

Shire of Goomalling



Newsletter

Summer | December 2020

*Too often we underestimate
the Power of a Touch,
a Smile, a Kind Word,
a Listening Ear, an
Honest Compliment, or
the smallest act of Caring,
all of which have
the Potential to turn
a Life around.*

- Leo Buscaglia

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Festive Season trading

Shire Administration Office

Closing at **12noon** on Thursday 24 December
Re-opening on Monday 4 January 2021

Medical Surgery

Closing at 5pm on Tuesday 22 December
Re-opening at 8.45am on Monday 4 January

Rubbish Tip

Closed on Christmas Day Friday 25 December
Open on New Year's Day Friday 1 January

Swimming Pool opening times

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

6.30–7.30am Lap swimming

1.30–6.00pm General public

6.00–6.30pm Lap swimming

Saturday & Sunday

1.30–6.00pm General public

Closed on Tuesdays

The swimming pool will be **closed** on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

Rubbish Collection

General Waste and Recycling collection dates are **not** affected by Christmas and New Year's public holidays and will be serviced as normal.

Double Demerits

Double demerit penalties will be in place during the festive season from **Friday 18 December 2020 to Sunday 3 January 2021** (incl.)

Loss of double demerit points applies to common infringements such as speeding, driving under influence, using mobile phones, not wearing seatbelts, ignoring red lights.

Staff movements

Staff Milestones

Russell Beck is celebrating **40 years** with the Shire and was recognised recently at the staff Christmas function. Russell has provided what can only be described as long and loyal service to the Goomalling community and I think that it will rarely be seen again where someone dedicates such a large portion of their lives to one employer. Congratulations Russell from all of us.



Tina's moving on

Kristina (Tina) Perrin has worked with Council for over 4 years, and while she may have come to us a little rough around the edges, she certainly proved to be a diamond in the rough. Tina was extraordinarily successful in her chosen sport of Karate and during her time here became another integral part of our team.



Tina showed the world what can be achieved if you are prepared to work hard, and that is exactly what she did. She will be missed by all whose lives she touched here.

We also have to congratulate Tina and Ivo as they will be celebrating their marriage this week and we wish them every happiness for a long and successful life together. Tina and Ivo will be moving to Gingin to take on a new venture and lifelong dream. Good luck to you both.

Karen long service leave

Karen Mannaerts (Smith), will be taking 6 months long service leave early in the new year. Karen has worked with us for 11 years now and is looking to explore other aspects of life during her leave. Sadly, there is a chance that Karen may not return to us, but she too has played a big part in how our organisation has developed, and if she chooses not to return, we wish her every happiness in whatever she undertakes in the future.

Vacancies

Given that there is movement in our staffing arrangements this has opened up an opportunity for someone to join our ranks in Tina's customer service role. This is an opportunity for either a young trainee or a more experienced candidate to join our team. **Applications close 15th December** and we would hope to make an appointment shortly thereafter. For more information please contact Karen on eaceo@goomalling.wa.gov.au or 9629 1101.

Tip Attendant

Charlie Hammond has been appointed as our new tip attendant replacing Margaret Hepi who resigned from the position recently.

We welcome Charlie to our Shire team and look forward to working together. We also thank Margaret for all her time and effort on Council and wish her all the best for the future.

COVID Contact Registers

The State Government has advised that Western Australia is moving to a requirement for a number of business types to provide formalised contact registers in the fight against COVID-19 and its possible spread.

The State has created an app that can make the registration a quick and easy scanning of a QR code provided at each business. For businesses, this will make it easier for them as the contact registration is fully automated. Please read the relevant section on our web page or face book page for more information. The requirement for these contact register measures commences on **5th December** and will continue until notification from the State Government advises otherwise.

The **SafeWA** app sends accurate customer information directly to WA Health, meaning data does not have to be stored by the business and is readily available for WA Health to access if it becomes necessary.

If you are visiting a venue as a family, all individuals aged 16 years and over in your group will need to register their contact details either via the SafeWA app or manually on the contact register at the premises. Adults that accompany children under 16 are encouraged to register

those children's details as well however, any child in your group (under 16 years) is not required to register their details.

Council has a number of facilities that will require you to register when entering. The following facilities will have a QR code sheet available near the entry points and patrons will be required to either use the SafeWA app to scan these codes to register or use the provided contact tracing sheet and provide written details as stated above.

The facilities affected are as follow:

- Goomalling Tennis Pavilion
- Goomalling Town Hall
- Goomalling Memorial Swimming Pool
- Goomalling Library/Community Resource Centre
- Goomalling Gymnasium
- Railway Station

If patrons are found not to be registering their details by either the SafeWA app or on the contact tracing sheets at unmanned facilities such as the Gym, we may consider shutting those facilities down to comply with the State Government's requirements of us as a business.

Electors Meeting

The Electors Meeting for the 2018/19 financial year, which was originally scheduled for 6 April 2020, was postponed under the COVID-19 restrictions. The Ministerial Order issued on 4 November means that electors' general meeting can and must now take place within 56 days, in a COVID safe environment.

We welcome you at our Annual General Meeting of Electors to be held in the Goomalling Sport & Community Centre, 47 Quinlan Street, on **Tuesday 15 December 2020** commencing at **7:00pm**. Business of the evening includes presenting the 2019 Annual Report and any issues, comments or concerns raised by attendees.

Copies of the 2018/2019 Annual Financial Statements are available in the Annual Reports section of our webpage. The audit of the 2019/20 financial year is currently still in progress. The Annual Report for the 2019/20 period will be finalised upon completion of the audit and the 2020 Electors Meeting will follow soon after.

Gooma Mess Fest

On the 17th of October Council staff organised a Mess Fest for the youth of Goomalling. The event was postponed from its original date in April due to the COVID restrictions that had been in place. But as many of the response slips told us, it was well worth the wait.

The event ran in two concurrent sections. For the younger children there was a water paint fight within an obstacle filled 'war zone'. It wasn't long before the parents were voluntarily or involuntarily included in the antics and water pistols and cups were soon replaced by full bucket loads of paint. The paint war sessions were alternated with short games and challenges.



The format for the big kids' event began with an obstacle course that started off with a slide down a slippery bank, a search for a token in a mud bath, running through tyres and a dip in a pool to clean off. After that was a commando crawl, a small hurdle run, a crawl through a tunnel, a game of hopscotch, an under and over hurdle section followed by a balance beam and another commando crawl. And if they weren't exhausted enough after that then they got a dose of aerobics to finish off the course.

With the course finished, the next section contained a range of challenges such as egg and spoon races, chase the tail and rummaging for tokens in buckets of spaghetti, custard, jelly, flour and other delightful sludge in order to complete a puzzle, with the finale being a magnificent colour bomb fight.





As the photos show, the youngsters had a memorable time which finished up with a talk from former Wildcat, Greg Hire to complete the day.

A big massive thank you to our staff and other members of our community who helped out on the day, all of whom gave up their own personal time to organise and run the event for the benefit of the kids of Goomalling. Without their devotion events like this would not take place. And a special thanks to Tina Perrin for her leading role in organising the overall event with the help from her small band of helpers.



Anstey Park Revitalisation

Unfortunately our funding application through RAC for the Anstey Park project as outlined in the previous newsletter, was unsuccessful.

We are still committed to source alternative funding to accomplish this project, but in the meantime we have the opportunity to conduct more elaborate planning and community consultation to ensure the concept for the space accurately reflects the wants and needs of the community.

Join the Anstey Park focus group

A focus group has been established to gather input from relevant community members into the planning and development of the site. If you are interested in being part of the community focus group, please contact Tahnee Bird, our Community Development Officer via cdo@goomalling.wa.gov.au or 08 9629 1101.



Winners rates incentive prize

Each year Council awards an incentive prize for timely payment of rates. All rates assessments that are paid in full by the listed due date go into the draw to win a cash voucher to be spent at any business within the Shire of Goomalling.

This year was the first time the draw was conducted electronically, and the winners were as follows:

- 1st prize \$600 voucher: Carmanthen Nominees Pty Ltd
- 2nd prize \$300 voucher: Nuevo Nominees Pty Ltd
- 3rd prize \$100 voucher: A K Nielsen

Congratulation to all prize winners!



What's happening in the works department

Calingiri Road

The first section of the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network Calingiri Road Upgrade Project has commenced with the first \$1.4M funding becoming available. With a few contractor breakdowns, the crew has worked some overtime to keep the project on track time wise and it is progressing well.

Meckering Road

Work has been completed on the 2018/19 and 2019/20 component of the Meckering Road project. The latest section, while having taken some time to complete, is a significant improvement to that stretch of road with our crew having undertaken most of the works. They have done a great job on this section and should be proud of the result achieved.

The next stretch of the project is still tied up in the clearing permit process which is becoming somewhat of a nightmare to manage. To date we have expended nearly \$100,000 in costs just to acquire the permit and it is not complete as yet. Increasingly we are seeing significant costs and time being expended on these permits within what are designated road reserves. Council is having to find significant offset revegetation projects to acquire the required clearing permits.

NBN Co grant application

Council has entered into a teaming arrangement with NBN Co to apply for Federal and State Funding for a technology flip from Satellite Broadband to Fixed Wireless for Goomalling. The joint project will also include Dowerin and Council will not be required to contribute cash to the project. There may be some in kind work required but this will be minimal.

The overall project will bring a greater range of internet options to the district with differing pricing structures from multiple service providers. Other services currently available will continue to be available as this project is designed to provide a greater range of options.

Bowen Street bike path

A new dual use pathway is being constructed on Bowen Street between the Forrest Street and Hoddy Street junctions on the hospital side road verge. This was identified in our recent Bike Plan as one of the missing links in our pathway network.

Kerbing and pram ramps are also being installed on the junctions of Bowen, Forrest and Hoddy Street paths to improve accessibility. The Bowen Street project will be completed before the end of the year.

Tennis Pavilion

Replacement of the paving around the tennis pavilion which was partly done earlier this year, has now been completed. It has freshened up the look of the outside area noticeably.

Parks, Gardens & Ovals

Our parks, gardens and ovals crew work all year round to keep the townsite and recreation grounds tidy and clean and well maintained. During the summer months this includes a heavy watering schedule. Unfortunately with the very dry winter we have had there is hardly any reserve in our dams to water the ovals with. This is an ongoing issue that we are faced with, with no easy solution available.

Building maintenance & plumbing

Our building maintenance crew have fully refurbished two rental properties on Throssell Street and been kept busy with general upkeep of all Council infrastructure. The plumber has had his work cut out maintaining the sewerage system due to many blockages from wet wipes and even nappies! Please be reminded that these items are **not** to be flushed and need to be disposed of in your bin.

Dowerin Work Camp

We also acknowledge and appreciate the continued support from the work camp who assist us in various projects throughout the year, especially through the PEP and Static Programs. We value the great working relationship we have between both organisations.

Council meeting dates 2021

For several years now Council has held its Ordinary Meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, with no meeting in January and an early meeting in February.

At their recent meeting Council confirmed the following meeting dates and times for the 2021 year:

| | | | |
|------------|---------|--------------|-------------|
| 3 February | 19 May | 18 August | 17 November |
| 17 March | 16 June | 15 September | 15 December |
| 21 April | 21 July | 20 October | |

Council meetings commence at 3.00pm with a briefing session followed by the Ordinary Meeting with **public question time** at 4.00pm.

Shire President's Season's Greetings

As we are in the middle of harvest, I would like to remind residents to be mindful of the increased heavy traffic on our roads; and I hope harvest may be as lucrative as possible for our local farmers considering the very dry season we have had.

As we close off what has been a tumultuous and challenging year, I would like to applaud our entire community for the spirit of positivity and resilience that was evident throughout. Let's not forget that Covid-19 is still around and that we need to stay alert and prepared for an inevitable second wave. But let's also continue to support our local businesses and organisations as this is the key to a thriving town.

On behalf of the whole Council, I would like to wish all our staff, ratepayers and residents a joyous and safe Christmas and festive season, and a healthy and prosperous 2021.

**Cr Barry Haywood,
Shire President**



Fire Season information

Prohibited Burning Period

We are currently in the **Prohibited Burning Period** which runs until 14 February 2021 (subject to further extension). No burning is permitted during this period, including burning of garden refuse, camping or cooking fires.

Fire Breaks need to be in place

All properties are required to comply with the Shire of Goomalling Fire Break Order from November through to March each year. Information relating to fire break requirements was sent out with all rates notices and can also be found on the Shire website www.goomalling.wa.gov.au.

Fire break **inspections** will be carried out throughout the fire season to ensure fire breaks are maintained until 31 March 2021.

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.

Harvest, Vehicle Movement & Hot Works Bans

The Shire of Goomalling will determine the need for a harvest, vehicle movement or hot works ban and advertise the ban on ABC Radio, RadioWest and via the Shire's mobile phone SMS service.

There is an **automatic** ban on all harvesting, vehicle movement and hot works **on all public holidays** including Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day and Australia Day.

Local Fire Response message group

A proposal came out of the Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting held on 15th October to set up a local fire response chat group.

The concept is to have all local farmers, their workers and other members of the public who are available to assist in the event of a fire, connected to a single chat group which may in fact be a faster way of mobilising local assistance for a fire than calling 000. While this is **not designed to replace the 000 number**, it may be a way of getting resources to a fire front quickly.

It is likely that this group would be run through WhatsApp and Council is well positioned to coordinate the set up of the group, although once established it would become a user led communication tool.

This group does not replace the harvest ban system of text messages. It would only be used for calling up local response to a fire and nothing more, and inappropriate use of the chat will not be tolerated.

If you are currently on our Harvest Ban SMS list, you will receive a text asking to respond whether you want to be included in this chat group.

TC


 Katherine
Outback
Experience

TOM CURTAIN

IN THE WEST TOUR

December 2020 - March 2021

Multiple Golden Guitar winner and horseman extraordinaire **Tom Curtain** will be performing his national award winning **Katherine Outback Experience** show of real horse training and working dog demonstrations followed by live music with special guests.



**JENNACUBBINE TAVERN | 24 COLLINS STREET, JENNACUBBINE
SATURDAY 12 DECEMBER FROM 6:00PM | GATES OPEN 5:30PM**

**ONLINE TICKETS*: ADULTS: \$30 | STUDENTS 6-17YR: \$15 | KIDS 5YR&U: FREE
DOOR TICKETS: ADULTS: \$40 | STUDENTS 6-17YR: \$25 | KIDS 5YR&U: FREE**

** Small booking fee + GST applies to online bookings*

**FOOD & DRINKS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE | NO BYO
BRING CHAIRS & PICNIC BLANKETS | OUTDOOR EVENT**

For more information and tickets: TomCurtain.com.au

Rubbish & Recycling collection explained

We've received queries in regards to how the rubbish/recycling services work and want to clarify the following.

All bins (both types) remain the property of Avon Waste; this is why you have to pay for a replacement if it is not due to general wear and tear – the replacement bin still belongs to Avon Waste.

The charges you pay are for:

- General Waste: The lifting and removal of your rubbish and upkeep of the tip.
- Recycling: The lifting, removal, delivery and processing of your recycling.

Council has a legal responsibility to provide rubbish removal services to all properties within the townsite, and the recycling service is a one-in-all-in approach.

However, you have the option to increase or decrease the number of bins ("services") at your property to suit your needs, with a minimum requirement of one general waste (green bin) and one recycle bin (yellow lid).

Please contact the Shire admin staff if you wish to add or reduce the services at your property.

Community Pantry

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

Care packages include a variety of pantry staples, frozen meat and vegetables, and basic sanitary items.

The Pantry is open every second and fourth Thursday of the month from 10am to 12pm at the Uniting Church Parish on Quinlan St.

Volunteers needed to run the pantry

If you are willing to help out a couple hours a fortnight or just every now and then, please contact Tahnee on 9629 1101 or cdo@goomalling.wa.gov.au.

GOOMALLING GUMNUTS INC.
Early Learning Centre
PO Box 189, Goomalling WA 6460
(08) 9629 1188, gumnutstinc@bigpond.com

Cnr Quinlan & Hoddy Streets
Ph: 9629 1188

Monday to Thursday
8am - 5.30pm
Friday 8am - 3.15pm
Bookings essential

Accredited
Long Day Care
Service
Play based learning

Funding and Grant Hub

Regional Development Australia (RDA) Wheatbelt and Midwest Gascoyne have launched a free Funding and Grants Hub that takes the stress out of the process for local businesses, community & sporting clubs and NFP organisations to easily find and successfully apply for grants.

Never miss a grant opportunity again - <http://www.rdawheatbelt.com.au/>

Dates for your diary

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Thu 10 Dec | Sacred Heart Presentation Night, 6pm, SHCS |
| Sat 12 Dec | Katherine Outback Experience and Tom Curtain "In The West" Tour, 5.30pm, Jenna Tavern |
| Sun 13 Dec | Ladies & men's tennis tournament, Goomalling Tennis Club |
| Mon 14 Dec | Goomalling Primary School Presentation Night, 6pm, GPS |
| Tue 15 Dec | AGM of Electors, 7pm, GSCC. |
| Wed 16 Dec | Council Meeting, 4pm, Council Chambers. |
| Thu 17 Dec | VacSwim late registrations and stage changes, 3-4pm, Swimming pool |
| Fri 18 Dec | D'Arcy Slater junior tennis tournament |
| Fri 18 Dec | GSCC 5 th Anniversary |
| Sat 19 Dec | Community Christmas Tree, 5pm, Rec Grounds |
| Sun 20 Dec | Konno BBQ, 5.30pm, Konnongorring Sports Grounds |
| Thu 24 Dec | "Rissolle says goodbye to the fun bun", 6pm, GSCC. All money raised donated to Beyond Blue and all hair donated to Locks of Love. |
| Tue 26 Jan | Australia Day Breakfast, 7-9am, GSCC |
| Wed 3 Feb | Council Meeting, 4pm, Council Chambers. |
| Thu 11 Feb | Vinnies Community Pantry recommences, 10am-12pm fortnightly |



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

Open Monday-Friday
8.30am-4.00pm

[Facebook.com/GoomallingShire](https://www.facebook.com/GoomallingShire)

