



# The Shire Flyer



Friday 05 January 2018

## Breast Screen WA to visit Esperance

BreastScreen WA's mobile screening mammography service is scheduled to visit Esperance from next Tuesday to 6 April, and will be at the Esperance Sports and Recreation House carpark, off James Street.

BreastScreen WA provides a FREE screening mammography service and all women aged 40 years and over are welcome to attend. Appointments are necessary and can be made online <http://www.breastscreen.health.wa.gov.au/> or by calling 13 20 50.

## Do you have questions about Pink Lake?

### Why has Pink Lake lost its colour?

The dynamics of why a lake turns pink is very complex and external changes and weather conditions can have a big impact. Esperance's Pink Lake has lost its pink colour due to a number of contributing factors. With the construction of the railway line and South Coast Highway, Lake Warden and the eastern lakes no longer flush into Pink Lake during heavy rains, this flushing brought in accumulated salts from other lakes into Pink Lake. Commercial salt mining, which began in 1896 and ceased in 2007 also reduced salt levels in the lake.

Further reductions to the lake's salt concentration has been caused by freshwater entering the system through a combination of surface water inflow and increased groundwater inflow due to clearing in the catchment area associated with nearby subdivisions of land. Essentially, increasing salt concentrations, combined with decreasing water levels from evaporation during summer, trigger the appearance of the pink colour that can be seen in lakes across the country.



Photo credit to C Green, Pink Lake, circa 1970's

### Is Pink Lake's real name Lake Spencer?

Pink Lake was once known as Lake Spencer. However in 1966 the then Shire President, CR W S (Bill) Paterson, requested the name be changed to Pink Lake, seeing this as a positive move in capitalising on a local tourism attraction. Unfortunately over the years Pink Lake has lost its colour due to a combination of environmental circumstances that has meant the name is not quite as fitting anymore.

More questions regarding Pink Lake are answered on the Shire website at: [www.esperance.wa.gov.au](http://www.esperance.wa.gov.au)

## Upcoming Meetings

**Agenda Briefing:** 1pm, 16 January, Council Chambers

**Ordinary Council Meeting:** 4pm, 23 January, Council Chambers

Want to know what is happening in Council each month? The agenda includes all reports Council will make decisions on, minutes from Council and committee meetings, monthly financials and an operational report. To read the full the Agenda and Minutes please go to the Shire's website.

## Do you know what a Total Fire Ban means?

A Total Fire Ban is put in place by the Department of Fire & Emergency Services (DFES) as a preventative measure during predicted adverse fire weather. A Total Fire Ban affects everyone, whether living on a farm or living in town; to camping on the beach or heading out for a drive.

The DFES website outlines what a Total Fire Ban involves, its states a person must not:

- light, maintain or use a fire in the open air
- carry out an activity in the open air that causes or is likely to cause a fire.

The ban includes:

- hot works (welding, grinding, soldering, gas cutting)
- all open solid fuel fires for the purpose of cooking or camping
- use of incinerators and other activities described in the 'What Can't I do on a Total Fire Ban day? Fact Sheet'

The fact sheet is available on the DFES website (a link is on the shire website), it outlines what you can and cannot do during a Total Fire Ban. A list of frequently asked questions are also answered to provide guidance to anyone who is concerned about a planned activity. [www.dfes.wa.gvo.au/safetyinformation/fire](http://www.dfes.wa.gvo.au/safetyinformation/fire)

## How is a Total Fire Ban different to a Harvest, Machinery & Vehicle Movement Ban?

A Harvest, Machinery and Vehicle Movement Ban (Harvest ban) is put in place by the Shire of Esperance under the Bushfires Act 1954. A Harvest Ban is declared to restrict activities that are likely to cause or contribute to the spread of a bushfire. A Harvest Ban can be imposed on a zone/ within the Shire or the whole Shire.

To find out if a Harvest Ban is in place you can contact the Shire on 9071 0666; call the Harvest Ban hotline on 9071 5367; listen to the ABC radio and/or register for the Shires SMS notification system. Information about Total Fire Bans and Harvest, Machinery & Vehicle Movement Bans is available on the Shire of Esperance Website.

## What is Prohibited Burning?

The Shire has different burning restrictions corresponding to different times and conditions during the year. Currently we are in a Prohibited Burning Time; this means no fires are to be lit in the open air during this time. This is from 1 November to 31 January. A Restricted Burning Time comes into effect from 19 September to 31 October and 1 February to 15 March and a permit is required to burn during this period. Unrestricted Burning Time is from 16 March to 18 September and fires can be lit without a permit, but it is common courtesy to notify your neighbours that you will be burning.

All Burning Restrictions may be altered in response to current conditions. You can find updated information on our website. During the Prohibited Burning Time properties with land under 2000 square metres are required to remove all flammable material, and properties with land over 2000 square metres are required to have a low fuel buffer. Please visit our website for more information on Fire Breaks and Burning Restrictions.

ONE AND ALL  
**Community Program**  
MONDAY 8 - FRIDAY 12 JANUARY

 <b>CHESS</b> Monday 8 January 10am - 12pm Whale Tail, The Esplanade	 <b>DRUMMING</b> Tuesday 9 January 10am - 11am Whale Tail, The Esplanade	 <b>WHEELCHAIR SPORTS</b> Tuesday 9 January 2pm - 3.30pm Indoor Stadium
 <b>ULTIMATE FRISBEE</b> Wednesday 10 January 2.30pm - 4.30pm Soccer Fields, Jane Street	 <b>BRICKCLUB</b> Thursday 11 January 10am - 12pm Civic Centre, Council Place	 <b>STREET FOURS SOCCER</b> Thursday 11 January 3pm - 4.30pm Soccer Fields, Jane Street
 <b>SAND ART</b> Friday 12 January 10am - 11.30am Whale Tail, The Esplanade	<p>BYO SPADE AND BUCKET</p> <p>This program is all about making sport and recreation fun with a variety of activities, games and challenges.</p> <p>It's free and suitable for all ages &amp; abilities.</p> <p>Come dressed to participate and don't forget to slip, slop &amp; slap!</p>	

To register, please contact Shane Tobin on 0418 557 397 or email [esperanceinclusive@gmail.com](mailto:esperanceinclusive@gmail.com)

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