

JANUARY 2020

Council Newsletter

SHIRE OF WYALKATCHEM

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2020 Community Event

The Shire will partner with the Wyalkatchem Resource Centre and Wyalkatchem P&C to host a Wyalkatchem Community Event.

The event will be held on Friday 14 February 2020. It will be a combination of Welcome to Wyalkatchem, Thank a Volunteer and various community recognition and awards.

"I'm excited to partner with the CRC and P&C, working together we will be able to organise a fantastic event that connects and recognises the community." said Shire President Quentin Davies.

The event will include:

- Welcoming and connecting new community members;
- Citizen of the Year Awards (nominations are now closed);
- Acknowledgement and recognition of volunteers;
- Other community acknowledgements;

Traditionally, the Citizen of the Year Awards have been presented at the Shire's Australia Day function. Since this occurs during the holiday period, it can result in award recipients being unable to attend, as well as a reduction in the overall attendance and number of volunteers to assist with the running of the event.

With this in mind, Council has made the decision **not to** hold a typical Australia Day function, instead opting for a bigger and better Wyalkatchem Community function at a time of the year more suited to the community.

"Councils objective is to have a successful event that is well attended, acknowledging community members for their contributions. Council hopes that holding an event later on in the year will achieve this." said Shire President Quentin Davies.

Council acknowledges the importance of Australia Day and will continue to hold celebrations at the Wyalkatchem Swimming Pool, including a BBQ and various activities.

More information to come.



Australia Day 2020 - Pool Activities

The pool manager Stephen will be host to a free BBQ and various activities on Sunday 26 January 2020. The pool will be open from 10:30am.

Citizen of the Year awards will be announced at the Community Event on 14 February 2020.

Regular pool hours are still 11:00am to 6:00pm, Wednesday to Monday. Any changes in hours will be posted on the new Facebook page: Wyalkatchem Memorial Swimming Pool.



Wyalkatchem Fair 2020

The 2020 Wyalkatchem Fair will be rescheduled for later in the year.

With the introduction of the 2020 Community Event, Council has decided to reschedule the annual Fair to October, instead of the usual April.

The scheduling of two major events at different times of the year will ensure the success of both events, and give the community separate social activities throughout the year.

The Fair will take place in October, rather than April, and more information will be released in the coming months.

Swearing In Of New Councillor

It is with pleasure that Council announces Mrs Rachel Nightingale as the newly appointed Shire of Wyalkatchem Councillor.

Mrs Nightingale was sworn in as Councillor on 19 December 2019.

Council and staff welcome Mrs Nightingale, and look forward to working together for the benefit of the community.



Tennis Australia Grant

Through the National Court Rebate Scheme, Tennis Australia has awarded funding of \$100,000 for the redevelopment and relocation of the Wyalkatchem Tennis facilities.

The announcement is extremely exciting for the Shire and the community, and the working group have worked tirelessly over the last 6 months to progress the project and secure the funding.

The working group, consisting of members from the Wyalkatchem Tennis Club, Bowling Club, Community Club and Shire, conducted an audit of current facilities, reviewed potential locations and solutions and adopted project objectives and outcomes. Along with the upgrade of the tennis facilities, the groups aim was to achieve:

- A resurgence of social activity and recreation/competitive sporting opportunity;
- Improved sustainability of sporting clubs and venues in the community; and,
- A greater sense of community through increased opportunity for social interaction.

Upon consideration of the project objectives, the Community Club has been identified as the preferred location for the new tennis facilities. The project scope was considered and involves the construction of three acrylic courts at the Community Club on the now disused bowling green, adjacent to the club complex.

The principal components of the proposed developments are:

- Two gel-cushioned acrylic tennis courts;
- One gel-cushioned, acrylic multi-use court with line marking for tennis, basketball and netball;
- Court perimeter fencing; and,
- Lighting for both the tennis courts and the current bowling greens.

An application for funding has also been made under the CSRFF program, with announcements expected in February/March 2020. Depending on funding outcomes, works are anticipated to commence in April/May 2020.

Citizenship Ceremonies

Congratulations to Wyalkatchem's newest Australia Citizen, Mrs. Nirjubala Ratanpara, who made her pledge at the Citizenship Ceremony held at the Council Chambers on 19 December 2019.

Making the Australian Citizenship Pledge is the final step in becoming an Australian Citizen, and the Shire of Wyalkatchem is proud to welcome those who have made this journey.



Changes to the 2020 Council Meeting Schedule

At the December 2019 Council Meeting, Council resolved to conduct a 12 month trial on changes to meeting dates and times for 2020.

Over the last number of Elections, Council has experienced difficulties in attracting community members to the position of Councillor.

Council has held discussions in regards to reviewing the current meeting system with the view to make the position of Councillor more attractive to community members, who have other commitments, that may consider standing for Council. This will also make it easier for existing Councillors to attend Council, Committee and Workshop Meetings.

There was also a desire to review the frequency of meetings, to accommodate for months where Councillors or potential Councillors may have other seasonal commitments and priorities, such as seeding and harvest.

As part of its due diligence and on the direction of Council, the CEO conducted a review of meeting structure options and prepared a "Proposed Changes of Council, Committee and Workshop Structure for the Shire of Wyalkatchem, Options and Implications" discussion paper.

The review also included investigating structures that were suited to rural Councils and rural Elected Members with the objective of providing a balance between Shire and work commitments. This included the frequency of meeting and the meeting start times.

On completion of its due diligence and considerations of the options and implementations of the CEO's discussion paper, Elected Members and staff have held discussions to come up with the most suitable meeting structure.

The new meeting structure, which will be trialled for 12 months, will see a reduction in Ordinary Meetings. Currently, Council does not hold a Council Meeting in January, and the changes will also see no meetings being scheduled for the months of April, August and November.

"Council has considered the current meeting structure carefully, with the aim of making the position of Elected Member easier and more attractive, while still ensuring that Council is in a position for effective decision making" said Shire President Quentin Davies.

Public notice of the 2020 meeting dates are provided in this newsletter.

2020

PUBLIC NOTICE

2020 Ordinary Council Meetings and Audit & Risk Management Committee Meeting Dates

In accordance with Regulation 12 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996, notice is given of the Audit & Risk Management Committee and Ordinary Council Meetings for the Shire of Wyalkatchem for 2020.

Ordinary Council Meetings commence at 4:00pm.

Audit & Risk Management Committee Meetings commence at 3:00pm

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meetings. Meetings are held at the Shire Chambers, 27 Flint Street, unless otherwise advertised.

2020	Ordinary Council Meeting Commencing at 4pm	Audit & Risk Committee Meeting Commencing at 3pm
January	No Meeting	No Meeting
February	20 February 2020	20 February 2020
March	19 March 2020	No Meeting
April	No Meeting	No Meeting
May	21 May 2020	21 May 2020
June	18 June 2020	No Meeting
July	16 July 2020	No Meeting
August	No Meeting	No Meeting
September	17 September 2020	17 September 2020
October	15 October 2020	No Meeting
November	No Meeting	No Meeting
December	17 December 2020	17 December 2020

Should you require information regarding items on the agenda, the procedure for Public Question Time or to arrange a deputation, please contact the Shire on 9681 1166 or visit the Shire's website www.wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au

Taryn Dayman
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



New Manager of Works

The Shire of Wyalkatchem staff and Councillors welcome our new Manager of Works, Les Vidovich.

Les joined the team on 2 December 2019. Les previously worked at the Shire of Laverton, and brings 32 years of experience with him.

We welcome Les to Wyalkatchem and look forward to working together to deliver Councils projects and outcomes.

Shire of Wyalkatchem

If you have any queries, issues or require more information on any Shire of Wyalkatchem affairs, please feel free to contact the Shire Staff or Councillors using these details:

Phone: (08) 9681 1166

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Email: general@wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au

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