

Meekatharra Dust

FEBRUARY 2022 | ISSUE NO.346

COST \$2.50

More Than 40 Cars Removed From Meeka Streets



2021/2022 Council Meeting Dates

The dates for Ordinary Council Meetings of the Shire of Meekatharra for 2021/22 are:

17th of July 2021
21st of August 2021
18th September 2021
16th October 2021
20th November 2021
17th of December 2021 at 2pm
15th of January 2022
19th February 2022
19th of March 2022
9th of April 2022
21st of May 2022
25th of June 2022

All meetings are held in the Shire of Meekatharra Council Chambers at 9:30am unless otherwise stated. Last day to submit items for Council Meetings is Friday, 4:30pm two weeks before the Council Meeting occurs.

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**

Advertising in the Meekatharra Dust

If you wish to advertise in the Meekatharra Dust please get in contact with us on **cdo@meekashire.wa.gov.au**. There are a range of size options you can choose from to advertise your business or products. Local non-for-profit organisations are able to receive free advertising.

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



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The Shire of Meekatharra



meekashire.wa.gov.au

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 guard.



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Note from the Editor

It has been a hot start to 2022! Hope everyone is keeping cool and hydrated.

With new restrictions by the WA government from the 31st of January, it will be a requirement to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination to enter certain places around the state which include the gym, IGA bottle shop, pubs/hotels, cafes, visiting hospital or aged care and indoor entertainment venues. Check with each venue to see if you need to be vaccinated or not to enter. Please remember that this is a requirement of the state government, so be friendly and polite to the staff enforcing this. If you need more information please visit the WA Government website.

Since school has gone back the Youth Services Team have changed their hours so that is 3pm-5pm and 6pm-8pm Monday to Friday. Kids Zone will be open Monday, Wednesday and Friday for the younger kids between 3pm-5pm.

The first MARG (Meekatharra Aboriginal Reference Group) Meeting of 2022 will be held on the 9th of February, 9:30am at Lloyds Conference Room, all community members are encouraged to attend. Horizon power is hosting a community meeting at the Commercial Hotel on the 9th of Feb from 4pm to 6pm to discuss the future of power in Meeka. The school is hosting a brekkie for everyone in the community on the 11th of February at 8:30am.

The Editor





CEO COUNCIL MESSAGE

Welcome to the February 2022 edition of The Dust CEO Council Message Report that provides information for all residents regarding the Council ordinary meeting that was held on the 19th of January 2022. This section of The Dust is intended to provide a snapshot of the issues discussed at Councils Ordinary Meetings that are held each month.

The unconfirmed minutes of Council Meetings are placed on the Council website as soon as possible within the prescribed time limit whereby they are confirmed at the next scheduled Council Meeting. Furthermore, items listed on the agenda when published for the community may not include all the items that were discussed at the Council Meeting, as provision is made for councillors and/or staff to introduce late items for consideration as permitted by legislation and Councils Standing Orders. Therefore, the following resolutions are only an extract of the full meeting agenda with the entire meeting proceedings being available in the official Council Minutes that are confirmed at the next meeting of Council. The 15th of January 2022 ordinary Council meeting was preceded by the Annual Electors Meeting where Council adopted and received the 2020/21 Annual Report.

Items from the Shire of Meekatharra Annual Electors Meeting 15 January 2022

Item 7.1 – Receiving of the 2020/21 Annual Report

That the Annual Report for 2020/2021 be received.

It is a legislative requirement for the 2020/21 Annual Report to be formally adopted and received by Council.

Items from the Shire of Meekatharra Ordinary Meeting 15 January 2022

Item 10.2 – Community Resource Centre Request for Donation

That Council approve a donation of \$2000.00 to the Meekatharra Community Resource Centre to hold a Snake Handling course for the general public of Meekatharra in March 2022 pending evidence of a minimum of eight (8) people registering their attendance for the course.

The above resolution confirms Councils approval to make a donation of \$2,000 to the Meekatharra Community Resource Centre for the purpose of conducting a Snake Handling Course scheduled for March 2022.

Further Information Snippets

- ⇒ Traineeships – Council approved the recommendation from the CEO to modify the current organizational structure that identified the engagement of potential school-based trainees for the Shire. It is intended there will be 2 traineeships offered – one traineeship in the office administration area and the other in the outdoor horticultural/civil works area. Discussions will be undertaken with the Meekatharra School when Term 1 commences to identify potential candidates for the traineeships.
- ⇒ Free COVID Vaccination Pool Day Event – Council arranged a free open pool day with sausage sizzle BBQ and drinks from 12noon to 5pm on Friday 28th of January 2022. The intention of the Open Pool Free Day Event was to coincide with COVID vaccinations at the pool.
- ⇒ Road Access and Maintenance Agreements – the CEO and Shire President have met with several mining companies during the last month to discuss the intended use of Councils rural road network for their operations. In doing so, it is important that the mining companies understand their obligations where the use of Councils rural road network must accommodate the impact their heavy vehicles have on the unsealed roads and to ensure they maintain Councils road network to an acceptable standard for all road users.

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council is scheduled for 9.30am on Saturday the 19th of February 2022 and the next CEO Council Message column will appear shortly after this meeting in the March 2022 edition of The Dust to provide information from this Council meeting as well as general information updates to the community. Until the next edition Bye for Now!

KJ Matthews - CEO

Meekatharra Future Energy System

Adopting an Integrated Resource Planning approach, Horizon Power has been busy exploring the feasibility of a more reliable, cleaner and green future energy solution to meet Meekatharra's long term energy requirements. We would like to invite the community to participate in exploring Meekatharra's future energy needs. Pop in to learn more about our customer solutions, the exciting work we're doing for regional WA communities, and our staff can help answer any questions you have about your account, payment options, concessions and rebates.

Where: Commercial Hotel, 77 Main St

When: Wednesday 9 February

Time: 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

If you are unable to make it but would like to ask any questions or to stay informed, email us at integratedresourceplanning@horizonpower.com.au



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people of WA*

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A MOZZIE CAN LAY

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**OF EGGS AT
A TIME**

www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/ **FIGHTTHEBITE**



Government of Western Australia
Department of Health

THANK YOU

Noeleen Gilla and family would like to say a massive THANK YOU for everyone who helped the search for Valma Gilla and Norman Ryan.

So many people in the community supported the search in a variety of ways. Including the Meeka Police, Penny and Liam Johns, the roadhouse, caravan park and so many more in the community.

Thank you to the Meeka police for all their efforts in bringing the couple home.

A massive THANK YOU to Liam and Penny Johns for quickly jumping into action and finding the couple.

The family are extremely grateful for everyone who was involved and are very pleased to welcome Valma and Norman home.



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

Don't get scammed buying rapid antigen tests

Now that COVID-19 rapid antigen tests (RAT) are cleared for sale in Western Australia, many consumers will be looking to get their hands on the popular product before we open our borders to the rest of the country.

When demand for a product outstrips supply, this can create an opportunity for scammers and some individuals to take advantage, so we are urging shoppers to be wary and to familiarise themselves with new rules now in place for RAT kits.

Price mark-up concerns have been addressed, with limits imposed by the Commonwealth Government that stop individuals from on-selling RATs at more than 120 per cent of the price they paid for them. Individuals must also not export a RAT from Australia, unless a valid exception applies.

Closer to home, we are urging shoppers to watch-out for dodgy sellers of RAT kits given we know opportunistic scammers have set up fake websites or are selling unapproved self-testing kits that don't work.

Overseas experience suggests that desperate consumers experiencing supply shortages are buying home testing kits from unknown websites and, if they do receive anything, it is often a kit that does not provide accurate results. This may then increase the risk of people unknowingly spreading the virus or not getting the appropriate treatment.

Aside from the risk of losing money, consumers purchasing these dodgy kits online may be the target of identity theft by providing personal and financial information to criminals.

We urge consumers to only buy RAT kits that are approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) – a list for which can be found on the [TGA website](#) – and purchase them from reliable suppliers.

Checks can also be made on the supplier by doing an [ABN Lookup](#) and searching the internet for any negative reviews or comments about the business.

To avoid being scammed, we recommend paying with a credit card or via PayPal, so there's an opportunity for a charge back if the product doesn't arrive.

WA consumers with concerns about any seller of testing kits can lodge a complaint on the [Consumer Protection website](#), email consumer@dmirs.wa.gov.au or call 1300 30 40 54.

2022 NAIDOC AWARD NOMINATIONS



Do you know someone who has empowered Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in their communities and beyond? Who has promoted Indigenous issues in the wider community? Or who has shown excellence in their chosen field? Nominate them now for

the 2022 National NAIDOC Awards, which recognise the outstanding contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Award Category Descriptors

2022 National NAIDOC Person Award

The National NAIDOC Person Award recognises the demonstrated excellence of an individual who has helped make a difference to individual Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities or more broadly, including nationally. This award recognises the individual's past and current achievements, and their status as an inspirational role model for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the broader Australian community. Previous winners include Dean Duncan, social justice champion and teacher, and June Oscar, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commissioner.

2022 National NAIDOC Lifetime Achievement Award

The National NAIDOC Lifetime Achievement Award recognises an individual for their lifetime commitment to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The award recognises the individual's achievements, and demonstrated leadership over many years as well as demonstrated community involvement, and commitment at the local, regional and/or national levels. Patricia Anderson, Dianne Ryder, Stephen Page and Tauto Sansbury are just some of the inspiring winners of the NAIDOC Lifetime Achievement Award.

2022 National NAIDOC Female Elder Award

The National NAIDOC Female Elder Award recognises respected and inspirational Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander role models and leaders. The award seeks to recognise an individual who has shown long term demonstrable commitment and contribution to empowering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, as well as demonstrated involvement in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities at the local, regional, and/or national levels. See examples of Female Elder Award winners, Thelma Weston and Christobel Swan, to inspire your application.

2022 National NAIDOC Male Elder Award

The National NAIDOC Male Elder Award recognises respected and inspirational Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander role models and leaders. The award seeks to recognise an individual who has shown long term demonstrable commitment and contribution to empowering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, as well as demonstrated involvement in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities at the local, regional, and/or national levels. See examples of Male Elder Award winners, Greg Little and Ernest Hoolihan, to inspire your application.

2022 National NAIDOC Sportsperson Award

The National NAIDOC Sportsperson Award recognises accomplished Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander athletes or sporting leaders who have promoted or developed sport in their community and served as inspirational role models for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the broader Australian community. Past winners Clarence 'CJ' McCarthy-Grogan, the second Aboriginal person to represent Australia in the history of wheelchair basketball, and Shantelle Thompson, 3 time Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu world champion, mother and community leader, provide inspiration for your nomination.

2022 National NAIDOC Youth Award

The National NAIDOC Youth Award recognises exceptional young people who are aged 16–25 years as at 3 July 2022 (the beginning of NAIDOC Week 2022). The award seeks to recognise young people who are inspirational role models for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the broader Australian community, as well taking into consideration the individual's future goals and likely impact. Past winners can provide inspiration for your nomination. For example, 2021 winner Samara Fernandez-Brown, social justice activist campaigning for justice for the shooting and death of her cousin, Kumanjayi Walker, or 2019 winner Mi-kaisha Masella social entrepreneur, advocate and musician.

2022 National NAIDOC Creative Talent Award

The National NAIDOC Creative Talent Award recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander creatives, including writers, poets, illustrators and artists of traditional, contemporary and experimental visual arts, crafts and design. The award is also open to outstanding individuals/groups in the performing arts sector including music, theatre and dance. Actors and individuals working in film, television and documentaries, or in our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander media, including those working with online and emerging technologies can also be considered in this category. The National NAIDOC Creative Talent Award seeks to recognise the individual's success and/or achievements in their chosen sector or discipline, as well as individuals/groups who have built greater

awareness and celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, histories, lifestyles and cultures.

Please note that if a group nomination is successful, only two representatives will be invited to attend the 2022 National NAIDOC Week Awards Ceremony.

This is a new award category for 2022.

2022 National NAIDOC Caring for Country and Culture Award

The Caring for Country and Culture Award recognises the contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities who care for, protect, and nurture Country and culture. Nominate those who are revitalising or teaching language, dance or traditions, conserving our lands and waters and protecting our environment for future generations, or who are sharing and preserving culture. This award also seeks to recognise those who have demonstrated excellence in relation to caring for Country or culture, conservation of Country or culture, as well as demonstrated benefits to the community. If nominating a project, please provide details of the project and the people/community involved. Please note that if the nomination is successful, only two representatives will be invited to attend the 2022 National NAIDOC Awards. Inspiration can be found from past winners of other NAIDOC awards, including the Borroloola Community, that have been trying to stop new gas projects they say encroach on their Country and threaten the environment and culture, and the Littlewell Working Group who have preserved land, stores and cultural knowledge through the creation of the Littlewell Reserve, now a heritage site.

This is a new award category for 2022.

2022 National NAIDOC Education Award

The National NAIDOC Education Award recognises exceptional individuals and groups in the education sector (including early childhood, primary, secondary, tertiary, vocational, and any other education groups) who have made a difference to the lives of students and communities. This award seeks to recognise individuals who have made a demonstrable contribution to empowering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

This is a new award category for 2022.

2022 National NAIDOC Innovation Award

The Innovation Award is open to individuals, groups, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses and organisations who have worked innovatively in and across our communities. This award seeks to recognise those who have developed new and innovative ideas, applied forward thinking and/or applied Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge in different ways. This award also seeks to recognise those who have demonstrated efforts to create and champion change for our people and our communities, as well as demonstrated commitment, adaptability and innovative thinking and attitudes that enrich our communities and beyond. Please note that if a group, business or organisation nomination is successful, only two representatives will be invited to attend the 2022 National NAIDOC Awards.

This is a new award category for 2022.

For information on how to nominate please visit naidoc.org.au

Information taken from naidoc.org.au



ENTRIES FOR THE NATIONAL NAIDOC WEEK POSTER COMPETITION NOW OPEN!

Visit the NAIDOC website for more information. Competition closes Monday 14th March, 2022

YOUTH FOCUS



December and January are busy months with holidays, family catch ups, school break and trips away. We hope everyone had a safe and joyous Christmas and New Year, and a chance to recharge your batteries for 2022.

We are still busy with renovations at the Main Street building. We have come along way but are still waiting for some plumbing to be completed. We can't wait for this to be done so we can start our cooking program! We now have the floorboards laid and an inviting space for the community and young people. As you can see our walls are a bit bare – so we are looking forward to the school year starting so we can invite the school kids down to put their artistic talents to good use by painting scenes on our walls.

During December we employed a qualified Social Worker to provide counselling services to young people in Meekatharra.

Nicholah previously lived in Tennent Creek in the NT and comes to us with a huge amount of knowledge and passion. Nicholah is working a week on – week off roster and is available for counselling and help with mental health wellbeing. Katherine is available to help you sort out ID documents and paperwork, along with helping you sort out life goals and providing some help with reading, writing and maths. Deanne is available each week from Wednesday to Friday for someone to yarn to, help out with any problems you might have, and running our programs (art, cooking, yarning circles, life skills). Paulette is doing a mix of management duties and seeing young people for counselling.

You don't need a referral to come to Youth Focus, simply pop down to the

office and see Deanne, Katherine, Nicholah or Paulette. You don't need to come here just for counselling. If you need a safe space to chill for a while, then feel free to come in. There is no pressure to talk or to do anything – you might just want to chill out on the bean bag for a while or charge your mobile or do some painting.

We recognise that asking for help can feel shame and embarrassing. But the first step in living a balanced life is asking for help. There is no shame in asking to talk to someone who can help you sort out how you are feeling. All services at Youth Focus are confidential and you will never be forced to do counselling or anything you are not happy doing.

This year we are focusing on starting our Youth Reference Group (YRG). We will be doing this on conjunction with the school. The Youth Reference Group is made up of young members of the Meeka community, aged 12-25. The YRG is a working group of young people who are interested in being actively involved in telling Youth Focus what the needs of young people in our community are. Being a part of the YRG means that you can have a direct say in what programs Youth Focus will provide, how they are provided and what Youth Focus can do to improve the mental wellbeing of young people in the Murchison. This is a paid position – which means that each member of the YRG will be paid to attend meetings, as well as enjoy movie and pizza nights. If you are interested in becoming a member of the YRG then come down to the Main Street office (In between the Services Australia building and the Corner Store) and watch out for further information coming out in February.





CRC News—February 2022

New Department of Transport Hours

A reminder that Dept of Transport services are now available on Mondays and Wednesdays only, from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Most transport services can be accessed online, and you are welcome to use our computers anytime at no charge for this.

Snake Handling Course

The CRC is hosting an accredited Snake Handling Course on Saturday March 26th with Bob Cooper Snake Rescue. Have a google to find out more - it looks terrific and gets great reviews. The course is being sponsored by the CRC, Australian Vanadium Ltd (AVL), Technology Metals (TMT) and the Shire of Meekatharra. Spaces are limited, so get into the CRC quick to register. It is just \$100 per person (hugely discounted rate thanks to our sponsors) and includes a full day course with catering and a certificate on completion, plus real live snakes!

In the Nick of Time

Nick Wren was the successful applicant for our Retail Assistant position. As many of you know, Nick is a highly committed community member, with his most recent achievement being to initiate the Men's Cancer Support group and liaising with the Prostate Cancer Foundation Association. Call Nick on 0437 488 363 about the group's regular meetings at the CRC.

Free Services at the CRC

Just a reminder that the use of our computers and up to 10 pages of black and white printing are FREE when you are using them for government services. We also provide the lovely "Chill Out Room" for free for anyone needing to study, do an induction for work or just take a break.

COVID Compliance

At the time of writing, CRC visitors are not required to show proof of vaccination. You only need to do the usual check-in with the SAFE WA app or fill out one of our check-in slips. CRC staff are up to date with their vaccinations and maintaining hygiene standards as per normal. We are hoping to work with other agencies to organise assistance for the community to get set up with the ServicesWA app, which is a challenging process.



with Anna, Jo
and Ella



**MORE
SARONGS
are here!**
Big and beautiful

**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**



Dept. of Transport Driver Services
Tue February 22nd
Book in ahead of time please

Snake Handling Course
Sat March 26th
Come to the CRC to Register

NEXT MARKETS will be in MARCH

**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 (Mar—Dec)

Department of Transport Services
Mon & Wed 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
NEXT TOWN VISIT: Tue 22nd Feb



Department of Transport



LAWN GROWING TIPS WHEN IT'S HOT HOT HOT



Also keep your blades sharp and be sunsmart when out there mowing it!

Water wisely

Lawns are a major consumer of water so the more you can save the better for your wallet and the environment.

Meekatharra is lucky to be sitting on top of an extensive network of palaeovalley aquifers (ancient riverbeds buried underground, filled with sediment and capable of holding significant quantities of water). However, even if the water supply was endless (which it isn't), there's still the energy required to pump, treat and transport it – so the less water we use the better.

Early morning is the best time to water the lawn. During the middle of the day it evaporates too quickly before it has a chance to reach the roots and watering in the evening increases the risk of diseases developing in wet foliage over night.

Water deeply by giving it a thorough soak. No point just misting the foliage frequently but superficially – the water has to reach the roots. To check how deep the water penetrated the soil grab a spade and take out a chunk of lawn. Did the water get to the root zone or is it just sitting in the top couple of centimetres?

Adjust your watering schedule based on the weather. Are we getting some nice summer storms? Then reduce the watering for a few days. Has it been really stinkin' hot and windy? Then you may need to increase it. If you have automatic reticulation check your system regularly and replace broken sprinklers swiftly to avoid water wastage.

You can also add extra water saved from your house, e.g. put a bucket in the shower or wash your fruit and veggies in a bowl/bucket then chuck the water on the lawn.

Nurture it

A sickly lawn won't do well no matter how much water you chuck on it so make sure it's got healthy soil to grow on with the right amount of nutrients. The soil should be loam like (not too sandy, not too much clay) in order to hold water, minerals and air. Having healthy soil microbiology is the golden tip for healthy plants (not just lawn). If you're establishing a new lawn it pays to get your soil right first. To provide extra nutrients you can either mow without a catcher on (leaving the grass clippings to mulch and feed the lawn, this works best if you trim it regularly), or use seaweed solution, com-

It's February, it's hot, the sun is relentless. Whilst lawns (due to their higher water use and maintenance requirements) aren't the most eco-friendly plant choice in the garden they certainly come with a range of benefits. They absorb heat and have a cooling effect (compared to a blue metal or synthetic turf yard – try walking on those in bare feet when it's 45 degrees!), a well maintained lawn is pleasing to look at, they provide space for kids and dogs to run around and they also attract certain wildlife (mud larks and dragonflies like hunting on open lawn spaces).

So how do we best grow a nice lawn whilst keeping the environment in mind? Here are a few tips:

Choose the right variety

If you're planting a new lawn opt for a variety that's heat and drought hardy. Buffalo, zoysia, kikuyu and couch are good, or you can even go for a native grass/groundcover that may not even need mowing at all. Jump on the internet for some inspiration.

Let it grow a bit taller

Leaving the blades of grass a bit longer than usual shades the roots thereby reducing evaporation, increasing water retention and promoting root growth and therefore plant resilience. Simply increase the height setting on your lawn mower.



post tea, worm wee or bokashi juice. If you have chickens you can also let them roam for additional manure, weed and bug control. If you have a particular problem with weeds or pests do some research around insecticides/pesticides – many are only a bandaid approach temporarily hiding the issue but don't get down to the root (haha pun) of the issue. Why did weeds and bugs have the chance to 'invade' in the first place? What's bugging you and what's the natural predator of that bug and how can you attract it?

Compost it

Instead of clogging up your bin (and creating methane in landfill) lawn clippings can be added to your compost. They have a tendency to clump if not moved around so either spread thinly around the garden or put it in a compost tumbler or actively managed heap to turn your lawn into great nourishing compost for your garden. Or if you have chooks just chuck it in their run and they'll happily scratch, turn and spread it for you whilst enhancing it with poop. Win win!

And if all of this sounds like too much work then take the lawn out and plant a native water-wise garden instead. The birds and bees will love you for it :)

Lived in the Outback for a long time and have some tried and tested lawn growing tips? Share your thoughts and ideas with



us! Write on our Facebook page (Meeka Goes Green), come to the Recycling Centre on Railway Street (Saturdays 9-11am – such a great volunteering opportunity!) or send us an email to meekagoesgreen@gmail.com.

Images from:

<https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/lawn-care/lgen/lawn-watering-guidelines.htm>

<https://www.thespruce.com/compost-for-the-lawn-2152935>



Proof of vaccination requirements for WA



from Monday, 31 January

Proof of vaccination for those aged 16 and older will now be required throughout WA for:



Hospital & aged care visitors



Dining and drinking at all hospitality venues



Amusement parks & the Zoo



Theatres, museums & cinemas



Music festivals & major events (500+ people)



Gyms, fitness centres & health studios



Crown complex



Major Stadiums



Play centres



Bottle shops



Nightclubs



Live music venues



Prepare today, download ServiceWA.

ServiceWA is a free, convenient and secure mobile application that will help Western Australians with WA's Safe Transition. It allows you to show proof of vaccination, check-in at events and venues, and access your G2G Pass for interstate travel - all in one convenient place.

More information visit wa.gov.au

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

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

**Mt Augustus
Tourist Park**
Heart of the Gascoyne
at the World's
Biggest Rock

0899439527
mtaugustustouristpark@skymesh.com.au

M E E K A T H A R R A



ACCOMMODATION CENTRE

Open Daily 6.00am—9.00pm

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

bookings@meekatharraaccomodation.com.au

or call on 99811253

BE RESPONSIBLE



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

FREE Waste Bags are available at the oval.

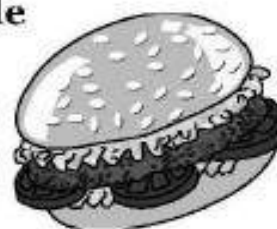
Meekatharra Corner Store

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



LIONS PARK UPGRADE

Have you noticed the work being done at Lions Park (next to the Skate Park)? In the coming months there will be plenty of works going on, making room for a nice, peaceful area for the whole community to enjoy.

So far the spaces have been cleared to make way for lawn, footpaths, BBQs and seating areas. There will be multiple seating areas, paths to the BBQs and toilets, large shaded areas and a beautiful lawn. As well as more plants and disabled access to the bathrooms at the Youth Centre.

Once Lions Park has been complete this will be a new area for people to gather and community can be held in this central place.

This area will enhance the Skate Parks use and create more friendly space for the whole community.

To ensure everything is planted at the right time of year, an order of turf and plants has been placed and will arrive just in time for Easter.

Keep your eyes peeled for the announcements of a community planting day where we will welcome as many hands as possible on site to plant the lovely russellias around the skatepark, the grevilleas and other ground covers over and up the embankments and, of course the kikuyu lawn that will be the star of the show.

Brendan Hall is keenly working on plans for the shade shelters that will protect the chairs and tables to make picnicking even easier.

Before our community planting weekend, there will be a lot of pathways put in place, so lots of wet cement. Please help us to keep it in pristine condition by keeping the kids off the park as the concrete sets, and the lawn takes hold.

Keep a look out for the updates - this is an exciting project for the Shire and community.

The before photos—mid way through the project.



★ FIGHT *the* BITE ★

MOZZIES USUALLY TAKE BETWEEN

1 TO 2 WEEKS
TO DEVELOP FROM



EGGS TO ADULTS



A MOZZIE'S LIFE SPAN IS

2 TO 3 WEEKS

www.healthywa.wa.gov.au / **FIGHTTHEBITE**



Government of Western Australia
Department of Health

"OFF THE BEATEN TRACK" WITH MATTY



98.3

MEEKA FM

Meekatharra, WA

A FAVOURITE TRAVELLING SONG? REQUEST IT FOR THE SHOW.



MONDAYS LUNCH



Meekatharra Support Guide

EMERGENCY

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

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	https://headspace.org.au/eheadspace/
Meekatharra District High School	9981 1092		
Mission Australia (Remote Attendance Program)	9956 5102		
Department of Communities	9981 0300		
(Child Protection and Family Support)			
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 Miyamumalgu	9936 0600		
(Indigenous Women Paralegal Service)			

COMMUNITY SERVICES

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





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****





Assistant Finance Officer
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 a quick learner and are you motivated to be part of a small team assisting in the smooth operations of the Shire Office?

Then you might just 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 advantages 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.

Interested? Obtain an information package by contacting Karen Clare on 9980 0600 or admin@meekashire.wa.gov.au.

The Shire is eager to appoint someone promptly so please submit your application by 4pm on Friday 11th February 2022.



Executive Assistant & Records Officer Full Time

**Cash to \$66,177
Package up to \$81,804**

The Shire of Meekatharra is seeking applications from enthusiastic and motivated candidates with experience in providing quality customer and administrative service as part of a small and friendly team.

Are you able to work autonomously, prioritise your work and find solutions to problems? Do you enjoy a position rich in diversity where there's always something to do?

The Executive Assistant & Records Officer reports to the Deputy Chief Executive Officer and is responsible for a wide variety of tasks – from preparing Council agendas and minutes, assisting with front counter queries, purchasing stock, looking after the burial register, organising seminars or citizenship ceremonies and maintaining Council's records system to conducting property inspections.

Conditions of employment are in accordance with the Local Government Industry Award 2020.

Generous benefits include 5 weeks annual leave, rostered days off, subsidised housing, up to 14.5% superannuation as well as free entry to the gym, pool and squash court.

Interested? Obtain an information package by contacting Karen Clare on 9980 0600 or admin@meekashire.wa.gov.au.

The Shire is eager to appoint someone promptly so please submit your application by 4pm on Friday 11th February 2022.

CARS REMOVED AROUND TOWN

In response to a bad start to the year, with the lighting of a number of car bodies over the Christmas break—the Shire of Meekatharra announced an exemption on charges to the removal of wrecked and abandoned cars in town.

Initially it was thought the handful of cars would be about 10, and all were looking forward to seeing the streets cleaner, but it quickly became apparent, once the project began, just how many car bodies had been hoarded in town.

When the loader was running around picking them up, many residents took advantage of the opportunity and surrendered the cars that were littering their yards, and the toll has risen to in excess of 40 vehicles already rehomed to the tip.

While they were initially neatly laid out in rows ready for the Sims Metal squashing equipment to easily access, the local “bush mechanics” have

dragged the vehicles out to skeletonise and go “parts shopping”.

The Shire is following up with some of the residents who surrendered vehicles to clean up the rest of the detritus in their yards, along with many of the vacant blocks in town.

This will, hopefully, significantly reduce the bushfire fuel burden, and the likelihood of further arson recurrences.

This is a once-off moratorium, however, and residents will be expected to maintain the new levels of tidiness themselves, or pay for the machinery used in such tidy ups.

Doesn't the town feel fabulous again ?





Budget Requests from Ratepayers, Residents, Community and Sporting Groups
OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT BUDGET REQUESTS

Council is currently preparing its budget for 2022/23 and as part of that process invites residents, ratepayers, community and sporting groups to submit suggestions or requests for projects they would like to see included in the budget.

Council, when considering budget items will include items from the Strategic Community Plan and other adopted plans. Any requests or suggestions received may be referred to these planning processes.

All submissions should be submitted by way of a formal letter outlining all relevant details, including, if possible, quotes or estimates relating to the proposal.

Submissions should be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer and;

posted to: Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Meekatharra
PO Box 129
Meekatharra WA 6642; or

delivered to: Chief Executive Officer
Meekatharra Shire Administration Office
75 Main Street
Meekatharra; or

by Fax: 9981 1505; or

emailed to: dceo@meekashire.wa.gov.au

Submissions will be received until 4:30pm on Friday, 22nd April 2022.

MEEKATHARRA ABORIGINAL REFERENCE GROUP MEETINGS

2022

(Second week of each month mostly)

Community MARG Members 9:30 a.m.

Invited Stakeholders to attend from 11:00 a.m.

February	Wednesday 9th	Face to Face
March	Wednesday 9th	TEAMS Online
April	Wednesday 13th	Face to Face
May	Wednesday 11th	TEAMS Online
June	Wednesday 8th	Face to Face
July	Wednesday 13th	TEAMS Online
August	Wednesday 10th	Face to Face
September	Wednesday 14th	TEAMS Online
October	Wednesday 12th	Face to Face
November	Wednesday 11th	Teams Online
December	Wednesday 7th	Face to Face



Government of Western Australia
Department of Health

COVID-19

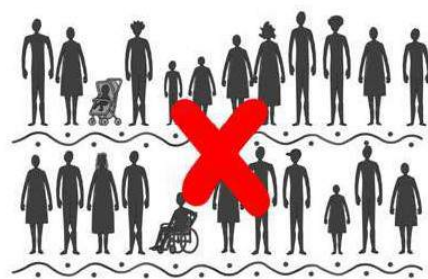
Stay COVID safe

Stop the spread of COVID

No big mobs

COVID spreads easily when big mobs get together.

Keep your distance.



Wear a mask when required

Masks help to stop COVID spreading.



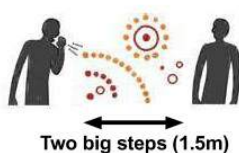
Get vaccinated



Call the clinic if you're sick



Wash your hands



Two big steps (1.5m)

Keep your distance



Cover coughs and sneezes



Clean shared surfaces

healthywa.wa.gov.au

© Department of Health 2021

SHI-014117 DEC21



PROGRAM & EDUCATION COORDINATOR

MEEKATHARRA

Are you passionate about working in community development and education and enjoy living and working in remote communities...?

Yulella Aboriginal corporation is currently seeking to recruit a Program & Education Coordinator on a 12-month fixed term contract, residential position, with ability to extend the contract. Housing can be arranged for the right person.

Yulella Aboriginal Corporation is a not-for-profit member based Aboriginal organization based in Meekatharra and servicing the Mid-West. Yulella primary purpose is to support social development of Aboriginal people living in and around Meekatharra. Yulella delivers several government and community development contracts and aspires to continue to develop opportunities for the Community, with a focus on education for our youth, leadership and other transition to work skill development programs.

Reporting to the Site Manager, you are responsible for the administration and coordination and delivery of meaningful programs, working with the leadership team to build new community program opportunities. Overseeing the team, the main programs you will be responsible for are the Community Connectors Program, On Country Education and Food for the Mob.

To truly excel in this newly formed role you will have to meet the following criteria:

- Highly developed communication, consultation and leadership skills;
- A passion for education, project/or event management;
- Highly developed administration and organisational skills;
- Demonstrated work ethic in community development and the ability to think outside the box;
- Ability to coordinate and facilitate a multi-stakeholder project;
- Experience coordinating small teams, managing reporting and meeting deadlines;
- Ability to build strong relationships with the local community and their families;
- Experience working within either early, primary or secondary education (desirable);
- Experience working with Aboriginal families and children in remote or regional locations (desirable);

To be considered for this position you must be a local resident (or willing to live locally), hold a WA driver's license and the ability to obtain a PTD Authorisation, Police Clearance and a WA Working with Children's card or ability to obtain one.

To apply: Send resume and cover letter addressing the position requirements listed (4 pages max) and 2 current referees (essential)

For job description please contact the Contract Manager @ [0447 654 250](tel:0447654250) or email contractmanager@yulella.org.au

As authorized by Section 51 of the Equal Opportunity Act of 1984, being an Aboriginal Australian is preferable for this role.

Closing Date: COB Wednesday 16 February 2022.

848 Marmont Street
P.O. Box 107
Meekatharra.
Western Australia, 6642



Phone: 08.99 801339
Fax: 08.99 801341
Email: reception@yulella.org.au

CLEANER WANTED

Yulella Aboriginal Corporation (YAC) is looking for one person for the role of part-time (approx. 15 hrs per week) cleaner for YACs main office @ 848 Marmont Street, and other premises in Meekatharra.

Applications taken till COB, February 16, 2022

Duties will include:

- Maintaining a high standard of cleanliness throughout the office, meeting rooms and kitchen
- General office cleaning
- Cleaning restrooms/toilets
- Vacuuming, mopping, sweeping & dusting
- Rubbish removal & disposal
- Replenishing toiletries and cleaning products
- Cleaning temporary accommodation
- Cleaning the YAC Building office

Must have:

C Class Drivers Licence

Must be:

Reliable



Must be able to acquire a:

Police Check

Working with Children Check

For more information regarding this position or to send your application, please contact Michael Vlahov in person @ 848 Marmont Street (Please make appointment) or via email: sitemanager@yulella.org.au phone: 08 9980 1339.

We strongly encourage local indigenous persons to apply for this position

All applications will be treated in confidence and further details including position descriptions will be communicated when applications have been finalized.



Get behind the wheel

Emergencies don't have working hours, that's why we need more volunteer Drivers. If you're looking for a way to help, and love getting behind the wheel, this is the role for you.

You'll help with patient transfers, inter-hospital moves and RFDS transfers. And while this is mainly a driver-only role, you will still receive the training you need to assist an Ambulance Officer in an emergency.

We always need help, so to see how people exactly like you can contribute head to stjohnchangelives.com.au or give our Community Paramedic Michelle Fyfe a call on 0437 681 562, or email Michelle.Fyfe@stjohnwa.com.au

Help keep your ambulance service strong in Meekatharra.

Life goes on.
Volunteer with St John.





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

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS AT THE YOUTH CENTRE

The Youth Services participants have spent their holidays swimming, doing arts and craft, playing sport and making all sorts of yummy treats in the kitchen.

The hot weather has not slowed them down, the team and kids were going full steam ahead making the most of the six-week break before school goes back.

The Youth Services team prides themselves of the variety of activities they offer to suit all the kids they attend their program.

Now that school has started up again for 2022 the Youth Centre program will go back to regular school opening hours. The Youth Centre will be open from 3pm-5pm, 6pm-8pm Monday-Friday. Kids Zone will be open 3pm-5pm Monday, Wednesday and Friday for kids under 10. The Youth Centre and Kids Zone are both located on Darlot Street.

The January 2022 Youth Centre Program has been packed filled with lots of exciting activities. The staff came back from Christmas break refreshed and ready to create an amazing program for the kids of Meeka.





Term 1 2022

Youth Services Program

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

3pm-5pm
Under 10's
@ Kids Zone

Over 10's Pool
Comp & Music
@ Youth Centre

6pm-8pm
Over 13's
Volleyball
@ Youth Centre

3pm-5pm
Over 5's
Cooking
@ Youth Centre

6pm-8pm
Over 10's
Mixed Sports
@ Youth Centre

3pm-5pm
Under 10's
@ Kids Zone

Over 10's
Water Polo
@ Pool

6pm-8pm
Over 10's
Football
@ Youth Centre

3pm-5pm
Over 5's
Art and Craft
@ Youth Centre

6pm-8pm
Over 8's
Basketball
@ Sports
Complex

3pm-5pm
Under 10's
@ Kids Zone

Over 10's
Table Tennis
@ Youth Centre

6pm-8pm
Over 13's
Movie Night
@ Youth Centre



Starts 31st of January 2022





2021 MEEKATHARRA NAIDOC SHIRTS

For sale in the shire office, \$40 each.
S, M, L & XL sizes
for adults
Limited kids stock



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
Proof of COVID-19 Vaccination is required to enter




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!

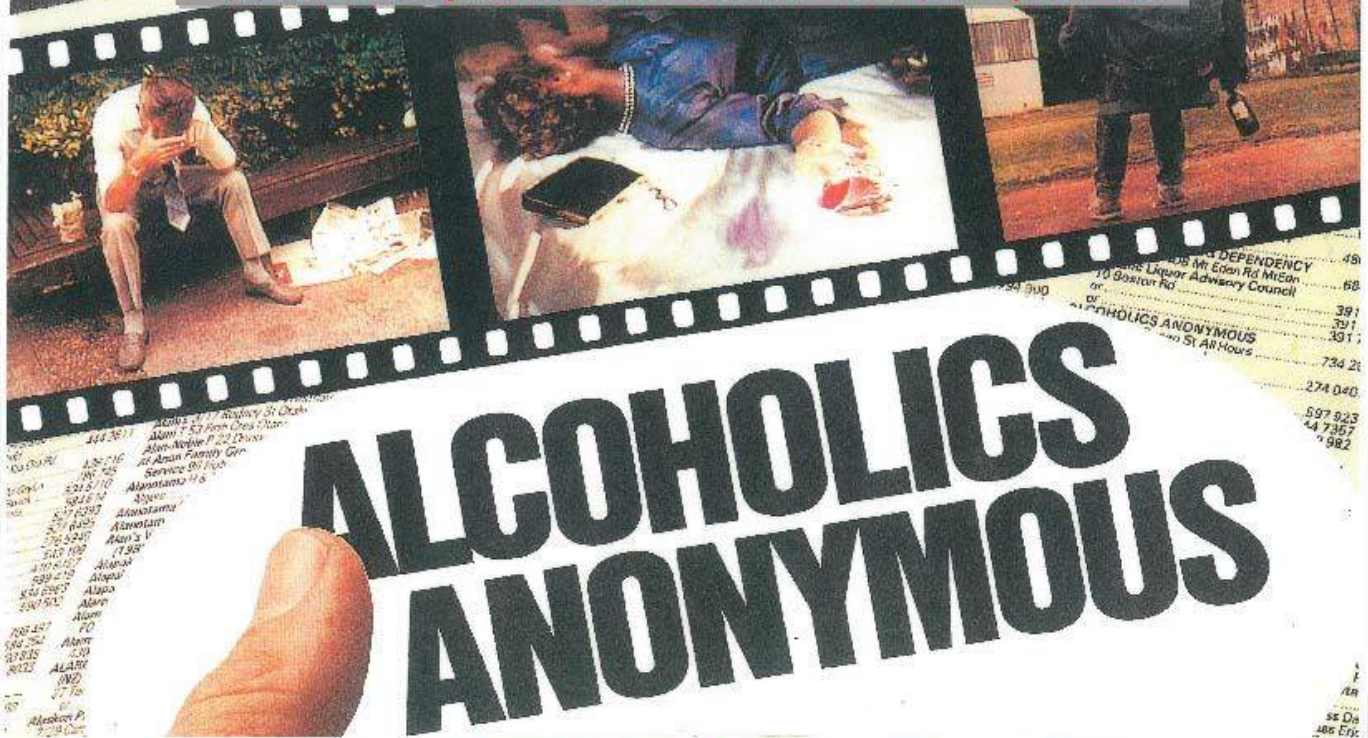
To access this free service you will be able to be outside the buildings or in one of the locally owned shops in Lloyds Plaza.

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



Meekatharra AA Meetings - Wednesdays 7.00pm

Seventh Day Adventist Church - Mc Cleary Street



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Contact - 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



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.



How to put on and take off your face mask

How to put on a face mask

1. Clean hands with soap and water or alcohol-based rub.



2. Hold the mask by its tapes or loops, then tie the mask around your head or put the loops around your ears.



3. Make sure the mask covers your mouth and nose, and that there are no gaps between your face and the mask. Press the nose piece around your nose.



4. Do not touch the front of the mask while wearing it.



How to take off a face mask

1. Avoid touching the front of the mask. Only touch the ear loops or tapes.



2. Take the mask off from behind your head by pulling the tapes or loops straight forward and moving the mask away from your face. Do not touch the front of the mask.



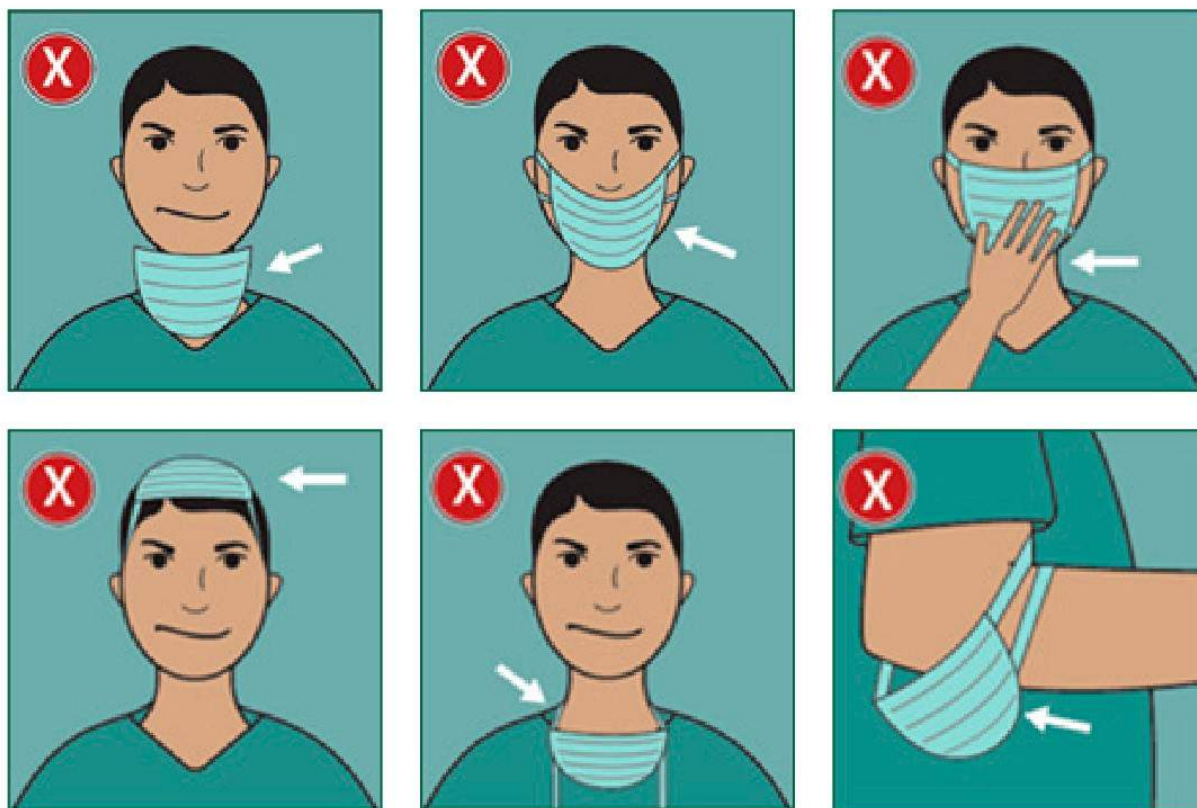
3. Throw the mask in the bin or if using a fabric face mask place in washing machine.



4. Clean your hands with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub.



Use your face mask correctly



Ensure you remove your face mask correctly. Never leave it on your head, around your neck, under your nose or mouth or around your arm for later use.

Never touch or adjust your face mask without cleaning your hands both before and after.

Never re-use single-use masks.

Cloth masks should be washed each day after use, or when wet or visibly dirty. Masks can be washed in the washing machine (preferably at 60 degrees C) with other clothes. Dry the cloth mask in the clothes dryer or in fresh air before you re-use it. Clean your hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub after handling used face masks.

Please refer to community advice and the HealthyWA website for updates about when and how to use face masks.

Adapted with permission from COVID-19 and face masks – Information for consumers developed by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC). ACSQHC: Sydney 2020.

DRAWER OF PHOTOS

Isn't it interesting some of the things you find at the bottom of drawers? Recently some Shire workers stumbled across stacks of pictures, most were from the 1990s and others we aren't so sure of. While looking through the photos to see if some could be displayed in the museum we saw how different life in Meeka was 30 years ago. The cars, the clothes, the buildings and of course the people.

A fascinating picture of the ambulances showed just how things change, those ambulances do not look like the ones we have in 2022.

If you have any information on any of these photos or know the exact dates they were taken please contact Amy at the Shire.



Above: Bales of Wool at Roy Hill 1950's



Left: Meeka Races 1996

Below: Quiz Night at Town Hall late 1990's





Above: Ambulances late 1990s

Right: Speedway 1996



Above: Swimming Carnival at the Swimming Pool
1996

Right: RFDS on Main Street 1996



MURCHISON DENTAL TEAM ROSTER 2022

Meekatharra: 2nd February - 11th of February

Mount Magnet: 23rd February - 4th March

Cue: 23rd March - 1st April

Meekatharra: 27th April - 6th May

Mount Magnet: 23rd May - 29th May

Sandstone: 29th May - 3rd June

Meekatharra: 22nd June - 1st July

Yalgoo: 20th July - 29th July

Mount Magnet: 17th August - 26th August

Meekatharra: 14th September - 23rd September

Mount Magnet: 12th October - 21st October

Meekatharra: 9th November - 18th November

Mount Magnet: 7th December - 16th December

CONTACT NUMBERS:

MEEKATHARRA - 9981 0640 OR 0427 386 647

YALGOO PRIMARY SCHOOL - 9962 8029

MOUNT MAGNET, CUE, SANDSTONE - 0427 386 647

MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

FOR FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY



Youth Focus	6266 4333	youthfocus.com.au
Headspace	9274 8860	headspace.com.au eheadspace.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...



BLAST FROM THE PAST

MEEKATHARRA DUST

ISSUE NO. 137 FEBRUARY, 2002 PRICE \$1.10 incl. GST



Meekatharra Air Service in need of support...

As residents are aware, the air service previously offered by Skywest Airlines and operated by Skippers Aviation, ceased on September 14 following the demise of Ansett Airlines.

Following this collapse, the State Government was able to secure funding from the Federal Government's Rapid Route Recovery Scheme (RRRS) to fully subsidise Skippers Aviation to restart this service. The funding was for a period of two months only, over December and January.

Unfortunately the service, since its restart, has been less than successful. It is costing the Federal Government in excess of \$20,000 per month and passenger numbers are extremely low. Whilst it is recognised that the trial was not run at the best time of the year, with people away and employers winding down over the holiday period, there does not appear to have been any significant increase in passenger numbers over the past few weeks.

Skippers have been working hard to identify local businesses, who may be users of the service, but to date they have met little enthusiasm from Meekatharra residents and businesses to embrace the service.

Hence Skippers have reduced the price of airfares and changed the days of their service to try and encourage more patronage from residents and Government departments.

See advert inside for new prices and flight schedule.

Currently the Shire is putting together a submission to Skipper's to increase their service to three days per week. Discussions with St Barbara Mine indicate they have the capacity to support an increased service.

A decision will be made at the end of February as to whether Skipper's intend to continue, so come on Meekatharra residents get behind the service as it will be too late once its gone.

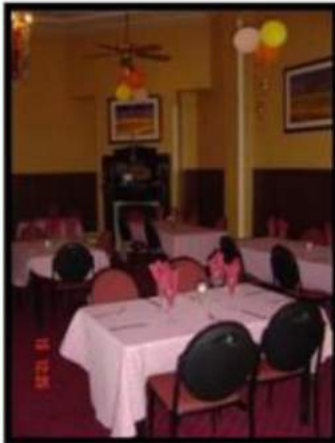
Commercial Hotel Meekatharra

Opened daily from noon til late

Excellent counter meals daily:

Lunch: 12 noon – 1:30pm
Monday to Saturday

Dinner: 6pm-8pm
Sunday to Saturday



Air conditioned Dining / Function Room

Suitable for Meetings, Conferences & Dinners

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Located at the rear of Hotel with enclosed parking.

and

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



Telephone: 99811020

Fax: 99811021

Emails: commieh@westnet.com.au

77 Main Street, Meekatharra, 6642



www.commercialmeeka.com.au

Valentine's Day Word Search

C U U U V A L E N T I N E S J
F U A H U E Q J J X N Q R K P
U T P H R Q Z P S W E E T C Q
X J W I J A U H A A W M A R V
Q I F R D R C D E O C X J B L
Z M D O Z R C X L A C T G Z L
S H P Y U O H F L M R K A S C
S K E C N W O V F O W T X D H
Y I P H R G C P E H V V F Y U
G S U L D Q O M U N O E E N G
I S Q W U U L D L V M O Q J S
F E A L Q C A N D Y W J Z E J
T S X R F Y T V K N S J Z G B
A O W X G N E F C Z A Y O C H
A O J Z K Q H P D T C O R D F



- Gift
- Hugs
- Love
- Arrow
- Candy
- Cupid
- Heart
- Sweet
- Kisses
- Flowers
- Chocolate
- Valentine





Valentine Truffles

SERVES: 24 | PREP TIME: 4 HRS 35MINS | COOK TIME: 5MINS | INGREDIENTS: 6

ingredients

- 180g white chocolate, chopped
- 1/4 cup thickened cream
- 1/2 tsp strawberry essence
- Pink food colouring
- 180g milk chocolate, chopped
- Pink heart sprinkles, to decorate

directions

Step 1 Place white chocolate and cream in a heatproof, microwave-safe bowl. Microwave on medium-high (75%) for 1 to 2 minutes or until melted and smooth, stirring with a metal spoon after 1 minute. Stir in essence. Tint mixture pink with food colouring. Cover. Refrigerate for 3 to 4 hours or until firm.

Step 2 Line a tray with baking paper. Roll heaped teaspoons mixture into balls. Place on tray. Freeze until firm.

Step 3 Place milk chocolate in a heatproof, microwave-safe bowl. Microwave on medium-high (75%) for 1 to 2 minutes, stirring halfway during cooking with a metal spoon, or until melted and smooth. Using a fork, dip truffles in melted chocolate, shaking off excess. Return truffles to tray. Top each with a pink heart. Refrigerate until set. Serve.

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

Meekatharra District High School

STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO THE

Slip & Slide Afternoon

FRIDAY 4TH FEBRUARY 2022 PERIOD 5

Students will partake in a slip
& slide afternoon at school.

Please bring a towel, hat and
change of clothes

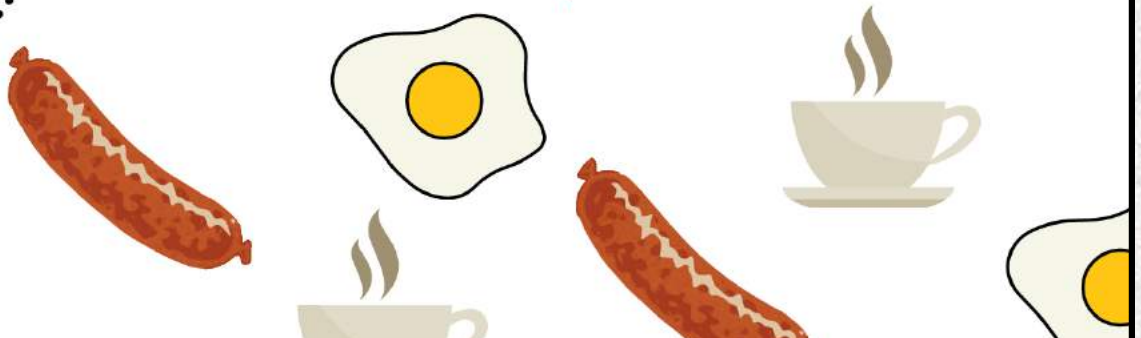


YOU'RE INVITED TO THE

Big Brekkie

FRIDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 2022 AT 8:30 AM

Families and the community are
welcome to come and grab a yummy
feed and meet your child's teacher.





Sale of Various Plant Items

The various plant items for sale by the Shire of Meekatharra listed in the Offer Form Notice are available for inspection at the Shire Depot located at Oliver Street Meekatharra.

The various plant items are being offered on an outright sale basis. The highest offer will not necessarily be accepted. This various plant items for sale are being offered on an "As is- where is basis". The successful buyer is responsible for removing the selected plant item(s).

The selected plant item(s) will not be released to the successful bidder until such time as full payment is cleared. Full payment is required within 14 days of acceptance of offer.

Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Meekatharra
P.O Box 129
Meekatharra W.A. 6642

Offers will be received until 4.00 pm, 25th of February 2022

To make arrangements for inspection of the various plant items please contact Councils Operations Officer at the Shire Depot – Mr John Watson-Bates on 99801895.

Offer amounts must be inclusive of GST. GST will be charged on this sale.

**Offer forms
are available from the Shire Offices
Tel: 9980 0600 or Fax: 9981 1505
Email: admin@meekashire.wa.gov.au**



**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

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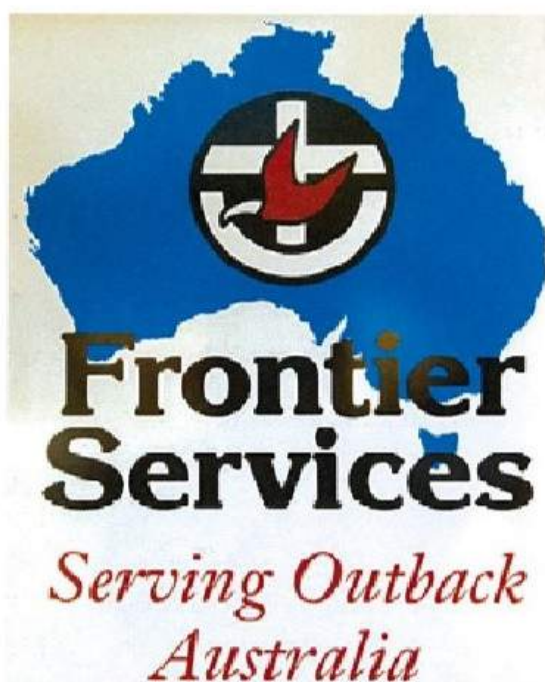
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ACCREDITED
MASTER
ELECTRICIAN

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**



PROFESSIONAL LIQUID WASTE
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0458 002 126

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WA Dept of Environmental Licensed Controlled Waste Carrier T00612 ACN: 150 464 618 ABN: 141 504 64618

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Grease trap pumping and cleaning

Storm water drains

Oil separator systems

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Reliable and responsive service

We will beat any quote

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

February 2022

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
31 School Goes Back 	1	2 Dentist @ Dental Clinic 	3 Dentist @ Dental Clinic	4 Dentist @ Dental Clinic Slip & Slide for Students @ School Period 5	5 Meeka Goes Green Recycling 9am-11am	6
7 Dentist @ Dental Clinic	8 Dentist @ Dental Clinic	9 MARG Meeting @ Lloyd's Conference Room 9:30am Horizon Power Community Meeting @ Commercial Hotel 4pm-6pm Dentist @ Dental Clinic	10 Dentist @ Dental Clinic	11 Big Brekkie @ School 8:30am 	12 Meeka Goes Green Recycling 9am-11am 	13
14 Valentine's Day  GRAMS Midwife @ Clinic	15 GRAMS Midwife, Diabetes Ed & ICDC Dietitian @ Clinic ICDC Podiatrist & Physiotherapist @ Hospital	16 360 Health @ Clinic	17 360 Health @ Clinic	18	19 Ordinary Council Meeting 9:30am Meeka Goes Green Recycling 9am-11am	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 Meeka Goes Green Recycling 9am-11am Pancake Day @ CRC 9am-12pm 	27
28 GRAMS Midwife @ Clinic	1	2	3	4	5 Meeka Goes Green Recycling 9am-11am	6