



MAYORAL COLUMN

Welcome to the Wanneroo Link, our fortnightly communication with City residents.

Happy New Year. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all every success in 2015. The year ahead is sure to be an exciting 12 months and already it is off to a busy start.

Australia Day

Next week the City of Wanneroo will again host the biggest citizenship ceremony in the nation, with more than 600 residents set to become citizens at our Australia Day ceremony.

Becoming an Australian citizen is special and to make the pledge on Australia Day is extra special.

The 600 new citizens will be joined by over 1,000 guests, making for a huge celebration including a barbeque breakfast, entertainment and the presentation of the Australia Day Awards to some very worthy City of Wanneroo residents.

Bushfire season

The City completed 680 hectares of controlled burning during the last 12 months which has significantly reduced the fire risk to the community.

In times of fire emergencies it is important that we all follow the advice from the Department of Fire and Emergency Services via their website www.dfes.wa.gov.au

Beach and pool safety

In the midst of a long hot summer, please take care when visiting beaches and also be vigilant when using backyard pools. It is the responsibility of pool owners to ensure gates and fences are in proper working order.

City of Wanneroo calendar

Each home in the City received a 2015 calendar with their 'What's Happening' newsletter in December.

The calendar features useful information including a quick reference guide, emergency numbers, rubbish and recycling as well as your local ward councillor details. I hope you are putting the calendar to good use and enjoying the local photography.

Mayor Tracey Roberts JP

LIVING WITH DEMENTIA

Join us at your local community cafe to become a powerful voice making a difference for those living with dementia in WA.

People living with dementia offer a unique perspective on their journey and experiences.

We want to learn from your experience in order to understand what it's like to live with dementia in your community.

Monday 2 February 2015 // 10am

Butler Community Centre
Cnr Kingsbridge Blvd & Connolly Dve, Butler

RSVP essential: Veronica Keltie 9388 2800

**UNDERSTAND ALZHEIMER'S
EDUCATE AUSTRALIA**
FIGHTDEMENTIA.ORG.AU



CITY OF WANNEROO FIRE CRISIS - Joint effort keeps residents and property safe

The bushfire that recently threatened lives and homes in the City of Wanneroo saw hosts of people from many different areas coming together to manage the crisis and ensure local residents and their property were safe.

Firefighters from the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, City of Wanneroo bushfire volunteers, bushfire volunteers from neighbouring local governments - some as far away as the South West, SES, St John's, Red Cross, Department of Child Protection, Department of Parks and Wildlife, and many City staff members worked together to protect and support the local community.

In total, more than 8,000 hectares of land was burnt through the Cities of Wanneroo and Swan and many hundreds of people evacuated their homes.

Of those residents who evacuated from the City of Wanneroo, the majority of people stayed with family and friends but around 140 people, many with young children and babies, registered at evacuation centres in Quinns Rocks and Wanneroo.

Small family pets were cared for at the City's Animal Care Shelter and emergency accommodation was set up for people with large animals and livestock.

City of Wanneroo Mayor Tracey Roberts extended her thanks to all those involved in the bushfire efforts, both during and after the event.

"I offer my sincere thanks and gratitude to the incredible work and dedication of the firefighters and the many other agencies and support staff involved," Mayor Roberts said.

"I also thank the community members who came forward to offer their support, and urge them to register with Volunteering Western Australia, if they would like to assist with future emergencies."

Mayor Roberts said the experience had highlighted the fact that some people in the community are unaware of how to prepare for, or respond, in cases of fire emergencies.


"Our community's safety and wellbeing is a top priority for the City and I ask that everyone familiarises themselves with key safety precautions.

"The City of Wanneroo Volunteer Fire Fighters work year round in ensuring fire breaks are installed and this work most certainly facilitated the containment of the fire."

ALWAYS REMEMBER

- Water and power supply is not guaranteed during a bushfire.
- Saving life will be a priority over saving property so expect to be evacuated.
- Once evacuated, access to affected areas may not be possible for several days.
- Water bombing by aircraft cannot be guaranteed in bushfire.
- SMS warnings are advice only & may not be timely.

During fire emergencies, keep up to date:
www.dfes.wa.gov.au, call **13 DFES** (13 3337), follow DFES on Twitter **@dfes_wa**, listen to **ABC local radio, 6PR or news bulletins.**



MEETING DATES

Council Briefing
Tuesday 27 January // 6pm

Council Meeting
Tuesday 3 February // 7pm


City of Wanneroo
23 Dundobar Rd, Wanneroo

STOP. SWAP. SLEEP

Ensure your safety on the roads this Australia Day with a coffee stop at the City of Wanneroo Driver Reviver Caravan.

Monday 26 January 2015
9am-3pm
INDIAN OCEAN DRIVE,
GINGIN (5kms north of Breakwater Drive, Yanchepp)

FREE





Discover **WANNEROO**
BEACH, BUSH AND BEYOND

Capture your wanneroo experience

COMPETITION

Great cash prizes on offer for adult and youth categories

NEW FOR 2015 - Instagram category!
#discoverwanneroo2015

For details, visit wanneroo.wa.gov.au/photographycompetition or call 9405 5000. Entries close 16 March 2015.

Photos must be taken within the Wanneroo region.

