

SHIRE SNIPPETS

News and updates from the Shire of Morawa

A message from the President

CR. KAREN CHAPPEL



Congratulations Morawa District High School

I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Morawa District High School for being nominated in the Excellence in Teaching and Learning (Primary) category and for winning the Excellence in School Leadership Award at the WA Education Awards for 2024. The commitment and passion that the staff have for their students are evident in their recognition across two categories at this year's awards. The school's strong emphasis on literacy and its student leadership program are equipping our students with valuable life skills for their future. In particular the Shooting Stars program which is empowering our young female indigenous students. This is truly a remarkable achievement for a small regional school.



Image courtesy of the West Australian Facebook

New Temporary CEO

We have recently appointed Michael Cole as the Temporary CEO for a period of 12 months, or until a permanent CEO is selected. I would like to extend my gratitude to Jackie Hawkins for taking on the role of Acting CEO following the departure of Mr Scott Wildgoose.

Morawa Christmas Street Festival

The CRC has brought the Christmas spirit to Morawa through their beautiful Christmas decorations along Winfield Street. The magnificent Christmas tree is a highlight in the town square, and the recent street festival was yet another successful event. The CRC received funding through the Morawa Sinosteel Future Fund Grant Program, which supports groups and events that positively influence the Morawa community.



A message from the President Continued

Wishing our Community a Merry Christmas

I want to express my gratitude to the community for your patience and support throughout the past year. It has been an eventful year, with both Shire Council members and Shire staff dedicating themselves to assist our community.

Furthermore, I urge everyone to exercise caution and patience while travelling on the roads during the festive season. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.



A message from the Temporary CEO Michael Cole

I am appreciative of the support from the Shire President Cr Karen Chappel as well as all other Shire Council members in appointing me as the Temporary CEO while Council continues it's recruitment processes for a new permanent CEO.

I've already met with a number of key stakeholders and suppliers within the Shire and look forward to working with all the staff in delivering good services to the community. May I take this opportunity of wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and safe travels over the festive period and I look forward to working with the Shire and the Morawa community in 2025.

Council News

COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS – 21 November 2024

Adoption of Ordinary Council Meeting and Audit and Risk Management Committee Meeting Dates for 2025

Dates for the 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting and Audit and Risk Management Committee Meetings have been approved with meetings to be held at the Morawa Council Chambers.

The public notice outlining the dates can be viewed on page 8

Request from Main Roads Western Australia to assess the suitability of numerous Shire roads to modify the Restricted Access Vehicle Network (RAV) rating (D24#1209019)

Council have received a request from Main Roads WA to review the RAV rating of several roads in the Gutha district. Council have approved some of the RAV increase requests, with majority rejected as the roads will not support the increased weights.

Council News

COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS – 21 November 2024

Request from Main Roads Western Australia to assess the suitability of numerous Shire roads to modify the Restricted Access Vehicle Network (RAV) rating (D24#1347245)

Council does not support a request from Main Roads WA to review the RAV rating of several roads in the Pintharuka district. The roads have been deemed unfit for RAV 7 access.

Administration Office Project

Following rain damage caused to the Shire Administration Office in 2024. Council have approved the increase in budget to repair the damage caused to the building as well as strengthening and reconfiguring the working space in the Administration Office. The final scope will be presented to Council early in 2025 for endorsement before going to tender

Shire of Morawa Policy Manual Review – Stage 4

Council have completed Stage 4 of the council policy review and have approved updates to the Shire of Morawa Policy Manual. Council will also adopt an updated version of policy 'ELM23 Financial Hardship'.

Shire of Morawa Road Maintenance Plan 2025 -2035

Council have reviewed and adopted the Shire's Road Maintenance Plan 2025-2035, with a clear program of works for the maintenance of our rural and townsite road network.

Shire of Morawa Waste Plan 2024 -2034

Council have adopted the proposed Morawa Waste Plan 2024-2034, with a focus on recycling, reducing waste and improving the sustainability of the Morawa Landfill site

Confidential Item - Award of RFQ-03-2425 Nanekine Road Upgrade 2024-2025

Council have adopted that the Nanekine Road upgrade project be awarded to Rowe Contractors. The Acting CEO will now undertake contract negotiations and enter into an agreement with Rowe Contracting.

Confidential Item - Write off of Debts – October 2024

Council have reviewed the report on the Write off debts since June 2024 and approved the reported debts be written off.

NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

16 DECEMBER 2024 at 2:30pm

View full details of Council Meetings at:
www.morawa.wa.gov.au/council-meetings

Shire Updates and Community News

Road Works and General Works

Our road crew has been busy with maintenance grading in the Canna, Merkanooka, and Pintharuka areas, while also getting the Morawa-Yalgoo Road ready for upcoming upgrades.

At the Morawa Airport, we have prepared for the installation of new illuminated wind direction indicators and added a solar light at the airport entrance to enhance safety.

We've also installed three new tourism signs in town; one on White Street, another at the pergola at the southern entrance of town, and one outside the Old Roads Board.

Work on the Solomon Terrace Community Precinct is continuing, preparations are being made for new parking and access bays, drainage, and the installation of new solar lighting. New fencing has also been erected around the old Hospital.



New fencing at the Old Hospital



Site works at Solomon Terrace

Parks and Gardens

Our Parks and Gardens team have been hard at work preparing the football and hockey ovals for the 2025 winter season by coring the ovals and keeping up with pest control. With cricket season now in full swing the team have also been busy getting the pitch and nets all set for the season.

The tree loppers were back in town to finish pruning any dangerous or overgrown trees that the gardens crew could not safely prune.

We have been getting into the Christmas spirit, by setting up the Christmas lights in the town centre as well as setting up the giant Christmas tree for the Street Festival.

SHIRE CHRISTMAS CLOSING HOURS

The Shire Administration Office and Works Depot will be closed from 4:00 PM on Monday 23 December 2024, until 9:00 AM on Monday 6 January 2025.

The Morawa Swimming Pool will be closed on Wednesday 25 December 2024 and Thursday 26 December 2024. The regular opening hours will continue as usual for the rest of the School Holidays.

The Youth Centre will be closed from Monday 23 December 2024, to Monday 6 January 2025. However, the Youth Centre will be open for scheduled school holiday activities. For more details and activity itinerary, please refer to the flyer on page 9 or visit our Facebook page or website.

There will be no changes to the current opening times and days for the Morawa Refuse and Transfer Station. Additionally, rubbish collection will remain the same, Thursday for residential and on both Monday and Thursday for commercial collection.

Shire Updates and Community News

Seniors Celebrations

In honour of Seniors Week which is held from the 10th to 17th November, we partnered with the Morawa CRC and Desert Blue Connect to host a series of enjoyable events celebrating our local seniors.

On Tuesday 12 November, everyone showed up with their game faces on for a day of friendly competition to our game's day. The day concluded with delightful food and fun filled conversation. On Friday 15 November our seniors showcased their artistic talents during an intergenerational clay sculpting session and movie afternoon.

A sincere Thank you to everyone who participated; it was genuinely a joy to honor the invaluable contributions and wisdom our senior citizens bring to our community.



Men's Mental Health

In conjunction with International Men's Day, we teamed up with Desert Blue Connect and The Morawa CRC and held a Men's mental health awareness evening on Tuesday 19 November at the Golf and Bowling Club. With guest speakers the 6B's and The Regional Men's Initiative as well as Desert Blue Connect. Unfortunately, the planned game of barefoot bowls was washed out due to heavy rain, but it was still an informative evening enjoyed by all. Please keep in mind that if you or someone you care about is facing challenges with their mental health, support is accessible.

For men's mental health resources, visit <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>

Fair Game Youth Centre Visit

We received a visit from the Fair Game crew at the Morawa Youth Centre on Wednesday 20 November 2024. Fair Game's afterschool programs travel to regional towns to focus on 'promoting fitness, coordination and teamwork' to the local children. The kids were excited to push their limits in various sports and enjoyed acquiring new skills.

A big thank you to Fair Game for coming to Morawa and spending time with the kids!



Shire Updates and Community News

Christmas Street Festival

We would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations and thank you to Kristen, Lisa, Mia, and the entire Morawa CRC team for yet another successful and magical Christmas Street Festival, which was held on Friday 6 December 2024!

From mouth watering food and unique stalls to fun new entertainment like the photo booth, pony rides, bouncy castle and roaming fairies, everyone who attended enjoyed a truly magical evening.

The lighting of the Christmas tree was the highlight of the evening, with a few technical issues to start, adding to the suspense. The 5-meter Christmas tree is still pride of place at the Winfield Street Town Centre.

We would like to thank the Morawa Shire staff for their assistance with setup and managing the road closures. As well as the generosity and support from the Motown Community Shed and Containers for Change Initiative and everyone else who put their hand up to help out.

Funding for the purchase of Christmas festival decorations was made possible through the 2024 Morawa Sinosteel Future Funds Grants program. These grants aim to support Morawa community groups by providing financial assistance for events, activities, or projects that will benefit the local community.



Upcoming Events

Youth Centre School Holiday Program: Our School holiday program starts on Monday 16 December 2024 to Friday 20 December 2024. See page 9 for more details

Fair Game School Holiday Program: Monday 13 January 2025 2pm-5pm, Tuesday 14 January 10am-2pm and 2pm-5pm and Wednesday 15 January 10am-12pm. Join us at the youth centre for some exciting sports-based activities.

Community Citizen of the Year Awards and Australia Day Celebrations: Sunday 26 January 2025. Join us for a morning tea and ceremony at the Winfield Street Town Centre at 9am to celebrating our outstanding Morawa Community members followed by a fun filled afternoon at the Morawa Swimming Pool, starting at 3pm.

Employment Opportunities

We are always seeking skilled individuals to become part of our team. If you're interested in applying, please send your resume along with a cover letter detailing the positions you believe you would be a good fit for to ea@morawa.wa.gov.au.

Casual Cleaner Position

The Shire of Morawa is seeking application from individuals interested in joining our team as a Casual Cleaner.

The Shire of Morawa is committed to providing clean and safe facilities for the community and visitors. This position has varied hours dependent on the usage of Council facilities. All on job training is provided.

Skills required for this position:

- Reasonable level of fitness.
- Ability to manage time effectively.
- Awareness of health and safety procedures.
- Math skills for measuring cleaning fluids
- Punctual, reliable, and trustworthy.
- Ability to work both alone and in a team.
- Reading skills for following instructions.

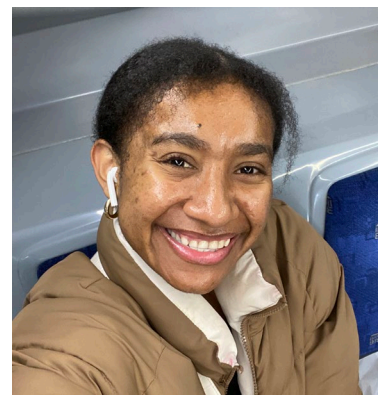
New Staff Members

Peter Heitman

Peter has joined our Roads and Maintenance team as our newest grader driver. He has many years experience in the role and is enjoying Morawa and getting to know the community.

Nadia Thomas

Nadia is the new face at the front counter of the Shire Administration Office, working as our new Customer and Corporate Support Officer. While she is relatively new to the field of administration, she brings experience from her previous roles in retail and hospitality. Having recently relocated to Morawa from Brisbane to be closer to family, Nadia is excited to discover all that the community has to offer. She is currently in her final year of university, studying human services, and aspires to work as a social worker.





SHIRE OF MORAWA

Adoption of Ordinary Council Meeting and Audit & Risk Committee Meeting Dates for 2025

At the 21 November 2024 Ordinary Meeting of Council, the Council resolved to set the below dates for 2025:

Event	Date	Time
Ordinary Council Meeting	Monday 3 February 2025	2.00pm
Ordinary Council Meeting	Thursday 20 March 2025	5.30pm
Ordinary Council Meeting	Thursday 17 April 2025	5.30pm
Ordinary Council Meeting	Thursday 15 May 2025	5.30pm
Ordinary Council Meeting	Thursday 19 June 2025	5.30pm
Ordinary Council Meeting	Thursday 17 July 2025	5.30pm
Ordinary Council Meeting	Thursday 21 August 2025	5.30pm
Ordinary Council Meeting	Thursday 18 September 2025	1.30pm
Ordinary Council Meeting	Thursday 16 October 2025	5.30pm
Ordinary Council Meeting	Thursday 20 November 2025	5.30pm
Ordinary Council Meeting	Monday 15 December 2025	5.30pm
Audit Committee Meeting	Thursday 13 March 2024	6.00pm
Audit Committee Meeting	Thursday 10 July 2024	6.00pm
Audit Committee Meeting	Monday 8 December 2024	6.00pm

The location for all the above-mentioned events is the Shire of Morawa Council Chambers, 26 Winfield Street, Morawa.

Jackie Hawkins
ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
 29 November 2024

Rates Instalment Reminder

A reminder that if you have chosen to pay your 2024-2025 rates by instalment, the second instalment was due on the 13 December 2024. If you are experiencing difficulty paying your rates, please contact the Shire Administration Office on 9971 1204.



Morawa Youth Centre School holidays DECEMBER

Monday, 16th
Art Day
@ Youth Centre
2pm - 4pm

Wednesday, 18th
Movie Night
@ Town Hall
6pm - 8pm

Friday, 20th
Healthy Cooking
@ Youth Centre
11am - 1pm

Food and Drinks will be provided on each activity day.
Parents and guardians are welcome to volunteer
Age Range strictly: 6 - 18 years old, under 6 years allowed if
parents are accompanied
For registration or more information: Text or email,
Arsh Rana- 0408946727, cdo@morawa.wa.gov.au




JANUARY SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

FAIR GAME VISITING

MORAWA YOUTH CENTRE

MONDAY JAN 13 - 2PM TO 5PM

TUESDAY JAN 14 - 10AM TO 12PM AND 2PM TO 5PM

WEDNESDAY JAN 15 - 10AM TO 12PM

Inspiring healthy communities

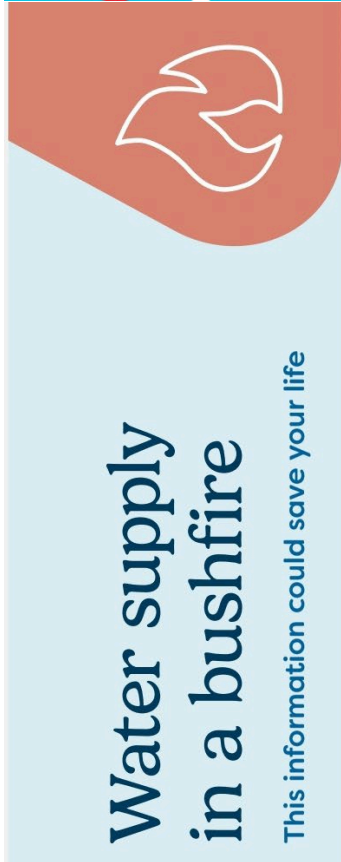
Food and Drinks will be provided on each activity day.
Age Range: 6 - 18 years old, under 6 years must accompany parents
For registration or more information: Text or email,
Arsh Rana- 0408946727, cdo@morawa.wa.gov.au



**AUSTRALIA DAY
FAMILY FUN DAY**
SUNDAY 26 JANUARY 2025
ALCOHOL FREE EVENT

Auspire Community Citizen of the Year Awards
Join us in honouring the achievements of some of our exceptional community members at The Winfield Town Centre from 9am – 11am. Morning tea will be provided.

Pool Party!
Spend the afternoon cooling off at the Morawa Swimming Pool from 3 PM to 7 PM with a fun filled afternoon including:
Free Food Inflatable Waterslides and castles Live Music

Water supply in a bushfire

This information could save your life

While leaving high-risk bushfires is the safest option, if you plan to stay and defend your home, you must have an **INDEPENDENT** water supply and pumping capability. This typically requires water tanks of at least 20,000 litres, pump and generator.

This is required as mains water supply and pressure cannot be guaranteed during a bushfire due to the risk of power cuts, fire damage and extreme demand.

Use the Department of Fire and Emergency Services resources to develop your personal bushfire plan: mybushfireplan.wa.gov.au You can also download the My Bushfire Plan app via the App Store or Google Play to access your bushfire plan anytime – even without an internet connection.

To support bushfire plans, if you have groundwater bore access to surface water, you can take and store emergency water without it counting against your annual entitlement. For more information on this, and for the location of emergency bushfire water supplies in dryland agricultural areas, visit the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation website.

Drinking water

We recommend you keep a supply of drinking water on hand throughout summer in case your water supply is interrupted.

Assistance for customers affected by bushfire

After a bushfire, we can assist you with issues such as damaged water meters and payment difficulties. If you have been affected by bushfire please call us on **13 13 85**.

The Emergency WA website emergency.wa.gov.au provides emergency information and community safety warnings. Call **000** in a life-threatening emergency or the **SES 132 500** for emergency assistance.

