

# Shire News

Shire of Dardanup Newsletter

## Updates:

### Restricted Burning Period

Due to unseasonal weather conditions, the Shire has extended its Restricted Burning Period until midnight Friday, 24 May, in accordance with the Bush Fires Act. The previous Ban on all Burning ended on Friday, 10 May and is now downgraded to the Restricted Burning Period. If you have any queries, please contact the Shire of Dardanup Ranger Services on (08) 9724 0307 (24 hours) or email [rangers@dardanup.wa.gov.au](mailto:rangers@dardanup.wa.gov.au). Stay informed and check the [www.emergency.wa.gov.au](http://www.emergency.wa.gov.au) website for regular updates.

### Dowdell's Line upgrade

The Shire is undertaking road works to upgrade Dowdells Line Road from 3 May, for about three weeks. The improvement works will widen Dowdells Line, with the road only open to local traffic. Shire President Tyrrell Gardiner emphasised the necessity of these upgrades, particularly given the heightened usage of Dowdells Line over the past two years, stemming from the Bunbury Outer Ring Road works. We appreciate everyone's patience with the road works, which has been consistent for many during these past few years.

### Forrest Highway road works

There are currently resurfacing works by Main Roads Western Australia along the Forrest Highway, between Old Coast Road and Hynes Road Eaton. According to Main Roads WA, these road works will take place from 6am until 6pm until 27 June. Please drive safely during these road works and obey the speed reduction and lane closures as minor delays are expected. For more info go to [www.mainroads.wa.gov.au](http://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au). Queries can be directed to Main Roads at [enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au) or on 138 138 or (08) 9724 5600.



A tour group checks out the new Library, Administration and Community Building for the Community Open Day on Saturday 4 May, which saw more than 600 people attend.

## Community open day a hit with locals, visitors

An impressive crowd flocked to the Shire of Dardanup's new Library, Administration and Community Building on 4 May, to celebrate the Community Open Day.

The event saw over 600 people attend and enjoy tours of the two-storey building, a sausage sizzle, coffee van, children's activities and face painting.

Constructed by local company Perkins Builders and designed by Perth Architect Peter Hobbs, the building incorporates a customer service area, a public library, community-meeting spaces, and the Council Chambers.

The Café and state-of-the-art Make-It Space will open later this year, with the Make-It Space securing significant funding from Lotterywest and Wespine.

The project claimed two distinguished awards at the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA) Awards receiving the Best Public Works Project Greater than \$5 million Award (Regional) and the Excellence in Environment and Sustainability Award.



At the Open Day are Shire President Tyrrell Gardiner (left) with Kim Perks (centre) and Rowan Parry, plus (front) Annie Perks and Ruby Matthews.



Also at the Open Day are (from left) Anne Strachan and Jacqui and Bruce Thorpe.



# Old Coast Road Bridge fishing platform fully open

The popular Old Coast Road Bridge fishing platform is now fully open with final works completed last week.

Shire of Dardanup President Cr Tyrrell Gardiner said a section of the fishing platform was temporarily closed for maintenance, following a structural assessment last year.

Cr Gardiner said the temporarily restricted section was now open to the public with all fencing removed, a welcomed milestone for the local anglers and outdoor enthusiasts.

"We know how popular this fishing spot is for the locals, and visitors, and the Shire has been working with structural engineers and contractors to ensure the platform is now fully open to the community," Cr Gardiner said.

"It's been a long summer with plenty of fishing taking place on the platform and we're excited to restore this beloved community asset so it can be enjoyed for many more years to come."

Cr Gardiner said the structural works included extra bracing of the structure with the addition of two jarrah sections and the installation of an additional steel pile which enables the entire structure to be opened to the public.



Fishing enthusiasts Sophie and Hudson White check out the Shire of Dardanup's Old Coast Road Bridge fishing platform, which is now fully open to the public.

## Council Meeting dates for 2024

Our 2024 Ordinary Council Meetings will be held on the following Wednesdays at 5pm:

22 May	25 September
26 June	23 October
24 Jul	20 November
28 August	18 December

The Bush Fire Advisory Committee and the Audit and Risk Committee meetings for Wednesdays at 7pm:  
12 June      9 October

Audit and Risk Committee, Wednesdays at 2pm:  
12 June      11 September  
11 December

A Special Council Meeting will be held for the adoption of the Draft Annual Budget on 29 May, 5pm.

Copies of agendas and minutes can be found at the Shire's website.

## Unleash fun responsibly in the dog exercise areas

The Shire of Dardanup is committed to promoting responsible dog ownership and ensuring the safety and enjoyment of all community members.

As part of these efforts, Shire President Tyrrell Gardiner said it's important to remind the public of the designated dog exercise areas in the Shire.

Cr Gardiner said with the recent revamping of signage, particularly in the Glenhuon Reserve (football oval and softball field), the Shire aims to reinforce the importance of leash regulations in certain areas.

"Our priority is the safety and well-being of our community members, both owner and dog," Cr Gardiner said.

"We understand the importance of providing clear guidance to dog owners regarding leash requirements, particularly in areas where sports activities take place.

"Signs throughout our Shire clearly indicate that dogs must be kept on a leash in these locations."

Cr Gardiner said to ensure compliance with leash regulations and maintain public safety, the Shire's Rangers Team conducts regular checks in dog exercise areas.

"While some areas require dogs to be on-leash, the Shire also offers several off-leash areas where dogs can exercise freely under the supervision of their owners. These include Watsons Reserve, Millbridge Reserve, Wells Recreation Park, and Burekup Reserve," Cr Gardiner said.



"We encourage dog owners to utilise these designated dog exercise areas, where their pets can enjoy physical activity while remaining under effective control.

"It goes without saying that owners are expected to pick up after their dogs and dispose of any excrement, and the Shire provides disposable bags at various locations."

Cr Gardiner said dog owners need to be responsible stewards of their pets and to always have effective control of their dogs, whether on-leash or off-leash.

He said it is important to carry a leash at all times when visiting dog exercise areas to ensure compliance with regulations and the safety of all park users.

**For a list of dog exercise areas within the Shire of Dardanup, please visit the Shire's website at <https://www.dardanup.wa.gov.au/our-services/animals-pets/dog-exercise-areas.aspx>**

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