

# Council Corner

## Wandering Shire monthly newsletter



### NEW CEO

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and give you a little information about me.

My name is Amanda O'Halloran and I have been in Local Government for approximately 10 years. I was born in Narrogin, and spent most of my life living in the North West of Western Australia – predominately in the Pilbara and Gascoyne.

I went to Santa Maria Boarding School and Edith Cowan University in the late 80's early 90's. I began my career as a Registered Nurse, specialising in Emergency and had many wonderful experiences in Rural and Remote Communities.

I spent some time in the South West working for Silver Chain and focusing on homecare services and aged care in the early 2000's. My move in to Local Government came from a desire to support Communities to be healthy, have access to good amenities and services.

Throughout my time in Local Government I was very fortunate to gain experience in local business development, economic stimulation of communities, social infrastructure development, strategic planning and worked on the negotiations of a number of key National resource projects that were or are under construction today.

I am very excited about the future at

Wandering and see many opportunities for economic and community development. I look forward to getting to know you all and getting involved in sporting and community groups where possible. I am a keen volunteer and am always happy to help out where possible – please just ask if you need a hand at events etc...

My hobbies are photography, walking, travelling and cooking.....

***Please don't hesitate to pop in for a chat or a cuppa – would love to hear your hopes and dreams for Wandering and how we can incorporate them into our planning for the future.*** 😊

### FUEL PRICING

We have had a number of complaints and rumblings about the price of fuel filtering into the Office over the last couple of weeks. Please note that we do our very best to keep the price of fuel reasonably competitive.

I will try to explain the process –

- We buy fuel at a wholesale rate and we then apply our overhead and admin costs (no profit margin is applied – we pass that on to the customer)

- We then sell fuel to the Public at the retail rate
- Price is dependent on what we paid for it at time of delivery
- We have average sized tanks that can take some time to empty and we can't modify the price until we refill or we risk losing money.

Unfortunately the issue we have at Wandering is the tanks don't turn over very quickly and this creates a catch 22 situation for us - if the price is too high we don't sell the fuel

quickly, which limits us from purchasing it from the wholesaler at a reduced price to enable us to bring down our retail price....

Please note that we have a very small margin placed on the fuel to cover the administration costs, in most instances we are selling the fuel very close to what we paid for it.

The Shire Team is committed to providing a fuel service to Wandering and hopes the Community can understand the limitations that we are experiencing during this time.



### **THE HOUSE THE SHIRE BUILT**

The Shire team has been working hard over the last year to complete the construction of a house at 5 Dunmall Drive. The house is an asset of the Council, but will be rented to the Department of Housing for the next 5 years for the Principal at the Wandering Primary School.

The house is a modern 4 x 2 house that has been built and finished by Red Ink homes to a very high

standard. The design of the house is attractive, practical and incorporates many climate wise and sustainable features.

The Shire Team have been committed to ensuring the house was ready for the 2015 school year. A special thanks for all their effort and time goes to Martin Whitely (Previous CEO) and the Wandering Outdoor Crew. As with all builds of this type there are challenges along

the way and the team stayed focused and got the job done.

It is hoped that a house of this standard and amenity will help the Education Department attract and retain Principals to the School into the future.





## **AUSTRALIA DAY BREAKFAST**

The Australia Day Breakfast was once again hosted by the Councillors. Given that the day fell on the last day of the long weekend the turnout was very encouraging and demonstrated Wanderings Patriotism. Gorgeous little Annabelle Kelliher raised the flag high and the crowd sang the National Anthem proudly.

The Lions Club did a wonderful job cooking the sausages and bacon and Cr Kerr booked them again for next year! The Councillors demonstrated their high level culinary skills!! Cr Ferguson gave the toast while Cr Price and Judy Kerr kept everyone in line and served spag and beans with great panache. Cr Dowsett and wife Dawn were a mean scrambled eggs team and Cr Whitely had the dishes sparkling at the end of the day!



The Awards this year went to –

### **Shire of Wandering Citizen of the Year Award – John Whitely**

John is one of the foundation members of Lions, he has supported the fair committee for many years and held many Officer and Presidency roles. He has worked tirelessly to build a great Wandering Community and was a worthy recipient of the Citizen of the Year Award.

### **Lions Sustainable Community Award - Bruce and Dawn Dowsett**

Bruce and Dawn have been involved in many clubs and groups over the years. Bruce was a foundation member of the Lions Club, is still a long serving Councillor and has held the Office of Shire President.

Dawn has supported Bruce and worked tirelessly on the wine awards committee, golf club and tennis club.

Bruce has been a member of the Fire Brigade and Cricket Club for the most part of his life together continue to support a worthy cause.

The children enjoyed the playground and bouncy castle and were all given show bags filled with tattoos, balls, flags and lollies.

The Champagne flowed and Bartender Cr Gowland demonstrated his crowd control skills by keeping everyone under control!! Last drinks were called at 11.00am..... Thanks to everyone involved and looking forward to next year!



## STAFF CHANGES AT THE SHIRE

Over the last couple of weeks we have welcomed new Staff and has sadly farewelled a couple too...

Good Bye and all the best to –

- Toni Reitmajer – Community Development Officer, Toni leaves us after 5 years of service, Toni is heading over to the Town of Narrogin and we wish her all the very best in the future. Toni and Mick will continue to live in Wandering.

- Mark Whitmore – Grader Driver Plant Operator, Mark resigned early in January we wish him all the best with his future.

Welcome to –

- Ken Boland – Grader Driver and Plant Operator, Ken has been casual with the Outdoor Crew in recent times and is a highly experienced operator, Ken hails from Pingelly and we welcome him to the team.

- Amy Lazenby – CRC and Administration Trainee, Amy is very keen and picking things up well, we look forward to sharing Amy's career journey with her!

Some of the Team – Toni, Kat and Amy



## COUNCIL MEETING ROUND UP

January 2015 Ordinary Meeting of Council was a small but very important agenda.

### **10.1.1 PLANNING CONSIDERATION – PROPOSED WANDERING NATURAL FERTILISER PLANT**

That Council:

1. Authorise the CEO to provide written advice to the Wandering Natural Fertiliser Project, Project Managers – Beacons Consulting International PTY Ltd that Council has no 'in principle' objections to the continued preparation and submission of a Development Plan for the development of a Natural Fertiliser Plant at Lot 1 George Road, Wandering.

2. Advise Beacons Consulting International PTY Ltd to make submission of a formal Development Plan that identifies all planning requirements and includes the following:

- a) Detailed plans including a site plan to a scale that is no greater than 1:500 metres showing the lot's boundaries, all existing development and all proposed development, a floor plan showing the internal floor layouts for the proposal, and a height elevation plan to a scale no greater than 1:200 metres to Shire of Wandering

- b) A report showing compliance with the EPA's sensitive land use policy, SPP 4.1 – State Industrial Buffer Policy, Environmental Protection Act 1986 and the Health Act 1911.

- c) A traffic management plan and road use assessment

- d) An odour management plan

- e) A waste management plan

- f) Storm Water drainage design

- g) Provision of an independent dust report

- h) Provision of an independent noise assessment

- i) Further information pertaining to proposed landscaping on the site

- j) Parking area for envisaged 50 staff needs to be incorporated

- k) Indication of caretaker's dwellings if proposed (section 5.6).

- l) Obtain offensive trade permit from the Shire's Health Services.

- m) Development of a Social Impact Statement

***The Item was lost 4/3. It is therefore not possible to provide BCI with a letter of "in principal" support.***

## **CREATING AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES PROJECT**

The Creating Age-Friendly Communities in Small Towns Project forms part of a holistic solution to address aged care issues across the region. The Creating Age-Friendly Communities in Small Towns Project aims to improve the level of age-friendly infrastructure, services and inclusion across 43 Local Governments in the Wheatbelt. The Project will assist local governments through an audit of their services and

amenities and in some cases provide funding to increase access and improve the quality of life of Aged residents.

Wandering Shire is commencing the Audit process with a morning tea to encourage our Seniors to provide advice and feedback on what would make Wandering a better place for Seniors. Once this has been completed we can engage the Community to develop a plan that will support Council in their strategic planning and fund allocation at

budget time.

As you are all aware Wandering is a lovely safe community and a perfect environment to retire!! We aim to increase the charm and ability to retire in this lovely place.

## **IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP .....**

Council Meeting	19 February 2015
Age Friendly Communities Seniors Morning Tea	17 February 2015
Community BBQ	5 March 2015

### **WANDERING SHIRE COUNCIL**

Amanda O'Halloran  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
ceo@wandering.wa.gov.au  
Mob: 0418 913 078

Cr Graeme Kerr  
**President**  
gjkerr@westnet.com.au  
Ph 9887 6018

Cr Bruce Dowsett  
**Deputy President**  
norrine@bluemaxx.com.au  
Ph 9884 1031

Cr Chad Ferguson  
julieferguson@bigpond.com  
Ph 9884 1041

Cr Wade Gowland  
janetandwade@bigpond.com  
Ph 0488 497 787

Cr Judith Price  
jp@wn.com.au  
Ph 9887 7097

Cr Jim McNeil  
Ph 9887 6010

Cr Brendan Whitely  
thefirebreakman@bigpond.com  
Ph 9884 1027