

# THE WANDERING FIELD 2025 *February*



## AUSTRALIA DAY 2025



Wandering

Community Resource Centre

*your local connection*

# WELCOME

*To Our Monthly Community Newsletter*

**NEXT EDITION IS MARCH 2025.**

**ITEMS FOR INCLUSION DUE BY 27TH FEBRUARY 2025**

## **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](mailto: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>





# AUSTRALIA DAY 2025





## **FAMILY HISTORY BOARDS**

As part of the shire's 150 year celebrations, the Wandering CRC compiled a collection of local History Boards. These were displayed at the event and again at the Wandering Fair. This collection will be used at other community events and a small collection of them will be displayed on rotation at the CRC.

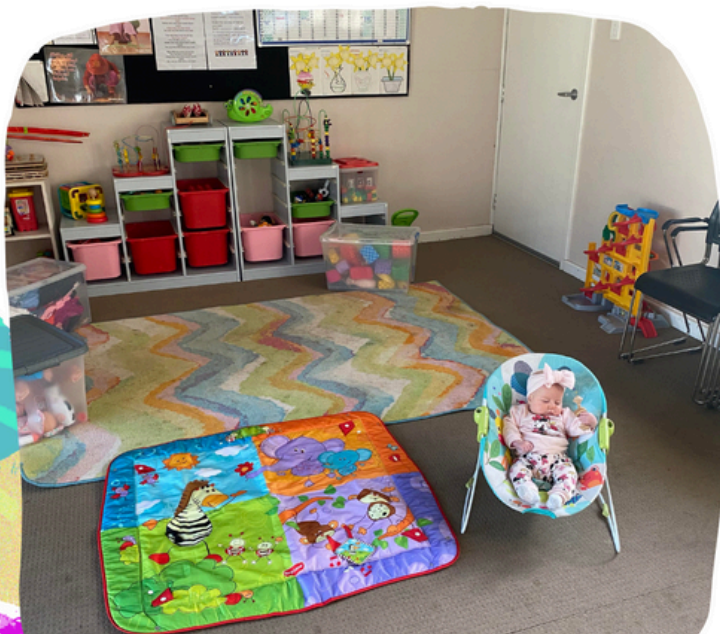
Some families missed the cut off time to have theirs included. We are now seeking all families who were unable to submit their history information to do so by the end of the year, so we can include it in the collection. This includes all families, whether you have been here only a few years or decades, we'd like to capture every family that has been part of our community.

Once the collection is complete, it will be turned into a book next year and also loaded to the shire's website.

If you require assistance to compile your information, please contact the Wandering CRC - 9884 1561 or [crc@wandering.wa.gov.au](mailto:crc@wandering.wa.gov.au)

# **Wandering Playgroup**

## **A PLACE OF FUN AND ENJOYMENT**



**EVERY THURSDAY  
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM  
AT THE CWA ROOM**

**CONTACT STARR CORNISH  
FOR MORE INFORMATION  
0447778657**



# Face to Face AQF3 Chemical Accreditation

**EXPRESSIONS OF  
INTEREST  
(SEEKING 10  
PARTICIPANTS)**

**AHCCHM304** Transport and Store Chemicals Prepare and Apply Chemicals to Control Pest,  
**AHCCHM307** Weeds and Diseases



ChemCert AQF3 Chemical Accreditation course focuses on upskilling chemical users on the industry's best practice methods and national standards. It is nationally recognised for 5 Years. Please check state licensing requirements.

#### Topics Covered:

• Safe transport & storage • Determining weather conditions suitable for spraying • Understanding chemical application issues • Equipment calibration techniques • Knowledge to limit spray drift • Managing chemical residues • Risk assessments and hazard control forms • Self audit & compliance checklists • Integrated Pest Management • Record keeping requirements

#### Suitability:

- Council workers
  - Bush regeneration staffs
  - Horticulturalists
  - Farm Owners
  - Spray Contractors
  - Pest Controllers
  - Ground Keepers
- (School, parks, sport & recreation)



#### Course Duration:

- 1 day (8:30am – 5:00 pm) (Plus 2-4 hours pre-course reading)



#### Entry Requirements:

- We require all students to be a minimum of 16 years old, to have a reading level of a Yr 10 student and complete the LLN test.



#### Assessment Breakdown:

- Multiple choice questions
- Short answer questions
- Spray plans, incident reports and
- Practical assessment tasks

(Calibration, spill clean up, nozzle cleaning etc)

#### Industry Leading Trainers:

The strength of our program is based on our accredited, innovative, highly skilled industry-based Trainer/Assessors and technical advisers and their wide range of skills, which include agronomists, researchers, commercial spray operators and leading farming advisers.

**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR MARCH 2025**

**\*\*\*DATE AND TIME TO BE ADVISED\*\*\***

**LOCATION: CRC - 18 WATTS STREET WANDERING**

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL:** Contact us on 089884 1561 or  
email: [crc@wandering.wa.gov.au](mailto:crc@wandering.wa.gov.au)



Wandering

**Community Resource Centre**

*Your local connection*

# **Virtual Village Activities**



If you are interested in meeting with some local people for a bit of fun and a cuppa, you are welcome to come along to the  
**WANDERING CRC, ON ANY MONDAY AT 10AM.**

**(except public holidays).**

We play games, go out for lunch sometimes, have morning tea, and generally just enjoy some company with people who wish to be involved with the Virtual Village.

There is no financial outlay, and if you wish to be involved in any way, or want more information, please ring Lee on 0429 390 626, or just turn up.

## **WANDERING EXERCISES**



**Anyone who is over 50 and interested in doing some light exercise, a group of people meet at the Wandering Community Centre each Wednesday at 8.45.**

**Everyone is welcome.**

**For info contact Lee on 0429 390 626**





# LACHLAN HUNTER

THE NATIONALS WA FOR CENTRAL WHEATBELT

 0457 721 949     lachlan.hunter@nationalswa.com

 PO Box 18 NORTHAM WA 6401

  @LachlanHunterCW     @LachlanHunter

THINK LOCAL.  
VOTE NATIONAL.



# **Wandering Fox Hunt**



## **\*\*\* REGISTRATIONS OPEN NOW \*\*\***

**FRIDAY** - 6.00PM Sausage sizzle and team check in at the Wandering Fire Shed from 6.00pm. COST - \$25 per person entry fee. Lions will be providing a sausage sizzle and cold drinks and generally being awesome like they do.

**SATURDAY** - Check-in, fox count and presentations is 7.00am at the Wandering Tavern – breakfast included for all participants and sponsors. All sponsors encouraged to attend the breakfast.

**\*\*All shooters are helping save our native species, thank you! \*\***

**Locals, please put it in your diaries to lock up all your domestic dogs and cats for the night.**

**Only non-native pest animal species including foxes, feral cats, rabbits and feral pigs are to be culled.**

**All enquiries to Leisa Turton 0428 599 854**



# COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

## BRIGHTER FUTURES TOGETHER

2024 SOUTH32 BUNBURY  
WOMEN'S TRIATHLON



### **At South32 Worsley Alumina we're about supporting our communities to thrive.**

The Worsley Alumina Community Grants Program provides funding for local organisations, projects and programs that provide a benefit to people in Southwest communities, creating positive impacts.

Grants of up to \$5000 are available to eligible applicants that support community projects within the Shires of Boddington, Collie, Harvey, Murray, Wandering, Waroona and Williams, or in Greater Bunbury and surrounds.

Applications will be open from 1 February - 28 February, 2025.

To apply for our Community Grants  
<https://www.south32.net/worsleycommunitygrants>

Email address: [worsleycommunity@south32.net](mailto:worsleycommunity@south32.net)



## **OUR MISSION IS TO CREATE A POSITIVE IMPACT**

# WARRIOR WELLBEING ARTICLE

## Returning to Work – Getting Ourselves Back on Track

BY THE REGIONAL MEN'S HEALTH INITIATIVE  
February 2025

*After we have returned to work, the kids have headed back to school and the holiday season is well and truly behind us, it's healthy to ask ourselves the question, how am I feeling? Am I happy to be back, energised and ready to tackle another year or am I feeling a little out of sorts?*

*Often referred to as the back to work blues or beating the holiday hangover, returning to work can be an overwhelming and challenging time for us. Whether we are back in the office, on the farm, in the truck, back on site or responsible for the never-ending household chores and important caring duties of children, elderly parents or family. The circumstances are different for all of us, however an important part of self-care is checking in on how we are travelling and being aware of how we are feeling.*



*What is our state of mind after returning to work? Feelings one could expect to experience may be:*

- *Regret – I should have taken more time off.*
- *Overwhelmed – Where do I start? There is so much to do!*
- *Worry/anxious – What will this season/year bring?*
- *Jealous/resentment – I'm back at work, the other party (wife/husband/colleague) is still on holidays.*

- *Lack of motivation – After being off work for so long I forgot what it is that I pretend to do around here (ha-ha).*

*Some useful tips that may help to beat the back to work blues are:*

- *Be realistic: Don't put too much pressure on yourself. Don't expect everything to be done in the first week. Set achievable goals. Give yourself some space to ease back into the swing of things.*
- *Prioritise: Looking at everything that needs to be done can cause us to become overwhelmed. Make a list, break things down into manageable tasks. Recognise your achievements.*
- *Don't feel guilty: If you overindulged, enjoyed a bit too much Christmas cheer, or just did nothing. Accept the break for what it was, it's been and gone. It's time to look forward.*
- *Get back into routine: One reason we may be feeling worse for wear, is because we have been out of our regular routine. Try to start working on this as soon as possible. Three important areas: Diet, sleep and exercise. It's amazing how much better we can feel if we get some balance back in these areas.*
- *Communicate how you feel: Talk to your kids, partner, wife and/or work colleagues. Everyone is probably feeling a bit hungover. Don't feel isolated and alone.*
- *Normalise your reaction: Remember feeling a little flat can be a normal reaction after holidays.*

*Holidays are an important part of managing our wellbeing, now it's time to get back on track and get energised for another big year.*

✕ @RMHI\_4blokes

🎧 Working with Warriors Podcast

🌐 regionalmenshealth.com.au





# Landcare matters

Hotham-Williams sub-catchment update



PHCC | Working Together  
Peel-Harvey Catchment Council

Edition 94  
February 2025



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.



## Eat the Invaders?

The red fin or English perch *Perca fluviatilis* although popular to fish, it is a pest species and not welcome in our waterways due to its voracious predation on our native fish and crayfish. For this reason, it is prohibited to introduce them to our rivers and if caught, they are not allowed to be returned to the water.

They were first introduced in SW WA during the late 1800's for recreational fishing. The photo is probably from the 1940's and shows English perch fished from the Hotham River. Since then, they have thrived in slow-flowing rivers, streams and also dams.

English perch are most recognisable from their red/orange fins, and approximately five thick vertical black bands on their body. Because they are considered exotic/noxious, there is no size limit, so if you catch 'em, then eat 'em!

Reference: Redfin perch. Healthy Rivers. (2022, March 24). <https://rivers.dwer.wa.gov.au/species/perca-fluviatilis/>



Above: English perch fished from the Hotham River  
(photo credit: Peter Narducci, Lost Pingelly Facebook page)



Left: Redfin Perch  
(photo credit: DWER)

## Notice of river bank rehabilitation works

PHCC will be continuing with the bank rehabilitation during February on the Hotham and Williams Rivers at Pumphreys Bridge and Williams town site.

We are building on previous bank works in March 2024, as well as ongoing weed control and revegetation efforts. It's all about the River Action Plan developed in 2020, and although we are limited to a step-by-step process on an annual basis, the result will be incremental improvement in health, habitat, resilience and ecological function of the river environment.

The Williams site in particular will be near a public area (Williams Rest Area), so please take note of any barriers and signs in place!



Bank works carried out in 2024

## Carnaby exploration surveys are coming!



Birdlife and PHCC are soon undertaking surveys in the Peel-Harvey Catchment searching for Carnaby Black Cockatoo breeding and roosting sites. If you know of any White-tailed Black Cockatoo breeding or foraging sites in your area, please take 5 mins to complete our survey using the QR code above.

Your information helps us to develop targeted restoration projects to protect threatened White-tailed Black Cockatoos.

If you have problems accessing the survey via the QR code, please let our admin team know where you've seen White-tailed Black Cockatoos so our survey team can assess these sites. Please email us at [hotham-williams@peel-harvey.org.au](mailto:hotham-williams@peel-harvey.org.au)

## Save the date

Preparing for Feed Shortages and Adaptive Management Event

Date: Tuesday 4 March

Time: 8.30am - 1.30pm

Venue: Coolup Hall - 22 Murray Street, Coolup

Registration essential: <https://peel-harvey.org.au/events/>

[victoria.brockhurst@peel-harvey.org.au](mailto:victoria.brockhurst@peel-harvey.org.au)

[www.peel-harvey.org.au](http://www.peel-harvey.org.au)



Creative Bytes

# CODING WORKSHOP



Wandering CRC are running a 10 week **CODING WORKSHOP** after school and are looking for maximum of 10 students 8 years old and over.

**Snacks and drinks provided.**

**Where:** Wandering CRC

**When:** Tuesdays (commencing 11th February)

**Time:** 3:15pm to 4:15pm

**Cost:** \$70 per child/term, payable in advance.

**THIS COURSE REQUIRES STUDENTS TO HAVE A LAPTOP or CHROMEBOOK ( IPADs not acceptable)**

**If you can't access a laptop, please contact us ASAP so we can try to source your child a loan one.**

**Please register your child's place asap by email:  
crc@wandering.wa.gov.au or ph: 089884 1561**



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# Wandering CWA

Our first meeting for 2025  
(which will include our Annual General Meeting)  
will be held on  
Wednesday 19 February  
from 11am at the  
CWA Rooms, Watts Street in Wandering.  
Everyone is welcome!

Coming together is a beginning.  
Keeping together is progress.  
Working together is success.





Government of **Western Australia**  
WA Country Health Service

# Quit vaping options in the Wheatbelt

## Vape Free Me

A free program run by WA Country Health Service, which offers individual support to help you gain control of your vaping.

Appointments available face-to-face or via phone.

Phone: 08 9690 1720, Email: [wheatbelt.phu@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:wheatbelt.phu@health.wa.gov.au)

**VAPE FREE ME**  
**SMOKE FREE ME** 



**Wheatbelt Aboriginal  
Health Service**

## No More Ngamari

A culturally appropriate program run by the Wheatbelt Aboriginal Health Service. It offers free support, advice and nicotine replacement therapy to help you quit smoking or vaping. Phone: 08 9690 2888

## Quitline

For the usual cost of a call, a trained advisor (including Aboriginal advisors) can help you develop strategies to quit vaping or smoking.

Phone: 13 78 48, SMS: 0482 090 634, WhatsApp: +61 385 832 920,

Facebook Messenger: @quitvic, or request a call back: [www.quit.org.au](http://www.quit.org.au)



## Clear the Air

Clear the Air is a free digital self-help platform exploring how to quit vaping and stay vape free. For more information see: [cleartheair.org.au/how-to-quit-vaping](http://cleartheair.org.au/how-to-quit-vaping)

## My QuitBuddy

My QuitBuddy is an app that helps you get, and stay, smoke-free and vape-free. Download from the app store or Google Play.



## General Practitioner

You can book in with your GP to talk about quitting.



# WANDERING LIONS



## Australia Day

Australia Day brings all the Lions of Wandering out to support the event. Celebrating the national day is an early community event for the new year and the breakfast morning was very comfortable for those attending. Approximately 80 participants in the breakfast on offer, that was cooked on the BBQ's, served in the complex, then enjoyed under the verandah.



Lion Brendan with his family after accepting the Shire of Wandering Citizen of the Year Award

## A Pride of Lions

Brendan was recognized for many of his contributions to the community. His leadership, mentoring and participation to Wandering and surrounds over the years makes him a very worthy recipient of the award.

Lion Bob Little addressing the gathering. Bob spoke of his life and lessons learnt over his interesting years.





# Wandering CWA

## New Members Needed!

Happy New Year from the ladies of your local Wandering CWA!

As another year begins, so do our monthly gatherings. Our first branch meeting is fast approaching (Wednesday 19 February) after which we will hold the AGM where we will be electing our President, Treasurer and Secretary for 2025.

Over past years, we have had members come and go. And to enable our branch to continue, we need new members to join our ranks.

If you've ever thought of joining the CWA, then this is the perfect time to do so. You do not have to be "old" or "retired" to join the CWA! We have members of all ages, from 20s to 80s! Our existing members have done (and still are doing) such a fantastic job but we now have a very real need for some new members to come along. We need helpers at events and ideas at our meetings of how to continue to help within our community.

We meet on the third Wednesday of the month at the CWA Rooms in Wandering at 11am. The meetings usually go for no more than about 2 hours, depending on how much there is to discuss. We discuss correspondence received, any upcoming events, anything that is going on in the community that we can help with and other random things. After the meeting we have a cuppa, a bit of a natter and there are usually a few laughs to be had as well. If you'd like to come along as a guest to see what the CWA is all about, please get in touch or come along to a meeting. There is no obligation to join. Our numbers are dwindling, and we need some new members to both help at events and bring some new ideas to the table. So, if you have a few hours free in a month and would like to be involved in your local community, please come along and please help by spreading the word to others.

Thank you.

President: Jacquie Cornish 0407 241 004





## Farewell Alan

There has been a changing of the guard at the Shire Office with our CEO Alan Hart leaving us on the 24th of January for family reasons. We wish Alan and his family all the best and have welcomed back our Acting CEO Ian Fitzgerald whilst the recruitment process for a new CEO takes place.

## Shire Rates Due Dates

If you elected to pay your rates in four instalments, the final instalment is due by 03/03/2025.

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

## Could Your Organisation Benefit From Some Financial Assistance?

Applications for the Shire's financial assistance grants program can be submitted year round, but will close on the 30th of May each year and be considered at the June Ordinary Council Meeting.

There are two categories available:

**Minor Community Grants** (up to \$2,000)

**Major Community Grants** (\$2000+)

Application forms can be found on the Shire website  
[www.wandering.wa.gov.au](http://www.wandering.wa.gov.au)



## 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:

11/2/2025

25/11/2025

### Ranger

24 hours / 7 days

0459 678 154

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

[www.wandering.wa.gov.au](http://www.wandering.wa.gov.au) | [reception@wandering.wa.gov.au](mailto:reception@wandering.wa.gov.au)



[www.facebook.com/wanderingshire](https://www.facebook.com/wanderingshire)

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

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



[www.facebook.com/wanderingcrc](https://www.facebook.com/wanderingcrc)



## Council Meeting Dates 2025

- 20 February 2025
- 20 March 2025
- 17 April 2025
- 15 May 2025
- 19 June 2025
- 17 July 2025
- 21 August 2025
- 18 September 2025
- 16 October 2025
- 20 November 2025
- 11 December 2025

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 14th December 2024 the following was discussed:

- Request to waive hire fees for Wandering Community Centre
- Update of fees and charges—stick reader
- Financial report and accounts for payment
- 2023/24 Annual report and financial statements
- RAV Request

## Have any Issues for Council ??

Please put any requests or issues in writing addressed to the Shire so they can be actioned.

If we do not know about issues affecting the community, we cannot action them.



*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



## Annual Electors Meeting

In accordance with Section 5.27 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, the Shire of Wandering hereby gives notice that the Annual Electors' meeting will be held on Thursday 6 February 2025 in the Shire Chambers, 22 Watts Street, Wandering, commencing at 7pm.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the Annual Report for 2023/2024. Copies of the 2023/2024 Annual Report are available on the Shire's website [www.wandering.wa.gov.au](http://www.wandering.wa.gov.au) or for collection from the Shire Office.

**Alan Hart**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

## Shire of Wandering

### Public Notice

### Amendment to Fees & Charges

Council wish to advise of the change to its Schedule of Fees and Charges in accordance with the requirements of s6.19 of the *Local Government Act, 1995*.

The adjustment is the addition of a charge to hire stick readers from the Shire, as follows:

Stick reader hire - \$20 per day, per reader. A refundable deposit of \$100 per reader is to be paid in the event of not being returned in working order.

**Alan Hart**  
**Chief Executive Officer**



# Southern Wheatbelt Health Promotion Services

The Wheatbelt Health Promotion Network is a group of health promotion practitioners focused on improving health outcomes in the WACHS Wheatbelt region through best practices.

Key initiatives include:

- Developing personal skills for healthier living
- Creating supportive environments to foster positive health outcomes
- Strengthening community action and support
- Reorienting health services toward prevention and early intervention
- Building healthy public policy with local governments for a healthier future.

## Meet the Southern Team

Ellen and Liz from the Southern Wheatbelt Health Promotion team. They are passionate about working with the community and supporting overall health and wellbeing.

Located in Narrogin, Ellen and Liz provide services to all towns in the Southern Wheatbelt region.



Ellen.Smith@health.wa.gov.au  
Elizabeth.Then@health.wa.gov.au

The team is always looking for opportunities to collaborate.  
Please see our services we can offer to work together for a healthy community.





# Southern Wheatbelt Health Promotion Services

## Heart Foundation Walking Groups



Join our FREE community-based walking groups, led by local champions. Heart Foundation Walking groups offer an excellent opportunity to increase your physical activity while fostering social connections. Contact us today to learn more about Heart Foundation Walking Groups.

## Healthy Lifestyle Education and workshops

Education, workshops and presentations on various topics focusing on nutrition and/or physical activity tailored to your community needs

## Fuel to Go & Play



Fuel to Go & Play® aims to assist community venues in establishing healthier food environments. Our team is dedicated to collaborating with you and Fuel to Go & Play® across various community and recreational venues to enhance food service options for better health outcomes.

## Healthy Lifestyle Program

A FREE six-eight week community based healthy lifestyle program to commence rollout in mid 2025. The program empowers participants in a group setting to develop the skills and knowledge to optimise their health and wellbeing.

If you would like to host this program in 2025 please contact the team 9881 0385



## Smoke Free/Vape Free Me program



**VAPE FREE ME  
SMOKE FREE ME** 

This program offers free education and support for individuals seeking to live smoke-free and vape-free lives. Clients have the option to self-refer or to be referred by a healthcare professional.

## Smoke Free/Vape Free policies and signage

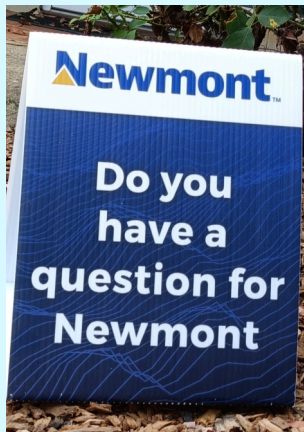
Our team is equipped to assist you in implementing smoke and vape-free policies and signage within your community. Through HealthyWay, funding is available to develop localised smoke-free messaging, ultimately contributing to cleaner air for all.



## Community pop-up

Have you seen our Newmont team members out and about? Our representatives are visiting local cafes and restaurants each week (usually Thursday mornings) to engage with our local community.

Come on down for a chat and if you have any questions or concerns you'd like to raise with Newmont, we'd be happy to hear them.



## Community Reference Group

The Community Reference Group is a cross-section of the community and important local stakeholders that meet regularly to receive updates and provide advice and input into Newmont Boddington's projects, programs and approaches to local relationships. In 2024, the group met four times and continues to be an integral way for Newmont to stay in touch with different groups and representatives in the community.



## Engagement with First Nations Communities

### Gnaala Work Ready

The Gnaala Work Ready program has run annually for 15 years and counting. Last year, 12 new full-time employees were welcomed into the Newmont team upon completion of the program. This program is part of Newmont's Reconciliation Action Plan, which seeks to create a supportive environment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders to flourish at Newmont.



### Cultural Immersion: Boyajin Rock

In September Newmont's senior managers joined Doorum Aboriginal Corporation for a cultural immersion to one of the most significant sites in the Gnaala Karla Boodja (GKB) region.



### Cultural Advisory Committee

Newmont recently welcomed the Cultural Advisory Committee (CAC) of the Gnaala Karla Boodja Aboriginal Corporation on site to discuss management of processing waste storage dams and water resources on site. The CAC is the cultural authority in our region.





## Community Assistance Program

The Newmont Boddington Community Assistance Program provides grant funding to local community groups, programs and initiatives that support our local community.

Grant recipients from 2024 included: Boddington Shears, Boddington Arts Council, Wandering Annual Fair, Boddington Primary School, Boddington Lions Club, Boddington Golf Club, Narrakine Bushfire Brigade and Boddington Swimming Club.



Community Assistance Program recipients, Wandering Lions Club.

## Community Partnership Agreement

Our Community Partnership Agreements are intended to foster community development by creating long-term partnerships that are designed for strategic investments, development projects and initiatives. Local groups that have benefited include: Peel Harvey Catchment Council, Bibbulmun Track Foundation, Boddington District High School, Boddington Early Learning Centre and the Boddington Football Club.



Community Partnership Agreement recipients, Bibbulmun Track Foundation.

## Local Employment



There were 213 (17%) local employees working for Newmont Boddington in Q4 2024



Local Worker Breakdown:

Dwellingup: 5.6%  
Wandering: 6.1%  
Boddington: 82.6%  
Williams: 5.6%

## Local Community Investment Statistics



Over \$114,800 invested into local community groups in 2024 through Newmont's Community Assistance Program



\$330,000 spent in 2024 on strategic long-term partnerships with local community networks through our Community Partnership Agreements



Newmont's local expenditure exceeded \$13 million in 2024, supporting around 800 jobs between 22 vendors



The photos here are a few of many highlights that were captured between Newmont and the surrounding community in 2024

## Building Bridges to Local Employment at Newmont

In December, Newmont Boddington employees visited Boddington District High School to offer insights into careers at Newmont. Callan (Heavy Plant Mechanic - apprentice), Alainna (Auto Electrician - recently qualified), Amelia (Mechanical Fitter - Apprentice), Viva (Mechanical Fitter - Apprentice), and Marcos (Social Responsibility - Graduate) all spoke to year 9 and 10 students about their respective journeys prior to joining the company. They shared experiences on what their roles are like, what life is like living at the accommodation village, the benefits, and the company culture. The students were receptive, with many questions being asked of our employees.



## Boddington Art Show

Newmont had an acquisition prize in the Boddington Art Show and were lucky enough to take home one of the many fantastic entries.



## Defibrillator Donation

Wandering P&C approached Newmont for help meeting a requirement for a defibrillator machine. Newmont was able to provide one to all our local schools..



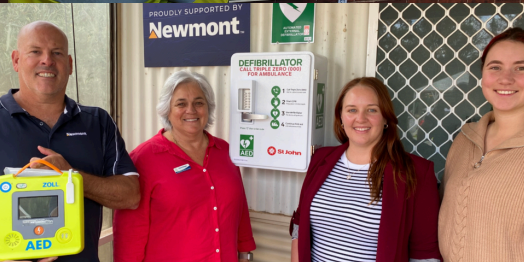
## Rodeo Weekend

Newmont was the key sponsor of the Boddington Shears and a major sponsor of the Boddington Rodeo in 2024.



## Wandering Fair

Newmont contributed through a Community Assistance Program grant to the Wandering Fair with a Clydesdale Horse and the entertainment at the fair.





The Newmont Community Assistance Program (CAP) is an important part of our commitment to local communities, and is one way we create value and improve lives through sustainable and responsible mining.

We are interested in community programs and initiatives that support our sustainable development principles of:

- Conservation and preservation of our natural environment;
- Fairly sharing the benefits of economic activity; and
- Enhancing community wellbeing community.

Specifically, we would like to hear about programs and initiatives that align with the following:

- Local Economic Development;
- Human Capacity & Capability Development;
- Infrastructure and Services;
- Natural Resource Management & Protection; and
- Culture and Heritage.

Applications for Round 1 of the 2025 program are now open and close **Friday 15 March 2025**.

Late applications received after the advertised closing date cannot be considered for funding this round, although may be included in future grant rounds.

To discuss your project and to request applicant guidelines, or to book a pre-application meeting for additional support, please email Newmont Boddington's Social Performance team via [NBGcommunity@newmont.com](mailto:NBGcommunity@newmont.com).

We look forward to receiving and considering your grant application.







# Regional Tech Hub

## WHO WE ARE

The Regional Tech Hub (RTH) is a federally funded, independent telecommunications advisory service for rural, regional and remote Australians.

The RTH provides free, independent advice and support for rural, regional and remote individuals, businesses and communities with internet and voice connectivity options.

We also help educate consumers with regards to:

- Connectivity literacy
- Emergency preparedness
- Connecting for education and health
- On-farm connectivity
- Small business options
- Issues that affect your access to the internet and communications network.



**Helping regional Australia to get  
connected, improve connectivity,  
and stay connected.**



[regionaltechhub.org.au](http://regionaltechhub.org.au)



1300 081 029



[helpdesk@regionaltechhub.org.au](mailto:helpdesk@regionaltechhub.org.au)



[facebook.com/RegionalTechHub](https://facebook.com/RegionalTechHub)



# Need more from your phone and internet?

The Regional Tech Hub team are here to help.



## WHAT WE DO

We provide free, personalised, independent advice and support on internet, phone and mobile options for anyone living and working in rural, regional, and remote Australia.



## HOW WE HELP

By looking at your location and topography, and understanding your requirements and budget, we can help you to understand all of the connectivity options available to you.




## OUR SERVICES

- Personalised connectivity reports
- Phone assistance hotline
- Escalation support
- Online connectivity resource hub
- Consultation booking to resolve connectivity issues



## TAKE THE NEXT STEP

 [regionaltechhub.org.au](http://regionaltechhub.org.au)

 1300 081 029

 [helpdesk@regionaltechhub.org.au](mailto:helpdesk@regionaltechhub.org.au)

 [facebook.com/RegionalTechHub](https://facebook.com/RegionalTechHub)



**Regional  
Tech Hub**

West But 18/1/25

# DOSE OF LIVE EXPORT REALITY

**Trevor Whittington**

In her recent opinion piece Catherine Chant argues that Australia's live sheep export trade is a "sinking ship", painting a picture of inevitable decline and advocating for a government-led transition towards onshore processing.

While her claims are emotionally charged and designed to resonate with those concerned about animal welfare, her economic reasoning is emblematic of the activist echo chamber that repeatedly ignores the complex realities of market economics.

Chant highlights the decline in live sheep exports – down 90 per cent over the past 20 years – but conveniently neglects to mention why this has occurred.

The decline is, in large part, because many farmers have transitioned to 100 per cent grain production, driven by skyrocketing labour costs, declining global demand for wool, the lack of local processing capacity, a large difference between Eastern States and WA sheep prices and the lack of airfreight capacity out of Perth to capture high-value lamb markets.

If anything, farmers have adapted because market conditions dictated, they had to – not because of some inherent flaw in the live export model or a lack of interest in growing sheep.

She further asserts that "onshore processing" is the silver bullet, capable of creating hundreds of direct and indirect jobs. Yet, if this were the golden opportunity activists claim it to be, why is it that only last week did workers at the Tammin abattoir in WA lose their jobs, or the fact that the Esperance abattoir has stubbornly remained closed, highlighting the harsh reality of running meat processing facilities under Australia's crippling industrial relations regime, soaring energy prices, and high labour costs?

Chant's claim that onshore processing is an untapped economic boon ignores a fundamental reality: for many producers, the live export trade fills a critical gap by providing a market for sheep that processors don't want – the older, wool-producing animals that end up as mutton, not the lamb that most markets demand.

What Chant and her peers fail to grasp is that industries must respond to global market forces, not activist wish lists.

Farmers in WA rely on live exports not because they're clinging to a dying trade, but because it works within the unique constraints of their farming systems.



The high-rainfall zones where sheep and grain rotations thrive depend on live export as an outlet for surplus sheep that don't meet domestic processing requirements.

Chant's proposed "transition" leaves no viable alternative for these producers, except perhaps pivoting entirely to grain farming – a shift that would make farmers increasingly dependent on global agribusiness giants for inputs like GM seeds, fertilisers, and chemicals, something that other activist organisations would no doubt be horrified by.

Chant claims the live export trade's decline is evidence of its demise. By that logic, we should also abandon support for the elite arts, Indigenous languages, rural communities, the ABC, or any other sector facing challenges. It's a slippery slope to argue that a downward trajectory is justification for a death sentence. Live exports may not be the multibillion-dollar industry they once were, but they remain essential for many farmers, particularly in WA, where there is no sizeable domestic market or air freight infrastructure to absorb displaced stock.

Finally, Chant's claim that the future of sheep farming lies in the Government's \$129.7 million transition package ignores history. Similar transition funding failed to save Australia's textile, shipbuilding and car-manufacturing industries.

Farmers already understand that no amount of government money can create a high-paying global market for chilled or frozen mutton – a market they've been searching for, unsuccessfully, for the past 50 years.

Farmers also know when the numbers simply don't stack up.

Without live exports, many have already chosen to abandon sheep entirely, leaving the door wide open for countries with no animal welfare standards to fill the gap.

The global demand for live animals won't disappear just because Australia exits the trade – it will simply shift to nations far less concerned about ethics or compliance.

If Chant and other activist organisations could turn their economic fantasies into reality, Australia would somehow become a sheep processing superpower, a renewable energy superpower, an organic superpower, a GM-free superpower, a carbon farming superpower, and a free-range farming utopia – all at once.

But that's not how the world works. Market realities always outweigh ideological dreams, and no one understands this better than farmers.

Live exports may not be perfect but they are a practical, workable solution in an imperfect world.

Phasing them out without a viable alternative won't be a victory for animal welfare or farmers; it will result in economic decline, the collapse of rural communities, millions of sheep in the Middle East left unprotected by Australian welfare standards and the end of the WA sheep industry.

Welcome to the real world, Catherine.

**Trevor Whittington is the chief executive of WAFarmers**



# 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.

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## ST MARTIN'S CHURCH WANDERING

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](http://www.gatewayparish.org).

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

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## 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

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## 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 - Neta Parker - 0449 537 553

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## 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

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## WANDERING VIRTUAL VILLAGE

Virtual Village activity every Monday at the Wandering CRC at 10am. Contact Lee Muller - 0429 390 626

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## WANDERING PLAYGROUP

Meet Thursday's during school term at 9am at the CWA Rooms.

Contact Starr Corinish - 0447 778 657

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## WANDERING CAMP OUT WEEKEND

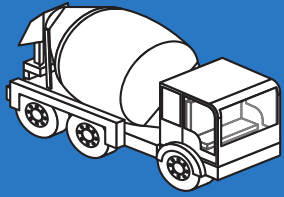
Wandering Camp Out Weekend Inc. Committee usually meet on the first Wednesday of each month - subject to changes - at the Wandering CRC. Committee ONLY - 6pm. Other representatives and community members welcome at 7pm. No meeting December and January

Contact:

Event Officer - Alana Rosenthal - 0429961697

President - Jane Baxter - 0428831004

# CONCRETE MIXING & SUPPLY



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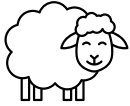
**[qualitysheds@bigpond.com](mailto:qualitysheds@bigpond.com)**



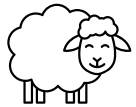
# SPEARWOOD WOOL



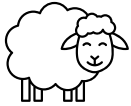
## WOOL MERCHANTS



Daily Selling options available for clip wool and oddments to local and overseas buyers.



Oddment buying, Pickup/ Pressing prompt payment  
Pre/Post shearing shed clean ups.



Forward selling options available:  
Fleece Only, Fleece Pieces Bellies, Minimum Prep

Liam Basire 0448 741 969

Liam@sww.net.au

# WD

# HVAC

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**Chris : 0457888606**

**chris@wdhvac.com.au**

# FOR SALE

Animal food for small holdings with any chooks, pigs, goats, ducks and more!

Groats 20kg bag \$20



Oat Pins, husks and grasses. Seconds  
Approximately 200kg \$50

Small Groats, Husks and other grasses. Seconds  
Approximately 200kg \$75



Contact Lucy Jones - 0419 938 834  
Pick up Wandering



*As a GP working in the Wheatbelt since 1998 I have watched this country become significantly worse.*

*The main parties all seem to be taking us down the wrong path, and it's time for us to fight for what's right for all of us.*

*If you'd like to meet up please get in touch. The election is on 8th March, so let's get ready.*

**Dr Peter Lines**

One Nation candidate Central Wheatbelt District  
WA Legislative Assembly



**One Vote  
One Voice  
One Goal**

**one**  
NATION

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

[wa.onenation.org.au](http://wa.onenation.org.au)

[peter.lines@wa.onenation.org.au](mailto:peter.lines@wa.onenation.org.au)

Authorised by R Caddies - Pauline Hanson's One Nation WA, 28 Pinjarrah Rd, Mandurah, WA 6210



# Discover St Martin's

Your Church in Wandering



**Every fourth-Sunday at 2pm**  
and in Williams every Sunday 10:30am

## Q: How can I get support?

**Answer:** Whether you need spiritual guidance or just a **listening ear**, we're here. We offer **prayer**, home visits, and support for those going through tough times. Reach out to us through someone at church, the **website** (QR code below), on 9885 1174 or by email to [office@gatewayparish.org](mailto:office@gatewayparish.org)

## Q: What's unique about Sundays at St Martin's?

**Answer:** Worship is a blend of traditional Anglican and contemporary elements, aiming to make it meaningful and accessible to all. **We focus on Jesus Christ.** It's all on the screen, with no prayer-book page-flipping! Our services include a mix of hymns, modern songs, and a relevant, inspiring message from the Bible. We celebrate Holy Communion most Sundays. You can participate as much or little as you like! There's always time for fellowship over a **cuppa afterwards**, and kids have activities available.



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## FEBRUARY

9AM | TUESDAY 11TH  
PUMPHREYS CWA MEETING

3.15PM | TUESDAY 11TH  
CODING WORKSHOP

7PM | THURSDAY 13TH  
WANDERING LIONS CLUB MEETING

11AM | WEDNESDAY 19TH  
WANDERING CWA MEETING

3.30PM | THURSDAY 20TH  
COUNCIL MEETING

2PM | SUNDAY 23RD  
ST MARTINS CHURCH GATEWAY PARISH SERVICE

6PM | FRIDAY 28TH  
WANDERING FOX HUNT



**FUNDRAISER 18TH JANUARY  
HELD AT THE WANDERING TAVERN  
FUNDS RAISED FOR BREAST CANCER CARE WA & CURECANCER**

