



Meekatharra Dust

Issue Number 276—April 2016

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LIGHTS, CAMERA



ACTION



Cnr Main & Savage Street, PO Box 129 Meekatharra WA 6642

Phone: 08-9980-0600 Fax: 08-9981-1505

Email: ceo@meekashire.wa.gov.au

Web: www.meekashire.wa.gov.au

Dust Noticeboard...

KEEPING UP TO DATE
WITH WHATS
HAPPENNING IN YOUR
COMMUNITY!

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

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

If you would like to subscribe to
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Expiry Date

CVV

____/____/____

Cardholders Signature

Date _____ Amount \$ _____

Alternatively, pop into
the Shire Office &
subscribe in person.





The School Holidays are right around the corner! For those of you travelling out of town, safe journey... & Enjoy the break!

Until next time...

Don't Forget!

Ordinary Council Meeting
16th April 2016
09:30am, Council Chambers

Meeka Golf Club Opening Day
10th April 2016
11:30am, Golf Course

Meekatharra Gymkhana 2016
16th April 2016
08:00am, Race Course

Note from Council

All items to be presented at Council Meetings need to be submitted to Shire Staff two weeks prior to Council Meeting dates. All items received after this time will be held for further consideration.

A FRIENDLY REMINDER ABOUT DOG CONTROL

When walking your dogs on the town oval, please ensure you are in complete control of your animal at all times and dispose of any waste in the rubbish bins provided by Council.

Thank-You

Meekatharra Shire



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.



Your Council News

April 2016 • by Anna Johnson on behalf of the Shire of Meekatharra

Light 'Em Up

The Meekatharra sports oval is ready to shine, surrounded by our magnificent new state-of-the-art night lights. Tom Sullivan's crane did the lifting, and the boys from Wellington Electrical connected it all up - it hasn't been an easy job, but the results are rewarding. The new lighting will increase the town's opportunities for a range of sports and other events. The town oval is often used for activities such as the various fundraising car rallies that visit Meeka, social and entertainment events and school sports, so the light towers are a welcome enhancement to the facilities we can offer locals and visitors - a big thanks to everyone involved in this achievement.

Night Time Events To Shine With New Lighting Towers



Up, up and away - no erection problems for these blokes as they get the towers up and mounted. Night sports and other events are now possible, a bonus for Meeka locals and visitors. Below left - the all important cabling and electrical connections, while Bruce from Wellington Electrical, right, does the tough job of holding the chain.



Rubbish Fires Tip The Balance

Locals have a right to be concerned about recent unauthorised fires at the town's rubbish tip. There are substantial fines for any person found to be lighting the fires. These fires are reported to the Department of Environment, and they may decide to place additional conditions on the shire's site licence if the fires continue. The risk of pollution and harm to people, animals and plants around the site due to fires should not be underestimated.

Where Are Your Kids?

A major worry is that children are reportedly building cubbies and playing among the rubbish. Children have no place at the tip, where there are dangers from unstable, hazardous rubbish and heavy machinery. Adults are urged to ensure that their kids are not playing at the tip or unsupervised if going with mum or dad on a "tip run".

Unknown Hazards

The fire brigade is generally unable to do much about tip fires, which can be very hazardous; applying water to unknown elements in the rubbish piles has the potential to cause bigger problems, and there is a risk of explosions from various sealed or flammable containers.

Locals have been known to go and watch the fires, which is highly dangerous both in regard to fumes and potentially explosive materials - stay away and don't risk short or long term effects.

Common Sense or Consequences

All tip users must comply with the posted regulations, or risk the consequences if the fires and misuse continue. If you have friends or family members who aren't great readers, please pass this information on to them and their kids.



On the job: Firefighter Steve Smith helping with a protective wetdown at the tip perimeter.

No Winging It As Audit Results Take Off

Airport Facilities "Extremely Well Run"

The Civil Aviation authority's recent audit of the Meekatharra airport has had a positive outcome, with the comment that it is "extremely well run" - good news for all the hardworking people responsible for running it. Two minor points were noted and quickly fixed, with the inspector reporting that this is the least number of points he has recorded in any of his audits - impressive results.



Is That a Runway, or Are You Just PAPI To See Us?

Funding assistance is being sought by the Council in order to upgrade the airport runway lighting. The goal is to improve certain conditions and meet specifications, and install a Precision Approach Path Indicator (PAPI) system. These enhancements will ensure that the Meekatharra Airport keeps up its current status while creating even better safety conditions for night and low light flights.

A PAPI is an array of lights next to an aircraft runway (see photo, upper left). There are four- and two-light systems (four is the standard). The colour-coded lights are spaced equally apart in a right-to-left horizontal row, and they are used as a visual aid to approaching aircraft, letting the pilot know the aircraft's position in relation to the designated glideslope for that runway - ie, the angle at which the plane should approach for landing.

If the plane is above the designated glideslope, there will be more white lights than red lights; if below the glideslope, more red lights than white lights. And yes, you guessed it - equal white and red lights means the plane is on the right glideslope. The photo above is not Meeka airport, but indicates how the system looks.

You're welcome to attend the monthly council meetings (dates and times are listed in The Dust) and have your say. You can also obtain a copy of the Council Minutes to find out about the many other projects, discussions and improvements that the Shire is undertaking on behalf of the Meeka community. All items or letters for council should be addressed and sent to the Shire Of Meekatharra CEO, at the Shire address (see right).



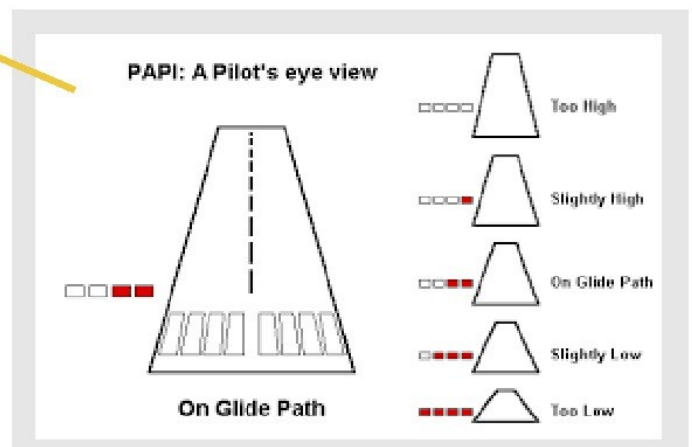
No mucking around on this tightly-run ship: Meeka has done exceptionally well with this year's airport & swimming pool audits, a credit to all involved.



Pool Performance Praise

Two aspects of our swimming pool - operation compliance and chlorine gas compliance - were also audited, by the Royal Life Saving Society. Meeka emerged with buoyant results, "vastly improved" from the 2014 audit, with higher than average compliance being noted.

A big "thank you" is in order to everyone who has contributed to these excellent results - it's a credit to the town, once again establishing our important role and high service & facility standards in the midwest region.



The simple but brilliant Precision Approach Path Indicator system was invented in 1974 by Tony Smith and David Johnson in Bedford, England. It took two years to fully develop the system, which now includes pilot-activational options when control activation is not available. The men received many international awards for their life-saving invention, which has changed very little since its inception. It was even used for NASA's space shuttle landing.

A PAPI system for Meekatharra Airport will add another layer of safety and confidence for approaching craft. Meeka often acts as an alternative landing for all sorts of aircraft when conditions at scheduled stops prevent landing.



Shire Of Meekatharra

Main Street

PO Box 129



Meekatharra WA 6642

Phone : 08 9980 0600

www.meekashire.wa.gov.au






"Meekatharra - A Golden Prospect"

YOUTH SERVICES APRIL '16' SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM - Week 1

	Monday 11th	Tuesday 12th	Wednesday 13th	Thursday 14th	Friday 15th
Day 	<u>Kidzone</u> 10-12noon (5-11 years) <u>Kidzone</u> 1-3pm (5-11 years) <u>Morning fitness</u> 10-12pm (all ages) Drop in Centre 1-4pm (12-18 years)	<u>Kidzone</u> 10-12noon (5-11 years) <u>Kidzone</u> 1-3pm (5-11 years) <u>Morning fitness</u> 10-12pm (all ages) Drop in Centre 1-4pm (12-18 years)	<u>Kidzone</u> 10-12noon (5-11 years) <u>Kidzone</u> 1-3pm (5-11 years) <u>Morning fitness</u> 10-12pm (all ages) Drop in Centre 1-4pm (12-18 years)	<u>Kidzone</u> 10-12noon (5-11 years) <u>Kidzone</u> 1-3pm (5-11 years) <u>Morning fitness</u> 10-12pm (all ages) Drop in Centre 1-4pm (12-18 years)	<u>Kidzone</u> 10-12noon (5-11 years) <u>Kidzone</u> 1-3pm (5-11 years) <u>Morning fitness</u> 10-12pm (all ages) Drop in Centre 1-4pm (12-18 years)
Night 	<u>Mixed Basketball</u> @ sports complex 6-8pm 5-18years	<u>Mixed Netball</u> @ sports complex 6-8pm 5-18years	<u>Indoor Soccer</u> @ Indoor Cricket Centre 6-8pm 8-18 years	<u>Pool Comp@</u> <u>Youth Centre</u> 6-8pm 12-18 years	<u>Drop In Centre</u> Movie Night 6-8pm 12-18 years

Phone Robert (Youth Centre) 0438 993 013, Wayne (Sports Complex) 0458 773 616, Claudette (Kidzone) 0474 641 824

YOUTH SERVICES APRIL '15 SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM - Week 2

	Monday 18th	Tuesday 19th	Wednesday 20th	Thursday 21st	Friday 22nd
 <p>Day</p>	<p><u>Kidzone</u> 10-12noon (5-11 years)</p> <p><u>Kidzone</u> 1-3pm (5-11 years)</p> <p><u>Morning fitness</u> 10-12pm (all ages)</p> <p>Drop in Centre 1-4pm (12-18 years)</p>	<p><u>Kidzone</u> 10-12noon (5-11 years)</p> <p><u>Kidzone</u> 1-3pm (5-11 years)</p> <p><u>Morning fitness</u> 10-12pm (all ages)</p> <p>Drop in Centre 1-4pm (12-18 years)</p>	<p><u>Kidzone</u> 10-12noon (5-11 years)</p> <p><u>Kidzone</u> 1-3pm (5-11 years)</p> <p><u>Morning fitness</u> 10-12pm (all ages)</p> <p>Drop in Centre 1-4pm (12-18 years)</p>	<p><u>Kidzone</u> 10-12noon (5-11 years)</p> <p><u>Kidzone</u> 1-3pm (5-11 years)</p> <p><u>Morning fitness</u> 10-12pm (all ages)</p> <p>Drop in Centre 1-4pm (12-18 years)</p>	<p><u>Kidzone</u> 10-12noon (5-11 years)</p> <p><u>Kidzone</u> 1-3pm (5-11 years)</p> <p><u>Morning fitness</u> 10-12pm (all ages)</p> <p>Drop in Centre 1-4pm (12-18 years)</p>
<p>Night</p> 	<p><u>Mixed Basketball</u> @ sports complex 6-8pm 5-18years</p> 	<p><u>Mixed Netball</u> @ sports complex 6-8pm 5-18years</p>	<p><u>Indoor Soccer</u> <u>Mixed</u> @ Indoor Cricket Centre 6-8pm 8-18 years</p>	<p><u>Comp night and Art @ Youth Centre</u> 6-8pm 12-18 years</p> 	<p><u>Drop In Centre Movie Night</u> 6-8pm 12-18 years</p> 

Phone Robert (Youth Centre) 0458 993 013, Wayne (Sports Complex) 0458 773 616, Claudette (Kidzone) 0474 641 824



Vince Catania MLA
Member for North West Central

THE NATIONALS
for Regional WA

Media release

31st March 2016

KidSport reaches milestone 10,000 Aboriginal kids active

The KidSport program has reached a significant milestone today, with 10,000 Aboriginal children now signed up with a local sporting or recreation club.

Member for North West Central Vince Catania MLA said it was a great achievement for the program.

"There are now 1,317 sporting clubs across Western Australia with at least one Aboriginal KidSport kid as a member," Vince said.

"In terms of numbers, KidSport has created the equivalent of 384 new footy teams, 640 basketball teams and 437 netball teams made up solely of Aboriginal KidSport kids, since the program began in 2011."

The KidSport program gives eligible 5-18 year old kids \$200 towards the cost of their sporting club fees.

"This means 10,000 Aboriginal kids who may not have been able to afford to join a sporting group are now active, healthy and engaged with their local teams and their communities."

Meekatharra Community Resource Centre is one of the State's top clubs with 210 Aboriginal Kidsport members now playing sport in the area thanks to the programme.

The KidSport program was helping to get more children into sports with the most popular sports being AFL, basketball, netball, soccer, swimming and athletics.

"Children want to get involved in sports and it shows by the increasing numbers of enrolments. The programme helps families by paying club fees and making it easier for kids to get actively involved in sports," Vince added.

"A total of \$2.33 million has been invested to help Aboriginal children get active through this program."

To date, 54,449 unique kids have accessed 90,903 vouchers through the KidSport program.

Accessing KidSport can be done through your local government via a health care card or a referral agent.

For more information on KidSport and to find out if you're eligible visit:

www.dsr.wa.gov.au/funding/individuals/kidsport

For media enquiries please contact Vince Catania on (08) 99412 999 or email

northwest@mp.wa.gov.au

POLICE NEWS



On the 15 February, 2016 Mid West Gascoyne Superintendent Mr Mike BELL presented Mr Roy SEERY (DMP) and Ms Stephanie MIPPY (ALS) with a Certificate of Appreciation after they assisted Meekatharra Police with the apprehension of an escaped prisoner. Both Mr SEERY and Ms MIPPY are not new to this stuff having both been serving police during their working careers.

Follow us & keep up to date on:



@MeekaPol



Mid West—Gascoyne District—
WA Police

CRIME
STOPPERS
com.au
1800 333 000

lock it.
hide it.
keep it.



Once again a big thank you for your assistance it was greatly appreciated.

Whats New?

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT EXERCISE – EARLY ADVICE

The Meekatharra Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) are planning to hold a field based Emergency Exercise in Meekatharra in the very near future. Emergency Management Exercises are necessary to assist the LEMC and Emergency Service responders to be better prepared in the event of a real emergency arising. They also provide an opportunity for responders to work together with other service providers and gain a better understanding of how other areas contribute to dealing with these situations. During the exercise, community members will observe activity from emergency service responders in Meekatharra, and this will be an opportunity for anyone interested to see how our services go about the difficult tasks they will be faced with. If you are considering becoming a volunteer for any of the Emergency Services in Meekatharra, it might be opportune to get involved through your service of choice and participate in the exercise.

Further information will be distributed as the time draws closer.

DRUG HAUL

Meekatharra Police on Tuesday 15 April 2016 whilst conducting Highway patrols have stopped a vehicle for a random breath test. The occupant's demeanour and manner raised suspicion with the officers which caused them to conduct a basic vehicle search. Located was a small amount of drugs, which highlighted the cause to conduct a more thorough search. Located in the vehicle was a larger package that contained approx. 165g of what is believed to be methamphetamine, with an estimated street value of 250 thousand. The two occupants of the vehicle both from Perth have been charged



Meekatharra District High School April's Birthdays

Darren Burkenhagen

13yrs

20th April 2016

Nedilleah Hill

12yrs

22nd April 2016

Isiah Monaghan

10yrs

26th April 2016

Doreen Hill

8yrs

6th April 2016

Nikya Reynolds

9yrs

7th April 2016

Rae-Vynn Calyun

9yrs

20th April 2016

Jody Gillespie

8yrs

7th April 2016

Khe-San Drayton Tressider

16yrs

9th April 2016

Raymond Binsian

15yrs

16th April 2016

Shontae Kunoth

6yrs

5th April 2016

Blake Councillor

10yrs

13th April 2016

Lila Carey

5yrs

4th April 2016

Tenaya Bell

5yrs

29th April 2016





MEEKATHARRA HEALTH VISITS



April 2016



Dentist

27th April – 5th May 2016

Call Hospital on 9981-0600 for appointment

Physiotherapist

12th April 2016

Call Hospital on 9981-0600 for appointment

Psychologist

TBC

Call GP Clinic on 9981-0604 for appointment

Podiatrist

12th April 2016

Call Hospital on 9981-0600 for appointment

Paediatrician

TBC

Call GP Clinic on 9981-0604 for appointment

Dietician

12th April 2016

Call Hospital on 9981-0600 for appointment

Dr Katy Templeman

11th – 12th April 2016

Call GP Clinic on 9981-0604 for appointment

Diabetic Educator

TBC

Call GP Clinic on 9981-0604 for appointment

May 2016

Dentist

27th April – 5th May 2016

Call Hospital on 9981-0600 for bookings

Dr Katy Templeman

9th – 10th May 2016

Call GP Clinic on 9981-0604 for appointment

Physiotherapist

10th May 2016

Call Hospital on 9981-0600 for appointment

Podiatrist

10th May 2016

Call Hospital on 9981-0600 for appointment

Welcome to Meeka 2016

On Friday 1st April 2016, the Shire of Meekatharra held their annual Welcome to Meeka evening at the Shire Hall. The evening provided the opportunity for all newcomers to town to meet and greet one another and was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. Shire President Norm Trenfield presented Council donations to St John Ambulance, Meeka Goes Green, Meekatharra Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service & Meeka FM.











Media Statement

23 March 2016

Patient Opinion – an exciting new initiative coming to the Midwest

The WA Country Health Service (WACHS) – Midwest region is trialing a new website to enable consumers to have an accessible and responsive way to provide feedback to the health service. Patient Opinion is an independently moderated online feedback website where health consumers can share their stories, good or not so good, for the purpose of service improvement.

Midwest Acting Regional Director Jeff Calver said that during the 12-month trial period, people in the region had the opportunity to share their health care experiences via the site. If people do not have internet access they may call Patient Opinion on 1300 662 996 and provide their story over the phone or complete a paper based feedback form. “Patient Opinion will enable consumers to engage in a new and innovative way, enhancing our existing consumer feedback and complaints system. Strengthening communication and the partnership between service users and service providers will ultimately lead to safety and quality improvements,” Mr Calver said.

Members of the public can send their story to Patient Opinion, where it is independently moderated before it is posted on the website. Health services are notified when a story about their service has been posted, and can then post a public response to that story. The health service can also share how improvements have been made to services as a result of stories shared on the site. “We encourage patients, their families and carers in the Midwest to activate real change and improvement in their local health service by taking the opportunity to give feedback,” Mr Calver said. “Patient Opinion is just one of the ways that consumers and carers can provide feedback to their health service in the Midwest region. Consumers are also able to speak to health service staff or managers in person or over the phone, or fill out a feedback form.”

For more information about Patient Opinion Australia visit www.patientopinion.org.au or contact Michele Young, Patient Opinion Coordinator Michele.Young@health.wa.gov.au or 9956 8695.





Meekatharra District High School

IMPORTANT SCHOOL DATES

TERM TWO STARTS ON TUESDAY 26TH APRIL

PUPIL-FREE DAYS FRIDAY 8TH APRIL AND FRIDAY 6TH MAY

NEW FLAGS FLY AT M.D.H.S

The whole school has recently learned about respecting our flags as they are important symbols within the Australian community. Thanks to Melissa Price (Member for Durack) our bright new flags can take pride of place.

We also thank our student councillors who have taken on the daily job of carefully raising and lowering the flags.



School Council Formed at Community Picnic

Many thanks to everyone for the massive show of community support at our picnic on Tuesday 22nd April. Whilst the children enjoyed playing games with staff members the adults elected our first School Council.

A number of issues were identified by the Interim School Council in 2015, and these form the starting point for the new Council:

- Funding and appointment of a full-time school counsellor
- Healthy canteen food at a reasonable price
- New uniform (primary and high school version) for 2016 that is cool, comfortable and hard wearing
- School improvement program to bring the grounds and facilities up to a better standard. This includes a shade structure over the courts
- Repair and replacement of the Hearing Assist system in classrooms



Big Prizes!

Great Fun!

Laughs!



Meekatharra Golf Club

Opening Day

2016

Proudly sponsored by Farmer Jack's Meeka

Sunday April 10th 2016
4 Player Ambrose

Register at the clubhouse by 11.30 am

**Everyone welcome - singles, pairs
or groups of four**

Come along and enjoy a fun day!

**\$20 entry per player includes a BBQ Dinner
with homemade salads and desserts!**

Enquiries to Roy McClymont 0417 989 076

Major Club Sponsors 2016:

*Sandfire Resources Ltd, Doray Minerals Ltd,
Metals X Ltd and Farmer Jack's Meekatharra*



Community Easter Egg Hunt



2016 MEEKATHARRA FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

Next 2016 Meeka Outback Festival Committee Meeting:

Thursday 21st April 2016

5:15pm, Shire Offices



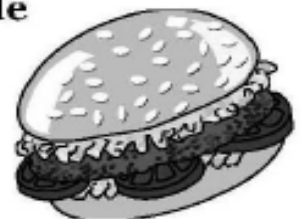
WE WANT YOU!



Meekatharra Corner Store

Corner of Main & High Streets, Meekatharra

Ph: 9981 1151



A range of Asian Ingredients and utensils available for sale



Burgers
Rolls
Sandwiches made to order
Bottled water deliveries

Tyre Repairs
Driveway Service



MEEKATHARRA GYMKHANA 2016



16TH APRIL



At the Meekatharra Race Course

\$2000 BARREL RACE



1ST - \$1000

2ND - \$600

3RD - \$400



**Rider and horse must compete in
3 events prior to the barrels!!!!**

Nominations at 8.00am

Gymkhana Starts at 8.30am

Food and drinks will be on sale at the Kiosk

Bar opens at 12:00pm

Fun day to be had by all!!!!!!

Hope to see everyone there!!!!!!





Minister for Police; Road Safety;
Training and Workforce Development; Women's Interests

Our Ref: 45-10796

Mr Vince Catania MLA
Member for North West Central
PO Box 1000
CARNARVON WA 6701

Dear Mr Catania *Vince*

Thank you for your correspondence of 2 March 2016 on behalf of the Meekatharra Community regarding the installation of a flag pole at the front of the Meekatharra Police Station to display the Aboriginal Flag.

Western Australia Police advise Meekatharra Police Station currently has a single flagpole displaying the Australian National Flag as required by the *Flags Act 1953* (Commonwealth).

I am advised an initiative to erect a second flag pole to displaying the Aboriginal Flag in addition to the Australian National Flag was instigated by Meekatharra Police Station in January 2016.

Community members and local organisations have been consulted about the initiative, providing positive feedback. To date this has resulted in the donation of a flag pole which will require some minor modifications and fittings to be fully functional. The police at Meekatharra determined that local community involvement in the initiative would be beneficial in advancing the community values of the town and provide an opportunity for police to collectively work together with community members.

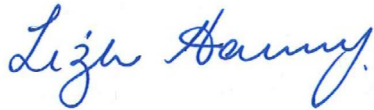
Local police are currently discussing opportunities with local indigenous organisations to assist with the installation of a suitable base for the flagpole and the completion of site work. I understand a new Aboriginal Flag has been obtained through the Mid-West Gascoyne office of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs.

I am advised that following the erection of the flagpole, the police at Meekatharra are planning to hold a community based ceremony involving local indigenous community members together with local and visiting dignitaries to officially mark the occasion.

11th Floor, Dumas House, 2 Havelock Street, West Perth Western Australia 6005
Telephone: +61 8 6552 5900 Facsimile: +61 8 6552 5901 Email: Minister.Harvey@dpc.wa.gov.au

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention and I trust the information provided is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



**LIZA HARVEY MLA
DEPUTY PREMIER; MINISTER FOR POLICE; ROAD SAFETY;
TRAINING AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT; WOMEN'S INTERESTS**

08 APR 2016





What if you called and NOBODY CAME?

In country towns St John Ambulance is a volunteer service.

There are a range of ways to participate in the ambulance service

- a support volunteer or as a volunteer ambulance officer;
and Training at one SJA centre is transferable to another....



A Community is only as strong as its people.

For more information, contact the
Meekatharra Sub Centre



sjameekatharra@westnet.com.au or phone 9980 1467 or 0437 681 562

Sub Centre is open Tues & Thurs 9am – 2pm or by appointment.

One pastoralist's perspective on Rangelands Reform

The hype

As you are all probably aware, our State Government is currently working on 'Unlocking the potential of the Rangelands' through the Rangelands Reform process. To help it along, on 1 March 2016, they (the Department of Lands, Terry Redman) held a conference titled 'Rangeland: Sustainable economic development in Western Australia conference 2016'. I did consider attending until I saw the conference program, which showed the event was primarily about winners the government had picked (Kimberly, Pilbara and new irrigators).

From two attendees I heard reports of 'a lot of hype and hot air in the room' and that 'Most of the focus was talking up irrigation for the Kimberley and lots of empty 'punching the air' type language about how innovative we all are.' Sounds handy. There was nothing there for the average arid rangeland pastoralist, which is why, out of about 250 people in the room, almost no pastoralists attended.

For most of us, the Rangeland Reform process is only focused on legislative reforms. You can read the long list of rule changes (and extra enforcement powers) in the DoL document '*Land Administration Amendment Bill 2016 – Key Proposals*' (see the DoL website). Most of these new rules will have no useful effect on how the average pastoralist operates.

Where's the useful policy?

There is no doubt - to anyone who cares to investigate - that the productive capacity of the bulk of the Southern Rangelands is greatly reduced, in places to the point of nil production, so something needs to happen.

To their credit, the Government has sought answers to the problems of the southern and wider rangelands. They received some of the answers in the respected 2009 '*Duncan Report*' (more correctly: '*A Review of the Economic and Ecological Sustainability of Pastoralism in the Southern Rangelands of Western Australia*'), authored by an advisory group that included pastoralists, and from the 2013 '*Sustainable land use and economic development opportunities in the Western Australian Rangelands*' by the consulting firm URS. You can see these reports here: <http://www.lands.wa.gov.au/Publications/Documents/Final%20Report%20Southern%20Rangelands%20Pastoral%20Advisory%20Group%20131009.pdf> and here: http://outbackwa.org.au/urs_report_summary.

Whilst recommendations from both reports included a requirement for improved legislation and tenure, more importantly, both reports focused on non-legislative policy actions that would enable actual change on the ground for all of the pastoral estate. They identified critical areas of policy that the current reform process is not addressing.

The recommendations of both reports are about 95% policy action rather than legislation. They talk about carbon sequestration, stewardship or environmental programs, biosecurity issues, assistance with native title negotiation, and both recommended a statement or plan from Government outlining a vision for the rangelands, both for rangeland inhabitants and for the State....So far the reform process does not mention these things.

The bottom line

Legislation is important but it won't solve long-standing rangeland issues of historic widespread landscape degradation, compromised rangeland plant communities leading to continuing erosion, excessive total grazing pressure caused by feral animals and kangaroos and declining terms of trade resulting from lower productivity of large sections of land.

If you attend one of DoL's planned meetings in April, some feedback that we should all give to Government: **Read your reports again and implement recommended policy.**

Jason Hastie
Pingandy Station



LCDC WORKSHOP
RANGELAND RESTORATION
SPECIAL GUEST - HUGH PRINGLE
28TH AND 29TH APRIL 2016

Day 1 – Thurs 28th April 2016 – 9am Start

Tabletop exercise – Aerial Photos

(Please bring photos of your property either aerial, ground or Google earth printouts)

Discussion of Problems

Solutions

Questions

Day 2 – Fri 29th April 2016 – 5pm Finish

Station Tour

Demonstration of Hands on activities

To be held at Carey Downs Station

All meals provided – some accommodation available or BYO swag

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Save the date!

Weekend of 24 September 2016

Charles Darwin Reserve, Perenjori WA



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Area Supervisors are:

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As an Area Supervisor, you will:

- Recruit, manage and train a small team of temporary Census field staff
- Implement and manage the Census delivery and collection processes and procedures
- Undertake a range of administrative tasks, including the receipt, handling and storage of a range of Census materials
- Earn \$34.76 per hour (inclusive of 25% loading).

As an Area Supervisor, you must:

- Know your local community
- Hold a current driver's licence
- Be comfortable using computer, tablet and mobile devices
- Comply with ABS work health and safety policies
- Hold Australian Citizenship or have the legal right to work in Australia.

Job seekers from diverse backgrounds, including non-English speaking backgrounds and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, are encouraged to apply.

**More information is available from the ABS website.
Apply online at abs.gov.au/careers**

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

Christ the King Catholic Church



Liturgies for Easter and April Saturdays at 6.30 pm except for Easter timetable

<i>Good Friday</i>	<i>Friday of the Passion of the Lord</i>	<i>2.00 pm</i>
<i>Easter Sunday</i>	<i>Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord</i>	<i>9.00 am</i>
<i>Sat 23 April</i>	<i>Celebration of the Eucharist</i>	<i>6.30 pm</i>
<i>Sat 30 April</i>	<i>Celebration of the Word with Communion</i>	<i>6.30 pm</i>

ALL WELCOME

The Catholic Church is located on the corner of Darlot and High Streets.
This parish is under the pastoral care of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan of the Order of St Benedict
Sr Gerri Boylan sgs 9963 4179

Christians praying together in Meekatharra



You are welcome

to celebrate God
with other Christians
in the Catholic Church
and Uniting Church
on the following dates
Please note changes of times



September, October, November

Sat 05 Sep	Uniting Church Service Uniting Church 6.30 pm
<i>Sat 12 Sep</i>	<i>Celebration of the Word with Communion Catholic Church 6.30 pm</i>
Sat 19 Sep	<i>Celebration of the Eucharist (Mass) Catholic Church 6.30 pm</i>
Sat 03 Oct	Uniting Church Service Uniting Church 6.30 pm
<i>Sat 17 Oct</i>	<i>Celebration of the Eucharist (Mass) Catholic Church 6.30 pm</i>
<i>Sat 24 Oct</i>	<i>Celebration of the Word with Communion Catholic Church 6.30 pm</i>
Sat 07 Nov	Uniting Church Service Uniting Church 6.30 pm
<i>Sat 14 Nov</i>	<i>Celebration of the Eucharist (Mass) Catholic Church 6.30 pm</i>
<i>Sat 28 Nov</i>	<i>Celebration of the Word with Communion Catholic Church 6.30 pm</i>

The Catholic Church is located on the corner of Darlot/High Sts.

The Catholic parish is under the pastoral care
of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan of the Order of St Benedict
Sr Gerri Boylan sgs 9963 4179

The Uniting Church

is located in Darlot Street
Contact: Rev Mitch Fialkowski
9981 1053

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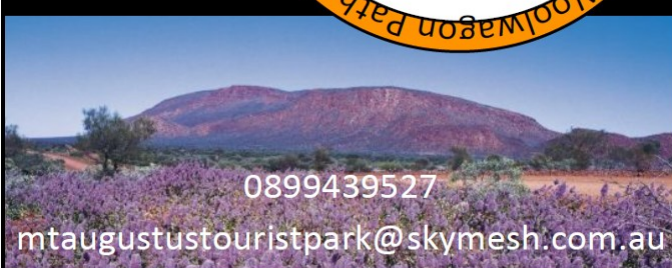


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Anna: 0459 119 821

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Growth Lutheran Network of Churches, Missions and Ministries



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Meekatharra Branch

Luke Williams 0428 939 034

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Eddie on the Road Are coming to Meeka!



Come join us for loads of fun and activities!

**Saturday April 9th 12am-3pm
& 6-8pm @ footy oval**

**Sunday April 10th 10am-1pm
@ footy oval**

Don't forget to wear your messy clothes!

VOLUNTEERING FOR ST JOHN AMBULANCE

<http://www.stjohnchangealives.com.au/volunteer-ambulance-officer.html>

St John volunteers play a vital role in communities throughout Western Australia.

When you become a Volunteer Ambulance Officer, you are taking a step toward becoming one of our most precious community resources, helping to ensure that country communities of WA have access to high quality ambulance services and pre-hospital care.

Volunteers help change lives in many different ways. If becoming an ambulance officer is not for you, there are roles to suit all types of people including; administration duties, vehicle and building maintenance, public relations, fundraising, recruitment, social coordinators or committee members.



General Requirements

It's easy to join! To be successful you will need to <https://vip.stjohnambulance.com.au/> You will be required to submit details for an up-to-date police clearance and complete a medical questionnaire.

Benefits

Volunteer ambulance officers receive the highest quality training which equips them with the essential basic and intermediate life support skills to assist them in stabilising patients en route to hospital.

St John provides training at its sub centres for all volunteers and training is conducted to a level at which the volunteer will feel comfortable, confident and ready for the road.

In addition to the initial training, an ongoing skills maintenance program for volunteers is also provided at local sub centres, in cooperation with your regional training coordinator.

St John volunteers can also undertake other training courses, including volunteer skills weekends, a Volunteer Ambulance Officer driving course, a skills knowledge and ongoing Continuing Education Programs (CEP).

Fitness Requirements

Although there are no fitness requirements, a completed medical questionnaire is required as part of our volunteer recruitment process.

Talk to us

The Meekatharra Sub Centre is open Tuesday and Thursdays 9am – 2pm.
sjameekatharra@westnet.com.au or 9980 1467

Feel free to come down and register via the office.
Just bring your ID – drivers licence, passport, it's a 100pts check.



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Meekatharra Library & Museum

Mon - Fri

8:00am - 4:30pm



Come on in and check out what's new in our monthly box exchange!!

If there is a particular novel, author or film you are interested in, we can request these for you.

Library memberships can be obtained from the Shire Office - Quick, easy & free to join!

Squash Courts



Keys & Tokens can be obtained from the Shire Offices.

Key bond applicable.

(Equipment hire is not available.)

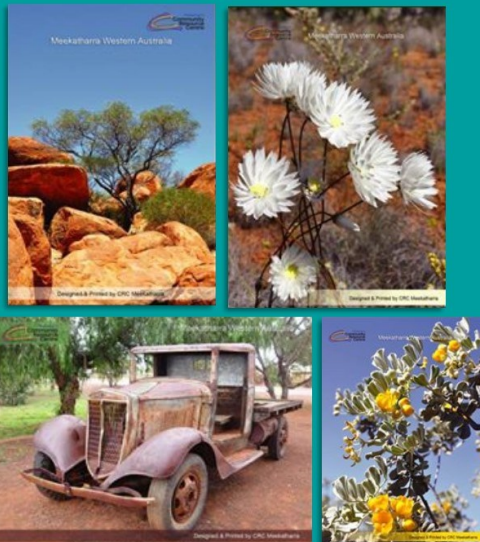


The Meekatharra Seventh-Day Adventist Church (McCleary St) invites you to join us in a weekly service for all ages from **10am Saturday** mornings.

Services to benefit the local community and visiting individuals by supporting economic, business and social initiatives:

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Sunday of the Month**

**Contact:
Rev. Mitch Fialkowski
9981 1053
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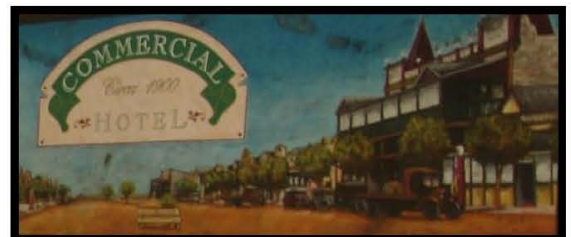


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Fax: 99811021

Email: commieh@westnet.com.au

77 Main Street, Meekatharra, 6642



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Thursday

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Anzac Day - 25 April



The 25th April is the day Australia and New Zealand Celebrate Anzac Day. Every year the members of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) who fought at Gallipoli in the Ottoman Empire in World War One are honoured and commemorated.

Important Dates To Remember

APRIL 2016

Meeka Outback Festival Committee Meeting

20th April 2016

5:15pm

Shire Offices

Meeka Golf Club Open Day

10th April 2016

11:30am

Golf Course

Ordinary Council Meeting

16th April 2016

9:30am

Council Chambers, Shire Offices

Anzac Day

25th April 2016

Dawn Service

Paddy's Flat

Meekatharra Gymkhana

16th April 2016

8:00am

Race Course

MAY 2016

Meekatharra Outback Festival Committee Meeting

18th May 2016

5:15pm

Shire Offices

Ordinary Council Meeting

21st May 2016

9:30am

Council Chambers, Shire Offices

**CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE NEXT EDITION OF
THE MEEKATHARRA DUST:**

29th April 2016

(Last working Friday of the Month)