

## NEWSLETTER

May 2021

The North Eastern Wheatbelt Regional Organisation of Councils is a voluntary organisation of seven local governments, established for over 20yrs. The purpose of NEWROC is to ***work together for successful communities***. NEWROC achieves this with ***regional collaboration to champion opportunities for the communities***.



### NEWROC Sponsors Dowerin Do Over

The NEWROC recently sponsored the Dowerin Do-Over, a community-led placemaking event held over one and a half days in Dowerin's town centre at the end of April.

Organised by Town Team Movement, an organisation that tasked itself with helping towns and suburbs to reinvigorate their main streets, the event kicked off with a Networking and Comedy Night on Thursday which was followed by a conference, interactive activities and workshops along the main street and a street party finale.

NEWROC member Councillors and staff, community resource centres, local and regional businesses and community members and stakeholders attended the event

with many participants from other towns, hoping to learn how to apply the concept of community-led placemaking.

The conference featured presentations from Tourism WA, RAC and the North Midlands Project and participants heard about a range of projects already in motion to revitalise WA's rural towns.

The Dowerin Do-Over also included upgrades to the mainstreet of Dowerin which was led by the local community and key partners. The mainstreet was revitalised with art, new pieces of street furniture, plants and pop up displays in empty buildings.

The NEWROC partnered with the RAC, Shire of Dowerin and Wheatbelt Business Network to deliver the event. NEWROC Chair, Cr Stratford opened the event which was attended by 120 people.

A video of the event can be found on the [Town Teams youtube channel](#).



### Energy Workshop

At the April NEWROC Council meeting, members hosted representatives from Lithium Valley, the Microgrid Centre of Excellence, InfraNomics and the EMRC to discuss alternative energy solutions and ongoing power reliability issues.

The NEWROC continues to work towards resolving power reliability issues particularly for telecommunications as well as formulating a pilot energy project.



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Geraldton artist Phil Doncon completed an entry statement mural highlighting the Dowerin Rose as part of the Dowerin Do-Over. Participants were given the opportunity to watch Mr Doncon in action