

ORMOLU CLOCK DONATION PROMPTS FURNITURE RESTORATION



The recent donation from the Historical Society of a French Ormolu Clock, dating from around 1780, has prompted the restoration and adaptation of colonial era teak furniture owned by the Shire.

In a win / win scenario we are now proudly displaying the historically significant timepiece (which has associations with the name change of Newcastle to Toodyay in 1910) in a display case made from furniture we now believe was originally made for the 1896 Newcastle Courthouse, currently the Shire Administrative Centre.

In June 2014 a desk made from two old cabinets screwed together was languishing in the old Shire Works Depot. The historic value of the cabinets was recognised by a visiting furniture restorer. Investigation of late 19th century plans in our museum collection, indicated these cabinets could have been a part of furniture commissioned for the new courthouse. Adapting and re-using historic artefacts and buildings will often enable them to be appreciated and valued again. The Ormalu Clock is currently on display in the Toodyay Visitors Centre.



There was so much to see and do with stalls lining the main street – a huge thank you to all those who volunteered their time to make this event the success it is year after year.

**MOODYNE FESTIVAL
7 MAY 2017**

The Moondyne Festival was again held in the streets of Toodyay. The festival ran all day complete with a colonial village, street theatre, a 'Floozy' competition and a 'moustache' competition.

Moondyne Joe wrought havoc through the streets of the town robbing shops, escaping custody and being a general menace but was eventually brought to account by the troopers chasing him for his wrongdoings. His antics were entertaining and enjoyed by all who attended this immensely popular event.

**4 June 2017
TOODYAY FIBRE FESTIVAL**

The Toodyay Fibre Festival was once again a great success. The weather was perfect which led to a large crowd of locals and tourists alike.

A yarn-bombed Stirling Terrace was lined with stalls selling anything and everything related to fibre. The Memorial Hall hosted music performances and fashion shows, with Robyn Worrener and Cordelia Gibbs winning the Judge's and Model's choice awards respectively. Animal displays and rides were held in Duidgee Park, including alpacas, camels, and rabbits as well as 'Sydney or the Bush' featuring a very cheeky farm dog and stock horse.



To the Householder



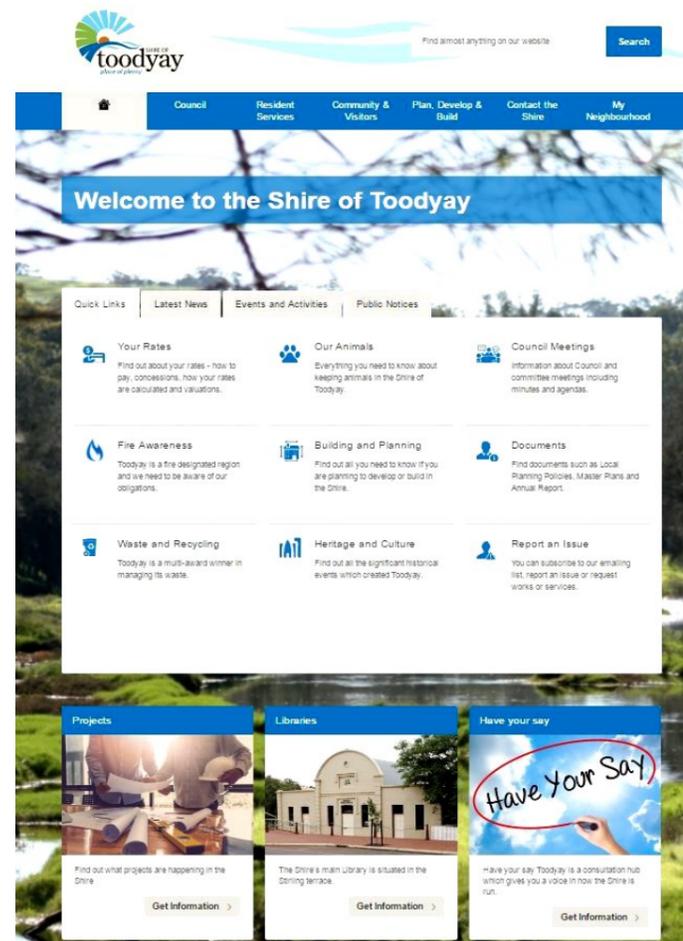
Toodyay Community Newsletter

Produced by the Shire of Toodyay

Vol.1 Issue 1 — June 2017

Welcome to the first edition of the Shire of Toodyay's Community Newsletter. The creation of the Toodyay Community Newsletter is in line with the Shire's Communication Framework and objectives to embrace more efficient, sustainable and environmentally friendly ways of communicating. Initially the publication will be sent via a combination of electronic and post. We hope this will develop quickly into majority online distribution and we take into account that some people may still prefer receiving a hard copy. Your Community Newsletter contains current Shire news including all our upcoming events, public notices, words from the President and CEO to keep everyone updated and well informed. We hope you enjoy reading this publication and welcome your feedback.

<http://www.toodyay.wa.gov.au>



We are really pleased to announce the launch of the new Shire of Toodyay website. It's been in the works for many months and it is satisfying to say the least to finally have all the tweaks and designing completed. Go onto the website, get comfortable and take a look around. Simplicity was our number one goal as we understand you want to be able to get where you want to go – fast!

While you are on the website, make sure you sign up for the newsletter by going to the 'Contact the Shire' page and completing the 'Subscribe to our email list' section. We'll be sending out newsletters and much more, so sign up to ensure you don't miss out.



Toodyay Thank a Volunteer Day and Freedom of Entry Parade

On Sunday 21 May, the Shire of Toodyay, Toodyay and Districts Community Bank and the Toodyay Community Resource Centre held a barbecue lunch to thank our volunteers. Lunch was preceded by the Freedom of Entry parade that saw an impressive number of fire and rescue vehicles drive through the main street. Bush Fire Brigade volunteers were awarded medals for long service, and community group volunteers were awarded appreciation certificates. Thank you to all the volunteers within the Shire of Toodyay for making the community a safer and more vibrant place to live.

What's in this Issue?

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Subscribe to our email list

President's Pen *Welcome to the first issue of our Shire Newsletter.*

Earlier this year Council approved a proposed Communications Framework aimed at improving the way the Shire consults and engages with the community. One of the key objectives of our communications framework is aimed toward ensuring that "Our community is aware of who we are, what we do and what we offer". As well as keeping the community informed, we need to provide clear and easy opportunities for feedback and input from all residents.

The Shire website will remain the primary source of reference for Shire information with content continually updated and refreshed to ensure it remains current and reflects the needs of the community.

Toward the end of the financial year, the focus of the Shire is usually one of finishing off projects and preparing the ground work for the next budget, however this year will be slightly different. As a matter of urgent business, Council has approved an ongoing preventative maintenance strategy that involves sealing short gravel roads and cul-de-sacs in several of the subdivisions scattered throughout the Shire.

Four subdivision areas will be targeted in order of priority subject to budget allocations and will take approximately four years to complete. The first of these will be in Morangup with many of the remaining gravel sections given a one coat seal this month. The gravel section of Hoddywell Road will also be sealed. All other road works programmed for this financial year are on track for completion and will come in under budget, hence the availability of funds for the additional sealing program.

Retaining walls and ground works at the Butterly Cottages site in Anzac Avenue have been completed and certified by the consulting engineer. Congratulations to Ringa Civil, subcontractors and their employees for a job well done.

Tenders have now been called for the design and construction of nine two bedroom units for Toodyay as well as eight additional units shared between Bolgart, Calingiri and Goomalling. Because of the funding arrangements the tenders will need to be accepted and signed off by all three Shires. The target date for this is mid-July.

Throughout May, Councillors attended training sessions in Kellerberrin, Calingiri and here in Toodyay. Training is not compulsory but in Toodyay we have an expectation that elected members attend at least ten training sessions within the first two years of their term on Council.

Last month's training comprised a full day on Integrated Strategic Planning, which is designed to assist with the current review of the Shires Strategic plan and new Local Planning Scheme. The next day was based around a complete overview and revision of Councillors roles and responsibilities and the half day in Calingiri focused on the functions of the Shire's Audit Committee and the requirements of proposed changes that will see the State Auditor General taking a greater interest in Local Government Audit functions.

I joined the CEO and Community Development staff for a reconciliation lunch with several key members of the local Indigenous community. This is the second annual lunch and is part of the process for developing a Reconciliation Action Plan.

Once again, I encourage you to provide us with your email address so that printing costs can be reduced to enable us to provide a newsletter that will evolve and expand to better inform you of what is happening within Your Council and in Your Shire.



CEO Update

I would also like to say welcome to the Shire's community newsletter. We expect this will be available in hard copy for all those who prefer it that way, but we are encouraging as many people as possible to sign up for the electronic version. Not only is electronic more cost effective, it can provide more information and direct links to key documents when you want to know more.

The newsletter is part of a broader communication framework. We have just launched our new website using the Open Cities platform. We are only the second Local Government in WA to go live, and the smallest in Australia so far. The website has a crisper cleaner interface, it is easy to quickly find what you want, and it is optimised for mobile devices and smart phones. With a clever website you don't need your own App.

Over the next few months we will be having a conversation with the community about our long-term plans – we need your views and your input to make them better. The plans include:

- ◆ The Local Planning Strategy – this is what will guide the new local planning scheme and will help us to determine what kind of development is permitted where.
- ◆ The Strategic Community Plan – this plan recognises that we are planning not for the Shire but for the community. The more people who participate the better it will be.

Community participation is not a test, there are no right or wrong answers. Every point of view matters. We encourage everyone to participate and share their views either publicly or privately. We especially encourage anyone who hasn't been involved before to join in.

The first step is to sign up to our email list. Over time with your feedback we can tell you more about the things that interest you and less about the things that don't.

Councillor Fees Fact and Fiction

You may have noticed stories doing the rounds about how much Toodyay Councillors are paid. It is time to separate the fact from the fiction.

In November 2007 Council adopted a policy that Councillors shall receive 80% of the allowable annual meeting attendance allowance. The same 80% rule was applied to the President's allowance. While the policy has been reviewed several times since, there has been no change to the 80%.

It has been reported that sitting fees have doubled in the last 3 years, which begs the question – How did that happen?

In 2013 the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal was asked to make a determination on the sitting fees and allowances paid to Local Government Councillors. The Tribunal found that Councillors in WA were paid less than half what was paid in the next lowest jurisdiction, and only around 10% of what was paid in the highest. The Tribunal divided the state into four bands based on a number of factors, but mostly tied to the population, budget and complexity of individual Local Governments.

As a result, allowances available to Toodyay were adjusted with the maximum annual sitting fee increasing from \$7,000 to \$15,500. Council did not change its policy, and so received 80% of the new maximum. Since then the tribunal has delivered increases of 3% (2014), 0% (2015) and 1.5% (2016). The Premier has indicated that there will be no further increases for the next four years.

The Tribunal has also changed the amount and rules for calculating the President's allowance, but regardless of the change Council has maintained its policy of only applying 80% of the amount available to it. There has been no decision by Council to increase allowances.

A similar banding arrangement applies to CEO salaries. Council reviews the CEO's performance against an agreed set of performance indicators and decides if and how much any pay rise will be within the bands set by the tribunal. The CEO and Council have already discussed the current economic circumstances and agreed to no pay rise this year.

Library News



Toddler Story Time / Baby Rhyme Time

Story Time/Baby Rhyme Time has been changed to Wednesdays – 9.15am for Toddlers aged 2-5 years and 10.00am for the Baby Rhyme Time for 0 – 2 years.

This is a great way for your little ones to join in the fun and meet some other locals. New participants are always welcome.

Creative Writing Group

If you want to put pen to paper – or fingertips to keyboard – but don't know where to start, then the library's creative writing group is here to help. Get inspired and share your ideas and stories with some friendly fellow writers every first and third Thursday of the month, from 10.00am.

Many Minds Discussion Group

Interested in some riveting discussions? Come along and join our lovely group.

Weekly thinkers-then-talkers are always happy to have newcomers join in for some coffee, cake and conversation. Drop by and give it a try? Many Minds begins at 10am every second and fourth Thursday of each month.

Morangup Library

Our Morangup branch is running on Wednesday 27 June. Head over to the Community Centre on Wallaby Way in Morangup from 2.00pm-4.30pm to have a browse and borrow, and meet some of the lovely locals. This is a regular fortnightly service provided by one of our Library Officers from Toodyay Library.

Upcoming Events

10 -14 July—Toodyay Community Program A variety of "Have a Go" sessions open to all ages and abilities.



The Community Newsletter will initially be distributed via post and email with hard copies available around town including the Visitors Centre and Libraries.

[Website: www.toodyay.wa.gov.au/Council/Have-your-say/Subscribe-to-our-mailing-list](http://www.toodyay.wa.gov.au/Council/Have-your-say/Subscribe-to-our-mailing-list)

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You can also return this form to the Shire Administration in one of the following ways:

Post: PO Box 96, Toodyay WA 6566

Email: records@toodyay.wa.gov.au

In Person: 15 Fiennes Street, Toodyay WA 6566

