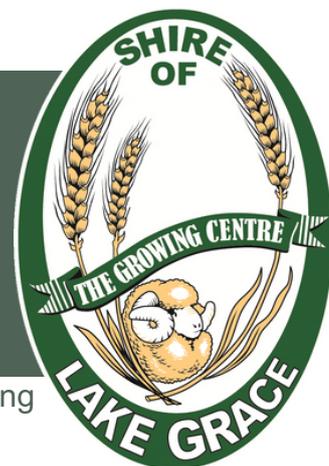


# Shire of Lake Grace

ISSUE 21 2025



Lake Grace ○ Newdegate ○ Lake King ○ Varley ○ Pingaring

## From the Chief Executive Officer

With the weather starting to warm up the Lake Grace swimming pool is being prepared for the new season and a new pool manager both of which will be warmly welcomed. Mark Gillbard (aka Jones) has moved over from Kulin and brings with him fresh ideas and attractions. Subject to the pool passing the Health Dept water requirements it is aimed to open the pool the week commencing 4 November.

Rejuvenation of the Newdegate swimming pool is under way with the old surface being removed in preparation for replacement. At this stage the works are planned to be finished by mid-December.

Water for the ovals at Newdegate is again becoming a problem this summer as winter rains were insufficient to adequately top up the oval dams or the new airstrip dam. We are currently working with the Water Corp to gain an improved access to its dams.

A meeting with Main Roads was held last week regarding the intersection of Biddy-Camm Rd and Gorge Rock – Lake Grace Rd. We are seeking to get the intersection widened for safety purposes. Main Roads have advised that they have budgeted to reseal approximately 12 km of the road north of the Dewar St intersection and it is hoped that the works will be done at the same time, commencing early in the new year.

Road sealing works on Kuender Rd West and Biddy-Camm Rd will be commencing in the next few weeks, weather permitting. Gravel resheeting works throughout the Shire have commenced and will be carried out progressively over the next 6 months.

In the last few weeks we bid farewell to Aimee Turnbull who is moving to greener pastures and fresh challenges. Aimee's contribution over the past two and a bit years has been invaluable both within and outside the office. This was followed by Alex Adams who is moving to Albany for family reasons. Alex too has been here a little over two years and her knowledge and work ethic will be sadly missed. Alex will however continue her connection with the Shire in her capacity as the Executive Liaison for the Local Government Rural Health Funding Alliance of which this Shire is the lead. These positions are both challenging and rewarding and BOTH remain vacant. Interested?

We have a new Manager of Infrastructure lined up however he has a few loose ends to tidy up before a starting date can be announced.

Alan George, Chief Executive Officer  
[ceo@lakegrace.wa.gov.au](mailto:ceo@lakegrace.wa.gov.au)

## Next Council Meeting

**3.30pm, Wednesday 26 November**

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

Upcoming agendas, and minutes from previous meetings are available for public viewing at: [www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au](http://www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au)

the growing centre

## Highlights from Council

### Highlights from the **22 October 2025** Council Meeting:

- The meeting commenced with the swearing in of the Councillors who were declared elected unopposed at the close of nominations on 4 September 2025. Returning Councillors Hunt Kuchling and Hyde and new Councillor Jenny Roche all made a declaration that they would “.... faithfully, honestly and with integrity fulfil the duties of the office for the people in the district according to the best of my judgement and ability.....”
- Nominations were then called for the position of Shire President and with only one nomination being received, Cr Len Armstrong was re-elected unopposed. Nominations for the Deputy Shire President were then called and Cr Steve Hunt was re-elected unopposed.
- We acknowledge the service of outgoing councillor Ross Chappell, who has retired after 16 years (four terms) on council.



L-R: Cr Benjamin Hyde, Cr Steve Hunt, CEO Alan George, Cr Jenny Roche, Cr Anton Kuchling



Cr Jenny Roche - signing declaration

### Normal proceedings were then resumed with the following items:

- The permanent closure of Lakes Rd, Buniche was considered by Council. A 35 day public consultation process has commenced advertising the intent to close Lakes Rd permanently. After that time, depending on any objections, the request to close will be forwarded to the relevant Minister to approve the closure.
- Council approved a budget re-allocation of \$130,000 from the Jam Patch – New Walkway to the Lake Grace Lookout Upgrade. This was to pay for the materials for the lookout now as the Jam Patch walk way will not require the full amount of funding this financial year.
- Council noted the requirements under Section 6 of the Planning and Development Act 2005 in relation to the Shire of Lake Grace Local Planning Scheme 4 pertaining to Extractive Industries and to support the development of an Information Sheet for landowners within the Shire. The extraction and sale of any basic raw materials by private landowners to any private individuals or companies for construction works of any type (e.g. renewable energy facilities, grain handling and storage facilities and so on) requires the Shire’s formal development approval under Local Planning Scheme No.4 to ensure it is undertaken in a proper and orderly manner and does not have any negative impacts, particularly on the occupants of any nearby dwellings, the local road network or the natural environment.

**Highlights from Council cont.**

- The purpose of the proposed information sheet is to alert the owners of all rural land in the Shire of the Shire’s approval requirements and the circumstances under which an exemption to the need for development approval will apply so extractive industries are developed in accordance with all the relevant requirements and we don’t end up having to deal with any issues that may arise. The sale of any basic raw materials by private landowners to any government agencies or their agents (i.e. contractors) for the purpose of public works is exempt from the need for the Shire’s development approval given the express exemption afforded by section 6 of the Planning and Development Act 2005 as it applies specifically to public works. The government agency or any authorised agent is however obliged under this section of the Act to provide details to the Shire of exactly what’s proposed and where so the Shire can determine and confirm if what’s proposed is consistent with the requirements of Local Planning Scheme No.4.
- It is accepted that many landowners in the Shire may not have complied with the Shire’s requirements in the past and may also be extracting basic raw materials without the necessary approvals however there are a lot of risks for them and the Shire if this is permitted to continue. A planning information sheet will help to ensure landowners are made aware of the Shire’s requirements and the need to seek and obtain the required approvals, even if they are retrospective in nature.
- Council approved the closure of the Shire Administration office from midday on Wednesday 24 December 2025 reopening Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026. A skeleton crew will remain to monitor watering regimes and in case of emergencies.
- Approval was given to CBH to construct two additional emergency bulkheads for grain storage in Lake Grace.
- Councillor representatives to the various Committees of Council and various committees and advisory groups were determined.

**Public Notice**

**Advertisement of Road Closure & Invitation of Comments – Lakes Road**

Following Council Resolution 14103 of the 22 October 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting, the Public is hereby notified of a request to permanently close Lakes Road, Buniche due to it being a local ("C-class") no-through road only servicing farm dwellings. Per Section 58 of the Land Administration Act 1997, a Local Government may request the Minister for Lands (the Minister) to permanently close a road after a minimum 35 days of public advertisement for comments and objections, and the request to the Minister to close the road must be passed as a Council Resolution after all comments and objections are addressed.

Please find Resolution 14103 below:

<b>RESOLUTION 14103</b>	
<b>Moved: Cr Lloyd</b>	
<b>Seconded: Cr Kuchling</b>	
That Council:	1. Considers the permanent closure of Lakes Rd Buniche. 2. Approves the commencement of a 35 day public consultation period advertising the intent to close Lakes Rd permanently.
CARRIED	7/0
For:	Cr Armstrong, Cr Hunt, Cr Roche, Cr Lloyd, Cr Kuchling, Cr Hyde, Cr Clarke
Against:	Nil

## Public Notice cont.

### Submission of Comments and Objections

Comments and objections can be made:

- By mail sent to PO Box 50, Lake Grace, or
- By email to [shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au](mailto:shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au) with a relevant subject title such as "Comment/Objection to Permanent Closure of Lakes Road, Buniche", or
- By letter handed over to staff at the Shire Administration Office at 1 Bishop Street, Lake Grace.

Submissions may be displayed publicly during an Ordinary Council Meeting or as Attachments to the Agenda, unless the commenter/objector requests confidentiality.

Acceptance of comments and objections closes at 3:00pm on the 10th of December, 2025.

## Citizenship Ceremony

On 22 October 2025 the Shire of Lake Grace had the honour of conferring citizenship status on Bobby and Frankie-Rose Mason, Skadi McDonald, and Atinut Thongyen.

Making the pledge of commitment at a formal ceremony is the final step in becoming an Australian citizen. Acquiring citizenship is a public declaration of commitment to Australia and an acknowledgement of the common bond of reciprocal rights and obligations enjoyed by Australian citizens.

Citizens pledge to be loyal to Australia and its people; share their democratic beliefs, respect their rights and liberties, and uphold and obey the laws of Australia. In return they have the right to vote and to acquire an Australian passport.

Shire President Len Armstrong presided over the ceremony which was attended by the families of the conferees, councilors and staff of the Shire of Lake Grace and followed by a welcoming afternoon tea..

Warm congratulations and welcome to our newest citizens.



L-R: Skadi McDonald, Bobby Mason, Frankie-Rose Mason, Atinut Thongyen



## COMMUNITY INFORMATION

### Lake Grace Swimming Pool

#### **CLOSED FOR THE SEASON**

We look forward to seeing you all in the 2025/2026 season.

### Library Services

#### **Lake Grace Community Library**

School Place

T: 08 9865 1185

E: lakegracelibrary@hotmail.com

#### **Newdegate Public Library**

Collier Street

T: 08 9871 1791

E: admin@newdegatecrc.com.au

#### **Lake King Library**

Newdegate/Ravensthorpe Road

T: 08 9874 4147

E: lklib@lakegrace.wa.gov.au

### Town Planning & Building

Please contact the Shire of Lake Grace for all Town Planning and Building Surveying enquiries.

Email: shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au

### Department of Transport

All licensing payments can be made in person at the Shire of Lake Grace Administration Building:

#### **Monday to Friday 8:30am to 4:00pm**

*Please allow a minimum of 30 minutes prior to closing to enable completion of transactions.*

We process the majority of transactions including: renewals, transfers, number plate orders, boat registration renewals and new licence applications.

### Driving Assessor

Lake Grace holds one assessment day each month (subject to change).

Bookings are essential for all Practical Driver's Licence Assessments as there is a wait list. Please contact the Shire office for bookings. For more information go to: [www.transport.wa.gov.au](http://www.transport.wa.gov.au)

### Environmental Health

Please contact the Shire of Lake Grace for all Environmental Health enquiries. Email: shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au.

### Waste Facilities

#### **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 is collected each Tuesday in Lake Grace, Newdegate, Lake King & Varley.

Recycling is a fortnightly service, alternating between Lake Grace and Newdegate:

Newdegate	Lake Grace
Tuesday 11 November 25 November	Tuesday 18 November 2 December

Shire of Lake Grace

Telephone: 08 9890 2500 (8.00am–5.00pm) | Email: shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au

Administration Building, 1 Bishop Street, Lake Grace (8.30am–4.00pm Monday to Friday)

Postal Address: PO Box 50, Lake Grace, WA 6353

Website: [www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au](http://www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au)

Connect with us

