

## What's Happening

In the Shire of Broome?

Wed 22 May

### Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow

Broome Civic Centre, 8pm. Featuring fantastic funnymakers from Australia and beyond, the Roadshow travels to 88 towns, presenting 99 performances of sketch, stand-up, satire, silliness and song. Tickets at [broomeciviccentre.com.au](http://broomeciviccentre.com.au)

Thu 23 May

### Volunteers Movie Night

Sun Pictures, 5.45-8.45pm. The Shire is proud to acknowledge the volunteers in our community and invites them and their families to a free premiere screening of Aladdin. Entry is free, but tickets are required from 9191 3406 or [deborah.turner@broome.wa.gov.au](mailto:deborah.turner@broome.wa.gov.au).



24-26 May

### Chinatown Discovery Festival

Chinatown, various locations. Celebrating the opening of the Chinatown Revitalisation Project and showcasing the diversity of the Broome community with events and performances from local and visiting artists. Full festival program at [chinatownbroome.com.au](http://chinatownbroome.com.au)

Fri 31 May

### Kimberley Waste Summit

Broome Civic Centre, 9.30am-3pm. Hear about regional waste management initiatives and discuss key issues including the Container Deposit Scheme, data collection and management, disaster waste management and behaviour change campaigns. Register at [walga.asn.au/events](http://walga.asn.au/events)



Fri 31 May

### Reconciliation Week Festival

Male Oval, 5pm. Celebrate National Reconciliation Week 2019 in Broome with a free family and community festival featuring live music and performances, art, community group activities and stalls and children's activities. Find out more at [broome.wa.gov.au](http://broome.wa.gov.au)



The Shire has made changes to streamline the process for hosting events in Broome.

## Streamlining event approvals in Broome

Events are an important part of Broome's culture and economy, and the Shire has undertaken an extensive review to streamline the events application process.

New guidelines have been developed to help event organisers through the application process.

Broome Shire President, Harold Tracey says events are an important part of life in our town and Council wants to support those working hard to make them happen.

"A level of regulation is necessary to help ensure the community's health and safety, but the Shire is working

hard to make this as simple as possible," Cr Tracey says.

Improvements include reviewing and streamlining the application process and forms, and the Shire's internal processes, updating the online applications and developing the new guidelines.

The Shire website now includes a 'one-stop shop' for events under the 'Facilities & Recreation' section, and the Shire Events team can be contacted at [events@broome.wa.gov.au](mailto:events@broome.wa.gov.au) or 9191 3456.

## Proposed rates out for community input

Each financial year the Shire levies rates so Council can deliver services and infrastructure for our community in line with its budget.

As part of its 2019/20 budget process, Council endorsed the proposed differential rates at its meeting on 18 April and is now seeking community feedback.

The proposed rates deliver a general rate increase of 1.75 per cent to balance the draft budget with full details available at [broome.wa.gov.au](http://broome.wa.gov.au).

Public submissions are open until Thurs 23 May and will be considered prior to the final adoption of rates.

Rates are a form of property tax and are levied to meet Council's budget requirements, but the rates paid may not directly relate to the services received by each ratepayer.

A new single rate category for vacant properties is also proposed to be introduced so that vacant residential, commercial or tourism properties will be rated under the GRV Vacant rate category to ensure consistent, fair and equitable treatment of all vacant properties.

Residents with new contact details should update them with the Shire prior to the issuing of Rates Notices by completing the Change My Address form at [broome.wa.gov.au](http://broome.wa.gov.au)

## Operating a business from home in Broome

Businesses in Broome's key retail precincts face challenging conditions, with some owners raising concerns that they're competing with people operating businesses from home who don't pay the same rates or have the same overheads.

Residents can operate businesses from home under certain conditions and with planning approval from the Shire.

The Shire supports home businesses providing services, from hairdressers to dog groomers to accountants, but they're not permitted to also sell products.

A business wanting to sell products needs to be in one of the commercial zones and the Shire's planning team can assist in identifying a location.

There has also been a recent increase in people trying to sell products from their homes, and while one-off garage sales are allowed planning laws don't allow the regular sale of items including plants, clothes, shoes and more from residential properties.

People wanting to operate shops need to be located in a commercial area, and Shire planners can assist in advising where these are.

More info is available on the Shire website or by contacting Planning staff.



Home businesses are permitted in Broome with approval but anyone selling products must be located in a commercial zone.