

# Shire of East Pilbara Annual Report



2004/2005

# CONTENTS

<b>President's Report .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>CEO's Report .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Facts about your Shire .....</b>	<b>5</b>
Shire of East Pilbara .....	5
History .....	5
Council Facts.....	5
Structure .....	5
<b>Facts about your Councillors .....</b>	<b>6</b>
Councillor's Meeting Attendance .....	8
Council Organisation .....	9
<b>Sources and Applications of Operating Funds .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Corporate Services .....</b>	<b>11</b>
Human Resources .....	12
Financial Services .....	12
Library Services .....	12
Administration.....	13
Records Management .....	13
Airport Services .....	13
Ranger and Emergency Services .....	14
<b>Community Services .....</b>	<b>15</b>
Recreation Services .....	16
Building Services .....	17
<b>Technical Services .....</b>	<b>18</b>
Roadworks.....	19
Town Drainage Improvements.....	19
Sportsgrounds, Parks and Reserves .....	20
Plant and Equipment Replacement .....	20
<b>Statutory Reporting .....</b>	<b>22</b>
Disability Services Report.....	22
National Competition Policy.....	22
<b>Principal Activity Plan Comparisons .....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Audited Financial Reports.....</b>	<b>30</b>

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The 2004/2005 year has seen a great deal of change within the Shire. The current resource boom within our region has led to a vast increase in our overall population and particularly within the town of Newman. It is pleasing to see the town's numbers restored to previous levels and to watch the impact this has for us all, bringing increased services to our towns.

Whilst this is a very positive thing for the town it has increased the workload for all and I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Chief Executive Officer, Mr Allen Cooper and all the staff at the shire for the wonderful job they have done over the past twelve months. Their efforts to keep up with the demands placed onto our services are truly appreciated.

Many projects have commenced within the three towns in the shire including the Youth Centre in Marble Bar, the Lookout in Nullagine and upgrading playground equipment to many of our parks in all of the towns. The planned Entry Statements have also been completed for both Marble Bar and Newman and we look forward to these being erected in the near future.

It is with great pleasure that the Shire is able to announce our participation in the Queens Baton Relay to be held in February 2006. It is an honour to be chosen as one of only three towns in Western Australia to host this event. A sub-committee has been formed and are arranging many events for this day, in conjunction with the Ministry of Sport & Recreation.

Extensions to the airport in Newman continue, whilst causing some disruptions, will make leaving from and coming into Newman much smoother. The introduction of bigger planes has meant extensions to our runway and larger terminal facilities are

required. This will be undertaken over the next few years.

I would also like to thank the current councillors, together with those who left us after the elections in May, for all their hard work and support over the past year. In addition I would also like to formally thank our former Shire President, Mr Alan Cochrane, who retired in May after 9 years with the Council. Alan has worked tirelessly for our communities and has supported all councillors and especially myself in my new role.

There are a great many exciting new ventures planned for our shire in the next twelve months and I look forward to working with you all.

Lynne Craigie  
President





# CEO'S REPORT

Welcome to the Shire Of East Pilbara's 2004/2005 Annual Report.

The year commenced with the budget being adopted on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2004 with only a 2% increase of the rate in the \$. A number of significant changes to the Local Government Act during the year means that more time will be spent on compliance issues. Together with the introduction of the International Financial Reporting Standards changes will occur in reporting standards over the next year.

Similar to Local Government Authorities across the state, staff turnover and recruitment continue to cause problems with continuity and stability within the Council. Staff turnover was 48% for permanent workers during the 04/05 year.

However, this did not mean that significant change did not occur throughout the Shire. Newman, Marble Bar and Nullagine all saw a major upgrade of their playgrounds including the Newman Aquatic Centre and Skate Park playgrounds. Old play equipment was replaced, shade was erected and seating was installed.

Other highlights of the year included:

- Work at the Marble Bar Community Centre building continues
- The Telecentre toilet in Marble Bar was upgraded for disabled access
- Disabled toilets were installed at both Cape Keraudren and the Boomerang Oval in Newman
- Extensions were undertaken at the Nullagine Gymnasium
- New cricket pitches were installed in Newman
- The Newman Airport Terminal was extended.
- Community Art Projects were completed at the Boomerang Oval and the Newman Recreation Centre
- Major construction works took place on aboriginal access roads

- Capital works were undertaken at the Newman Sewerage farm
- Work continued on the Marble Bar Heritage trail
- Work commenced on the Nullagine Lookout
- The Shire established an Out of School Hours Care program



The 2005/2006 financial year promises to be another exciting and challenging one. The Newman Town Centre Revitalisation project will commence, the Shire's Airports continue to receive major upgrading including lighting at the Marble Bar aerodrome. The Nullagine Gymnasium will be further extended and major upgrading of the 25-metre pool in Newman will commence.

I would like to thank the President and Councillors, my executive team and all the Shire's staff for their commitment and support over the past year.

Allen Cooper  
Chief Executive Officer

# FACTS ABOUT YOUR SHIRE

The Shire of East Pilbara has produced this Annual Report as an open and honest disclosure to Residents and Landowners of the Shire of East Pilbara community.

The report contains specific information for the 2004/2005 financial year as well as reports required to meet our statutory obligations.

The Annual Report is presented to Council and residents at Council's Annual Electors Meeting usually early in December each year.

## Shire of East Pilbara

The Shire of East Pilbara is the largest Shire in the world and is located north of the Gascoyne area in Western Australia. It is made up of the townsites of Newman, Marble Bar, Nullagine and the Jigalong, Kiwirrkurra, Parnagur, Punmu, Woodstock, Warralong and Kunawarritji Aboriginal Communities.

## History

The Shire was formed by the amalgamation of the Shires of Marble Bar and Nullagine in 1972. In 1982 the town of Newman, which now is home to the main administration office of the Shire, was changed from a closed mining town to a "normalised" town.



Marble Bar was originally part of the Bamboo Road Board prior to the formation of the Shires of Marble Bar and Nullagine and later East Pilbara. The Bamboo Road Board dates back to 1896. Council retains a sub office at Marble Bar and the works construction crew operates from that location. A small work force also operates at Nullagine.



The estimated population of the Shire is 7,100 with over 4,000 living in Newman. The Shire is rich in Aboriginal Culture, mining and pastoral activities and provides a significant part of the State and Federal wealth.

In July 1, 2004, the Shire Boundary was changed after Yandeyarra and associated lands were transferred to the Town of Port Hedland. However the Shire of East Pilbara still maintains its status of the largest Shire.

## Council Facts

Distance from Perth (km)	1,220
Area (sq km)	371,746
Length of Sealed Roads (km)	162.2
Length of Unsealed Roads (km)	2708.9
Population	7,100
Number of Electors	4,584
Number of Dwellings	2,040
Total Rates Levied	\$2,904,647
Total Revenue	\$12,115,534
Number of Permanent Employees	50

## Structure

In this Shire there are 11 Councillors representing 6 wards. President Lynne Craigie who was elected by the Councillors after the May 2005 elections leads the Council. Council appoints the Chief Executive Officer to control the day to day operations of the organisation.

# FACTS ABOUT YOUR COUNCILLORS

An important function of the Council is to represent the population in discussions with Government and Industry. One of the aims of this process is to maximise the Council's share of grant funds.

## A council's role is to:

- Direct and control the local government's affairs;
- Be responsible for the performance of the local government's functions;
- Oversee the allocation of the local government's finances and resources; and
- Determine the local government's policies.

## A councillor's role is to:

- Represent the interests of electors, ratepayers and residents;
- Provide leadership and guidance to the community;
- Facilitate communication between the community and the council and vice versa; and
- Participate in decision-making processes at meetings.

South Ward



**Cr Lynne Craigie**  
**President**  
 8 Selman Avenue  
 Newman WA 6753  
 Tel 9175 0823 Home  
 Tel: 9175 3661 Work  
 Fax: 9175 0974  
 Mob: 0427 174 919  
 Email:  
[wpcnew@benet.net.au](mailto:wpcnew@benet.net.au)  
 Term Expires: 2007

North West Ward



**Cr John Leeds**  
**Deputy President**  
 PO Box 105  
 Port Hedland WA 6721  
 Tel 9176 4930  
 Fax 9176 4940  
[soepnorthwest@bigpond.com](mailto:soepnorthwest@bigpond.com)  
 Term Expires: 2007

South Ward



**Cr Bill Despotovski**  
 53 Bondini Drive  
 Newman WA 6753  
 Tel: 9175 2807 Home  
 Mob: 0407 287 304  
[billdespo@bigpond.com](mailto:billdespo@bigpond.com)  
 Term Expires: 2007

South Ward



**Cr Anita Grace**  
 PO Box 644  
 Newman WA 6753  
 Tel: 9175 1223 Home  
 Tel: 9175 1040 Work  
 Fax: 9175 0974  
 Term Expires: 2009

South Ward



**Cr Doug Stead**  
 17 Yanboomah Close  
 Newman WA 6753  
 Tel: 9175 1727 Hm  
 Tel: 9175 3665  
 Mob: 0439 388 150  
 Email: [stead@normcom.net.au](mailto:stead@normcom.net.au)  
 Term Expires: 2007

North Ward



**Cr Lang Coppin**  
 PO Box 805  
 Port Hedland WA 6721  
 Tel 9176 4954 Home  
 Fax 9176 4801  
[Yarrie.stn@bigpond.com](mailto:Yarrie.stn@bigpond.com)  
 Term Expires: 2009



**East Ward**

**Photo  
Unavailable**

**Central Ward**



**Cr John Currell**  
Unit 3  
APH  
74 Francis Street  
Marble Bar WA 6760  
Tel 9176 1152 (Hm)  
Term Expires: 2009

**South Ward**



**Cr Jim Akesson**  
Lot 1568  
Woodstock St  
Newman WA 6753  
Tel 9175 2598 (Wrk)  
Mobile 0417 923 002  
**Term Expires: 2009**

**Cr Melvin Farmer**  
Via Jigalong Aboriginal  
Community  
PMB 7  
Newman WA 6753  
Tel 9175 7437 (Hm)  
Fax 9175 7019  
Term Expires: 2009

**South Ward**



**Cr Karen Knuckey**  
7 Rudall Avenue  
Newman WA 6753  
Tel 9175 1098 (Hm)  
Mob: 0418 911 884  
Email [knuckey@benet.net.au](mailto:knuckey@benet.net.au)  
Term Expires: 2009

**Lower Central Ward**



**Cr John Young**  
Lot 234 Skull Springs Road  
Nullagine WA 6758  
Ph/ Fax: 9176 2110  
Term Expires: 2007

**Retired Councillors**

**MAY 2005**  
A Cochrane  
K Danks  
D Davis



**Cr Alan Cochran**



**Cr Don Davis**



**Cr Kevin Danks**

## Councillor's Meeting Attendance

	July 2004	August 2004	September 2004	October 2004	December 2004	February 2005	March 2005	April 2005	May 2005	June 2005
<b>Cr Alan Cochrane</b>	Apology	Yes	Apology	Yes	Yes	Apology	Yes	Yes		
<b>Cr Don Davis</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Apology	No	No		
<b>Cr Anita Grace</b>	Yes	Apology	Leave of Absence	Yes	Yes	Yes	Leave of Absence	Yes	Apology	Yes
<b>Cr Lang Coppin</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Apology	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Cr John Leeds</b>	Apology	Yes	Yes	Apology	Yes	Apology	Yes	Apology	Apology	Yes
<b>Cr Kevin Danks</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Apology	Yes	Yes	Yes	Apology		
<b>Cr Karen Knuckey</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Apology	Yes	Yes	Yes	Apology
<b>Cr Lynne Craigie</b>	Apology	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Apology	Yes	Yes	Apology
<b>Cr Doug Stead</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Cr Bill Despotovski</b>	Apology	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Leave of Absence	Leave of Absence	Leave of Absence	Yes
<b>Cr John Young</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Cr Melvin Farmer</b>									Yes	Apology
<b>Cr John Currell</b>									Yes	Yes
<b>Cr Jim Akesson</b>									Yes	Yes

Councillor's meeting attendance for 10 meetings in the financial year (taking into consideration the election in May) are as follows:

Cr Alan Cochrane (retired May 2005)	5	Cr John Currell (elected May 2005)	2	Cr Lynne Craigie	7	Cr John Leeds	5
Cr Don Davis (retired May 2005)	5	Cr Doug Stead	10	Cr Anita Grace	6	Cr Lang Coppin	9
Cr Melvin Farmer (elected May 2005)	1	Cr Karen Knuckey	8	Cr Bill Despotovski	6		
Cr Jim Akesson (elected May 2005)	2	Cr John Young	10	Cr Kevin Danks	6		

Councillor Lynne Craigie was elected President and Councillor John Leeds was elected Deputy President at the May 2005 Council Meeting.

Election May 2005 saw the retirement from Council of Alan Cochrane and Don Davis and the defeat of Kevin Danks.

After the May 2005 Election the new Councillors were:

**Melvin Farner** – East Ward

**John Currell** – Central Ward

**Jim Akesson** – South Ward



## Council Organisation

The Shire of East Pilbara provides a variety of services and activities for the residents and ratepayers. Professional and dedicated staff are employed to provide and maintain these services.

The overall management of the Shire rests with the Chief Executive Officer. The staff acts on resolutions of Council by developing and putting into practice the policy development responsibility of the Councillors and their resolutions. The Shire has adopted a management structure of three Directorates, which are supported by three Directors under the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer. Together they direct and co-ordinate the operations of the Shire.

Of the three tiers of Government which make decisions on behalf of the community, Local Government is the closest to the people they represent. Councils manage the things that affect your every day lifestyle - like roads, streets and footpaths, waste removal, recreation areas, parks & gardens, libraries, building regulations and so on. If you are unsure please contact us.

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Allen Cooper



Allen has been with the Shire of East Pilbara for nine years. He was appointed as the Chief Executive Officer in 1998, having previously served as Council's Director Corporate Services for four years.

### DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

Peter Voros



Peter Voros joined the Shire in February 2000 and has over 20 years of Local Government experience.

Peter has a Diploma in Local Government (Clerk), a Bachelor of Business and is a Certified Practising Accountant. He is also Member of the Local Government Managers Association.

### DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES

Alex Douglas



Alex commenced with the Shire of East Pilbara in 2003 where he moved from the Town of Bassendean.

Alex has been working in Local Government since 1981 and has worked at Melville, Boulder, Denmark, Narrogin and Subiaco.

He has an Associateship (Civil Engineering) WAIT.

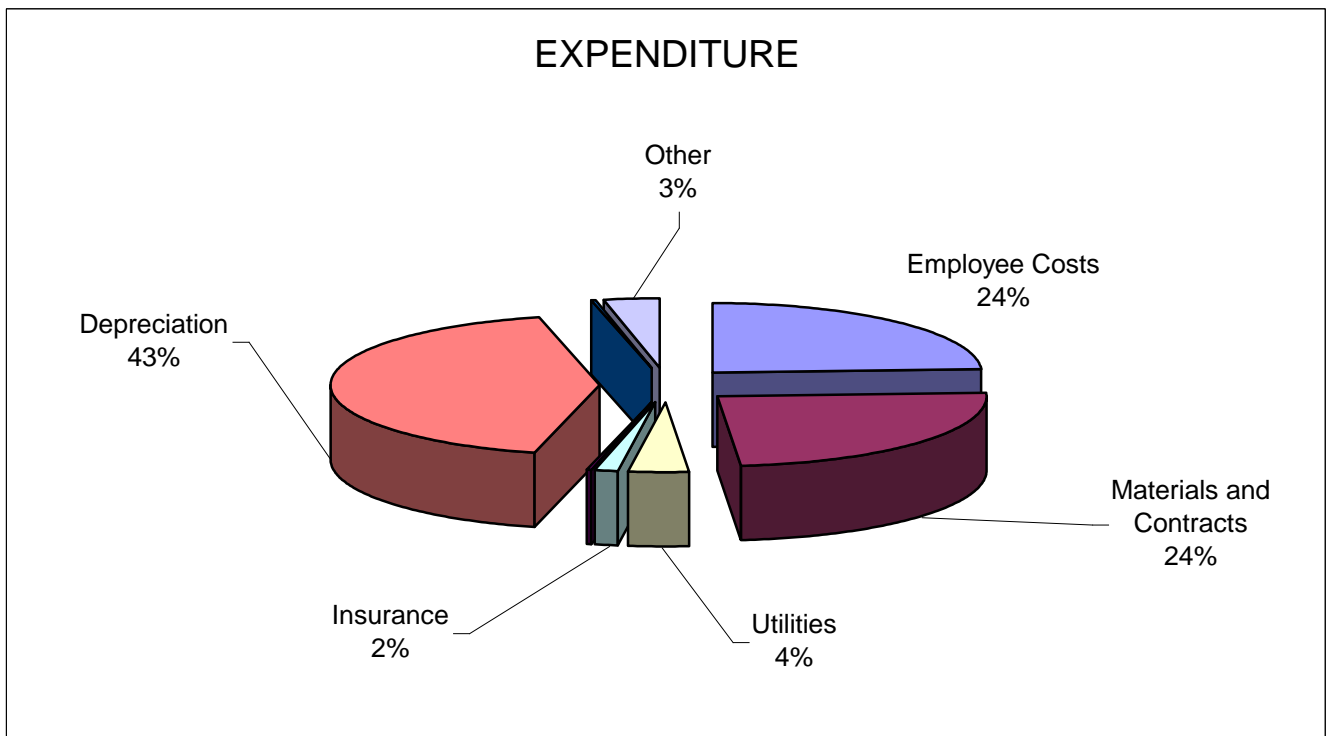
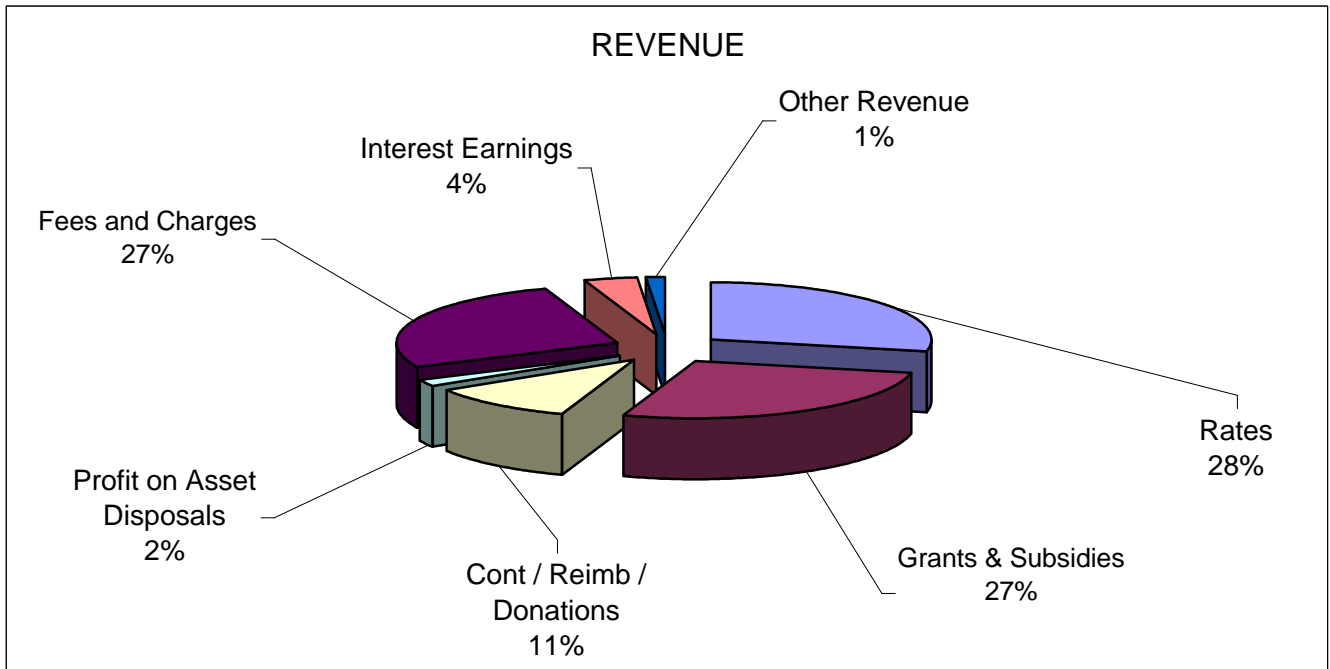
### DIRECTOR COMMUNITY SERVICES

Bill Crerar



Bill has over 17 years experience in local government and moved to the Shire of East Pilbara from Armadale where he had worked as the Manager of Building Services.

# SOURCES AND APPLICATIONS OF OPERATING FUNDS (EXCLUDING CAPITAL)



# CORPORATE SERVICES





## Human Resources

As at the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2006 Council had 50 permanent positions split as follows:

### Administration Services:

CEO	1
Managers	0
Coordinators	1
Staff	2

### Corporate Services:

Directors	1
Managers	2
Coordinators	1
Staff	8

### Community/Building Services:

Directors	1
Managers	0
Coordinators	2
Staff	6

### Technical Services:

Directors	1
Manager	0
Coordinators	0
Staff	23

### Recruitment:

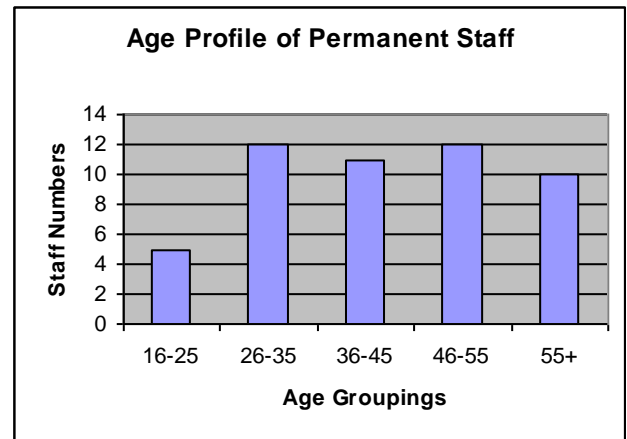
The Manager of Health and Regulatory Services position has been filled (after 30<sup>th</sup> June 05).

Two positions remain vacant:

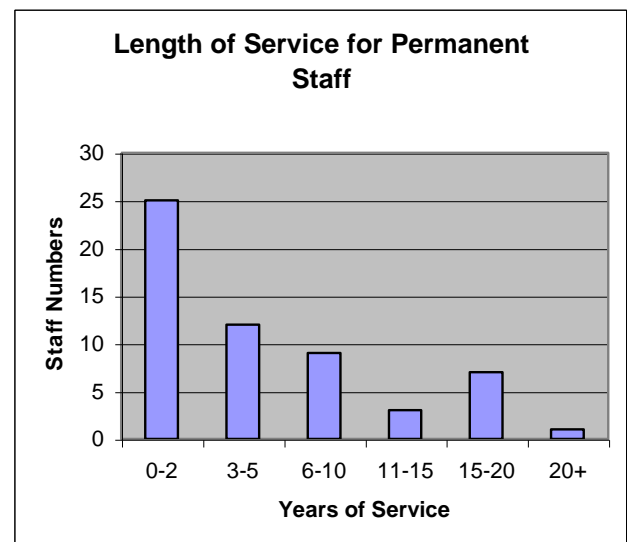
Technical Services Manager - Marble Bar and  
Human Resources Officer (Part Time)

One new position "Coordinator of Out of School Hours Care" was created in 2005. The position is Permanent Part Time with a minimum of 60 hours a fortnight.

Some staff relocated to different positions and recruitment of new staff was undertaken to fill these positions.



Staff turnover for 2004/2005 financial year was 48% for permanent part time and full time positions.



## Financial Services

### Rates

Council rates were increased by 2% in 2004/2005.

Rubbish rates were increased to \$140 per annum and sewerage rates remained the same.

## Library Services

The Shire of East Pilbara operates two libraries at Nullagine and Marble Bar and financially contributes over \$90,000 to the Newman Library, which is a joint venture with TAFE.

## **Administration**

Each year the Shire is required to review its Policies, Delegations, Authorisations, Code of Conduct, Freedom of Information Policy and other manuals. This review was conducted with minor amendments.

A large effort was put into producing the Shire's strategic plan, sending out information and collating the results.

## **Records Management**

The Shire continues to monitor the efficiency and effectiveness of our recordkeeping system. This year we have undertaken in-house training to new staff with regard to recordkeeping. The Shire's induction program is currently being updated to reflect employees' responsibility in regard to their compliance with the organisation's recordkeeping plan.

## **Airport Services**

There have been a lot of noticeable and behind the scene improvements made at the Newman Airport in the past twelve months, including maintenance, programs and manuals.

### **MAINTENANCE ITEMS/INFRASTRUCTURE**

#### **Terminal and surrounds**

The terminal now has two functioning TV's and a DVD player. The TV, located in the security screening area is purely entertainment and the TV located in the check-in area is notification of security screening procedures (TV's and DVD player have been secured).

The terminal was upgraded and tables and chairs have been procured for the terminal, sterile area and outdoor waiting area. To service increased passenger numbers the terminal adding additional check-in room extended area. A third check-in counter is expected to arrive soon.

## **Airside**

Qantas will be introducing their fleet of Boeing 717 Aircraft to Newman Monday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2005; this aircraft has a capacity of 117pax. Numerous arrangements have been made by the Shire of East Pilbara to ensure a smooth transition to the B717. There are concerns regarding operational requirements for the B717, as the aircraft requires sealed shoulders or a 45m-width runway with an optimal length of 2100m. Newman currently provides a runway with a width of 30m with unsealed shoulders and a runway length of 2072m. Exemption Co-NWNAD 02/2005 was applied for and granted by CASA to allow operation of an aircraft with a seating capacity of greater than 100 pax to operate in Newman without sealed shoulders being provided (as per MOS 139). Negotiations are taking place between Qantas, the Shire of East Pilbara and various consultants to ascertain future requirements and works required.

An area in front of the Polar Aviation hanger has been bitumised along with the entrance to the apron from Qantas link/Terminal.

The Newman Aerodrome Manual has been updated to comply with MOS139. The manual has been sent to CASA for review and Newman Aerodrome will become certified following CASA approval.

A RADS application was submitted early in 2005 for the purchase and installation for lighting at Marble Bar Airstrip. It will cost an expected \$190,000. An application was for \$95,000 was made to RADS and the application was successful. Works will commence in the new financial year.

## **Ranger and Emergency Services**

### **Emergency (Risk) Management**

The Shire of East Pilbara is represented by the Manager Ranger and Emergency Services and an elected representative on the local emergency management committee's in Newman, Nullagine and Marble Bar, these committees form part of the interface between all Emergency Services, the Community and Council as they strive to make the Shire of East Pilbara a safer place to live. The Manager is also a member of the District Emergency Management Committee, the Regional Cyclone Advisory Group and the State Emergency Services Group.

Both Ranger/Emergency Services Officer's (ESO's) are members of the Newman State Emergency Service and the Newman Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service and as such are an important link in the emergency management chain, as they not only provide a Shire liaison role during a response to any emergency by the local emergency services, but they are also often involved in the actual response phase.

This year saw the re-writing of the Shire Fire Management Plan and the Local Emergency Management Arrangements, the Local Recovery arrangements have also been written and will form part of the Local Emergency Management arrangements.

### **Occupational Safety and Health**

Following a review of health and safety practices and systems and an assessment of the level of compliance with relevant legislation the OS&H Committee agreed to work towards achieving silver accreditation in accordance with the "Worksafe Plan".

The Shire have identified a need for eight workplace representatives who have been appointed and received accredited training, due to staff turnover there is a need to elect new representatives regularly who will also need to be trained.

The OS&H Committee met four times during the year and a number of safety issues have been addressed. The OS&H Manual has been developed and will be presented to Council in the new financial year.

There were three lost time incidents during the period, all incidents occurred in Marble Bar.

### **Ranger Services**

The Shire of East Pilbara has two Rangers/ESO's based at Newman, however it is anticipated that one of the staff in Marble Bar will take on the role as an Authorised Officer for the Shire and will be available to answer queries relating to dog control, this person will receive training and will be authorised early in the new financial year.

Rangers/ESO's are responsible for administering the requirements of the Dog Act, Control of Vehicles (Off Road Areas) Act, Bushfires Act, Local Government Act and other legislation, regulations and Local Laws to assist Council achieve its goals as identified in the Strategic Plan.

It has been a relatively busy year for the Ranger/ESO's, they have impounded more than 90 dogs and re-homed 17; issued over 100 warnings (both verbal and written), investigated 12 dog attacks, impounded 19 vehicles, attended 23 emergencies and issued 14 infringements and 10 fire permits.

The Ranger/ESO's have travelled to Marble Bar and Nullagine several times during the year and also visited a number of Indigenous communities in an effort to initiate the "Animal Health" program and educate community members about responsible dog ownership.

The Ranger/ESO's have formed a partnership with the Newman Police in an effort to reduce littering and to stop the socially unacceptable behaviour of riding off road vehicles within the town boundaries.



# COMMUNITY SERVICES





## **Recreation Services**

### **Playgrounds**

The Shire of East Pilbara have installed new safe playgrounds in Marble Bar, Newman and Nullagine. These playgrounds add to the aesthetic look of the towns and offer a fantastic facility for young children and parents to visit. With children's safety in mind the shire has also installed soft-fall ground covering with the playgrounds to assist with child safety. The Shire has also taken into account the hot and dry climate and also installed shade shelters over the play equipment.

### **Out of School Hours Care (OSHC)**

During the 04/05 financial year the Shire of East Pilbara took on the role of offering Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) to families in Newman. This was a service that was needed and desired throughout the Newman Community. During this year the ball was put in motion to get the OSHC licensed as a childcare facility. This project is expected to have a long life span assisting parents of Newman with childcare facilities for children aged 5-12 years.

### **Marble Bar Heritage Trail**

The Shire of East Pilbara with many partners (Lotterywest, Marble Bar Tourist Association, Pilbara Development Commission, Department of Transport and Regional Services) began the Marble Bar Heritage Trail. The trail journeys around the Marble Bar Township as well as surrounding areas. This is a tremendous facility for the community of Marble Bar and the tourists visiting the hottest place in Australia.

All earthworks have been completed on the trail, allowing people to start walking on the trail. Signage and other promotional material will be completed in the following year. Having a launch of the opening at the beginning of tourist season in 06.

### **Newman Rec and Aquatic Centres**

The Newman Rec Centre and Aquatic centre are the hub of activity during opening

times. These facilities stack up to the best in the Northwest. Programs from these centres include Les Mills aerobics, OSHC and Vacation Care, Basketball, swimming lessons and many, many more. The centres are also available for hire for individuals and groups too at competitive prices.

The Newman Aquatic Centre has also received funding to upgrade the facilities and results will be seen in the coming year. Adding to the already popular facilities amongst local residents.

### **Queens Baton Relay**

The Shire of East Pilbara and the Newman Community were chosen to be an official host town for the Queens Baton Relay. To Mark this occasion the Vacation Care children and Toogarr Morrison (Indigenous Artist from Perth) created a mural to commemorate this occasion. This is a fantastic visual display for local people and visitors to the Newman Centre. We all look forward to seeing the Queens Baton relay touch down in Newman February 8, 2006.

### **Community Events**

During the 04/05 financial year the Shire of East Pilbara supported a lot of events including; Fortescue Festival, Policeman's Ball, Carols by Candle Light, National Tree Planting Day and many more. The Shire was also responsible for promoting and bringing many events to include; Educating Rita, Australia Day, Thank a Volunteer Day, The women's and community Expo, Over the fence comedy festival and clean up Australia Day etc. These events will continue to occur in coming years.

## **Environmental Health Services**

Despite the loss of staff during 2004-2005 financial period, services continued, which included:

- Bleeding of sentinel chickens in Newman, Nullagine and Marble Bar for Murray Valley Encephalitis
- Sampling of swimming pool water
- Sampling of treated effluent waters for irrigation.
- Collection of food samples for routine analysis.
- Investigating 34 of 62 food recalls received.
- Inspecting food premises, hairdressers, caravan parks and public buildings.
- Following-up on complaints.
- Issuing approvals for on-site septic systems and apparatus.

The next financial year will see more changes with proposed new legislations in Public Health and Food.

## **Building Services**

This financial year has been a busy one for the building department with 159 building licence applications being approved to the value of \$22,797,344.99.

The Building Department has also overseen some major projects this year including:

### **Marble Bar Community Centre**

The building adjacent to the Marble Bar Gym is nearing completion.

### **Nullagine Gym**

Work has commenced at the old clinic site.

### **Cape Keraudren**

Environmentally friendly toilets have been refurbished and upgraded for disabled access.

### **Boomerang Oval Toilets**

The grandstand toilets have been refurbished and upgraded for disabled access.

## **Entry Statement for Newman & Marble Bar**

Work is continuing on the entry statements.

## **Nullagine Caravan Park**

Caretaker's residence has been completed. Environmentally friendly toilets have been purchased for the camping area.

## **Council Building Maintenance**

Upgrading of Council buildings and staff housing is continuing.



# TECHNICAL SERVICES





## Roadworks



The Shire maintains a road network comprising approximately 3,300 kilometres including 110 km sealed. The length of roads was reduced in July 2004 with a change in boundary between the Shire and the Town of Port Hedland. An area of some 7,000 square kilometres was transferred from the Shire.

### Townsites:

A program of resealing the bitumen and asphalt surfaced streets within the three towns continued with the current program focussing on Newman over a three-year period. During the second year of the program, a total of \$125,500 was spent on selected residential streets.

Work continued on the widening of Woodstock and Laver Streets within the Light Industrial Area with work to be completed over the 2004-05 and 2005-06 financial years. The projected cost for the improvements is \$500,000.

Street lighting, together with routine footpath and kerbing repairs, footpath and street sweeping, and litter control took place with a total expenditure of \$747,400 across the three towns.

### Rural roads:

A total of \$2.9 Million was budgeted to be spent on rural road improvements plus a further \$655,000 on rural road maintenance. In total \$2.8 Million was expended with the balance being carried forward to the 2004-05 financial year.

Improvement works to the rural road network were completed as programmed due to a dry wet season.

Reduced funding for roadworks was identified as a major challenge for the Council together with the ability to effectively cover maintenance grading and undertake general unsealed road surface maintenance/gravel sheeting activities.

During the year the works crews based in Marble Bar were re-structured to reallocate staff plant and equipment on to additional rural road maintenance activities. This provided an additional maintenance grader (total of three) as well as an excavator and two trucks to work with the graders in undertaking minor gravel sheeting and floodway repairs.



Local roads accessing tourist spots from north and east of Marble Bar through to north of Newman were identified as requiring increased attention regarding signs and general maintenance (typically grading). The majority of these tourist spots are located within pastoral leases where the Shire does not have control of the land. Issues of liability and duty of care are a constant issue to be considered when balancing the expectations of local residents and tourists with the rights of the leaseholders.

## Town Drainage Improvements

The Newman townsite is the only one of the three towns to have a network of

underground stormwater pipes. Over a period of time the original open drains were replaced with pipes.

\$74,300 was expended on minor drainage improvements within Newman.

Work is continuing on identifying required replacement and upgrading of drainage within the Newman townsite.

## **Sportsgrounds, Parks and Reserves**

The presence of white cockatoos was and remains one of the most significant challenges that arose in 2003-04 in providing suitable playing surfaces for the many sports activities in Newman. The problems continued into 2004-05 although the damage was less of an issue compared with the extremely hot and dry wet months of January and February 2005. Both Council staff and volunteers from the sporting groups struggled to keep up with repairing the holes being dug by the birds. No simple solution to dispersing or reducing numbers is foreseen at this time.



Planning for improvements to the ageing reticulation system on the ovals commenced in 2003-04 with the intention to progressively replace controllers, motors and pumps, sprinklers and solenoid valves. In 2004-05, being the second year of the program \$19,700 was expended in installing reticulation materials purchased in the previous financial year.

The population growth in Newman during the year and expected to continue for several years led to an increase in treated effluent water being available for reticulation on the ovals. This was in strict contrast to the previous year when effluent water shortage was severe. The additional water allows greater confidence in the grounds maintenance however Health Department restrictions on watering times does not allow for uncontrolled day time watering.

Works on the parks, gardens and reserves within the three towns were generally maintenance only with some improvements being made on playground equipment maintenance. Expenditure figures for the three towns were \$576,200 (Newman), \$169,000 (Marble Bar) and \$89,800 (Nullagine).

The usual flurry of activity occurred during June at the Marble Bar Sports Complex in preparation for the annual Race Day in July. The Shire continues to support the event through the provision of labour and equipment for track preparation and general preparation work of the buildings and surrounds. A total of \$12,700 was expended in the 2004-05 financial year.

## **Plant and Equipment Replacement**

The Shire has approximately \$7 million of plant and equipment ranging from small lawn mowers through to a 40 tonne bulldozer.

The timely replacement of this equipment is essential to balance operating and maintenance costs, together with operating hours versus breakdowns.

A total of \$642,800 was expended with a number of items being received after the end of the financial year due to manufacturing timeframes.

With annual expenditure on replacement predicted to be around \$1.5 million over several years planning commenced to evaluate at ways and means of managing the replacement timing and operating costs



to ease pressure on the Shire's financial resources. The approach developed was to plan for the refurbishment of appropriate plant and equipment in lieu of replacement in the year due to manage cash flow requirements over the next five years.

### **Commercial and Domestic Refuse Collection**

The program of providing domestic refuse collections of once weekly from April to September and twice weekly from October to April continued in 2004-05 within all three towns. In combination with tip site maintenance, commercial collections and street litter collection (street bins and litter removal), the expenditure for the year was \$879,500 and income of \$686,900.

State government licensing and operating requirements for the towns' refuse sites was raised during 2003-04. Marble Bar and Nullagine refuse sites are as potentially causing issues due to their proximity to the respective townsites and groundwater sources.

A new Marble Bar site was investigated during the year and the process of acquiring a new site continued. The cost of a new access road, fencing and site establishment will be spread over the 2005-06 and 2006-07 financial years.

Planning for extensions to the active tipping site at the Newman site commenced with work to be completed in the 2005-06 financial year.

### **Cemeteries**

It was a quiet year at all three cemeteries during the year with a total of four internments.

The net expenditure across all three cemeteries was \$6,800

# STATUTORY REPORTING

## Disability Services Report

The Shire of East Pilbara has an ongoing commitment to the provision of services and access for people with disabilities. In the 2004-2005 financial year this generally related to the construction of disabled toilets at Cape Keraudren and the Boomerang Oval.

Total cost to council of these projects was \$92,000.

The commitment by the Shire of East Pilbara to improving facilities will continue into the next financial year, with many projects planned.

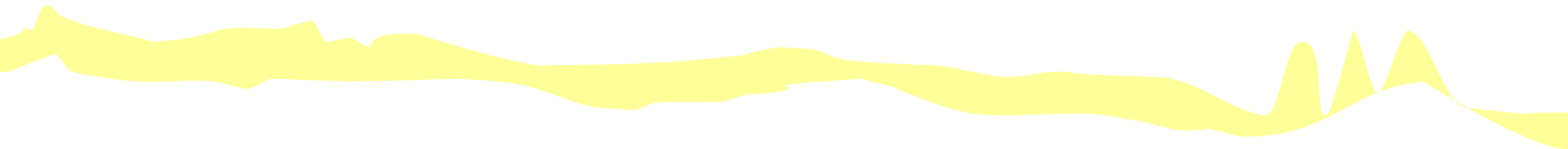
Cape Keraudren	Installation of disabled toilets	\$48,000
Boomerang Oval	Installation of disabled toilets	\$20,000
Marble Bar Telecentre	Installation of disabled toilets	\$24,000

## National Competition Policy

The Shire Of East Pilbara has met its obligations with regard to competition policy and is continuing to monitor the introduction of Council policies and local laws that may be the subject of anti-competitive practices. No complaints have been received by the Shire Of East Pilbara with regard to anti-competitive practices.



# **PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY PLAN COMPARISONS**

















# AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORTS

**Shire of East Pilbara**

Annual Financial Statements

For the Year Ended

30 June 2006



The Principal Office of the Shire is located at:  
**Cnr Newman Drive & Kalgan Drive**  
**NEWMAN WA 6753**



Postal Address:  
**PMB 22**  
**NEWMAN WA 6753**