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## What's Happening

In the Shire of Broome?

### New Shire website

The Shire of Broome has unveiled a new and improved website to make it easier for residents to interact with us.

Along with a fresh new look, the site has been streamlined to help navigation.

The Shire is looking to transition towards more services being available online to help the community access information.

Please let us know your feedback on the new website by e-mailing [shire@broome.wa.gov.au](mailto:shire@broome.wa.gov.au).



### Broome Public Library celebrate Harmony Week

The Broome Public Library played its part in celebrating Harmony Week earlier this month.

A recognition of the importance of multiculturalism and inclusivity, the national event is held annually across Australia.

Library staff welcomed youngsters from the community for a story-time session on March 17, where books were read in another language as well as the English version.

An enjoyable day was had by the group, who had fun while learning that multiculturalism is one of the reasons why Broome is such a great place to live.

### Register for eRates

Want to receive your rates notices in a quick, easy and environmentally-friendly way?

The Shire of Broome is encouraging ratepayers to sign up for eRates, where notices are sent out by e-mail rather than in the post.

For more information and to sign up, visit the eRates website at <https://erateswa.com/broome>.

### Sign up for Shire E-News

Keep up to date with what your Shire is doing from the convenience of your email inbox.

Shire E-News is published regularly, with info on major projects, updates on services, events and other happenings around the Shire of Broome.

To receive Shire E-News, just email [shire@broome.wa.gov.au](mailto:shire@broome.wa.gov.au) with your preferred email address.

## A COVID-19 update from the Shire

The Shire of Broome is committed to being proactive and thorough in relation to growing community concerns over COVID-19.

In such a dynamic situation, things are changing daily, with new directions and rulings from the State and Federal Governments.

As such, the Shire has made several decisions in the last week that may impact you.

A host of Shire-run events have been postponed to ensure social distancing advice is maintained.

This includes the Chinatown Discovery Festival 2020 and all events at the Broome Civic Centre that were initially scheduled from now until June 30.

The Shire has also altered our methods of delivery at Broome Public Library and Broome Recreation and Aquatic Centre.

Service delivery is continuing, however people are asked to refrain from visiting the physical sites for the foreseeable future.

A range of digital resources at the library are available, such as e-books, e-audiobooks, digital magazines and the streaming of international films. Visit [www.broome.wa.gov.au/Community/Broome-Public-Library](http://www.broome.wa.gov.au/Community/Broome-Public-Library) to enjoy these resources.

At BRAC, Father McMahon and Joseph Nipper Roe Ovals are still open to the public to use for recreation, but the main building is closed.

The Shire is also exploring other ways to make additional resources available to the community and will

communicate this when available.

Both facilities are well patronised and as such maintaining social distancing, as recommended by the Federal Government, had become nigh-impossible.

The Shire is aware that there are at-risk people and communities across the West Kimberley and as such is preparing for the eventuality that COVID-19 may reach our region.

We have produced a COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions page, which covers queries we have received from the public.

This page will be updated with new information on a frequent basis. To access the page, visit [www.broome.wa.gov.au](http://www.broome.wa.gov.au).

Shire of Broome president Harold Tracey said that while the State and Federal Governments were responsible for spearheading the response to COVID-19, the Shire is trying to get on the front foot and is working with key agencies across the region to prevent the virus' potential spread.

The Shire would like to reiterate social distancing advice from the relevant health departments, where people are advised to maintain a 2-metre radius from each other and avoid physical contact such as handshakes.

For more information or advice in relation to COVID-19, visit the websites of the State and Federal Departments of Health or call the Coronavirus Health Information Line on 1800 020 080.

## Have your say on Broome Boating Facility

The Shire of Broome is progressing with plans for a new boating facility, with a six-week consultation period now open for public comment. The development of a new boating facility in Broome has long been considered as essential to address critical safety and access issues. Design concepts were endorsed by Council at a Special Council Meeting last Tuesday, with public input now welcome. Shire of Broome president Harold Tracey said the project would change the way residents and tourists accessed local waters. "Broome's fishing-mad community deserves a new boating facility and the progression of this project is long overdue," he said. "I urge anyone with an opinion on this exciting project to have their say by taking the community survey."



The Shire of Broome is seeking public comment on the proposed Broome Boating Facility at Entrance Point.

To take the Shire's community survey and for more information, visit [www.broomeboatingfacility.com.au](http://www.broomeboatingfacility.com.au).

## Stats say Broome residents are good sports



Female participation has more than doubled in two years.

The amount of people playing sport in Broome has increased dramatically over two years, with female participation rates jumping by 57 per cent. The Shire of Broome commissioned the Club Development Survey Report in the second half of 2019 to gauge the health of local sport. Forty-five local clubs participated in the biennial survey, which has been taking place since 2009. The results show that membership of sporting clubs in Broome has increased by 45 per cent since 2017. Female participation more than doubled in two years, with a 57 per cent increase. Overall participation numbers jumped from 5086 people in 2017 to 7327 in 2019. The report is available to view on the Shire of Broome website.

