

GINGIN BUZZ

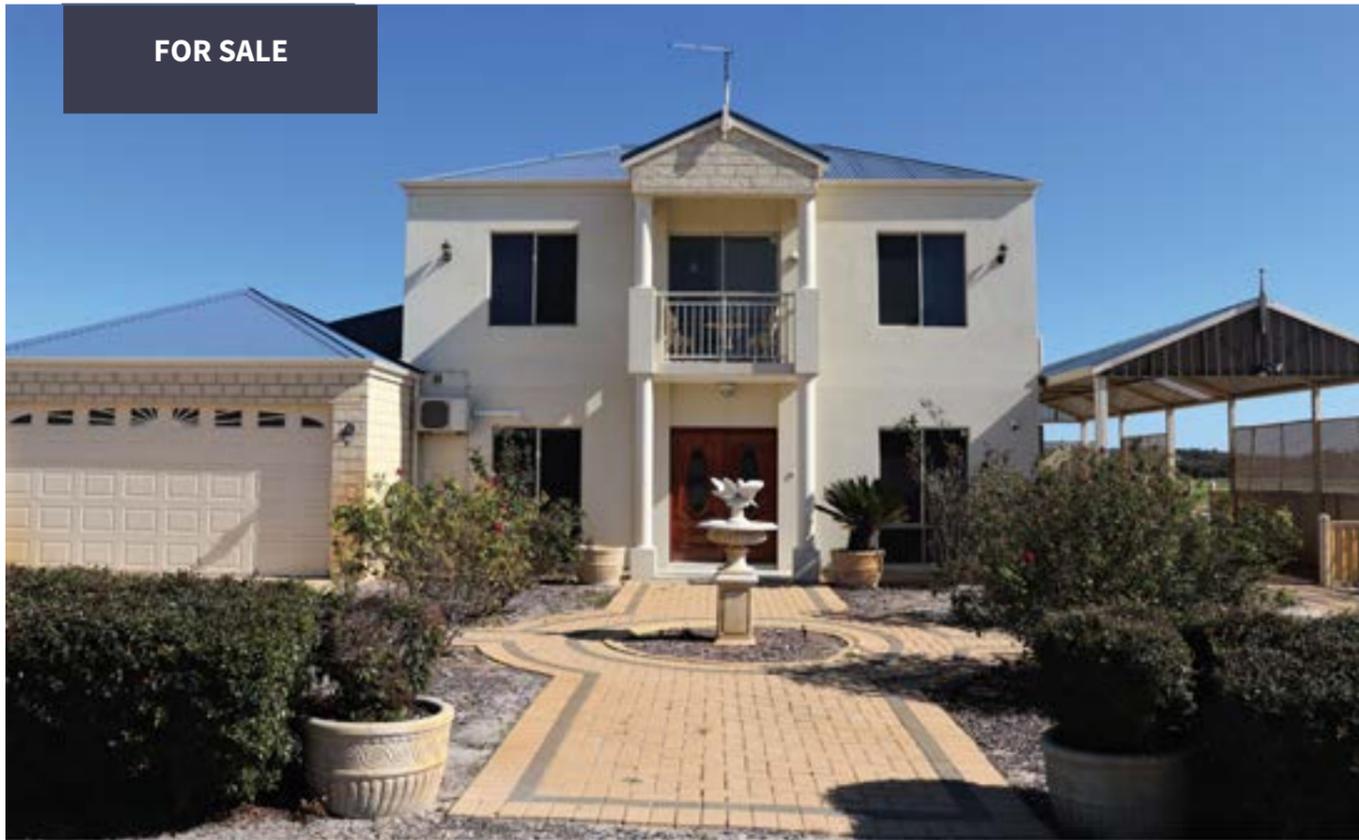


FREE for all the Community MAY 2020



**Covid-19 Gingin
weekly birthday convoy**

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'Cowalla'

2373 Cowalla Road, Gingin Shire

48.8 Ha / 120.5 Ac

For Sale by private negotiation for \$1,500,000. All offers considered

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- Managers office, 276m2 General use Shed
- Machinery / Packing shed 560m2 + (29m2) cool room.
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www.landmarkwa.harcourts.com.au/LEP29646



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adam.shields@landmarkharcourts.com.au



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GINGIN BUZZ

2020 MAY- Issue 18

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EDITORIAL TEAM



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Editor's Note

We have been glad to remain open through this time and have provided assistance with resume updating and uploading, Centrelink online claims and IT access, as well as assisting a couple of people experiencing difficult times. One occasion thanks to the awesome efforts of the Shire of Gingin's displaced persons support, a fantastic initiative during this pandemic.

At the time of writing this, WA has had no new cases for a couple of days which is great news that we hope keeps getting better each week. Schools in WA go back (for those parents willing to send children) this week and that will be a welcome sight to many.

In the CRC we are asking all courier collecting be conducted from the roller door at the rear of the building, asking for one or two people only to enter the building at a time and for all entries to wash/sterilize their hands. We also manually register all entries-ensuring they have not been in contact with a known case etc.

In conjunction with RSM Business Local we will be holding a Canva webinar on 14th May. Canva is a great free design tool for creating posters

Disclaimer:

The information contained in the Gingin Buzz is for general information purposes only. The Gingin CRC assumes no responsibility for errors or omissions in the content in the articles published, particularly those provided from various contributors.

and other productions. Very handy for when life gets back to normal and we are all on the promotion bandwagon again.

A new initiative has arrived in Gingin in the form of a community pantry. Dry and tinned goods can be deposited or withdrawn as required. Full details are inside this Buzz. Please note all items must be taken 'whole' no separation of multiple items packaged together (even if you are thinking of doing the right thing by sharing).

I would like to again mention our call register service and invite any new registrations from people who would like a weekly call to chat to our friendly CRC staff – feel free to nominate a call for your family member or neighbour if they would like one. Registration can be via email crc@gingin.net or call on 95751253.

Stay Covid-19 safe and be kind to each other (its hard I know).

Carrie Edwards
Manager



Congratulations to Carmel and Anthony (Tony) Monck on their “Diamond Wedding Anniversary” Thursday 2nd April 2020

Carmel was living in a flat in Wembley at the property of Tony’s Aunty Vera and Uncle Charlie when Tony visited them as it was his birthday (9 July). The family introduced us. We all talked for a time and Tony asked Carmel to a dance that same night, at Canterbury Court.

Tony was a truck driver for ‘Watsonia Small Goods’.

Carmel was a dressmaker for a company in Barrack Street, called ‘Bridal Fashions’ making bridal wear.

Following this first “date” were many dances, outings, family visits and fun times and they became engaged in October 1959. Tony was transferred south to Northcliffe and through a long distance relationship, the ‘date’ was set to marry on 2.4.60 at St Peter’s Church in Victoria Park.



Their first home was in the small town south of Pemberton, Northcliffe. Tony drove a cream truck, to pick up milk from dairy farmers and Carmel made clothes for some of the towns

wives and their children.

Their first child, Terri Helen was born in 1961 - they were so proud of their new pride and joy. In May 1961 Tony was offered a job, driving in Perth for ‘Antill Rangers Heavy Haulage Co’.

The family first rented a home in Cloverdale and then decided to build a new home in Cloverdale.

Wayne Mark was born in 1964 - a pigeon pair and another proud moment.

Tony applied and joined ‘QANTAS’ as a baggage handler May 1964, and he worked his way up to be a leading hand and then ramp training officer - his dream job.

Angelina Kristine was born in 1966 - another blonde with blue eyes and Tony and Carmel were proud to be parent’s again.

Carmel continued to make anything and everything on her machines.

Tony and Carmel retired in October 1989, having a house built to lock up stage in Gingin. It took two more years to finish it off themselves. The couple have now happily lived here for 29 years.

Carmel volunteered at the Gingin District Community Resource Centre (formerly the Telecentre) for 19 years with Tony and Carmel being committee members for nine years.

Tony and Carmel have been members of the Pensioners Social Club Gingin for 20 years and now enjoy their children, 8 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.



THE CONSTABULARY CONNECTION



COVID-19 Update

In relation to the current regional lockouts, the current advice is that these will remain in place for the next month at least, and possibly into the future.

The majority of the community have been excellent in complying with the directions issued by the state government and this has impacted the spread of COVID-19 substantially, contributing to the excellent results we have been seeing over the past week.

As many of you may be aware, the social gathering rules have been relaxed slightly, increasing the maximum limit of people gathering to 10 people, which came into effect on Monday evening.

Please keep up-to-date with current broadcasts being released by State and Federal Governments in relation to any further restrictions that will be implemented in the future. Information can be found at www.health.gov.au or www.australia.gov.au.

By continuing to work with us and find new ways to go about our daily lives whilst this pandemic continues, we ensure that we will be able to return to life as normal sooner rather than later.

GINGIN POLICE STATION – Front Counter

In other news, our front counter Customer Service Officer position has been filled and you should be meeting a new staff member soon. Unfortunately we are unable to release their name as of yet, but we will have a staffed front counter again in the coming weeks.

DODGY DEALINGS

As many of you know, we cover a large area in the sub-district of Gingin, and recently we conducted a Misuse of Drugs Act search warrant in Muchea, netting a haul of 8.6kg of illicit drugs and removing them from our streets.

If you have any information on drug dealers in or around the Gingin area, feel free to contact us here at the station or report it to crime-stoppers on 1800 333 000.

If you have any questions regarding this topic or have any issues that you would like discussed in future editions, please feel free to contact:

First Class Constable Jamie Crosby at the Gingin Police Station on 9575 5600 or gingin.police.station@police.wa.gov.au

Gingin Railway Station

The Station is closed at this time to protect both the Volunteers and our community members. It is not a time people should be travelling out of their areas for points of interest and closing ensures this is not possible. We look forward to re-opening once safe to do so.

Justice of the Peace – Signing Centre – New Arrangements

Up until now, a Justice of the Peace has been available at the Gingin Community Resource Centre each Wednesday. In view of the strange new world we now find ourselves, this service has been temporarily suspended until further notice.

If you need to have documents certified please call and make an appointment with a Justice of the Peace as listed in the local directory, or an automated telephone service is also available (1300 657 788) which provides information to locate a JP. Alternatively visit the website: <https://courts.justice.wa.gov.au/>.

Community Resource Centre Isolation Calls

Whilst we are able to remain open Gingin CRC staff & Volunteers would like to support the aged and vulnerable members of our community during the period of isolation with regular phone contact. The CRC will create a register of contacts and schedule regular calls to keep in touch with our community members while they are unable to come to us.

If you would like to be called or have a family member that would benefit from this contact service please email crc@gingin.net or call us on 9575 1253 to register the person. We would be delighted to call them and have a good old chat.

Let's work together to stop the spread of COVID-19

Please practice good hand hygiene and social distancing



Wash your hands regularly for at least 20 seconds using soap & water or an alcohol-based



Avoid shaking hands or making other unnecessary physical contact with others



Cover your mouth/nose when you cough/sneeze using a tissue or flexed elbow



Stay home if you are sick. Don't go to work or school if you have symptoms



Avoid close contact with others. Try to keep at least 1.5m away

IF YOU'VE BEEN ASKED TO SELF ISOLATE PLEASE TAKE THE REQUEST SERIOUSLY
Stay home and do not put others at risk. This means:

DON'T leave your property **DON'T** go to work/school **DON'T** go on outings **DON'T** have visitors
The only time you should leave your house is if you need to seek medical attention

WA COVID-19 HOT LINE - 132 68 43

AUS COVID-19 HOT LINE - 1800 020 080

WA State Government - www.wa.gov.au/covid19 - includes REGIONAL TRAVEL ADVICE

Shire of Gingin - www.gingin.wa.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19.aspx - updates, info, links, etc.

These local volunteers keep your Chittering and Gingin ambulance service strong. **Can you help?**



The health and wellbeing of our community is our top priority. In these uncertain times our volunteers are doing everything they can to protect it.

We need your help!

If you're interested in joining the Chittering-Gingin Team, contact our Recruitment Officer Steve Eager.

Email: ChitteringGingin@stjohnwa.com.au

Call: 0432 744 251

Road Rage

By Alan Gent

It could be said that Henry was a very uncomplicated little man. He always appeared to abide by the maxim: "A happy wife is a happy life". He never seemed to get flustered, and always 'did as he was told'. It wasn't that he was 'hen-pecked' you understand, it's just that he would 'go with the flow' so to speak. But it hadn't always been like this, and beneath the surface, there was a very different Henry...

Henry had heard the car roaring up and down the 60 limit road at the back of his house about 5am. In fact, it was so loud and fast it woke him out of his sleep. Once again, he wished the driver all sorts of un-Christian demises, but knew it probably wouldn't happen. These blokes – yes, it was very unlikely to be a woman – seemed to have charmed the devil.

The following morning he and his wife Isobel decided to drive out to a large shopping centre about half an hour away. As he headed off down the road which backed his house he suddenly noticed a black ute speed up behind them and proceeded to 'tailgate'. The driver had dark glasses and the usual peaked cap these teenagers wear, and the ute had 'flaming' white embellishments bordering the bonnet. The driver was obviously very proud of his 'toy'. He remained very close to the back of Henry's car as he followed the twisting road towards the freeway.

Henry knew a trick that many drivers had mentioned to deter 'tailgaters' and that is to just touch their brakes lightly every now and then. He decided to try this, and the response was explosive! A loud blare of a horn and he could see in his mirror many hand and finger gestures – but the ute did fall back a few feet.

On the roundabout to enter the freeway the ute was turning off, luckily, but that didn't stop this idiot coming up on his nearside, opening his window and yelling all sorts of abuse at him before he turned off. His actions and the incident soured the day a bit for both Isobel and Henry, but they soon put it behind them.

However, Henry kept a close eye on traffic around in case he spotted the black ute again, wondering if the driver might exact some sort of revenge.

A week went by with no sign of the young man in the ute. Henry had been thinking that there was

an end to the matter, until suddenly, a horn blast behind him woke him up to the fact that not only was it another encounter, but the fellow obviously hadn't forgotten him. Although he was alone and heading for a quick trip to the local hardware store, he decided to simply drive out onto the freeway to try to shake the man off. He drove as slowly as he dared, but the annoying character simply 'tailgated' him for several minutes. Then the ute passed him and pulled in front, slowing to a crawl. This would have continued if a police car hadn't moved up in the adjacent lane to see why all the traffic was slowed. The ute immediately took off, and luckily Henry saw his chance and 'escaped' down an exit, weaving through the back streets until he was sure that the ute hadn't followed him somehow.

Something inside Henry snapped. He had actually felt scared, and he didn't like the feeling. The other side of him surfaced – the 'not so very nice' side. He decided to find out where the fellow lived. Luckily he had a 'dash-cam' in his car, and when the ute had pulled in front of him, the dash-cam had recorded the number plate. When he reached home, he was able to write the number down. He called a friend from his Gulf War days, who happened to be a retired policeman, and asked if it was possible to get the address of the driver of the ute. He made up some story about insurance and a 'bingle' that had occurred, and his friend indicated he would find out and call him back.

The next day, armed with the address, he made some excuse to Isobel, and drove out to the address given him by his friend. It wasn't too far, and he saw the ute parked in the driveway of a rather run-down weatherboard house. 'Handsome is as handsome does' thought Henry. It was another two weeks before Henry noticed the ute again. It was on the other side of a set of lights. The lights changed, and the driver of the ute turned a very risky and illegal 180 to come up behind him, as before. This time, he didn't make the mistake of overtaking Henry on the freeway, he just drove very close, and nudged the back of Henry's car once or twice, a wicked smile showing beneath the peaked cap and sunglasses.

'This is going to be tricky!' thought Henry. Once again, he drove on up the freeway and drove a constant speed towards the City. 'Ah, thought Henry, there's the road'. It didn't get used much and today nobody else followed the two cars as they sped off the ramp. 'Mr Ute', as Henry had named him, once again started his intimidating performance, and Henry had no doubt at all that something would happen soon. They came to a

section of road that was clear of traffic in both directions – no witnesses for Mr Ute – and no housing. The powerful black ute suddenly swung out, accelerated past Henry's small car and swerved in front, slamming its brakes on. 'Not quick enough' thought Henry, and braked sharply, leaving about five metres between the cars. He reached for the small button on the remote control...

"So the car just blew up!" said the burly desk sergeant, "Did anything happen before that?"

"Not that I can recall," said Henry, "I don't know much about cars, but it sounds a bit like some sort of electrical fault. Young people nowadays..."

"I know what you mean sir," smiled the policeman, "they just can't leave their cars alone".

"How was it?" asked Isobel, when Henry got back from the police station.

"Oh, just routine. It looks as though the bloke had fiddled around too much with his engine."

"You're probably right. If only he'd had somebody like you around to help him. There's not much you don't know about engines, is there?"

Henry smiled. His time in the Gulf defusing IEDs could come in handy sometimes.



Flashing Lights, Slow Down, Move Over

The start to 2020 has been unusual to say the least. With drought affected areas, bushfires, summer storms and car crashes keeping our emergency services volunteers incredibly busy, then there is COVID-19 to contend with.

Now that quarantine measures are in place, there should be much less traffic on our roads, so let us hope there will be a corresponding drop in road trauma.

However emergencies will happen, and it could be timely to remember that our emergency services volunteers are still out there performing their vital tasks. Please consider them when driving; there are reports that these important community members have been put at risk by speeding cars passing them as they go about their work on the road side.

Toodyay RoadWise Committee chair Bob Neville said "We all have a role in keeping our Emergency Services volunteers and staff safe while they are responding to incidents on our roads. This is why WA State Government introduced the Slow Down & Move Over (SLOMO) law in 2018, to improve the road safety of people attending roadside emergencies in Western Australia."

"The law requires motorists to reduce speed to a maximum of 40km/h when passing incident response vehicles with flashing lights and, where possible and safe to do so, move to the next lane." Said Bob.

Moving forward to help educate the community about what they can do to help keep our Emergency Services safe the Toodyay RoadWise Committee will be encouraging Local Governments and community groups throughout the region to distribute information about the laws via their social media and newsletters.

More information about the reasons for the SLOMO laws and what is required on motorists can be found on the Road Safety Commission's website

<https://www.rsc.wa.gov.au/Rules-Penalt.../Emergency-Vehicles>



**TOODYAY
ROADWISE
COMMITTEE**

For road safety matters in the Wheatbelt North, please contact Cliff Simpson, Road Safety Advisor, WALGA's RoadWise on 0409 686 138

Community Pantry

a community initiative by the
Community for the Community

In these tough times with some people out of work and short of cash and other people with work asking "How can we help", we have set up a Community pantry-just like Community libraries.

- It will be on the back verandah of the CRC.
- There will be boxes in all the participating shops in town, into which donations can be dropped as you shop.
- Or you can deliver donations straight to the pantry at the rear of the CRC.
- It is for dry goods only at this stage, but we hope to add a fridge for vegies and meat later.
- Don't forget baby products and pet essentials as they are part of the community too.

"The whole Community sharing fairly and caring for each other"



Big thankyou to Gingin IGA for making a considerable donation!!!!



Gingin CRC | 1a Lily King Place, Gingin | Behind building on back verandah

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS:

- Canned protein, vegetables and fruits
- Breakfast cereals
- Shelf stable meals
- Granola and protein bars
- Shelf-stable and powdered milk



HEALTH AND HYGIENE PRODUCTS:

- Shampoo and conditioner
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Deodorant
- Feminine hygiene products, nappies and wipes



GENERAL HOUSEHOLD ITEMS:

- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Cleaning products
- Garbage bags



COUNCIL TO COMMUNITY

Did you know the Shire has a COVID-19 page on our website? This page contains lots of information, useful links, copies of our COVID-19 Community Newsletters and more. Visit www.gingin.wa.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19.aspx.

This edition of the Shire of Gingin's 'Council to Community' is brought to you by:



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Thank you to Anspach Ag for sponsoring the 2019 Rates Incentive Prize Night.

Our Community News

Displaced Persons, Financial Hardship, Employment & Accommodation Options

Have you been displaced by the COVID-19 Pandemic? Are you a backpacker or unemployed individual? Are you having trouble finding work? How is your accommodation situation right now?

If you're in this situation, these are some of the issues you might have recently been trying to resolve. COVID-19 has impacted Australia's economy in ways that haven't been seen since war times or the Great Depression. If you need financial assistance or you're not sure about where to look for employment or accommodation right now then there are some options.

Financial Hardship

If you are a displaced person in our Shire currently experiencing financial hardship, then the Shire **strongly encourages** you to please register with our **Vulnerable Persons Register** via the Shire's website - www.gingin.wa.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19.aspx. Alternatively please contact Cher Groves, the Shire's coordinator for the register, on (08) 9575 5138 between the hours of 7am - 7pm.

We can facilitate the provision of assistance if you need it but only if you let us know that you are in need of some help. We're all in this together and we want to make sure that everyone gets through this.

Employment

With so many now unemployed in Australia due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, it has become increasingly difficult to secure employment. However, there are now a number of government and private agencies facilitating work opportunities (mainly in the agriculture sector) if you're finding it tough to get employment right now. Please note that the following is not a comprehensive list and it is provided as a courtesy. The Shire of Gingin does not endorse any particular agency.

- Jobs in WA Food & Ag – Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development and WA Farmers and other members of the informal Food Alliance WA www.jobsinwafoodandag.com
- Aussie Jobs – private agency www.aussijobs.com.au

- Work Stay – private agency www.workstay.com.au
- Backpacker Job Board – private agency www.backpackerjobboard.com.au/jobs-in/western-australia
- The Job Shop – private agency www.thejobshop.com.au
- Agri Labour Australia – private agency www.agrilabour.com.au/backpacker-jobs

Accommodation

If you are a displaced person (i.e. backpacker or grey nomad, etc.) in our Shire currently with no fixed abode and you are seeking accommodation, the following options are available:

- **Windsurfer Beach Chalets**, 1 Hopkins St, Lancelin. Contact: 9655 1454, www.lancelinaccommodation.com.au
- **Country Values Holiday Homes** – Various locations. Contact: 9575 2566, www.cvh.com.au
- **Back to Nature Caravan Park**, 1800 Cowalla Rd, Wanerie. Contact: 9655 3025, www.backtonaturecaravanpark.com.au
- **Guilderton Caravan Park**, 2 Dewar St, Guilderton. Contact: 9577 1021, www.guildertoncaravanpark.com.au
- **Ledge Point Caravan Park**, 742 Ledge Point Road, Ledge Point. Contact: 9655 2870, www.ledgepointholidaypark.com
- **Experience Lancelin Holiday Park**, Hopkins St, Lancelin. Contact: 9655 1056, www.lancelincaravanpark.com.au

Under the WA State Government's implemented restrictions, accommodation such as caravan parks, hotels, etc. are allowed to remain open to those with no fixed abode, i.e. displaced persons isolated in WA regions following the implementation of travel restrictions. If you are a legal accommodation provider in the Shire of Gingin and would like to be included on the list above, please contact the Shire via mail@gingin.wa.gov.au.

APRIL

#WeAreInThisTogether



Our Community News

Fire Permits – Agricultural, Gardens and BBQs

Many of the Shire's Fire Control Offices (FCOs) who volunteer their time to undertake this role are currently being inundated with requests from community members for fire permits to burn.

The good news is that with the recent cooler weather, FCOs are now able to issue fire permits for barbecues and burning small piles of leaves in your garden. This in addition to the existing availability of fire permits for agricultural purposes.

Community members are reminded that whilst the weather has cooled, conditions still remain dry with minimal rainfall received so far this year. Please take care to follow the directions issued on your fire permit by the FCO.

Further, it should be noted that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, any fire a volunteer firefighter has to attend means it is difficult for them to maintain appropriate social distancing from their fellow volunteers and community members so please take extra care to make sure you keep any fires you light under control. Permits for burning bush blocks still remain unavailable.

If you are refused a permit by your local FCO, please do not take it personally. By not issuing permits until it is considered safe to do so, FCOs are protecting you (the permit holder) from the risk of prosecution should a controlled burn escape. Please be patient and treat your local FCO with kindness. They are volunteers and take on this role as a service to the community in addition to many also having full time work, family schedules to work around, etc. The appropriate time to contact your local FCO to ask for a permit is between 7am and 7pm daily.

Queries regarding the above may be directed to Phil Barrett, Chief Bush Fire Control Office, on 0408 943 576 during office hours.

New Travel App for WA Check Points

On 20 April 2020 the State Government launched a new app to assist in processing those people with an exemption through WA's borders and checkpoints.

The G2G Pass App has been developed as an efficient tool for freight, transport and other key industries to travel through the borders, reducing time and interaction at checkpoints.

Businesses or individuals can now apply for approval to travel if they fall under an exempt category. People can still use the existing paper-based process or help police at checkpoints by providing documentation to support their approved travel. If approved, a 'QR' code is issued to their phone via the G2G app or can be printed out for presentation at a checkpoint.

Further details regarding travel restrictions and exemptions is available on the State Government's website - www.wa.gov.au/organisation/department-of-the-premier-and-cabinet/covid-19-coronavirus-regional-travel-restrictions. Alternatively, please call the **WA COVID-19 Hotline on 132 68 43**.

Our Community News

Weekly Covid-19 Community Newsletter

The Shire has commenced producing a newsletter which contains information relating to what activities the Shire of Gingin is undertaking to combat the spread of COVID-19, how it may affect our dealings with the community, useful links for further information, plus plenty more.

To subscribe, visit www.gingin.wa.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19.aspx and scroll down the page to submit your subscription request. Alternatively, please contact the Shire's Communications & Marketing Officer on (08) 9575 5150 during office hours.

#Caremongering

"It's all just a bit out of control at the moment" so the Shire of Gingin thought we'd create a new form for community members to be able to offer your services (if you would like) to your neighbours during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

This form compliments the Shire's **VULNERABLE PERSON REGISTER** and **CAN I HELP REGISTER** which we have commenced - sign up via the Shire's website - www.gingin.wa.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19.aspx.

You can download a copy of this form to print off from our website or alternatively paper copies have been circulated to CRCs and Post Offices around the Shire of Gingin.

A person may be considered vulnerable if they:

- Are frail (single or couple)
- Have mobility issues
- Are aged and live alone
- Are not aged but have significant barriers, no local support or they live alone

Other considerations may include:

- People who have recently moved to the area and have not yet established community connections
- Households with disabled family members
- Stranded Interstate and International travellers

Current Home Delivery Services and Shopping for Groceries

The Shire has observed lately that many of our community members are highly concerned about getting groceries now that the new regional travel restrictions are in place. We do understand that for those of you who formerly did most of your shopping in Perth, it has been a bit of a tough adjustment.

If you've been struggling to source groceries, the Shire has compiled a list of local sources, many of whom also do deliveries. Please visit our website to view this list - www.gingin.wa.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19.aspx.

Save the Dates!

- **19 May – Ordinary Council Meeting at 3pm, Shire Administration Centre, Gingin.** Physical attendance at Council meetings by members of the public has been cancelled until further notice as part of COVID-19 measures implemented by the Shire. However, questions for consideration during Public Question Time may be submitted prior to the meeting using the Public Question Time form available from the Shire's website.



The driveway project

I was first alerted to this project from a friend of mine in Tom Price, so I decided to do some research and looked into what it was all about. I saw fun and laughs and instantly I was in!!!! this is just what our awesome town needed in this time of crisis and isolation (Covid-19).

I put a post on Facebook not knowing if people would jump on board or think I was totally crazy, either way I was up for it. I was overwhelmed with how many people and local businesses have got in on the action.

I have had an absolute blast and laughed lots during the time I have spent driving from driveway to driveway, never knowing what would greet me at the next. I originally only planned on doing the town site but I have now been to beautiful Beermullah, Muckenburra, Neergabby and Mooliabeenee. I have also had enquiries from Woodridge, Chittering, Lower Chittering and Bindoon but I need to see if I will have time to get out there so watch this space.

This whole project in Australia was inspired by Darwin photographer Francesca Fuga Photography.

I would love to see this travel all the way around Australia and bring as much joy to others as it has me.

Kind Regards
Nikki Woods



Gingin Birthday Convoy

For the last 5 Sunday's we have been meeting at the parking bay at Granville Park at 4pm then heading around town and just out of it. Down farm driveways and in past houses to toot our horns and wish a Happy Birthday to the young & old who have not been able to celebrate their birthdays with family & friends due to being isolated because of COVID-19!

Families have had fun decorating their cars and also playing birthday songs loud in their cars!

It has been so fantastic that the community got behind the idea and made it happen! We have even had the GGFRS & Gingin police join the convoy!

We have had between 10-15 cars each week!! So far over the 5 Sunday's we have spread the Birthday cheer to approx 40 people aged from 3-75 and their families!

Some of our community members have even messaged to ask if we will be coming down

their street just because they or their children love watching the convoy go past!

I've had messages to say people had tears of joy in their eyes of just how special it's been for them & others!!

I think everyone has also enjoyed just being able to get out of the house for a quick Sunday arvo drive while social distancing in the safety of their family car!!

We will continue this until life is back to normal but I/we sure will miss doing it!!

How lucky are we to all go through this together in our amazing little Gingin Community!

Written by
Roxanne Fewster

Book Review

Nemesis

By Phillip Roth

Nemesis is a book for the times. For Phillip Roth, this is a surprisingly tender fiction set in the summer of 1944 about a polio epidemic in the closely-knit Newark community of New Jersey. When interviewed by a journalist in 2012 Phillip Roth said that this would be his last novel and some critics claim it is his best.

At the heart of the novel is a well-meaning and dutiful teacher and playground director, Bucky Cantor, who was a talented javelin thrower and weightlifter. He had desperately wanted to join the armed forces with all of his friends but his very poor eye sight meant he was rejected by the army. Feeling guilty about his failure to add to the war effort he attempted to care for the deprived children who came to his playground on a daily basis. To his horror a number of the children were struck down by polio at a time when there was no vaccine and no easy way to treat the patients who were maimed, or paralysed with a disability. There was no certainty about the causes of the disease which was named infantile paralysis because it mostly infected children, some of whom died. It was later confirmed that poor hygiene and unsanitary conditions led to contamination of food and water supplies.

Bucky's girlfriend is working in a summer camp, in the mountains with good country air, and she implored him to join her there where she feels certain he would be unlikely to catch the virus. Although, he feels guilty leaving his playground students who are at serious risk of contracting the disease, he decides to move to the camp in the mountains. To his horror one camper dies and several children catch polio, as he does himself. He blames himself for taking the virus to the camp and is left with part of his body crippled by the polio.

This is a touching story about how a pestilence can cause fear, anxiety, guilt, suffering and pain. Roth's beautiful but simple prose makes the narrative even more powerful.

Published in 2010 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. ISBN 978-0-547-31835-6. \$19.99 also available as an eBook.

Emeritus Professor Judith Rivalland



Sympathy



BETTY READ

Sincere sympathy is extended to Gingin resident Rowley and family, along with Hartley, Godfrey and their families on the loss of their dearly loved Mother - Betty.

GORDON STEMPE

Condolences are extended to Sally Stemp on the loss of her dear husband Gordon. Both were former employees of the Shire of Gingin.

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St. Lukes Church Fence Story

Many of you may have noticed the fence at St Luke's is looking fresher recently. It has recently been replaced as the previous wooden fence, erected in the 1990's when St Luke's last underwent major restoration work, was finally destroyed by a combination of damp rot and white ant. The new fence is designed to last many years. The graveyard surrounding the church has always been enclosed but, over the years, the nature of the fence has from time to time changed since the church opened in 1861.



Hence, a new lower wooden picket fence with scalloped design was erected to complete the restoration work.

However, over the last few years the white ants and dampness had caused serious damage to the wooden structure. After much consideration, it was decided to replace it with a PVC one as closely resembling the previous fence as possible. This fence is expected to be maintenance free for 20 years.



The first known fence was a tall wooden picket fence, still in place in 1969. Photo from WA State Library.

That fence was replaced by a low pipe and chain link fence. Which although extremely practical, by the time of the major restoration project (1991 – 1999) it was considered out of character with the setting. Photo from WA State Library.



Shaun Box of Tiger Fencing won the contract to supply and erect the new fence.



continued on page 18

continued from page 17

Michael Bird provided help to demolish and remove the old wooden one.



Shaun's family, wife Karen and boys Joshua and Peter came to help and with a hand from friends, the job was completed on Saturday the 4th of April 2020.



Photos above of finished job.
Written by Marion Bird

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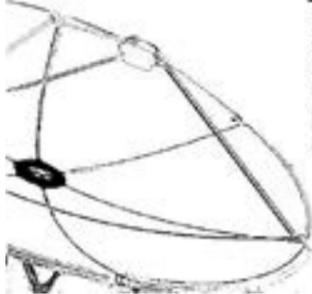


Craig is a qualified car driving instructor and holds a Certificate IV in Transport and Logistics (Road Transport-Car Driving Instruction), Certificate IV in Training and Assessment, Diploma in Occupational Health and Safety and over 25 years experience working in the Emergency Services Industry. Craig has a current Working With Children card.

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Last Thoughts of Gingin Christian Fellowship



We drive past a lonely cross standing in the corner of a building where once there were words of hope and faith. Windows are darkened and the gate is locked. The room inside is empty where once were sounds of singing, laughter, friendship and encouragement.

The old Telecom Line-yard building, refurbished for Gingin Christian Fellowship who breathed new life into the building and created a place of worship for their congregation.

The building became 'home' to so many. A precious place to share with one another, burdens, joys, sorrows or triumphs. It didn't matter because we knew this was a place where we would find strength, courage and hope to 'get through it', the hard stuff of life. It also became a place where we would find others to laugh with, rejoice with, congratulate and celebrate, the happy stuff of life. It was **Gingin Christian Fellowship**.

We gathered each Sunday under the large banner which said, "The Steadfast Love of the Lord Never Ceases". A constant reminder that no matter where we were or what life threw at us, God's Love would never run out. Gingin Christian Fellowship, for the next 10 years placed large murals of encouragement for the community on the outside of the building. No longer would we drive past without noticing, our eye was drawn to the colours and words there larger than life!

The GCF congregation dwindled to just a few and when the building was no longer available to us, it was decided that Gingin Christian Fellowship would close its doors. The last service was on 22/12/ 2019. What a wonderful final gathering of not only GCF but the other churches in Gingin as well. What a 'feast' of fellowship and food we had! It was wonderful.

So, the question is, "What now?" "Does it require a building in order for there to be 'Fellowship?'" I say, "Fellowship does not require a building, (although it is nice to have one), it only requires people who are willing to make an effort to gather." Whenever people are gathered with one mind and heart to worship, encourage, stand together and experience life together, there is 'Fellowship'. Our forefathers valued worship so much that the

first buildings the pioneers built were two churches! I think they understood the value of gathering to worship, the value of 'Fellowship'.

So, back to my first thought about the cross outside of the building, left all by itself. Is it lonely, forsaken and forgotten? No! it is in fact, what binds us together, that to which we fellowship! The Cross is not just for Easter, the Cross is alive and well in our hearts as we remember the sacrifice of our Lord to reunite us to God and give us a 'Life worth living'.

The congregations of the Combined Churches of Gingin gather every Sunday in one place or another and even online. Fellowship is to be had. A place to be accepted, loved, encouraged and 'set back on your feet' for another 'round' of life.

The Telecom building is going to be repurposed but the Fellowship that binds us together is alive and well and thriving in the hearts and lives of his people. If you need Fellowship during this time and beyond, of course the online option is there for now, but I encourage you to try it in real life. I think you will like it.

And so, we say, "Thank you" to the Town of Gingin, for the many years of support and encouragement. We hope you felt loved and that you enjoyed the murals that were on the front of the building over the years.

Blessings to one and all.

By Alison Robeson



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