MEEKATHARRA





SHIRE OF MEEKATHARRA

SCHEDULE OF MEETING DATES, TIMES AND LOCATIONS

JULY 2023 TO JUNE 2024

ORDINARY MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

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

Saturday, 22 July 2023
Saturday, 19 August 2023
Saturday, 16 September 2023
Saturday, 14 October 2023
Saturday, 18 November 2023
Friday, 15 December 2023
Saturday, 20 January 2024
Saturday, 17 February 2024
Saturday, 16 March 2024
Saturday, 20 April 2024
Saturday, 18 May 2024
Saturday, 15 June 2024

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

AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

KJ Matthews Chief Executive Officer

GENERAL DISCLAIMER

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

9980 0600

AND LOOK FOR LARRA, OR EMAIL US AT

CDO@MEEKASHIRE.WA.GOV.AU

OR GIVE US A FOLLOW ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIAS





Scan me!

shire of meekatharra a golden prospect

COUNCIL MESSAGE

Welcome to the combined December/January 2023/2024 edition of The Dust CEO Council Message Report which provides information for all residents regarding the Council ordinary meetings that were held on the 18th November 2023 and 15th December 2023 as well as the Health, Building and Town Planning Committee meetings held on the same days.

This section of The Dust is intended to provide a snapshot of the issues discussed at Council's 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 Council's Standing Orders. Therefore, the following resolutions are only a summary extract of the full meeting agenda with the entire meeting proceedings being available in the official Council Minutes that are confirmed at the next meeting of Council.

<u>Items from the Shire of Meekatharra Health, Building & Planning Meetings 18 November 2023 and</u> 15 December 2023

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

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

<u>Item 7.1.2 – Community Development & Services Manager's Report</u>

Entry Statements

The Entry Statements at both the northern and southern Great Northern Highway entrances to town have now been completed. A time capsule was placed in conjunction with the Meekatharra District High School, to be opened in in 2043.

Lions Park

Earth works for the Lions Park have continued and handrails have been manufactured in-house and installed. Trenches for power cables are in progress and liaison with the community has commenced regarding local plants to be installed. A builder has been engaged to erect the shade structures in the new year.

Median Strip - Meekatharra Streetscape Art Project

This project is a finalist in the WA Tidy Towns competition under the General Appearance category.

Tesla Electric Vehicle

The Tesla Electric Vehicle (EV) visited Meekatharra for 3 days with the purpose of promoting and gaining knowledge of EV charging, travel capacity, suitability for remote travel and to inform Council of the development of future charging infrastructure requirements.

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

<u>Items from the Shire of Meekatharra Ordinary Meetings 18 November 2023 and 15 December 2023</u>

<u>Item 9.3.1 – Mining Tenement Applications</u>

That Council approve the following Applications from:

- 1.Mining Tenement Application for Mining Lease 51/913 from John Dennis Williams and Russell John Lockyer situated at Porlell, and
- 2.Mining Tenement Application for Miscellaneous Licence 52/252 on behalf of KoBold West Australia Pty Ltd situated at Peak Hill.

<u>Item 9.3.1 – Mining Tenement Applications</u>

That Council approve the following Applications from:

- 1. Mining Lease Application 52/1091 and Tengraph Map from M&M Walter Consulting on behalf of Southern Cross Prospecting Pty Ltd situated at Horseshoe.
- 2. Mining Tenement Application 51/913 and Tengraph Map from John Dennis Williams situated at Porlell.
- 3. Mining Exploration Application 51/2191 and Tengraph Map from Hancock Prospecting Pty Ltd situated at Nowgarrie.

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

9.3.2 Murchison Regional Strategy 2023-2033

That Council adopt the Murchison Regional Strategy 2023 – 2033 as appended.

The Murchison Regional Strategy 2023 – 2033 is intended to provide a comprehensive roadmap for sustainable development and growth of the Murchison Region and was prepared by all members of the Murchison Executive Group in collaboration with the Mid West Development Commission (MWDC) and Regional Development Australia Mid West and Gascoyne (RDAMWG).

9.4.1 Adoption - Strategic Community Plan - Post Minor Review

That Council adopt the 2020-2030 Strategic Community Plan as amended through the 2023 minor review.

The Strategic Community Plan outlines community long term (10+ years) vision, values, aspirations and priorities, with reference to other local government plans, information and resourcing capabilities.

Further Information Snippets

- > WA Tidy Towns Competition Congratulations to our Community Development Team on being a finalist in the 2023 Tidy Towns competition in the General Appearance category. The hard work by the Team has been recognized and while we did not win the award, it is satisfying to know the Shire was duly recognized for its efforts in the Main Street Median Strip Mural project.
- > Meekatharra airport sealing works a reminder to the community that sealing works for the Meekatharra airport runway, apron, taxiway and RFDS area are scheduled for February 2024. Some disruption to flights will occur and the community is advised to check with Public Notices that will be advertised closer to the date.

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council is scheduled for Saturday the 20th January 2024. On behalf of all councillors and staff at the Shire of Meekatharra, I wish you all a Happy New Year and all the best for 2024.

Svenja Clare – Acting CEO



COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Shooting Stars Awards Night

On Thursday 16th November Meekatharra District High School's Shooting Stars program held their annual awards night. This special presentation night was done in the evening on one of the open grassed areas at school. With some twinkle lights and floral arrangements, the participants were set to have a lovely evening. Every participant was awarded a participation certificate for engaging in and persistently displaying, the Shooting Stars values of Pride, Respect and Success. There were many other specials awards, including sports, star of the year and Heart of Gold award. Presentations were followed with a delicious dinner while the sun set.









COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

MDHS: From the Principal

From the Principal

We have had a very busy term as the school comes closer to the Christmas break. As I'm sure you are aware, I am relieving Principal while the process for selecting a new Principal is run. Hopefully we will know who the successful applicant is before school finishes for the year

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time in Meekatharra and wish the school and the community all the best for 2024 and beyond.A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all!

Brian Simpson

Principal

30 November 2023

Attendance

An area that our school needs to work on next year is school attendance.

Regular attendance is critical for students to achieve optimal learning at school. Missing school adds up:

- ·If a child misses an average of five days a term (years 1 to 10), they miss out on approximately one year of school
- ·If a child misses one day a week of school (from years 1 to 10), they will miss almost two years of school
- ·If a child misses two days a week of school (from years 1 to 10), they will miss almost four years of school
- ·If a child misses five weeks a term (years 1 to 10), they miss almost five years of school.

Mural

We have a beautiful new mural at the front of the school. It was done by our Artist-in-Residence, Ms Stedman, with the help of several of our students. It is a wonderful addition to our school.

Shooting Stars

We had a wonderful evening to celebrate our Shooting Stars girls as their awards were presented. It was great to such a good number of parents and community members attend. Huge congratulations to Kadi and her team on making the evening so special.

Teach, Learn, Grow

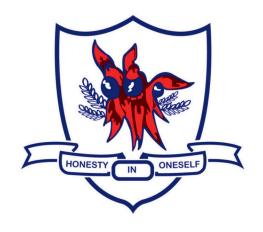
The Teach, Learn, Grow group was in school last week doing a range of activities with our students. This is a regular event and greatly appreciated by our students and staff.

End of year

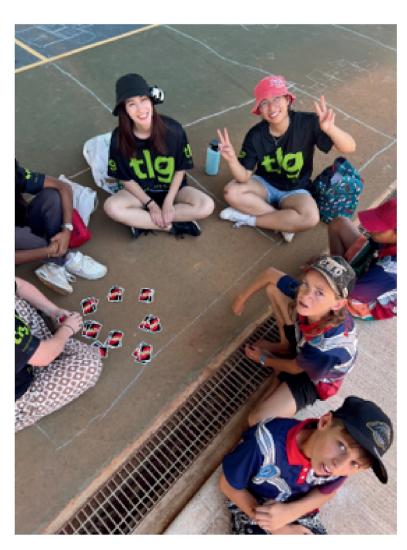
The school year finishes for students on Thursday 14 December.

School Resumption 2024

Students return to school next year on Wednesday 31 January. Monday and Tuesday 29 & 30 January are School Development Days and the staff will be working on plans for the coming year.



Some of our Think, Learn, Grow activities









COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

MDHS: Variety EduKids Grant

The Variety Children's Charity of WA is working with the Department of Education to deliver support for students across Western Australia. Grant funding through Variety's EduKids program has been made available for children who may experience extreme financial, geographic, or social disadvantage.

Meekatharra District High School (MDHS) is grateful to be one of 160 WA schools selected to receive a \$2,500 EduKids grant in preparation for the 2024 school year.

After school on Thursday November 30th, Chris Chatterton, CEO of Variety Children's Charity in WA visited to make the grant presentation to Associate Principal, Narelle Bubb, on behalf of MDHS students.

MDHS are very thankful to Variety for their generous financial support of our students' learning. The \$2,500 grant will go towards the purchase of student workbooks as the school rolls out new evidence-based programs of Spelling Mastery and Pr1me Maths next year.



COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS MDHS: School Camp

On Sunday 20th a group of Year 9-10 students started the journey on our Carey X-Over camp where students are provided opportunities to inspire, empower and explore career options outside of Meekatharra. This camp works alongside The Carey Right Track who support our students with building this opportunity.

On Monday and Tuesday students completed a leadership conference where they explored their why- why are they who they are, what influences them and what influences the choices they make for their life. Why do you do what you do? We did a cooking challenge competing against the other schools and then to finish the conference students went to Bounce and completed team building activities with other schools two building connections, communication and leadership skills. To finish Tuesday, our students toured Jump Childcare Before and After School Care where they learnt two new Indigenous ball games and engaged with the Jump students putting into practice leadership skills learnt earlier in the day.

On Wednesday, students started completing a session with Rachel. Here they did some painting while talking about the analogy of picking "weeds" from our garden of life to help us blossom. We moved onto a tour of WAPPA exploring the universities and the variety it has to offer. At WAPPA we explored the dance studios, the music and lighting departments, the costumes and the prop creation areas. After we explored WAPPA we stopped in at Give Write to look at their service and what they do to give back to the community. We asked them our question 'Why do you do what you do?' and learnt about their commitment to giving back to the WA community by providing pencil packs for students who do not have access to school packs.







On Thursday, the Meekatharra year 9/10 camp students spent their morning at Westgold in Cannington. We met with Andy McCullough and Adair Thompson, who are Westgold Occupational Health & Safety Trainers. Here he talked and explained underground mining to our students. We learnt about the depths of the mine, what equipment and machinery they use and how to be safe underground. We also learnt about melting the Gold and how it's processed. We got to wear underground mining PPE and explore equipment they have available before we went into the "underground" simulator. This simulator was a fabulous experience for our students to learn first hand how to use a safety chamber in the event of an emergency. The lifelike experience gave our students an opportunity to have a hands on experience to see what is used in underground mining. Thank you John Isgar for arranging this and for the gifts for our students.

After our Westgold experience, we went to the University of Western Australia and met with Naomi Wheat where we explored the campus and discussed about how to apply to get into University. We discussed scholarships and what support they have for Indigenous students who are enrolled at their University. Thank you for providing lunch and a wonderful tour of your grounds.

After our university talk we had some down time before heading across to a fire station. Ben Devries who is a Law and Politics Teacher at Carey who volunteers at DFFS. Here we learnt about volunteering with fire and rescue and what is involved with their volunteer role. We asked some of the question from our Leadership volunteers our conference "Why do you do what you do?". We also had a great question from one of our students "Who does this serve?" which was fantastic to see the self reflection some of our students had on this camp.

This camp has provided our Meekatharra students the opportunity to explore career options and pathways for their future.

Check out some of the pictures from this camp. We are looking at offering more camps in 2024 and welcome any parent feedback. If you have any suggestions please contact Emily at either emily.copeman@education.wa.edu.au or 9981 0800.







COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Community Christmas Party 2023

In the heart of Meekatharra, our resilient community recently came together for a festive celebration at the Town Christmas Party. It wasn't just an event; it was a symbol of unity, joy, and the spirit that defines our town.

The afternoon kicked off with the heartwarming Seniors High Tea, where over 12 seniors from the hospital and town shared snacks, stories, and laughter with Santa. Hampers and special prizes added an extra touch of joy, creating memorable moments for our esteemed elders.





































Next up was the Meekatharra District High School's end-of-year program, a showcase of our talented youth. Each year level brought creativity to the stage with handmade props, turning it into a winter wonderland. Thanks to Mitch from Frontier Services, some students received hampers, recognizing their hard work throughout the year.

As the sun set, the children eagerly awaited their turn to meet Santa. Some toddlers hesitated, but Santa's Aussie-style entrance with his Christmas ute brought smiles and laughter, capturing the true Meekatharra spirit.

The night unfolded with a delightful feast, featuring roasts, salads, and fruits that mirrored our town's diverse tastes. The festivities peaked with a Mission Australia-led color run, adding a vibrant splash to the night and sweet treats for the little helpers.

































The success of the Town Christmas Party was a team effort. Thanks to Yulella, Mission Australia, Communities of Focus, Youth Focus, and community members, our celebration was a resounding success. Special thanks to Meekatharra District High School and Westgold for their support.

As we wrap up the festivities, the Shire of Meekatharra extends warm wishes for a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Your support keeps us committed to a better Meekatharra. Let's cherish these memories, look forward to a brighter future, and continue building a strong, united Meekatharra in the coming year. The spirit of Meekatharra, showcased at the Town Christmas Party, will continue to shine bright.





































































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

FOOD FOR THE MOB

TRANSPORT

GARDENING SERVICES

SERVICES FOR APPOINTMENTS

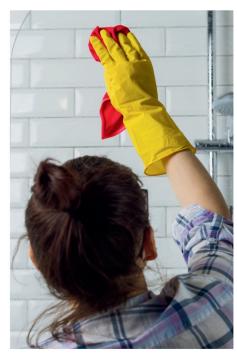
SOCIAL PARTICIPATION CLASSES

HOUSE CLEANING

YARD &







For more information please contact our Community Hub Coordinator

Email: communitycoordinator@yulella.org.au

Phone: 0499 462 829

COMMUNITY FACILITIES Available in Town

LLOYDS CONFERENCE ROOM

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

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

TOWN HALL

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

This facility unfortunately cannot be booked online.

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

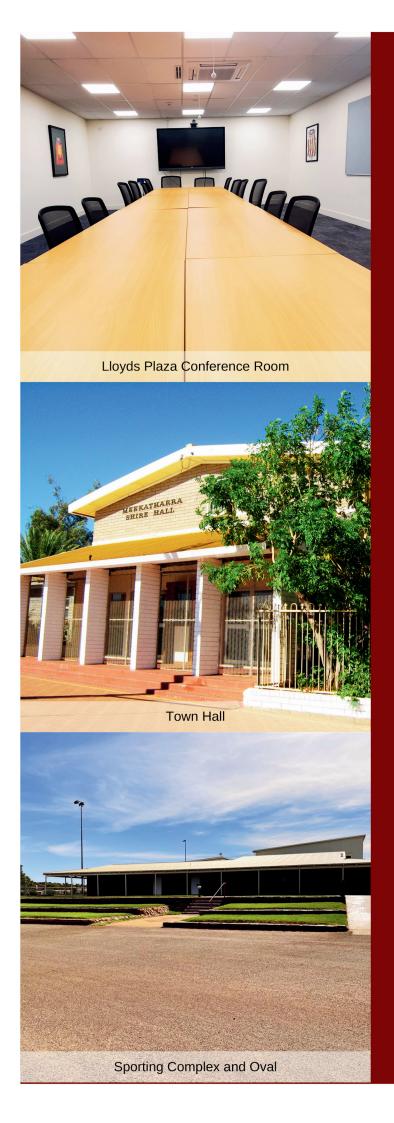
SPORTING COMPLEX AND OVAL

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

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

This facility unfortunately cannot be booked online.

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





GYM

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

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

Access is restricted to 16 years old and above

Opening Hours

5am - 10pm

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

Fees & Charges (as of July 2023, subject to change) \$20 once-off sign up fee + then only \$32 per month Concessions available Fees apply for lost cards

SWIMMING POOL

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

Opening Hours

1 October to 31 March each year

Monday - Friday

12pm to 6pm

6pm to 7pm - Adults Only

Saturday - Sunday

11am to 6pm

Fees & Charges

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

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

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





SQUASH COURT

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

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

Opening Hours

Temporarily out of action, repairs in progress.

Fees & Charges

(As of 1st July 2022)

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

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

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

TENNIS COURT

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

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

Opening Hours

5am - 10pm

Fees & Charges

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

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

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





BASKETBALL COURTS

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

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

Opening Hours

5am - 10pm

Fees

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

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

KIDZONE & YOUTH CENTRE

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

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

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

Opening Hours

Kidzone & Youth Centre: 3pm till 5pm, everyday

Monday to Friday

Youth Centre: 6 till 8pm everyday Monday to Friday

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





LIBRARY & MUSEUM

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

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

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

You can also avail for the following:

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

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

Meekatharra Public Library is located at 54 Main Street Meekatharra

Ph: (08) 9980 0600 Fax: (08) 9981 1505

cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au

Community Connectors Bus

Phone Number 0467 953 411

Hours

8am to 1pm

6pm to 9pm

Monday to Friday

(No bus service on weekends or Public Holidays)

Some exceptions if by prior arrangement













Happy New Year from Westgold Resources

Each year, Westgold invests in community projects through partnerships, sponsorships, and donations that improve the livelihoods or lifestyles of local community members.

In 2023, we focused on local employment, education, youth development, and community events that bring people together.

A highlight has been our sponsorship of breakfast programs at Cue and Meekatharra schools. The program catered to students from kindergarten to year 12 and has supported an increase in attendance at both schools.

Westgold also continued to fund the Pool for School program in Meekatharra and supported youth activities such as the Cue Youth Centre and the Murchison Marlu Junior Football League. For the footy, our support ensures children across the region have access to competitive sport in a safe and fun environment that promotes an active lifestyle.

Support for community events included NAIDOC Week, Meekatharra
Outback Festival, Easter events in Cue and Meekatharra, and
Christmas celebrations.

We are also a major supporter of Teach Learn Grow, which made two visits to the region's schools, and are a proud major sponsor of the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

In addition to providing funding and investment, in FY23
Westgold completed the construction of a bypass haulage road
connecting the Cue-Wondinong and Miners Pass Roads, allowing
road trains to bypass the Cue townsite. It is anticipated this
bypass haulage road will reduce the number of vehicles travelling
through the townsite, thus improving safety for pedestrians and
other motorists.

In 2024, we will continue to develop positive relationships across the region, working closely with community organisations to deliver jobs and better social outcomes. A career awareness program for schools and a traineeship program are just some of the new initiatives being developed.

CYCLONE SMART

Cyclone Season: November to April.

There are four stages of alerts - blue, yellow, red and all clear.

Listen carefully and do what the alerts say to help keep safe.











A CYCLONE IS FORECAST - GET READY

When a BLUE ALERT has been issued, you need to start preparing

- Keep up to date with the development of the cyclone through radio, television, or internet.
- Secure or remove loose material and rubbish from around your home or work.
- Organise your emergency kit including first aid kit, essential medications, torch, portable radio, spare batteries, food and water.
- Consider relocating people with special needs including people who are pregnant, elderly or have disabilities.
- Identify a safe place for your pet(s) (most welfare centres do not accept pets, but do accept guide dogs).
- Remind your family of cyclone procedures.
- Know the strongest part of your house.















A CYCLONE IS COMING - ACT NOW

When a YELLOW ALERT has been issued, you need to take action

- Monitor radio, television or internet for information on the cyclone's progress, particularly any storm surge advice.
- Store or secure other loose items like outdoor furniture that is likely to be thrown about by destructive winds.
- Fasten all cyclone screens. Board up or heavily tape exposed windows.
- Put fuel in your vehicle and park it in a sheltered area with the handbrake on and in park or first gear.
- Ensure your emergency kit is complete.
- Prepare to move quickly to the strongest part of your house or relocate to the nearest welfare centre if required.











A CYCLONE IS ABOUT TO STRIKE - SHELTER NOW

When a RED ALERT has been issued, you need to take shelter immediately

- Disconnect electrical appliances and turn off gas supply valves.
- Go immediately to the strongest, safest part of your house or the building you are in (i.e. internal hallway, bathroom or toilet) or to the closest welfare centre.
- Stay away from doors and windows, and keep them closed and locked.
- Stay inside until the ALL CLEAR is given by authorities.











AUTHORITIES GIVE THE ALL CLEAR - BE CAREFUL

After the official ALL CLEAR notice, take care to avoid dangers caused by damage

- If your property has sustained serious damage and you need help, call the SES on 132 500 for assistance.
- For life threatening emergencies, call 000.
- If you relocated from your home, wait for advice before you go back. If returning, take the roads recommended by authorities and do not hurry.





PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Just sending a reminder to all that it's cyclone season/ Willy Willy season between November till April.

Please ensure that items in your outdoor areas are secured, most especially trampolines and other items alike that might be easily blown away.

Fun Fact: Did you know that the term "Willy Willy" is applied to small but intense wind systems, typically dust devils, whirlwinds, tornadoes or small cyclones.





Animal Management

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





Pest Control treatments

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



Community Housing

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





Distribution

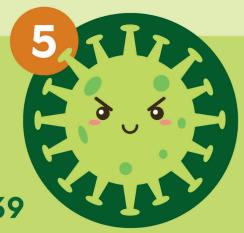
We can provide you with soaps, linen, emergency relief meals if eligable, and much more!



Education

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





LIFESTYLE

We are now online!

A NEW, INTERACTIVE ONLINE CEMETERY MAP

We're thrilled to announce a groundbreaking (no pun intended) development in partnership with Chronicle, a leading provider of digital cemetery management software. This innovative collaboration not only streamlines the administration of our cemetery but also introduces a remarkable online experience for our community.

Imagine being able to explore the cemetery from the comfort of your home! Thanks to Chronicle's cutting-edge technology and all the hard work of the Shire's Executive Assistant Felicity Anderson, our online cemetery map has gone online since 18th December 2023. This interactive platform allows you to zoom in on graves, identify plots with interments and check availability of plots. Discover the final resting places of loved ones, make reservations, explore ancestral connections, and even contribute by uploading memorials to preserve and share meaningful stories.

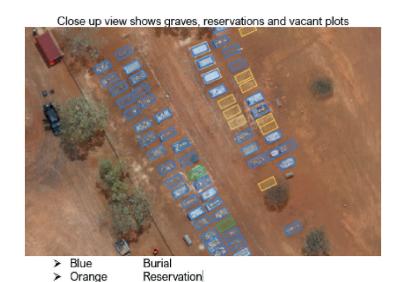
Curious about how it works? Get a sneak peek by exploring other cemeteries online at https://map.chronicle.rip/ until our Meekatharra map is unveiled.

This new feature is a game-changer for those researching family ancestry, eliminating the need for extensive travel to Meekatharra. It also simplifies the process for families planning funerals or making reservations, all while offering a valuable opportunity to safeguard and pass on the unique stories and heritage of our community.

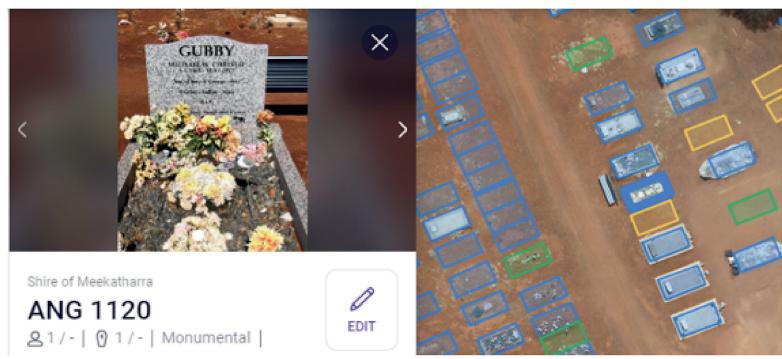
Stay tuned for the Meekatharra online cemetery map – a powerful tool that connects us to our past and preserves our stories for generations to come.

Here are a few previews of what it's going to look like:





Vacant Plot

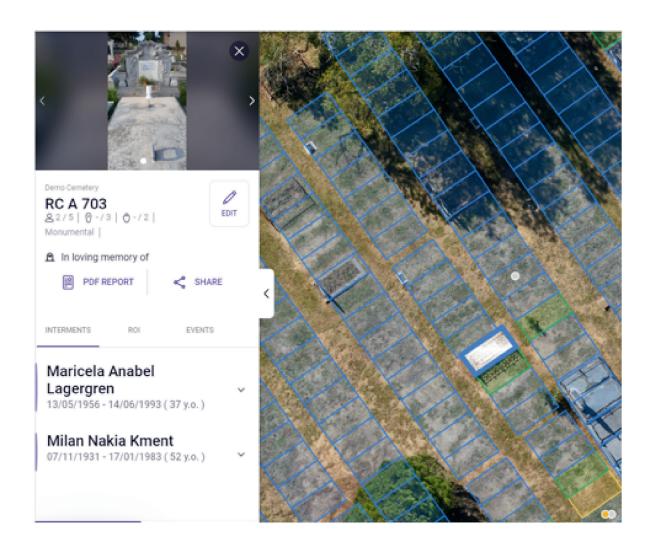




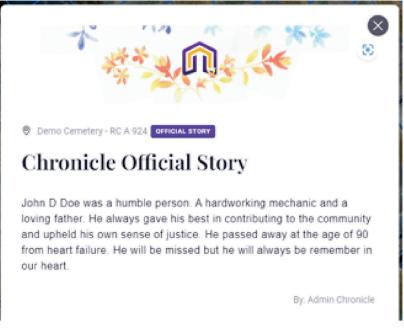


Search for and easily find your loved ones





You can even add a story about your loved ones. You can pay a small fee and do it yourself or contact the Shire and we can assist.





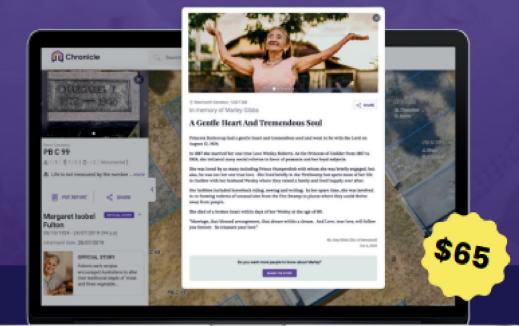
Create a lasting tribute for your loved one

CREATE A MEMORIAL



LIFE CHRONICLE

Create Heartfelt Online Memorials for Your Loved Ones



Shire of Meekatharra welcomes any online memorial submissions to honour loved ones.

Life Chronicle, powered by Chronicle Cemetery Software, is an online memorial platform to create a digital tribute with pictures and stories of your loved ones, sharing their memories and experiences.





HOW TO SUBMIT AN ONLINE MEMORIAL

Scan the QR code of the Shire of Meekatharra.



- Find and select the interred you want to create the online memorial for.
- Click the "Create A Memorial" button under the interment detail. Then, a popup window will appear.
- Click the "Create Now" button to submit the Life Chronicle for your loved ones.
- If a plot has more than one person in it, pick the person you want to write about. If there is only one person in the grave space, you will go right to the next part.
- Fill in your contact details and click the "Next" button to proceed.
- Write the life story that you want for the chosen burial. You can also add up to six pictures for their story.

8. Then, follow the payment instructions.

Note:

After you submit your Life Chronicle, the cemetery administration will review and approve it within five days.

ANNOUNCEMENTS!



From 1 July 2023

Department of Transport Servicing

Tuesday 9am to 1pm

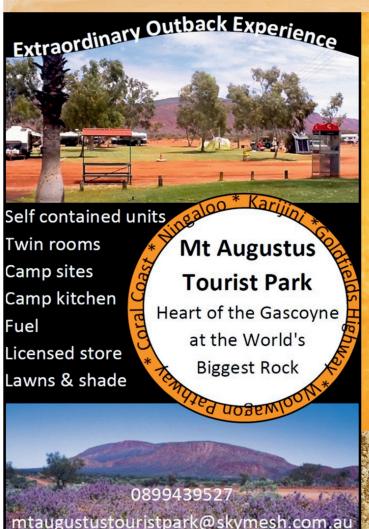
Thursday 9am to 1pm

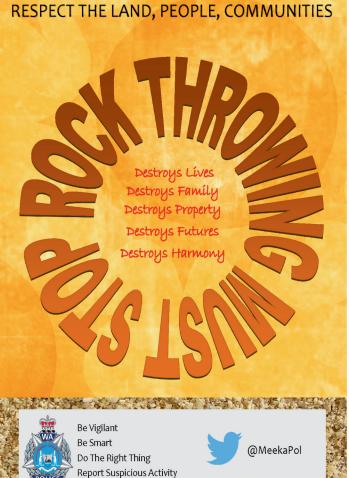
And when the Testing officer is visiting.

Please not that for people from Stations, Wiluna or Burungurra.

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

-Jo from CRC











Additional 2023 COVID-19 vaccination update

It is important to ensure the safety of our community, especially our older members.

Older age continues to be the biggest risk factor for severe COVID-19.

Vaccination is the best way to protect yourself from severe illness or death from COVID-19.

The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) has updated advice for the COVID-19 vaccine.

If it has been 6 months since receiving a COVID-19 vaccine or a confimed COVID-19 infection, an additional dose:

- is recommended for people aged 75 or older
- should be considered for people aged 65-74 and people aged 18-64 years with severe immunocompromise, following discussion with their health care provider.

People aged 65 years and older who have not had a COVID-19 booster this year, are recommended to get a dose.

All COVID-19 vaccines are anticipated to provide benefit to eligible people. However, the monovalent Omicron XBB.1.5 vaccines are preferred over other vaccines for eligible people.

If you know an older member of our community who may benefit from this information, please share it with them.

Book a vaccination

Let's ensure that everyone has access to the latest updates on COVID-19 vaccinations.

For more information, visit the Department of Health and Aged Care website: health.gov.au/covid-19-vaccines.

To find a COVID-19 vaccine clinic near you:

- Speak with your doctor or pharmacist
- Book an appointment on the <u>health service finder</u>.

Call the healthdirect helpline on 1800 022 222 if you need COVID-19 advice.

Oral antiviral treatments

Oral antivirals treatments are safe and effective in reducing the severity of COVID-19 and are available to people at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 including people 70 years and older.

Be prepared, if you are aged 70 years or older, or have one of the risk factors, we encourage you to have an early discussion with your GP or nurse practitioner about:

- whether an oral antiviral suits your health needs
- developing a COVID-19 plan if you test positive to COVID-19 including how to acess antivirals quickly if you need them.

You must start the treatment as soon as possible or within 5 days of COVID-19 symptoms beginning. Oral antiviral treatments may help stop COVID-19 infection from becoming severe.



Hacilities:

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

Cocated at:

77 Main Street, Meekatharra, 6642

For bookings and enquiries:

Telephone

99811020

Email

commieh@westnet.com.au

Website

www.commercialmeeka.com.au



We serve excellent counter meals daily

Lunch

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

Dinner

6-8 pm (Sun-Sat)

- 18 Modern Motel units with en suite, Tv, & Air con-

Accommodation includes

- -Located at the rear of Hotel with enclosed parking-
- -Traditional Hotel rooms with TV & air con-

-Located upstairs in original building-











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



Rome June



For O-4 years old



YOUTH CENTRE SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM JANUARY 2024 TUESDAY WEDNESDAY MONDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY KID ZONE 2/1/24 3/1/24 4/1/24 1/1/24 5/1/24 AGES 5-10 12-4PM SESSION 12-4PM SESSION CLOSED CLOSED 12-4PM SESSION **OPEN 12-2PM** AGES 10-18 DROP IN/DODGEBALL AGES 10-18 DROP IN/TABLE TENNIS AGES 10-18 COOKING PROGRAM 3-5PM 12-2PM YOUTH CENTRE 12-2 PM 12-3PM SPORTS CENTRE YOUTH CENTRE 3-5/1/24 POOL ACTIVITIES 2-4PM SWIMMING POOL POOL ACTIVITIES COOL BOWN AT THE SWIMMING POOL 5:30-8PM SESSION 5:30-8PM SESSION 5:30-8PM SESSION AGES 12-18 AGES 12-18 AGES 12-18 HOCKEY GAME THE YOUTH CENTRE MOVIE AND SNACKS AT THE MEEKA OVAL YOUTH CENTRE TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY MONDAY FRIDAY KID ZONE 9/1/24 8/1/24 10/1/24 11/1/24 12/1/24 AGES 5-10 12-4PM SESSION 12-4PM SESSION 12-4PM SESSION 12-4PM SESSION 12-4PM SESSION **OPEN 12-2PM** AGES 10-18 BAG-DECORATING AGES 10-18 AGES 10-18 AGES 10-18 AGES 10-18 DROP IN/DODGEBALL 12-2PM YOUTH CENTRE DROP IN/DODGEDISC ROP IN/ART&CRAFTS ROP IN/TABLE TENNIS 3-5PM 12-2PM YOUTH CENTRE 12-3PM YOUTH CENTRE 12-2PM YOUTH CENTRE MON - FRI YOUTH CENTRE POOL ACTIVITIES 2-4PM SWIMMING POOL OOL ACTIVITIES POOL ACTIVITIES COOL DOWN AT THE POOL ACTIVITIES 2-4PM SWIMMING POOL 2-4PM 2-4PM SWIMMING POOL 5:30-8PM SESSION 5:30-8PM SESSION 5:30-8PM SESSION 5:30-8PM SESSION 5:30-8PM SESSION AGES 12-18 AGES 12-18 T-BALL GAME AGES 12-18 MOVIE AND SNACKS BASKETBALL THE YOUTH CENTRE THE MEEKA OVAL THE YOUTH CENTRE AT THE MEEKA OVAL YOUTH CENTRE MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY KID ZONE 16/1/24 18/1/24 15/1/24 17/1/24 19/1/24 GES 5-10 12-4PM SESSION 12-4PM SESSION AGES 10-18 DROP IN/ART&CRAFTS 12-4PM SESSION 12-4PM SESSION 12-4PM SESSION **OPEN 12-2PM** AGES 10-18 POOL ACTIVITIES 2-4PM SWIMMING POOL AGES 10-18 DROP IN/CRICKET AGES 10-18 COOKING PROGRAM COL ACTIVITIES 3-5PM FEATURING A 2 DAY 12-2PM YOUTH CENTRE 12-2PM WIMMING POOL 12-2PM INDOOR CRICKET 12-3PM MON - FRI **BOXING WORKSHOP** YOUTH CENTRE THIS BOXING WORKSHOP 2 4PM YOUTH CENTRE BOXING WORKSHOP POOL ACTIVITIES POOL ACTIVITIES COOL DOWN AT THE NEEK WITH JAKE, FROM 2-4PM SWIMMING POOL 2-4PM YOUTH CENTRE 2-4PM SWIMMING POOL PEACOCK GYM 5:30-8PM SESSION5:30-8PM SESSION 5:30-8PM SESSION 5:30-8PM SESSION 5:30-8PM SESSION AGES 12-18 FOOTBALL AGES 12-18 AGES 12-18 AGES 12-18 HOCKEY GAME T-BALL GAME MOVIE AND SNACKS BASKETBALL YOUTH CENTRE MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY KID ZONE 23/1/24 24/1/24 25/1/24 22/1/24 26/1/24 GES 5-10 PUBLIC HOLIDAY 12-4PM SESSION 12-4PM SESSION 12-4PM SESSION **OPEN 12-2PM** 12-4PM SESSION CLOSED AGES 10-18 AGES 10-18 DROP IN/ART&CRAFTS DROP IN/TABLE TENNIS DROP IN/DODGEBALL 3-5PM DROP IN/CRICKET 12-2PM YOUTH CENTRE 12-2PM YOUTH CENTRE COMMUNITY YOUTH CENTRE MON - FRI INDOOR CRICKET AWARDS 2-4PM SWIMMING POOL POOL ACTIVITIES POOL ACTIVITIES POOL ACTIVITIES WELCOME PARK 2-4PM SWIMMING POOL 2-4PM SWIMMING POOL 2-4PM SWIMMING POOL 10:30AM 5:30-8PM SESSION 5:30-8PM SESSION 5:30-8PM SESSION AGES 12-18 5:30-8PM SESSION AGES 12-18 AGES 12-18 BASKETBALL T-BALL GAME THE YOUTH CENTRE AT THE MEEKA OVAL THE YOUTH CENTRE





Meekatharra Corner Store

Corner of Main & High Streets, Meekatharra

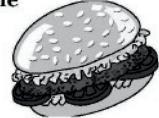


BP Fuel & Lubricants

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



MEEKATHARRA LOUIS 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



Meekatharra School of the Air

Kindy Admission 2024

ENROL NOW!

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

If your child is born between 01
July 2019 - 30 June 2020
(4 years old by 30 June 2023
you may apply to enrol your child
at MSOTA for Kindergarten 2024



ENQUIRIES - 9923 5200



Meekatharra School of the Air 52 Kempton Street Bluff Point

2024 Enrolments Now Open

Parents are welcome to contact the school on 9923 5200 for further information.



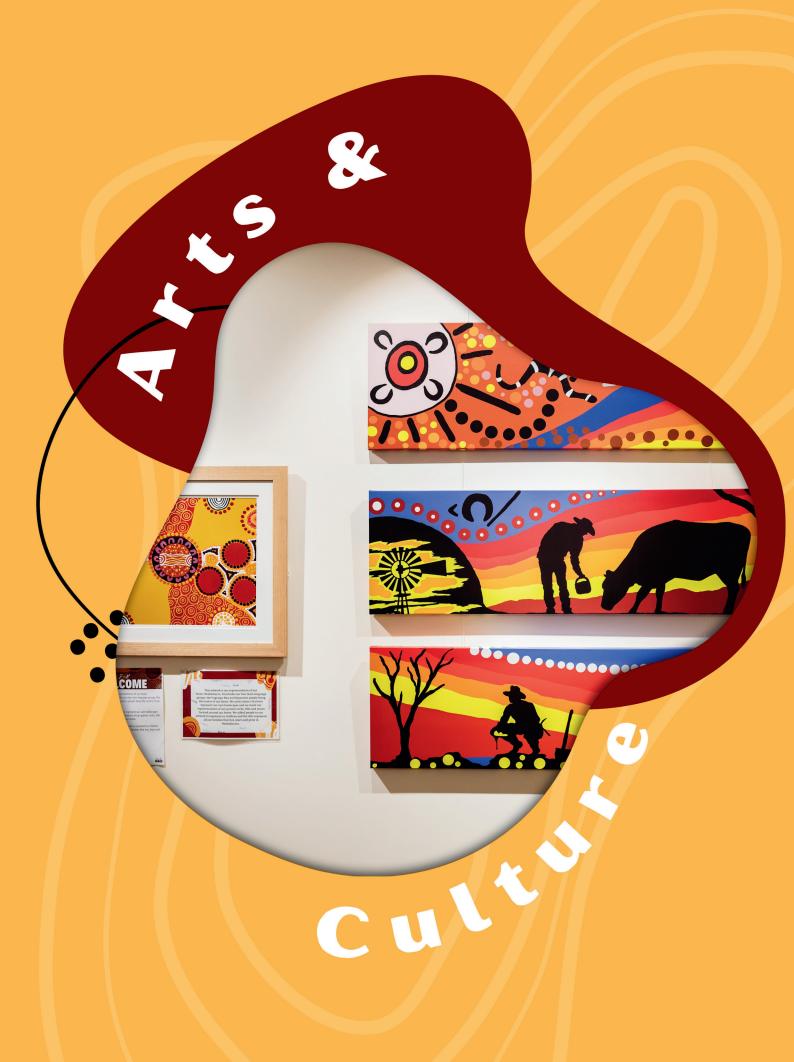




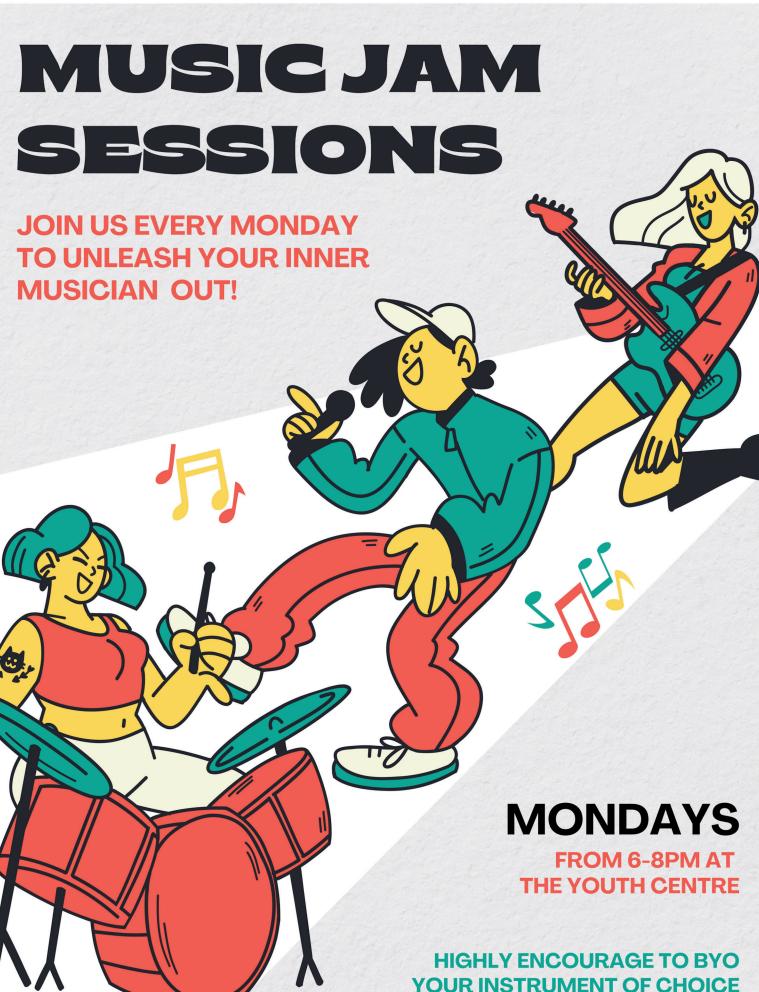
Our School offers a unique Distance Education programme that is a partnership between the school's professional teaching staff, yourself and your children. Your commitment to your children's education is essential for their success and we will endeavour to provide all the support possible to achieve an excellent education.

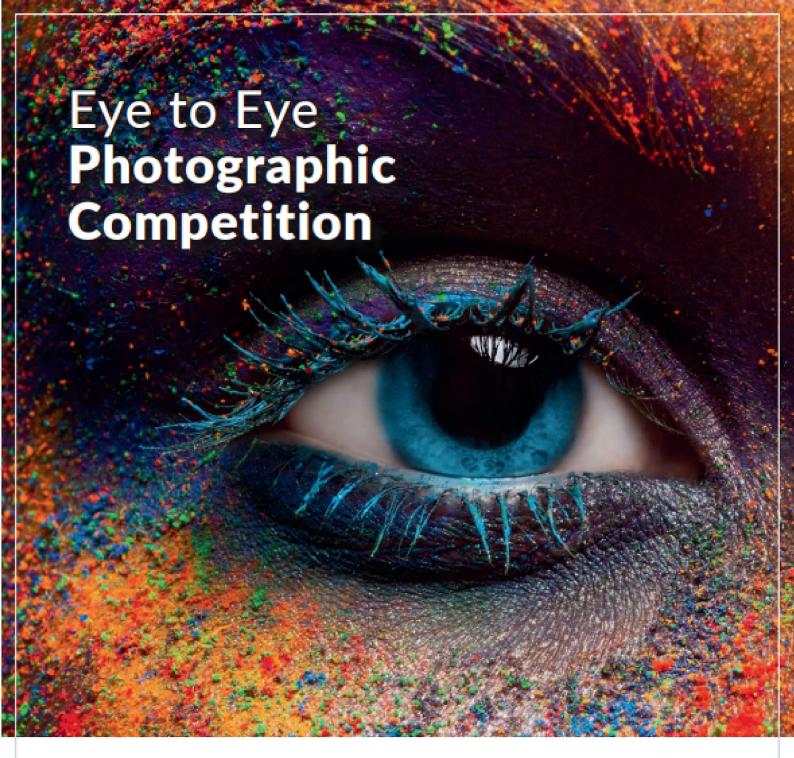
for more information, please visit our website meekatharrasota.wa.edu.au











Entries open from 6 December to 16 January

Competition entries via: eyetoeye.lei.org.au | More than \$10,000 in prizes to win Open to residents of Western Australia | #eyetoeye



Four categories plus a People's Choice Award

Human eye, window to the world Photos of human eyes in Western Australia Eagle eye Photos of animal eyes in Western Australia

Seeing with the mind's eye
Unique perspectives
on the world, including
drawing attention to the
plight of people living with
vision impairment

Seeing through a child's eye (under 18 only)

Children's category with photos submitted being aligned with any of the adult category themes People's Choice As voted on by the public









Send your submissions to PO Box 129, Meekatharra WA

6642 or drop them in at the Shire office. Alternatively, you can email us at: cdo@meekashire.wa.gov.au





MONDAYS LUNCH





Peter Foster MLC

MEMBER FOR MINING AND PASTORAL REGION



YOUR VOICE IN THE

COOK GOVERNMENT

peterfostermlc.com.au

Shop 49, 5 Sharpe Street Karratha WA 6714

(08) 9144 4187



peter.foster@mp.wa.gov.au







ADVERTISING IN THE MEEKATHARRA DUST

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

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

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

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

Prices (from 1st of July 2022)

Property for Sale

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

Key Features:

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

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

Let's keep this gem within our community!



Have you seen any of these guys.



Please call our Snake Catcher Colin



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



VOLNTEER WENTER



wa.gov.au/volunteering

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Where can I volunteer?

ST JOHN AMBULANCE

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

Contact Details:

Email - <u>cp.midwesteast@stjohnwa.com.au</u>
Website - <u>https://stjohnwa.com.au/changelives</u>

VFRS (Volunteer Fire and Rescue)

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

Contact Details:

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

GYMKHANA

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

Contact Details:

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



SES (STATE EMERGENCY SERVICES)

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

Contact Details:

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

GOLF CLUB

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

Contact Details:

Phone - 0428 699 685

MEEKA FM RADIO

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

Contact Details:

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

IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS?

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

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

Speak soon!



MEEKATHARRA COMMUNITY AWARDS 2024

Jan 26 - Friday Welcome Park 10am

Followed by lunch by the Pool

