

SHIRE SNIPPETS



President's Message

I'm thrilled to extend a warm welcome to Marty Symmons, who has joined us as our new Chief Executive Officer. Marty's deep experience in local government makes him an incredible asset to our city, and he's already hit the ground running!

Marty is joined by a talented new leadership team: Brad Douglas, our Executive Manager of Corporate and Community Services, and Graeme Hedditch, our Manager of Works and Services. This fresh, experienced team is ready to serve, and I'm confident that together, we will achieve great things and deliver the positive results our community deserves.

As we welcome our new leaders, I also want to take this opportunity to sincerely thank and recognise Senior Sergeant Nathan Smith. Since his appointment to Morawa, Nathan has demonstrated exemplary leadership, professionalism, and dedication to both public safety and genuine community engagement. His exceptional commitment to the community was highlighted when he was awarded the 2024 WA Community Citizen of the Year Award. He will be greatly missed by all of us and we wish him and his family all the very best for the future.

Finally, on behalf of the Shire of Morawa, I want to extend our deepest appreciation to Debra Collins, who has retired from Council. Deb has been a devoted Shire Councillor since 2013, serving our community for 12 years. We are incredibly grateful for her immense contributions over the past decade, both in and out of Council, and we wish her all the very best for a long and happy retirement.

Best Wishes
President Karen Chappel



CEO Message

I am delighted to be in Morawa as your new Chief Executive Officer. It's an honour to serve this community, and I look forward to meeting many of you in the coming weeks and months. Myself, Brad, and Graeme are committed to delivering the services and infrastructure that make our Shire a great place to live, work, and do business.

A Note on Summer Care, we have experienced a significant increase in undergrowth in the nearby bushland and along the roadside. With the upcoming harvest and hot summer, it's essential we all stay alert and ensure that all fire breaks and properties are properly prepared and maintained. As temperatures rise, please also keep in mind our most vulnerable residents. Older adults are particularly susceptible to heat stress and dehydration. We encourage everyone to check in on elderly neighbours and family frequently. A simple phone call or quick visit can make a huge difference in preventing a serious heat-related illness.

We're here to serve, and I look forward to seeing you around town.
Marty Symmons, CEO

CALL
000

Fire Brigade

Report **ALL** Fires to 000.

If it's small, you can advise "no assistance required".

If you need assistance, ask for it!

FIRE COMMUNICATIONS
CB 11

Change to channel on the way to a fire.

Bush Fire Brigade
Fire Services



For further details and information about our fire services, contact details or fire breaks, please visit the Shire's website:
www.morawa.wa.gov.au/services/community-safety-ranger-services/fire-services.aspx
or the DFES website:
www.dfes.wa.gov.au

Tribute to Mrs Noelene Carslake

I would like to on behalf of the Shire of Morawa, honour and recognize the profound and outstanding contribution of Mrs Noelene Carslake following her recent passing.

Mrs Carslake made history in Morawa, becoming the first female Councillor elected to the Shire in 1983, representing the Gutha North Ward until 1992. Her dedication, vision, and leadership were further cemented when she became the Shire's first female President, serving from 1990 to 1992.

Mrs Carslake was instrumental in driving the construction of the Morawa Sporting Complex. She also successfully negotiated with then Premier Carmen Lawrence to secure an increase in the minimum price per tonne of wheat, an action that helped strengthen the future of Morawa's agricultural industry.

A passionate advocate for education, Mrs Carslake championed opportunities for youth people in the region. Her determination helped secure grant funding for the construction of the Morawa College of Agricultural hostel, championing opportunities for young people across the region.

Mrs Carslake's love for Morawa and its people was lifelong. Having raised her family here and dedicating over 50 years as a teacher, her commitment, leadership, and care continue to inspire us today. Her deep love for Morawa and its people was evident in everything she accomplished.

The Shire of Morawa extends its deepest condolences to the Carslake family. Her legacy as a respected community leader and dedicated educator will be fondly and forever remembered.

Cr Karen Chappel, Shire President



1989/1990 Morawa Shire Council. Mrs Noelene Carslake front row, second from left.



Mrs Noelene Carslake and former Shire President Mr Jim Cook.



Local Government 2025 Election: Shire of Morawa Councillors Sworn In

Three re-elected Councillors were officially sworn in Monday, 20 October 2025, ready to serve the community for the next four years.

Following the ceremony, Councillor Karen Chappel was re-elected by fellow Councillors to serve as the President, alongside Councillor Ken Stokes, re-elected to serve as the Deputy President.

Councillors Karen Chappel, Ken Stokes, and Mark Croaker, were returned by voters and will serve four-year terms ending in October 2029.

Following the retirement of Cr Deb Collins, the Shire of Morawa will be holding an extraordinary election in 2026 to fill the remaining vacant seat on Council.

Source Authority: Western Australian Electoral Commission (WAEC) / Shire of Morawa, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1995 (WA).

Election Date: 18 October 2025

Declaration Date: 21 October 2025



Morawa 's Future Leaders Visit Council

We were thrilled to host the Student Councillors from Morawa District High School at our Ordinary Council Meeting on Thursday, 18 September 2025.

The students attended the meeting to gain a valuable insight into local government, observe how meetings operate, and see firsthand how decisions that impact our community are made.

These future leaders actively participated, taking the opportunity to ask questions during public question time on important topics, including upcoming Shire projects and the process by which Council reaches agreements on issues affecting Morawa.



Celebrating Our Local Heroes: The Women of the Hinterland Exhibition

What a beautiful evening! To celebrate International Rural Women’s Day, we were delighted to partner with the North Midlands Project to host Martine Perret’s stunning ‘Women of the Hinterland’ portrait Exhibition on Friday, October 17, 2025.

The exhibition features 21 powerful portraits, each beautifully celebrating the achievements and life stories of inspiring Mid West women including our very own Johnette Sasse and Yvette Harris!

It was a special treat to have artist-in-residence Martine Perret attend the opening, sharing a personal insight into the women and stories behind her incredible work. Thank you to everyone who attended the event and helped support our new Morawa Arts and Cultural Centre.

The fantastic ‘Women of the Hinterland’ exhibition will be available for public viewing until Saturday, November 15, 2025.

Make sure you take the time to experience this amazing tribute to the strength and spirit of rural women.



Exhibition Opening Times:

Monday & Tuesday:
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Saturday:
10:00 am – 1:00 pm

**Morawa Arts and
Cultural Centre**



Upcoming Events & Activities

Mark your calendars! Here are the key dates for fun and activities happening in the Morawa community:

Morawa Swimming Pool Party: Spooky Season Splash!

Get ready to cool off! To celebrate the opening of the Pool Season, join us for a fun spooky-themed pool party on Saturday, 1 November 2025, starting at 10:00 am. Come down for a splash and celebrate the warmer weather!

Youth Centre is Open

The Morawa Youth Centre is back for the new school term! Come hang out, catch up with friends, and enjoy the activities.

Day	Opening Hours
Monday	3.10pm-5.30pm
Wednesday	2.30pm-5.30pm
Friday	3.10pm-5.30pm

Christmas Street Festival: Save the Date!

The festive season is approaching! Save the date for our annual Christmas Street Festival on Friday, 5 December 2025. This year promises to be bigger and better than ever, so get ready for a fantastic night of celebration!

Stay Connected

For a full list of everything happening in the community, make sure you check the Shire's Community Calendar on our website:

<https://www.morawa.wa.gov.au/events/>

We invite community members to notify us of your local events so we can help spread the word!

Shire Updates and Community News

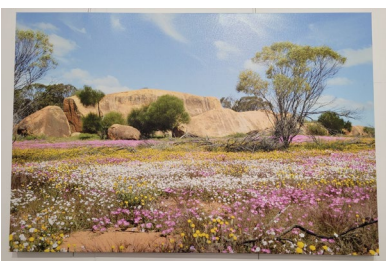
Morawa Art and Cultural Centre

As we conclude our first exhibition ‘Through our Eyes- A Celebration of Morawa’ at the newly refurbished Morawa Arts and Cultural Centre, we wish to extend a heart felt thank you to all the local artists who supported the event and contributed their artwork to the exhibition. We had over 50 high quality artworks on display proving what a talented community we have!

Our winners for each category are as below:

Photography:

Betty-Lou Haydon-
Canna Kaleidoscope



Works on Paper/ Canvas:

Veni Inbaseelan-
Midwest in Bloom



Three Dimensional:

Naomi Francis-
Farming Hands



Youth Canvas/Paper:

Sarah Wallace- Bright Blooms



Youth Photography:

Tilly North- Salt lines



We would like to express our appreciation to the Morawa Visitors Centre for enabling us to keep the exhibition open daily and for encouraging tourists to visit the exhibit. This refurbishment project was made possible through funding from the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism and Sport via the Culture and Arts Public Regional Galleries Improvement Fund. This initiative aims to promote the arts in regional areas and support local artists.

Community Survey

With our newly renovated Art and cultural Centre available to host community events and exhibitions, we want to hear from you! Your input is essential in creating a cultural space that genuinely represents our community. Please take a moment to fill out the brief survey below to assist us in planning future events that you would like to experience!

To complete the short survey simply scan the QR code!

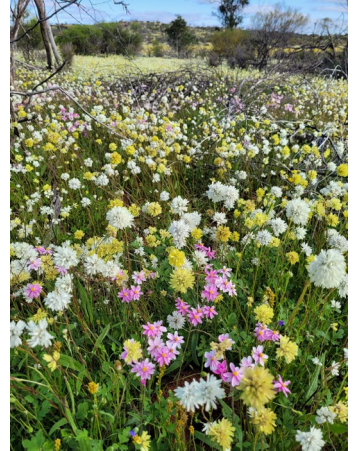


Shire Updates and Community News

Morawa Visitors Centre

Following another spectacular wildflower season, we would like to say a huge thank you to the volunteers at the Morawa Visitors Centre for your incredible dedication and hard work showcasing our amazing community to visiting tourists throughout the recent tourist season.

Your warm hospitality, local knowledge, and tireless effort have helped make every visitor's experience truly special. A special mention to Leonie who kindly volunteered her time by hosting guided walking tours of the Widimia Trail during the season.



Caravan Park Ablutions

With the tourist season now wrapped up we would like to remind the community that the Caravan Park Ablutions are not for community use and are reserved for Caravan Park patrons only. Public facilities are located at the Winfield Street Town Centre.

Extension to Burning Periods.

Due to recent weather conditions the Shire or Morawa have extended the burning period for an extra 14 days.

RESTRICTED BURNING: 15th October 2025 to 28th October 2025

PROHIBITED BURNING: 29th October 2025 to 28th February 2026

With the warm weather just around the corner please ensure all properties are prepared and maintained

Road Works and General Works

Our road crew has been actively engaged in maintenance grading as we prepare for the harvest season following a wet winter.

The resheeting of Collins Road is scheduled for completion by the end of October 2025.

Culvert repairs on Krummel Road have been completed.

Additionally, we have been busy preparing the site for the new tennis courts. Asphalt has been laid, and once the fencing is installed, contractors will proceed with laying the new courts.

Parks and Gardens

Our Parks and Gardens team has been actively preparing firebreaks throughout the town site, alongside performing routine maintenance on all Shire green spaces.

We have focused on maintaining the reticulation system, particularly by repairing a damaged pipe at the Winfield Street Town Centre.

Additionally, we have supported the newly established Morawa Community Garden by assisting in the setup of their infrastructure and donating supplies, preparing the soil for planting.

Shire Updates and Community News

Community Citizen of the Year Awards Nominations Closing Soon!

If there is a special community member or event or group you would like to recognise, get your nominations in now!

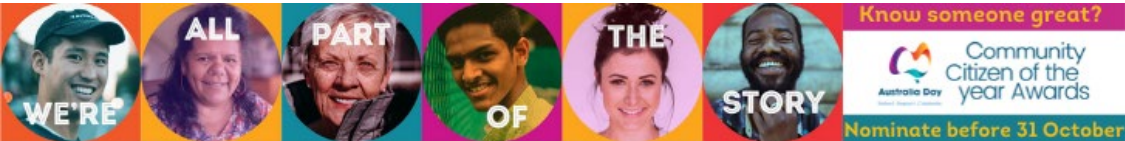
The Community Citizen of the Year Awards gives us the opportunity to celebrate the positive impact of individuals and groups who are engaged and committed to our local area. Whether they are a nominee or recipient, we can all celebrate their outstanding contribution, because we're all part of the story. Recognising local heroes for more than 20 years, the Awards are made up of four categories:

- ★ Community Citizen of the Year
- ★ Young Community Citizen of the Year
- ★ Senior Community Citizen of the Year
- ★ Active Citizenship

Nominations close 31 October 2025!

**NOMINATE
NOW**

citizenshipawards.com.au
or scan the QR code



Morawa Swimming Pool

To ensure the continued safety of all our young swimmers, we must emphasize that all children must always be under the active supervision of a parent or guardian while using the facility.

Please remember that while our lifeguards are diligently on duty, their primary function is to prevent serious, life-threatening injury and respond to emergencies across the entire pool area.

The primary duty for supervision rests entirely with the responsible adult or guardian. Stay vigilant and engaged in supervising your children to help us maintain a safe environment for the whole community.

Morawa Swimming Pool

Opening Hours 2025-2026

MONDAY	CLOSED
TUESDAY	2PM-7PM
WEDNESDAY	6AM-8AM & 2PM-7PM
THURSDAY	6AM-8AM & 2PM-7PM
FRIDAY	6AM-8AM & 2PM-7PM
SATURDAY	10AM-7PM
SUNDAY	10AM-7PM

Pool passes are available for purchase from the Shire of Morawa Administration Office or at the Morawa Swimming Pool.
For more information visit the Shire's Website
www.morawa.wa.gov.au

New Staff Members

Graeme Hedditch

Graeme has recently relocated to Morawa to take on the position of Manager of Works and Services. He is excited about the upcoming challenges and the chance to make a positive impact in our community. Graeme brings over 16 years of experience in local government, having previously worked in the Shires of Chittering, Christmas Island, Wickepin, and Paroo (Queensland).

Each of these roles has provided him with unique insights and experience that he is eager to apply in my new position. Since arriving in Morawa Graeme and his wife Lorraine have been truly touched by the warm reception from the community. He has settled in comfortably and looking forward to making Morawa their long-term home. In his spare time, Graeme enjoys playing badminton, gardening, and watching AFL.



Aimee Sanders



Aimee has joined the team as our new Customer and Community Service Officer having recently making the move from Melbourne to Morawa to be closer to family.

With a solid background in administration and property management and having worked as a strata manager and overseeing her own portfolio Aimee has embraced her new role. She is looking forward to becoming more involved with the local community.

When not at work, Aimee is usually immersed in a good book, exploring local landmarks, visiting art galleries and museums, or planning my next adventure.



CAR BODY AND SCRAP METAL DISPOSAL



Morawa residents can now drop off all unused car bodies in any condition and large scrap metal to the Morawa Refuse and Transfer Station on Jones Lake Road and pay \$0 fees!

**We will be accepting drop offs from:
Friday 17 October 2025 to Monday 10 November 2025.**

**All drop offs must be made during regular opening times:
Friday to Monday: 8.00am- 4.00pm.**

****Please note refuse and transfer station will be closed daily from 12.00-12.30pm****

For more information visit our website or contact Graeme Hedditch at
mws@morawa.wa.gov.au

Contact Us: 08 9971 1204

www.morawa.wa.gov.au



Morawa POOL Opening

**JOIN US FOR THE OFFICIAL SEASON OPENING OF THE MORAWA
SWIMMING POOL!**

**GET READY FOR A DELICIOUS SAUSAGE SIZZLE, SPOOKY-THEMED
TREATS, AND A FRIGHTFULLY FUN TIME!**



**POOL
OPENS AT
10AM.**

SATURDAY

**NOV
01**

**FREE
POOL
ENTRY**



Event starts at 12pm

DRINKS • FOOD • SPOOKY FUN



WE NEED YOUR HELP TO NAME OUR NEW STREET SWEEPER!



We are running a competition to local Morawa Youth aged 6-18 years to design a fun logo and creative name for our new sweeper!

The winning design will be proudly displayed on the side of the sweeper as it keeps our streets clean!

COMPETITION OPEN UNTIL
4.30PM FRIDAY 07 NOVEMBER 2025!

Entries can be dropped into the Shire Administration
Office or emailed to
elisha.major@morawa.wa.gov.au
So get creating!

Snake Safety

The Shire of Morawa is encouraging both residents and visitors to be cautious and mindful of snakes as the weather begins to warm up. It's essential to understand that snakes naturally inhabit our local bushland, so be mindful and remain vigilant while bushwalking or exploring for wildflowers

Remember if you come across a snake to move away slowly, Do not approach or provoke the snake and Ensure your pets are safe and cannot access the snake.

Be Aware of your Surroundings

Take care in bush land and grassy areas and always walk and/or cycle in cleared areas and designated paths only. Always keep a watchful eye on the ground about a metre ahead of where you are walking, and avoid entering areas with long grass, rushes and undergrowth.



Wear Appropriate Clothing

When bushwalking, wear long pants and boots or other enclosed footwear that preferably cover the ankles.



Remove and Reduce Hiding Areas

Around your home remove long grass and items lying on the ground such as corrugated iron, which may provide cover for snakes and be aware that chicken pens can attract snakes to your yard.



Educate Yourself on Snake Bite First Aid

Learn the correct First Aid treatment for a snake bite and keep up to date with first aid training. More information regarding Snake bite first aid can be found on the St John WA Website via the below QR code.

