

JUNE 2020

# Council Newsletter

SHIRE OF WYALKATCHEM

New job opportunities!

We are after a Manager of Works and a  
General Hand/Plant Operator!

Could this be you?

See the next few pages for more info!



**WE'RE  
HIRING!**



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## Council's Vision

That Wyalkatchem is an inclusive, dynamic community where all share in a thriving economy and a sustainable, safe and valued environment

## Our Purpose

The Council of Wyalkatchem works with the community to protect and enhance the quality of life for current and future generations.

# Employment Opportunity

## Manager of Works

The Shire of Wyalkatchem has an exciting employment opportunity for an experienced Manager of Works to join a Shire that is committed to the growth of their Region.

The successful applicant will be responsible for coordinating the Shire's Road Maintenance, Road Construction and Works Program. The Manager of Works is also responsible for the financial performance of the Works and Services Directorate and working with the Executive Management Team to deliver Council's Integrated Strategic plan for the Shire.

To be successful for this position you must possess:

- A sound working knowledge of road maintenance and construction
- Practical experience in footpath and drainage construction and maintenance
- Established leadership skills and effective interpersonal skills
- Exceptional communication skills
- Have previous experience in a senior management position
- High level skills in planning and budgeting of projects

Reporting directly to the Chief Executive Officer, this position is a senior role with an attractive salary package being offered from \$138,457 to \$167,082 per annum. The package includes superannuation (up to 14.5%), motor vehicle including private use, house with subsidised rent, utilities allowances and a uniform allowance.

The information package along with the position description can be obtained from our website [www.wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au](http://www.wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au) or by contacting Stephanie Elvidge on (08) 9681 1166 or email [admin2@wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au](mailto:admin2@wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au).

Candidates are encouraged to review these documents before applying for the position.

Applicants are requested to submit written applications in a sealed enveloped marked "Private and Confidential – Manager of Works application" and addressed to:

Shire of Wyalkatchem  
P O Box 224  
Wyalkatchem WA 6485 or  
email direct: [ceo@wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au](mailto:ceo@wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au)

**Applications close at 4.00pm 10 July 2020**

The Shire of Wyalkatchem is an Equal Opportunity Employer.  
Canvassing of Councillors will disqualify the applicant.

Taryn Dayman  
**Chief Executive Officer**

# Employment Opportunity

## Plant Operator - General Hand - Full Time

Applications are invited from interested individuals for the position of full time Plant Operator - General Hand at the Shire of Wyalkatchem.

The Shire of Wyalkatchem is seeking an enthusiastic person to join our works team in the position of Plant Operator / General hand.

Applicants should possess developed skills in the operation of plant & machinery used in the maintenance and constructions of roads.

Employment conditions in accordance with the Local Government Industry Award 2010, level 4. The successful applicant will be offered an hourly rate between \$20 to \$26 per hour depending on qualifications and previous experience.

For more information regarding the position and to review the position description, please visit our website [www.wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au](http://www.wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au)

To apply for the position, candidates are requested to submit their applications, including a cover letter and a copy of their resume to:

Shire of Wyalkatchem.  
P O Box 224  
Wyalkatchem, WA 6485

or via email to [works@wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au](mailto:works@wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au)

**Applications close: Friday 3 July 2020.**

The Shire of Wyalkatchem is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Taryn Dayman  
**Chief Executive Officer**



# Rates - Questions and Answers

## How are rates calculated?

The rates paid on residential properties are calculated based on the operating requirements of the LG (Local Government), they are a proportionate share of what is needed by the LG to provide local services and facilities.

## What is the rates freeze for COVID-19?

The rates freeze adopted by many Councils in response to COVID-19 is about not increasing the total amount of rates received by LG's. The intent of the rates freeze was to help provide ratepayers with financial certainty during these difficult times. However, the periodic system of revaluations of properties undertaken by the Valuer General will result in some ratepayers paying more and some less than last year - while the revenue to the LG remains unchanged.

## How are rates applied?

The LG applies a rate in the dollar that is multiplied by the valuation to obtain the total amount for each property. The Gross Rental Valuation (GRV) is generally applied to town sites and suburbs, whereas the Unimproved Valuation (UV) is applied to rural areas.

## What can make rates go up?

Rates can increase if your property increases in potential rental value faster than others in your area. For example, if you make improvements to your home that increase its rental value then your market share of rates will increase. Your rates can also increase if the LG requires more funds to provide local services and facilities. LG budgets and funds required through rates are also affected by changes to charges by other sectors, such as electricity pricing.

## What if I disagree with my rates?

- Under the Local Government Act 1995, you have 42 days from the time the rates notice is issued to appeal your rates, if you believe there is an error with the record. If you do decide to query your rates, you must still pay the full amount while it is being reviewed.
- You can also appeal how the value of your property was calculated. Your annual valuation is included on the rates notice, if you believe it is too high, you can challenge this. For further information, visit the Landgate website: <https://www0.landgate.wa.gov.au/>

## What is the ESL (Emergency Services Levy)?

The State Government requires Councils to collect the ESL from ratepayers. The funds go directly to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services. The funds are not kept by Councils and the rate is not set by Councils.

## Do pensioners/seniors get a discount?

Pensioners or Seniors with a valid seniors or concession card are entitled to rates reduction. The State Government caps the rebate to pensioners at 50% of their rates, up to \$750.

## Do I have to pay all my rates at once?

Councils require rates paid either all at once, or in payments of four. If you require more time or can't pay by the due dates, please contact the Rates Officer to make a suitable payment arrangement.

# NEWTRAVEL and Shire of Wyalkatchem: Promoting Tourism, Wyalkatchem And The Wheatbelt

## VISITOR SURVEY - HELP WANTED

NEWTRAVEL is developing a relationship with Curtin University to look at how we may be able to collaborate on Wheatbelt Tourism projects.

We are asking for your assistance to help with collecting further data for the next 6 months from visitors to the region (all visitors - including business, holiday and leisure). We would be very grateful if Visitor Information Points, Community Resource Centres, Accommodation Providers and anyone else in the region would assist in doing this.

Please contact the Shire - 9681 1166 - if you would help actively promote the survey in your business. We can provide you with jelly beans/chocolates to hand out to visitors as a token of appreciation for taking the time to fill out the survey.

## Marketing/Advertising Update

Many saw NEWTRAVEL feature the Wheatbelt in the #windowinthewindow campaign, together with the Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre and Roe Tourism. It had a great response by locals and visitors, with over 270 posts for the month. There were also interviews on ABC radio and it was even featured in the West Australian.

NEWTRAVEL will run a series of TV ads starting at the end of June, July and August on the WIN and Ten Networks, specifically promoting the Wheatbelt Way Road Trip. Make sure you include the following hashtags in any social media posts: #roadtripcountry; #goldenoutback; #wheatbeltway; #windowinthewheatbelt; #wanderoutyonder; #thisiswa.

## Plan Now!

Many of our towns and attractions have been very busy with visitors over the past two weekends! Whilst this is great news, it is important that our facilities and attractions can cope! If you have not done so already, please look to have some plans in place to regularly check and undertake maintenance activities at your sites. Some things to keep in mind are:

- Is your business welcoming and inviting?
- Do you have your business hours or contact number advertised on social media and the building?
- Are ablutions clean and in good working order?
- Is signage clear and directed at what you want/require of visitors?
- Are walk trails accessible?
- Has rubbish been removed and areas tidied?

## WANTED - Weekend Itineraries for Wyalkatchem

Please provide the Shire suggestions for the ideal weekend to be spent in WYALKATCHEM, starting by arriving on a Friday evening and leaving after lunchtime on a Sunday.

For example, swinging by the News and Lotteries for a cuppa in the morning, and ending with dinner and a beer at the Wyalkatchem Hotel.



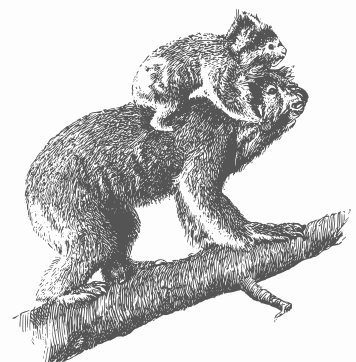
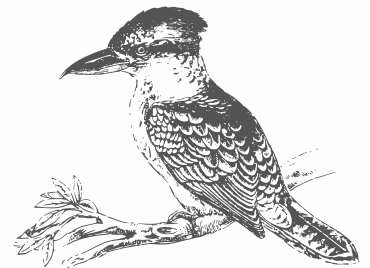
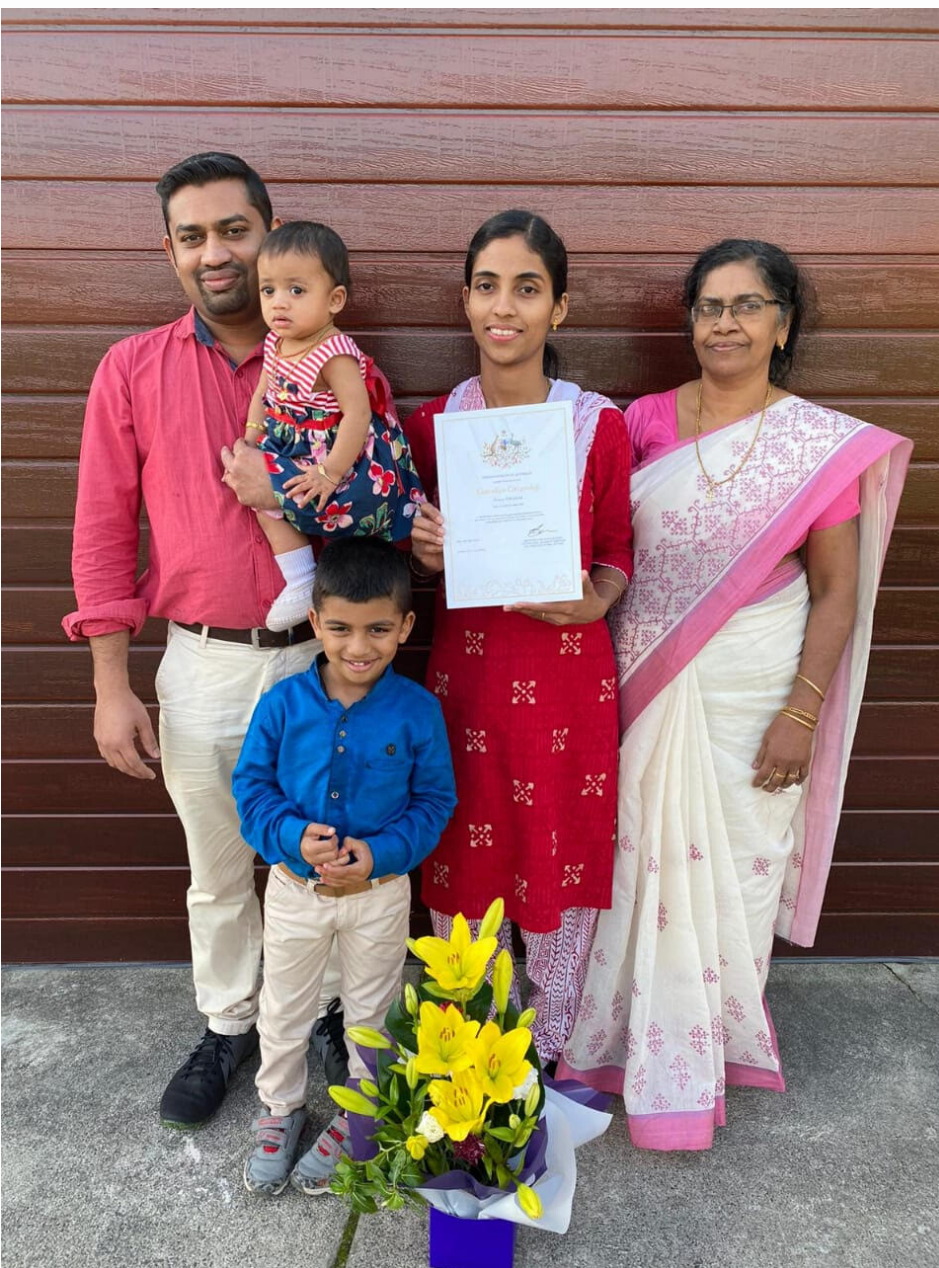
# Wyalkatchem's Newest Citizen

A HUGE congratulations to Wyalkatchem's newest Australian Citizen, Princy Thomas!

Princy was one of the first new Australian Citizens to use the online Ceremony process, which was implemented due to COVID-19.

Although Subin and Princy have lived in Wyalkatchem and have been a part of the community for a while, the Shire was excited to assist her in the process of becoming an official Australian Citizen.

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.



# 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

**Fax:** (08) 9681 1003

**Email:** [general@wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au](mailto:general@wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au)

**Address:** 27 Flint Street, Wyalkatchem

**Postal:** PO Box 224, Wyalkatchem

## Councillor Contacts

### Shire President

#### Cr Quentin Davies

0408 346 519

[cr.davies@wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au](mailto:cr.davies@wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au)

#### Cr Steve Gamble

0427 815 031

[cr.gamble@wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au](mailto:cr.gamble@wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au)

#### Cr Emma Holdsworth

0429 015 062

[cr.eholdsworth@wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au](mailto:cr.eholdsworth@wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au)

### Shire Deputy President

#### Cr Owen Garner

0429 825 069

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#### Cr Mischa Stratford

0438 464 421

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#### Cr Rachel Nightingale

0488 053 992

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