

MARCH 2024

THE WANDERING

ECHO



Wandering
Community Resource Centre
your local connection



WELCOME

To Our Monthly Community Newsletter

NEXT EDITION IS APRIL 2024.

ITEMS FOR INCLUSION DUE BY 27TH MARCH 2024

Advertise in the Echo

50 hard copies printed per month
emailed to over 170 contacts

NO JANUARY EDITION

Per month

1/4 page: \$16.00

1/2 page: \$23.00

Full page: \$52.00

11 editions - yearly

1/4 page: \$96.00

1/2 page: \$137.00

Full page: \$309.00

Contact the Wandering CRC

Phone: 08 9884 1561

Email: crc@wandering.wa.gov.au

Monday - Thursday

9am - 4pm

Closed public holidays

KEEP UP TO DATE

The best way to stay up to date with all the happenings of the CRC & Wandering Shire is to follow us on Facebook.

CRC - <https://www.facebook.com/wanderingcrc>

Shire - <https://www.facebook.com/Wanderingshire>



CRC WORKING GROUP

Expressions of interest are sought from people who are interested in being part of the Wandering CRC Working Group.

This group will meet regularly to discuss the activities and services of the CRC, sharing ideas, suggestions for improvements and assist the CRC to continue to meet the changing and growing needs of our community.

To register your interest, please contact the Wandering CRC 9884 1561 crc@wandering.wa.gov.au By 11th March 2024



Wandering

Community Resource Centre

Your local connection

Wandering
INTERNATIONAL
**WOMEN'S
DAY**

Sundowner

FRIDAY 15TH MARCH 6PM

GUEST SPEAKERS:

FLEUR MCDONALD - AUTHOR

MARY NENKE - CAMBINANTA YABBIES, MARY'S FARM COTTAGES,
INAUGURAL RIRDC RURAL WOMAN OF THE YEAR FOR WA 2000

Wandering Community Centre

\$30 per person, inc champagne and dinner

Bookings essential - Wandering CRC - 9884 1561

crc@wandering.wa.gov.au

Men welcome to attend!



Wandering
IWD 2024
Sundowner
MARY NENKE

Mary Nenke is a woman of many firsts. She is an aquaculture pioneer, founder and driving force behind Cambinata Yabbies where she's intrinsically involved in all aspects of the Yabby Industry in Western Australia, from production to post harvest handling to marketing and exporting. She's also a mother of six adult children and grandmother of seventeen. She was an accredited teacher of Billings Natural Family Planning for over twenty years and taught sex education until 2018.

Cambinata Yabbies started off as a small family concern but evolved into a sophisticated and integrated business, marketing yabbies purchased from large groups of growers across the WA wheatbelt and Great Southern. It has also expanded into an agri and eco-tourism business after securing a grant in 2014 to build an ecofriendly village on their farm.

Over the years the Nenke's created a unique Wheatbelt experience transforming their shearing shed into a function centre with polished boards candle lit by chandeliers where they hosted the 'Cambinata Extravaganza' for fifteen years. This annual evening of fine food and wine promoted all that is wonderful about regional fare, attracting visitors Australia wide, and even internationally and led to Mary recognising the need for modern quality accommodation in the region.

Article by Agrifutures



Wandering
IWD 2024
Sundowner
FLEUR MCDONALD

Regional fiction writer Fleur McDonald currently lives in Esperance, on the far south coast of Western Australia with her energetic Kelpie, Jack. As well as writing two books a year, Fleur still owns a farm and works on the land.

Her debut novel *Red Dust* made her the highest selling debut author of 2009. Since then, she's gone on to write 16 novels and two children's books. She writes about what she knows, stories set in regional areas around Australia with salt-of-the-earth characters.

In her personal life, Fleur put a lot of the money from her book sales into something else close to her heart - a charity to help people in regional areas who are experiencing domestic and family violence. Fleur drew on her own experiences to establish DVassist (formerly *Breaking the Silence*), a not-for-profit which has set up an online directory of domestic violence services in regional areas of WA, and has recently launched a phone counselling service.

Fleur is an authentic, down to earth and engaging speaker, who can talk about rural fiction, writing, autism, domestic violence, overcoming hurdles and country life.



FUNDRAISING



RFDS



RUMBLING BEASTS

&

MARKETS:



BOOK YOUR CAR/STALL SPACE

WANDERING TAVERN

31 WATTS STREET, WANDERING

SUNDAY 17TH MARCH 2024:

10am – 3pm

{Public Entry: gold coin donation}



contact: Jane Bowen 040 386 5401

email: keithjane1@bigpond.com



RFDS RAFFLE



1st PRICE - 2 Nights ACCOMMODATION

{WEEKEND SECRET HIDE AWAY}



2nd PRICE - LOAD OF FIREWOOD

3rd PRICE - HAMPER



\$2.00 per ticket

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM

Wandering Tavern

Wandering Post Office

Wandering CRC

RAFFLE DRAWN

17TH MARCH 2024 2pm @ WANDERING TAVERN

INFO CONTACT: JANE BOWEN 0403865401

email: keithjane1@bigpond.com

MAKE A DONATION:

ACC NAME: RFDS Western Operations

BSB: 306-010 ACC NO: 5313554

REFERENCE NO. 172635



Wandering CRC & Harvest Me are proud to be able to offer a double workshop.



Harvest ME Presents A Double Workshop

SUSTAINABLE GARDENING/ GROWING VEGGIES ON A BUDGET & WICKING BEDS/ POTS

Wandering Community Garden

DATE: 16TH APRIL 2024 (TUESDAY)

**TIME: 10:30AM TIL 1:30PM (30min break
(Light Lunch provided with tea/coffee)**

COST: \$30.00 P/P (Discount offered for pensioners)

Tickets available through event bookings.

<http://www.eventbookings.com/b/event/harvest-me-growing-veggies-on-a-budget-wicking-beds>

Please contact:

[crc@wandering.wa.gov.au/](mailto:crc@wandering.wa.gov.au)

***Ph: 089884 1561 for any further
booking enquiries.***



**Workshop Facilitation/
Consultation Services**
www.harvestme.com.au

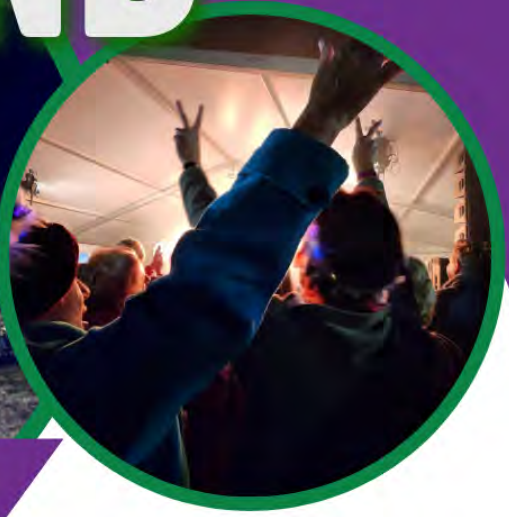


**Wandering
Community Resource Centre**

Your local connection

18TH - 20TH OCTOBER 2024

WANDERING CAMP OUT WEEKEND



**GRASSDALE FARM
WANDERING, WA**

LIVE MUSIC | AG SHOW | HELICOPTER FLIGHTS
CAMPING UNDER THE STARS | WINERY TOURS
ENTERTAINMENT ALL WEEKEND | COLOUR RUN

Tickets

CAMPING & EVENINGS IN THE PADDOCK
[TRYBOOKING.COM/CPFBG](https://trybooking.com/cpfbg)

ENQUIRIES: EOWCOW@OUTLOOK.COM - 0429 961 697

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY:
G & K WHITE WANDERING SMASH REPAIRS WARBY'S TRANSPORT KENNARDS HIRE
MOOTERDINE TRANSPORT BIRD SILOS HOT KLOBBA TANGLEFOOT WINERY

THE BIG SKY SHOOT OUT!

OVER
\$10,000

CASH TO GIVE
AWAY TO OUR
PLACE GETTERS*



3 EVENTS PLUS STALLHOLDERS!

SATURDAY 23RD MARCH 6PM START

BIG SKY ARENA WANDERING

MAJOR SPONSORS



YK FENCING

- Rural & Residential -



We're hiring in Wandering

We believe our staff are our greatest asset as we work together to deliver the very best in Home Care in the Wheatbelt.



We are looking for caring and passionate nursing and Home Care support workers in the Wheatbelt.

Our Care with Purpose people-centred care model promotes dignity, respect, privacy and independence.

As a not-for-profit organisation, we are inclusive and welcome all faiths and backgrounds. We offer competitive hourly rates, casual loading and full training. We have both permanent and casual roles available now.

If you would like to discuss further call 1300 244 000 or email your CV to homecare@catholichomes.com



save the Date

Staying in Place

EXPO

**Wednesday 8th &
Thursday 9th May 2024**
Pingelly Recreation & Cultural Centre



Staying In Place is now active in 30 communities across WA - each different and unique to their own community. Share resources, be inspired and listen to the amazing stories of people helping people "Staying in Place." Learn about the impact of the upcoming aged care reforms. Catch up with the InCasa Country crew, the Mable team and many others.

More details to be released soon.



Wandering Playgroup

MOTHER'S DAY

RAFFLE

1st Prize – Voucher for
Crown Towers



2nd Prize – Voucher for
Emersion Day Spa

TICKETS \$10
EACH



Tickets to go on sale in March
Drawn on Thursday May 9th



REGIONAL COLUMN

www.dmirs.wa.gov.au www.wa.gov.au

1 February 2024

With Senior Regional Officer for the South West, Annetta Bellingeri

Cash is king... or is it?

“Businesses have to accept legal tender.” It’s a comment we hear a lot at Consumer Protection, so I wanted to take the opportunity to clear this up and let you know what the law says about it.

Businesses can choose which payment types they accept. It is legal for a business to specify the terms and conditions that they will supply goods and services. This includes whether they will accept cash payment.

However, you must be made aware of these terms and conditions before you make a purchase. This could be a clear sign at the register or door stating the business does not accept cash, or the staff verbally informing you that you can’t pay with cash.

We know a lot of people like to pay with cash to avoid credit card surcharges. The good news is there are rules about this too. Card surcharges are permitted under the Australian Consumer Law, however the fee must only reflect what it actually costs the business to process the payment, such as bank fees or terminal costs. If a business charges a payment surcharge, it must be able to prove the costs it is based on.

If there is no other way for you to pay without incurring a surcharge, then the business must include the fee in the total cost. For example, your local café charges \$5 for a coffee, but they do not accept cash, and all card payments are surcharged. Then it is not possible for you to buy that coffee at \$5. If the surcharge is 1% then the price displayed must clearly be \$5.05 so you can easily tell how much your coffee really costs.

While the costs associated with taking card payments is obvious, there are also costs for dealing in cash. Handling cash costs businesses in time and wages.

Remember, purchasing goods or services is entering into an agreement with a seller. You do not have to agree to make the purchase if the payment methods aren’t acceptable to you. But, it is legal for the business to refuse to accept cash so long as they have made this clear.

If you believe a business is breaching the rules, it’s best to broach it with them first. Should negotiations fail, contact Consumer Protection on 1300 30 40 54, or consumer@dmirs.wa.gov.au

<ENDS>

Are you up to date with your bowel cancer screening?

Cancer Council WA is calling for more West Australians to complete the free lifesaving bowel cancer screening test, with figures showing only four in 10 eligible Australians are participating in Australia's National Bowel Cancer Screening Program.

Bowel cancer is Australia's second biggest cancer killer. Many people don't realise it kills more Australians each year than breast, prostate or skin cancer.

When you receive the Home Test Kit, don't put it in the cupboard and forget about it - delaying can so easily become ignoring, forgetting, and ultimately not doing the test.

The test is quick, simple and you can complete it in the comfort of your own home. Over 90 per cent of bowel cancer cases can be successfully treated if caught in the early stages.

To find out more about the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program or to order a free replacement kit, go to bowelcancer.org.au or call **1800 627 701** for more information.



When UV is 3 or above be SunSmart.

But how do you know when?

Use the free SunSmart Global UV App!

The sun's ultraviolet (UV) radiation is the major cause of skin cancer. UV cannot be seen or felt and can damage your skin on cool or cloudy days. The sun protection times tell you when UV is forecast to reach 3 and above, **that's the time to be SunSmart.**



Scan to download
the SunSmart app



Download the app or go to myUV.com.au

Find Skin Cancer Early

Common skin cancer symptoms:

- A new spot or mole on your skin that is red, pale or pearly in colour
- A spot that is different from other spots on your skin
- Any crusty or non-healing sores
- Any spots, freckles or any moles changing in size (width), thickness (height), colour, or shape

Get to know your skin and what's normal for you, particularly if you're over 40 years of age. If you notice any of these symptoms or any other unusual changes, tell your doctor without delay.

If it's skin cancer, the earlier it's found, the greater the chance of successful treatment.

Visit <https://www.findcancerearly.com.au/cancer-symptoms/skin-cancer/> for more information.

Hon Mia DAVIES MLA

Member for Central Wheatbelt

ELECTORATE NEWSLETTER



From Mia's desk

Welcome to the first edition of my newsletter for 2024! We're only a couple of months into the new year and already so much has happened in the electorate. First, thank you to all the first responders and volunteers that helped out in the aftermath of the storms that washed through in January. Also, a big shout-out to the teams on the ground for Western Power, Water Corporation and others who were tasked with the recovery and repair. It's unacceptable that our power, water and telecommunications infrastructure is so vulnerable – leaving some Wheatbelt communities without any services for over a week in sweltering temperatures. When Parliament resumes mid-February, you can be assured there will be questions for the Government to answer!

In This Edition

Power and Telecommunications

Australia Day Awards

Rail safety

Electorate changes

Australia Day

It was a pleasure to join the community of York for their Australia Day and citizenship ceremony, celebrating the volunteers and community members who contribute to our towns and region. Congratulations to all that were recognised in their local awards!



Photo: York Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services received the Active Citizenship Group / Event award for their continued efforts to keep the community safe.

Find it here!

You can find the link for Western Power's Extended Outage claim here: <https://bit.ly/4bsPtpX>



Scan me

Rail safety fight continues

Another year rolls on and the fight continues to improve safety for road and rail users. The Improve Train Lighting and Level Crossing Safety Lobby Group continues to advocate for the national standards governing lighting for trains to be strengthened. The current standards are minimalist, voluntary and completely inadequate. I stand with Lara Jenson and the families who continue to fight – the State and Federal Labor Government need to do the same.



Electorate boundary changes

As we head toward the next State election I can confirm that the Shires of Toodyay, Wongan-Ballidu, Dowerin, Goomalling and Victoria Plains will become part of the electorate of Central Wheatbelt after March 2025. The Shires of Kulin, Cuballing, Wickepin and Kondinin will move into the electorate of Roe. Our team of Nationals MPs will work to make sure the transition is seamless – our office doors are always open, no matter where you live!

Northam Office
171 Fitzgerald Street
(PO Box 92)
Northam WA 6401
PH 08 9622 2871

Merredin Office
Old Town Hall
16 Mitchell Street
Merredin WA 6415
PH 08 9041 1702

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@miadaviesMLA
@miadaviesmla

mia.davies@mp.wa.gov.au



PREMIER DUCKS QUESTIONS ON POWER & TELECOMMUNICATIONS 14th February 2024

Member for Central Wheatbelt Hon Mia Davies MLA has accused the Labor Government of continuing to pass the buck on failures to essential services in the Wheatbelt in the wake of the massive January storms that swept through the region.

In Parliament this week Ms Davies asked the Premier if the Minister for Emergency Services had briefed him on the unacceptable risk to lives and communities as a result of the telecommunications failures and lack of access to triple zero that occurred during the prolonged outage.

She also pressed the Premier on when more standalone power systems would be deployed to the Wheatbelt to prevent ongoing outages across the region.

“The Premier’s response was wholly unsatisfactory, saying there would be yet another review and more conversation with telecommunications companies,” Ms Davies said.

“He also made sweeping statements about the Government’s program of delivering standalone systems across the State, ignoring the question of when more would be delivered to the Wheatbelt.

“There are communities that have been advocating for alternative power solutions in the electorate who have met brick wall after brick wall and it’s simply not good enough.”

The Premier refused to acknowledge if action to remedy the power and telecommunications issue had ground to a halt under the State and Federal Labor Governments.

“When asked to confirm that improving the resilience of regional telecommunications networks should be a priority but that nothing had changed under this state or federal Labor Government despite recommendations from multiple bushfire reviews, including the recent Corrigin-Wickepin bushfires, he avoided the question,” Ms Davies said.

“His undertaking was merely to continue working with the Commonwealth to ensure that we have a much more resilient telecommunications system in the context of bushfire or power outage events.”

Ms Davies said she would be holding the Premier to his word and asking for regular updates on progress to deploy improved power solutions for the region, along with greater resilience across the telecommunications network.

“People living in regional WA deserve a Government that cares about basic and essential infrastructure and services,” she said.

“With a massive budget surplus it’s not too much to expect reliable power, water and mobile communications.”

For media enquiries please contact Mia Davies on 9041 1702 (Merredin office), 9622 2871 (Northam office) or email mia.davies@mp.wa.gov.au.

Mia DAVIES MLA

MEMBER FOR CENTRAL WHEATBELT



Northam Office

171 Fitzgerald Street
(PO Box 92)
Northam WA 6401
PH 08 9622 2871

Merredin Office

Old Town Hall
16 Mitchell Street
Merredin WA 6415
PH 08 9041 1702

mia.davies@mp.wa.gov.au

 MiaDaviesMLA
 facebook.com/MiaDaviesMLA
 @miadaviesmla

Locals for Environmental Action & Protection (LEAP) Community meeting for Wandering – Saturday March 16th

South32 has been mining in the Boddington area for around 40 years, and in 2004, was granted a conditional approval for an additional 74,000ha referred to as the extended mining areas (shown as yellow in this map). This map shows the Northern aspects of the extended mining areas, as well as additional areas referred to as the east Quindanning mining envelope.



South 32 wants to move North first, which includes Hotham North, Central and Brookton mining envelopes. Most of these envelopes are in the jarrah forest (state forest), and moving into these northern envelopes will require an additional 61km of transport corridors (conveyer) and 3 additional crushers. These transport corridors would need to cross the Albany highway, North Bannister Road, and the Brookton highway.

The central mining envelope includes a branch that runs east following North Bannister Road all the way to Missions Road, Wandering bringing the mine **8km from the centre of Wandering** and up to Luptons forest block, requiring a further 16km of transport corridors.

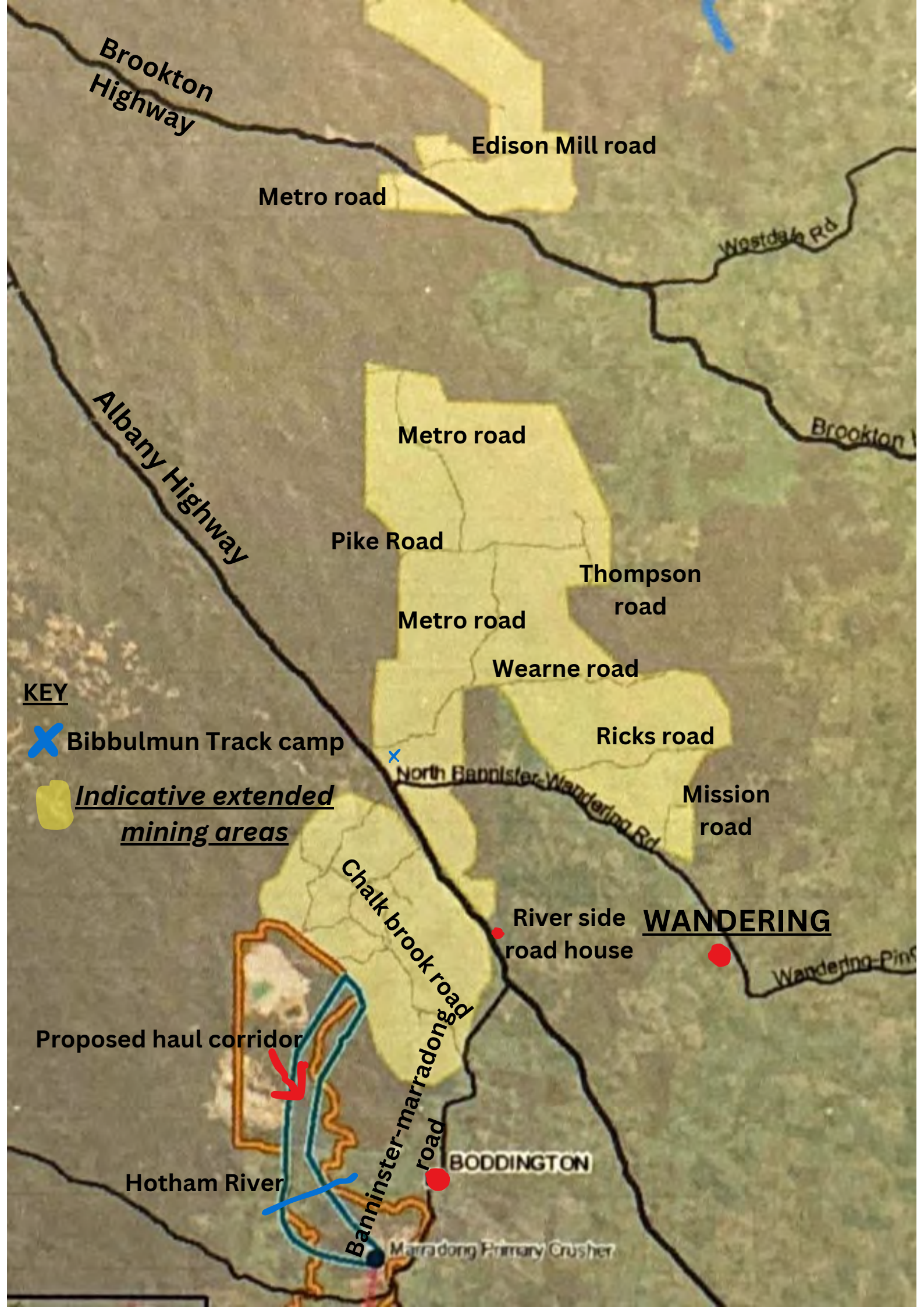
As South 32 continues to head north they will be sinking new bores in addition to the 14 bores they already have in use. This is required as they are applying to increase their water usage from 500 million litres of water a year to 900 million litres of water a year.

We will be holding a public meeting at **Wandering Tavern on Saturday March 16th at 3.30pm.**


We will be explaining the expansion approval process, your rights and a bit of what to expect as an affected landholder, as well as issues such as dust noise, water use, and the affect clearing such large expanses of forest may have on your beautiful area.


Please don't hesitate to get in contact with us if you would to join our email list, or like further information, including detailed maps and action we can take to preserve our home – our email is leap4locals@outlook.com or join us on facebook 'Locals for Environmental Action & Protection' (LEAP).





KEY

 Bibbulmun Track camp

 Indicative extended mining areas

Proposed haul corridor

Hotham River

Banninster-marradong road

BODDINGTON

Marradong Primary Crusher

River side road house

WANDERING

Wandering Pine

Brookton Highway

Edison Mill road

Metro road

Westdale Rd

Brookton

Albany Highway

Metro road

Pike Road

Thompson road

Metro road

Wearne road

Ricks road

Mission road

North Bannister-Wandering Rd

Chalk brook road

Proposed haul corridor





Opening Hours

Shire Office

(including Australia Post agency)
9am to 4.30pm weekdays

CRC (including Department of
Transport agency)

9am to 4pm Monday to Thursday

all closed on public holidays

Transfer Station

Sundays 8am to 4pm
Mondays 8am to 3pm

Waste Collection

Every Tuesday

Recycling Dates:

12/03/2024

26/03/2024

Ranger

24 hours / 7 days
0459 678 154

Restricted Burning Period

Restricted burning is currently allowed.. Permits are required - please contact your Local Fire Control Officer.

Please plan ahead - do not ring a Fire Control Officer on the day you want to burn and expect a permit as it may not be granted. You must give notice to your neighbours and the Shire once the permit is granted.

NO BURNING WITHOUT A PERMIT

CAMPFIRES AND BONFIRES ARE PROHIBITED

Community Centre Verandah

You've probably all seen the fabulous new verandah at the Community Centre? This was installed in the middle of December and has been a much needed addition.



Shire of Wandering | 22 Watts Street, Wandering WA 6308 | (08) 6828 1800

www.wandering.wa.gov.au | reception@wandering.wa.gov.au  www.facebook.com/wanderingshire

Wandering Community Resource Centre | 18 Watts Street, Wandering WA 6308 | (08) 6828 1820

crc@wandering.wa.gov.au  www.facebook.com/wanderingcrc



Council Meeting Dates 2024

- 15 February 2024
- 21 March 2024
- 18 April 2024
- 16 May 2024
- 20 June 2024
- 18 July 2024
- 15 August 2024
- 19 September 2024
- 17 October 2024
- 21 November 2024
- 12 December 2024

Meetings commence at 3.30pm, public are welcome to attend.

Shire Chambers, 22 Watts Street Wandering. Please arrive at reception by 3.15pm and submit questions at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Council Meeting Notes

At the Council Meeting held on the 15th February 2024 the following was discussed:

- Shire of Wandering Policy Manual Review
- Compliance audit return
- Committees of council
- Review of CRC
- Financial Assistance Grants Program Applications
- Mid Year Budget Review
- Meeting attendance fees for independent committee members

The Council agendas and minutes can be found on the website: <https://www.wandering.wa.gov.au/council/the-wandering-council/council-meeting.aspx>

Or scan the QR Code:



Shire of Wandering Elected Members

Elected Members Contact Details

Cr Ian Turton (President) 0428 876 033

Cr Sheryl Little (Deputy President) 0414 586 893

Cr Lou Cowan 0490 808 044

Cr Gillian Hansen 0488 911 902

Cr Dennis Jennings 0403 126 763

Cr Alan Price 0428 996 457

Cr Max Watts 0428 841 069

Welcome

To Wandering

Our new residents pack has recently been updated. This is automatically sent to new residents. All residents are welcome to a copy, please call into the office or email reception@wandering.wa.gov.au to have one emailed to you.

Tender - Wandering Pingelly Bridge Replacement

The Shire of Wandering are seeking suitable, qualified and experienced contractors to replace the Wandering Pingelly bridge with culvert (bridge number 0424A).

Tenders are invited and will be received until 4pm Wednesday 20th March 2024 (WST).

Tenders shall be submitted in person or by post to 22 Watts Street, Wandering WA 6308.

For an information package please email karl.mickle@wandering.wa.gov.au.

Canvassing of Councillors or staff will disqualify tenderer. The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted. Late tenders and tenders submitted electronically will not be accepted.

Alan Hart—Chief Executive Officer
22 Watts Street, Wandering WA 6308



Have you registered your dog / cat?
We get regular calls from people who
have found dogs roaming, please
register your pets so we can return
them to you as soon as possible



Dog owners are required by law to
have all dogs over the age of three
months registered with Local Councils.
Registrations are also valid throughout
Western Australia so you can
transfer your dog registration to
another Council if you choose to move
home or location.



In November 2013, the Cat Act 2011 took effect.
The Act requires all cats that have reached six
months of age to be microchipped, sterilised and
registered with the relevant Local Government.



Shire Rates Due Dates

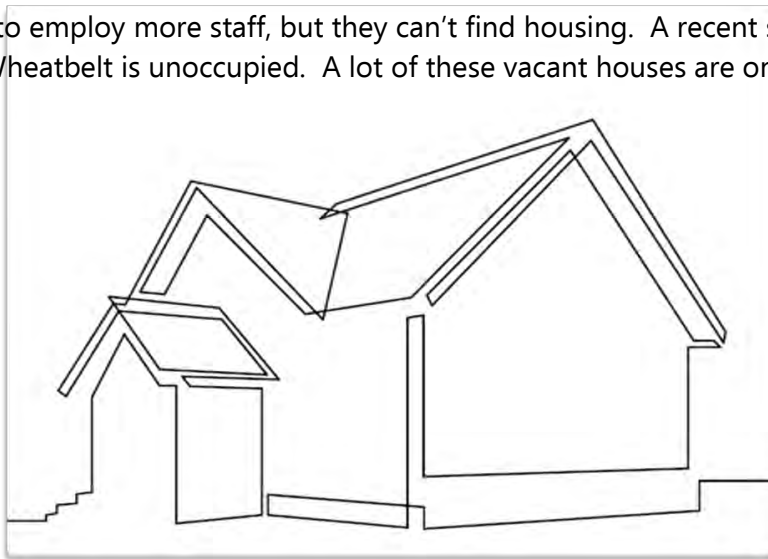
If you elected to pay your rates in four instalments, the final instalment is due by 25/03/2024.

If you are having difficulty paying your rates please contact us and we can put a payment plan arrangement in place.

Helping to Solve WA's Housing Crisis

A lot has been said about the housing shortage in WA.
Not just in Perth or regional centres but throughout WA.

Businesses would like to employ more staff, but they can't find housing. A recent survey found one in five houses in the southern Wheatbelt is unoccupied. A lot of these vacant houses are on farms or rural properties.



Many are vacant for a reason. They are well on their way to rack and ruin. They are not needed for the farm, or they are too far out for anyone else.

But what about the rest? Still liveable with a modest investment. Not too far out, with access to power and water.

Farmers generally are not in the real estate business, but if you could rent it out to a good tenant with guarantees from the Shire or a local employer or both, and there is someone else to co-invest in any works needed, would you consider it?

The Shire of Wandering is investigating the possibility of a housing pilot using existing rural housing stock.

It is a lot quicker to refresh existing housing stock than to build new houses.

Do you have one and what would it take for you to make it available?

We need your input, your ideas, your suggestions - and your houses.

Drop me an email or call me for a chat.

Alan Hart, CEO
ceo@wandering.wa.gov.au
6828 1800

Hotham-Williams River Restoration Updates

We are thrilled to announce that after much planning and consulting with the community we are almost ready to start bank stabilisation works at Pumphreys Bridge and Williams townsite. We are 99% of the way there with approvals and plan to start these works over late February/March, which will be focused on specific locations at those sites. We thank everyone for their input so far into these plan. We will be working very closely with the Shires of Wandering and Williams for both of these sites and thank them for their support.

Stay tuned for more updates on our PHCC and the Shires Facebook pages. Please get in touch if you would like to know more by phoning (08) 6369 8801 or emailing kristy.gregory@peel-harvey.org.au



Pumphreys Bridge. Image by Andrew McKenzie

Pumphreys Bridge Camp Ground will be affected during this time.

The bank stabilisation works will take place from late February 2024. This will cause the area near the creek line to be unusable, and cause added noise in the area.

Please camp on the oval while the works are carried out. We apologise for any disruption to your stay.

Works Update February 2024

MAINTENANCE GENERAL:

Bitumen Patching

Two big patches were repair on the York Williams Road and some shoulder patching and potholes repair on the North Bannister Road.

Drainage Works

Drainage maintenance has been carried out on the following roads:

- North Wandering Road
- Moramocking Road
- Cheetaning Road
- York Williams Road
- Deans Road
- North Bannister

Bridge Repairs

Repairs have been completed on (3067A) Dwarda East Road and Crossman Dwarda (3062) next is emergency repairs on Wandering Narrogin bridge (0425) then repairs on Carabin bridge (3066)



YORK WILLIAMS ROAD BLACKSPOT-

This work has now commenced with clearing and gravel overlay completed, and new seal was lay on the 23 February in preparation for line marking and rumble strips on the approach to each end of crossroad.



YORK WILLIAMS ROAD BLACKSPOT



PARKS & GARDENS:

SUCKER AND ROADSIDE SPRAYING

Roadside spraying has been ongoing with the summer sucker spray nearly completed.

WORKS PROGRAMMED FOR MARCH:

Reconnecting down pipe at the community centre, mowing and snipping for hazard reduction, spraying roadside vegetation.

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

We have had a few requests for doubles on the niche wall at the cemetery, so the parks and garden crew have managed to redesign the lay out, and we now have eight doubles.



COMMUNITY MEETING

Wandering is turning
150

Monday 11th March 2024

7.30pm

Wandering CRC

Everyone welcome





Wheatbelt Inpatient Rehabilitation Service

Do you have an upcoming surgery that may require rehabilitation?

Want to be more independent at home?

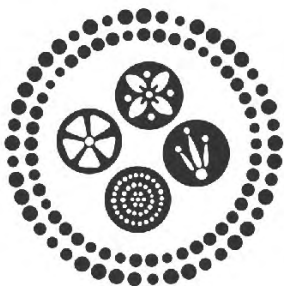
Are you not doing as well as you expected after illness?

The Inpatient Rehabilitation Units at Northam and Narrogin Health Services would like to hear from you.



What we require from you:

- Active participation in daily therapy with our allied health team
- Goal setting
- Assist with discharge planning



Find out more

Watch the video via the QR code
or give our rehabilitation team a call:
Northam 08 9690 1752
Narrogin 08 9881 0385



Online MEN OF HOPE Online

Get in - Get Healthy & Strong -
Get Going

Free Online Connect Groups - Every Wednesday



Join free online chat groups and chat with friends, meet new people, learn new skills and support each other.



menofhope.com.au
08 6559 1482
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National Speaking 4 the Planet 2024

Invitation to Participate

In partnership with the Australian Association for Environmental Education and Paddy Pallin, the Speaking 4 the Planet (S4P) team is offering Councils two ways to engage your youth in a sustainability education initiative. Councils may choose to support student participation in the national online competition, or you may choose to run a **live S4P event** in their LGAs.

S4P is an arts-based sustainability competition that encourages participants to think creatively and share ideas about living sustainably at local, regional and global levels. Here's a short video that says more about the competition: [Advocates 4 the Earth - S4P - YouTube](#)

The 2024 competition is free for participants in LGAs where councils support the initiative.

Topic: Trees, the Guardians of Life

From the blue beaches to its red centre, Australia is blessed with diverse and unique woodlands, rainforests and bushlands. With over 130 million hectares of forests, Australia has trees and canopies over about 17% of its land area.

Wherever we live in this country - near the coast, along rivers, in mountains or on plains - we have valuable trees and forests. From the northern tropical regions down through sub-tropical regions to temperate zones, we have trees everywhere. They are a part of our lives. And they matter. Trees sustain life. Trees sustain civilizations.

This year, the S4P competition asks participants to focus on the importance of their local forests - for themselves and their communities and their regions. This topic is linked to Sustainable Development Goal 15 - Life on Land.

Target audience

High-school-age youth (12-18) are invited to participate. **And, for the first time, we are inviting teachers to participate in the writing category.**

Categories

Competition categories for the 2024 S4P competition are:

- Speaking
- Writing
- Performance poetry
- Visual Arts



Closing date

The closing date is Friday 31 May. Winners will be announced on the S4P website on National Tree Day, Sunday 28 July 2024.

Support provided to Councils

A short document will be provided for councils, and an online session will be conducted on how to engage your schools. This will be scheduled in mid March 2024. Each participating council will receive a promotional poster with its logo on it.

Councils that run live events will be offered ongoing and tailored support. This will comprise zoom collaboration, preparation of special materials, local/regional contacts, and a checklist of tasks. Depending on location, support could include a face-to-face meeting.

Support provided to your schools

A support package will be prepared and distributed to registered councils for distribution to their high schools. The package will contain information on the topic, links to resources, and explanation and judging criteria for each category. Councils can also send their own local materials relevant to the chosen sub-heading.

Prizes

Paddy Pallin, a competition partner, will provide very practical items for first place in each category. In addition, first place winners will receive \$100 (in vouchers). Second place winners will simply receive a voucher. Councils are invited to provide prizes for any students in their LGAs and find opportunities for students to present/display their submissions after the competition finishes.

The best entries will be compiled into a digital magazine that will be sent to participating councils and to relevant government departments and Ministers and NGOs.

Cost

Councils are asked to contribute a \$750 fee for S4P to be offered in their LGA. This fee will allow all interested youth (12-18yrs old) and high school teachers in the LGA to participate in the competition. **The costs of conducting and supporting a live event require individual negotiation.**

How Councils can Participate

1. Register your Council to participate and make payment of the registration fee. Register by contacting Phil at phil@speaking4theplanet.org.au
2. Distribute the support package and poster to each high school in your LGA. A draft letter will be sent for you to adapt and send with the package. This letter will introduce the competition to your high schools and highlight the need to focus on local trees and bushlands.
3. Continue to promote the competition to your schools. If needed, a media release template can be provided. Council has the responsibility for communicating with its high schools.

Get involved

To register your Council for the competition, or to find out more about this competition, contact Phil Smith at phil@speaking4theplanet.org.au





Reinvigorating Regional Australia: A Co-operative Approach

Join one of four free regional workshops to discover how the co-operative model has been successfully used in regional communities to create and retain important local services such as the supermarket, pub and even aged care.

Workshop
Dates and Venues

Wagin

18 March 2024
9:30am – 1:30pm
Uniting Church Centre

Ravensthorpe

19 March 2024
9:30am – 1:30pm
Ravensthorpe Community
Resource Centre

Perenjori

20 March 2024
9:30am – 1:30pm
Perenjori Recreation Centre

Wongan Hills

21 March 2024
9:30am – 1:30pm
Wongan Hills Community
Resource Centre

Supported by CBH Group through the Business Council of Co-operative and Mutuals (BCCM)'s Bunya Fund and delivered by Peter Kenyon from Bank of I.D.E.A.S., the workshops explore the power of the co-operative model and its potential application in regional communities.

Workshop Content

The half-day workshops will explore rejuvenating our regional communities through the proven power of community ownership and enterprise. The sessions will highlight the benefits of the co-operative model and are practically designed to help you to streamline the process of founding and expanding a co-operative. You'll learn how to uncover community enterprise opportunities, enhance community awareness, effectively recruit members, successfully harness local investment, and identify the essential factors for success. Participants will gain practical strategies and be inspired by real-life examples where local businesses and services like the pub, supermarket and aged care have been saved or returned to communities.

Registration

Workshops are free with morning tea and lunch provided at no cost to participants. For more information or to register for your local workshop visit <http://bit.ly/coopworkshops>

Registrations close 10 March 2024 and places are limited. If you have any queries, please contact Peter Kenyon on 0417 183 719 or email pk@bankofideas.com.au



Landcare matters

Hotham-Williams sub-catchment update



PHCC Working Together
Peel-Harvey Catchment Council

Edition 84
March 2024



NRM is the management of natural resources such as land, water, soils, plants and animals. It brings together land use planning, water management, biodiversity conservation and sustainability of industries such as agriculture, mining, tourism, fisheries and forestry.



Rabbit control - What you can do

European rabbits have a huge impact on the natural environment and agricultural activities. It is estimated that rabbits cost Australian Agriculture \$216 million in production losses each year. Rabbits are one of the most widely distributed and abundant animals in Australia. They have a rapid rate of reproduction with a female rabbit becoming sexually mature at just 4 months of age and they can have 5 or more litters per year with up to 5 young in each litter.

To control rabbits on your property you first need to assess and understand the problem and to plan your control methods. There are a number of control methods to choose from including warren destruction, ground shooting, 1080 baiting, RHDV1-K5 rabbit virus release and trapping. Warren destruction can be quite effective as rabbits depend on warrens to shelter from the heat and to provide protection from predators. There is no silver bullet for rabbit control, control efforts need to be coordinated and ongoing with the greatest success achieved when neighbouring property owners are involved.

The Pestsmart website has some great resources on rabbits and their control including the comprehensive Glovebox Guide which is available on their website or you can pop into PHCC's Boddington Office for your free copy.

Link: <https://pestsmart.org.au/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2021/03/CISS-Glovebox-Guide-Rabbit-web.pdf>



Image: European rabbit, DAFWA

River restoration works commence

Pumphreys Bridge and Williams River Restoration site works have commenced and are anticipated to be completed by the end of March, 2024.

With over 5 years of consultation, planning and collaboration with stakeholders and we are excited to begin the initial stages of restoration work at two of the priority sites, Pumphreys Bridge and Williams River.

Be sure to keep an eye out for updates on social media. PHCC will keep the community up to date with the projects' progress and share with you each milestone as they occur.



Rehabilitation material at Pumphreys Bridge and Williams
Rocks kindly donated by Newmont

Coming up...

Mulloon Institute Landscape Planner Lance Mudgway and PHCC are holding an interactive workshop on Landscape Hydration.

This workshop will be held on Thursday 21 March at 9am.

Register to secure your place: <https://peel-harvey.org.au/events/landscape-rehydration-workshop-quindanning/>

Landscape Rehydration Workshop Quindanning

Mulloon Institute Landscape Planner Lance Mudgway will provide details of what Landscape Hydration is, how it is undertaken and what the benefits are to farming enterprises and the wider catchment.

Following morning tea a field walk will provide the group with an opportunity to see issues and potential solutions, and to further discuss practical solutions with Lance.

Thursday 21 March 2024 | 9am - 12 noon | Morning tea provided | Quindanning | RSVP essential



This Regenerative Agriculture event is made possible thanks to RegenWA and funding from Lattarywest and NAB Foundation Communities Grant. RegenWA is powered by the Perth NRM Collective Impact Program with funding from Lattarywest and Communities.

victoria.brockhurst@peel-harvey.org.au

www.peel-harvey.org.au



These projects are supported by the Peel-Harvey Catchment Council through funding from Newmont, South32 Worsley Alumina and the Shires of Boddington, Cuballing, Wandering and Williams.



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www.residencybydillons.com.au

Wandering Fox Hunt Results

1st: Nigel Morrison, Callum Smith, Matt Locke, Dennis Pittard, David Hewson with
43 foxes, 2 cats, 1 rabbit

2nd: Jacob Schorer, Jordan Hughes, Lewis Parsons Bailey Parsons, Bill Schorer with
26 foxes, 1 cat

3rd: John Turton, Jenna Turton, Rhys Pullen, Darren Jarvis, Paul Treasure with
15 foxes, 1 cat, 3 pigs

Wooden spoon:
Tom Watts, Luke Scanlan with No foxes shot.

Other prize winners:
B McKeeig, R Jones, R Pullen, T Turton, D Hutton, R Crowe, T Munnings, J Turton,
M Locke, J Schorer, J Hughes

Totals
132 foxes, 14 rabbits, 6 feral cats, 3 pig



First place winners



REGIONAL COLUMN

www.dmirs.wa.gov.au www.wa.gov.au

With Senior Regional Officer for the South West, Annetta Bellingeri

When expectation vs reality doesn't match on Valentine's Day

Sending your loved one wilted flowers on Valentine's Day probably won't get you the reaction you were hoping for. Before you get a bunch of dead roses thrown in your face, Consumer Protection hopes there's time to explain you have rights under Australian Consumer Law (ACL).

Consumer guarantees kick in on products purchased through Australian-based stores, including online.

When a V-Day gift arrives but isn't what was advertised, such as flowers that are significantly different to the photo, or are wilted, you have a right to a remedy under the ACL, such as a refund, replacement or repair.

You also have rights if your special someone receives their gift late and you were guaranteed a V-Day delivery.

In the first instance, contact the retailer and see what they can do for you. Remember – you do not have to accept a credit note as a remedy.

Guarantees also apply on products purchased through overseas traders, however it is much harder to enforce, so keep this in mind when doing your shopping.

West Aussies should continue to be vigilant to scammers when shopping online. In 2023, online shopping scams claimed 305 WA victims, who lost a combined \$631,315.

To avoid being scammed, look out for social media businesses that display few or no contact details, as well as poorly edited ads with bad English. Also, don't pay for gifts through direct bank transfer, only use PayPal or credit card so you can dispute or request a reversal of charges if your gifts don't arrive.

If you're looking online for a special someone, you should be on high alert for romance scammers as Valentine's Day approaches.

Once a romance scammer has established trust, they will share elaborate stories and ask for money they say is to cover costs with illness, injury, business expenses, duty or customs fees, legal costs, family crises, or travel. Consumer Protection advises you to never share your bank account or credit card details with, or transfer money to, someone you haven't met in person.

For more information about romance scams, visit scamwatch.gov.au/types-of-scams/dating-romance

If you have tried to seek a remedy for your dead flowers without success you can make a formal complaint with Consumer Protection at consumerprotection.wa.gov.au or call 1300 30 40 54.

Lachlan Hunter locked in for Central Wheatbelt

Mr Lachlan Hunter has been endorsed by the grassroots membership of The Nationals WA to contest the next State election as the candidate for Central Wheatbelt.

Mr Hunter, from Bruce Rock, was endorsed by the Party to replace retiring Central Wheatbelt MP and former leader Hon Mia Davies MLA on February 24.

Graduating from Cunderdin Agricultural College, he has worked for State and Federal Minister's in Government and Opposition, in agribusiness and most recently for Australia Post.

He is also on the board of DVAssist, and Northam Chamber of Commerce.

Ms Davies said Mr Hunter's endorsement reflected The Nationals' commitment to developing emerging and exciting West Australian talent to represent regional communities in the Parliament.

"Lachlan has a reputation for hard work and a strong sense of conviction to fight for better outcomes for people in regional WA," Ms Davies said.

"I have known Lachlan for ten years, and know he will use the experience and grounding from his career to date to work hard for the electorate.

"He has developed a reputation for getting things done in his roles at Australia Post and in the agricultural sector, and while working in senior roles in state and federal parliaments."

Mr Hunter said his endorsement as The Nationals candidate for Central Wheatbelt was a great honour.

"Growing up in the Wheatbelt has given me everything I could hope for, and I have a fire in my belly to stand up for our communities to make sure they continue to be great places to live and work," Mr Hunter said.

"The Nationals' commitment to regional communities is clear to all who trek beyond the metropolitan area and see the legacy of Royalties for Regions and our Parliamentary team's fight for better services and infrastructure.

"However, there is still much work to be done and many fights to be had and I look forward to the challenge."

Applications to run as a candidate for The Nationals WA at the next State election are still open for a number of seats across the State. More information on the pre-selection process can be found at www.nationalswa.com.

ENDS

Media Contact | Lachlan Hunter 0457 721 949



Lachlan Hunter, WA Nationals Central Wheatbelt Candidate with retiring Central Wheatbelt MLA Hon Mia Davies.

WARRIOR WELLBEING ARTICLE

You Are What You Think!

BY THE REGIONAL MEN'S HEALTH INITIATIVE
March 2024

We have all heard the saying 'you are what you eat', implying that food fuels our body and the various types, quality, and quantity of food can impact our body, how we feel and therefore how we perform.

When we talk about our mental health and wellbeing, we refer to it as encompassing all aspects of our emotional, psychological and social wellbeing, so basically our mental health impacts how we think, act and feel.



Just like we have a level of control or choice over the types of food/fuel we put into our bodies there is also the capacity for us to influence our thoughts and behaviors which in turn impacts how we feel about ourselves and the world we live in.

As humans, we can often be very reactive and are driven by our emotions. Of course, how we react is individual and influenced by numerous factors that have conditioned us over our life journey (nature vs nurture) such as genetics, social, cultural, family influences, childhood experiences, and individual personality and behavioral types. However, as humans we also have the propensity for holding onto the negative more often than we do the positive.

In working with blokes in regional, rural and remote WA, and from my own personal life experiences, I have seen the fallout of unhelpful and negative thoughts people develop, carry and manifest during times of situational distress and poor mental health. Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT) is one effective approach for managing and treating a range of mental and emotional health issues. While this article is not a comprehensive overview of CBT, I would like to home in on one of its aims which is to identify and challenge unhelpful thoughts.


CBT is more than just being positive, as I recently observed with someone experiencing a range of debilitating physical health issues; it was this exact phrase that one day triggered a negative emotional outburst: "The next person who tells me to stay positive, I'll tell them to get stuffed!", they screamed.

Their experience was firstly needing validation as the obvious pain and distress experienced was warranted, but it was the unhelpful thinking and negative self-talk exacerbating feelings of despair, frustration and isolation that also needed to be addressed. Common lines such as: "I'll never get better", "I feel useless", "no one cares or understands how I feel" and "bad things always happen to me!" are examples of some of the documented unhelpful thinking patterns CBT aims to address, including:

- Overgeneralization: You see a single negative as a never-ending pattern of defeat.
- Personalization: Seeing yourself as the cause of negative events, no fault of your own.
- All or Nothing Thinking: You only see things in black and white; if your performance falls short of perfect, you see yourself as failing.
- Disqualifying the Positive: You reject or don't see positives experiences. You insist they don't count to maintain a negative belief that is often contradicted by your experience.

If some of this resonates, check out some endorsed self-help apps like Moodgym or HeadGear. Both use CBT concepts to create awareness and challenge negative thinking patterns. Always remember, before it gets too much Talk to a Mate®!! or talk it over.

 @RMHI_4blokes

 Working with Warriors Podcast

 regionalmenshealth.com.au





Narrogin Hospital Rehab Service helping people to achieve their goals



(Pictured- Stacy Forrest Subacute Coordinator, Scott Glassby Physiotherapist, Zoe Dick Registered Nurse, Pias Tabungar Allied Health Assistant)

After sustaining a fall and a fractured ankle Karen was transferred to the Narrogin Health Service Inpatient Subacute Service from a Perth tertiary hospital for ongoing rehab. *“This service allows patients to receive the care they need **close to home without the extended stay in Metro sites**”* reports Subacute Coordinator Stacy Forrest.

During her stay, Karen worked closely with the allied health team to ensure she meet all of her goals before discharging home stating the team *“Were professional and included me in all decisions relating to my ongoing treatment. They always kept me updated **regarding my progress**”*. One of her highlights during the stay was the daily Physiotherapy sessions *“as I never felt that I was being pushed too hard, but at the same time, I **noticed how well my strength progressed at each session**”* reports Karen.

On reflection of her time in the Subacute Service Karen reports *“I **have no hesitation in recommending this program to others. In fact, without it, I feel that I would have been very disadvantaged in my recovery**”* and *“**everything about my experience with the service was positive.**”*

Operating since July 2020, the Narrogin Inpatient Subacute Service has been able to assist over 95 patients in a setting close to home. *“**Having family and friends able to visit can really help to improve mood and engagement in therapy. Being closer to support networks and familiar surroundings often leads to greater functional outcomes**”* says Stacy.

If you would like any further information about the Narrogin Subacute Service, then please contact Stacy Forrest Subacute Coordinator on 9881 0385

COMMUNITY GROUPS

WANDERING CRAFT GROUP

The Wandering Crafters meet at the CRC weekly on Thursdays from 9am

New members welcome.

Come learn, come for a chat, or just come for a cuppa.

Room 7, Boddington CRC at the Old School, Bannister Road Boddington.

Full Gospel Church. 9.30am Prayer, Main service 10:00 AM Sundays. Includes Children's church.

- Tuesdays fortnightly: Ladies group.
- Wednesdays at 10:30 AM. Bible Study, Study notes provided.
- Counselling and personal prayer available.
- Contact Julie Naylor on 0436407763 Pastor Joshua Andrews on 0425410254

EMPOWERED NATIONS CHURCH

Public worship every fourth Sunday of the month, from 2pm at the church.

Enquiries to Revd Paul Bartley 0431 849 169 or Clive Lindner 9884 1535

Latest info online at www.gatewayparish.org.

New people welcome and expected! Always up for a chat.

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH WANDERING

WANDERING LIONS CLUB

Meet second Thursday of the month. 7pm at the Wandering Tavern

President - Peter Warburton - 0429 366 617

Secretary - Stephen Bullock - 0428 251 979

WANDERING CWA

Check this month's Wandering CWA page in this edition of the Echo for the next meeting date - we meet at the Wandering CWA Rooms on Watts Street.

President - Jacquie Cornish 0407 241 004 Secretary - Leanne Rose 0417 097 149

PUMPHREYS CWA

Meet the second Tuesday of the month at 9am at Pumphreys Bridge Hall.

President - Raelene Warburton 0428 877 038

Secretary - Shirley Wasley 0427 988 702

WANDERING VIRTUAL VILLAGE

Virtual Village activity every Monday at the Wandering CRC at 10am. Contact Lee Muller



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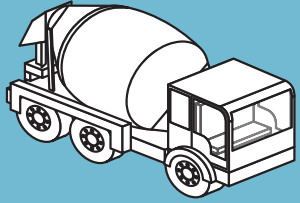
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MARCH 2024

7.30PM | MONDAY 11TH
COMMUNITY MEETING - 150 YEAR CELEBRATIONS

9AM | TUESDAY 12TH
PUMPHREY'S CWA MEETING

7PM | THURSDAY 14TH
LIONS CLUB MEETING

6PM | FRIDAY 15TH
INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY SUNDOWNER

10AM | SUNDAY 17TH
MARKETS

10AM | WEDNESDAY 20TH
WANDERING CWA

3.30PM | THURSDAY 21ST
COUNCIL MEETING

6PM | SATURDAY 23RD
BARREL RACING

FRIDAY 29TH
GOOD FRIDAY

Regular Events

Friday evenings: Tennis & Bowls

Thursday morning - Craft Group @ CRC

Monday morning - Virtual Village @ CRC

Wednesday - 8.45am - Exercise Class @ Community Centre