

Shire News

Shire of Dardanup Newsletter



Shire of Dardanup staff receiving the sustainability award at the prestigious 2024 Urban Development Institute of Australia WA (UDIA) Awards for Excellence on Saturday, 14 September. From left: CEO André Schönfeldt, Project Manager Belinda Vanvuuren, Project Director Susan Oosthuizen and President Cr Tyrrell Gardiner.

Shire's new building claims third award

The Shire of Dardanup has claimed a third award for its new Library, Administration and Community Building by taking out the sustainability title at the prestigious 2024 Urban Development Institute of Australia WA (UDIA) Awards for Excellence on Saturday, 14 September.

Shire President Cr Tyrrell Gardiner said the judges highlighted that the project stood out for its integration of advanced mass timber construction and cutting-edge, energy-efficient technologies.

Cr Gardiner noted that the judges also highlighted the building's design, which prioritises natural light, complemented by a landscaped courtyard that enhances its welcoming atmosphere.

He said the use of locally donated timber from residents, featured in the meeting rooms and Council chambers, including handmade furniture, not only adds a personal touch but also supports sustainability efforts by reducing carbon emissions and promoting regional industries.

"The Shire of Dardanup is honoured to receive this esteemed award, which underscores our commitment to sustainable development and community enhancement," Cr Gardiner said.

"This building marks the culmination of an 11-year project and is the beginning of an exciting new chapter for the Shire's community members, businesses and staff.

"As the Shire President I feel very proud to receive this award on behalf of all the councillors and staff involved from the beginning to now. This is our third award and I'm extremely humbled to accept awards of this calibre."

Cr Gardiner emphasised the significance of the project which is the fourth all-timber building undertaken by the Shire, reflecting its commitment to Council's 2050 Vision and Wood Encouragement Policy.

"In our 2050 vision The Shire of Dardanup is aspiring to be a leading light in Western Australia for its commitment to sustainable living practices," he said.

Updates:

Golden Feather Hunt is on

The Golden Feather Hunt returns to the Eaton Community Library. Until 25 October, over 15,000 feather-shaped bookmarks are hidden in children's and young adult books across participating libraries in WA, including special edition Fuchsia Feathers. Prizes include an e-reader, VIP Festival experience, and signed book pack by sharing their decorated feathers on social media.

Cafe lease available

The Shire is seeking experienced food and café operators to lease a small café nook in the new award-winning Library, Administration and Community Building.

The space features an external "hole in the wall" servery and an internal counter servery. Contact the Shire's Michelle Edwards on (08) 9724 0341 or email at michelle.edwards@dardanup.wa.gov.au

Managing our weeds

Spring is in the air, and so is our dedication to maintaining the beauty of our Shire.

Our Parks Team will continue our weed management efforts across parks and reserves in Eaton, to ensure our community spaces remain tidy and safe for everyone.

Please be mindful of signage while our team is at work and thank you for your cooperation.

Office lease opportunity

The Shire is offering a 336m² office space for lease in its new award-winning Library, Administration, and Community Building in Eaton. Shire CEO André Schönfeldt described the opportunity as ideal for businesses looking to grow in a prominent, high-visibility location. Interested parties can contact the Shire for leasing details and viewings before 3 October.

Successful intergenerational tech learning program

The Shire of Dardanup celebrated its successful Digital Connection Program with the launch of a customised technology support guide at the Eaton Community Library recently.

The program started in October 2023 and has successfully delivered 21 workshops across Eaton, Burekup and Dardanup for people aged 65 and over.

Presented by the Shire and funded by a Department of Communities grant, the program comprised of 14 Tech Mentor sessions where Eaton Community College (ECC) students provided one-on-one support, based on information provided by the eSafety Commission's Young Mentors program.

The Young Mentors program provided resources and information around eSafety as part of the Be Connected initiative aimed at increasing the confidence, skills and online safety of older Australians.



Attendees of the Digital Connection Program pictured at Bethanie Retirement Village, holding the Shire of Dardanup Tech Handbooks.

The second part of the Digital Connection Program was delivered by local technology support company IT Black Spot and helped participants to use applications and devices effectively and stay safe online.

Attendees of the IT Black Spot workshops received their copy of the Digital Connection Handbook, recently at the Bethanie Retirement Village.

"The Digital Connection Program helped me feel more at ease with using a computer. I would love the opportunity to educate myself further through ongoing workshops," Aldyth Rhys-Jones said.

Shire President Cr Tyrrell Gardiner hailed the Digital Connection Program a great success with over 80 participants and 82% attending more than one workshop.

Council Meeting dates for 2024

The 2024 Ordinary Council Meetings for the Shire of Dardanup will be held from 5pm on the following Wednesdays:

25 September 20 November
23 October 18 December

The next Bush Fire Advisory Committee meeting will be held at 7pm on Wednesday, 9 October.

The next Audit and Risk Committee meetings will be held at 2pm on Wednesday, 11 December.

Copies of agendas and minutes can be accessed on the Shire's website at www.dardanup.wa.gov.au or contact the Customer Service Team on (08) 9724 0000.

Tree-eating beetle warning for Shire

The Shire is urging residents to inspect their trees for signs of the destructive Polyphagous shot-hole borer (PSHB) after the beetle was detected outside the quarantine area.

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) has confirmed that the beetle has spread beyond the official quarantine area, initially established in an effort to eradicate it, however it has not spread outside of the Perth metropolitan area.

Shire President Cr Tyrrell Gardiner said this spread is a serious concern as PSHB can kill a tree within two years, turning once-healthy trees into safety hazards due to falling branches.

He emphasised the critical importance of early detection and urged the public to be vigilant. Residents are urged to not move any wood or plant materials from the Perth metropolitan area into the Shire of Dardanup.

"This beetle poses a significant threat to our local environment. We need the community's help to stop the spread by regularly checking their trees for signs of infestation and reporting any suspicious activity immediately to the Department," Cr Gardiner stated.

"While there have been no sightings of the beetle in our Shire, it's important we are aware of the potential threat and are able to detect and report possible early sighting."



Residents are encouraged to inspect their trees for signs of the destructive Polyphagous shot-hole borer (PSHB) after the beetle was detected outside the quarantine area.

Early diagnosis, followed by the prompt removal or pruning of affected trees, is crucial to limiting the beetle's spread and mitigating future impacts on surrounding vegetation.

Residents are encouraged to inspect their backyard trees for any signs of borer damage and to report their findings to DPIRD's Pest and Disease Information Service by calling (08) 9368 3080, emailing padis@dpiird.wa.gov.au or using the MyPestGuide Reporter app. For more info visit www.agric.wa.gov.au/borer

