

SHIRE OF KOJONUP E-NEWS

Edition 214 – 11 June 2021

COUNCIL BRIEFS

Hon. John Quigley MLA, Attorney General; Minister for Electoral Affairs, announced on Friday 30 April 2021 the establishment of a Ministerial Expert Committee to advise the Government on electoral reform. The Government now asks the Committee to review the electoral system for the Legislative Council and provide:

1. Recommendations as to how electoral equality might be achieved for all citizens entitled to vote for the Legislative Council, and
2. Recommendations for the distribution of preferences in the Legislative Council's proportional representation system.

(Extracts from WALGA submission)

“The Minister has expressed an opinion that the group ticket voting system that enables micro party candidates to be elected is not democratic.

Wilson Tucker, of the Daylight Savings Party, was elected to the Legislative Council with 98 first preference votes (which equates to less than 0.2 percent of valid votes) in the Mining and Pastoral Region.

Similar outcomes were observed in the Australian Senate prior to the 2016 election, which led to the changes to the Senate's voting method.

Reform in WA should be undertaken to remove the group voting ticket from the Legislative Council voting system similar to the Senate reforms undertaken in 2016.

Practically, this would mean voters would be required to allocate preferences among parties above the line, or among candidates below the line, up to, at minimum, the number of vacant positions in the region or electoral district.

The aim of removing group ticket voting would be to make it much more difficult for micro parties to have candidates successfully elected through “preference harvesting”. The 2016 Senate reforms demonstrated that the removal of group voting tickets had this effect at the 2016 full-Senate and 2019 half-Senate elections.

In addition, given the familiarity of the method of voting for the Senate, adopting electoral reform of this nature would be unlikely to significantly increase the rate of informal voting.

Rejects the option of members of the Legislative Council being elected from an electorate comprising the entire state of Western Australia, principally on the basis that rural and remote political representation would be diminished irrevocably.

Representing communities through Local Government across the breadth of the vast state of Western Australia, WALGA recognises the importance of political representation. As demographic and other forces pull people away from some regions towards the metropolitan area, political representation becomes increasingly important. The terms of reference – demanding electoral equality – are

contestable. It is the Local Government sector's experience that equality has many facets. Different levels of State Government services provided to different communities exemplify inequality, as does the varying distance to be travelled to access services and elected representatives. Focusing on equality only in terms of the number of electors in a Legislative Council region neglects to recognise the social, societal, economic, and geographic reality among Western Australian communities.

Electoral equality, established on the basis of the number of electors, in the Legislative Council will reduce political representation of rural and remote communities. Consequently, the political representation provided by Local Government will become even more important. This additional responsibility will be very challenging for many non-metropolitan Local Governments which are already stretched beyond their current capacity and resourcing."

Council and WALGA have made a submission to the Electoral Reform Committee with the following recommendations:

- 1. Group Ticket Voting be removed from the Legislative Council Electoral System, and reforms be adopted modelled on the Senate reforms of 2016.**
- 2. A regional system be retained, and the whole state electorate option be rejected.**
- 3. The Ministerial Expert Committee on Electoral Reform be required to consider the importance of political representation for rural and regional Western Australia.**



Shire President
John Benn

Chief Executive Officer
Rick Mitchell-Collins

Council Meeting Dates for 2021

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on 15 June 2021. As we are still operating under some COVID-19 restrictions, please note we have a digital option for submitting items for Public Question Time. An email can be sent to cmpgt@kojonup.wa.gov.au and the Manager Corporate and Community Services will table all correspondence received.

Council Elections October 2021 and Becoming a Councillor

Local government ordinary elections are held on the third Saturday in October every two years. The next ordinary elections are scheduled for Saturday 16 October 2021. Councillors are elected for terms of four years in Western Australia. Elections are held every two years for half of the council, and candidates are elected using the first-past-the-post voting system.

If you would like to nominate as a candidate in a local government election visit the [Department of Local Government, Sport & Cultural Industries](#) website and complete the "Candidate Induction".

SPRINGHAVEN

Hello Middle of 2021!

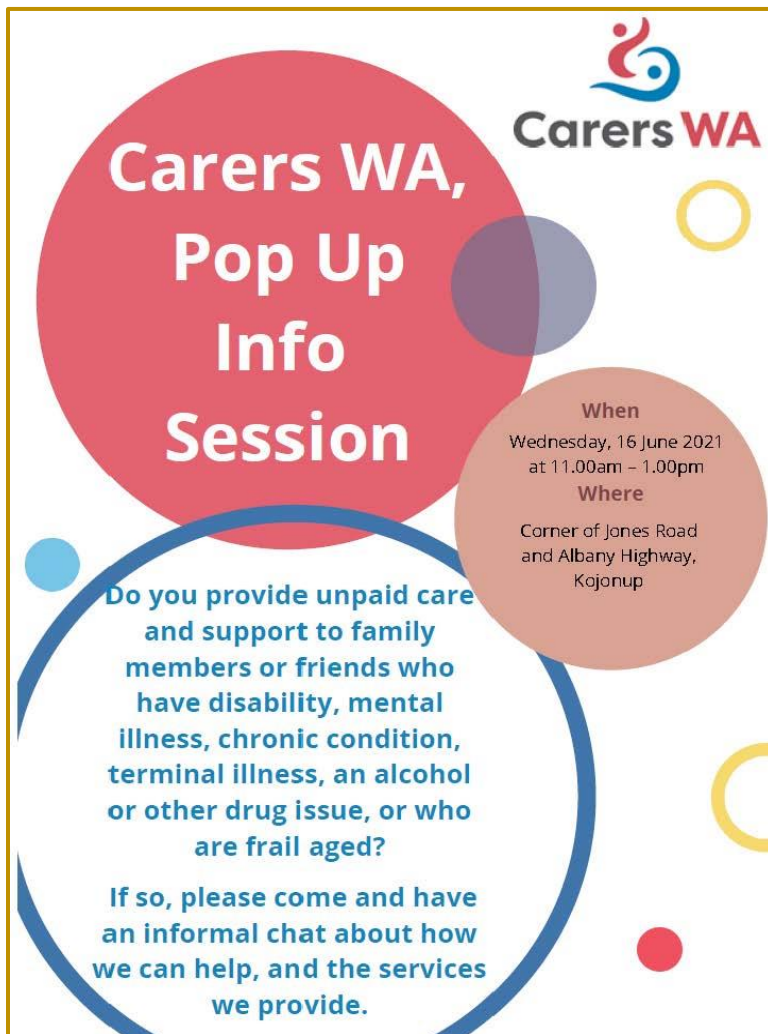
How crazy that is... Almost as crazy as this freezing weather! We are very lucky here at Springhaven that we have such a great heating system throughout the building and don't feel that chill that is setting in outside. The first day of winter we had our lovely friends from Loton close and a few extras join us for a morning of fun, games and connection. The rec room was bustling with chatter and laughter and it was so wonderful to see. I believe this is going to be ongoing once a month, board games and cards in the rec room with friends.

We have celebrated WA day on Monday with a sausage sizzle and games in line with the theme.

We have been putting our indoor bowling skills to the test lately and its proving to be very popular so will continue with that activity as often as possible, along with Quoits which is another great physical activity that our residents enjoy.

Keep warm out there! Until next time...

Aleighta (Activities Co-ordinator)



**Carers WA,
Pop Up
Info
Session**

Carers WA

When
Wednesday, 16 June 2021
at 11.00am - 1.00pm

Where
Corner of Jones Road
and Albany Highway,
Kojonup

Do you provide unpaid care and support to family members or friends who have disability, mental illness, chronic condition, terminal illness, an alcohol or other drug issue, or who are frail aged?

If so, please come and have an informal chat about how we can help, and the services we provide.

Springhaven Lodge Vacancies

Springhaven Lodge offers quality respite and residential care, within a friendly, home-like environment. Being a smaller facility, we are able to provide individualised support for all who stay with us, for whatever length of time.

Set amongst peaceful and spacious gardens, Springhaven is close to the centre of town and is a well-loved part of the local Kojonup community. There's always lots of interesting and fun activities going on, and visitors are always welcomed.

Vacancies now exist here at Springhaven Lodge, so arrange a visit soon to check out this special place to be.

For enquiries please contact Ciara O'Regan, Manager of Springhaven 98312800 or macs@kojonup.wa.gov.au

THE KODJA PLACE

What's Flowering Now!

The Brown-veined Shell Orchid (*Pterostylis aspera*) can now be found at Myrtle Benn Flora and Fauna Sanctuary. The Brown-veined Shell Orchid is very similar to the Red-Veined Shell Orchid. However, the "V" is less acute and the labellum is shorter. The Brown-veined Shell Orchid is commonly found in coastal areas between Perth and Albany and is identified by its greenish-brown flowers.



The Banded Greenhood Orchid (*Pterostylis Vittata*) can also be found at Myrtle Benn Flora and Fauna Sanctuary. The Banded Greenhood has striped flowers that are green and translucent and there can be as many as 25 flowers on one stem. The Banded Greenhood Orchid is commonly found between Perth and Albany.



For more information on Myrtle Benn Flora and Fauna Sanctuary and Farrar Reserve contact the Kojonup Visitor Centre on (08) 9831 0500 or email kojonupvisitors@bigpond.com

Contact the Kojonup Visitor Centre on (08) 9831 0500 or email kojonupvisitors@bigpond.com

What Our Visitors are Saying.....

"Wonderful Museum, Thanks" - R Butler, Merredin

"Excellent" - R & D Koops

"Lovely Place" - A Edwards & D Painter, Mandurah



Positions Vacant

Customer Service Officers – Kojonup Visitors Centre (Casual Pool)

The Shire of Kojonup is developing a pool of casual Customer Service Officers to provide relief work when required, weekend and peak season relief at the Kojonup Visitor Centre.

How to apply: Further details are contained in the [Candidate Information Package](#) or contact Kristel Thomson, Visitor Services Officer at bcc@kojonup.wa.gov.au or on 9831 0500. Further details can be found on our [website](#).

Rick Mitchell-Collins
Chief Executive Officer

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

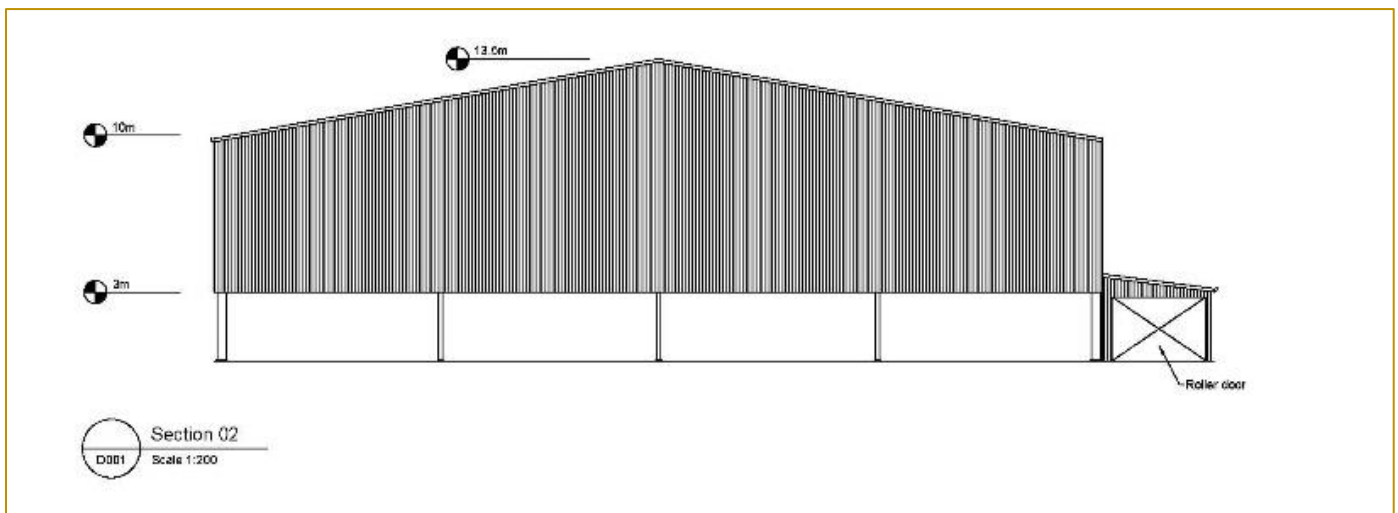
Netball Court Progress Update

A tender offer from MCB Construction in Albany has been accepted by the Council to construct the Roof structure over the soon to be reconstructed Netball Courts, with the works contract signed by all parties. Site works are set to begin in early September, at the completion of the Netball season for 2021.

The new Roof Structure will cover all four courts, and has increased in both overall footprint as well as height from the original design, ensuring that there is adequate run-off space and a match-standard minimum roof height of 8.3m. The roof will be semi-enclosed with cladding on all sides down to 3 metres above ground level. Incorporated in the roof will be 4 bays of storage for clubs and community groups to utilise, each with roller doors and concrete flooring.

Works are underway to prepare specifications for the construction of the new playing surfaces, which will go to tender shortly.

The Netball Club have continued their involvement in the project, and their insight into how the new facility can be utilised has assisted Council in making decisions to future-proof the space.



EMAIL MY RATE NOTICE

The Shire offers its ratepayers the opportunity to receive their rate notice via email. This convenient service saves paper and offers a quick and easy way for people to receive their rate notice.

To receive your rate notice via email, please contact council@kojonup.wa.gov.au with the following details.

Assessment Number:

Name:

Postal address:

Email address you would like the rates sent to:

Phone number:

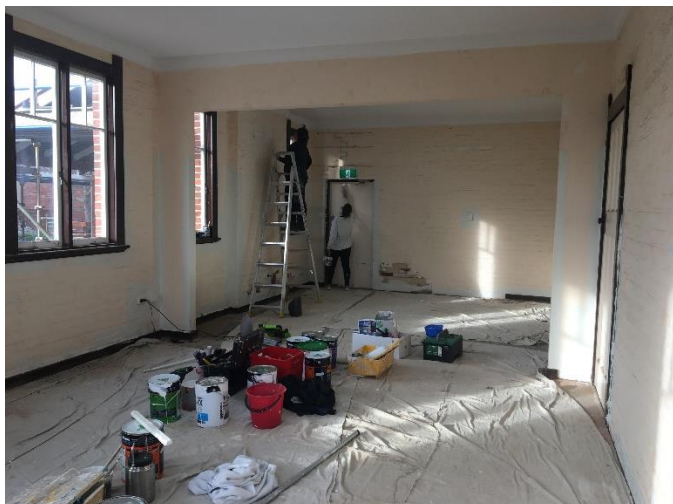


Did you know that you can now pay your rates online?

From the comfort of your own home, rates payments can now be completed on line using the Biller Code and reference number indicated on your rates notice, via: kojonup.wa.gov.au/services/rates-information/rates-payment.aspx

KOJONUP MEMORIAL HALL UPGRADES

The replacement of the Memorial Hall new roof and gutters may have been delayed a little while it rains however the internal renovations are continuing.



WORKS AND SERVICES

Kojonup Park

The installation of new bins, bollards and the new bridge has all commenced and the entire precinct is looking amazing.

But we haven't finished yet! We are still looking for the following images:

- Pygmy possum
- Brush Wallaby
- Bearded Dragon
- Phascogaile Red Tail

These images will be used for marketing and promotion across the Shire and will need to be of a high resolution to ensure the images can be printed clearly in large scale such as those on the bins at Kojonup Park. If you have any of these images and are willing to share them, please make contact with Steph Waldron at the Works and Services admin office on 9831 2462



The Shire of Kojonup is delighted to announce a two day, free
ROSE & GARDENS WORKSHOP

Presented by: Colin Barlow
Managing Director- Gardens from Eden

Thursday 22 July & Friday 23 July
9am-3pm at The Kodja Place and Rose Maze

Colin is a passionate qualified horticulturalist, landscape designer, garden writer, television presenter, radio host and international tour guide who has worked in the industry for over thirty-three years. His experience and knowledge of plants and landscape design from around the world is exceptional. Colin has hosted a gardening segment 'Home in WA' with Channel 7 Perth for the past 16 years, presents a weekly garden segment on 98.5 FM radio and writes a monthly column for the "Have A Go" newspaper and previously 'The West Australian Gardener' magazine.

We encourage our current volunteers, potential new volunteers and any gardening enthusiasts to participate in this course. Update your skills while Colin shares his wealth of plant knowledge.

LUNCH, MORNING AND AFTERNOON TEA PROVIDED.

**For catering, RSVP by Thursday 15 July to
Marina: sh@kojonup.wa.gov.au or phone – 0428 566 527**

Please also advise of any dietary restrictions.

Morning Tea sponsored by Nightingales Nest and Nursery



PUBLIC NOTICES AND COMMUNITY INFORMATION

REQUEST FOR TENDER 04 of 2020/21 – KOJONUP SPORTS PLAY SPACE

Tenders are invited for the construction of a playground and associated works at the Kojonup Sports Precinct.

To arrange an inspection of the site or to obtain tender documents please contact Emily Sleight on 9831 2407 or email sro@kojonup.wa.gov.au

Tenders marked “Confidential – Tender 4 of 2020/21” may be submitted in-person at the address below or by emailing council@kojonup.wa.gov.au and must be received by **3:00pm, Wednesday 7 July 2021**.

Rick Mitchell-Collins
Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Kojonup
 PO Box 163, 93 Albany Highway, KOJONUP WA 6395



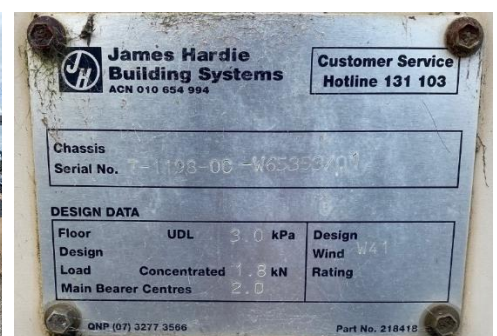
Expressions of Interest – Purchase of Transportable Building

The Shire of Kojonup are calling for Expressions of Interest for the purchase of the current Netball Transportable Building. This will include the disconnection of services (water and electricity) and the removal of the building. All works will need to be completed prior to 15 August 2021.

Building is a James Hardie transportable, 12m long x 3.2m wide, with a verandah as shown in the pictures. Contents of building are not included.

Please forward Expressions of Interest via email to council@kojonup.wa.gov.au

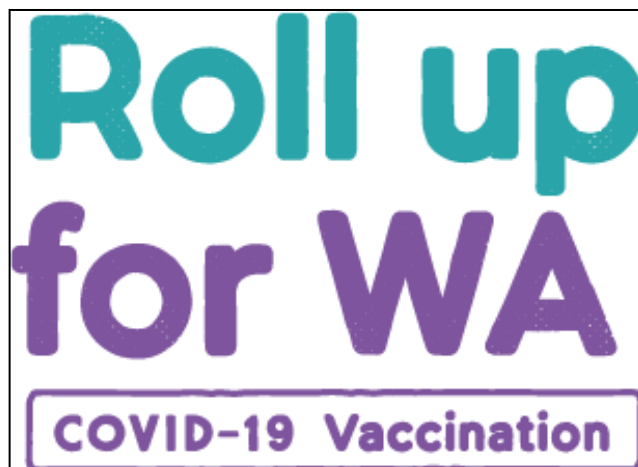
Further details and site inspections can be arranged with Emily Sleight, Sport and Recreation Officer Phone 08 9831 2407 or sro@kojonup.wa.gov.au



Media Statement from Hon Roger Cook BA GradDipBus MBA MLA
Deputy Premier; Minister for Health; Medical Research; State
Development, Jobs and Trade; Science

Roll up for COVID vaccinations in the South-West from June 10

Tuesday, 8 June 2021



- First regional COVID-19 community vaccination clinic launches in Bunbury on Thursday
- Pfizer and AstraZeneca vaccines available in Bunbury on different days of the week
- Bunbury clinic bolsters capacity as WA fast tracks and expands rollout significantly
- 30 to 49 year olds in WA now able to receive the COVID-19 vaccine
- All Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 16 and over now eligible

Western Australia's first regional COVID-19 community vaccination clinic officially opens this Thursday, June 10, 2021 in Bunbury at the Bunbury Homemaker Centre, making it easier for eligible residents in the South-West to roll up their sleeve and get vaccinated.

The opening coincides with the newly fast tracked and expanded rollout of the COVID-19 vaccination program in WA where people aged 30 to 49 will be eligible for the Pfizer vaccine.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 16 and over are also now eligible to be vaccinated as part of the newly expanded COVID-19 vaccination rollout.

The new Bunbury location is the fifth community vaccination clinic to open in WA, in addition to Perth-based clinics in Claremont, Joondalup, Redcliffe and Kwinana.

The Bunbury clinic will be open to eligible people with appointments, between 8.30am and 4pm on weekdays and will provide both Pfizer and AstraZeneca vaccines to relevant groups.

AstraZeneca remains the recommended vaccine for people aged 50 and over, with Pfizer recommended for those aged under 50.

AstraZeneca will be available on Mondays and Fridays, while Pfizer will be administered at the Bunbury clinic on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

To book a vaccine appointment, visit rollup.wa.gov.au or call 13 COVID (13 26843).

Comments attributed to Health Minister Roger Cook:

"The opening of new regional community clinics comes at a time where we've fast tracked the vaccination program and will provide even more opportunities for all Western Australians to be protected against COVID-19.

"Eligible people living in regional WA have the opportunity to be vaccinated at more than 75 health service clinics operated by the WA Country Health Service, in addition to GPs, respiratory clinics and Aboriginal Medical Services.

"Bookings have now opened for the Bunbury community vaccination clinic, so I encourage all eligible people living in the South-West to make sure you book your appointment online on the Roll Up for WA website or by calling 13 COVID (13 26843)."

Comments attributed to Bunbury MLA Don Punch:

"This is a great opportunity for people in Bunbury and the South-West to be vaccinated against COVID-19 and maintain our position as one of the safest places in the world.

"As the Minister for Disability Services, I'm pleased to see community clinics opening in regional areas, so that adults with underlying medical conditions or significant disabilities can be vaccinated."

Minister's office - 6552 6500



We've all worked together to keep Western Australia one of the safest places in the world.

To protect our lifestyle here in WA, there's one more thing we need to do. We need to roll up our sleeves and get vaccinated for COVID-19. The more people who do, the more we protect our families, friends and community.



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