



Shire of Boyup Brook Community Newsletter

April 2020

MEDIA RELEASE

"Authorised officers" appointed under the Public Health Act 2016, will be able to issue directions necessary to impose self-isolation and social distancing requirements. The new law will enable authorities to issue \$1,000 on-the-spot fines for individuals and \$5,000 fines for businesses to act as a further deterrent against those in the community who simply do not follow new directions. The new laws will allow for a person to be subject to electronic monitoring while they are in self-isolation. Appropriate electronic monitoring devices will be determined for each situation.

TRANSFER STATION

To keep in line with social distancing and the new laws, please limit your visits to the transfer station to essential visits only. Please remain in your vehicle and take direction from staff who will speak to you through your passenger side window. This is to remain in place while we are in lock down. There are no planned changes to current opening hours however due to government directives may change this. Should this occur signage will be placed on the gate and our Facebook page will be updated as soon as possible.

GOOD NEWS!

Council adopted on 2nd April 2020 a 0% rate increase and no increase to fees and charges for the 2020/21 financial year.

The good news is we have gone another week with no recorded cases of COVID-19 in our Shire. Sadly this is not the case with some of our neighbours. The WA Health website has a heat map of where the major outbreaks are. Generally the South West and Great Southern have done well but in saying that there are cases around Bunbury, Busselton/Margaret River and Albany. I am not going to name the other Shires but the message is if you don't have to go out, the safest thing to do is STAY HOME.

I had a meeting with Dr Luc last week and his advice was that if you are going to go out and be in contact with members of the public to wear a face mask. Now I know that may be difficult as they are scarce as hens teeth. There was an interesting article on the news showing how to make a face mask out of a handkerchief or serviette by folding it and using an elastic band. Here is a link of how to do this <https://edition.cnn.com/2020/04/04/health/how-to-make-your-own-mask-wellness-trnd/index.html>

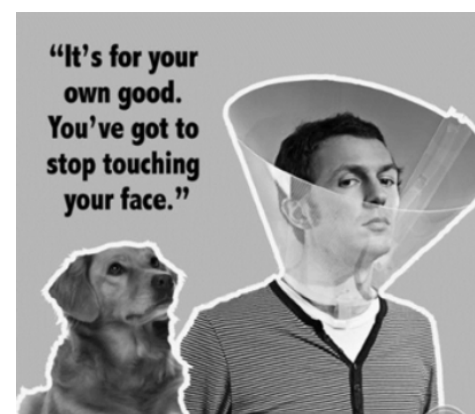
So to lighten things up courtesy of 'Macca in the morning' *Two aliens come down to earth and there is nobody here. One was a little older and wiser and one was a young alien. The young one said to the old one 'What happened here?' The old one said 'There was a toilet paper epidemic.' So the young one said 'So what happened?' The old one said 'They wiped themselves out.'*

So I just want to say how well we are doing. One place where you need to be very careful is when going up and down the aisles of the supermarket. Try as much as possible to maintain your social distancing even in these places.

Stay safe, stay well

Chris Smith
CEO

**Don't forget the Shire is here
to help. If you need help
please ring on 9765 1200**



Did you know that the Shire has distributed over 50 litres of hand sanitiser free of charge to local businesses to help keep us all safe.

You can make a difference

These are the best ways to slow the spread of COVID-19 and help save lives:

- Stay at home. Don't visit family and friends. Catch up online or call them instead.
- Don't go out unless it's essential. If you do have to go out, such as to buy groceries or visit your doctor, stay 1.5 metres from other people, and wash your hands as soon as you get back home.
- Clean your hands regularly with soap and water for 20 seconds.

Please see the following links for reliable sources of key information

WA Department of Health

https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/A_E/Coronavirus

This website provides up to date information for the public and health professionals including; Information for employers, General information and FAQs, Education facilities and early childhood centres, Info for parents, school and early childhood centre's (including mandarin version), Advice for schools about self-isolation requirement

Healthy WA

<https://healthywa.wa.gov.au/coronavirus>

This website provides consumer information and fact sheets

Commonwealth Government

<https://www.health.gov.au/health-topics/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov>

This website provides helpful coronavirus information and resources for the general public, health professionals and industry

COVID-19 MythBusters (World Health Organisation)

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public/myth-busters>

This website provides helpful coronavirus facts and graphics

World Health Organisation

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

Health and/or coronavirus advice

• <https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/>

- 1800 020 080

• **Coronavirus Health Information hotline - 1800 020 080**

Protect yourself from viruses



WASH HANDS
often with soap
and water, or
hand sanitiser



COVER COUGHS
and sneezes
with a tissue or use
your inner elbow



STAY HOME
from work or school
if you are sick