



# Meekatharra Dust

DECEMBER 2021 | ISSUE NO.344

COST \$2.50

Learn about Asharnta and Marissa's Work Experience at the Youth Centre on Page 16





### Calling for Submissions

If you have any articles with information about any upcoming community events then we want to hear from you!

“The Meekatharra Dust” is a non-profit community newspaper. If you have an article, a photo you would like to share or an advertisement, you can post them 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***

### **Council Dates**

Dates for Ordinary Meeting of the Shire of Meekatharra for 2021/22 are -

Meeting Date	Last Date for Items
17 July	2nd
21 August	6th
18 September	3rd
16 October	1st
20 November	5th
17 December	3rd
15 January	31st
19 February	4th
19 March	4th
9 April	25th
21 May	6th
25 June	10th

Size	B & W	Colour
Full Page	\$52.10	\$74.05
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# IMPORTANT NOTICE—DOGS!

There have been a number of issues around stray and wandering dogs again in Meekatharra during the month of August. Unfortunately, this has led to more very difficult conversations being held, and emotional decisions made to surrender family protectors.

***Many of these problems could have been avoided if owners kept their dogs contained as required by our law, and if written notifications of breaches or concerns had been provided to the Shire earlier.***

It is a fact of life unfortunately that some people will always disregard the law. Some people simply don't have the resources to keep their dogs contained. These excuses, however won't be accepted.

The Dog Act (1976) states –

31. Control of dogs in certain public places

(1) A dog shall not be in a public place unless it is —

(a) held by a person who is capable of controlling the dog; or

(b) securely tethered for a temporary purpose,

by means of a chain, cord, leash or harness of sufficient strength and not exceeding the prescribed length.

This means that your dog **MUST ALWAYS** be on a lead when outside your yard. To not comply leaves you open to a fine of \$200 **each time** your dog is found unleashed outside your yard. Strictly speaking, this includes places like Peace Gorge, and other regularly used dog exercise areas around Meekatharra.

When dogs do stray, it is vitally important that people in the community voice their concerns, in the right way. Your confidentiality is assured if you come to the Shire office to fill out the complaint form. This form is essential and critical to our ability to take further action. We can't act on an email or phone call complaining about a wandering dog, or on a Facebook post. We need the written complaint before we can act. This is a legal process after all.

All written complaints are taken seriously and investigated

The current fine for not keeping your dog contained is \$50, although the advertised proposed Dog Local Laws prescribe a fine of \$200. This can add up very quickly when the dog is a serial stray.

The Shire of Meekatharra generously provide subsidies to desex dogs to health care card holders. This is another key piece in the approach to ensure no dogs are destroyed. A single female on heat will attract a number of aggressive male dogs and it is very likely at this point they will form a pack. This is a situation we want to avoid at all costs, and can be avoided by having your dogs desexed. For Free.

## **Come to the Shire to get your voucher at any time.**

By being considerate of our neighbours and stopping dogs from barking at night, by making sure dogs are contained in a yard, and by registering and neutering your pets, we can all enjoy the comfort of a companion, and



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## Note from the Editor


This is the last edition of the Meekatharra Dust for 2021! It is hard to believe how fast this year has gone. To end the year off on a positive note, Meekatharra has a packed December for everyone. We have the Meeka Goes Green workshop, the Christmas Markets, Town Christmas Party, Carols by Candlelight, the vet is in town and the airing of Meekatharra's episode of 1 Man and a Bike on 7Two at 12pm on the 5th of December.

This edition of the Meekatharra Dust has highlights of the year for Youth Services, Meeka Goes Green, the Shire and much more!

Don't forget Farmer Jack's will be closed on the 4th of December 2021 all day for stock take.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year everyone! Have a safe and happy holiday season.

*The Editor*



HAVE A VERY

Merry  
Christmas!



# Council News

## New Councillors

Congratulations to both Judith Holden and Barkley Day on your appointed positions to the Meekatharra Shire Council. There were two positions available, a four-year term won by Judith Holden ending in 2025, and a two-year term won by Barkley Day ending in 2023. Cr Holden and Cr Day join the re-elected Councillors Hall and Hodder. Council appointed the two remaining Councillors positions after no nominations were received at the extraordinary election.

Judith Holden has been a part of the Meekatharra community for a number of years and is involved in many aspects of the town. She has volunteered at the Go-Cart Club and Race Club.

Barkley Day has lived in the Meekatharra Shire for over 36 years on Tangadee and Mount Vernon Stations. He aims to give differing opinions for Council to make more informed decisions.

## Shire President and Deputy President Positions

Cr Harvey Nichols was elected Shire President and Cr Mark Smith was elected Deputy Shire President following the Council Meeting on the 20th of November 2021. Both Councillors ran unopposed for these positions which will expire in 2023 after the next Shire Ordinary Election in 2023. Congratulations to both Cr Nichols and Cr Smith on these positions.



Shire President Harvey Nichols and  
Deputy Shire President Mark Smith

## New CEO

On the 15th of November the new CEO, Kelvin Matthews, commenced at the Shire of Meekatharra. Mr Matthews has years of experience in Local Government including holding the position of CEO in Mount Magnet. Former CEO, Roy McClymont, has finished at the Shire after 15 years in the CEO position, after an in-depth handover period. Welcome Kelvin, we look forward to working with you.

## Murals

The town mural project is all starting to come together after this Council Meeting where it was decided that two artists will be engaged to do murals around Meekatharra. The Shire has been seeking local artists to do the murals for quite some time and it is very exciting that we finally have very talented people involved in this project.

The artists are Helen Ansell and Andrew Grero. Both artists have extensive experience in this area and will brighten the town up with murals and workshops.

Andrew Grero will work with the Youth Centre Participants to come up with an engaging and creative project for the young people to get involved in. They will be painting the front façade of the pool.

Helen Ansell will work on painting the wall next to the pool, where the grassed area and food van are located. Helen is an incredibly talented artist from Mullewa and is no stranger to Meeka, in fact she spent some time in here while she attended the school.

Keep a lookout for these projects on social media and ways to get involved.



Examples of Helen Ansell's Work



Examples of Andrew Grero's Work

## Shire Closure Over Christmas

The Shire Office, Youth Centre, and Works Depot will be closed from the 22nd of December and reopening on the 5th of January. Make sure you get your gym and pool memberships paid for during this period, as well as your library books returned or borrowed.

### Upcoming Events:

**4th December - Meeka Goes Green Workshop**

**10th December - Carols by Candlelight**

**11th December - Christmas Markets**

**14th December - Town Christmas Party**

**22nd December - Shire Office Closed until 5th of January**

Keep an eye on the Meekatharra Dust Facebook page for more events

Next Council Meeting 17th December 2021, 2pm at the Council Chambers.  
The closing date for submissions is the 3rd of December 2021 at 4:30pm.

# SHIRE HIGHLIGHTS OF 2021



rently filled with enthusiastic people who are all highly involved in the community and look forward to up and coming changes.

This year was the year that Meekatharra got amazing, high speed internet. The Shire facilitated Node One providing high speed, wireless internet at affordable costs to Meeka. The offer was taken up by many people in town who are enjoying the reliable wireless internet. Since Node One has come to town the Shire has provided FREE WIFI at the Town Hall and Lloyds Plaza. For everyone to use for personal admin, keeping up to date with loved ones and more.

The Shire of Meekatharra has been busy in 2021! Some highlights include shops opening in the Lloyds Building, a new CEO, new Councillors, sealed roads and much more.

The Lloyds Outback Plaza has been up and running in 2021 with Leighton's Café, Andos Art Gallery and Meeka Gift N Garden. All these local shops have created an enticing atmosphere for locals and tourists. The Lloyds Conference Room has been used over and over again for all different types of events in the town including meetings, information sessions, community get togethers and more.

Our previous CEO, Roy McClymont, retired after holding the position of CEO for 15 years. The position has been taken over by Kelvin Matthews who comes from Mount Magnet Shire. Kelvin has years experience in Local Government in different locations around WA.

October 2021 marked the Council Elections with four positions needing to be filled. David Hodder and Matthew Hall were both re-elected unopposed in October and Barkley Day and Judith Holden were appointed in November. All Council positions are cur-

The Works Crew have been working hard this year to seal over 26kms of roads in the Shire, 20kms on Landor Rd and 6kms on Ashburton Rd. The Shire has received grants for these projects to cover some of the costs of these important projects that make it safer to drive on these roads.

The Shire funded Murdoch Vet Program came to Meeka in April of 2021 to provide free de-sexing for all pets in the town. Over the two days they were here they de-sexed over 16 cats and dogs. De-sexing pets help to ensure that there are less stray animals and provide better health care for the animals. We are looking forward to seeing them again!







packed during the start of the 2021/2022 season. Fordy is keeping up the demand on the pool and is having a blast seeing everyone again. But don't forget, aqua nappies are must for younger kids in the pool.

The Murchison GeoRegion is getting more and more promotion. Meekatharra has joined in on this promotion and got some merchandise to sell to tourists and locals who have a keen interest in the geology of the Mid West. There have been maps, booklets and an app outlining why the Murchison GeoRegion is so significant to the area and why it is considered a GeoRegion, be sure to check up on the latest from this exciting project.

Those dreaded pot holes at the BP on Main Street are finally fixed. The Shire worked with BP and other organisations to make sure this area was flat and safer for truck drivers who use this facility. The pot holes created a lot of issues and are now fixed!

The Swimming Pool has had a great year, during the 2020/2021 season the pool was packed and continues to be

2022 will be just as exciting as 2021 for the Shire of Meekatharra, with many new projects coming along and set to start in the new year. Such as town murals, bathrooms at Peace Gorge and Entry Signs. Don't forget to keep up to date with all that is happening at the Shire and in town on the Meekatharra Dust Facebook Page.

# FOR SALE

- BAROOTA WONDER WHEATEN HAY
- SMALL SQUARES
- GOOD QUALITY

**\$12/BALE**

*DELIVERED INTO MEEKATHARA*

CONTACT TOM: 0448722509

**DONATE THE CASH THAT'S IN YOUR CONTAINERS TO MEEKA GOES GREEN**

We'll get 10 cents for each one.  
With your help, we can make a change.

Bring your eligible containers to:  
**Meeka Goes Green Recycling Centre on Railway Street**  
Saturdays 9-11am and 24/7 drop off point

Or go to any refund point in WA and use Scheme ID C10286593

ELIGIBLE CONTAINERS

Most glass, plastic, aluminium, steel and paper-based cartons between 150ml and 3L.

Visit [containersforchange.com.au](http://containersforchange.com.au) to find out more



**WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**DRY ITCHY SKIN**

Dry itchy skin is common skin condition in Meekatharra. People who have dry skin can often find rough, dry, red patches on their skin, and these patches are often itchy. With dry heat, it is important that we keep adequate moisture on our skin. If you need any advices and recommendations for dry itchy skin, have a chat to our pharmacist for suitable products.



**DEHYDRATION**

Hot weather, excessive sweating and low fluid consumption can lead to you becoming dehydrated. Make sure you're drinking plenty of fluids if working outdoors or in the heat this summer. Common signs that you are dehydrated include dark coloured urine, lethargy, sunken eyes, dry skin and feeling thirsty. If you need help staying hydrated, come into store and have a chat to our pharmacists that can provide suitable rehydration solutions.

**CHRISTMAS GIFTS**

Have you done your Christmas shopping yet? Meekatharra Pharmacy offers great gift ideas for everyone! We also have a range of Christmas cards to send to those we love.



**CHRISTMAS HOURS**

**MEEKATHARRA PHARMACY HOLIDAY HOURS**

**24/12/21 – 03/01/22 CLOSED**

**REOPENING ON 04/01/2022**

**Please ensure you have enough medicines while we close for Christmas.**

Come into store today and meet us for any health issues, new décor for your home and novelty products! We are open Monday – Friday 9am-5pm and Saturday 9am – 1pm. (P) 0899801798

Meekatharra pharmacy offers professional advice and a range of products and services including webster packing, Medschecks, Diabetes supplies, Sick certificates, Blood pressure checks, first aid supplies, anti-smoking, vitamins, a range of beauty products, perfumes, gifts and much more at great prices



# Town Christmas Party

Everyone is invited to the  
Town Christmas Party

Santa | Presents | Dinner

Tuesday, 14th December  
3pm-6pm | Town Hall



# THANKS 2021



It has been a cruisey year for us at the Recycling Centre – everything was plodding along quite nicely.

We are so grateful to the community for supporting our Containers for Change donation point. So many people drop off their beverage containers to us – in fact more than 11,000 containers so far this year which (if you can do the 10c/container maths) means we got over \$1,100 already in 2021! Thank you everyone! There may have been some very thirsty people we should probably be concerned about given the amount of drop offs we get but hey, it's all for a good cause, right? (Just kidding, please drink responsibly everyone.)

We also worked on increasing our Events Recycling coverage which isn't always easy as many events are held in the evenings where it's difficult to distinguish between rubbish and recycling bins (especially once you're a few sheets into the wind) and the recycling bins often get contaminated with food scraps and other general rubbish. With better signage, better coordination and strategic bin placement we have had quite a good run though this year and a mystery bag of kangaroo (?) meat was the only weird contaminant we came across.

To encourage more recycling our committee made a donation to the Meekatharra Gymkhana Club on the proviso that they collect beverage containers and drop them off to our Recycling Centre. A win win!

The commodity prices in the recycling market are recovering somewhat after the market crashed a couple of years ago which means the materials we send down in compacted bales have actually provided us with a bit of an income again this year.

Did you know that 50% of our recycling income gets donated to the Perth Children's Hospital Foundation? We have donated over \$7,000 since our little Recycling Centre commenced operations in 2015.

We have recently hit a bit of a hurdle though since Toll have unfortunately stopped transporting our recycling following vandals lighting cardboard bales on fire in the freight yard. If you know of any trucks that regularly go down to Perth and could take bales of recycling down for us please let us know! It's a very worthy cause as it not only reduces our environmental impact but also support the Perth Children's Hospital



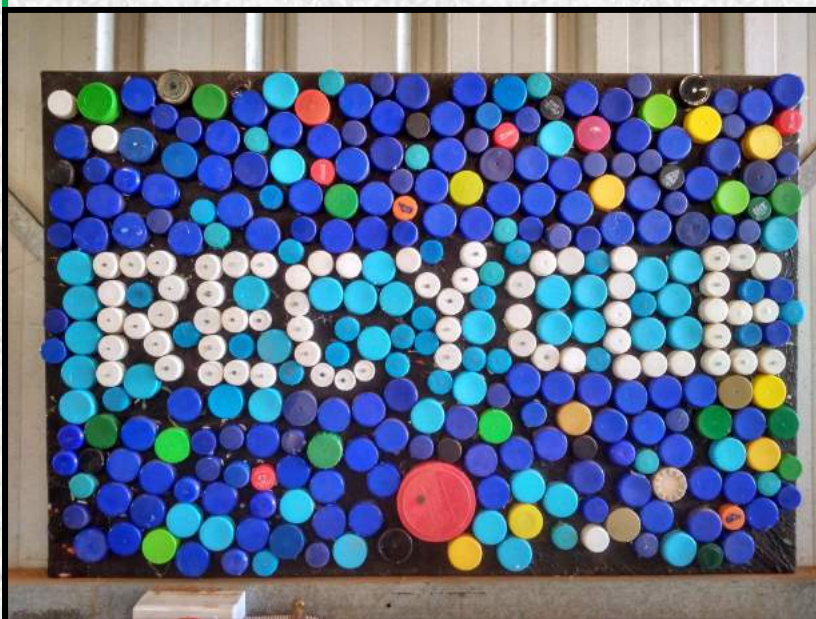


Foundation as well as our little community run recycling centre. Lots of positive PR here :)

Our other little side gig is our Second-hand Shop where we save great items from going to the tip. One man's trash is another man's treasure, right? We've had heaps of happy customers walk out with bargain boxes of DVDs, pots and pans, books, CDs, crockery and cutlery. We also have handbags, picture frames, stationery, laundry chattels, some hardware, lots of empty jars and other bits and bobs.

Once a month we take some of our items down to the Meeka Markets which have been well attended this year. Thank you to the CRC for having rejuvenated the markets!

We've also continued our Upcycling Workshops where we turn "trash" into newer and better things. This year we made Beeswax Wraps (they're a reusable clingwrap alternative for food storage), we decorated jars and tins for Easter, we tried (and hilariously failed) to cut wine bottles and we experimented with melting plastic bottle tops into coasters amongst other things.



St John kindly offered us the use of the Meekatharra sub-centre for our workshops so we could escape the heat and have the luxury of toilets and a kitchen which made the workshops so much more comfortable.

We'll be taking a break from the workshops over summer and will gauge interest coming into 2022. Instead of running them monthly we may look at organising quarterly events instead – let us know what you want to do. Would you be interested in collaborating, perhaps have us come with materials and tools to your group and run some crafty workshops together?

After a couple of years of hiatus we entered Meekatharra into the Tidy Towns competition again, showcasing all the things we have created in our Upcycling Workshops. Unfortunately for Meekatharra and fortunately for the planet there are many other more exciting projects happening around the state which took the cake (i.e. we didn't win anything this year).

Last but not least a big shout-out and Thank You to all our volunteers who have made all of this happen. Over the years there have been so many people that have come and gone and contributed. Our committee of Michelle, Mitch, Svenja, Kadi, Courtney and Helen have kept things ticking along with Adelle providing "oh no we don't have a quorum support" from far away and Sally having left Meeka for greener pastures. We also welcomed Rachael on to our committee (well, she happened to sit at the next table over at Leighton's cafe and got roped in :))

And then there's the people who drop in to help out at the Recycling Centre – thank you! Whether you help just for 15 minutes once or for two hours every week, your help is so appreciated!

It's really easy to volunteer with us. Just pop in on a Saturday 9-11am, bring a water bottle and wear enclosed shoes and we'll show you around. It's a great way to meet other people and do something good for the town and the environment. Whether you're in it for the social aspect or just want to quietly do some hands-on help, we can accommodate you.

You can find us on Facebook as "Meeka Goes Green", email us at [meekagoesgreen@gmail.com](mailto:meekagoesgreen@gmail.com) or pop in to the Recycling Centre on Railway Street Saturday mornings 9-11am to say Hi to our volunteers.

The Meekatharra Seventh Day Adventist Church (McCleary Street) invites you to join us in a weekly service for all ages from 10am Saturday mornings



**Extraordinary Outback Experience**

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Biggest Rock

0899439527  
mtaugustustouristpark@skymesh.com.au

*Coral Coast \* Ningaloo \* Karijini \* Goldfields Highway \* Woolwagon Pathway*

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](mailto:bookings@meekatharraaccomodation.com.au)

or call on 99811253

# BE RESPONSIBLE



Please ensure whilst exercising your dog to pick up any waste and dispose of in the bins provided.

FREE Waste Bags are now available from the Shire Office.

## Meekatharra Corner Store

Corner of Main & High Streets, Meekatharra

**Ph: 9981 1151**



**BP Fuel & Lubricants  
Premium Unleaded Fuel now available**



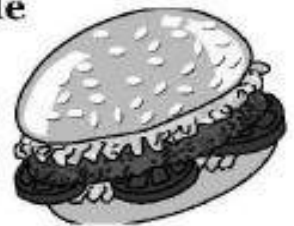
**Auto Accessories**

**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**



# WORKPLACE LEARNING A BIG POSITIVE FOR STUDENTS IN MEEKATHARRA!

Exciting times continue for students at Meekatharra DHS who study through the School of Isolated and Distance Education (SIDE). They use the Workplace Learning (WPL) program to develop key employability skills and plan for their career goals.

WPL is a program where students can access the world of work exploring different career paths and developing core employability skills. It assists students to become competitive in the employment / training market. The beauty of the program is that it also contributes towards the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE). So it is a win, win situation all round for Meekatharra students.

## The important role of work and training while at school

Secondary school students who undertake Workplace Learning are among the most likely to be in full-time permanent employment five years later.

Choosing the right career pathway as part of secondary schooling can make a substantial difference to students looking for a di-

rect transition from school into full-time ongoing employment.

Research conducted by the Department of Employment indicates that **“the completion of on-the-job training, while at**

**school, is a key aspect in improving the employment prospects of young Australians.”**

Asharnta and Marissa have been **really enjoying their on-the-job training at the Meekatharra Youth Centre and have become valued team members.**

**“The support of local youth by local employers is fantastic”** says SIDE Workplace Learning Coordinator, Shane Murray. These employers are at the leading edge in offering high school students exciting and relevant training options and should be held up as role models for other regional towns to follow their lead.

The school-to-work programs have many hidden advantages to all stakeholders. Students, parents, the school and community.

**A big thank you to the Meekatharra Shire, Lachlan Macdonald and Andrew Binsiar for their commitment to local youth. This leadership and support is to be highly commended!**



*Asharnta Anderson (L) and Marissa Thorne use their creative skills when working with kids at the centre.*



# Important Announcement

Farmer Jacks will be closed on Saturday the 4th of December for stock take

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>3pm – 5pm</b> 	Pool Activities  Kid Zone open 3pm – 5pm	Arts and Craft and Music at the Youth Centre  	Pool Activities  Kid Zone open 3pm – 5pm	Cricket and Games at the Youth Centre  	Drop in @ Youth Centre  Kid Zone open 3pm – 5pm
<b>6pm – 8pm</b> 	Sports night ages 12+  	Volleyball at the oval 10+  	Football at the oval ages 8+  	Basketball @ the oval  	Movie night @ the Youth Centre  

Youth Services Term 4 2021





# THE POOL IS OPEN!

Meekatharra War  
Memorial  
Swimming Pool  
Main Street

Monday-Friday  
12pm-6pm  
(Adults Only 6pm-7pm)

Saturday - Sunday  
11am-6pm

## Fees

Season Pass  
Adult - \$100 | Child - \$50 | Family - \$200

Season Pass Concessional\*  
Adult - \$50 | Child - \$25 | Family - \$100

Monthly Pass  
Adult - \$30 | Adult (Concessional) - \$25\*  
Child - \$15 | Family - \$60

Weekly Pass  
Adult - \$10 | Adult (Concessional) - \$7\*  
Child - \$5 | Family - \$20

Daily Pass  
Adult - \$3 | Adult (Concessional) - \$1\*  
Child - \$2 | Family - \$6

Child under 3 years old accompanied by an adult - No Charge  
\*Concessional fee is only applicable on sighting of valid Health Care Card by Shire Staff



### CRC News—December 2021

#### Santa at Christmas Markets

The Man in Red will be back for the annual Christmas Markets on Saturday 11 December with plenty of lollies to hand out. There will be our usual local legends with stalls for all ages and gift options, and you can also shop for Christmas gifts at the CRC every Saturday leading up to Christmas from 10am to 1230. We have TONS of great gift items!

#### Holiday Closure Dates

The Meekatharra CRC will be closed from Friday Dec 24th and open again on Monday January 10th.

#### Next CRC Committee Meeting

Our first meeting for 2022 will be on Tuesday February 8th at 5:15 pm. Let us know if you'd like to come along and meet the team. We have a number of great membership and sponsor options available.

#### Those Sofas

The famous CRC sofas were highlighted in Linkwest's annual report as an example of innovative and effective community engagement. They're a great yarning place, and yes, they are kept clean!

#### What's Coming Up in 2022?

We've joined MeekaFM as a Corporate Member and hope to be developing some great community ideas with them in the coming year. We'll also be holding the annual Cemetery Busy Bee and Picnic again in May. Also on the events list is a Meekatharra CRC Sundowner to showcase the "new look" CRC and services for our sponsors and locals alike.

#### Casual Work Available at the CRC

We always have jobs that need doing—cleaning, stocktake, tidying, painting and other basic tasks. Come and see us about work by the hour. We also have our volunteer training program if you are looking for ways to step up into employment and would like some help with new skills, resume and so on.



Have a safe and happy holiday season everyone!



with Anna, Jo and Ella



The SARONGS are here! Big and beautiful



NEW BOOKS



Art & Craft Supplies

Kids' Clothes

Scanning - Emailing - Computer Use - FREE WIFI - Printing, Souvenirs and More at the Meekatharra Community Resource and Visitor Centre.

What's On

Meeka Markets

Saturday 11th December  
9:30am to Lunchtime

In front of The Commercial Hotel

Department of Transport Driver Services

IN FEBRUARY – DATE TBC

Book in ahead of time please

Meekatharra Community Resource and Visitor Centre

79 Main Street

Meekatharra WA 6642

08 9980 1811

hello@meekacrc.com.au

Mon—Fri 9:00 am to 3:30 pm

Saturdays 10am to 12:30

Department of Transport Services

Mon—Fri 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

NEXT TOWN VISIT: Tue Oct 5th



# A YEAR AT YOUTH SERVICES

To say the Youth Services Team have been busy in 2021 is a bit of an understatement. They have been flat out with so many activities, visits from organisations and different programs this year.

The staff Margie, Andrea, Andrew, Lachlan and Jada have continued on this year with a new addition to the team, Trinity. The team work well together to create an engaging and safe atmosphere for all participants. During the second half of the year they were joined by two work place students from MDHS, Asharnta and Marisa, who were excited to learn more about working with young people in Meekatharra.

The Youth Services started off the year with their summer school holiday program, spending time at the pool with the participants and Fair Game who came up for a few days to hang out with the participants.

The Mission Australia Team also came down to the Youth Centre to teach the participants a bit about cooking and safety in the kitchen. They made cupcakes for everyone to enjoy. Mission Australia and the Youth Centre Team have a great relationship and often help each other to create programs for the kids.

Fair Game spend time up in Meekatharra a few times a year and have built strong relationships with the staff and participants. They aim to teach everyone a healthy lifestyle full of yummy foods and activities to keep everyone active.

NAIDOC week at the Youth Centre was a big week! Full of activities planned by the Youth Staff, Youth Focus and Yulella. They painted kites, did traditional games, ate yummy food put on by the Yulella Hub and had a basketball game. There was plenty of fun,

celebrating and learning to go around for everyone who was involved.

During this week the team also showed off their 2021 NAIDOC Meekatharra Shirts designed by their very own Whitney Thorne. The Youth Services Team put on a competition to see who could design the next NAIDOC shirt, all their designs were incredible and Whitney won the competition. The shirts were a massive hit with everyone in town, with the first lot of shirts selling out within a day of the stock arriving. It was a big achievement for the whole youth centre participants and team.

Margie and Andrea have been working hard at Kids Zone creating so much fun for the younger participants. They have been doing a range of arts and craft, playing on the playground, creating an outdoor kitchen area, using all the new toys they have been given and so much more. Margie, Andrea and the kids have been making the most of the Kids Zone time this year.

Storm Co have come to Meekatharra again this year to spend time with the kids, doing arts, sport and so many other activities.





ties during their time here. They came up for a week during the October school holidays and kept the fun going from the Festival weekend. Storm Co also spent some time at Karalundi with the students there.

The sports continued during country week when our very own Andrew took kids from the school down to Perth with some teachers to play against a range of different schools in a basketball competition. The Meeka team did very well during all the events and showed great sportsmanship.

During the July school holidays Infinity Skate came to Meeka and run workshops for the kids. They learnt about safety,

how to respect the Skate Park, new tricks and how to skate like professionals. The participants thoroughly enjoyed these activities and loved feeling like skate professionals at the Small Wheels Park.

The Youth Centre received a bit of a facelift this year with new office furniture for the staff and couches for the participants. The Youth Centre is a well used area and now looks immaculate with furniture to suit the needs of the workers and participants.

The school year has almost come to an end which means that the Youth Centre school holiday program will begin shortly. This program means extended hours, more opportunities for activities and loads of fun. Keep a look out for the program coming soon.



# COPS CORNER WITH SENIOR SERGEANT GARY WILLIAMS



First of all, I would like to introduce myself. I commenced my service at Meekatharra in late September after applying for one of the vacant Sergeant positions. I am still familiarising myself with members of the local community and I am really looking forward to spending some time in the town over the next couple of years. I am currently acting in Senior Sergeant Garnaut position as Officer in Charge of Meekatharra Police Station.

Meekatharra Police continue to actively engage with community members whilst out and about. I encourage my team to stop and talk to locals, to listen to your concerns or to just have a chat. Ultimately our best source of information is you, the community of Meekatharra.

One of the areas we would like the community's assistance is to encourage local people to get vaccinated. Our primary concern is the health and welfare of the Meekatharra community. The health department will be arriving in town on Wednesday 15th December 2021 when we plan to hold a town meeting at the basketball court on Consols Road (time to be announced). This will allow members of the community to engage with qualified medical practitioners and ask any questions they feel are relevant. Food and refreshments will also be provided. The following day on Thursday 16th December 2021 a dedicated clinic will be in town to administer vaccinations to members of the community. If you have not been vaccinated I strongly encourage you to attend. In the meantime, the General Practitioners clinic is available on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. The police are more than willing to assist with transport to and from the clinic if required.

Alcohol related anti-social behaviour continues to be of concern to Police and the residents of Meekatharra. Over the

weekend of the 27th and 28th November two police officers were assaulted. The offenders have been charged. This type of offending and behaviour will not be tolerated and is not acceptable. This issue will continue to be addressed in forums with the various stakeholders of Meekatharra.

When travelling out of town into the more remote areas can I urge

you to take all necessary precautions in the event some unforeseen event takes place which prevents you from returning to town. Over the weekend Meekatharra Police were informed that people were stranded approximately 15 kilometres out of town in the bush. This was confirmed and I can report all persons were located and have returned to town safe and well after spending over 24 hours in bushland. The 'bush' is a harsh environment at this time of year so please ensure you take adequate resources with you to ensure your safe return.

Officers from Meekatharra police intercepted a vehicle travelling through town at the weekend. Officers located drugs and other drug paraphernalia resulting in the arrest of two persons who will be attending court for drug related charges. Drugs remain the scourge of our community which has an impact on all facets of society. Can I encourage you to assist the police in our continued fight against drugs. You are able to call the police station direct on 9918 7120 or alternatively report through Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000. Any information will be dealt with in the strictest confidence.

Truancy from school will continue to be a focus for us and other agencies in the town. Our meetings are a great forum for ideas on how to tackle the issue of truancy and we hope to make progress in the coming months.

Stealing from trucks has decreased in recent weeks after this was previously reported in the last issue. Offenders have been identified and charged and this appears to have had an impact on the level of offending we encountered a couple of months ago. We still encourage truck drivers to ensure their doors are locked and secure when leaving the vehicle as the offenders are opportunistic and will take advantage in lapses of security.

I would like to finish on a positive note. Two officers have recently commenced their service at Meekatharra. If you see them in the street please feel free to stop and have a chat and welcome them to the town.

Stay safe.

Gary Williams

Acting Senior Sergeant

OIC – Meekatharra Police Station



# WORKSHOPS

**UPCYCLING - REUSING - CRAFT -  
HOMESTEADING - "MAKING DO"**

(turning ordinary things into awesome things)

**@ RECYCLING CENTRE RAILWAY STREET  
FIRST **SATURDAY** OF EACH MONTH **11 AM****

All Welcome!

Gold Coin Donation Entry

New Date &  
Time: Now  
Saturdays!



## Veterinary Service

**Meekatharra**

**Dr Rick Fenny**

**Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> – Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> December**

For appointments, please call

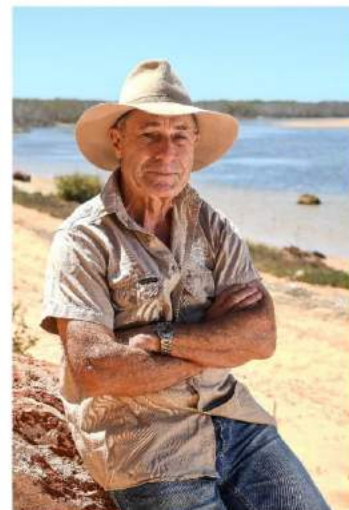
**0408936061**



Dr Rick will also have signed  
copies of his book,  
Red Dog Vet – Pip, available for  
purchase



You, your pets and us - a team for life



# Meekatharra Support Guide

## EMERGENCY

<b>Ambulance/Police/SES/Fire</b>	<b>000</b>
<b>Meekatharra Police Station</b>	<b>9918 7120 / 131 444</b>
<b>Meekatharra Hospital</b>	<b>9981 0600</b>

## ALCOHOL & DRUGS

Services		Phone Support Lines	
Mission Australia	9956 5100	Alcohol & Drug Support Line	1800 198 024
(Alcohol and Other Drugs Support Service)		Quitline (smoking)	13 78 48
Mental Health and Community Alcohol Drug Service	1800 051 999	Parent & Family Drug Support Line	1800 653 203

## HEALTH

Services		Phone Support Lines	
Meekatharra GP Clinic	6444 7980	Health Direct	1800 022 222
Meekatharra Pharmacy	9980 1798	Elder Abuse Hotline WA	1300 724 679
Meekatharra Hospital	9981 0600		
Geraldton Regional Aboriginal Medical Service	9956 6555		
Aged Care	9981 0645		

## MENTAL HEALTH

Services		Phone Support Lines	
Midwest Mental Health Service	9981 0625	Lifeline	13 11 14
Mission Australia (Mental Health Support Services)	9956 5100	Beyond Blue	1300 224 636
Youth Focus	6266 4333	Suicide Call Back Service	1300 659 467
Meekatharra GP Clinic	6444 7980	Men's Helpline Australia	1300 789 978
		1800RESPECT	1800 737 732
		Rural Link	1800 552 002

## YOUTH

Services		Phone Support Lines	
Shire of Meekatharra Youth Services	9980 0600	Kids Helpline	1800 551 800
Youth Justice	9980 2070	Lifeline	13 11 14
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services	9981 0625	Beyond Blue	1300 224 636
Youth Focus	6266 4333	eheadspace	<a href="https://headspace.org.au/eheadspace/">https://headspace.org.au/eheadspace/</a>
Meekatharra District High School	9981 1092		
Mission Australia (Remote Attendance Program)	9956 5102		
Department of Communities (Child Protection and Family Support)	9981 0300		
Hope Community Services	0418 135 031		

## HOUSING

Services	
Department of Housing	9956 5000
Mission Australia (Public Tenancy Support Services)	9956 5103

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Services		Phone Support Lines	
Emergency/Ambulance/Police	000	Men's DV Helpline	1800 000 599
Meekatharra GP Clinic	6444 7980	Women's DV Helpline	1800 007 339
Meekatharra Hospital	9981 0600	Sex Assault Helpline	1800 688 922
Meekatharra Police	9918 7120	Crisis Care 24hrs	9223 1111 / 1800 199 008
Mission Australia	0458 881 488	1800RESPECT	1800 737 732
(Nyarlu Duwa Women's House, Family and Domestic Violence Response Service)			

## FINANCIAL & GAMBLING

Services		Phone Support Lines	
Centrelink	13 62 40	Gambling Helpline	1800 858 858
Mission Australia (Emergency Relief)	9956 5100		

## EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

Services	
Yulella Aboriginal Corporation	9980 1339
Centrelink	13 62 40

## LEGAL

Services		Phone Support Lines	
Aboriginal Legal Service	9265 6666	Legal Aid	1300 650 579
Aboriginal Family Legal Service	9965 4654		
Meekatharra Court	9981 1008		
Carnarvon Court	9961 5500		
Nyarlu Miyarnumalgu (Indigenous Women Paralegal Service)	9936 0600		

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

Services	
Yulella Aboriginal Corporation	9980 1339
Mission Australia	9956 5100
Department of Communities (Housing)	9956 5000
Department of Communities (Child Protection and Family Support)	9981 0300



Produced by the Shire of Meekatharra





## Integrated **Chronic Disease Care Program**

**Do you have a team that can assist with your **diabetes, cardiovascular disease or respiratory disease?****



**Podiatry | Dietetics | Physiotherapy | Diabetes Education**

**Our Team can assist with these services and provide care co-ordination to assist with all your health appointments or enquiries.**

**If you suffer from Diabetes, Cardiovascular Disease or Respiratory Disease and would like to make changes to improve your health, call our Care Coordinators Beryl or Danielle on **0447 268 603****



**98.3 MEEKA FM**

**Meekatharra, WA**

# "OFF THE BEATEN TRACK" WITH MATTY



## **MERRY CHRISTMAS!! FROM RADIO MAMA & MEEKA FM**

***STAY SAFE DURING THIS CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR BREAK,  
KEEP TUNED INTO MEEKA FM FOR HEAPS OF GREAT MUSIC.  
THIS YEAR HAS BEEN FULL OF EXCITEMENT & GREAT ROAD  
TRIPS THROUGHOUT THE MIDWEST AND MURCHISON WITH  
EVENTS GREAT & SMALL. NEXT YEAR HAS A SLOW START FOR  
"OFF THE BEATEN TRACK". A FEW EXCITING CHANGES HAP-  
PENING NEXT YEAR FOR SURE, CAN'T WAIT TO PUT PLANS IN-  
TO ACTION. NEXT YEAR IS GOING TO BE BIG & HAVE PLENTY  
INSTALLED FOR US ALL.***



# Meeka Christmas Markets



Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December

9:30am to 1:00pm

In Meekatharra's Main Street  
in front of the Commercial Hotel



Take your photo  
with Santa!

Lollies and  
Fun!



Lollies

Gifts

Preserves

Beauty & Bling

Cakes & Treats

All are welcome to set up a stall – just bring your own table, chair and hand sanitiser, and ensure you comply with any regulations in regard to the products you sell.

**Set up from 9am – No early arrivals!**

Barista-style coffee  
available at Farmer Jacks



The Meeka Markets are Made Possible by:  
The Meekatharra CRC  
The Shire of Meekatharra  
The Commercial Hotel  
and our wonderful local entrepreneurs

Meekatharra

# Carols *by* Candlelight

Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021

7:00 to 9:00 pm

On the Lawn  
In Front of the  
Meekatharra Hospital

*Live Broadcasting by Meeka 98FM*



**Family Event**  
**BYO Chair / Rug**  
**Water Provided**



Supported by  
WA Country Health Service

Karalundi

Energise Cafe

Mission Australia

Shire of Meekatharra

Uniting Church

Seventh Day Adventist Church

Meekatharra CRC





# 2021 MEEKATHARRA NAIDOC SHIRTS

We have a new batch of  
shirts for sale in the shire  
office, \$40 each.

S, M, L & XL sizes for adults  
Limited kids stock



# YOGA

*at the hall*



Join us for a weekly yoga session streamed to the big screen in the Town Hall.

All sessions are accessible for all abilities.



**WHEN:**  
Every Monday  
6pm-7pm  
Town Hall

YOGA MATS AVAILABLE TO USE

For enquiries please contact Amy at the Shire on 9980 0600  
Starting 8th November 2021



# Have you had any of these...

## ... for more than 4 weeks?

- Problems peeing
- Runny goona
- Losing weight for no reason
- A strange pain, lump or swelling anywhere in your body
- Hard to breathe
- A cough
- A new or changed spot on your skin

## ... once or more?

- Blood in your goona
- Coughing up blood
- Blood in your pee



If you have and you are over 40...

**Tell a clinic nurse, doctor or health worker**

**The earlier cancer is found, the greater the chance of successful treatment.**

Partner:



Government of Western Australia  
Department of Health



For more information visit [findcancerearly.com.au](http://findcancerearly.com.au) or call 13 11 20



# Life goes on without a siren.

**Every beat of this ordinary life is an extraordinary thing.  
And we need your help to protect it.**

Volunteering for St John doesn't have to mean attending emergency calls. Our volunteers help out with patient transport, administration support, serving on the committee, social activities, first aid at events, vehicle maintenance and more.

If you'd like to help, visit [stjohnchangelives.com.au](http://stjohnchangelives.com.au) or give our Community Paramedic Michelle Fyfe a call on 0437 681 562, or email [Michelle.Fyfe@stjohnwa.com.au](mailto:Michelle.Fyfe@stjohnwa.com.au)

Life goes on.  
Volunteer with St John.





# FIRST AID FACT SHEET

## Shock

Shock is a collapse of the circulatory system which results in insufficient oxygen reaching the vital organs and tissues. Shock can be life threatening.

### Caused by

- + Heart failure.
- + Bleeding.
- + Vomiting and diarrhoea.
- + Burns.
- + Pain or trauma.
- + Major or multiple fractures.
- + Infections.
- + Allergic reactions.
- + Severe sweating and dehydration.

### Signs & symptoms

- + Weak, rapid pulse.
- + Cold, clammy skin.
- + Rapid breathing.
- + Faintness, dizziness, nausea.
- + Pale face, fingernails, lips.

### What to do

1. Follow DRSABCD St John Action Plan.
2. Lie the casualty down with head flat on floor and reassure. **DO NOT** raise their legs.
3. Manage any other injury such as bleeding, wounds, burns and immobilise fractures.
4. Maintain the casualty's body warmth. Cover with blanket, coat or similar but **DO NOT** use any source of direct heat.
5. Loosen any tight clothing.
6. If the casualty is likely to require any surgery **DO NOT** give anything by mouth. Otherwise offer clear fluids e.g. small amounts of water frequently.
7. Monitor the casualty. **DO NOT** leave them alone.
8. Place casualty into the Recovery Position if they become unconscious.
9. Urgent medical aid. Call **Triple Zero (000)** for an ambulance.



In a medical emergency  
call **Triple Zero (000)**

Book a St John first aid course today | (08) 9334 1233 | [stjohnambulance.com.au](http://stjohnambulance.com.au)

Information provided is as per Australian Resuscitation Council Guidelines. These first aid protocols are for the Australian market only. All care has been taken in preparing this information but St John takes no responsibility for its use. This information is not a substitute for practical first aid training with St John.



## **REGIONAL COLUMN**

[www.dmirs.wa.gov.au](http://www.dmirs.wa.gov.au) [www.wa.gov.au](http://www.wa.gov.au)

18 November 2021

### **Don't get wrapped up in a shopping scam this Christmas**

Christmas may be a time for giving, but there's one type of person you wouldn't want to reward with a free gift this festive season – a scammer.

Unfortunately that has been the outcome for about 200 Western Australians so far in 2021, who reported to WA ScamNet that they had been tricked out of almost \$700,000 while shopping online.

The fake websites and social media pages have pretended to sell everything from barbecues to motorhomes, but consumers never received the items, nor saw their money again.

It is very easy to be fooled, with fake websites often looking very professional and sometimes stealing the identity of a well-known retailer or brand. Furthermore, the items for sale may be offered at very low prices in a bid to trigger a shopper's excitement to bag a bargain.

While the WA ScamNet team has managed to shut-down around 200 fake websites and almost 100 social media pages this year, the scam sites often quickly re-appear under different names.

This means it will never be possible to close down every fake site and page, so online shoppers need to be confident the site is genuine before entering their personal and financial information during a purchase.

The best warning sign that a retail website is a scam is the method of payment. Be very suspicious if scammers ask you to pay via electronic funds transfer or using a money order, pre-loaded money card or a crypto currency such as Bitcoin, as it is rare to recover money that is sent this way.

Another important tip is to look at the overall quality of the website, grammatical errors in text, poorly edited images and whether the business provides an actual address for its location.

Try to only pay by credit card or a secure payment method such as PayPal, as there is an opportunity to get your money back if something goes wrong or the item is not supplied.

Better yet, consider giving preference to WA-based online retailers or doing your Christmas shopping at local bricks and mortar stores this year.

For further information or to report a scam, go to the [WA ScamNet website](#) or call 1300 30 40 54.

<ENDS>



Christmas / New Year

Shire Office Closure

Please note:

The Shire Office will be closed from  
Wednesday 22nd December 2021 at 4:30pm  
until  
Wednesday 5th January 2022 at 8:00am

After this date business will continue as normal  
Please ring 0417 989 076 for emergencies



# • FREE WIFI

Did you know... that the  
Shire has put in  
**free high speed WIFI**  
in Lloyds Plaza and the Town  
Hall everyone to use!

To access this free service you  
will be able to be outside the  
buildings or in one of the locally  
owned shops in Lloyds Plaza.

This service can be used for work,  
study or personal administration



# MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

FOR FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY



Youth Focus	6266 4333	youthfocus.com.au
Headspace	9274 8860	headspace.com.au ehespace.com.au
Lifeline WA [24 hrs]	13 11 14	lifeline.org.au
Kids Helpline [24 hrs]	1800 551 800	kidshelp.com.au
Suicide Call Back Service [24 hrs]	1300 659 467	suicidecallbackservice.org.au
Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service [CAMHS]	1800 048 636	cahs.health.wa.gov.au/our-services/mental-health
Mental Health Emergency Response Line [24 hrs]	1300 555 788 Metro 1800 676 822 Peel 1800 720 101 TTY	nmahsmh.health.wa.gov.au
Ngala Parenting Helpline	9368 9368 Callback Service 1800 111 546 Rural	ngala.com.au

## ONLINE RESOURCES

Black Dog Institute	blackdoginstitute.org.au
Bite Back	biteback.org.au
Reach Out	au.reachout.com
Beyond Blue	beyondblue.com.au

## AWESOME APPS

Download these Apps for free in iTunes or Google Play



Smiling Mind



Mindshift



Reachout Worry Time



What's Up?



The Check-in

## 5 TIPS TO BE MENTALLY HEALTHY...





Specialist for all your water storage, pumping, monitoring and your livestock requirements. Conveniently located in Dalwallinu just off the Great Northern Hwy. Talk to us today to find out how we offer the entire solution to your water and fencing needs.



For all your trough and water tank remote monitoring needs



Solar water pumps from BW Solar



Water Tanks, Troughs, Septic Tanks and Fire Fighting Units



For all your fencing requirements

For any information regarding any of these products and your needs please call  
Travis Hollins 0427086738 or Matthew Tasker 0435192531



Government of Western Australia  
Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety



## Consumer Watch

**Consumer Protection** 50-52 Durlacher Street, Geraldton WA 6530  
Tel: (08) 9920 9800  
Email: [candice.evans@dmirs.wa.gov.au](mailto:candice.evans@dmirs.wa.gov.au)

### Gift card rules reminder

With the busy shopping season upon us, there's no doubt that gift cards or vouchers can be an easy present idea for those hard-to-please friends and family members.

While we believe that gifting cash is ultimately a safer option, if you are planning to buy a gift card this festive season, don't forget that the national rules have changed to give the recipient at least three years to use it.

The minimum three-year expiry date means that any gift card sold after the laws took effect on November 1 2019 would currently still be valid for redemption, and those bought for Christmas 2021 should be valid until Christmas 2024.

How expiry dates are displayed on gift cards is also important, with traders required to clearly state the expiry date on the gift cards themselves. This means you can easily see and challenge the date if they get it wrong and also that the recipient of your gift won't be caught out not knowing when it will expire.

You also cannot be charged post-purchase fees or administration charges that will reduce the value of your gift card, such as activation, account keeping and balance enquiry fees.

While the rules give consumers more certainty, it is important to remember that there is still an element of risk attached to buying gift cards and vouchers.

A caller to one of our regular radio segments claims she was left out of pocket after buying a \$400 gift voucher to a restaurant that had closed down when the recipient tried to redeem it less than a year later.

Unspent gift vouchers or cards may become worthless if a business goes bust or closes its doors, so for this reason we recommend giving cash instead.

More information on the rules, including a list of questions to ask when buying gift cards and vouchers, can be found on our [website](#).

If you have a dispute with a business about a gift card or voucher that can't be resolved, come to Consumer Protection on 1300 30 40 54 or email: [consumer@dmirs.wa.gov.au](mailto:consumer@dmirs.wa.gov.au)

October and November have been busy months for the Youth Focus team in Meekatharra as we continue to renovate the old second-hand shop, and develop our programs. Youth Focus were fortunate to have eight staff from Sandfire and their contractor Sodexo who are based at the DeGrussa Mine join us for a weekend of renovations at the start of November. We are grateful to each of them and their organisations for volunteering their time and energy to help us get the hard yakka started. It has been a huge challenge to break the back of the work needed on such an old building but we feel this was a giant step forward. Some of the team will be up in the near future with further works planned and we are excited to have them join us onsite again. With their continued support we are hopeful for an official opening in the New Year.

With the work that has been completed we are now working out of the new building on Main Street. We would like to thank Yulella and the community connectors team for sharing their space with us up on Darlot Street. We miss being in the same building with you guys, but we are looking forward to having you come down for a cuppa and a yarn when you are free!

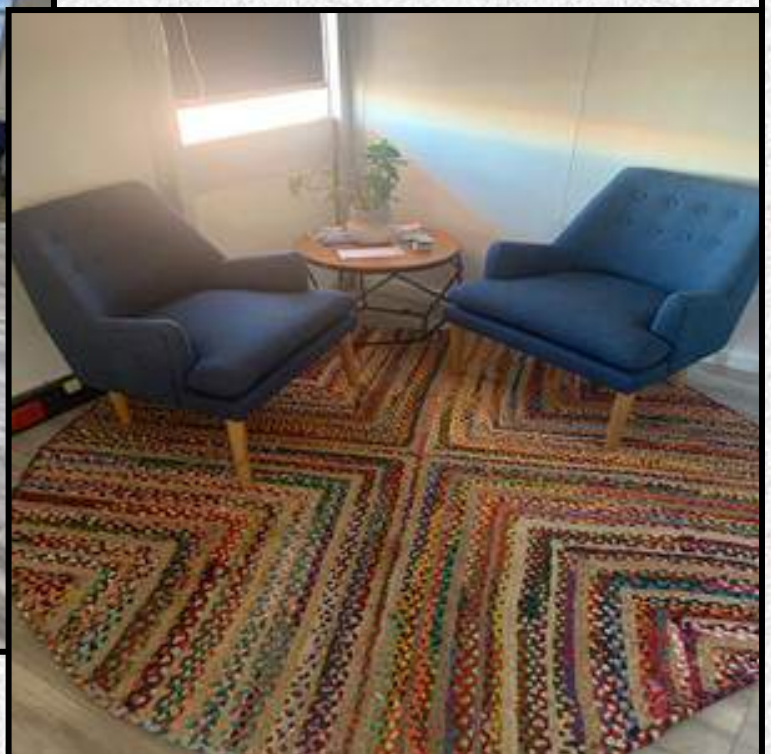
On that note, all community members are welcome to pop into the building and stop by for a chat. Things might

only be halfway done, but we value any input, advice and suggestions for the new space. We want the young people in our community to have a

safe and inviting space to drop in and have a yarn, sort out paperwork or come in for advice about their mental health.

Over the next few months we will be starting a group of young people known as the Youth Reference Group to support us to make decisions about the design and activities of Youth Focus. If you'd like to be involved, speak to Paulette or come down to the old second-hand shop on Main Street. Members of the YRG will be paid for their time and be invited to movie nights and other special events.

And in other exciting news, we were grateful to be a part of the PCYC Halloween Disco at the cricket centre – the kids had a great time, and there were some brilliant costumes! We're looking forward to the next one!







**REFRIGERATION & AIR CONDITIONING MEEKATHARRA**

43 MAIN STREET

PH: 9980 1212

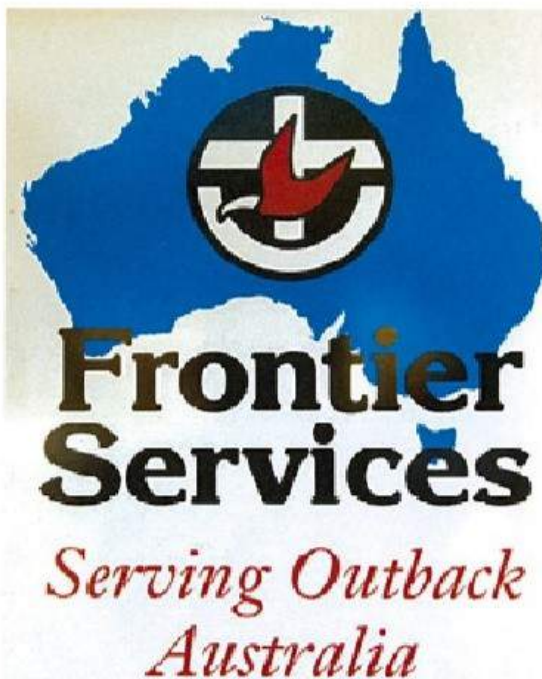
*GET YOUR COOLING SYSTEMS WORKING THEIR BEST BEFORE THE HOT WEATHER*

IMPROVE PERFORMANCE AND REDUCE ELECTRICITY COSTS BY CARRYING OUT PRE SUMMER MAINTENANCE – FOR ADVICE OR TO BOOK A SERVICE,  
CALL TODAY – PH: 9980 1212

**WE CATER TO ALL REQUIREMENTS -  
REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE AND NEW INSTALLATIONS for  
DOMESTIC, COMMERCIAL AND MINING.**

*ALL AREAS – KUMARINA, WILUNA, CUE, MAGNET, SANDSTONE and SURROUNDS*

## **Meekatharra Community Church (Uniting Church)**



**Services held 9.30am  
every 2nd & 4th  
Sunday of the Month**

**Contact:  
Rev Mitch Fialkowski  
9981 1053  
0419 547 175**

# Commercial Hotel

## Meekatharra

Opened daily from noon til late

**Excellent counter meals daily:**

**Lunch: 12 noon – 2pm**  
**Monday to Saturday**

**Dinner: 6pm – 8pm**  
**Sunday to Saturday**



**Air conditioned Dining / Function Room**  
**Suitable for Meetings, Conferences & Dinners**

**Accommodation Includes:**

**Modern Motel units with en suite, TV & air con**  
**Located at rear of Hotel with enclosed parking.**

**and**  
**Traditional Hotel rooms with TV & air con**  
**Located upstairs in original building.**



**Telephone: 99811020**

**Fax: 99811021**

**Email: [commieh@westnet.com.au](mailto:commieh@westnet.com.au)**

**77 Main Street, Meekatharra, 6642**



**[www.commercialmeeka.com.au](http://www.commercialmeeka.com.au)**

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TEAM IN 2021

The Shire's Community Development team have had a busy and enjoyable 2021 with a wide range of events and activities put on for the community of Meekatharra with support from people within the town.

The year started off with the Australia Day Pool Party, we had a BBQ, pool games and a great time with family and friends. Volunteers and Shire Staff made this event happen, using their public holiday to put on an event for the community.

Welcome to Meeka is an annual event where those new to town are invited to a sundowner to get to know the volunteers organisations in town. After this event being cancelled in 2020 there was a big turn out for 2021. We had speeches from the volunteer organisations explaining what they did and how they benefit the town. It was a productive and engaging event.

The team held a few Movie Nights for kids and adults at the Town Hall. We had steady turn outs for the movies which

included Freaky, the Furnace, Spiderman in the spider verse and more. Movie nights were a great way to end a busy week.

The Easter lunch was well attended, everyone in town was invited, lunch was served and we had zorb balls to play on. Everyone had a great time celebrating Easter together enjoying an Easter Egg Hunt and the Easter Bunny coming along to brighten the day!

We held two quiz nights this year, one in June and one in November. Both were well attended and enjoyable events. We have had two quiz masters, Robert Binsiar and Geoff Fyfe, do an incredible job making the events full of laughter. Heaps of prizes and gift vouchers were won and all very deserved. We even had one team give up their prizes to give to the wooden spoon placed team, it was a great moment.

1 Man and a Bike filmed a segment in Meekatharra as part of the GeoRegion tourism project. The host and his team came to town and interviewed key people within the community to show the true Meekatharra. A lot of planning went into this but it sure paid off to have this show display what Meeka is all about.

The Meeka Festival was a blast in 2021! The Las Vegas Ball was well attended and was a great party featuring Renegade. So many people dressed up and got into the theme. The Rac-





this event, the kids will receive presents from Santa and a delicious feed put on by Yulella. It will be a fun, community focused event. Come along and celebrate this special time of year with us.

The Community Development team have plenty planned for next year, so keep an eye on the notice boards around town and the Meekatharra Dust Facebook page for upcoming events and activities.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year everyone!



es were amazing, great job to the committee for your heard work. The Side Show was a full day of fun for all ages including rides, food, petting zoo and so much more. Despite the wind, it was a great day for everyone.

Weekly Monday Yoga was on and the beginning of the year and is back again. Everyone is welcome to this all abilities online class. Come along and challenge yourself in a fun, friendly environment.

In December we will have the Town Christmas Party being held on the 14th, 3pm at the Town Hall in conjunction with the Youth Services Team, Youth Focus and Yulella. Everyone is invited to





## Employment Opportunity

### Project Officer

Closing Date: 8-Dec-2021 04:00 PM

We are offering a package up to \$130,000 with a cash component to \$90,000 depending on experience and qualifications

Fancy being your own boss? Live in an historic town with excellent facilities and the genuine “outback” at your doorstep. Regular commercial flights operate to/from Perth.

Close to local attractions - Karijini 550km, Mt Augustus 344km, Geraldton 540km, Perth 764km.

Enjoy quality sporting facilities, swimming pool, gymnasium, squash court, hospital, doctors, District High School, 3 hotels, supermarket and shops.

Work as part of a small team in a supportive and friendly environment. Promotion within the organisation is actively encouraged.

You are not required to address the selection criteria however a detailed resume/CV must be provided.

Generous benefits include free housing and all utilities, vehicle with some private use, 5 weeks annual leave, a 19 day month, up to 15% superannuation and a relocation/furniture allowance. Free use of the Gym, Squash Court and Swimming Pool, all of which are high quality facilities.

Reporting directly to the Chief Executive Officer the position has responsibility for delivery of a range of maintenance and infrastructure projects within the Shire of Meekatharra. If you have knowledge or skills in project management or trade services you are encouraged to apply.

Interested persons should obtain an information package from Karen Clare on 9980 0600 or [admin@meekashire.wa.gov.au](mailto:admin@meekashire.wa.gov.au).

For further information about the position or Meekatharra, please contact the Shire of Meekatharra CEO, Kelvin Matthews on 9980 0600 or 0417 989 076.



## Employment Opportunity

### Assistant Finance Officer

Closing Date: 3-Dec-2021 04:00 PM

Cash to \$66,177

Package up to \$81,804

The Shire of Meekatharra is looking for a new team member.

Do you love crunching numbers? Does the meditative art of data entry satisfy your methodical mind? Do you have good work ethics and enjoy ticking things off your list? Are you happy to provide excellent customer service? Are you a quick learner and are you motivated and willing to be part of a small team assisting in the smooth day to day running of the Shire Office?

Then you may be the person we are looking for!

Sound knowledge of accounting principles and Microsoft Excel experience are essential.

This is a great stepping stone in your Local Government career.

Some of the perks are 5 weeks annual leave, rostered days off, up to 15% superannuation, subsidised housing, staff uniform, as well as free entry to the gym, pool and squash court!

Conditions of employment are in accordance with the Local Government Industry Award 2020 with a total salary package of \$81,804 applicable to this position.

or skills in project management or trade services you are encouraged to apply.

Interested persons should obtain an information package from Karen Clare on 9980 0600 or [admin@meekashire.wa.gov.au](mailto:admin@meekashire.wa.gov.au).

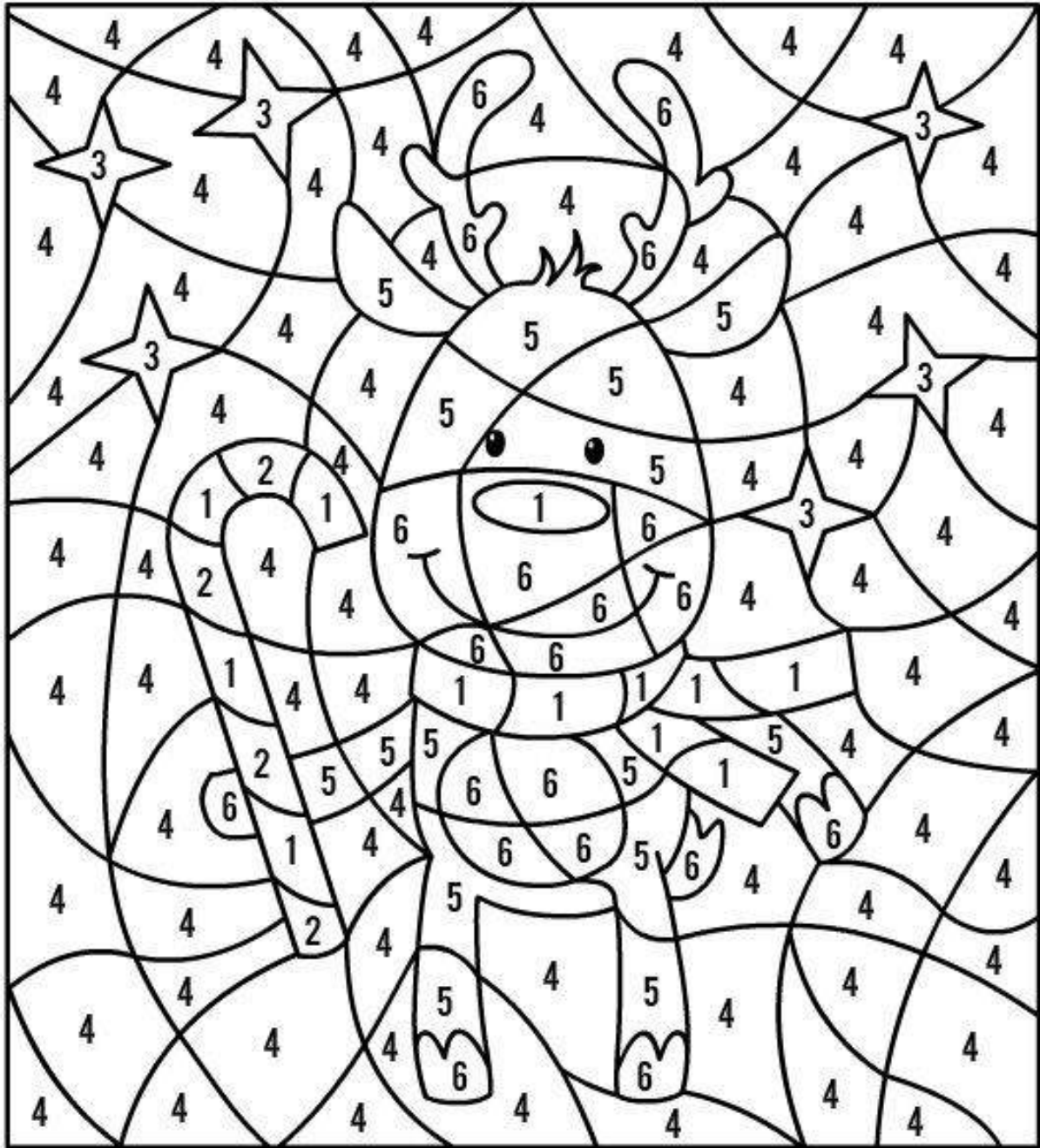
The Shire is eager to appoint someone promptly so please submit your application by 4pm on Friday 3 December 2021.

# KIDS CORNER

## Christmas Printable Color by Number



123kidsfun.com



1 RED 2 WHITE 3 YELLOW 4 BLUE 5 BROWN 6 LIGHTBROWN





# Christmas Rocky Road

SERVES: 12 | PREP TIME: 15MINS | COOK TIME: 5MINS | INGREDIENTS: 9

## ingredients

- 200g dark chocolate, chopped
- 100g milk chocolate, chopped
- 20g copha or butter, chopped
- 280g pink and white marshmallows, halved
- 150g shortbread fingers, coarsely chopped
- 4 x 35g pkts Coles Gingerbread biscuits, coarsely chopped
- 1/2 cup (70g) slivered almonds, toasted
- 4 x 52g Cadbury Cherry Ripe bars, coarsely chopped
- Green & red Mars M&M's/M&M's Minis, to decorate

## directions

**Step 1** Grease the base and sides of a 20cm x 30cm lamington pan. Line with baking paper, allowing the sides to overhang.

**Step 2** Place combined chocolates and copha or butter in a heatproof bowl over a saucepan of simmering water (don't let the bowl touch the water). Use a metal spoon to stir for 5 mins or until the mixture melts and is smooth.

**Step 3** Combine marshmallow, shortbread, gingerbread, almond and Cherry Ripe in a large bowl. Add chocolate mixture. Gently fold until just combined. Spoon into the prepared pan. Sprinkle with M&M's and M&M's Minis. Set aside for 1 hour to set. Cut into pieces to serve.

FOR MORE RECIPES, VISIT [HTTPS://WWW.TASTE.COM.AU](https://www.taste.com.au)

# Street Light Faults & Outages



If you notice any issues with street lights, faults or damage call Horizon Power's 24/7 Fault Line on  
**1800 264 914**

## MEEKA GYM

The Shire gym has all the equipment (plus more) that you will need to achieve your fitness goals. Come into the Shire Office to sign up.

More information is on our website.

Access restricted to adults 18 years or older  
Unmanned gym open 5am-10pm daily



## MEEKATHARRA CHRIST THE KING

CORNER OF DARLOT & HIGH  
STREETS

**SERVICE TIMES  
DECEMBER 2021**

**MASS**  
24th of Dec

**LITURGY**  
11th of Dec

RECONCILIATION TIMES BY  
REQUEST BEFORE OR AFTER  
MASS

CONTACT CATHY JONES ON  
08 9963 4176



**Meekatharra AA Meetings - Wednesdays 7.00pm**

**Seventh Day Adventist Church - Mc Cleary Street**



# ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

**Contact - [0472686962](tel:0472686962) for more information**



## SQUASH COURT

LOCATED AT THE SPORTS COMPLEX

Keys available at the Shire Office  
\$50 Cash Key Bond  
\$10 Per Game

More information on our website  
[www.meekashire.wa.gov.au](http://www.meekashire.wa.gov.au)



## NAME PAVERS

Be apart of this fundraising activity for the Meekatharra Outback Festival Committee

### NAME PAVERS ARE:

- A unique and lasting record of your support;
- A creation of memories and milestones;
- A celebration of a wedding, new baby, birthday or anniversary;
- A tribute to someone special or a precious memorial to a loved one.



Your donation entitles you to have your name engraved into a paver as a lasting record of your valued support. The paver will be permanently installed on the footpath outside the Shire Administration Building proudly showing your donation. To place your order please come into the Shire Office.





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Mid West Septics operates under an Integrated Management System meeting the requirements of key Australian standards for quality, environment and OHS.



**0458 002 126 - ALL HOURS**

# IMPORTANT DATES

## December 2021

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
29 Yoga 6pm-7pm @ Town Hall	30	1	2 Rick Fenny Vet @ Paddy's Flat 	3 Rick Fenny Vet @ Paddy's Flat	4 <b>FARMER JACKS CLOSED FOR STOCK TAKE</b> Meeka Goes Green Recycling 9am-11am Upcycling Workshop 11am 	5 1 Man and a Bike Meeka episode airing on channel 7TWO @ 12pm 
6 Yoga 6pm-7pm @ Town Hall WACHS Dietitian @ Hospital GRAMS Midwife @ Clinic	7 GRAMS Midwife @ Clinic	8	9 ENT Team @ Clinic	10 Carols by Candlelight 7pm-9pm @ Meeka Hospital Front Lawn	11  Meeka Markets 9:30am-1pm Meeka Goes Green Recycling 9am-11am	12
13 Yoga 6pm-7pm @ Town Hall Diabetic Ed @ Clinic	 Town Christmas Party 3pm-6pm @ Town Hall Diabetic Ed & 360 Health @ Clinic	15 360 Health @ Clinic	16	17 Ordinary Council Meeting 2pm	18 Meeka Goes Green Recycling 9am-11am	19
20	21	22 Shire Office, Works Depot and Youth Centre Closed from End of Day. Reopening on 5th of January.	23	24 CRC Closed from 24th. Reopening on Monday the 10th of January GP Clinic Closed from 12pm	25 Christmas Day 	26 Boxing Day
27 Christmas Day Public Holiday	28 Boxing Day Public Holiday	29 GP Clinic Closed	30 GP Clinic Closed	31 New Years Eve GP Clinic Closed	1 New Years Day <b>2022</b> HAPPY NEW Year 	2