
JANUARY 2026

SHIRE OF JERRAMUNGUP



WELCOME FROM THE CEO!

Welcome to the first Council Buzz for 2026. I hope everyone had the chance to enjoy a break over the festive season and spend time with family and friends. A new year always brings a sense of reset, and we're looking forward to another productive year for our Shire.

This summer, as usual, Bremer Bay has been busy with visitors, and it's great to see so many people enjoying our region. With a strong WA Police presence and our Rangers carrying out regular patrols, I'm pleased to report that most visitors were on their best behaviour.

January has already been a demanding month, with a number of fires across the Shire. In particular, the fire that began in Fitzgerald River National Park on 16 January remains ongoing. These situations are a strong reminder of the conditions we face at this time of year. I want to acknowledge the efforts of our volunteer bushfire brigades, emergency services, Parks and Wildlife staff, and all others involved in responding. Their work in difficult conditions is vital in protecting our community and environment. As we continue through summer, please stay alert to fire information and make safety a priority. Small actions help reduce risk for everyone.

This week, the community came together for our annual Australia Day event, held this year at the Jerramungup Sports Oval for an afternoon BBQ. It was great to see people catching up, welcoming visitors and recognising the individuals and groups who contribute so much to our Shire. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the day a success, as well as the staff and councillors who assisted with organising and running the event.

Congratulations to all those nominated for an Australia Day Award, and to the recipients in each category. Being nominated is an achievement in itself, and our community is fortunate to have so many dedicated and talented people. Thank you to everyone who took the time to submit nominations and help recognise the efforts and contributions of others.

Martin Cuthbert
Chief Executive Officer

OPERATING HOURS

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

8 Vasey Street,
Jerramungup

Monday - Friday
8.30am - 4.00pm

Ph: 9835 1022

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UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- Ordinary Council Meeting
1pm Wednesday 25
February 2026. Council
Chamber, Jerramungup.

Community News

AUSTRALIA DAY BBQ BASH 2026

The Shire of Jerramungup marked Australia Day with a relaxed community BBQ at the Jerramungup Sports Oval on Monday, 26 January 2026.

The afternoon provided a wonderful opportunity for locals and visitors to come together, enjoy good food, and celebrate what makes our community special. Shire Councillors and staff helped serve the BBQ, creating a friendly and welcoming atmosphere for all ages.

Formal proceedings commenced with an Acknowledgement of Country by Deputy Shire President, Cr Paul Barrett, who welcomed guests and spoke about the meaning behind the day. Local singer Tanya Buckenara then performed a lovely rendition of the Australian National Anthem, followed by the presentation of the Australia Day Awards recognising individuals and groups who have made outstanding contributions to the Shire.

The Junior Sports Person of the Year Award nominees for 2025 were April Langdon, Jakob Lyall, Lachlan Bailey, Zac Langdon, and Zaine Osterhage, with April Langdon taking home the award. The Senior Sports Person of the Year Award nominees were Rowie Martin, Claire McIntyre, Hayden Richter, and Tate Barrett, with Hayden Richter named the winner. The Community Group or Event of the Year Award was presented to the Stay on Your Feet program, the sole nominee in this category. Nominees for the Citizen of the Year Award included Alison Hocking, Allyson Ross, Barbara Thomas, Kyran Brooks, and Pamela Edwards, with Alison Hocking honoured as the winner.

Congratulations to all nominees and winners for their dedication and achievements.

With the formalities complete, visitors enjoyed catching up with neighbours, meeting new faces, and soaking up the vibrant community spirit that makes Jerramungup such a great place to live and visit.

This event was proudly funded by the Australian Government through the National Australia Day Council and the Shire of Jerramungup.



Community News



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Australia Day Awards

Citizen of the Year – Alison Hocking

Alison Hocking is a truly deserving recipient of the Citizen of the Year Award. Alison's contribution to local sport and community life spans more than 10 years, but her impact in 2025 has been especially significant. During a time of deep loss and challenge for the community, Alison stepped into leadership roles without hesitation, providing calm, care and stability when it was needed most. In 2025, Alison served as President of the Boxwood Hill Netball Club, Secretary of the Boxwood Hill Tennis Club, an A-grade netball umpire and umpire coordinator, and a committee member of both the Boxwood Hill Combined Sports Club and the Ongerup Netball Association. These roles reflect not only her dedication, but her willingness to serve wherever help is needed. Alison has revitalised the Boxwood Hill Tennis Club, delivering programs that engaged around 40 children and created inclusive opportunities for people of all ages. She established the Boxwood Umpire Squad to mentor and support young umpires, coordinated Walking Netball and community fitness activities, and strengthened connection across the community. Alison truly embodies the spirit of citizenship and is a most worthy Citizen of the Year.

Community Group of the Year – 'Stay On Your Feet'

The 'Stay On Your Feet' program has made a significant and lasting contribution to the health, safety and wellbeing of our community. The program supports older community members, along with their families and carers, to remain active, confident, and independent. Its strong focus on prevention plays an important role in reducing the risk and impact of injury and supporting continued participation in community life. The program led by Barbara Thomas is delivered in a welcoming, inclusive, and engaging way, ensuring participants feel supported and empowered. Activities have strengthened physical wellbeing while also encouraging social connection and confidence. Educational initiatives have provided participants with practical knowledge to support their own safety and wellbeing. Regular Thursday morning tea gatherings held at local venues provide valuable opportunities for connection, help reduce social isolation, and strengthen community ties, while also supporting local businesses. Its positive impact is evident in a stronger, healthier, and more connected community, making it a highly deserving recipient of this recognition.



Australia Day

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

Australia Day Awards

Junior Sportsperson of the Year – April Langdon

In 2025, April achieved a long list of individual accolades in a variety of different sports. These awards include, among others the Junior Sports Star of the Year, Junior Netball Fairest & Best, Junior Football Fairest & Best, Polled 4th in the OFA Fairest & Best, Runner-up Junior Basketball Fairest & Best, Junior Hockey Coaches Award, Runner-up ONA Fairest & Best, Primary Female Sports Award & the Jerramungup High school Champion Girl in Swimming, Cross Country & Athletics. April is a very deserving winner of the Junior Sportsperson Award. She shows outstanding commitment, effort and a positive attitude across all the sports she plays. April attends the majority of trainings and games and always gives her best. She is a strong team player who supports and encourages younger children, demonstrates respect and maturity at training and on game day, and works collaboratively with her teammates while taking on board guidance from her coaches. April's leadership is clear, having been voted captain of the junior netball team by her peers. Off the field, April is always willing to help, including supporting fundraising activities and club events. No matter the score, she never gives up and can always be heard encouraging and supporting her teammates. In addition, April is a primary house captain for 2025 at Jerramungup District High school, a role she takes seriously. April is a positive role model who demonstrates determination, sportsmanship and kindness, making her a very worthy recipient of the Junior Sportsperson Award.



Senior Sportsperson of the Year – Hayden Richter

Nominated by the Boxwood Hill Football Club for his long-term dedication, consistent excellence, and strong leadership both on and off the field. Hayden is a dedicated member of the Boxwood Hill Football Club, having been with the club for the past 10 seasons. He has taken on the role of Captain with great commitment, continuing in this leadership position in 2025 for the third consecutive year, which is a true credit to his character and dedication to the club. In 2025, Hayden was awarded the 'Les Ganzer Medal' for Fairest and Best in the Ongerup Association and also won the Boxwood Hill Fairest and Best for the same year. This will be the third consecutive year that Hayden has won Fairest and Best at club level, and the first time he has claimed the Ganzer Award after consistently polling within the top 10 each year he has played. In addition to his on-field achievements, Hayden is an active and valued member of the club committee. Hayden leads by example both on and off the field and is widely respected by teammates, officials, and supporters alike. His ongoing commitment and contribution make him an invaluable asset to the Boxwood Hill Football Club.

Community News

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

25 February 2026

An Ordinary Meeting of Council is to be held on 25 February 2026 at 1.00pm in the Council Chambers, Jerramungup

A full copy of the meeting's Agenda can be viewed at the Shire office, or downloaded from the Shire website at the link below 72 hours prior to the meeting:

<https://www.jerramungup.wa.gov.au/council-meetings/>

The minutes from the last council meeting held 17 December 2025 can be found on the Shire's website.

COUNCILLOR NOMINATIONS OPEN 3 FEBRUARY 2026

Nominations for council open on Tuesday 3 February and will remain open until Tuesday 10 February 2026. An Extraordinary Election will be held on Thursday 26 March 2026 to fill 2 councillor vacancies.

KIDSPORT REGIONAL POOLS PROGRAM

The KidSport Regional Pools Program was launched this month at the Jerramungup Community Pool. This program helps families stay active and safe while removing financial barriers to water fun. The program runs until 19 April with all applications to be made directly through the Shire of Jerramungup. We encourage eligible families to take advantage of this opportunity and enjoy the pool while the program is running.

THANK YOU

Councillors and staff would like to extend their gratitude to Mal Poett who has carried out some much needed maintenance works on the Bremer Bay Arts & Crafts Cottage this month. Thank you Mal!

FITZGERALD RIVER NATIONAL PARK FIRE



Councillors and Executive Staff would like to thank everyone involved in the recent Fitzgerald River National Park fire that started on Friday 16 January.

In particular:

- VFES and Bush Fire Brigade Volunteers
- DFES and DBCA staff
- St John WA Volunteers
- Shire of Jerramungup staff
- Other Volunteers
- Local Businesses
- Community Members

Your contributions were all significant and greatly appreciated.

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Council News



Shire of Jerramungup Council Extraordinary Election

The Shire of Jerramungup will hold an Extraordinary Election on **26 March 2026** to fill 2 Councillor vacancies.

Nominations open
8am Tuesday, 3 February 2026
and close
4pm Tuesday, 10 February 2026.

If you are interested in being a candidate, please contact
Returning Officer **Christine Weedon** on **0455 553 206**.



Annual Meeting of Electors

Each year the Shire delivers a range of essential services and programs that support our community. The Annual Report highlights our achievements and progress toward the strategic goals in the 2021–2031 Community Plan, and informs the community about our performance, achievements and challenges over the past financial year.

The Shire invites ratepayers and residents to attend its Annual General Meeting of Electors:

Tuesday, 10 February 2026 at 6.00pm
Town Hall, Bremer Bay

Council welcomes questions relating to the Annual Report and encourages submissions prior to the Annual Electors Meeting. Questions can be emailed to council@jerramungup.wa.gov.au.

The Report is available in hard copy from the Shire Administration Office and the Jerramungup and Bremer Bay Libraries or can be viewed online at www.jerramungup.wa.gov.au or requested via email.



Public Notice



The Shire of Jerramungup invites Tenders for the following:

RFT 01-26 Bushfire Mitigation Activities

Tender documents should be obtained from Glenda Forbes on (08) 9835 1022 or council@jerramungup.wa.gov.au

Tenders clearly marked "RFT 01-26 Bushfire Mitigation Activities" may be lodged by email to tenders@jerramungup.wa.gov.au, hand delivered to 8 Vasey Street, or posted to PO Box 92, Jerramungup WA 6337.

Tenders close at 12:00noon, Monday, 16 February 2026.

MARTIN CUTHBERT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Ranger News

HOLIDAY PERIOD UPDATE

The Shire once again engaged Contract Rangers to support the Shire Ranger during the peak Christmas and New Year tourist period. The additional ranger presence helps protect local environmental areas and ensures public spaces remain safe and accessible for the whole community.

Daily patrols of Shire reserves and beaches were carried out, with 81 infringements issued between 25 December 2025 and 1 January 2026, including 66 for illegal camping. Rangers will continue monitoring the Shire throughout the busy holiday season.

Overall, the Shire is pleased to report that anti-social behaviour and vandalism were once again minimal. Thank you to visitors who respected Bremer Bay and followed local regulations while camping and enjoying our beaches and natural attractions.

Residents are also reminded to ensure pets are kept secure on their properties, particularly during busy holiday periods when vehicle numbers and movement increase across the Shire. Wandering animals can be at risk of injury on roads and may also pose a hazard to drivers. Keeping pets properly contained helps protect them from harm, reduces the chance of accidents, and contributes to a safer environment for the whole community.

To help keep our Shire welcoming and safe for everyone, please continue to follow local signage, use designated camping areas, dispose of waste responsibly, and report any issues to the Shire. Working together makes a real difference in protecting our community and the places we all enjoy.



NEED A RANGER?

The Shire Ranger is responsible for enforcing a variety of Acts, Regulations, Local Laws and Policies applicable to Local Government, including those for traffic control, parking, fire prevention, animal control, and littering.

For more information, to report any of the above matters, or for urgent matters such as dog attacks, contact:

DAVID MYERS, RANGER

Hours:

Mon - Fri: 8.30am to 4.00pm

Phone:

0499 351 141

Email:

ranger2@jerramungup.wa.gov.au
(monitored during business hours)