



January 2018

President's Message

On behalf of the Councillors and Staff of the Shire of Northam, I hope that everyone has enjoyed a safe Christmas and New Year.

With it now being the New Year, I encourage all employers and employees to take care and be safe. Enjoy yourselves, but remain safe, and make sure you have an appointed "Skipper". We want to see everyone safe well into the new year.

Following the Festive Season, remember to Shop Local. Keep the local retail and service providers at front of mind when doing your Holiday and Back to School Shopping. Support the combined Northam Chamber of Commerce and Northam Women in Business Be Local – Buy Local Campaign.

Remember to return shopping trolleys to their return areas. Thanks to the tireless volunteers who pick up rubbish and keep the town tidy. Consider being part of the "Adopt a Spot" campaign.

Thank-you to the Grass Valley residents who provided their feedback toward the development of the Grass Valley Community Plan. This feedback will form part of the Community Consultation Meeting to be held in Grass Valley in February 2018.

With the current prohibited fire season upon us, I urge all residents to be Bushfire Aware. Plan ahead in the case of a Bushfire; know if you're going to defend or leave. Be thankful for all the Bushfire and other emergency volunteers during the Bushfire Season. For more information on Bushfires, look at either the Shire's or the Department of Fire and Emergency's website.

The Shire of Northam Councillors will be attending any number of events over the next few weeks, including Australia Day. If you don't know all or any of the Councillors, please feel free to introduce yourself. For some background on each of the Councillors, head to the Shire of Northam Website, www.northam.wa.gov.au Under the "Our Council – Councillors and Staff" Tab. Remember to follow me in Instagram, maybe even get a "selfie" with me. Look for [shire_of_northam_president](https://www.instagram.com/shire_of_northam_president) and use #snaptheprez.

For the farming community, I hope that your harvest has gone well, and that you, and all residents of the Shire of Northam are able to enjoy a well-earned break.

If you're looking for what to do in Northam over the holiday season, head to either the Northam or Wundowie Pools, or look at the Visit Northam Facebook page for local activities.

Take Care
Shire President - Chris Antonio

Hazard Perception Test

Bookings are essential for the Hazard Perception Tests due to limited number of computers. To ensure minimum waiting times, please contact the administration office on 9622 6100 to make a booking.

24 Hour Wild Care Hotline

If you come across any injured wild life please contact the 24 hour Wild Care hotline on 9474 9055 as soon as possible and they will organise a qualified animal carer agent to attend and assist the animal.

Innovation Hub

We are looking to connect with people doing clever things around our region who would be interested in an Innovation Hub and connecting with other people in this space.

An Innovation Hub will provide a platform for like-minded entrepreneurs to connect, build solutions, contribute skills and develop collaboration opportunities. This Hub will enable active knowledge transfer to bring together an inspiring community.

Agriculture, technology, services or another niche, we're interested in connecting. Email us (records@northam.wa.gov.au) to register your interest and join our mailing list.

Town Hall Works Update

The scaffold has come down from the Gordon Street side of the Town Hall. The Hall recently underwent works by a specialist heritage contractor.

The crumbling cement mouldings have been secured back to the building; all cracks have been filled and the missing render and final skim coat has been replaced; clear water proofing membrane has been applied to the newly repaired areas to protect for the many years to come; and the degraded mortar in between brickwork has been re-pointed.

The same works are to be done to the Lesser Hall side of the building.

Harvest / Vehicle Movement / Hot Works Ban

Please be advised that the Shire of Northam has imposed a Harvest, Vehicle Movement and Hot Works Bans for Australia Day, Friday 26th of January 2018.

Harvest, Vehicle Movement and Hot Works Bans means;

- The use of vehicles in paddocks is not permitted unless using a diesel vehicle for the purpose of watering and tending of livestock
- The use or operation of any engine, vehicle, plant, equipment or machinery is not permitted in the area likely to cause a bush fire or contribute to the spread of a bush fire.
- Any "hot works" (e.g. welding, grinding, cutting, heating etc.) in the "open air" is not permitted.

The above bans are imposed in an attempt to mitigate the risk of fire during these public holiday periods.

If you have any queries in relation to this information or would like to be on the Harvest Ban SMS list, please contact the Shire of Northam on 9622 6100.

Home Burglary Awareness

Are you aware one of Australia's most common crimes in home burglary? Thieves target items like televisions and stereos, as well as credit cards, cash, outdoor furniture, tools and computer equipments because they can easily be resold or traded.

The Shire of Northam encourages residents to join a local Neighbourhood Watch Group. Neighbourhood Watch is simply neighbours getting to know neighbours, looking out for each other and reporting suspicious activity to Police. That is the smallest investment we ask of anyone that lives in our community.

Visit the WA Police website for a Home Security Checklist.

What's on in January

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|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Thursday 11 | Matt Knight Basketball Camp |
| Friday 12 | Matt Knight Basketball Camp |
| Friday 26 | Australia Day Concert |

Visit www.northam.wa.gov.au for more information.

At the Library

| NORTHAM LIBRARY | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Every Monday 10.30-11am | Activity Time for 0-5 yrs |
| Every Wed 10:30-11am | Story Time with Craft 2-5 yrs |
| Every Friday 9:30-10am | Baby Rhyme Time 0-2 yrs |

All activities are open to all residents of the Shire of Northam free of charge.



2018 Australia Day Concert
Friday, 26th January 2018
Bernard Park, Northam - from 5.30pm
Live music from **Another Fine Mess**
Free Tattoos, face painting, & bubbleology
Presentation of the Community Citizen of the Year Awards
Citizenship Ceremony
Free BBQ

Includes images of the Australian flag, the Union Jack, and photos of community events. Contact info for Northam Visitor Centre: T: 9622 2100, E: tourist@northam.wa.gov.au, Social: VisitNortham. Hashtags #VISTNORTHAM and #AustraliaDay are also present.

Drop 5 to Save Lives

Around 40 per cent of Western Australians admit to speeding: many drivers believe that driving 5 to 10 km/h over the posted speed limit is acceptable, but there is clear evidence that lower speeds would mean fewer crashes, fewer deaths and fewer serious injuries on Western Australian roads.

If WA drivers reduced their average speed by 5-10 km/h, many lives could be saved and serious injuries prevented. Around 60 people die each year on our roads due to speed-related crashes, a further 375 people suffer life changing injuries.

Keep Watch

The Royal Life Saving Society Australia's Keep Watch program aims to reduce the incidence of toddler drowning in the community.

To prevent toddler drowning, the Royal Life Saving Society of WA encourages parents and caregivers to:
Always keep watch of your child in and around water.
Supervise children within arm's reach.
Prevent your child's access to water at all times.
Teach your child to be water confident.
Learn CPR and call 000 in an emergency.