

# Shire News

Shire of Chapman Valley

May 2009

Hello Readers,

Thankyou to everyone who attended the recent Future Planning and Structural Reform workshops in Waggrakine, Nabawa and Yuna. Information from the workshops is being collated and will be uploaded onto the Shire's website. Our new website will soon be completed by the end of May and will enable residents the opportunity to discuss the Future Plan and other news on the new community blog.

All Ratepayers will soon receive a letter explaining the structural reform process and a survey which will enable you to provide feedback to assist with Council's decision making process.

## Moresby Ranges Management Plan Update

The next Moresby Range Management Plan Committee meeting is scheduled for 6th May 2009 to discuss matters of transition and tenure. The previous meeting, held 20 March, provided the Steering Committee with an opportunity to discuss the findings from around 250 surveys received. As per previous information released about the project, the draft report is expected to be made available for public comment by the 30th June 2009.

## Street lighting for Nabawa

Council has approved the implementation of eleven new street lights in Indialla Road and Green Drive, Nabawa. Currently street lighting is only available in Nabawa along Chapman Valley Road.

This infrastructure project will utilize \$22,000 of Royalty for Region funding.

## Nabawa Oval Fencing

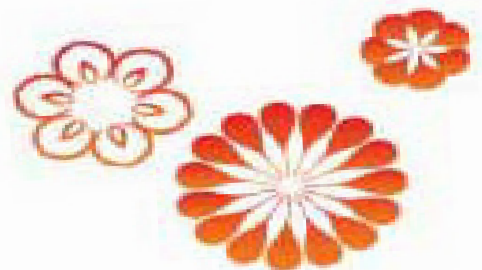
The Nabawa football oval will be re fenced within the next few weeks following recent discussion with the GNFL and local Football representatives. This project will also utilise Royalty for Region funding and will cost approximately \$3,500.

## Planning for the Future of Chapman Valley

The Shire recently held three Future Planning workshops to provide local residents with an opportunity to voice your opinions about where you would like to see the Shire 5 years from now, what you see as challenges and ideas on how to overcome such challenges. Overall the planning meetings aimed to enable you as residents and ratepayers to participate in planning for the future direction of the Shire. Although there is talk of amalgamations the need to develop a plan for the future is still vitally important in ensuring residents needs are continued to be met now and into the future. The final document will provide a document from which to refer to priority future planning within the Shire. Information from the three workshops will be compiled and uploaded to the Shires website.

## Business After Hours

As a direct result of the Arts and Cultural Workshop, participants from the workshop have formed a small sub group to follow a supported suggestion to hold local business after hours in Chapman Valley. The aim of the Business After Hours [BAH] is to provide local businesses with an opportunity to promote their services/products, network, develop and share ideas and discuss business development opportunities. It was decided at the Art and Culture workshop that the first Business After Hours would be held at Nukara Farm with an aim to rotate through different businesses on a monthly basis. Invitations will be sent to all local businesses in Chapman Valley. If you do not own a business but are interested in attending please contact Paige at the Shire on 9920 5011.



## Nabawa Daycare Closes

Unfortunately the Nabawa Family Daycare centre recently closed due to the Operator being unable to attract sufficient children numbers to continue operations. The Council will advertise for a new Operator with the intention of finding an operator who will operate the business on an as required basis and not rely on the centre as the only source of income.

## Cooking & Dinner with Tony

Cooking lessons conducted by local chef Tony Fry have proved to be a hit with local participants. Each fortnight on a Wednesday evening participants are engaged in lessons that cover a variety of dishes decided upon by participants. Usually Tony cooks up at least three different dishes, with assistance ofcourse, and provides an insight into different cooking techniques along with many other culinary tips. At the end of each lesson participants join Tony for dinner to sample each dish, which also provides an excellent opportunity to sit and talk food, share ideas and seek answers to cooking questions.

At the request of participants lessons are \$10 per head to help cover costs. Our next lesson will cover Mediterranean dishes. Everyone is welcome to join in, bring yourself, bring a drink and enjoy a great night out. Lessons are held at the beautiful Nukara Farm commencing at 5.30pm. To register your interest [and help ensure we have enough food] please contact the Shire on 9920 5011. See you there!

## Heritage Signage

Discussions with the Chapman Valley Historical Society pertaining to the development of local heritage/interpretive signage recently took place. It was suggested that the Shire develop a local heritage map/sign which features points of interest that will encourage visitors to sites of significance and to sign locations throughout the Valley. These maps/signs will be located in the proposed tourist information bays and also available online. A suggestion was also made to develop a small brochure to assist visitors and provide additional information. Another suggestion was a series of plaques on stones [which would be supported by the proposed brochure]. These suggestions are yet to be progressed and further feedback is encouraged from the community. Concerns have been raised over signage developed and implemented in the past only to be destroyed by the weather or vandals.

## Community input sought for structural reform

Residents attending the Future Planning meetings were provided with an opportunity to discuss their concerns and opinions over voluntary amalgamations. At the beginning of February this year the Minister for Local Government, Hon John Castrilli MLA, announced a package of wide-ranging local government reform strategies. The strategies are said to be aimed at achieving greater capacity for local governments to better plan, manage and deliver services to their communities with a focus on social, environmental and economic sustainability

Information provided on the Local Government and Regional Development website states that the voluntary structural reform of local governments aims to encourage local governments to: take steps to voluntarily amalgamate to form a larger local government; look to reduce the number of elected members to between six and nine; and form appropriate regional groupings of councils to assist with the efficient delivery of services.

139 councils in Western Australia have been invited to take the opportunity to voluntarily amalgamate and to reduce the total number of elected members for each council. These councils have until August to advise the Minister of their intentions [six months from the date of his announcement].

A community survey has been developed by the Shire to ascertain residents thoughts and feelings towards proposed amalgamation partners and options. This survey was handed out at the Future Planning meetings and will be sent out to all ratepayers at the end of April. Information collected from the surveys will be presented to council and used to assist them with their submission to the minister in response to his request for feedback by August 2009.

## Council Minutes

A reminder to readers that a full copy of current and past Council minutes are available for viewing and download the council webpage [www.chapmanvalley.wa.gov.au](http://www.chapmanvalley.wa.gov.au)  
Regards,

Dirk Sellenger  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

