

## What's Happening in the Shire of Broome?

### Sensory Sensitive Laser Tag



Broome Civic Centre and Lock and Load Laser Tag are excited to offer an all-abilities, sensory-sensitive session to the Broome community. NO flashing lights, NO haze, NO loud music. The kiosk will be open. Please note we will need a minimum number of participants for this event to go ahead, so book ASAP.  
**Cost: \$22, 9.30am, Wednesday, July 5, Broome Civic Centre, 27 Weld Street broomeciviccentre.com.au**

### School holiday fishing day



Get the kids to Guwarri Town Beach Jetty for a fun morning of fishing, a fishing competition and other activities including a scavenger hunt and colouring-in competition. Fishing gear including rods and handlines will be available.  
**Cost: FREE (No registration necessary) Town Beach Jetty, 9am-11am, Sunday, July 2**

### Library holiday program

**MON 3RD - PAPER FLOWERS CRAFT**  
**TUES 4TH - TISSUE PAPER SUN CATCHERS**  
**WEDS 5TH - CARDBOARD ROLLERCOASTERS**  
**THURS 6TH - LEGO CHALLENGE**  
**FRI 7TH - BOOKMARK CRAFT**

**MON 10TH - COLLAGE ACTIVITY**  
**TUES 11TH - CATAPULT CHALLENGE**  
**WEDS 12TH - FLOATING BOATS CRAFT**  
**THURS 13TH - LEGO CHALLENGE**  
**FRI 14TH - KANOPY MOVIE MORNING**  
**"PAPER PLANES" (PG) 1HR 30MINS**

Limited spaces available.  
Please book your space at  
<https://www.trybooking.com/CIZGE>



## New program aims to give all young people a sporting chance

The Shire of Broome's new A Sporting Chance youth program kicks off on June 30 at the Broome Recreation and Aquatic Centre (BRAC) featuring Perth Wildcat basketball stars Damian Martin and Bryce Cotton. A Sporting Chance has been introduced to address the issue of weekend night-time youth offending by offering a safe environment for young people to engage in popular sports while diverting them from offending and at-risk behaviours - though all young people are welcome to participate.

The Friday-night program is funded for three years through \$334,330 in grant funding, from the Department of Justice, Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries, and Kimberley Development Commission.

The funding covers training, sports equipment, team uniforms and footwear, dinner for participants, and staff including the Program Coordinator Priscilla Hoterani. Priscilla is a New Zealand Maori Wahine (woman) and women's rugby league champion, who joined the Shire with excellent qualifications, including her work as a logistics and vocational education trainer.

Since moving to Broome three years ago, she has worked with the Broome Youth Families Hub and PCYC in the Program Co-Ordinator roles, providing safe-space programs where children and young people can participate in fun, meaningful and age-appropriate after-school activities, such as basketball, fishing, haircuts, gardening, music and cooking.

The Shire is currently seeking casual employees to assist Priscilla (see [broome.wa.gov.au/careers](http://broome.wa.gov.au/careers)).

A Sporting Chance will run as a series of 10-week programs at BRAC on Friday nights from 6pm to 12am. The first begins at the start of the July school holidays on June 30. Each program will include a four-week introduction phase featuring sport music and art, before



Priscilla Hoterani

moving into the featured sport, which in the first cycle will be soccer, which will be run with the Football Futures Foundation. Participants will also have access to youth services and workshops.

A Sporting Chance is one of the actions to come from the Shire's *Youth Plan 2021-2025*, to address issues related to juvenile crime by improving outcomes for young offenders and diverting youth from the justice system as well as ensuring the safety of the community.

While the program is primarily aimed at at-risk youth, all young people aged five to 18 are welcome to participate. To make joining easier, anyone wishing to join can just show up to one of the Friday night sessions at BRAC (children aged five to eight will need to come with a parent or guardian).

**Come and see A Sporting Chance in action at BRAC from 6pm on Friday, June 30. The night will include basketball clinics, art displays and youth activities.**

## Shire ward, councillor numbers reduced

The Minister for Local Government has approved the recommendation of the Local Government Advisory Board to abolish wards and reduce councillor numbers in the Shire of Broome.

The Shire boundaries currently include the Broome and Dampier wards, but this will be reduced to a single ward in time for the Local Government Election on October 23.

The change will see councillor numbers reduced from nine to eight.

However, the new popularly elected Shire President will hold a ninth seat on Council with the same voting rights as the other councillors, meaning there will be little difference in overall representation.

The Council unanimously resolved to move to a no-ward system and maintain the current level of representation, at the December Ordinary Meeting of Council, after conducting a Review of Wards and Representation between September and December 2022.

The review of ward boundaries was prompted by the State Government making it clear the Shire would have to elect a Shire President by a public vote at the

next election, rather than being chosen by the councillors.

Earlier this year, at the request of the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC), the Council again unanimously voted for the resolution to correct a small legislative anomaly. While the Shire of Broome was not required to abolish its ward system, a continued decline in the number of electors in the Dampier ward, which has one councillor to every 558 electors, compared to one councillor to every 1010 electors in the Broome ward, prompted the Council to support the change.

Broome Shire President Desiree Male said abolishing the Shire's wards had been previously considered before the announcement of the new State Government reforms.

"Councillors represent a broad cross-section of the communities in and around Broome," Cr Male said. "So, they are well-informed when it comes to making decisions about issues concerning every part of the Shire."

The DLGSC will initiate a series of administrative and statutory processes to obtain the Governor's approval and publish the changes in the Government Gazette.