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## CEO's Corner



### **Flooding Event – February 2017**

WML engineering consultants have now completed the secondary assessment of our road network, and projects have been costed for repair. This assessment has been delivered to Main Roads WA (MRWA) and the Shire is now waiting for confirmation from MRWA of funding for repair works.

Once the Shire has received confirmation of funding, a tender will be advertised for construction and repair works. Consideration will be given to the timeliness of works as well as quality of construction.

The Shire has engaged a number of grading contractors to undertake 'smoothing' works on our roads. This work does not involve any material importation, but is simply grading out ruts or damage in the road to remove washouts. We will start opening roads again as soon as possible, in light of vehicle capacity and water across roads. If a road is graded but still missing road base, it may not be possible to access these routes with restricted access vehicles.

For road closures please refer to the Shire's website [www.lakegrace.wa.go.au](http://www.lakegrace.wa.go.au) or Facebook page for a list of current roads that are closed within the Shire.

BlazeAid have set up a base camp in Lake King to help those affected by the floods. If you require assistance from BlazeAid please contact the Shire on 9890 2500 and your details will be forwarded to BlazeAid. Alternatively you can contact BlazeAid on 0427 614 540. Further information is available on the website [www.blazeaid.com](http://www.blazeaid.com).

The Department of Child Protection and Family Support has set up a Disaster Response Hotline for families and individuals who may feel that they need some professional psychological support. The 1800 Disaster Response Hotline number is 1800 032 965.

If you are aware of families or individuals within our Community who have been affected by the flood events and may need some support, please encourage them to contact the Disaster Response Hotline.

### **Local Recovery Coordinating Committee Meeting**

The Shire and other government agencies held a meeting on Friday 17 March 2017 and provided an update in relation to the recent flooding. A resolution was made for two sub-committees to be established of

local farmers, community representatives etc. to assist in the progress for the recovery of the flooding. Firstly an Infrastructure committee, to assist assessing the restoration of infrastructure and recommending priority road projects in the short, medium and long term; and a community committee to provide advice and guidance to assist in the restoration and strengthening of the community's well-being.

If you are interested in being on the sub-committee please contact the Shire on 9890 2500.

### **Strategic Community Plan Review**

Community forums were held on Monday in Varley and Newdegate and on Tuesday in Lake King and Lake Grace. Thanks to those who attended and contributed to the survey.

The elected members and I have the opportunity to attend the Integrated Strategic Planning training in Katanning on Thursday 30 March. This is a timely training session that uses existing legislation as its basis to explore the way in which Local Governments are required to plan for the future. As on the 6 April Councillors and management will be workshopping the results of the community forums to develop the new Strategic Community Plan.

### **Development Applications (Planning/Building Approvals)**

A friendly reminder, if you are undertaking any development on your property (i.e. building something new or using your land for another purpose) please contact the Shire on 9890 2500 to ensure all the relevant approvals and permits are in place.

### **Insurance Responsibility**

Any Community Groups, Organisations, Associations, Social Clubs, Sporting Groups, Senior Groups etc. that undertake any activity (e.g. fund raising, holding an event etc.) should have their own insurance coverage. The insurances to consider are Public Liability, Association & Officers Liability, Volunteer Workers and Community & Family Events. The type of coverage needed depends on the activities your group undertakes.

The Shire's insurance covers any property and contents owned by the Shire and liability to the public for areas within the Shire's responsibility. If you are a group that

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## *CEO's Corner continued*

uses Shire owned facilities or grounds to store your equipment or goods, it is important that you have your own contents insurance to cover any loss that may occur.

The Shire policy will not cover the loss of property not owned by the Shire. I am happy to catch up with any group that is concerned about the need for insurance and the limitations of our policies.

In the year 2000, Australia's insurance industry faced a public liability crisis because of the prohibitive costs for community groups. From here the Local Community Insurance Services was established to manage the special needs of clubs, community groups and not-for-profit associations. You can check out this risk management service at the following link <https://www.localcommunityinsurance.com.au>

## **Building & Maintenance Team**

The Building Maintenance Team have been carrying out building/maintenance inspections on all Shire buildings collecting data towards the 10 year maintenance plan and carrying out work requests.

Progress on the Lake Grace Independent Living Units (ILU's) can be seen with the compliance works completed for Unit 1, roof lining and gable cladding works on Units 2 and 3, and the electrical pre-wire complete on Unit 2. Other works carried out on Unit 3 were the building wrap, installation of windows, footings for the carport and alfresco areas and ceiling battens.

The coming weeks will see completion of external cladding on Units 1 and 2 and installation of compliance ply bracing on Units 2 and 3. The units will then be to lockup stage which will enable internal fitout.

## **Road Works**

Our Construction Team are working on Hatters Hill Road. They have completed 2 kilometres of formation and gravel sheeting. This project is being undertaken utilising Commodities Route funding.

The Newdegate grading contractor has been grading along Biddy Camm Road, Mission Road, Newman Road, Orr Road, Mt Sheridan Road and some of Old Ravensthorpe Road.

The Lake King grading contractor has been grading along Milsteed Road, Long Creek Road, Mallee Road, Magdhaba Track and Old Newdegate Road.

The Lake Grace Maintenance Grader is currently grading the roads in the south east area after the flood damage (Brookfield, Thornton, Bairstow and Fourteen Mile Road).

Simon Trevenen (Contractor) has been grading along Magenta Road and Ardler Road.

## **Road Maintenance Team**

The Road Maintenance Team have been erecting white posts along Morton and Holt Rock South Road, and patching the road damage on Magenta Road. The team have assisted the mowing of the ovals in Lake Grace when required.

## **Gardeners**

Our Town Maintenance crew have been out to Lake King mowing the park area behind the tavern and spraying the cemetery and playground near the Lake King Hall.

The team have been out to the sale yards in Lake Grace for spraying and slashing of the yards, spraying and weeding of the Lake Grace cemetery and trimming the hedges in the main street islands, and the Lake Grace Administration Building.

The team will be commencing the trimming of the street trees in Lake Grace.

## **Ordinary Council Meeting – Wednesday 22 March 2017**

Items of business considered at the meeting included:

- Council endorsed the specifications of plant purchases to be purchased within budgetary constraints set in the 2016/17 budget.
- Council endorsed the selection criteria for the Newdegate Parks and Gardens Contract.
- Council approved the development approval subject to conditions and advice notes for a proposed transportable addition to existing house on Lot 3024 (No 6223) Mallee Road, Dunn Rock.
- Council endorsed the waiver of fees associated with the hire of the Lake King Community Hall by the Lake King Primary School with conditions.
- Council agreed to consider the appointment of a heritage architect to inspect suspected structural defects at the AIM Hospital Museum during 2017/18 budget deliberations.
- Ward Review - Council are to recommend to the Local Government Advisory Board to maintain the number of offices of councillor on the Council at nine (9) and an order be made to remove all wards.
- Council endorsed the Shire of Lake Grace Strategic Resource Plan 2016 – 2031.
- Council adopted the Statutory Compliance Return 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016 for the Shire of Lake Grace.

The minutes of the March 2017 Ordinary Council Meeting are available on the Shire's website at [www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au](http://www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au)

*Denise Gobbart*  
**Chief Executive Officer**

## Blaze Aid in Lake King

Following the February flood in the south east of our shire (approximately 25% affected) we were contacted by Graham Jacobs on Friday 3rd March, informing us that BlazeAid was offering assistance to affected farmers in the Shire.

It was necessary to act fast so an SMS was sent and a register was set up at the Shire. By Tuesday, 14 requests for assistance were logged, the BlazeAid co-ordinators were informed and began their preparation to locate to Lake King as their base.

On the 14th March Ed and Judy, the BlazeAid co-ordinators stopped in Lake Grace to drop off forms and posters and phoned ahead that they were requiring a place for themselves and the volunteers to park their vans, shower, gather for their meals/prepare meals/brief teams on the days' work etc. It was essential that they had an area on their own, not with holiday makers, as they could be a bit disruptive.

The only suitable place was the pavilion as it ticked all the boxes, but we didn't have time to book and there were a couple of other activities that were earmarked to occur (cement work and court resurfacing), but it was decided that we could work around them. The BlazeAid team were happy to clean up after the summer recess and the dust etc that accumulates after months of non-use.

We have had mainly a positive response to the BlazeAid volunteers assisting our local farmers, some even donating meat, money etc knowing it's going to a good cause.

If there are any farmers who have not already registered and require assistance from BlazeAid please phone the Shire and their details will be forwarded to Ed and Judy.

*Jeanette De Landgraff*

Lake Grace Shire President

## Hay Stack Fires

The Shire advise that there has been at least 3 fires across the region in hay stacks over the last week or so with, the last one east of Narrogin destroying 4000 large rectangular bales of hay.

The cause is believed to spontaneous combustion due to the hay getting wet in recent rains.

People who have large amounts of hay stored in the open keep a close eye on the stack for any signs of heat build-up and take appropriate action before a fire occurs.

## Lake Grace Swimming Pool

What a pool season it has been!! Though the weather didn't always play nice, it has been so good to see so many familiar faces and returning swimmers as well as the big group of new faces into our pool.

We have seen babies from last season now toddling in the water and the progression of the little ones from the small pools to the big 50 metre pool, this is one of the many good moments we get to witness as pool managers.

Again this year we focused on the WAW supervision policy at our pool (and most other pools around the state), and it has been fantastic to see the vigilance parents and guardians have shown with supervision of their child or children, again another very pleasing sight for pool managers.

We have been very fortunate to have had injury/emergency free season and this is always a nice feeling to get to this point and appreciate all the team work between the swimmers, parents, guardians and pool managers to prevent any major or minor emergencies at our venue. Many thanks to you all for doing the right thing everytime you came to visit the Lake Grace Swimming Pool.

The pool will close for 2016/17 season on Friday 31 March. We hope you have enjoyed this pool season with us and we look forward to (after a short break) the 2017/18 pool season at the Lake Grace Swimming Pool.

See you next season.

*Letisha, Fee & Matt*



**KS KIDSPORT**

**ONLINE!**

**KidSport online applications coming soon!**

From the 14 November 2016 you can apply for your KidSport online, if you hold a valid Health Care Card / Pensioner Concession Card. For more details, [www.dsr.wa.gov.au/kidsport](http://www.dsr.wa.gov.au/kidsport)

## Office Opening Hours

Monday - Tuesday - Wednesday - Friday  
8.30am - 4.30pm

Thursday 8.30am- 4.00pm

Staff can be contacted by phone between 8am - 5pm.

## Driving Assessor

The Practical Driving Assessor (PDA) will be at the Shire of Lake Grace Office on:

**Friday - 7 April 2017**

**Friday - 5 May 2017** - to be confirmed

Please contact the Shire's Customer Service Officer for an appointment. You can now book your PDA online. For more information visit [www.transport.wa.gov.au](http://www.transport.wa.gov.au).

## Licensing Agency Opening Hours

**Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 8.30am - 4.15pm**  
**Thursday and Friday 8.30am - 4.00pm**

As an agency we process the majority of transactions, including; renewals, transfers, number plate orders, boat registration renewals and new license applications.

Being an agency there are also limitations on what we can do, we cannot process any transactions or access records over the phone. Records can only be assessed by the person who appears on them. Your partner, mother or sister cannot access your records.

Payment of invoices and renewals can be paid by any person if they present a renewal notice or invoice.

## Building Surveyor

Shire Building Surveyor, Josiah Farrell will be available at the Shire Office on the following dates:

**Tuesday 4 April 2017**

**Tuesday 18 April 2017**

For an appointment contact Josiah on 0438 811 944.

## Ordinary Council Meeting

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held:

**3:00 pm Wednesday, 26 April 2017 at Council Chambers 1 Bishop St Lake Grace**

*Members of the public welcome*

A minimum of 15 minutes is set aside for public questions time, giving members of the public an opportunity to ask questions relating to Shire activities.

## Environmental Health Officer

Shire Environmental Health Officer, Barry Smith is available - contact Barry at the Shire on 9890 2500 or email [shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au](mailto:shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au)

## Tip Opening Hours

### Lake Grace

Monday & Wednesday 9am - 2pm

Saturday & Sunday 9am - 4pm

### Newdegate

Wednesday 9am - 1pm

Saturday 9am - 1pm

### Lake King & Varley

Open Every Day

## Waste & Recycling Pick up Dates

Household Waste Collection is a weekly service and collected each Monday for Lake Grace, Newdegate, Lake King & Varley.

Recycling is a fortnightly service and alternates between Lake Grace & Newdegate. See below for the upcoming recycling collection dates.

Lake Grace	Newdegate
3 April	10 April
17 April	24 April

**Please Note:** There is no kerbside recycling collection service in Lake King or Varley.

For more information on Waste Management visit the Shire's website.

## Library Hours

**Lake Grace Public Library** School Place Absolon St

*During School holidays*

Tuesday & Thursday 9am - 5pm

Closed for lunch 12.00 - 12.30pm

**Newdegate Public Library** Collier St

Monday - Thursday 8.30am - 4.30pm

Closed for lunch 12noon - 1pm

Friday 9am - 2pm

**Lake King Library** Newdegate/Ravensthorpe Rd

Tuesday & Thursday 8.30am - 3.30pm

*Everyone welcome.*



**Check out our website**  
[www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au](http://www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au)