



Shire of Mt Marshall

— THE SANDALWOOD SHIRE —

8 March 2021

DIARY DATES

16 March 2021

Recycling Collection

16 March 2021

Ordinary Meeting of Council @
3pm in Council Chambers

16 March 2021

Annual Electros Meeting @ 5pm
in Council Chambers

COUNCILLORS

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Cr Ian Sanders

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CORELLA CONTROL IN BENCUBBIN

A controlled cull of Corellas will be taking place at the Bencubbin Oval and Multipurpose Complex on the weekend of 20-21 March. Please avoid the area throughout Sunday 21st and don't be alarmed if you hear gun shots during this time.

BUSHFIRE BRIGADES MEETING — BEACON

A meeting is being held for the members of Wialki, Tampu and Cleary Bushfire Brigades on Thursday 11 March at the Beacon VFES facility, commencing at 5pm. A PPE audit will be conducted as we work towards all volunteers having the correct equipment when attending an incident. If you have been considering becoming a volunteer with your local Bush Fire Brigade please feel free to come along and sign up at the meeting.



2019/2020 ANNUAL REPORT

The Shire's 2019/2020 Annual Report is now available on the Shire's website and from the Shire office. The Annual Report will be received at the Annual Electors meeting being held on 16 March at 5pm. Please see notice of the Annual Electors meeting over the page.

CONTACT US



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NOTICE OF ANNUAL ELECTORS MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Electors of the Shire of Mt Marshall will be held on Tuesday 16 March 2021 in the Council Chambers, Bencubbin, commencing at 5:00pm.

Order of Business

- Attendance and Apologies.
- Confirmation of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of electors held on Tuesday, 17 December 2019
- Reading of the Auditors Report for 2019/2020.
- Reading of the President's Report for the year ended 30 June 2020.
- Receiving of the Annual Report for 2019/2020.
- General Business as the President thinks fit or as the majority of the electors present may decide.

By order of Council

John Nuttall

Chief Executive Officer

PRESIDENT TONY SACHSE'S SPEECH AT THE MT MARSHALL AQUATIC CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT OFFICIAL OPENING

The first swimming pool in the area was a sheep dam, located on Ted Pergande's farm in the 1920's. It was a dam built at the base of Wiacubbing Hill, a granite hill located ten kilometres south east of Bencubbin. Particularly on weekends, people from the surrounding area would travel out to the Pergande Homestead, where they would play golf, tennis or swim in the dam. The Pergande farm was the social centre for the area.

The Congregational Church applied to the Shire to build a swimming pool in 1964. It wasn't until 1966 that the pool was built on Shire land (Lot 167 Collins Street, Bencubbin). When the swimming pool was opened in 1966, the Bencubbin branch of the Red Cross Society wrote to its headquarters asking for assistance with first aid equipment which was generously supplied.



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The pool consisted of a small, rectangular toddler pool with a larger, deeper, rectangular pool joined onto one end. There was nothing but a brick wall and a mesh fence separating the two pools. This pool was used until the mid 1970's when plans were in the pipeline to build a new facility.

The new pool was open for business from the last week in November 1976 and was officially opened on the 25th March 1977 by Cr B.M.Gillett, who was Shire President at the time. The first pool manager was Mrs Marie Eaton. Some of the first monthly pool reports that the pool manager submitted to the monthly meeting of Council have been found and are on display for people to have a read today. Over the next 40 years the Mt Marshall Swimming Pool had the following pool managers:

Marie Eaton (Mrs E)	1976-2003	27 Seasons
Renae Bassula	2003-2004	1 Season
Melissa Beagley	2004-2016	10 Seasons
Rebecca Watson	2007-current	9 Seasons
Charisse Gearing	2008-2016	6 Seasons
Charlene Leach	2009-2014	5 Season
Tryphena Gillett	2012 –2017	5 Season
Sally Putt	2014-2016	2 Seasons

Marie, Renae, Melissa and Beck all worked at the pool as full time pool operators, but after struggling to find pool operators to fulfil the full time role, several part time staff were trained over the coming years having the position shared between 2-4 employees.

The Mt Marshall Swimming Pool has had its fair share of issues over its 40 year life span. The biggest of these issues' by far the amount of water that would somehow find its way into the water table. Since the early 90s the pool had continual work done to find and repair new leaks each off season.

At its worst, one year (2007/2008 season) the pool was leaking around 40,000 litres a day. A large leak was found and repaired that year in the inlet pipe that ran under the centre of the pool and further investigation had found that the leak had created a seven and a half cubic meter cavity under the pool bowl.

From around 2012 the equipment started to really show its age and keeping the pool water to the required Health Department Standards become a huge task for staff. At the end of the 2015/2016 pool season the decision was made that the pool would not re-open in its current condition. It was just too far gone. I remember as a relatively new Councillor coming here to inspect it in 2016 with then acting CEO Stephen Tindale, then CDO Sally Putt and the other Councillors. There were just so many things wrong that we were left with no real option other than to close it. However, Council continued to direct funds to the Aquatic Centre Reserve, as previous Councils had also done, with the goal of being able to replace or redevelop at some point.



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The Shire continued to explore options to be able to renovate and rebuild. Surveys and plans were compiled and with enough information, a funding application was submitted to Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund (CSRFF).

In 2019 the Shire was extremely excited to be notified they had been successful in receiving a CSRFF grant to the value of \$488,642.00. In late January 2020 Dynamic Pools here awarded the tender contract for the redevelopment of the Mt Marshall Aquatic Centre. It's important to note that without the CSRFF Grant the redevelopment could not have taken place to the extent it has.

Plans were approved for the new facility in February 2020 and the contracted Dynamic Pools, who had partnered with Wet Deck Pools for the job, started work on the development of the new facility.

Once demolition commenced on the existing pool, it didn't take long to realise that the Shire had made the right decision in closing the pool. The number of leaks found was unbelievable. If you can picture pouring water through a colander, it would give you a pretty good picture of what was found. We were never going to find them all!

An aquatic centre brings so many benefits to our Shire and these have been highlighted through not having a facility for four and a half years. The benefits flow on from the life long skill of learning to swim to fitness, health and wellbeing, community development and with people wanting to live, work and retire in our Shire. Business can also benefit with people staying local.

The Shire of Mt Marshall is very proud of what we have been able to achieve with the funds we had for this redevelopment. We wish to thank all the contractors involved being:

John Meli & Team at Dynamic Pools
Brian McDonald from Wet Deck Pools
ICS Carpentry
Oasis Outdoor Structures
KTY Electrical
Palm Plumbing

We would also like to welcome Matt, Graham and the team at Contract Aquatics who have taken on a three-year contract to manage the amazing new facility that we have here.