



Shire President's Message

Happy New Year! Before I focus on 2024, I would like to reflect on, and sincerely thank, our amazing community for the care and generosity displayed during and after the pre-Christmas Parkerville bushfire.

Thanks to the rapid, co-ordinated efforts of our Volunteer Bushfire Brigades, Shire staff, DFES and other emergency services, the fire was contained in very challenging conditions. The outstanding response of our volunteers in particular highlights their critical role in keeping our community safe and the importance of ensuring they are supported.

The day after the fire, I spoke to Premier Cook and Emergency Services Minister Dawson and took the opportunity, on behalf of our Community, to remind them how important it is that our volunteer fire-fighters are equipped with the best of resources. Council will continue to advocate with State Government to meet the future needs of our volunteer brigades.

The impact fire can have on our community also brings to light the importance of being bushfire prepared.

Please take the time to prepare your property and practice your bushfire plan with your family and neighbours. Here is a useful website link to assist you in developing your plan – it will be 15 minutes well spent mundaring.wa.gov.au/prepare-for-a-bushfire

Our Shire works hard to keep our Community as bushfire safe as possible, which is why over the next six months you will see continued bushfire mitigation works focused on verges in Coothalie Road Chidlow, Cockatoo Drive Mundaring, Wattle Court Reserve in Mahogany Creek and on the eastern side of Lake Leschenaultia.

Refocusing on 2024, we have an important six months in front of us as Council reviews the Shire's strategic direction. You will play a critical part in this by providing your views and ideas on how we can continue to improve as an organisation. Keep an eye out for the Shire's Community Scorecard in the mail. The scorecard survey is your opportunity to tell us what improvements and priorities you would like to see. Your ideas will help shape our 2024-2034 Strategic Community Plan.

While our community scorecard survey is available to everyone over the age of 14 years, we are also seeking input from our youth on our future direction. We have a specific youth survey out for young people aged 12 to 25 as well as one for parents and caregivers who are also encouraged to participate. We will utilise these survey results to assist us in developing a new youth informing strategy. We welcome your feedback via the Engage Mundaring website engage.mundaring.wa.gov.au/youth-informing-strategy by Monday 29 January.

Check out the new shaded playground, flying fox and fun exercise equipment at Broz Park in Helena Valley and our new Timber Train playground at Lake Leschenaultia. Our shire has so many great things to do and we want you to start spreading the word and inviting people to enjoy what we have to offer.

I'm looking forward to sharing new projects and exciting initiatives with you this year!

Paige McNeil
Shire President



Community Grants 2024

Our popular grants program supports local community groups to deliver activities and programs that benefit the broader community. The following grants open on **Monday 29 January** and close on **Thursday 7 March**. Successful recipients will be notified in April.

- Community Event Grant** - for groups wishing to run fetes, festivals, markets, sporting/recreational carnivals, exhibitions, small performances and training related to the event.
- Milestone Event Grant** - to celebrate a significant milestone achievement.
- Matching Grant** - for projects including equipment, minor capital upgrades, promotional material and training. Visit mundaring.wa.gov.au/community-grants to learn more.

What's On in January 2024

Coming in 2024!



Summer of Entertainment events

We're back with a range of events to suit all ages.

Aquafest at Bilgoman Aquatic Centre **Friday 8 March, 6pm to 8pm**

A free family-friendly outdoor pool festival featuring live DJ, real-life mermaids, free sausage sizzle and amusement ride.

Blues and Folk Live at Sculpture Park **Saturday 23 March, 5pm to 7.30pm**

A free Twilight Tunes concert for the whole family with musicians from the Mundaring Folk and Blues Club. BYO food and drink.

Youth Fest at Harry Riseborough Oval **Friday 12 April, 12pm to 3pm**

Celebrating Youth Week, the event for 12 to 17 year olds features DJ Bexx skate clinic, gaming trailer, virtual reality, outdoor laser skirmish, bungee trampoline, art and craft, BBQ plus more!



1 Ordinary Council Meeting

The January Council Meeting will be held on **Tuesday 23 January** at 6.30pm at the Shire Administration Centre.

The Agenda is available on the website, Administration Centre or at our libraries. Meetings will be live streamed via the Shire's website mundaring.wa.gov.au/council-livestreams-and-recordings

3 Story Time and Baby Rhyme Time (FREE)

Starting from **Tuesday 30 January** (no bookings necessary).

Story Time for children aged two to five years promotes a love of reading and encourages social interaction. Children will enjoy songs, stories and a craft activity. **Baby Rhyme Time** is a language enrichment program for babies and toddlers aged 0-24 months. Enjoy songs and stories in a relaxed atmosphere.



2 HelpingMinds Community Expo Stalls

Boya Library, **Wednesday 17 January, 9.30am to 1pm**
 Mundaring Library, **Friday 19 January, 9.30am to 1pm**

Learn about the services and support provided by HelpingMinds and chat informally about mental wellbeing. HelpingMinds is a non-profit organisation providing a variety of mental health carer support services.

