

SHIRE OF EAST PILBARA ANNUAL REPORT

2007 / 2008



*Jila (Snake) 60 x 50 cm Acrylic on Canvas by Yunkarra (Billy) Atkins
Image Courtesy of Martumili Artist*

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The 2007-2008 continued to see unprecedented growth in the East Pilbara. Housing construction continued relentlessly within the town of Newman as it tries to keep up with its ever increasing population. The Shire's venues and facilities continue to be well utilised.

Council elections took place in October 2007 and we welcomed four new Councillors into the fold; Kelvin Portland, Debbie Becker, Kate Edwards and Stephen Kiernan.

The airport redevelopment has continued into the 2007/2008 year. New car parks have been constructed, landscaping undertaken and the beginning of the construction of the new terminal. A new taxi way / apron was constructed to allow more planes to be at the airport at one time and further resealing. The staff house at the airport is nearing completion and will provide much needed accommodation for a Shire staff member and their family.

The Shire continues to work on the plan for the construction of the Newman Community Co-Location Centre. Land was acquired from BHP Billiton and plans are near completion and the tender for the construction of the building will go out early in the new financial year.

With the continued population growth practical issues also needed to be addressed and half a million dollars was expended on Liquid Waste disposal at the Newman Refuse Site and upgrading of the sewage system also occurred.

With the help from the BHP Billiton and the East Pilbara Sustainability Agreement the Shire purchased an inflatable cinema which has already been utilised well. Also under the sustainability agreement the greening of Newman began, with some wonderful results and further lighting at the Town Centre were installed.

As is the case every year much of the Shire's resources is spent on roads and plant & machinery for the upgrade of these roads.

The Martumili Artists program continues to grow and art work from this highly successful program was exhibited in over eight major exhibitions all over Australia in the 2007/2008 year - with many more already organised for the new year. The program has highlighted how successfully partnerships between federal, state & local governments together with corporations can work. This program provides cross cultural interaction within the East Pilbara - particularly at a local level - in a very positive way.

In closing I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff at the Shire and Councillors who have contributed so much over this past year and also to pass on my most sincere thanks to Allen Cooper, CEO, for his dedication and tireless efforts in working for the betterment of the entire Shire. I look forward to the 2008/2009 year being an equally productive year.

Lynne Craigie
Shire President



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Welcome to the Annual Report of the Shire of East Pilbara for the 2007/2008 financial year.

Again the Shire and the Pilbara region as a whole experienced a year of continued growth and challenges. Council undertook a significant review of the organisational structure which saw the creation of a fourth Directorate – being Community Engagement. All four Directors were employed in the first half of the financial year.

Landcorp matched the extension to the Light Industrial Area with a land release for residential land in East Newman. These blocks will be balloted out early in the 2008/2009 financial year.

The Shire undertook its annual telephone survey in November 2007 again with a satisfaction rate of greater than 80%. Thank you for all those who participated in the survey. The results of the survey are used in Shire planning including the Plan for the Future of the District.

The Newman Airport numbers continue to rise and much of the work programmed for the 2007/2008 year has been completed. This included a new apron and taxi way and the new terminal building was commenced. It is expected the new terminal building will be completed before the end of the 2008 year.

The Shire experienced a much higher rate of stability within its workforce with a turnover for the 2007/2008 year of approximately 35% compared to nearly 60% last year.

Major highlights of the year included:

- Further works to the Newman Airport
- Major plant upgrades including a loader and two graders

- Further works to the Newman Town Centre including shades and lighting
- Commencement of greening of Newman program
- Newman Aquatic Centre upgrades and improvements
- Purchase of an inflatable cinema
- IT system and wireless upgrade
- Acquisition of land for the Newman Community Co-Location Centre
- Community Amenity upgrades at both the refuse site and sewage plant
- Footpath works
- Sealing of the Radio Hill Access Road
- Art Spaces for the Martumili artists

I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the support and commitment of all Councillors and the Shire staff throughout the year.

Allen Cooper
Chief Executive Officer



THE 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 2007/2008 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 as early as possible after the completion of the audit report.

Shire of East Pilbara

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

History

The Shire was formed by the amalgamation of the Shires of Marble Bar and Nullagine in 1972. Upon the amalgamation the Shire became the largest Shire in the world comprising an area of over 371,696 square kilometres (larger than the state of Victoria). 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 10,000 with over 7,000 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.

Council Facts

Distance from Perth (km)	1,180
Area (sq km)	371,746
Length of Sealed Roads (km)	162.2
Length of Unsealed Roads (km)	2708.9
Population	10,000
Number of Electors	4,584
Number of Dwellings	2,040
Total Rates Levied	\$4,762,400
Total Revenue	\$14,758,144
Number of Permanent Employees	59

Structure

The Council is made up of members of the local community who are elected by the residents and ratepayers of the respective wards they represent.

In this Shire there are 11 Councillors representing 6 wards. 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
Shire President
8 Selman Avenue
Newman WA 6753
Tel: 9175 0823 Hm
Tel: 9175 3661 Wk
Fax: 9175 5563
Mob: 0427 174 919
wpcnew@benet.net.au
Term Expires: 2011

South Ward



Cr Anita Grace
Deputy President
P O Box 644
Newman WA 6753
Tel: 9175 1223 Hm
Tel: 9175 1040 Wk
Fax: 9175 0974
Mob: 0417 979 302
anitagrace61@bigpond.com
Term Expires: 2009

South Ward



Cr Jim Akesson
Lot 1568 Woodstock Street
Newman WA 6753
Tel: 9175 2598 Wk
Mob: 0418 906 570
Term Expires: 2009
Resigned: 7th March 2008

South Ward



Cr Kelvin Portland
29 Kurra Street
Newman WA 6753
Tel / Fax: 9175 1927 Hm
Mob: 0419 861 909
kportland@optusnet.com.au
Term Expires: 2011

South Ward



Cr Debbie Becker
19 Giles Avenue
Newman WA 6753
Tel: 9175 5907 Hm
Mob: 0438 935 794
debbiebecker@bigpond.com
Term Expires: 2011

South Ward



Cr Shane Carter
2/57 Nimingarra Drive
Newman WA 6753
Tel: 9175 2908 Hm
Mob: 0417 172 343
Shaggy2@bigpond.com
Term Expires: 2009

North Ward



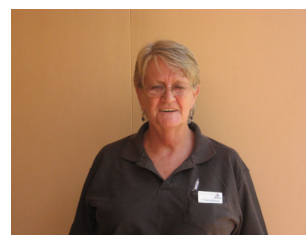
Cr Lang Coppin
 Yarrie Station
 P O Box 805
 Port Hedland WA 6721
 Tel: 9176 4954 Hm
 Fax: 9176 4801
 Mob: 0429 956 692
yarrie.stn@bigpond.com
 Term Expires: 2009

Central Ward



Cr John Currell
 P O Box 29
 Marble Bar WA 6760
 Tel: 9176 1152 Hm
 Mob: 0427 988 537
admin@eastpilbara.wa.gov.au
 Term Expires: 2009

Lower Central Ward



Cr Kate Edwards
 C/- Post Office or
 14 Skull Springs Road
 Nullagine WA 6758
 Tel: 9176 2076 Hm
 Tel: 9176 2777 Wk
kated1@bigpond.com
 Term Expires: 2011

North Ward



Cr Melvin Farmer
 Jigalong Aboriginal Community
 PMB 7
 Newman WA 6753
 Tel: 9175 7437 Hm
 Tel: 9175 7001 Wk
 Fax: 9175 7648
jigalongcouncil@bigpond.com
 Term Expires: 2009

Central Ward



Cr Stephen Kiernan
 P O Box 87
 Marble Bar WA 6760
 Tel: 9176 1041 Hm
 Fax: 9176 1002
marlebarroadhouse1@bigpond.com
 Term Expires: 2011

Councillor's meeting attendance for 11 meetings in the financial year are as follows

Cr Lynne Craigie	10	Cr Anita Grace	10	Cr Shane Carter	10
Cr John Currell	11	Cr Lang Coppin	6	Cr Jim Akesson	8
Cr Melvin Farmer	3	Cr Kelvin Portland	5	Cr Debbie Becker	6
Cr Kate Edwards	4	Cr Stephen Kiernan	7		

Councillor's Meeting Attendance

	Jul-07	Aug-07	Sep-07	Oct-07	Nov-07	Dec-07	Jan-08	Feb-08	Mar-08	Apr-08	May-08	Jun-08
Cr Lynne Craigie	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NO MEETING					
Cr Anita Grace	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
Cr Shane Carter	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Apology	Yes						
Cr John Currell	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
Cr Lang Coppin	Yes	Apology	Yes	Apology	Yes	Apology						
Cr Jim Akesson	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
Cr Melvin Farmer	Apology	-	Apology	Apology	Yes	-						
Cr Kelvin Portland												
Cr Debbie Becker												
Cr Kate Edwards												
Cr Stephen Kiernan												

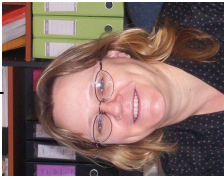
Council Organisation

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

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



Director Corporate Services
Sian Appleton

- Financial Services
- Administration
- Records
- Payroll
- Libraries
- Tourism
- Broadcasting & Communication



Director Community Engagement Services
Ross Theedom

- Recreation
- Community Development
- Health & Lifestyle
- Childcare
- Aquatic Centres



Director Development & Regulatory Services
Keith Weymes

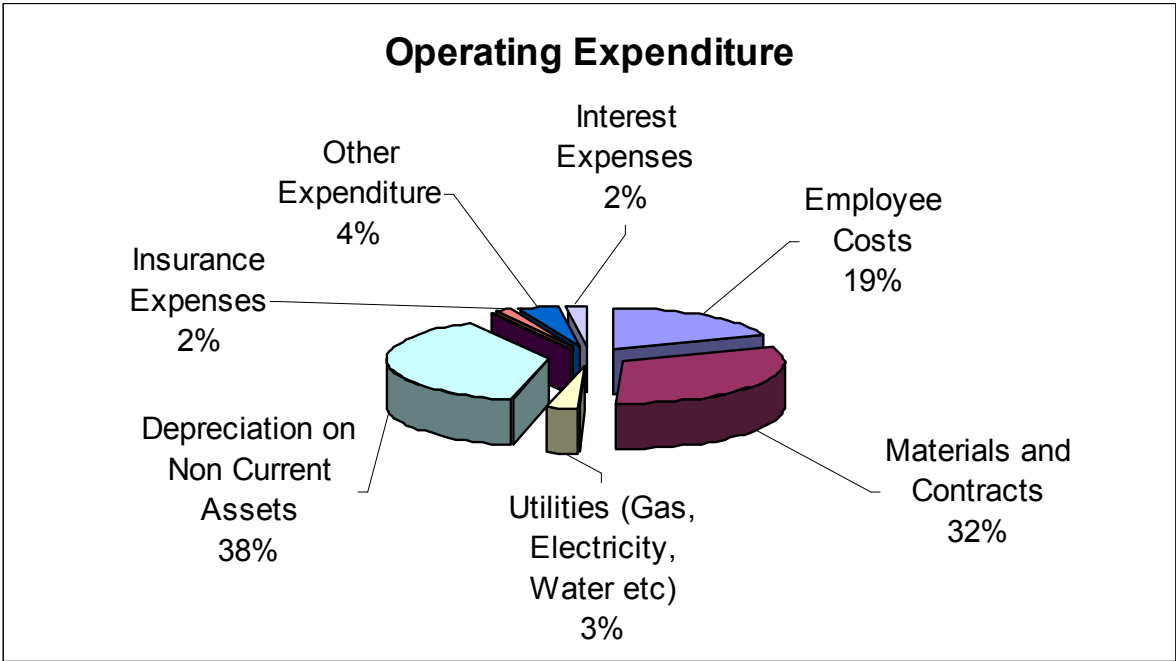
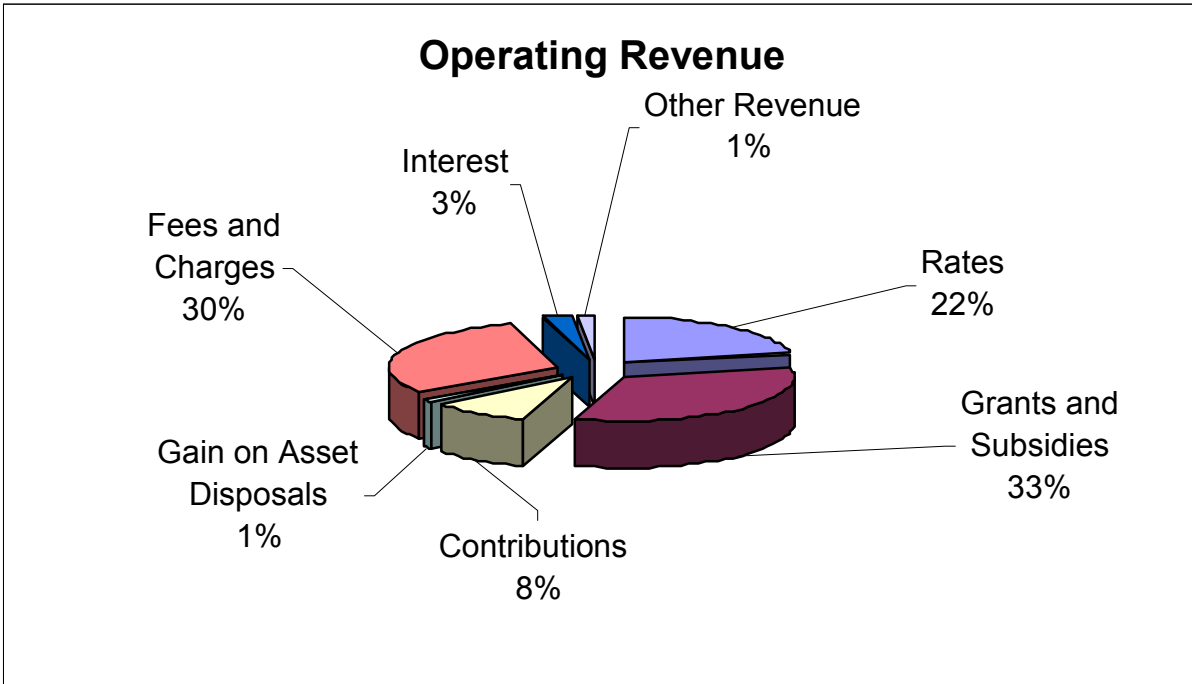
- Building Development
- Planning & Regulatory Services
- Ranger Services
- Health & Regulatory



Director Technical Services
Grant Logie

- Engineering
- Parks & Gardens
- Works & Depot
- Roads
- Rubbish
- Airports

SOURCES AND APPLICATIONS OF OPERATING FUNDS (EXCLUDING CAPITAL)



CORPORATE SERVICES



Human Resources

As at the 30th June 2008 Council had 58 permanent positions split as follows:

Administration Services:

CEO	1
Managers	1
Coordinators	1
Staff	2

Corporate Services:

Director	1
Manager	1
Coordinators	1
Staff	7

Community Engagement:

Director	1
Coordinators	3
Staff	4

Development & Regulatory Services

Director	1
Managers	2
Coordinators	1
Staff	5

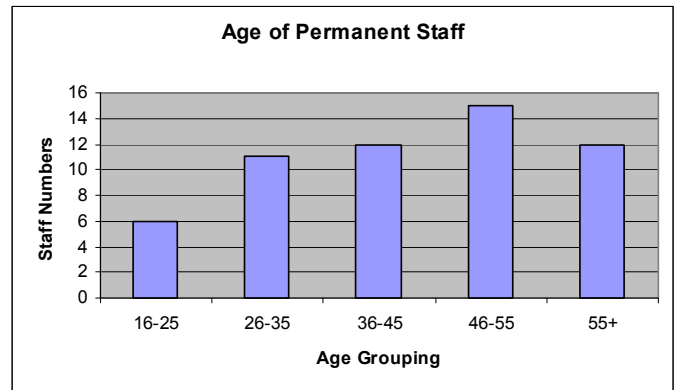
Technical Services:

Directors	1
Manager	2
Staff	22

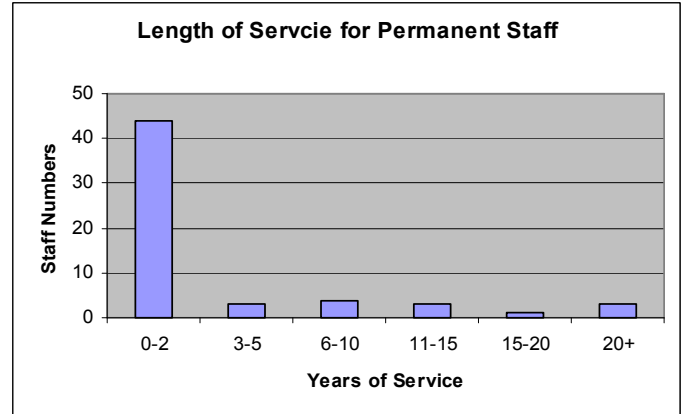
Recruitment:

The following positions were vacant as at the 30th June 2008.

Reticulation Crew Member Newman
Co-ordinator IT Services
Manager Community Wellbeing
Co-ordinator Child Care Service



Staff turnover for 2007/2008 financial year was 35% for permanent part time and full time positions.



Financial Services

Rates

Council rates were increased by approximately 3.5% in 2007/2008.

Rubbish rates 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 \$100,000 to the Newman Library, which is a joint venture with TAFE.

Administration

The Shire is required each year to review its Policies, Delegations, Authorisations, Code of Conduct, Freedom of Information Policy along with all other manuals relating to Council procedures. This review was conducted with minor recommendations and adjustments.

A large effort was put into producing the Shire's Plan for the Future of the District, sending out information and collating the results.

Records Management

The Shire of East Pilbara Records system is undergoing an extensive overhaul in preparation for the introduction of an automated records system. As a part of this preparation, in the 2007/ 2008 financial year staff have been appointed and trained. In fact, many of the Shire of East Pilbara office staff have undergone training in the Synergy Computer System, and some also in the Records Information component of the Synergy System. This training will improve the overall processes and information management within the office and its ultimate collection and retrieval within the Records Office, and allowing those trained in the Records Management to begin the preparation for input of information in electronic format.

Following on from this training, all systems and hard copy records within the Records Office are being reviewed and audited to allow maximum integration of the filing systems and optimum management of all the information held. Various sections of the records information are being reassessed and refiled to create a more user friendly and coherent method of filing and retrieval.

As a part of this, all our property information files have been reorganised to produce a coordinated shelving system based upon the property assessment number. This will give us a unified system that will easily link all the information relating to a property together in a hard copy file. This hard copy record is backing the Synergy Automated Computer System which creates an automated records system that tie across various functions and processes within the Shire. So whether a ratepayer is building a house, investing in an extension, maintaining a compliant swimming pool, paying the rates, or owning a dog, all this information is accessible on the property files, and placed in the system through the regular office processes.

Training of staff in the importance and interlinking of these processes, and their role in the development and ownership of the information records produced, is integral to the quality and integrity of the final records and information produced. Staff must consciously be aware of their role in the process of creating records and also recognise that others must access the information that they place into the system. So it must be understandable and retrievable by others not so familiar with the initial process. The quality of input and cross referencing of all information as it is placed into the system is, therefore, vital for retrieval at a later date. All new systems require ongoing training and refining and developing of new processes and this is part of the challenge for the coming year.

Ultimately, our records and information system is a service to the community and to all the members of staff. An efficient and effective information and retrieval system therefore reflects the quality of our service and this is a key to our role in the community. We strive, therefore, not only to provide accurate and timely information in a useable format, but also to act in compliance with Shire policy and the State Records Office requirements.

DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATORY SERVICES

Newman Administration Office and Council Chamber



The Newman Administration Offices and Council Chambers were completed in February 2007.

The Newman Council Chambers will be fitted with new furniture and fittings during the 2008-2009 financial year.

A wireless data system has been installed in the Council Chambers for internet access for Council meeting, training and presentations.

New Council Houses

During 2007 the Shire contracted Wideglide Construction for the construction of 2 attached grouped dwellings at 3 Warrambucca Crescent, 2 houses at Lot 500 Wilara Street and Kurra Street, and the construction a house at the Newman Airport.

During 2007/08 several Shire houses have been refurbished, with kitchen upgrades, new floor covering, painting and carports installed.

Newman Housing Refurbished

- 31 Jabbarup
- 35 Mullgunbuh
- 15 Brown
- Unit 19 Red Sands

Marble Bar Housing

- Several houses have had new floor coverings and fittings, also replacing air conditioning units to split systems.



Duplex – 3a & b Warrambucca



Kurra Street



Wilara Street



Newman Airport House

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 identification and development of 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.

Signage and promotional material such as brochures and maps were completed in December 2007, several information stands will provide history on the town.

Display shelters have been incorporated on the Heritage Trail Walk which provides visitors with shelter whilst being provided with local history of the Marble Bar townsite.

This has been well accepted by the local community and the tourists that visit the region.



Nullagine Lookout

The Nullagine Lookout was completed in October 2007, with the construction of picnic benches, barbeque facilities, and information display of the local region showing water holes. The project was supported by the Pilbara Development Commission in conjunction with the Shire of East Pilbara.

Additional works to the site being the installation of an ANZAC Day Memorial site which incorporates shade and seating are being planned for the next financial year subject to funding approval.



Completed Projects

The following projects which Council undertook were completed last year.

- Newman Aquatic Centre upgrade
- Newman Town Centre Revitalisation, Stage 1 & 2
- Nullagine Lookout
- Newman Airport – Apron and Taxi way.
- Newman Terminal
- Marble Bar Airport - Lights
- Marble Bar Community Centre – Air conditioning
- Marble Bar Heritage Trail
- Newman Recreation Centre – Consultants for upgrade.

Ongoing projects include

- Newman Community Co-location Centre
- Newman Recreation Centre Modifications
- Design and construction of the new terminal
- Housing study
- Nullagine – Public toilet upgrade
- Cape Keraudren – installation of composting toilets.
- Nullagine Airport - Lights
- Nullagine Airport – Shelter/waiting area
- Marble Bar Airport – Reseal runway
- Airport house

Newman Community Co-Location Centre

The Shire of East Pilbara is nearing completion of the final draft designs for the Newman Community Co-Location Centre to be located at Rogers Way, Newman.

Funding for this project has been sourced additionally from the following organisations;

- Pilbara Development Commission
- Department of Transport and Regional Services
- Lotterywest
- Department of Local Government and Regional Services
- BHP Billiton Iron Ore

The construction of the Newman Community Co-Location Centre is due to commence in the later half of 2008 and completion mid 2009, this is part of the Newman Town Centre Revitalisation to improving the infrastructure of service to the local community and encouraging businesses to gain and retain staff in the town of Newman.

The facility will be tenanted by not for profit community organisations.

Newman Recreation Centre Modifications



The designs are currently being finalised by Hillam Architects with the funding sourced from the following organisations,

- Pilbara Development Commission
- Department Housing and Works
- Department Sport and Recreation
- Department of Local Government and Regional Services
- BHP Billiton - Sustainability Project

The new design for the facility will provide the centre with specialised areas for programs, and improvement to administrative areas. Other improvements include

- Childcare Services
- Fitness Centre
- Improved access throughout the centre
- Attractive entrance and foyer

Newman Airport Terminal

The Newman airport terminal is currently under construction and is due for completion late in 2008. The new terminal has become essential due to the increased number of flights and passengers to the region.



Building and Planning

Building

The 2007/08 financial year has been a very busy year for Building and Planning within the Council with over \$100 million of projects receiving a building licence.

Month	New Dwellings	Extensions, Garages, Pools	Commercial & Industrial	Demolitions	Value
July	2	19	1	1	\$8,978,216.68
August	0	16	2	13	\$833,485.00
Sept	0	7	3	16	\$11,270,770.00
Oct		7	1	2	\$907,100.00
Nov	8	25	3	8	\$1,762,335.00
Dec	3	9	6	0	\$16,913,494.00
Jan	0	3	1	4	\$183,287.00
Feb	2	8	2	0	\$672,248.00
March	16	2	2	1	\$7,488,787.00
April	30	5	4	61	\$14,970,100.00
May	18	23	1	0	\$8,791,111.00
June	132	11	3	0	\$27,461,686.00
TOTAL	211	135	29	106	\$100,232,619.68

Due to the regional mining developments in the Pilbara and influx of people to the region the planning and building applications have increased dramatically due to the shortage of housing and accommodation in the region and the up scaling of infrastructure projects.

Planning

The following development applications were approved in the 2007/2008 financial year:

- **Residential** - 39
Total value \$38,545,000
- **Industrial and Commercial** - 28
Total value \$38,340,500
- **Mining / Rail Camps** – 13
Total value \$48,595,996

Major projects in progress:

Newman Community Co-Location Centre (\$4M)

Expansion of Newman Power Station (\$8M)
Upgrade of Newman Hotel (\$1M)
Expansion of Kurra Village - Stages 4 and 5 (\$19M).

47 properties were amalgamated and the old houses demolished by BHP Billiton to accommodate 76 new houses for mining personnel.

Development of the recently released industrial sites in the new light industrial area (Shovelanna Street and Wonmunna Road) is progressing well.

Newman Aquatic Centre



The Newman Aquatic Centre upgrade has almost been completed with the installation of the water play ground, the flooring has been additionally installed with soft fall recommended by the Risk Assessors. The upgrade to the infant pool includes additional shade and shelters. The brightly colored facility is surely going to be a success for families utilising the facility in the future summer season.

The new fencing has been installed between the 50 meter pool and the children's area to assist in the supervision.

Works are in progress to install the hydrotherapy spa to assist people with injuries and disabilities with rehabilitation.

Funding for this project was received by BHP Billiton and the Pilbara Development Commission.

A major upgrade of the pool pumps, filters and pipe works has been planned for the end of 2008.

Marble Bar Entry Statements

The Marble Bar entry statements consist of 4 designs of regional heritage to the region. The project has been a huge success for the tourism in Marble Bar.



Radio Station

The local radio station 6NEW-FM has been relocated to the Newman Aquatic Centre and is nearing completion.

The new building has been purchased by BHP Billiton and the Shire of East Pilbara has provided the site. Works yet to be completed include services connections, entry path and landscaping.

It is hoped that the radio station will provide additional after hours security at the pool and assist in reducing vandalism.



The local radio station has a strong focus on Local and Regional Community Services and provides local residents and mine sites with local and regional news, public information, entertainment, local events and functions.

Ranger and Emergency Management



Rangers continue to work towards compliance using community contact, education and enforcement to achieve appropriate outcomes.

Animal control, parking and littering continues to take up a large percentage of Rangers time.

Increased traffic at the Newman Airport and generally around town has increased to parking problems.

Rangers contribute to improving Aboriginal health through Community visits to treat animals for diseases and parasites which may impact on the community.

The Emergency Management Committee (LEMC), regularly meet to develop plans for the Cyclone and Bushfire season. The management of all fires occurring outside a gazetted fire district is the responsibility of the Shire unless they occur on private property where the Shire may be called upon to assist in their extinguishment.

Nullagine Bush Fire Brigade liaising with Local Police continues to provide strong Emergency Management leadership in the town and are developing Emergency Management and incident response plans for the town and surrounding residents.

Rangers are involved in this process as they can provide a link in the response phase of any incident and are a resource to be used in the recovery phase of an incident. The Shire is responsible for the recovery of its local communities after any incident.



- Routine inspections of food premises and caravan parks throughout the Shire.
- The routine maintenance and testing of three flocks of sentinel chickens for Murray Valley Encephalitis. The regular testing of blood samples from these flocks is used to assess the ongoing risk from mosquito borne diseases.

The next financial year is expected to see further growth in demand for Environmental Health services and changes to the Public Health & Food legislation.

Environmental Health

There has been a significant growth in demand on the Shire's Environmental Health services this year. This has been in line with the growth of Newman and the proliferation of mining camps. These services include -

- The assessment, inspection and approval of on-site effluent disposal systems.
- A routine pool and drinking water sampling program.
- The inspection, testing and licensing of new swimming pools at mining camps and caravan parks.
- The routine sampling of the treated effluent water used to irrigate parks and gardens in Newman.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Recreation Services

The Newman Recreation Centre is a facility that attracts a wide range of the community. The facility includes a Fitness Gym with membership that is continually growing. The Fitness Centre upgrade was completed in October 2007 with the official opening in November 2007. Use of the Gym has grown dramatically over 2007-08 with over 15,200 people using the facilities.

The qualified Les Mills fitness instructors are running a variety of classes, including Step and Pump. There have been approximately 500 fitness classes and walking programmes offered over the course of the financial year.

The Centre has sporting competitions and activities for junior and seniors. Our Gymnastics group has a very large participation with several children competing at championships this year.

Futsal casual soccer has been successful with many players dropping in for a game along with Badminton and casual court basketball.

The Centre has meeting rooms, sports courts and a variety of equipment also available for hire at competitive prices for individuals and groups.

Newman Outside School Hours Care

The Newman Outside School Hours Care is a licensed programme catering for the needs of primary school children. The programme, which runs out of the Shire's crèche, was licensed for 26 children a day. Children were picked up from the two local schools; South Newman Primary School and Newman Primary School. Over the course of 2007-08 the number of children booked into the programme has been steadily growing. The programme has been revamped and new staff employed. The result is an excellent programme offering children a diverse range of activities covering the Creative, Physical, Exploratory, Cognitive, Constructive, and Drama/Fantasy areas.

The Newman Crèche also provided an Active after School Care programme three times a week that was funded by the Australian Sport Commission. Vacation Care

During the course of 2007-08, a Vacation Care programme was offered during School Holidays. The programme was licensed for 39 children a day. Like after school care, the vacation care programme offered a diverse range of activities during the day. The programme operated between the hours of 8.00am and 4.30pm weekdays. The highlight for children was the introduction of excursion. The twice weekly excursions took children to a number of fund places around Newman. The most popular included trips to the Airport, BHP Billiton minesite and the Aquatic Centre.

Crèche

The Shire of East Pilbara also operated a Crèche in the mornings for the classes being run out of the Recreation Centre. The crèche operated Monday to Friday 8.30am to 11.30am and on Saturdays from 8.30am to 12pm.



Aquatic Centres

The Newman Aquatic Centre, together with the Newman Recreation Centre, remain the

hub of sport and recreation activities within the town. Patronage at the Newman Aquatic Centre continues to be high, with a large percentage of the community making use of its facilities during the year. During the course of the 2007-08 year there was a 25% increase in patronage levels. The Centre offered a range of activities during the season including swimming lessons, swim club, aqua fitness, school swim and survive days run by the Royal Life Saving Association, water play activities and inflatable activities. A highlight of the year was the Australia Day open day. A large percentage of the community took the opportunity to visit and use the facilities. Included in the festivities was the launch of the Shire of East Pilbara's Outdoor Cinema, a joint project with BHP Billiton under the Sustainability Partnership. In line with the nature of the event, episodes of Skippy were shown to the large crowd gathered to experience something new in Newman.

During the year, the swim school at the Newman Aquatic Centre continued to grow following its re-organisation the previous year. Structured activities were also popular, with attendance at the Aqua-Aerobics/Water Fitness Classes high. Additionally, new events were run including a triathlon and the Rottnest Island Swim.

The upgrades to the pool are now almost completed, which ensures that the Newman Aquatic Centre remains a high quality facility - one that matches the best within the Pilbara and the State.

Finally, the Newman Aquatic Centre continues to be popular as a function centre. There were a large number of Christmas, birthdays and work related functions at the Centre in 2007/08.

During the year, the Shire of East Pilbara also managed the pool at Marble Bar. This facility, operated in conjunction with the Education Department, offered the local community a limited range of activities,

particularly focussed on the children within the town.

Community Events

During the 2007/2008 financial year the Shire of East Pilbara supported many local events including: Fortescue Festival, Policeman's Ball, Carol's by Candlelight, National Tree Planting Day just to name a few. Funding was also provided for events such as the Bloody Slow Cup.

Martumili Artists (MMA) Activity Report July 2008



BACKGROUND

- The MMA manger recruitment process commenced in June 2006, the position was advertised locally and in the Weekend Australian Newspaper;
- Consultation with the MMA Steering Committee commenced;
- Applicants were short listed in July 2006;
- Short listed applicants were interviewed at Jigalong Community in August 2006;
- The MMA manager was recruited in September 2006;
- The MMA manger commenced employment on the 24/10/2006.

Since then the following staff have been recruited:

Full-time Indigenous support worker

Part-time Indigenous support workers

Consultants and Contractors

- A young Martu woman is completing a film and photographic traineeship associated with the project
- MMA participated in a painting workshop at CSR Well 36 in August
- Over twenty Martu artists participated in the workshop.
- A workshop was held at Kunawarritji community in April 2008, with 25 artists participating and 15 children.
- Paintings created for this exhibition have been sent to Beijing as the only Australian content at the Olympics Expo.



May Brooks, Sarah Brooks and Lilly Long painting at Canning Stock Route Well 36

EXHIBITION AND SALES

Cross Country – Connecting Communities – MMA is working collaboratively with FORM and other Aboriginal Art Centres to develop an exhibition of painting, fibre work and artefacts about the Canning Stock Route. Meetings to discuss this project have been held at Jigalong and Parngurr communities.

MMA has been involved in ongoing consultation with Form, AED and Martu artists re: the Cross Country Project. MMA has supported this project in many ways including:

- Canvas stretching
- Materials ordering
- Organisation of supplies for field trips
- MMA's support worker is completing the emerging curators traineeship associated with the exhibition

Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA), Sydney – MMA has sold baskets at the MCA shop

National Gallery of Australia (NGA), ACT – MMA has sold baskets at the NGA Shop

Woven Forms National Touring Exhibition – This exhibition opened at the Court House Art Centre and Gallery in Port Hedland in February 2007. Five Martu artists who had work in the exhibition attended the opening.



Yikartu Petersen pointing to one of her baskets on display at the Court House Art Centre and Gallery Port Hedland.

Martu la Wakarnu Kuwarri Wiyaju (Martu painting together first time) William Mora Galleries Melbourne – The exhibition opened September 27, 2007. Seventy six paintings and over thirty fibre works were exhibited, 85% of the show was sold before opening, after the opening the exhibition was sold out. Monash University and the National Gallery of Victoria both bought work. The exhibition attracted excellent reviews in the Australian Newspaper.

The exhibition launched Martumili Artists into the national Indigenous art arena.

Six artists travelled to Melbourne for the exhibition along with the Martu support worker, Martumili Manager and Martu chaperone.



Exhibition prior to opening

Recoil Basket Exhibition – Jigalong artist Phyllis Rogers work has been selected for this National Touring Exhibition. The exhibition opened in Alice Springs November 2007.

Fortescue Festival Newman August 2007 – Many of the artists came to Newman for the festival, we sold paintings and baskets and the artists painted at the festival.



Painting at the Fortescue Festival Newman August 2007



Martumili artists Exhibition opening the Courthouse Art Centre and Gallery Port Hedland April 2008

PARTNERSHIPS AND FUNDING

BHP

BHP Contracting

Chris Cottier BHP opens exhibition at William Mora Galleries in Melbourne.

WA Department of Industry and Resources (DOIR) through Aboriginal Economic Development (AED)

Pilbara Development Commission (PDC)

WA Department of Local Government and Regional Development (DLGRD)

Shire of East Pilbara



Short Street Exhibition opening June 2008



Basket making workshop at Martumili's opening at Aboriginal and Pacific Art in Sydney June 2008.



Summary

In its second year of operations, MMA is now at a vital stage of development. The crucial steps of artists and community engagement have been highly successful, professional staff are managing a best practice operational model and there is significant commercial and artistic interest in the artworks produced.

However significant challenges remain for MMA in continuing to grow the enterprise in ways that meets both artists' aspirations and market demand. The major threats and challenges to MMA stability and future



Hayley Atkins (Martumili support worker) collecting Peter Tinker's story

growth is a complex combination of consistent service delivery, ongoing community relationships, expanding commercialisation and sufficient infrastructure in the communities and the Newman office.

With only one full time staff member, in cramped accommodation there is a direct threat to the stability of such an in-demand service that is attempting to meet the needs of such geographically isolated communities.

MMA has a number of strategies to meet these challenges. The partnership with BHP will boost the regional services, by locating a permanent staff member in Parnngurr, the field officer will service the other communities from the Parnngurr base. MMA has also developed the partnership for the MCDP, this will provide training, mentoring and employment for young Martu arts workers.

MMA recognises the logic of the regional service delivery model under which we operate and the subsequent benefits this model brings to the artists and the wider Martu community in the East Pilbara, however the sustainability of this model is dependant upon resources to match service delivery to 85 artists spread over an enormous geographically isolated area.

TECHNICAL SERVICES



Roadworks



The Shire maintains a road network comprising approximately 3,300 kilometres including 110 km that is sealed. The road network extends from Cape Keraudren (north west of Port Hedland) through to the Northern Territory border.

Townsites:

Newman Shopping Centre carpark was resurfaced and remarked late in the year, and the commencement of the tree planting and landscaping programme. These projects were in conjunction with the East Pilbara sustainability partnership (between Shire of East Pilbara and BHP Billiton Iron).

Resealing works around Newman Townsite included Welsh, Newman, and sections of Kalgan Drives. The completion of the Welsh Drive reconstruction was also completed in 2007-08.

Radio Hill Lookout Road was sealed, with new signage and guideposts to complete the project.

Rural roads:

The continuation of the federally funded Roads to Recovery Program enabled gravel-sheeting works to be undertaken on sections of the Warrawagine Road, Munjina-Roy Hill Road, Jigalong, Shay Gap Road, Balfour Downs Road, and Muccan-Shay

Gap Road. Woodie Woodie Road included a re-seal. The Shire will receive just under \$3 million for expenditure on the Shire's roads. The roads to benefit from the funding are distributed throughout the western third of the Shire from north of Marble Bar through to the Newman townsite. Details of the program can be obtained from the Manager Engineering Services.

Road and drainage improvements were completed on Aboriginal Community Access Roads, Kunawaritji, Talawana, Kiwikurra, Jupiter Wells, and Punmu.



Sportsgrounds, Parks and Reserves

The population growth in Newman continued during the year and is expected to continue for several years. The higher population generates increased treated effluent water being available for reticulation on the ovals. 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. Fencing was installed to the boundaries of all the playgrounds in Newman.

The usual flurry of activity occurred during late 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.

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. With annual expenditure on replacement predicted to be around \$2 million over several years, planning commenced to evaluate 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 2007-08 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 in excess of \$800,000 and income of \$490,000.

In July 2007 the Shire distributed fridge magnets to all households within the three towns providing information on domestic collection days and recycling collection days for Newman.

Council approved the expansion of the recycling collection service for Newman by allowing for the purchase of additional bins. The service remains optional and residents interested in participating should contact the Newman office.

Newman Sewage Treatment Plant

The treatment plant is owned and maintained by the Shire. The facility receives untreated sewage from the Water Corporation deep sewer network and treats it to produce a treated effluent (water). The water is chlorinated and used for reticulating the sportsgrounds and a number of community organisations grassed areas (e.g. Lions Animal Park).

The facility is one of a few mechanical wastewater treatment plants in the State and when first installed by BHP it was designed for a nominal town population of around 9,000.

The Shire receives a financial contribution from Water Corporation and the balance of funds from a levy raised against Newman properties.

The operating expenditure has been increasing with the increase in population and a program of capital improvements has been ongoing to ensure reliability and compliance with environmental and public health licensing requirements.

Airport



The 2007/08 financial year has seen some major changes, investment and growth at the Shire of East Pilbara's Newman Airport.

The resource growth in the region has contributed to a significant growth in passenger numbers passing through Newman. 134,123 passengers travelled in and out of Newman on Regular Passenger Transport (RPT) services in the 12 months to June 30 2008. The majority of these passengers travelled on the Qantaslink services. During the year Qantaslink added additional services to meet growth in passenger demand. Charter services are also on the increase, and during the year a once-weekly charter service Brisbane-Newman commenced, to transport staff for a major mining contractor. Projections on passenger growth indicate that, as Qantaslink add additional services, RPT passengers numbers can be expected to reach 160,000 during the next 12 months. Virgin Blue are also introducing daily services commencing October 21, 2008.

With this growth in activity has seen significant capital investments and upgrades in airport facilities:

- Construction of a brand new passenger terminal facility commenced in June 2008 and completion is anticipated by Christmas 2008, with a move to the new building anticipated for January 2009. The new building will be

significantly bigger in size and represents a further \$6.5m in investment in the Newman Airport by the Shire of East Pilbara.

- An expanded apron and new taxiway were constructed during the year to cope with increased traffic and future demand for larger aircraft such as the Boeing 737-800. This project cost \$2m to complete and became operational during May 2008. In addition, the runway was re-sealed in December 2007 and the existing apron and turning nodes were hot-mixed as part of an on-going maintenance programme.
- A new 200KVa standby generator was installed to cope with the increasing power demand at the airport. This unit will provide continuous backup power in the event that the mains supply fails.
- Construction of a new airport equipment shed was also completed to replace the existing shed that was required to be relocated from the area surrounding the apron extension. The new shed is significantly larger and houses the tractor and other machinery.
- Smoothy Helicopters completed construction of a new hangar and office facility.
- Thrifty completed construction of a new rental vehicle facility and office complex for their Newman operations.
- Construction of a new house commenced on the Airport reserve. This house has been planned to allow an on-site staff member to reside in to assist with the daily operations of the airport.
- Landscaping of the access road with grass and the construction of a limestone walled entrance statement was completed during the year. In addition, landscaping of the area between the car

rental offices and the terminal was also completed.

- Development of a new master plan to map the future land use needs and development of Newman Airport has commenced.

Looking forward to 2008/09 the growth and investment in Newman Airport will continue to underline its importance as a key transport link in the rapidly growing Pilbara region.

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. During the 2006/07 financial year, the Shire of East Pilbara developed a Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2006 – 2010. The plan provides:

- an outline of the functions, facilities and services provided by the Shire.
- an Access and Inclusion statement
- strategies to improve Access and Inclusion
- an implementation plan

The plan was presented to Council in the 2007/08 year.

The commitment by the Shire of East Pilbara to improving facilities, as evidenced by the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2006 – 2010, will continue in the next financial year, with many projects planned.

National Competition Policy

The Shire of East Pilbara remains vigilant on competition policy and continues to monitor the introduction of Council policies and Local Laws which may be subject to anti-competitive practices

To date the Shire of East Pilbara has not received any complaints on anti-competitive practices within the Shire.

AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORTS

Shire of East Pilbara

Annual Financial Statements

For the Year Ended

30 June 2008



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

Postal Address:
PMB 22
NEWMAN WA 6753