

- If you require emergency welfare support call the Welfare COVID hotline on (08) 9223 1181.
- If you require emergency dental assistance call 0429 441 162.
- If you require immediate mental health assistance call Beyond Blue on 1300 224 636.
- If you require urgent assistance and accommodation support related to family or domestic violence call Crisis Care on (08) 9223 1111 or 1800 199 008.
- If you need advice, information or support whilst dealing with sexual, domestic or family violence call 1800RESPECT or visit their website (and call 000 in any sexual, domestic or family violence emergency, or 131 444 for non-urgent police assistance).
- If you need emergency police assistance call 000. For more information:
- 13 COVID (132 6843) operates 7 days a week, 8am to 6pm
- www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/coronavirus If you need help translating information within this document, call the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450

Anstey Park Revitalisation

PROJECT UPDATE

- Final photoshoot of CWA and memorabilia
- Goomalling Historical Society have reviewed local content and kept things of historical value to be used as a display
- Focus Group discussed the preferred play elements
- Contents of CWA hall sorted for removal
- Requested removal of asbestos
- RFQ for disconnection of power
- RFQ supply and install of equipment from different companies

Community Pantry

The St Vincent de Paul (Vinnies) Community Pantry provides assistance to families and individuals who have difficulty meeting their basic needs.

The Pantry is open every third Thursday of the month from 10am to 12pm at the Uniting Church Parish, 17 Quinlan St.

Volunteers needed to run the pantry

If you are willing to help out for a couple hours a month or just every now and then, please contact Jessika via cs01@goomalling.wa.gov.au or call 9629 1101.

What's next:

- Demolition
- Finalise design/elements for play space

Assistance from the community

It would be great if there are community members that would be willing to supply trees, rocks and sand for landscaping purposes.

Please be in touch if you're able to assist.
08 9629 1101.



HARMONY WEEK

CELEBRATES HOW ALL
OF OUR DIFFERENCES
MAKE AUSTRALIA A
GREAT PLACE TO LIVE!

HARMONY.GOV.AU



Sporting Clubs & Community Groups*** IMPORTANT***

Goomalling Historical Society wants your records and memorabilia to catalogue and preserve for future generations. Please do not DESTROY. Items of interest include but are not limited to:

- Historical financials and minutes
- Photos
- Plaques and trophies

Items for preservation can be dropped off to Goomalling Post Office, contact Peta Marrell on 0467 895 811 for more information.

Reporting issues to relevant departments

Road Damage

When reporting damage to state roads, please contact Main Roads directly to reduce wasted shire resources redirecting fault enquiries instead of managing the local infrastructure damage.

State Roads in the Shire of Goomalling include:

- Northam-Pithara Road (between Goomalling-Northam and Goomalling-Wongan Hills)
- Goomalling-Toodyay Road
- Goomalling-Merredin Road (aka Goomalling-Dowerin or Goomalling-Wyalkatchem Road)

The direct line for reporting damage is:

Main Roads Faults 138 138

Water leaks

Call Water Corporation 13 13 75

Goomalling Community Opshop

The Opshop no longer offers adhoc grants. Instead we've created a new grant program called "**Activate Goomalling Grant Program**" which will offer two grant rounds per year in April and September with a funding pool of \$4000 for each round.

Grants of between \$500 and \$2,000 can be applied for. Funding allocation will be at the discretion of the volunteers and dependent upon the quantity of applications. Guidelines and application forms will be available closer to the date from the Opshop, Shire office or from the Shire's website.

\$6,145 has already been given back or allocated to our community by way of small grants this year including \$2,500 Goomalling Community Garden - Shelter & seating project, \$500 Better Beginning – new chairs, \$495 Goomalling Men's Shed - dust extraction fan, and \$2000 towards to the Goomalling Hospital front garden refurbishment.

For dropping off donations contact one of the following volunteers to arrange:

Barb 0458 774 917

Marianne 0408 940 463

Opening times vary depending on availability of volunteers to open the shop.

Check the Op Shop Facebook page for updates and sales,


<https://www.facebook.com/goomalling.op.shop/>

Faulty street light

Reporting a faulty street light online directly to Western Power is quick and easy.

<https://www.westernpower.com.au/faults-outages/report-a-faulty-streetlight/>

Streetlight faults are normally fixed within 9 working days in rural areas and WP will let you know when it has been rectified.

 For electrical hazards and emergencies such as pole damage or exposed wires, call **13 13 51**.

Fire

If you see a fire, don't ring the Shire.

Be a hero, call triple Zero



It may be useful to save these phone numbers in your contacts so you have them readily available when the need arises.

What's happening in the works department

Road Maintenance

Weed slashing and pruning of overhanging vegetation have been carried out on Calingiri Rd, Dowerin-Konnongorring Rd, Bejoording Rd, Bebakine Rd, Beecroft Rd, Bolgart East-Smith Roads intersection, Patterson-Hulongine Rd intersection, Wongamine Bridge and on vacant town blocks.

Maintenance grading and patching of potholes on Smith Rd, Robert Rd, Kroe Hut Rd, Boase Rd, Sadler Rd, Clarke Rd, Burabadji Rd, Oak Park Rd, Beecroft Rd, Donald Rd, Coulthard Rd, Whitfield Rd, Williams Rd and Martindale Lane.

Inspection and repair or replacement of **road signs** and guideposts on various roads including Oak Park Rd, Long Forrest Rd, Yarramony Rd and Konno West Rd. Maintenance works have also been carried out on street signs along the town streets.

The **street sweeper** has been very busy throughout the townsite along the kerb lines and on the footpaths to ensure the town presents neat and tidy.

Footpaths

Repairs on town street footpaths in conjunction with the Dowerin Work Camp have been completed on various sections.

High Street shared path

Department of Transport has approved funding for a detailed design for construction of a shared path on High St, creating a safer environment for both cyclists and pedestrians.

Road Works

Work has continued on the **Goomalling-Calingiri Road** with the reconstruction of gravel shoulders and drainage works in preparation for the pavement widening. The existing sub base has now been cement stabilised with a gravel base course to 10 m wide being currently constructed.

The Revegetation Management Plan and clearing permit for **Meckering Road** was approved in November 2021. It is anticipated that clearing works will commence in April 2022.



A 1100m section of the **Konnongorring West Road** has been reconstructed and sealed.

This was a continuation of works to now bring the widened seal pavement out to 7m from the Northam-Pithara road West towards the shire boundary.

drumMUSTER

FRIDAY 1 APRIL



CONTAINERS MUST BE

- TRIPLE OR PRESSURE CLEANED
- CLEAN - NO CHEMICAL RESIDUE
- INSPECTED BY A DRUMMUSTER INSPECTOR
- LIDS MUST BE LEFT OFF
- METAL CONTAINER MUST BE PUNCTURED

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL - 08 96291101

Book your place and advise number of containers to the shire office by

4.00pm, Friday 25 March 2022

drumMUSTER depot
56 William Street
GOOMALLING WA 6460
www.drummuster.org.au



Contact

Julie Chester 0427 291 223
Shire office 08 9629 1101



Fire Season information

Restricted Burning Period

The commencement of the **Restricted Burning Period** has been extended up to and including 14 March 2022. PERMITS are required and will only be issued for burning of stubble or chaff for crop preparation.

Any permitted burning must comply with relevant requirements of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* – PENALTIES APPLY.

Camping/cooking Fires and burning of Garden refuse and/or rubbish

A wheelbarrow size pile of garden refuse/rubbish or a small cooking fire may be burnt on the ground between 6.00pm and 11.00pm **except:**

- on days of a VERY HIGH fire danger rating or above;
- on any Sunday or Public Holiday; and
- any days when a Total Fire Ban is declared by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES).

ALL fires require

- An area of 5m must be clear all around the site of the fire;
- at least one adult must remain in attendance during the whole time that the fire is burning and until it is completely extinguished; and
- Must be extinguished prior to midnight.

Total Fire Bans

A Total Fire Ban may be declared by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) when severe weather conditions or widespread fires are seriously stretching resources within the region or across the state.

When a **Total Fire Ban** is declared it is illegal to do anything that *may* start a fire. However, harvesting and normal farming practices are exempt during a Total Fire ban.

Local Fire Response message group

A Whatsapp message group has been set up for local farmers, their workers and other members of the public who are available to assist in the event of a fire. This is solely for the purpose of mobilising localised assistance for a fire while Emergency services are responding. It does **not replace the 000 number**.

It is only to be used for calling up local response to a fire and nothing more; inappropriate use of the chat will not be tolerated.

Using the link below (on the device that you utilise WhatsApp) you can join the Group.

https://chat.whatsapp.com/FiMR5blFO0z3XpiNfg_hqc0

IMPORTANT INFORMATION for Bushfire Service members

At its December 2021 ordinary meeting, Council endorsed several recommendations aiming to restructure and reform the Shire's Bush Fire Service (BFS). The changes are required to meet Work Health and Safety Legislation due to take effect 31 March 2022. Volunteers are now treated as employees of the Local Government for the purposes of this Act.

The reform largely focuses on amendment to the structure of brigades, allocation of membership to brigades and minimum requirement for ongoing membership (training and standard operating procedures).

The Shire currently operates three *Bush Fire Brigades* (BFB) – Goomalling Central, Jennacubbine and Konnongorong – as well as one *Farm Response Brigade* (FRB) in the Cunjardine area. There will be no change to the overall BFB structure, however the Cunjardine FRB will be wound up and replaced with Goomalling District FRB (whole of Shire).

The Shire will also be seeking nominations for Captain, Lieutenant and Secretary of the Goomalling District FRB. These are the minimum positions required by the Bush Fires Act 1954.

The first stage in this process is **confirmation of membership/membership details**. All current members (where postal details exist) were recently written to explaining the changes in more detail with membership confirmation response request. If you did not receive your correspondence by mail, or for prospective members, copies of correspondence are available for pickup from the Shire of Goomalling administration office. All responses are due 31 March 2022.

For further enquires please contact: Robert Koch, Community Emergency Services Manager, 0458 042 104

Inclusion in Related Systems/Schemes

Inclusion or participation in the following systems/schemes will be limited to membership in a brigade to the extent applicable to the individual's role.

DFES Turnout SMS:

Firefighters from both BFB and FRB will be included on the DFES 000 SMS turnouts system.

Vehicle Identifier Stickers (Triangular):

Will only be issued to BFB and FRB members for relevant vehicle types. This effectively means come the reissue period (30 September 2022) these stickers will no longer be for general issue to non-members.

Bush Fire Advisory Committee

The Shire will also establish a Bush Fire Advisory committee under the *Bush Fires Act 1954*. This will advise council bush fire related items, such as advice on timelines to enforce training standards for ranks of Lieutenant and above, and advice on the development of Standard Operating Procedures.

COVID-19 Vaccine Requirement

The Shire will only accept/process responses where the individual complies with the State Government vaccine directives, Fire and Emergency Services Worker (Restrictions on Access) Directions (No 2), and Booster Vaccination (Restrictions on Access) Directions (No.2).

Rates and debtors

Pensioner rebate

Concession holders/Pensioners are required to pay their portion of the rates by 30 June 2022 in order to receive the rebate for 2021/22. Please remember to provide us with a copy of your **new** card when you receive it.

We review concession eligibility annually to ensure you are receiving the correct rebates. If you think you may be eligible for a concession or rebate, please contact Finance Officer Trudi Manera on 08 9629 1101.

Payments by EFT

Please ensure you use the appropriate reference on internet banking transfers to ensure your payment is allocated correctly. This is either the **Debtor Code** or **Rates Assessment Number**, both are

located on the top right hand corner of the invoices/notices. If you don't use the correct reference your account may not be credited.

Are you having trouble paying your accounts or rates?

The Shire of Goomalling is committed to working with debtors and ratepayers to find an appropriate payment solution that works for both parties. Council understands that it can be difficult to ask for support, and will treat you with sensitivity, respect and confidentiality.

If you are experiencing difficulty paying your accounts or rates, please contact our Finance Officer Trudi Manera so we can help you make alternative arrangements and avoid interest, late payment fees and any further distress.

15 MARCH 2022 - GOOMALLING TOWN HALL



WHEATBELT WADO RYU

Free
Sausage
sizzle!

KARATE OPEN DAY

Come along to our Free Open Day!

15 March 2022 @ 5:30pm



DETERMINATION



COMMUNITY



RESILIENCE

**Come and train under Oceania Champion, Australian
Champion & WA State Coach!**

Firebreaks

Recently there has been considerable discussion in the community on firebreaks and the Firebreak Notice. I thought it would be prudent to outline a few facts about the whole firebreak issue. The notice is issued in accordance with S33 of the Bush Fires Act (1954). The Notice relates specifically to firebreaks for properties and the protection of town yards from ember attack during fire events.

Shire of Goomalling Fire-break Notice

Pursuant to Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954, all residents and ratepayers within the Shire of Goomalling are required to comply with the requirement set out in this notice.

Due Date: 31st October in each year

Maintained Until: 31st March in the following year

NB: Land purchased within the above period must comply with this notice within 14 Days from purchase.

1. Land within the Gazetted Goomalling Townsite

All Townsite Lots with an area less than 4,000 m² in area are required to be fire hazard reduced by:

- Removal of all inflammable material or
- Reduction of the vegetation fire hazard to a maximum height of 75 mm. All slashed material is to be removed.

1.2 All Townsite Lots with an area greater than or equal to 4,000 m² shall comply with either clause 1.1 above or clauses 2.1 and 2.2 of this notice.

2. Land Outside the Gazetted Goomalling Townsite

2.1 All land which is used for growing crop or pasture requires a minimum of a 3 metre wide and high fire break immediately inside the external boundaries of the land and any adjoining road and railway reserves.

2.2 A fire break of a minimum of 3 metres wide shall be cleared and maintained immediately around all buildings, haystacks and fuel storage areas. In addition to this, a 15 metre wide low fuel area with a maximum vegetation height of 75 mm is to be maintained.

NB: It is not required to remove live trees or shrubs.

2.3 A minimum of a 3 metre wide fire break shall be cleared and maintained immediately around a stationary motor.

2.4 All Rural and Rural Residential Lots with an area less than 4,000 m² in area are required to be fire hazard reduced by:

- Removal of all inflammable material or
- Reduction of the vegetation fire hazard to a maximum height of 75 mm.
- All slashed material is to be removed.

TOWN LOTS

With regard to town lots, the notice relates to ember attack, not necessarily actual firebreaks. The need to keep dead, dry and prolific weeds and vegetation down to the prescribed levels is for your protection from ember attack. History has shown that ember attack is the single biggest cause of loss of life and property within townsites during major fire events and maintaining your yard helps to prevent the spread of fires. Rural residential lots should have firebreaks where appropriate as well.

RURAL PROPERTIES

Rural properties are required to have a 3 metre wide x 3 metre high firebreak around the full property, not each paddock. Where there is say 10 lots all contiguous and adjacent, then the firebreak is required around the outside perimeter of the combined properties, not around each.

While there have been several town properties that are not compliant this year, there are is an increasing number of farming properties that are not compliant as well.

The requirements are that the provisions of the notice are adhered to from 31 October until 31 March each year. We send the notice out with the Rates in July and a reminder to all ratepayers in October that 31 October is the deadline. Town properties in particular are inspected in November and rural properties shortly thereafter.

Infringements will be issued where work is not undertaken by the landholder and Council will have the work completed by a contractor and recover the cost from the landholder. If residents are serial offenders over three or more years, we may prosecute landholders through the courts which carries a penalty of \$5,000.00. **This is not action we want to take**, but failure to maintain properties puts you and your neighbours at risk during fire events and risks the lives of our volunteers who must fight fires in our small country towns.

Upcoming Council Meetings

- Wednesday 23 March
- Wednesday 20 April
- Wednesday 18 May

Everyone is welcome to public question time which is from 4pm to 4.15pm, at the start of the Meeting.

Written submissions are to be received by the second Wednesday of the month, with late correspondence accepted up to two days before the meeting.

Agendas and Minutes are published on Council's website,

<https://www.goomalling.wa.gov.au/your-council/council-meetings.aspx>

Upcoming Driving Test Dates

- Thursday 31 March
- Thursday 28 April
- Thursday 26 May

Priority booking are available to residents of Goomalling and surrounding towns.

To book in for a Practical Driving Assessment please contact one of our licensing officers on (08) 9629 1101.

You will need to have your Driver's Licence or Learner's Permit number ready when booking your appointment.

Dates for your diary

7 March	Labour Day Public Holiday
8 March	International Women's Day
9 March	Cuppa with a Councillor, 10-10.30am, Lot39 Store+Cafe
15 March	Karate Open Day, 5.30pm, Goomalling Town Hall, See p.13
16 March	Council Meeting, 4pm, Council Chambers.
17 March	St Patrick's Day
17 March	Vinnies Community Pantry, Uniting Church, 17 Quinlan Street, 10am-12pm
21 March	Harmony Day, International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination
1 April	DrumMuster, See p.10
1 April	Djeran Season commences (Nyoongar Calendar)
8-16 April	Youth Week
13 April	Cuppa with a Councillor, 10-10.30am, Lot39 Store+Cafe
15 April	Good Friday
18 April	Easter Monday
20 April	Council Meeting, 4pm, Council Chambers.
21 April	Vinnies Community Pantry, Uniting Church, 17 Quinlan Street, 10am-12pm
25 April	ANZAC Day. Memorial services held 5.40am & 10.40am, Veterans Park
30 April	The Homestead Markets, Slater Homestead
4 May	International Star Wars Day – "May the fourth be with you"
8 May	Mother's Day
11 May	Cuppa with a Councillor, 10-10.30am, Lot39 Store+Cafe
18 May	Council Meeting, 4pm, Council Chambers
19 May	Vinnies Community Pantry, Uniting Church, 17 Quinlan Street, 10am-12pm
16-22 May	National Volunteers Week
26 May	National Sorry Day
27 May-3 June	National Reconciliation Week



32 Quinlan St | PO Box 118
Goomalling WA 6460

T: 9629 1101 F: 9629 1017

E: goshire@goomalling.wa.gov.au

www.goomalling.wa.gov.au | www.visitgoomalling.com.au

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