



# SHIRE OF KOJONUP E-NEWS

Edition 101 – 10 February 2017

You can receive this e-newsletter directly to your email address by registering at the Shire Office or by emailing [council@kojonup.wa.gov.au](mailto:council@kojonup.wa.gov.au).

## GENERAL COMMUNITY NEWS

### *Rural Fire Service and Emergency Services Levy Review*

Council via the Shire President and Deputy Shire President recently met with Minister Francis to discuss and present views and concerns in respect to our relationship with DFES. The discussion directly related to the recommendations of Euan Fergusson's report to the Government that "fundamental change" was needed at DFES.

The Minister suggested that the points below were areas that he wished to seek information on, specifically related to the formation of a Rural Fire Service (RFS)

- Independent or sub department of DFES?
- Responsibilities of RFS- response/mitigation
- Transfer of current Local Brigades to RFS.
- Inclusion/integration of Volunteer Fire and Rescue Brigades (VFRS) into RFS in regional areas.
- Transfer of Control of incidents between RFS and DFES
- Hazard management Agency for Bushfires.

Prior to the meeting with Minister Francis the Shire President convened a meeting with the Shire CEO, CBFCO (Tony Fisher), immediate retired CBFCO (Digby Stretch) and Robert Sexton (Presiding Officer – BFAC). This meeting was to form a view and response to the dot points above. Previous Committee decisions (accepted by Council) were also referred to and accepted as Council policy. Although the meeting

was extensive in discussion, the position that was adopted was relatively simple and is as follows:

- **Independent or sub department of DFES?**  
Kojonup is strongly in favour of an independent RFS. (Recommendation 15 of the Fergusson report). Clearly, as our history shows, any over-arching body that is in a position to dictate standards, take control or make other demands on Local government processes or Brigade mode of operation will not be any advantage to our Bushfire structure.
- **Responsibilities of RFS - Response/Mitigation**  
We are strongly in favour that the Bushfire Structure as contained in the Bushfires Act (BFA) and the Local Government Act (LGA) be retained. That is: that the Brigades creation, appointment of officers and managing of Fire Mitigation and Fire Control should be conducted at a local level in Kojonup.
- **Transfer of current Local Brigades to RFS**  
We have no objection to any other Local Government or their Brigades transferring to the RFS if that is their wish.
- **Inclusion/integration of Volunteer Fire and Rescue Brigades (VFRS) into RFS in Regional Areas**  
We are strongly of the view that the VFRS should be retained in their present form and not be integrated into the RFS. The VFRS are a specialised group who have a different function to the Bushfire Brigades. Our strong view is that



they function very well in their present structure and liaise effectively with the Bushfire Brigades when it is mutually necessary.

- **Transfer of Control of incidents between RFS and DFES**

The present regime of transference of control has not been an issue with us nor has our relationship between DFES and the Bushfire Brigades.

- **Hazard management Agency for Bushfires**

Our view is that an Agency is not required. The LGA and the BFA provides the necessary power and flexibility for the management of hazards. The enactment of Local Laws (Fire Break order) hazard inspections by officers and fuel reduction programmes all address this area.

**Emergency Services Levy (ESL) Review**

The distribution of the ESL and the restriction of its use was also universally criticised. That complaint

spilled over into the funding of vehicles that were very expensive and “not fit for purpose”. There was a clear consensus that the funding of “slip on units” was a far more effective use of the ESL than the present class of vehicles. The minister appeared to accept this view but warned that the units would have to be of a universal standard. He also warned that training for the use of such units would also have to be at a minimum standard. This statement alarmed many of the attendees who then argued that “risk aversion” was driving many of the standards rather than the practical use of the appliance (to extinguish fire).

Council at the 21 February 2017 Council Meeting will be asked to formally submit in writing Kojonup’s view as outlined above to Minister Francis. Given the impending State Election it is important that our views are shared with the community and please refer any feedback to the Shire President.

Community members are reminded that the Shire President is available for appointments Wednesday morning from 10:00am until noon. Please contact the Miranda at the Shire Office on (08) 9831 2408.

*Ronnie Fleay*  
 Shire President

*Rick Mitchell-Collins*  
 Chief Executive Officer

**ROAD WORKS**

**Upcoming Road Works**

- Patching of bitumen
  - Road grading post-harvest of various roads
  - General town maintenance – garden crew
  - Road widening continuing – Kojonup/Frankland Rd
  - Various road failures to be repaired throughout Shire
  - Pegging out of the new entrance to the Sporting Precinct
- Any comments regarding proposed works are welcome.

*Craig McVee*  
 Manager Works & Services

M: 0427 427 854 or E: [mws@kojonup.wa.gov.au](mailto:mws@kojonup.wa.gov.au)

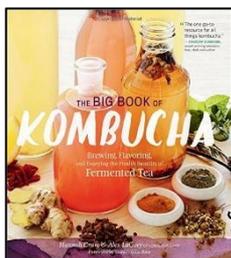




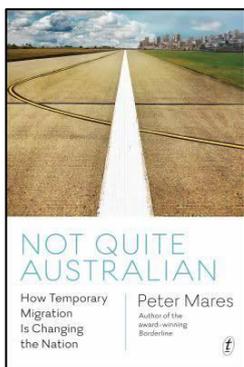
**LIBRARY NEWS**

The holidays are finally over and the school year has started. I'm not too sure if all of the mums were quite ready to send the kids back to school or really ready to let them go if they're just starting their school learning journey but coloured pencils, files & scrapbooks have been purchased, lunches made and water bottles filled. Smiles, laughs and then the tears have been shared. Knowing that the children are in the care of amazing teachers is certainly comforting. I hope all the children have an incredible year from Kindy to Year 10, full of great tutoring and awesome playground activities – it's a social thing. ☺

**New Reads**

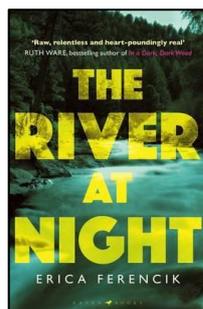


**The Big Book of Kombucha - Alex LaGory and Hannah Crum.** Brew your own kombucha at home! With more than 400 recipes, including 268 unique flavour combinations, you can get exactly the taste you want — for a fraction of the store-bought price.

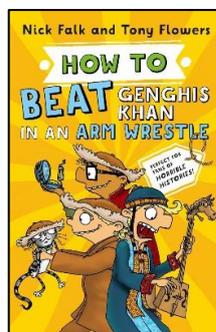


**Not Quite Australian – Peter Mares.** Permanent migration has long been vital to the story of Australia. Today, there are more than million temporary migrants living in Australia. They work, pay tax and abide by our laws, yet they remain unrecognised as citizens. Mares considers such issues as the expansion of the

457 work visa, the unique experience of New Zealand migrants, the internationalisation of Australia's education system and our highly politicised asylum-seeker policies to draw conclusions about our nation's changing landscape. 'Not Quite Australian' is packed with fresh insight and challenging new ideas for understanding Australia's growing culture of temporary migration.



**The River at Night – Erica Ferencik.** Win Allen doesn't want an adventure. After a miserable divorce and the death of her beloved brother, she just wants to spend some time with her three best friends, far away from her soul-crushing job. But athletic, energetic Pia has other plans. Plans for an adrenaline-raising, breath-taking, white-water rafting trip in the Maine wilderness. Five thousand square miles of remote countryside. Just mountains, rivers and fresh air. No phone coverage. No people. No help...



**How to Beat Genghis Khan in an Arm Wrestle – Nick Falk & Tony Flowers.** Big bully Zachary Black has stolen the awesome comic that Sid has spent hours drawing. Zachary sets Sid a challenge – beat him in an arm wrestle and the comic is his once again. Sid's evil-genius neighbour, the Mighty Professor Skeletron, calculates Sid's chance of victory as one in ten, so they create a Time Rescrambler in order for Sid to take the challenge ten times...and eventually win! But catastrophe strikes when the rewind button jams and the boys, along with Sid's little sister, Wendy, are transported back to the time of the Mongol Empire.

**Play in the Park**

The next 'Play in the Park' is Wednesday, 22 February 2017 at Apex Park from 10:00am – 12:00pm.

**Storytime**

The next 'Storytime' is Friday, 17 February 2017 at the Library from 10:30am – 11:00am.

*Lorreen*  
**Senior Library Officer**



## **SPRINGHAVEN NEWS**

Springhaven Residents have been enjoying the sunshine of late. We have been playing Lawn Bowls, bocce, gardening and picking our home grown produce in our fantastic vegie patch which the residents take great pride in caring for.

As the weather has heated up, the residents have also been enjoying the cool of the air conditioning whilst painting their own master pieces in water colours. There has been a very insightful array of talent and we look forward to showing you in the coming months.

We are also enjoying afternoon tea that has been prepared and cooked for all to savour, from the light and fluffy pikelets to mouth-watering choc chip pancakes.

If you have any special talents that you would like to share with our residents please let us know by giving us a call on 9831 2800. Morning tea is from 9:45am and afternoon tea is at 3:00pm. We also have Happy Hour every Friday from 3:00pm.

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## **FERAL PIG MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP & COMMUNITY SUNDOWNER**

A FREE workshop presented by Blackwood Basin Group and the Department of Agriculture and Food. Followed by a Community Sundowner & Biosecurity Discussion with Wagin/Woodanilling Landcare Zone. The workshop Includes:

- Feral pig ecology, biology and their impact on both agriculture and the environment.
- Ethical and professional management practices and options.
- Practical demonstrations including the construction and management of various trap styles.
- Operating demonstrations of remote surveillance cameras, GPS and mapping programs.
- Recognising feral pig damage and presence (scats, tracks and traces).
- Discussions on the future of Biosecurity and pest management in your area



**To be held Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2017, from 12noon to 4:30pm, followed by a Community Sundowner at the Darkan Town Hall, Coalfields Hwy, Darkan.**

RSVP by Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> February 2017, to Karrie at Blackwood Basin group, 9765 1555 or [karrie@blackwoodbasingroup.com.au](mailto:karrie@blackwoodbasingroup.com.au)



## **COMMUNITY LANDCARE FORUM**

Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017 from 9:00am –1:00pm.

Morning Tea provided.

Kojonup Sports Complex; Benn Parade, Kojonup

RSVP to Jane Kowald on 9831 2400 or [landcare@kojonup.wa.gov.au](mailto:landcare@kojonup.wa.gov.au)  
or Kirsten Skraha on 0459 673 030, [kirsten@blackwoodbasingroup.com.au](mailto:kirsten@blackwoodbasingroup.com.au)

Share your ideas and vision for landcare in your area! The Blackwood Basin Group, in partnership with the Shire of Kojonup, is updating the landcare plan for your area and we want your input into what projects you'd like to see, which assets protected and which issues should be addressed. Come along to help shape funded landcare in your area.

*Jane Kowald*  
*NRM/Landcare Officer*

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## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

### **VACANT POSITIONS – SPRINGHAVEN LODGE**

#### **ENROLLED NURSE**

Springhaven Lodge is currently recruiting for an Enrolled Nurse to work in our friendly team. Aged Care experience preferred but not essential as education opportunities will be given. You will need to be caring, reliable and must be able to work as part of the team. You must be available to work all rostered shifts including afternoon and weekends. The position is permanent part-time. A current police clearance is essential.

#### **REGISTERED NURSE**

Springhaven Lodge is currently recruiting for a Registered Nurse. Aged Care experience is desirable but not necessary as opportunities to expand knowledge and education in Aged Care will be given. You will be required to work three days a week from 8:30am – 1:30pm, Monday, Wednesday & Friday and be available to work public holidays and school holidays. A current police clearance is essential.

#### **PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANT**

Springhaven Lodge is currently recruiting for Personal Care Assistants (PCA). You will need to be caring, reliable and must be able to work as part of the team. Certificate III or IV in Aged Care is desirable. You must be available to work all rostered shifts including afternoon and night shift. The positions are Casual and you will be paid under the Aged Care Award 2010. A current police clearance is essential.



For further information please contact 9831 2800.

Applications including a covering letter and resume are to be addressed to:

**Sue Northover – Manager Aged Care Services**  
**Springhaven Lodge**  
**PO Box 163**  
**Kojonup WA 6395**

Or email [council@kojonup.wa.gov.au](mailto:council@kojonup.wa.gov.au)

*Rick Mitchell-Collins*  
*Chief Executive Officer*

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***PUBLIC NOTICE***

**VACANT POSITIONS – ADMINISTRATION**

**SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICER**

The Shire of Kojonup is looking for a highly organised and enthusiastic individual to join our team in the newly created position of Senior Administration Officer.

Under the direction of the Manager Corporate Services, the successful applicant will be responsible for maintaining leases, agreements and contracts, administering tenders and major grants, reviewing policies, delegations and procedures and the organisation's risk management process. Advanced time management skills, a personable nature, a commitment to continuous improvement and the desire to work as part of a close knit team are attributes required for this rewarding position.

This full time position is offered in accordance with Level 5-6 of the All of Staff Agreement 2011 (\$61,852p.a. - \$68,046p.a.) and the Local Government Industry Award 2010.

**RECORDS OFFICER**  
(14 Month Contract)

This fourteen (14) month maternity leave replacement contract would suit a highly organised and productive individual to undertake our records management function.

Following a suitable hand over with the present incumbent, the successful applicant will be responsible for undertaking daily records management duties and coordinating the review of existing community and corporate plans. The Shire has also begun to embark on implementing the move to full electronic records and



the successful applicant with lead this project within a defined timetable. Ideally applicants will possess previous experience in local government, however this is not essential.

This contract position is offered in accordance with Level 4-5 of the All of Staff Agreement 2011 (\$58,543p.a. - \$64,105p.a.) and the Local Government Industry Award 2010.

Applications for both positions are to be addressed to the undersigned and close on Wednesday, 1 March 2017. To obtain a copy of the information package please go to our website [www.kojonup.wa.gov.au](http://www.kojonup.wa.gov.au) or for further information about the position, please contact Anthony Middleton, Manager Corporate Services via email [mcs@kojonup.wa.gov.au](mailto:mcs@kojonup.wa.gov.au) or telephone (08) 9831 2405.

*Rick Mitchell-Collins*  
**Chief Executive Officer**

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

<i>Council Meetings &amp; Events</i>
<i>Advisory Committee Meetings &amp; Events</i>
<i>Community Events &amp; Activities</i>

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Open/Closed</b>	<b>Details</b>
Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting	Monday 13 February 2017	7:00pm	At the Shire in the Reception Lounge	Open to Public	Agendas & Minutes will be available on the Shire website.
Shire President available for Appointments	Wednesday 15 February 2017	10:00am – 12:00pm	At the Shire in the President’s Room	Open to Public	Call Miranda Wallace (Executive Assistant) 9831 2408
Audit Committee Meeting	Tuesday 21 February 2017	9:00am – 10:30am	At the Shire in the Reception Lounge	Open to Public	Agendas & Minutes will be available on the Shire website.
Council Briefing Session	Tuesday 21 February 2017	10:30am	At the Shire in the Reception Lounge	Closed to the Public	Agendas & Minutes will be available on the Shire website.
Ordinary Council Meeting	Tuesday 21 February 2017	3:00pm	At the Shire in the Council Chambers	Open to Public	Agendas & Minutes will be available on the Shire website.
Shire President available for Appointments	Wednesday 22 February 2017	10:00am – 12:00pm	At the Shire in the President’s Room	Open to Public	Call Miranda Wallace (Executive Assistant) 9831 2408
Kodja Place Advisory Committee Meeting	Thursday 23 February 2017	7:00pm	At the Shire in the Reception Lounge	Open to Public	Agendas & Minutes will be available on the Shire website.