

SHIRE NOTES



Fire Breaks

The fire season is not far away. With the wetter winter this year, the grass (and potential fire hazard) is greater than the recent past years. For town blocks, now is the time to have that spring clean-up and for vacant block owners, to consider your options for the removal of the fire hazard.

In the past years, the Tammin Volunteer Fire Service has burnt a number of blocks. The Volunteers have indicated that they do not have the resources to be able to continue this service.

The Shire of Tammin's Firebreak Order required 3m firebreaks around the property boundary and around all buildings on the property by 1 November and to be maintained through to 1 April. Consideration is being given to the issue of Infringements for those property owners have failed to carry out these works. If you have an opinion on this issue, you are urged to contact your local Councillor.

Also, if you are interested in contracting for fire breaks or clearing town blocks, please contact the CEO.

Audit Committee

Anyone interested in serving on the Shire of Tammin's Audit Committee is asked to contact the CEO. The role of the Committee is to provide an independent oversight of the financial systems of the Shire of Tammin on behalf of Council. The Committee is required to meet once per year and to examine audit reports and management letters and advice received from the Shire of Tammin's Auditor and to ensure appropriate action and response is provided. Ivan Rogers and Donald Thomson have previously served on the Committee.

Zone Control Authorities (ZCAs)

The enactment of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act* has resulted in the wind-up of the Agricultural Zone Control Authorities (ZCAs) which provided an opportunity for involvement in landscape-based pest issues (mainly concerning invasive species, weeds and feral animals). In the past, Peter Ralston has represented Tammin farmers on this Authority.

Council has resolved to support an informal meeting of elected representatives, held annually, to discuss biosecurity threats, existing and potential (invasive species, weeds and feral animals) and provide advice to the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Council as an interim measure until a Recognised Biosecurity Group is established.

Interested In A Career In Medicine?

Financial assistance to medical students committing to a career in rural and regional medicine will continue with two perpetual scholarships administered by the University of Western Australia.

The new scholarships will replace those offered by the recently wound up Country Medical Foundation, and will be named the Country Medical Foundation Scholarship in recognition of the significant role played by the Foundation in fostering improved health care services in country Western Australia.

Two scholarships will be awarded annually to assist and encourage students in completing a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery at UWA who are experiencing financial hardship and who demonstrate a commitment to undertaking a career in rural or regional WA.

Kings Park Wildflower Festival

Australia's Golden Outback has reserved it's own individual Outback Wildflowers marquee at the Kings Park Wildflower Festival (26-29 September) and is seeking volunteers to man the marquee in either half day or full day sessions

If you can't attend but would still like our region featured at the Festival perhaps you can help with either of the following:

- **Provision of wildflowers** – If there is a way you can provide wildflowers for the display that would be fantastic – AGO will find a way of getting them to Perth.
- **Provision of information** – You may be able to provide specific information on the normal or current locations of different wildflower species in your area, also suggesting how long you expect the season to continue.

Please contact Gabby Simoni at marketing@goldenback.com or ring 9325 1511 by Friday 12 September.

Volunteers Calling - 2008 Tammin Awards Night

2008 Tammin Awards Night is taking place on 25 September. Helpers are desperate needed in setting up audio systems, venue decorating, food helping If you are interest helping for his function, please contact Elena, Community Development Officer.

Community Service Social Gathering

The coming gathering for community services is on Monday 15 September 2008 at 1:30pm in Town Hall. Come along and have a cup of tea, meeting new people and have a chat. If you like to enquire more, please contact Elena, Community Development Officer on 9637 1101.

For further information on any of these issues, please contact your local Councillor or the staff at the Shire Office.

Mick Oliver, Chief Executive Officer