

Community Newsletter

PO Box 50, Lake Grace WA 6353 Ph: (08) 9890 2500 Fax: (08) 9890 2599 Email: shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au



From the CEO

Let me start off with the news in the media that the Shire of Lake Grace has been fined \$75,000 for clearing of native vegetation.

The President Cr Len Armstrong and myself attended the Albany District Court on Wednesday 19 October to hear the outcome of something that has been on the go since mid 2019.

The Shire entered a plea of guilty several months ago as there was no doubt that the offences had occurred. In pleading guilty we were hoping that the mitigating reasons behind the actions were taken into account when handing out the fine. The reasons for why permits were not applied for is not known.

The following is the Media Release regarding the fines;

Shire of Lake Grace
PO Box 50 Lake Grace WA 6353 | Phone 9890 2500 | fax 9890 2599
[Email shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au](mailto:shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au)

Media Release

24 October 2022

Response to DWER Media statement on unauthorised clearing of native vegetation.

The fine imposed on the Shire of Lake Grace for unauthorised clearing of native vegetation dates back to the widespread storms experienced in January/ February 2017 across the southern wheatbelt which resulted in widespread flooding within the shire and an estimated \$11,700,000 of damage to local roads with the worst affected remaining under water for several months.

The fines imposed related to three existing gravel pits that had an additional area cleared totaling 4.8ha to source further gravel to aid in the reconstruction of some gravel roads that were major transport routes for farmers and also school bus routes. A further area of 1.2ha was cleared from a previously uncleared site. For some reason not known to current administration, clearing permits were not obtained.

The Shire of Lake Grace when made aware of the illegal clearing in mid 2019 took immediate steps to ensure that the correct processes were followed in the future. The Shire has been keen to bring a resolution to this matter and accepts the decision of the Court.

Alan George
Chief Executive Officer

For information:

The total vegetation cleared across the 4 sites was 6ha from reserves totaling 29,512ha.

For clarification Cuffy's Dam referred to in DWER's comment is a Non-Potable Emergency Water Supply Dam for emergency stock water and firefighting purposes not for general use of the Newdegate community.

Coming Events

Bang Bang!
Lake King Memorial Hall
Thursday 25 October

LG Market Day
LG Visitor's Centre
Saturday 29 October

Children's Week
23 - 30 October

Melbourne Cup
Tuesday 1 November

Ordinary Council Meeting

An Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on
Wednesday
26 October 2022
from 3.30pm at the Council Chambers, Administration Building.

The Agenda will be available on

www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au

Everyone Welcome

A minimum of 15 minutes is set aside for public question time, giving members of the public an opportunity to ask questions relating to Shire activities.

From the CEO Continued

Vandalism in Lake Grace

On Monday 17 October someone attacked one of the front windows in the Shire administration building with what appears to have been an axe. It is not known if this was a genuine attempt to break into the building or a wanton act of vandalism. This happened in the early hours of the evening not long after staff left work so the act was very brazen.

On Saturday morning just gone, staff woke up to find that someone had been driving on the oval in Lake Grace and cutting up the surface. There are many people who use this oval not just footballers and cricketers and for someone to do this beggars belief.

For both of these incidents if anyone saw or heard anything suspicious please contact the local police. I would like to think that these actions were not carried out by locals as I thought everyone had more respect than that.

Housing Survey

There is a housing survey underway as advertised on the Shires social media regarding housing within our region now and into the future. Everyone is encouraged to complete the survey by Friday 4 November 2022. The survey link is:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5FKYZ86>

The recent rain no doubt would have been welcomed by some and hated by others wanting to finish off hay or commence harvest. Let's hope that it was more beneficial than detrimental and everybody has topped up their tanks.

Alan George
Chief Executive Officer

Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) and/or Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

This is a friendly October reminder that if your community service organisation is running low on Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) and/or Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), you may be eligible for free stock.

This initiative is part of the State Government's commitment to support community service organisations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Visit the Department of Communities' [COVID-19 PPE and RAT Request Form](#) to make a request.

To find out more about your organisation's eligibility, please access the Frequently Asked Questions attached.

Free RATs are also available for eligible people with disability and disability support workers. These can be ordered in bulk by eligible organisations. Additional RATs are now also available for the household members of people with disability.

Please visit the [RATs for the Disability Services Sector](#) for more information and to lodge an online request.

For RATs and PPE/C delivery and eligibility questions, please contact the Department's COVID-19 Management - Incident Team (COMIT) logistics lead via: COMIT-Supply@communities.wa.gov.au.

Practical Driving Assessments

Bookings are essential for all Practical Driver Assessments.

They can be made online at www.transport.wa.gov.au or by attending the Shire Office with your Learners Permit or Current Drivers Licence.

You need to be at the office for staff to be able to book your slot, if one is available. We are unable to book the assessments for you by phone.

We are allocated 5-time slots each month and often have a very long waitlist. There is a 6-9 month wait in Perth, therefore slots are not open very long.

We understand this can be difficult but we have to abide by very strict rules as a Department of Transport Agent. We are endeavouring to ensure locals are getting slots however things are out of our control.

If you require more information on how to book your Practical Driving Assessment you can call and speak to one of our Department of Transport staff.

Harvest and Our Gravel Roads

Please note with harvest approaching the 80kph speed limit will be on all Shire gravel roads until 31 December. We will continue to do our best to keep all gravel roads graded and in a smooth, safe condition. We would like to thank the community for your road reports so far and ask that you keep them coming.

Any road standard issues please contact Craig Elefsen, Manager Infrastructure Services, on 0448 089 092 or 9890 2500, or shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au.

Community Information

Office Open Hours

Monday - Friday
8.30am - 4.00pm

Staff can be contacted by phone between 8am - 5pm

Licensing Payments

All licensing payments are to be made in person at the Shire of Lake Grace Administration office, 1 Bishop Street, Lake Grace, (please phone ahead to confirm availability)

Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 4:00pm

As an agency, we process the majority of transactions including: renewals, transfers, number plate orders, boat registration renewals and new licence applications. With every transaction we perform, we try to offer the best service possible.

We do ask all licensing customers to be considerate, even though we are aware of people being 'locals' it does not exempt us from following the rules set by the Department of Transport.

Driving Assessor

The Practical Driving Assessor (PDA) will be at the Shire of Lake Grace Office on:

Friday - 4 November

Friday - 2 December (to be confirmed)

Bookings are essential for all Practical Driver's Licence Assessments and we advise booking in advance as there is often a waiting list.

All bookings to be made at the Shire office on 9890 2500 until further notice.

Lake Grace has one assessment day each month held on the first Friday of the month.

For more information go to: www.transport.wa.gov.au.

Libraries

Lake Grace Public Library School Place Absolon St
Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm
Closed for lunch 12.30 - 1pm

Newdegate Public Library Collier St
Monday - Thursday 8.30am - 4.30pm
Closed for lunch 12noon - 1pm
Friday 9am - 2pm

Lake King Library Newdegate/Ravensthorpe Rd
Tuesday and Thursday 8.30am - 3.30pm

Building Surveyor

Building Surveyor, can be contacted through the Shire Office on 9890 2500 or email shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au.

Town Planning & Building

The Shire's Town Planner consultant Joe Douglas, can be contacted via the Shire on 9890 2500 or email shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au.

Environmental Health

The Shire's Environmental Health Officer, Brendon Gerrard. Can be contacted via the Shire on 9890 2500 or email shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au.

Tip Times

Lake Grace

Monday & Wednesday 9am - 2pm
Saturday & Sunday 9am - 4pm

Newdegate

Wednesday 9am - 1pm
Saturday 9am - 1pm

Lake King and Varley

Open every day

Recycling Services

Household Waste Collection is a weekly service and collected each Tuesday for Lake Grace, Newdegate, Lake King & Varley.

Recycling is a fortnightly service and alternates between Lake Grace and Newdegate. See below for the upcoming recycling collection dates.

Lake Grace	Newdegate
Tuesday 8 November	Tuesday 1 November
Tuesday 22 November	Tuesday 15 November

Please Note: There is no kerbside recycling collection service in Lake King or Varley.

The recycling bins are collected by Warren Blackwood Waste and transported to a recycling facility. If items which are not recyclable are found the content can't be recycled and the load will be directed to the landfill.

If an item is covered in food, it is not recyclable. Food is one of the worst contaminants in the recycling process. By using the yellow top recycling bin correctly you are contributing, in a combined community effort, to reduce the amount of rubbish that is directed to landfill facilities each year.

For more information on Waste Management visit the Shire's website www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au.



Check our Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/ShireofLakeGrace/>

Bang Bang! of a Night

Tuesday 20 October saw “Bang! Bang!” arrive in Lake Grace following shows at Hopetoun, Albany and Mandurah.

BANG! BANG! is a contemporary dance based on true stories of three Australian women who were charged with murder. Through the historical cases the danced showed the similarities of the stories of Martha Rendell (1871-1909), Audrey Jacobs (1905-?) and Ellen Thompson (1835-1887 showing the consequences of the women brought to trial and the ultimate consequences they faced. The performance was choreographed by Shona Erskine and collaborators.

A big thank you to the three ladies who travelled from Lake King for the performance Sarah Mudge, Courtney Roberts and Rachael Winyard and also Sue-Ellen Lax and Rebeka Pawsey from Dance to Dust.

The second half of the program we saw conflict unfold in a slapstick crime caper inspired by Wes Anderson “The Grand Budapest Hotel”. The crime caper swept us into a world of saturated colour, playful movement and sinister murder.

Thirty-two people enjoyed the tasty dinner supplied by Mr’s G’s, with another eight arriving before the show at 7.30pm.

The show was presented by CircuitWest and Raveaboutarts

with support for the shows in Lake Grace and Lake King from the Shire of Lake Grace and Lake Grace Creative Events. The final of the tour is at Lake King Memorial Hall on Tuesday 25 October.

The two performances showed the audience we can all enjoy contemporary dance.

Photos by Cheryl Chappell



Above: from back to front, Sue-Ellen Lax with local ladies from Lake King Rachael Winyard, Courtney Roberts and Sarah Mudge.



Above: Contemporary dance troupe in Bang Bang!



Above: Contemporary dance troupe in “The Grand Budapest Hotel”.



Intermission, popcorn for everyone.



Shire of Lake Grace PUBLIC NOTICE

HOUSING SOLUTIONS IN THE SOUTHERN WHEATBELT

The Shire of Lake Grace is participating in a study with the Wheatbelt Development Commission to analyse housing demand for key workers in the 4WDLK area:

- Woodanilling
- Wagin
- Williams
- West Arthur
- Dumbleyung
- Lake Grace

The study seeks to understand housing stock needs currently and into the future. To help understand housing needs, we would like input from the business community, farming enterprise, key workers and other interested community members. Please click on the link below and complete the survey by **FRIDAY 4 NOVEMBER 2022**.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5FKYZ86>

Please help us find better housing solutions for workers in the Southern Wheatbelt.

Alan George
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Shire of Lake Grace
PUBLIC NOTICE
DISPOSAL OF ASSET

Expressions of interest are called from the public to purchase:

2016 MITSUBISHI PAJERO SPORT GLX WAGON SPORTS AUTOMATIC,
2.4L 4 CYLINDER DIESEL, APPROX 160,000 KM
EXCELLENT CONDITION GREAT SERVICE HISTORY

Inspection available by appointment only by contacting:

Manager Infrastructure Services on 0448 089 0092

All offers to be received by email to shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au

by 4pm FRIDAY 28 OCTOBER 2022

Disposal of this asset is in accordance with section 3.58 of the Local Government Act 1995.

Alan George

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER