

Shire of Lake Grace

ISSUE 15 2026



Lake Grace ○ Newdegate ○ Lake King ○ Varley ○ Pingaring

From the Chief Executive Officer

This past week has been a big week for the Shire. The Annual Budget was approved on Wednesday 5 August at a Special Council Meeting. Council has kept this year's rate increase to 3% in line with the Shire's Long Term Financial Plan. Rates are the Shire's main source of income for keeping our vast road network maintained as well as our town playing fields, parks and gardens, playgrounds and public buildings. Add to this the machinery to keep the roads open for all to use.

Some \$3.3 million is being spent on roads this year with \$1.35 million from Shire funds and the balance coming from government funding. Plant purchases of \$1.2 million will be partly offset by proceeds from the sale of old plant and some from Reserves.

Funds are being placed in Reserves to cover essential works at the Lake King Sports Pavilion, the Lake King and Varley Centenaries and future IT upgrades required.

Works will continue to complete the land subdivision for the Wattle Drive extension to enable the construction of much required housing. This is fully government funded for the required headworks.

Full details of the budget are on the Shire website.

Four years ago Shire administration along with the 5 other Shires in our Regional Organisation of Councils, being Wagin, Williams, West Arthur, Williams and Dumbleyung known as 4WDL, commenced work on investigating ways to gain funds for the construction of Key Worker Housing in each of our shires. Much research was undertaken, surveys completed and business cases prepared. Various funding sources were identified, politicians met and finally last Wednesday we were advised that 4WDL was successful in receiving \$4.5 million through the State Government's Regional Housing Support Fund.

Total funding for this grant was limited to \$75 million across all Regional Western Australia and the grant was most competitive. The Shire of Lake Grace portion of this funding is \$1 million which allows us to construct some housing in the new subdivision. We had originally planned to build 2, now we will be able to do 2 more. More about this on the next page.

Thursday 6 August saw the departure of Tegan Hall, our Manager of Corporate Services for the past 4 years. Tegan plans to spend more time with her children and has taken up a part-time job in Dumbleyung. Tegan was an integral part of the team and leaves us well placed for the future. An internal review of our Organisation Structure has seen the Manager Corporate Services position be dispensed within and be covered by internal promotion and a redistribution of duties.

Congratulations to Payton Callope on being named one of the Top Four finalists for the 2026 Western Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year Award at the Western Australian Training awards. We wish her well for the final.

Alan George, Chief Executive Officer
ceo@lakegrace.wa.gov.au

Next Council Meeting

3.30pm, Wednesday 26th August

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

the growing centre

MEDIA RELEASE

4WDL Secures \$4.5 million for Regional Key Worker Housing

4WDL has secured \$4,508,965 through the State Government's Regional Housing Support Fund to support the delivery of 20 new homes across six local government areas in the Wheatbelt and Great Southern.

4WDL is a Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils comprising the Shires of Wagin, West Arthur, Williams, Woodanilling, Dumbleyung and Lake Grace.

The successful joint application was submitted through the Cook Labor Government's \$75 million Regional Housing Support Fund. Together with local government and other project contributions, the funding will support a regional housing program valued at approximately \$13.5 million.

The project builds on several years of coordinated regional planning, including detailed housing analysis, local housing strategies and a comprehensive business case that identified a significant and growing shortage of suitable housing.

The analysis found that the region will require between 158 and 254 additional key worker homes over the next decade.

The 20 new dwellings will help address this shortage and improve the ability of local communities to attract and retain essential workers.

The funding will also help overcome a key market failure affecting regional housing delivery, where the cost of constructing new homes often significantly exceeds their completed market value.

The project will use modular construction and a coordinated regional delivery model to reduce build times and improve delivery efficiency. Construction is expected to be completed by mid-2028.

4WDL Chair Cr Karen Harrington welcomed the State Government's announcement.

"Our local governments have done the groundwork. We have planned, prepared land and are ready to deliver," Cr Harrington said.

"I am pleased the State Government has recognised the significant preparation undertaken across the region and is supporting us to make a meaningful improvement to housing availability."

"This investment will help strengthen essential services, attract and retain key workers, and support the long-term growth and sustainability of our communities."

4WDL has played a leading role in researching, demonstrating and advocating for increased key worker housing across regional Western Australia, including highlighting the market challenges that can prevent new housing from being delivered.

Further information about the Regional Housing Support Fund and successful applicants is available on the Western Australian Government website: [Regional Housing Support Fund awards grants to support the delivery of more than 900 homes.](#)

Media contact

Cr Karen Harrington

Chair, 4WDL

Cr.Harrington@westarthur.wa.gov.au

Updates from Infrastructure

You many have noticed two defibrillators have recently been installed within the Lake Grace townsite. They can be found at the front of the Lake Grace Visitor Centre and Lake Grace Shire Hall next to the Lesser Hall entrance.

Thank you to Community Paramedic Michelle Bamess for helping get them set-up and put on the St John First Responder App.

The St John First Responder App features a Defibrillator Network which allows users to get directions to the closest available defib.



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Heart-stopping, Jaw-dropping Circus



**ZAP
CIRCUS**



"Charismatic, funny & skills to boot!"
A real FEEL-GOOD performance!"
- PERTH HAPPENINGS

ONE SHOW ONLY!

- 28th August 2026 • Newdegate Hall
- Doors open 6:30pm for a 7:00pm start
- This is a free event- no booking required



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COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Lake Grace Swimming Pool

CLOSED FOR THE 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

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

Open every day

Varley

Closed

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 18 August 1 September	Tuesday 25 August 8 September

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

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