



Shire of Mt Marshall

— THE SANDALWOOD SHIRE —

April 2023

DIARY DATES

16 May 2023

Ordinary Meeting of Council @
3pm in Council Chambers,
Monger St, Bencubbin

3-4 June 2023

WAORRA Championship—
Round 3 @ Bencubbin
Recreation Grounds

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2022/2023 Pool Season

The Mt Marshall Aquatic Centre officially closed for the season on the 31st March. Thank you to Jay from Contract Aquatics for providing the community with a safe and enjoyable facility this season. Our statistics have been collated and 2247 people passed through the pool gate this season. This averages to just over 17 people per day at the facility. It is also worth noting that the attendance increased by 221 on the 2021/2022 season.

You are probably all eager to hear who won the swim to Perth challenge (12,000 laps). This was a competition between the community lap swimmers and the Bencubbin Police Officers Sgt Dave and Constable Craig. The community racked up a total of 7559 laps which had them 903 laps (approx. 36km) ahead of the Police on 6656 laps. Well done to everyone who got involved and recorded their laps over the season. Although it seems both teams didn't quite make the journey on their own, if you combine both teams laps the distance was easily covered. Thank you to Dave and Craig on running this great initiative to get the community swimming laps.

CONTACT US



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Council Meeting Outcomes



The April ordinary Council meeting was held on 18 April and below is a brief overview of some of the Council decisions made at this meeting.

Meeting Dates

The meeting dates for the 2023/2024 financial year were set at the April meeting with two (2) meetings per year continuing in Beacon. The dates will be advertised in the coming months.

Surrender of Lease for Bencubbin Town Hall

Council resolved to execute a surrender of the lease of the Bencubbin Town Hall with the current tenant, Miss Jacinta Smith and to investigate usage opportunities for the Hall moving forward.

Staff Updates

We recently farewelled Grace and Trevor Jenkins who had been looking after caretaking and cleaning duties at both of the Shire Caravan Parks. We have been fortunate enough to fill these important roles in a reasonably short amount of time.

Beacon Caravan Park Caretakers/Cleaners -

Imelda Adamson-Agars and Peg Adamson have been appointed to these roles, while Peg will continue to staff the Beacon Library on Thursdays. We are lucky to have such friendly faces greeting visitors to Beacon.

Bencubbin Caravan Park Caretaker/Cleaner -

We recently welcomed Wendy Comery to look after cleaning and caretaking in Bencubbin and Bencubbin Caravan Park and we wish her all the best in her new role.

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Coordinator of Community Development (CCD)

We have positive news in the community development area of our Shire in that we have been successful in finding a replacement for our outgoing CCD, Rebecca Watson. Georgina McKay will commence with the Shire in the coming weeks to commence the hand over period with Rebecca. Georgina has a wealth of local government experience and will be utilizing her passion for community and customer service heavily in this interesting role.

Projects Update



Lotterywest Funds Community Garden Projects

Last month we reported that we were successful in receiving funding from Lotterywest towards our community garden projects. We are very excited to inform you that we have received the second funding commitment through the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) for the projects. The Hon. Darren West MLC attended the Shire on Wednesday 26 April to present the cheque from Lotterywest for the project.

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Phoebe on cdo@mtmarshall.wa.gov.au or phone the office on 08 9685 1202.



Projects Update



Beacon Community Park

Ligna Construction have commenced work at the Beacon Community Park. We look forward to seeing the park come together over the next couple of months. Funding for this park has been provided through the Local Road and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCIP).



Bencubbin Caravan Park

We have a new cabin arriving for the Bencubbin Caravan Park in late May. We are looking forward to the new facility being operational in time for the 2023 wildflower season.

Beacon Caravan Park

Things have been busy at the Beacon Caravan Park this month. The Park was closed for a period of time to allow for installation of water and power services for

the new facilities coming to the Park. The new facilities include a large cabin, a camp kitchen and 5 new powered sites. We are again looking forward to these additions to the Park being open in time for peak wildflower season.



Works Report



Construction Crew

The construction crew have completed works on Hiscox Road and are now working on the Gabbin-Trayning Road. Works should be completed in early May.

The sand pad has been completed at Welbungin in readiness for the fire shed construction.

Contract Works

Lines have now been applied to the new works on Monger St, Bencubbin, completing this upgrade.

Parks and Gardens

The oval is looking great in Beacon due to extra efforts by Beacon Town Maintenance Officer, Jim. He is currently enjoying some hard earned leave but will return shortly to resume his efforts.

We welcome Lae Khemphone as a Parks and Gardens Officer in Bencubbin, replacing Imelda who is now working in Beacon (see Staff Updates). Lae is a welcome addition to the team and has been working hard with Sean to keep the Bencubbin townsite in good shape.

Road Maintenance

The road maintenance team have been replacing and resealing signs and guide posts throughout the Shire. They have also been assisting with cleaning of accommodation facilities during periods of cleaning staff turnovers.

The team have also been doing asphalt patching in various locations throughout the Shire.

Works Report



Maintenance Grading

Beacon North - The grading here continues with minimum issues and the operator is currently doing edge maintenance along Burakin-Wialki Rd and street edges in the Beacon townsite.

Bencubbin West - We are fortunate to welcome back to the Shire, Jon Tranter who has been working around the school bus routes leading up to the commencement of term 2.

Plant and Equipment

Some minor works have been done with the new Bobcat and forestry mulcher which has allowed operators to become familiar with the equipment before works on road verges begins. You will see the equipment working along main roads in the Shire at first and we ask that care be taken by motorists when passing the machinery in use. The machinery will only be working along the drainage corridor and wont be completely clearing road verges or working in sensitive vegetation areas.

Events and Tourism

Red Card Fox Shoot 2023

The annual Red Card Fox Shoot took place on Friday, 24th March. Five teams entered this year with all teams having a successful night.

Congratulations to Team Tomas for accumulating the most points (11 cats, 31 foxes and 46 rabbits). The combined totals across the five teams were 32 cats, 117 foxes and 139 rabbits. Thank you to everyone who participated and to Wheatbelt Precision Gunsmithing for sponsoring the event.