



MEEKATHARRA DUST

Vol. 369

FEB 2024
\$2.50



MEEKATHARRA COMMUNITY AWARDS

*Another year of
celebrating all the
hard work the
community members
of Meekatharra have
done throughout the
year. Find out more
inside!*



SHIRE OF MEEKATHARRA

SCHEDULE OF MEETING DATES, TIMES AND LOCATIONS

JULY 2023 TO JUNE 2024

ORDINARY MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

In accordance with section 5.25 of the Local Government Act 1995 and regulation 12 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 the scheduled Shire of Meekatharra Ordinary Meeting dates for 2023/24 are as follows:

Saturday, 22 July 2023

Saturday, 19 August 2023

Saturday, 16 September 2023

Saturday, 14 October 2023

Saturday, 18 November 2023

Friday, 15 December 2023

Saturday, 20 January 2024

Saturday, 17 February 2024

Saturday, 16 March 2024

Saturday, 20 April 2024

Saturday, 18 May 2024

Saturday, 15 June 2024

All meetings are held in Council Chambers located at the corner Main & Savage Streets Meekatharra and commence at 9:30am (except the 15 December 2023 meeting which commences at 2:00pm).

AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Audit Committee Meetings will be arranged as required by the CEO in consultation with the Shire President.

KJ Matthews

Chief Executive Officer

GENERAL DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed have been published in good faith on the request of the person requesting publication, and are not those of the Shire of Meekatharra. All articles, comments, advice and other material contained in this publication are by way of general comment or advice only and are not intended, nor do they purport to be the correct advice on any particular matter or subject referred to. No person should act on the basis of any matter, comment or advice contained in this publication without first considering, and if necessary taking appropriate professional advice upon the applicability to their particular circumstances. Accordingly, no responsibility is accepted or taken by the Shire of Meekatharra, or the authors and editors of the Meekatharra Dust, for any damage or loss suffered by any party acting in reliance on any matter, comment or advice contained herein.

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WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM
YOU SO PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US AT

9980 0600

AND LOOK FOR LARRA,
OR EMAIL US AT

CDO@MEEKASHIRE.WA.GOV.AU

OR GIVE US A FOLLOW ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIAS



Scan me!





CEO COUNCIL MESSAGE

Welcome to the February 2024 edition of *The Dust CEO Council Message* Report which provides information for all residents regarding the Council ordinary meeting that was held on the 20th January 2024 as well as the Audit Committee and Health, Building and Town Planning Committee meeting held on the same morning.

This section of *The Dust* is intended to provide a snapshot of the issues discussed at Councils Ordinary Meetings that are held each month. The unconfirmed minutes of Council Meetings are placed on the Council website as soon as possible within the prescribed time limit whereby they are confirmed at the next scheduled Council Meeting. Furthermore, items listed on the agenda when published for the community may not include all the items that were discussed at the Council Meeting, as provision is made for councillors and/or staff to introduce late items for consideration as permitted by legislation and Councils Standing Orders. Therefore, the following resolutions are only a summary extract of the full meeting agenda with the entire meeting proceedings being available in the official Council Minutes that are confirmed at the next meeting of Council.

Items from the Shire of Meekatharra Audit Committee Meeting 20th January 2024

Item 4.1 – Audited Financial Report

The Audit Committee recommended that Council accepts the 2022/23 Annual Report, financial statements, auditor report and management letter. The annual report is now available for public inspection at the shire office or online. The report will be sent to the Department within 30 days.

The Annual Electors Meeting is scheduled for 17th February 2024 commencing at 9am at the Shire Council Chambers.

Items from the Shire of Meekatharra Health, Building & Planning Committee Meeting 20th January 2024

Item 7.1.1 – Principal Environmental Health Officer and Building Surveyor's Report

In accordance with the shared services agreement between the Shire of Meekatharra and the Shire of East Pilbara, the report provided a summary of building, planning and environmental health matters for December 2023. This included all activities, the progress of ongoing projects and concerns related to the required services raised by the Shire of East Pilbara. Further detail is available in the minutes of the Environmental Health Officer and Building Surveyor's Report.

Item 7.1.2 – Community Development & Services Manager's Report

Entry Statements

The plaque for the Time Capsule at the northern entry statement has arrived and will be installed on a rock to mark the spot of the capsule. A visitor centre wall panel is being designed, explaining the meaning of the artwork on the entry statement.

Event Update

The Town Christmas Party on 8th December was a huge success with great turnout. The team is planning the Meeka Community Awards for 26th January.

Other item details from the Community Development & Services Manager's Report can be found in the Minutes of the Health, Building & Planning Meeting.

Item 7.1.3 - Local Planning Scheme No4 and Strategy

A revised version of the draft Scheme and Strategy was presented to the Committee, taking into consideration feedback and amendments suggested by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage.

Items from the Shire of Meekatharra Ordinary Meeting 20th January 2024

Item 9.3.1 – Mining Tenement Applications

That Council approve the following Applications from:

- 1. Mining Tenement Application 52/4310 and Tengraph Map from Mr Jason Livingstone of Gidgegannup situated at Mulgul.*
- 2. Mining Miscellaneous Licence Application 51/0135 and Tengraph Map on behalf of KOP Ventures Pty Ltd situated at Kyarra.*
- 3. Mining Prospecting Licence Application 51/3379 from Robert Wood of Meekatharra situated at Chesterfield.*
- 4. Mining Lease(s) Application 51/914 and 51/915 and Tengraph Map by Anderson's Tenement Management on behalf of Colin Neve situated at Quinns.*

Council considers mining applications received for the district on a monthly basis.

Item 9.4.1 – Gym Use by Meekatharra District High School

Council considered a request by the High School for the usage of the Shire's Community Gym in order for the school to run fitness sessions for students aged 15 years and older. Council approved this request subject to a number of conditions and granted a substantial waiver of the normal gym fees to allow a special discounted school group fee.

Item 11.1 - Annual Report and Audited Financial Report

Council accepted the Annual Report and Audited Financials as per the Audit Committee's recommendation.

Item 13.1 – Bitumen Sealing Works Meekatharra Airport

Council opted for a best practice approach as recommended by the approved contractor (Bitutek Pty Ltd) for an additional 'sand seal emulsion treatment' for the Meekatharra Airport resealing project. A sand seal emulsion treatment will provide best value for money,

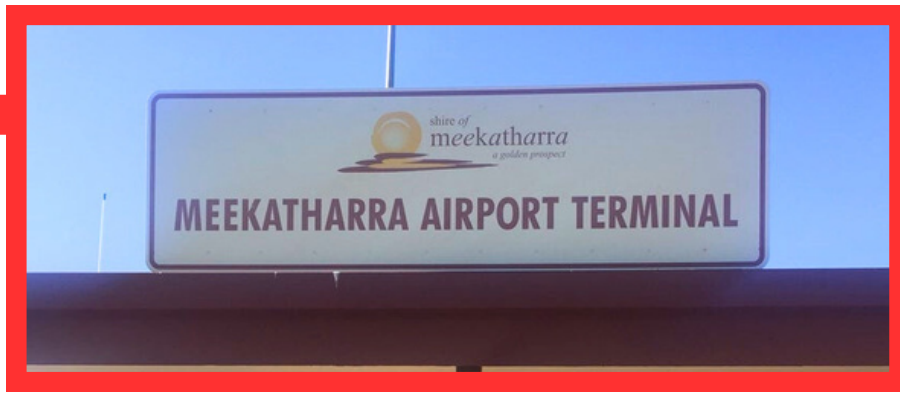
longevity and will increase serviceability of the runway for jet aircraft usage. The additional sand seal works will be funded through the Airport Runway Reserve. The airport works will commence 10th March 2024 which means the airport will be closed for 2-3 weeks. The works are essential in the upkeep and sustainability of the airport and involves the runway, apron, taxiway and RFDS area. Some disruption to flights will occur and the community is advised to check with Public Notices that will be advertised closer to the date.

Further Information Snippets

- A new Community Development & Services Manager, David Schulz, has been appointed and will commence duties on the 5th February 2024 that will allow a handover period with the outgoing CDSM Svenja Clare. Council extends its gratitude and best wishes to Svenja and Pete as they embark on the next chapter of their lives in the south west of the State. David Schulz comes to Meekatharra from Darwin where he has worked extensively with indigenous communities and youth at various not for profit organizations and his own consultancy business. We welcome David to the Shire and indeed to the community of Meekatharra.
- Our current Deputy Chief Executive Officer (DCEO), Peter Dittrich has sadly departed the Shire of Meekatharra (prior to Christmas) and advertising for the position closed in mid January 2024. It is expected interviews of potential applicants will occur in early February 2024 with an anticipated appointment being made towards the end of February. Mr Darren Friend has been appointed as A/DCEO until a new DCEO is appointed.

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council is scheduled for Saturday 17th February 2024 so the next CEO *Council Message* column will appear in the March 2024 edition. Until then bye for now!

KJ Matthews – CEO



CLOSURE ANNOUNCEMENT

The airport will be closed from Sunday, March 10th until Sunday, March 31st to undertake resealing of all pavement areas at the aerodrome.

There will be no aircraft movements permitted during this time, including aviation fuel sales and bulk shire diesel sales.

There will be exception for RFDS (Royal Flying Doctor Service) emergency medical evacuations.

The above dates are indicative only and maybe affected by inclement weather or logistical supply issues.

For further inquiries please contact the airport manager at 0417968115.

Thank you for your understanding.

**We Are
CLOSED**

Community



Happenings

WHAT'S CURRENTLY HAPPENING IN MEEKA?

A FOND FAREWELL TO Svenja Clare

For those in the Meekatharra community that don't already know the news – we are saying a fond farewell to our Community Development and Services Manager, Svenja Clare! Svenja has been an integral part of the Meekatharra community for over 13 years, since first arriving as an adventurous backpacker from Germany in 2009 with the intention of travelling around Australia. As we all know, that plan didn't quite work out as she found herself captivated by the unique charm of Meekatharra and, more significantly, she met her future husband Pete.

Since that meeting, Svenja has called Meekatharra home. Together with her husband Pete, she has forged a life here with the community of Meekatharra full of adventures and has become an integral part of the local community. Our small outback town that was once a pitstop became the backdrop for a love story and the canvas on which Svenja painted the chapters of her unique and enriching life. Prior to working with us at the Shire of Meekatharra, Svenja firstly worked at Glenayle Station and indulged in her passion of photography where she documented and showcased the 'Hay Run' from Sherwood Station. This also laid the foundation for a profound connection to the country, its people, and the diverse landscapes that would later become the backdrop to her life in Meekatharra.

It was while working at Farmer Jacks in town where she met the love of her life (Pete) and shortly afterwards they were married. Their journey, woven with commitment and community dedication, reflects a love that not only enriches their lives but also leaves an indelible mark on the town they call home.





Svenja also volunteered at St Johns with Pete and continues to do so with a commitment and passion that is respected by all those in the community as well as all the other agencies she has contact with in her volunteering capacity. Meeka Goes Green (MGG) was also a keen interest for Svenja, where she was instrumental in founding the organization that focused on sustainability. Svenja's commitment to creating a greener Meekatharra reflects her genuine care for the community.

Svenja came to work at the Shire of Meekatharra about 13 years ago as our Customer Services Officer that marked the beginning of her vibrant and energetic career with the Shire. Fast forward over the years, and Svenja's dedication and innovative spirit propelled her to embrace every challenge with enthusiasm that turned opportunities into milestones. In a testament to her leadership potential and community passion, she eventually 'ascended' to the role of Community Development and Services Manager.

In bidding you a fond farewell as you embark with Pete on a new chapter and adventure in your life, we can't help but reflect on the incredible journey that brought you from the distant landscapes of Germany to the heart of Meekatharra in Western Australia. The miles may separate your place of birth from this small outback town, but the impact you've made in our lives will never leave us, no matter where you go from here! Wishing you all the happiness, fulfillment, and continued success on the path ahead. You're not just saying goodbye; you're taking a piece of Meekatharra with you, just as you've left an everlasting piece of yourself here with us. Here's to your next adventure, Svenja—may it be as incredible as the journey you've shared with us, and remember it's not Goodbye but merely Bon Voyage until the next time!

KJ Matthews – CEO

Ps – we couldn't really write this article without mentioning your love of food – well it's a passion really! For Svenja her love is like an open door...to a really good bakery!



AUNTY BA
FUNDRAISER



Aunty Beryl Walsh is raising money for RFDS

**Buy a ticket for your chance to win a
carved emu egg or one of the beautiful
paintings pictured above**

**You can come and buy the raffle tickets at
Youth Focus
or call Paulette on 0499 444 626**

**Emu egg - 2 tickets for \$5
Paintings - 2 tickets for \$5**



THANK YOU, Peter Clare

And let's not forget the reason why Svenja got stuck in town in the first place: Pete!

Pete, from being an Ambo volunteer, to being involved in running the Golf Club, and previously assisting the Race club, Speedway and Rifle Club also, and most especially your time in Farmer Jack's - you have surely impacted the community positively and greatly.

Though your time with the Shire wasn't long, you have been part of this community longer (17 years!). We will truly miss your humour and your positive outlook in life. Your laughs and voice will be very missed in our community

It's time to say goodbye, but we think goodbyes are sad, and we'd much rather say hello.

Hello to a new adventure!

We wish you and Svenja well to this new chapter of your life.

We cannot wait to see you both visit Meekatharra in the future.



COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Available in Town

LLOYDS CONFERENCE ROOM

Lloyds Plaza Conference Room is a state-of-the-art conferencing facility set to accommodate up to a maximum of 25 people. *Hire fees are \$12.50 (including GST) per hour, minimum of 4 hours hire.*

This facility **can be booked online**. Alternatively, please contact us directly at **9980 0600** or email us at **cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au**

TOWN HALL

One of the most important buildings in our town, our beloved Town Hall is a multi-purpose space where your team, or family can utilize to whatever way you think it'll fit. This space can accommodate up to 250 people.

This facility unfortunately cannot be booked online.

Please contact us directly at **9980 0600** or email us at **cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au** for any enquiries or bookings.

SPORTING COMPLEX AND OVAL

Looking for a space to use for a big event in town?

The Sporting Complex and Oval might be the space for you. With it's luscious grass and wide field, accompanied with an indoor space to keep shade when needed, this space can accommodate up to 50 people indoors.

This facility unfortunately cannot be booked online.

Please contact us directly at **9980 0600** or email us at **cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au** for any enquiries or bookings.



Lloyds Plaza Conference Room



Town Hall



Sporting Complex and Oval



GYM

The gym is located at the Sports Grounds off Landor Road behind the Club Rooms and is able to be accessed between 5am-10pm.

This unmanned gym has all the equipment you will need and more to complete your workout. To access the gym a swipe card is needed from the Shire Office.

Access is restricted to 16 years old and above

Opening Hours

5am - 10pm

For any enquiries, please contact us directly at **9980 0600** or email us at cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au

Fees & Charges *(as of July 2023, subject to change)*

\$20 once-off sign up fee + then only \$32 per month

Concessions available

Fees apply for lost cards

SWIMMING POOL

The Meekatharra War Memorial Swimming Pool is located centrally in town on Main Street. A much loved community asset, it's the perfect place to cool off during summer, socialise with friends or enhance your fitness.

Opening Hours

1 October to 31 March each year

Monday - Friday

12pm to 6pm

6pm to 7pm - Adults Only

Saturday - Sunday

11am to 6pm

Fees & Charges

Daily, weekly & full season passes available for children, adults and families. Concessions available.

'Pool for School' policy in place, rewarding school attendance with free entry to the Pool.

Enquire at the Shire Office for details or on 9980 0600 or email us at cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au.





SQUASH COURT

The Meekatharra Squash Court is located behind the Club Rooms at the Sports Ground off Landor Rd. The key and light tokens are available from the Shire Office.

This is an unmanned facility and is able to be accessed between the noted opening hours below.

Opening Hours

Temporarily out of action, repairs in progress.

Fees & Charges

(As of 1st July 2022)

- Court Hire - \$10 (per hour/token)
- Key Bond - \$50 (cash Only)

We do not hire equipment (racquets, balls etc.)

For any enquiries, please contact us directly at 9980 0600 or email us at cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au

TENNIS COURT

The Tennis Court is located at the Sports Grounds off Landor Road and is a free facility to use for the community.

This is an unmanned facility and is able to be accessed between the noted opening hours below.

Opening Hours

5am - 10pm

Fees & Charges

- *(Court Hire - No Charge)*
- *Lights - \$10 per hour*
- *Key Bond (lights) - \$50 (Cash Only)*

We do not hire equipment (racquets, balls etc.)

For any enquiries, please contact us directly at 9980 0600 or email us at cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au





BASKETBALL COURTS

The Basketball Court is located at the Sports Grounds off Landor Road and is a free facility to use for the community. There are regular events held by the Youth Services Team at the Basketball Courts.

This is an unmanned facility and is able to be accessed between the noted opening hours below.

Opening Hours

5am - 10pm

Fees

- Court Hire - No Charge
- Lights - \$10 per hour
- Key Bond (lights) - \$50 (Cash Only)

For any enquiries, please contact us directly at 9980 0600 or email us at cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au

KIDZONE & YOUTH CENTRE

The Kidzone and Youth Centre is always open on both School Terms and School Holidays for any after school programs for the youth in Meekatharra to use and connect with others.

Both spaces have adults that are able to supervise and guide the youth in what they want to do. There are facilities and resources there that are well equipped for the youth to use.

Kidzone welcomes children from age 5-11 years old, while Youth Centre welcomes youth from age 12 to 18. All youth is welcome to come and even bring their friends or siblings with them.

Opening Hours

Kidzone & Youth Centre: 3pm till 5pm, everyday Monday to Friday

Youth Centre: 6 till 8pm everyday Monday to Friday

For any enquiries, please contact us directly at 9980 0600 or email us at cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au



Youth Services Team: Lachlan, Jayda, Andrea, Whitney, Ashanta, and Andrew (from left to right)



LIBRARY & MUSEUM

The Meekatharra Public Library is located at the Shire Office and is combined with a small museum. The library is a great resource and is available to all members of the community. The library contains a comprehensive collection of fiction, and non-fiction books, large print books, audiobooks, and DVDs for adults and children. There is a regular exchange of books to ensure up to date and varied stock.

A selection of new books is displayed on our feature tables until the next supply of stock arrives.

A large variety of resources are available upon request and include titles in audio formats, larger print, books written in languages other than English, and an extensive DVD collection.

You can also avail for the following:

- **Membership** - There is no cost for library membership for all residents of Meekatharra.
- **Visitor Membership** - Visitors can become a member of the Meekatharra Library. The requirements are the same as for residents.
- **Borrower Rights** - Please bring your library card when borrowing or renewing items. You can borrow a combination of books, audiobooks or DVDs. Items can be borrowed for three weeks.

Open from 8:00am to 4:30pm Monday to Friday.

Meekatharra Public Library is located at 54 Main Street Meekatharra

Ph: (08) 9980 0600

Fax: (08) 9981 1505

cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Meekatharra Community Awards 2024

We acknowledge that January 26 means differently for different people, but here in Meekatharra, we are celebrating our community and the amazing things that people contribute to the town. We are a small community, and not without our challenges, but we are a good community with a lot to celebrate. Those nominated for awards on that day are only a portion of the people who regularly go above and beyond.

The Meeka Community Awards were created to acknowledge and celebrate all the positive things happening in Meekatharra and give the community a chance to nominate those people doing great things.

We had a great response from the community and we would like to thank all those who took their time to nominate a fellow community member, acknowledging those who do great things in the community.

The nominations were taken to the Shire of Meekatharra Council where the Councillors decided from the nominations who won in each category. Thank you to the Councillors, I am sure this was a very hard decision with so many talented and exceptional people nominated.

Thank you to our sponsors; Australian Vanadium and Shire of Meekatharra. This would not have been possible with your support. Thank you to Cr Wesley Ward for presenting the awards, and Nanna Wanda for doing Welcome to Country and thank you to those who supported this event and worked behind the scenes to make it all happen.





Timika King and Cr Wes Ward



Steve Smith and Cr Wes Ward

The Winners for the Meekatharra Community Awards 2024 are the following:

- Community Member of the Year - *Timika King*
- Young Person of the Year - *Malcolm Ryder (Not present)*
- Volunteer of the Year - *Steve Smith*
- Emerging Leader of the Year - *Malcolm Ryder (Not present)*
- Community Contributors of the Year - *St John's Ambulance*
- Community Choice Award - *Youth Focus*

Congratulations to all! It was all well deserved and we cannot wait to keep seeing what you do for our community.



**St John's Ambulance
and Cr Wes Ward**



Youth Focus and Cr Wes Ward

MEEKATHARRA
COMMUNITY AWARDS 2024

Congratulations!



SHIRE OF MEEKATHARRA

COMMUNITY AWARDS 2024

Thank you for your contribution.



Core Services

We are now able to assist NDIS participants with their Core Service needs.

FOOD FOR THE MOB

TRANSPORT

SOCIAL
PARTICIPATION
CLASSES

SERVICES FOR
APPOINTMENTS

YARD &
GARDENING
SERVICES

HOUSE
CLEANING



For more information please contact our Community Hub Coordinator
Email: communitycoordinator@yulella.org.au
Phone: 0499 462 829

Congratulations!



Australia Day Awards nominees in Meekatharra. Congratulations to all the nominees and winners!

Choose Safety – every time

At Westgold, our Values – Choose Safety, Show Respect and Deliver Value – guide our actions, the way we do business and how we interact with all our stakeholders.

CHOOSE SAFETY

When it comes to choosing safety, we apply this to how we interact with the community as much as we do on our work sites.

Whether they are active or abandoned, mine sites can pose risk to the community. With this in mind, we respectfully ask people to please stay away from our mine sites and infrastructure.

If you need access to any of our sites for history, family, heritage or cultural reasons, please contact our Community Relations team, so we can ensure your safety.

SHOW RESPECT

“SHOW RESPECT” encompasses both our employees and the communities we work within. We are pleased to announce that Westgold will be establishing regular operational updates to the Cue and Meekatharra communities.

The first update will be in April 2024 in the form of an open Town Hall Meeting with Westgold Managing Director Wayne Bramwell in attendance.

The aim of these meetings is to keep people informed about our activities and for the community to ask questions and provide feedback.

DELIVER VALUE

The third of our core values is “DELIVER VALUE”. Once again, this doesn’t just apply to our mining activities, we also want to deliver value to our stakeholders and communities.

During March 2024, Westgold will be consulting communities about how we can support economic participation through education, training, and employment and how we can better engage with local organisations to provide pathways to employment with Westgold.

Westgold is committed to being a more active and transparent corporate citizen.

For further information, please contact: John Isgar | Community Relations Superintendent | 0448 883 392 | John.Isgar@westgold.com.au



CHOOSE SAFETY



SHOW RESPECT



DELIVER VALUE

YOU'RE ONE TOUGH COOKIE, Tommy!



On behalf of the Shire, we would like to extend our best wishes and for a speedy recovery to Tommy! We hope your recovery is quick and easy. Before you know it, you'll be dancing like a pro again.

You're one of the strongest people we know, we are all certain that you can overcome this terrible injury! All of our love as you recover.



*We wish
you a*
**SPEEDY
RECOVERY!**

EASTER Festivities

MARCH 28 - 31

YOUTH Week

APRIL 5 - 14

VISITOR CENTRE Grand Opening

APRIL 19

ANZAC Day

APRIL 25

NAIDOC Week

July 4 - 11

2024
UPCOMING
EVENTS

Community Connectors Bus

Phone Number

0467 953 411

Hours

8am to 1pm

6pm to 9pm

Monday to Friday

(No bus service on weekends or Public Holidays)

Some exceptions if by prior arrangement



Life



style

THINGS WE DO HERE IN TOWN.



**Find your way
to okay**

 think mental health


think
MENTAL HEALTH

REGIONAL COLUMN

Consumer Protection 50-52 Durlacher Street, Geraldton WA 6530

Tel: (08) 9920 9800

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

1 February 2024

With A/Senior Regional Officer for Midwest, Cheryle Dennis

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.



Animal Management

We can treat your animals for parasites and give you some tips on keeping a healthy parasite free animal



Pest Control treatments

We can deploy cockroach and mice traps throughout your house and give you some tips on how to keep them away



Community Housing

We can complete a Healthy Home Check on your house & fix minor plumbing issues along with much more!



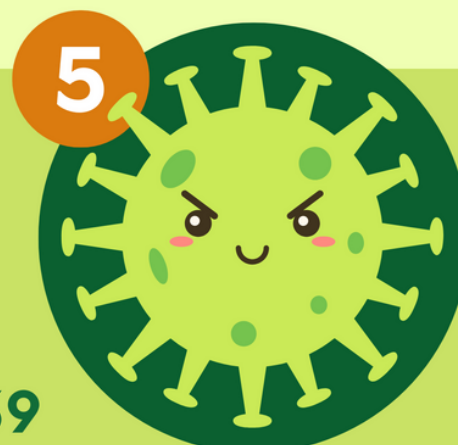
Distribution

We can provide you with soaps, linen, emergency relief meals if eligible, and much more!



Education

We do education sessions on disease prevention and provide tips and tricks on how to keep your home disease free



Call Melissa on 9980 1339





2024 has gotten off to a great start here at the CRC.

We continue to be busy helping our community with a whole range of things.

- Activating debit cards
- Assisted a customer who was having difficulty to sort the email communication and signing of documents electronically.
- Helped 2 customers with their stolen wages claims.
- 6 people passed their driving tests in January.
- Printing, scanning and faxing forms to various native title groups as people get organised for their children to return to school.
- Dept of Transport Servicing on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

But our big news is that we have purchased a printer and heat press.

What does that mean to Meekatharra?

We can print designs on to all sorts of things. Think birthdays, community events, funeral time. Think cups, mugs, t-shirts, stubby holders, photo frames.

We will also be making our own Meekatharra Souvenirs.

We will be able to make 1 off gifts and items.



(its got sharp edges, gets really really hot and looks dangerous!!)

Tiffany and I are currently doing training on how to use the new equipment and working out pricings. We want to make sure that, for large orders in particular, you are getting better service and an equal or better price than if you ordered from elsewhere.

This service will be available from about mid-February.



We are super excited and have been working towards this for a long time.

I have also been working on the new Art Gallery and Visitor Centre in the space next to us at the Lloyds Plaza.

We are planning to have this space open by mid-April.

Stolen Wages

We can help anyone who is having difficulty with their Stolen Wages Claim. Whether it is filling out the form, understanding what the form is asking, or just not sure if you have done it right.

Please come and see us.

Cheers

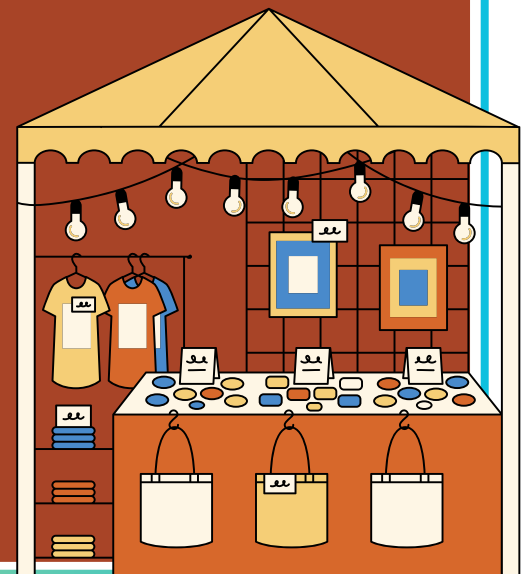
Jo and Tiffany

2024 Markets

If you would like to set-up a stall or have questions, please do not hesitate to speak with Jo at the CRC.

- April 13
- May 11
- June 8
- July 13
- August 10
- September 21
- October 12
- November 9
- December 10

Gifts - Food - Art - Many More!



ANNOUNCEMENTS!



From 1 July 2023

Department of Transport Servicing

Tuesday 9am to 1pm

Thursday 9am to 1pm

And when the Testing officer is visiting.

**Please note that for people from Stations,
Wiluna or Burungurra.**

We will be able to help you when you come in.

-Jo from CRC

Extraordinary Outback Experience



Self contained units
Twin rooms
Camp sites
Camp kitchen
Fuel
Licensed store
Lawns & shade

Mt Augustus Tourist Park

Heart of the Gascoyne
at the World's
Biggest Rock

0899439527

mtaugustustouristpark@skymesh.com.au

RESPECT THE LAND, PEOPLE, COMMUNITIES

STOP ROCK THROWING
Destroys Lives
Destroys Family
Destroys Property
Destroys Futures
Destroys Harmony



Be Vigilant
Be Smart
Do The Right Thing
Report Suspicious Activity



@MeekaPol



YOUTH CENTRE Boxing Workshop

During the summer school holidays of 2024, the Meekatharra Youth Centre ran a boxing workshop with Jake Peacock. The workshop ran over 2 days and the kids took to it like naturals, with the afternoon finishing off with some one on one sparring. Due to it being such a hit with the kids (pun intended) Jake came in earlier the following day to run some one on one sessions with everyone. Some of the standout young boxers were Kaylarni, Wes and Dylan, and Jake handed out hand wraps to reward them for their efforts. The Youth Centre will definitely be running another workshop with Jake in the future!





Meekatharra

Commercial Hotel

Photo from: wanderingwarwickswonderment.wordpress.com

Facilities:

- Hotel/ Motel
- Pub
- Bottle'o
- Outdoor Beer Garden
- Air conditioned Dining Room

Located at:

77 Main Street,
Meekatharra, 6642

*We serve excellent
counter meals daily*

Lunch

12 noon - 1:30 pm
(Mon-Sat)

Dinner

6-8 pm
(Sun-Sat)



Motel Rooms



Motel Rooms

For bookings and enquiries:

Telephone

99811020

Email

commieh@westnet.com.au

Website

www.commercialmeeka.com.au

Accommodation includes

- 18 Modern Motel units with en suite, Tv, & Air con-
- Located at the rear of Hotel with enclosed parking-
- Traditional Hotel rooms with TV & air con-
- Located upstairs in original building-



Beer Garden



Pub



*Bring your little ones along for:
Rhymes, Stories and Songs!*

SHIRE LIBRARY

Rhyme Time

WEDNESDAYS
10 - 10:30 am
For 0-4 years old



YOUTH CENTRE UPDATES!

UPDATE #1

We now have a full team in the Youth Centre, it is composed by Kadi, our new Youth Officer, Kealy as our Youth Sports & Rec Officer, and our awesome casuals Emily, Chris, Adrian, and Robbie and of course Margie and Jo at the Kidzone. We thank you all for your patience during the closure of the Youth Centre during the time that we were short-staffed, thank you all!

UPDATE #2

IMPORTANT!

We are now starting to roll-out a Registration Form for parents and guardians of the young people that goes to the Youth Centre and/or Kidzone to fill-in. This just helps us keep track of the children, and if there are any emergency that arises we know who to contact. We hope that we can get your support behind this.

UPDATE #3

A Girls room and more programs are on the works!

UPDATE #4

Please see on the next page of our program for this coming month til early March!



YOUTH PROGRAM FEBRUARY 2024

Monday

3-5PM
AGES 10-18

MUSIC/DROP IN
@ YOUTH CENTRE



6-8PM
AGES 12-18

MUSIC/ART

@ YOUTH CENTRE

Tuesday

3-5PM
AGES 10-18

XBOX/GAMING
@ YOUTH CENTRE



6-8PM
AGES 12-18

FOOTY WITH WES

@ OVAL

Wednesday

3-5PM
AGES 10-18

ARTS & CRAFTS
@ YOUTH CENTRE



6-8PM
AGES 12-18

T-BALL/SOFTBALL

@ OVAL

Thursday

3-5PM
AGES 10-18

XBOX/GAMING
@ YOUTH CENTRE



6-8PM
AGES 12-18

KARALUNDI GAME
BASKETBALL

@ OVAL

Friday

3-5PM
AGES 10-18

POOL ACTIVITIES
@ MEEKA POOL



6-8PM
AGES 12-18

MOVIE
NIGHT/BOARD
GAMES
@ YOUTH CENTRE

KIDZONE AGES 5-11

MON-FRI, 3-5PM

CHILDREN UNDER 5 ARE
WELCOME WITH PARENT OR
GUARDIAN

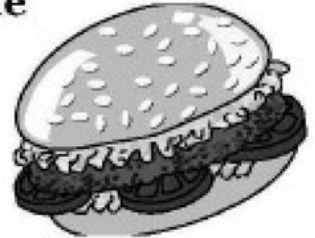
Meekatharra Corner Store

Corner of Main & High Streets, Meekatharra

Ph: 9981 1151



BP Fuel & Lubricants
Premium Unleaded Fuel now available
Auto Accessories
Kleenheat Gas
Key Cutting
Take-Away Food
Asian Food



A range of Asian Ingredients and utensils available for sale



Burgers
Rolls
Sandwiches made to order
Bottled water deliveries



Tyre Repairs
Driveway Service

M E E K A T H A R R A



ACCOMMODATION CENTRE

Open Daily 6.00am—9.00pm

Catering for your special function? Email us for a quote on

bookings@meekatharraaccomodation.com.au

or call on 99811253



SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL WELLBEING

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

Deadly Thinking Youth is an opportunity for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to yarn about a whole lot of stuff that affects them.

Date: Wednesday February 14th

Time: 3pm – 7pm

Venue – Meekatharra Sports Complex

|

For more information contact: Kealy Wikstrom 0439 909 738

HEALTHY RAINBOW PASTA

SALAD RECIPE



☰ Prep: 15 mins
🕒 Cook: 15 mins
🍽 Servings: 4
☆☆☆☆☆
Print

🍃 Summer-1 🍷 Main 🌱 Vegetarian 🥛 Dairy-free 🥗 Salad 🍝 Pasta 🍷 BBQ 🍱 Lunchbox
🍃 Summer 🧊 Freezer Friendly 🍽 Lunch 🍽 Dinner 🥬 Legumes 🎄 Christmas inspiration

☐ Cook Mode Prevent your screen from going dark

Method

1. Bring a medium-sized saucepan of water to the boil. Add beans and simmer for 2 minutes until they are bright green. Remove beans with a slotted spoon and refresh under cold water. Alternatively cook beans in the microwave on HIGH (100%) for 2 minutes with a tablespoon of water in a microwave-safe bowl.
2. Add pasta to the boiling water and cook according to packet directions until just tender.
3. Drain well and add to a large serving bowl with drained beans and remaining salad ingredients.
4. In a small jug, mix together dressing ingredients then pour over salad. Toss until well combined.
5. Serve immediately or enjoy cold the next day.

Ingredients

- ▲ 300 g green beans, ends trimmed, cut into 3cm pieces
- ▲ 200 g spiral or bowtie pasta (3 cups cooked)
- ▲ 420 g can reduced-salt corn kernels, drained
- ▲ 420 g can no-added-salt four bean mix, drained
- ▲ 250 g punnet cherry tomatoes, halved
- ▲ 1 medium red capsicum, seeded and cut into 2-3cm pieces
- ▲ 1/2 red onion, peeled and finely chopped
- ▲ 1/2 cup fat-free semi-sundried tomatoes, drained and chopped
- ▲ 1/2 cup flat-leaf parsley, finely chopped
- ▲ 1/2 cup basil leaves, shredded
- ▲ For the dressing:
 - ▲ 1 1/2 tbs Dijon mustard
 - ▲ 1/2 tbs honey
 - ▲ 1/2 tbs white vinegar
 - ▲ 1/2 tbs water

💡 Healthy tip!

Still hungry? Try a side of salad or vegies before going for seconds.

HEALTHY BLUEBERRY

SORBET RECIPE



☰ Prep: 5 mins
🕒 Cook: 0 mins
🍽 Servings: 2
☆☆☆☆☆
Print

🍃 Summer-1 🍷 Snack 🍰 Dessert 🥛 Gluten-free 🍃 Summer 🌈 EBLL Blue and Purple 🥜 Nut-free
🥚 Egg-free 🥛 Can be dairy-free 🍽 Frozen treats 🍽 5-ingredients 🍽 Serves 2

☐ Cook Mode Prevent your screen from going dark

Method

1. Roughly chop frozen fruit and place in the bowl of a food processor.
2. Process until fruit becomes granular. Scrape down sides of bowl with a spatula and process again. Repeat 4-5 times until fruit mixture is a smooth, thick and creamy texture.
3. Spoon into bowls and serve immediately with fresh fruit, if desired.

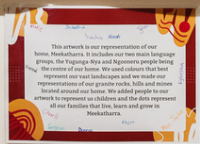
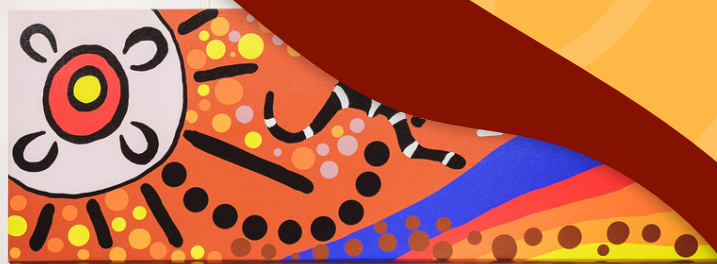
Hint

Sorbet can be frozen in an airtight container; remove from freezer 30 minutes before serving to soften.

Ingredients

- ▲ 1 cup frozen blueberries
- ▲ 1 ripe banana, frozen
- ▲ 2 tbs reduced-fat milk

Arts &



Culture

CREATIVELY FLOWS THROUGH MEEKA!



Youth Art Exhibition

Calling out **all young artists** in Meekatharra to make and join their artworks for a Youth Art Exhibition on the same day as the Visitor Centre Grand Opening on *April 19, 2024*.

Go to the Youth Centre or Youth Focus to create artworks and ask them to help you prepare for the exhibition, and submit your artwork there by **April 15, 2024**.

Prizes to be won by exhibiting!

FOR AGES 10-25

OPEN TO ANY FORMS OF ART

ARTISTS CAN ALSO SELL THEIR WORK

MUSIC JAM SESSIONS

JOIN US EVERY MONDAY
TO UNLEASH YOUR INNER
MUSICIAN OUT!



MONDAYS

FROM 6-8PM AT
THE YOUTH CENTRE

HIGHLY ENCOURAGE TO BYO
YOUR INSTRUMENT OF CHOICE

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

YULELLA ART SESSIONS

**AT THE COMMUNITY HUB
FROM 5-9 PM**





CALLING FOR Submissions!

The Shire of Meekatharra will pay **\$100** for articles that are related to Meekatharra.

Send your submissions to PO Box 129, Meekatharra WA 6642 or drop them in at the Shire office. Alternatively, you can email us at: cdo@meekashire.wa.gov.au

STRATEGIES FOR AVOIDING BURNOUT

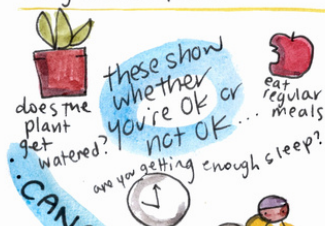
BOUNDARIES..
what are yours? me-time



BUFFERS..

leave enough time to complete tasks

take time to recover after big events



CANARIES..

eat regular meals

is there time to ride to work?



CELEBRATION..

@brenna-quinlan

"OFF THE BEATEN TRACK" WITH MATTY

98.3 MEEKA FM

Meekatharra, WA

A FAVOURITE TRAVELLING SONG? REQUEST IT FOR THE SHOW.



MONDAYS LUNCH



Classified Ads

& Miscellaneous

OTHER HELPFUL INFORMATION ABOUT MEEKA

VOL_NTEER WE NEEDU



wa.gov.au/volunteering

Peter Foster^{MLC}

MEMBER FOR MINING AND PASTORAL REGION



**YOUR VOICE IN THE
COOK GOVERNMENT**

peterfostermhc.com.au

Shop 49, 5 Sharpe Street Karratha WA 6714

(08) 9144 4187

 peter.foster@mp.wa.gov.au

 PeterFosterMLC

 @peterfostermhc

Authorised by P. Foster, 49/5 Sharpe Avenue, Karratha, WA 6714



ADVERTISING IN THE MEEKATHARRA DUST

SIZE	COLOUR	B & W
Full Page	\$74.05	\$52.10
Half Page	\$43.10	\$26.70
Quarter Page	\$24.65	\$16.50
Eighth Page	\$18.50	\$13.95

The Meekatharra Dust is a newsletter produced by the Shire of Meekatharra each month that highlights local events and helps to distribute news locally. The Newsletter reaches hundreds of people each month through the copies sold around town, copies sent in the mail, and those viewed online.

Local non-for-profit organisations are able to receive free advertising.

If you wish to advertise in the Meekatharra Dust please get in contact with us on cdo@meekashire.wa.gov.au.

Prices (from 1st of July 2022)

Property for Sale

Exciting news! A wonderful three-bedroom residence is now available for sale right here in our own backyard in Meekatharra. Priced at a reasonable \$85,000, this home offers a fantastic opportunity for those looking to settle into our peaceful community.

Key Features:

- Air-conditioned bedrooms and living area
- Charming pergola for outdoor enjoyment
- Spacious double garage for convenience
- 1012m2 allotment for ample space

For more details and to make this house your home, contact Murray Fraser at 0407 381 37 or 9921 4455.

Let's keep this gem within our community!



Have you seen any of these guys.



Please call our Snake Catcher Colin



Monday to Friday 9am to 3.30pm at the
Community Resource Centre on 9980 1811
0467520751 any other time

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Where can I volunteer?

ST JOHN AMBULANCE

When you become a St John Ambulance volunteer, you'll be part of the welcoming team that's changing lives. Training occurs on twice a month on a Wednesday evening. To get involved contact the Midwest paramedic on the email below or sign up online on the St John Ambulance website. We offer different roles such as Volunteer Ambulance Officer, Volunteer Support Role or Committee membership.

Contact Details:

Email - cp.midwesteast@stjohnwa.com.au
Website - <https://stjohnwa.com.au/changelives>
Address - 69 Hill Street

SES (STATE EMERGENCY SERVICES)

Whether providing on the ground support or raising community awareness, Western Australian State Emergency Service (SES) values people who can use their varied skills and experiences to act in a wide range of roles.

Contact Details:

Email - ralfpeg@westnet.com.au
Website - <https://ses-wa.asn.au/>
Phone - 9980 1617

VFRS (VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE)

Your commitment to becoming a volunteer firefighter is greatly appreciated by the community and your fellow team members. As a volunteer firefighter, you will gain satisfaction and personal rewards through developing skills that will assist you in all facets of emergency operations and prevention risk management.

Contact Details:

Email - Meekatharravfrs@bigpond.com
Website - <https://www.vfrs.asn.au/becomeavolunteer>
Phone - 9981 1164
Address - Corner High and Hill Streets

GOLF CLUB

The Meekatharra Golf Club is located on Goldfields Highway 3km out of town. The green may not be so green but this course is a great facility for our town. The club meets annually in May for the Meekatharra Golf Open and plays regularly on Sundays.

Contact Details:

Phone - 0428 699 685

GYMKHANA

To join or volunteer for the Meekatharra Gymkhana Club you would either contact a club member or come along to one of our meetings which are usually held twice a year on dates that are advertised beforehand usually via social media.

Contact Details:

Email - meekagymkhanaclub@outlook.com
Phone- President: Tracy Elliot 99812938,
Vice President: Nikki Garrity 0457152911,
Secretary/Treasurer Tammie Garrity 0477146007

MEEKA FM RADIO

The local Meeka radio station is call Meeka FM 98.3 and is run by volunteers here in town. Meeka FM plays the Radio MAMA (Midwest Aboriginal Media Association) program. More information can be found on the Radio MAMA website below.

Contact Details:

Email - meekafm98.3@gmail.com
Facebook - Meeka FM 98.3 Community Radio Station
Website - <https://www.mama.net.au/>
Phone - 9981 1358
Address - 68 Hill Street

IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS?

Let us know if you would like to take this space here to call upon possible volunteers!

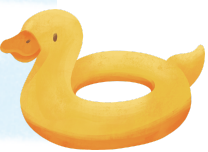
Contact us at **9980 0600** and look for Larra, or email us at cdo@meekashire.wa.gov.au to get in touch.

Speak soon!

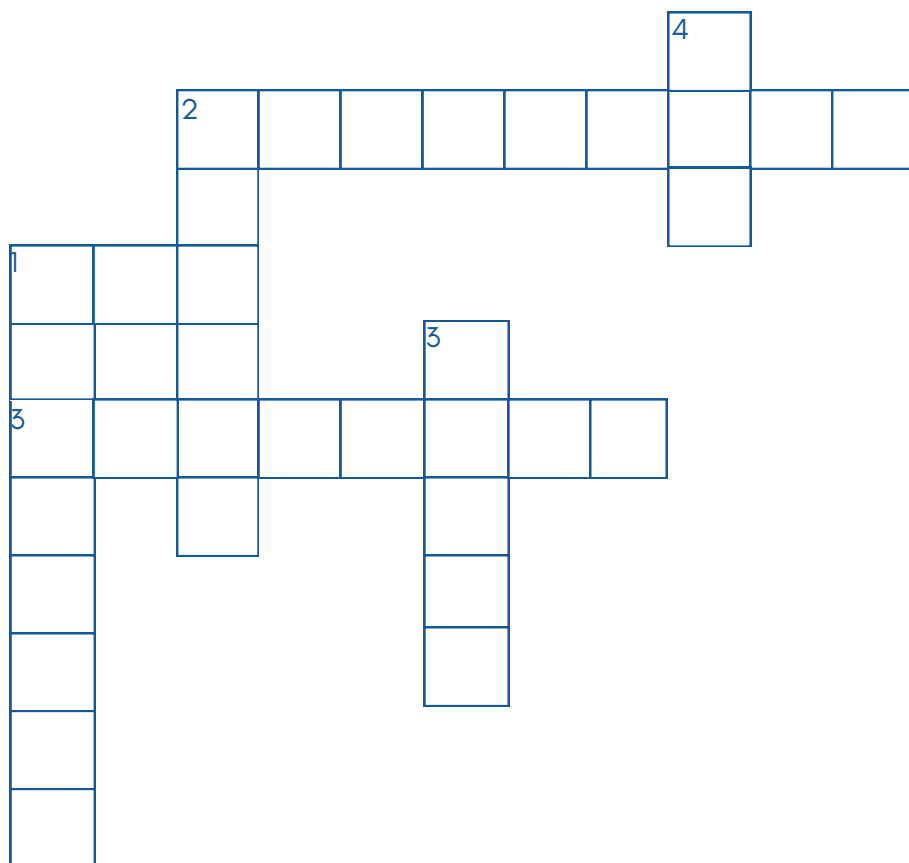




Summer Crossword



Read the clues and complete the crossword.



Across

- 1- A bright celestial body that radiates warmth and light, often associated with sunny and hot summer days.
- 2- A lotion, cream, or spray that protects the skin from the harmful effects of the sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays, often used during outdoor summer activities.
- 3- A frozen treat enjoyed on hot summer days.

Down

- 1- A refreshing activity where people cool off by jumping into a pool or body of water.
- 2- A natural phenomenon when the sun disappears below the horizon in the evening.
- 3- A sandy or pebbly shore by the ocean, sea, or lake, where people often go to swim, sunbathe, and relax during the summer months.
- 4- A body of water where people go to swim and relax.



Happy Valentine's Day



Subscriptions

If you would like to subscribe to the Meekatharra Dust, simply complete the form and send your payment to us.

Subscription Price is \$39.65

*Subscriptions are for a 12-months period. Including GST and postage costs. **Alternatively, you can get a free copy online via our website.** If needing assistance, please give our office a call.*

TO: The Meekatharra Dust
PO Box 129,
Meekatharra WA 6642

NAME: _____

POSTAL ADDRESS: _____

