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What's Happening

In the Shire of Broome?

Town Beach Australia Day celebrations



The Broome community is invited to celebrate Australia Day 2023 at Town Beach, with an inclusive event to be held on January 26.

Organised in partnership between the Shire of Broome, Lions Club and other local service providers, the event is a celebration of the Broome community.

The Lions Club will be putting on a breakfast, starting at 8am, while there will be fun and entertainment for all the family - including music by local performer Dan Guidera, free train rides for the kids and a thong throwing competition.

This year we will welcome 26 new Australian citizens and the special address will be by our Australia Day ambassador, Craig Hollywood.

Craig was named 2022 WA Local Hero for his idea of offering free haircuts to people experiencing homelessness. Called Short Back & Sidewalks the program now has around 350 volunteers giving haircuts that have positively impacted the lives of over 10,000 people in need across Australia.

The citizenship ceremony is followed by a presentation of the 2023 Community Citizen of the Year Awards, with winners to be announced in the senior, youth and community member categories.

Laser Tag



Broome Civic Centre and Lock and Load Laser Tag are bringing the excitement of video gaming to life in a high energy, live gaming experience using the latest, highly interactive gaming guns. Be amazed by the light and haze show.

Choose from three sessions on January 30.

BOOK NOW at broome.sales.ticketsearch.com

Shire commences program to fight mosquito-borne disease



While the heavy rains that lashed the Shire of Broome last week from ex-Tropical Cyclone Ellie caused relatively minor damage in Broome, they have presented an increased risk of exposure to mosquito-borne diseases in town and remote communities.

The Shire has commenced a pest management program, with its environmental health officers monitoring standing bodies of water around Broome for mosquito larvae and treating areas when required to prevent successful breeding.

So far, there has been limited mosquito breeding in drains, basins and flood water since the rain stopped, likely due to high temperatures and water levels dropping fast enough to prevent mosquito eggs and larvae from surviving.

Mosquito trapping will be carried out to identify possible breeding sites and the risk to public health.

Should there be a spike in mosquito numbers, the Shire will spray insecticide in public spaces to control larvae and, if required, adult mosquitoes.

With the Shire's efforts are concentrated on public areas, it is worth noting mosquito breeding is most likely to occur on private properties, in dense vegetation and standing water.

Broome Shire President Harold Tracey said controlling mosquito numbers will best succeed if residents and business owners take simple measures to prevent larvae from hatching on their properties.

"Take a look around the property and remove or clean out anything that can hold water, such as toys, pot-plant bases, tyres, your pet's water bowl, and even palm fronds.

"You can also purchase residual pesticides to apply around your property to further reduce the risk of exposure."

Even with all these measures in place, it is impossible to eradicate mosquitos, particularly during the wet season.

With the risk of mosquito-borne diseases ever present, the environmental health officers are taking blood samples from sentinel chicken flock, which acts as an early warning system for West Nile Virus Kunjin Strain and Murray Valley Encephalitis.

While these diseases are yet to be detected locally, it is important to take protective measures against mosquito bites whenever outdoors, such as:

Covering up: Wear long, loose-fitting, light-coloured clothing. Mosquitos can still bite through tight-fitting clothing such as leggings.

Repelling: Use a DEET or picaridin-based repellent as per the instructions. Citronella and other natural-based repellents are not recommended as there is no evidence they can prevent mosquito-borne disease. Patches, wristbands and other similar products are not recommended either.

For more information on mosquitos and mosquito control, visit fightthebite.com.au

Shire of Broome announces new community grants

The Shire of Broome is inviting applications for its new Community Development Fund (CDF), which is providing grants between \$500 and \$40,000. The CDF has been introduced to bring together the previous Annual Community Matched Funding and Events Development Fund programs to make it easier for more eligible organisations to secure funding that supports a wide range of activities across the Shire. It has two funding streams now open for applications until March 20, 2023, for events, projects and initiatives within the Shire of Broome, which can deliver long term social or economic benefits to the local community.

The CDF will improve accessibility for applicants and enable a more transparent and impactful process for social investment for the Shire.

Funding priorities for the 2023-24 financial year include: children and young people, community safety, economic impact and social impact.

The CDF has three funding streams:

- Community projects and initiatives seeking a funding contribution of \$500 - \$10,000
- Events seeking a funding contribution of \$10,000 - \$40,000
- PEARL events seeking a funding contribution of more than \$40,000. Applications to this stream are by invite only.

Applicants are only permitted to apply to one stream per financial year.

Anyone considering applying is encouraged to contact the Shire shire@broome.wa.gov.au or (08) 9191 3456 to discuss their project.