

# MEEKATHARRA DUST

# Vol. 380

FEBRUARY 2025  
\$2.50

## **MEEKA COMMUNITY AWARDS 2025**

*Congratulations to our  
nominees and winners!*

*Read about it here and  
take a look at some of the  
happy snaps.*

## **CELEBRATING GALENTINES DAY**

*Take a look at how  
Galentines Day was  
celebrated in  
Meekatharra.*



## **SCHEDULE OF MEETING DATES, TIMES AND LOCATIONS**

*JANUARY – DECEMBER 2025*

### **ORDINARY MEETINGS OF COUNCIL**

In accordance with section 5.25(1)(g) 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 2025 calendar year are as follows:

**Saturday, 18 January 2025**

**Saturday, 15 February 2025**

**Saturday, 15 March 2025**

**Saturday, 12 April 2025**

**Saturday, 17 May 2025**

**Saturday, 21 June 2025**

**Saturday, 26 July 2025**

**Saturday, 16 August 2025**

**Saturday, 20 September 2025**

**Saturday, 18 October 2025**

**Saturday, 15 November 2025**

**Friday, 12 December 2025**

All meetings are held in Council Chambers located at the corner Main & Savage Streets Meekatharra and commence at 11.30am (except the 12 December 2025 meeting which commences at 4:00pm).

### **AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

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

**Nathan Cain**

**Acting Chief Executive Officer**

## **Acknowledgement of Country**

The Shire of Meekatharra acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout this region, and recognises the continuing connection to lands, waters and communities.

We pay our respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures; and to Elders past and present.

### **GENERAL DISCLAIMER**

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



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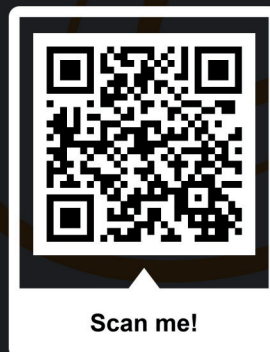
WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM  
YOU SO PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US ON

**08 9980 0600**

AND ASK FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER,  
OR EMAIL;

**CDO@MEEKASHIRE.WA.GOV.AU**

OR GIVE US A FOLLOW ON OUR SOCIALS





**Community**



**Happenings**

WHAT'S CURRENTLY HAPPENING IN MEEKA?



# COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS | Meeka Community Awards 2025

## Congratulations to our 2025 award winners and nominees!

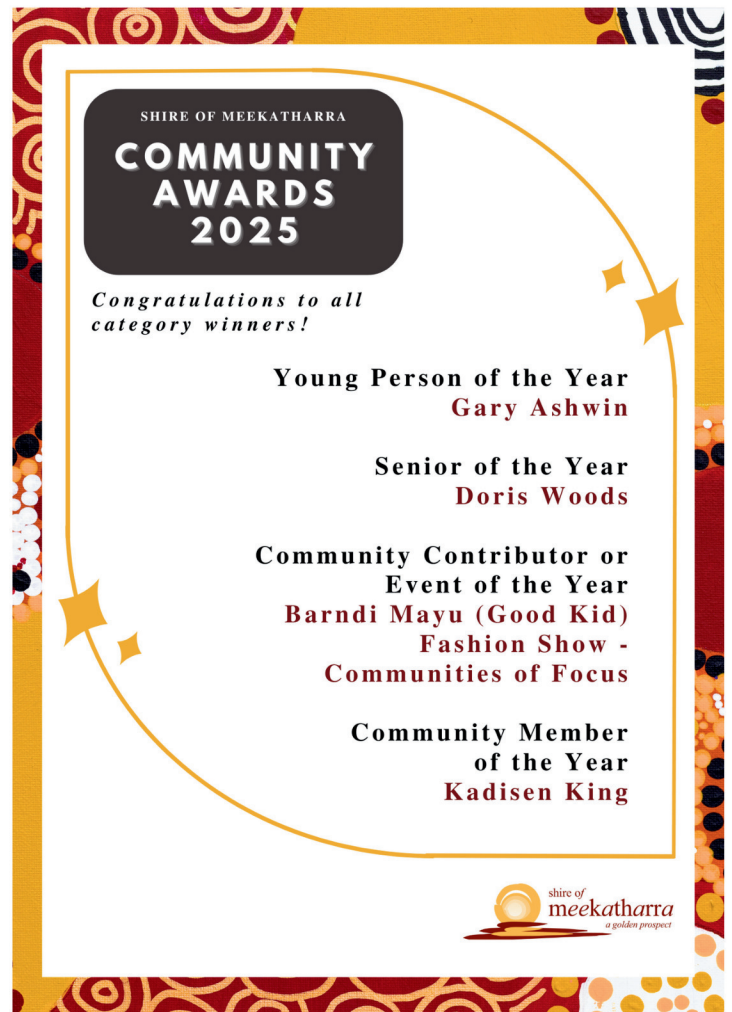
The 2025 Meekatharra Community Awards Ceremony took place on Sunday, 26th January, bringing together local residents to celebrate the outstanding contributions and achievements of individuals and groups within the community.

The special event was hosted at the Shire Hall on Australia Day, offering an opportunity for everyone to gather in a spirit of appreciation and unity.

The Meekatharra Community Awards ceremony was a resounding success, bringing together the town's residents to celebrate the incredible contributions made by individuals, groups, and organizations to the local community.

Held in a festive and heartwarming atmosphere, the event highlighted the dedication, passion, and hard work of the nominees and award winners across four categories.

- **Young Person of the Year**
- **Senior of the Year**
- **Community Contributor or Event of the Year**
- **Community Member of the Year**



The ceremony not only recognized personal achievements but also celebrated the collective spirit of the town, with many nominees showing how teamwork and collaboration drive positive change.

The award winners, selected for their outstanding achievements, were acknowledged for their exceptional commitment to bettering the community, inspiring others with their selflessness, perseverance, and creativity.

The Meekatharra Community Awards ceremony successfully brought the town together in honoring those who continually strive to make a difference. The ceremony was followed with a delicious morning tea and everyone leaving the event feeling uplifted and inspired. It was clear that Meekatharra's spirit of community and support will continue to thrive for years to come.





# COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS | Meeka Community Awards 2025

## Community BBQ & Pool Party!

The celebrations continued on at the Meekatharra War Memorial Pool until early afternoon.

Families came together to cool off with free pool entry, a hearty BBQ supplied by Yulella Aboriginal Corporation and music provided by local DJ Timika King.

A fun-filled day was had by all.

A very big congratulations to all 2025 Meekatharra Community Award nominees and award winners.

You make our community a better place!



Photo credits: Eleonora Zibetti



2025 Meekatharra Community Award winners: Gary Ashwin, Kadi King, Cr. Judy Holden, Doris Woods and Carol Bain.



Philippa Jones, Glenn Moore, Carol Bain, Gary Ashwin, Cr. Judy Holden, Jo Bonnily, Shelley Brockman, Kadi King, Doris Woods, Walley & Sue Barrett and Timika King.





COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS |

Meeka Community Awards 2025

SHIRE OF MEEKATHARRA

COMMUNITY AWARDS 2025

Congratulations to all Award Nominees!

shire of meekatharra  
a golden prospect

Gary Ashwin

Doris Woods

Wanda Flanagan

Paulette Anderson

Jo-anne Bonnily

Communities of Focus

Philippa Jones

Meekatharra VFRS

Meekatharra District High School

Glenn Moore

Jodi Whitby

Kadisen King

Karen Schilling

Robbie Hoare

Shelley Brockman

Timika King

Wesley Ward





COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS | **Meeka Community Awards 2025**





# COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS | Westgold Community Forum



Please join Wayne Bramwell,  
Managing Director and CEO, for our April 2025

## Westgold Community forum

Join Wayne and the Westgold team for a community update and discussion.

Please send agenda items through for consideration to [communities@westgold.com.au](mailto:communities@westgold.com.au) by Friday 4 April.

A light refreshment will be provided.  
We hope to see you there.

### Location

Meekatharra Town Hall

### Date

Tuesday 15 April

### Time

5:30pm

Please contact our Community Relations team if you have any questions, [communities@westgold.com.au](mailto:communities@westgold.com.au)



Choose  
Safety



Show  
Respect



Deliver  
Value



# COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS | Galentine's Day

## Celebrating Galentine's Day in Meekatharra! (Gal·en·tine's Day)

We celebrated Galentine's Day on 13th February in the Beer Garden at the Royal Mail Meekatharra. It was a night to celebrate sisters and our sisterhood. A great night was had by all who attended. Ladies had haircuts, eyebrows waxed, nails polished and other treats. They looked even more beautiful than when they arrived.

According to feedback, this is something the women of our community would like more regularly.

*Story and photos provided by Timika & Astrid.*

**Fun Fact:** Galentine's Day is a holiday observed on February 13th as a time to celebrate friendships, especially among women. A Galentine's Day celebration can include all genders and all of those that you adore.







**St John**

We need you



## New Volunteers Urgently Needed

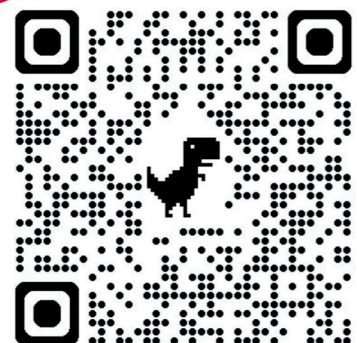
- Help with attending and driving to 000 calls
- Checking ambulance stock
- Transporting to RFDS

For more information call or email the  
community paramedic

0437681562

[cp.midwesteast@stjohnhwa.com.au](mailto:cp.midwesteast@stjohnhwa.com.au)

*Join Now*





**Contact our team on  
0409 394 213 or  
email [fax@wif.net.au](mailto:fax@wif.net.au)**

**Freight deliveries twice a week  
from Perth and Geraldton**



**Fresh fruit and  
vegetables  
delivered twice  
a week**



**Fresh meat  
delivered  
twice a  
week from  
Mick Davey  
Butchers**



*We Deliver*

**MDB**  
MICK DAVEY BUTCHERS  
Butcher Shop since 1988

*Developing Locally Grown Foods*



# COMMUNITY FACILITIES

## Available in Town

### LLOYD'S PLAZA CONFERENCE ROOM

Lloyd's Plaza Conference Room is a state-of-the-art conferencing facility set to accommodate a maximum of 25 people.

Amenities include kitchenette, disabled access toilet and parking.

#### Fees & Charges

\$50.00 per 4 hour block

\$80.00 per whole day



Lloyd's Plaza Conference Room

### 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 cannot be booked online.

Please contact us directly at **9980 0600** or email us at **[cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au](mailto:cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au)** for any enquiries or bookings.



Town Hall

### 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 its lush 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 cannot be booked online.

Please contact us directly at **9980 0600** or email us at **[cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au](mailto:cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au)** for any enquiries or bookings.



Sporting Complex and Oval





## GYM

The gym is located at the Sporting Complex off Landor Road behind the Club Rooms and can 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. Make sure to sign up and check out the space.

We have recently upgraded the facility and equipment, so we can deliver the best gym in the region!

***Access is restricted to 16 years of age 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](mailto:cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au)**

### Fees & Charges (as of July 2024)

\$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](mailto:cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au)**.







## SQUASH COURT

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

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

### Opening Hours

5am - 10pm

### Fees & Charges (as of July 2023)

- 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](mailto:cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au)*

## TENNIS COURT

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

This is an unmanned facility and can 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](mailto:cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au)*







## BASKETBALL COURTS

The Basketball Court is located at the Sporting Complex 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](mailto:cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au)***

## KIDS ZONE & YOUTH CENTRE

The Kids Zone and Youth Centre are open during the School Term and the School Holidays. They provide after school programs for the youth in Meekatharra, and give them a space to connect with others.

Both areas have adults who can supervise and guide the youth in what they want to do. The facilities and resources are well equipped for the youth to use.

Kidzone welcomes children from age 5-9 years, while the Youth Centre welcomes youth from age 10 - 18 years. All youth are welcome to come and even bring their friends or siblings with them.

### Opening Hours

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

Youth Centre:  
6pm - 8pm everyday Monday to Friday

*For any enquiries, please contact us directly at **9980 0600** or email us at **[youth@meekashire.wa.gov.au](mailto:youth@meekashire.wa.gov.au)***



Senior Youth Officer: Kadisen King





# 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 apply 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. Items can be borrowed for three weeks.

**Open from 9:00am to 4:00pm Monday to Friday.**

Meekatharra Public Library is located at 54 Main Street Meekatharra

Ph: (08) 9980 0600

[cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au](mailto:cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au)

UPCOMING  
EVENTS

SCAN  
ME!





Life



style

THINGS WE DO HERE IN TOWN.





Mission Australia helps people move towards independence by standing together with Australians in need until they can stand for themselves

Mission Australia provides a range of community services in the Midwest and Gascoyne regions of Western Australia.

#### Family and Domestic Violence Service

Monday to Friday 8:00am – 4:00pm Call “000” or Local Police on 08 9918 7120 24-hour service through Police.

#### Public Tenancy Support Service

Monday to Friday 8:00am – 4:00pm

#### Remote Education and Learning – Ijaba

Monday to Friday 8:00am – 4:00pm

#### Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Monday to Friday 8:00am – 4:00pm

#### Mental Health Support Service

Monday to Friday 8:00am – 4:00pm

#### Meekatharra Housing Support Service –

##### Gumbarra Urda

Monday – Friday 8:00am – 4:00pm

#### Emergency Relief

Monday 9:00am – 11:00am

Phone for an appointment on the day, walk-ins accepted

#### Mission Australia Meekatharra

61 Main Street/PO Box 59

Meekatharra WA 6642

08 9956 5100

## Midwest and Gascoyne Services Meekatharra



### Family and Domestic Violence Service

This service offers a community response to women and their children (if present) who are experiencing domestic violence or are concerned about their safety.

#### Support includes:

- Crisis accommodation up to 72—hours or with a Police Order
- Arranging transportation and alternative accommodation
- Essential emergency items such as food
- Links to counselling and other culturally appropriate services

### Meekatharra Housing and-Support Service—Gumbarra Urda

Transitional Accommodation will provide a pathway for families, women and children who have a desire to transition out of unsafe and/or unstable housing situations with support. MHSS will provide medium term accommodation combined with case management and community development.

### Remote Education and Learning—Ijaba

This service works with families and community to increase school attendance in Meekatharra.

Our team acknowledges that school attendance is a ‘whole of community’ responsibility and has adopted a family focused model to work specifically with parents, carers and other family members as well as Elders, the school, local residents, community organisations and government agencies.

Our aim is to identify and address the short and long term challenges that families encounter, which may impact on children and young people attending and staying at school.

### Public Tenancy Support Service

This service supports people living in Public Housing who face difficulty maintaining their tenancy.

Our team aims to support tenants to increase their ability to avoid reaching the point of eviction, debts and property standards.

### Mental Health Support Service

This service provides information support, advocacy, referral and counselling to Aboriginal people living in Meekatharra, Cue and Mount Magnet who experience and live with mental ill health.

Our team adopts a recovery-orientated model, placing significant emphasis on the choices and decisions of the individual. We aim to support people to make positive changes and reach their goals while continuing to participate fully in the community.

### Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

This service supports grandparents living in Meekatharra, Cue and Mount Magnet who are the sole or primary carer of their grandchildren.

### Emergency Relief

This service is offered to people experiencing significant financial distress, homelessness and other life challenges.

Immediate relief is available once every three months in the form of food hampers. In addition to referrals to other services. Appointments to Emergency Relief are essential.



## Snake Bites

### What to do:

1. Follow DRSABCD St John WA Action Plan.
2. Urgent medical aid. Call Triple Zero (000) for an ambulance.
3. Ensure the casualty does not move.
4. Lay the casualty down, rest and reassure.
5. If the bite is on a limb, apply a broad pressure bandage over the bite site as soon as possible.
6. Then apply a further elasticised or firm bandage - start at fingers or toes and move up the limb as far as can be reached. Apply tightly but without stopping blood flow.
7. Splint the limb including the joints on either side of the bite.
8. Write down the time that the casualty was bitten and when the bandage was applied.
9. If the casualty becomes unconscious and not breathing normally, Commence CPR and Defibrillation.

### Signs and symptoms

- Visible in an hour or more after the person has been bitten.
- In children, signs and symptoms may appear within minutes.
- Paired fang marks, but often only a single mark or a scratch mark may be present. Marks or scratches may bleed.
- Nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea.
- Headache, drowsiness, giddiness or faintness.
- Double or blurred vision, drooping eyelids.
- Voice changes, trouble speaking or swallowing. Pain or tightness in the throat, chest or abdomen.
- Breathing difficulties, respiratory weakness or arrest.



**Do not** wash the venom off the skin (it may aid in identification).

**Do not** cut the bitten area and try to suck the venom out.

**Do not** use a tourniquet.

**Do not** try and catch the snake.



**St John**





M E E K A T H A R R A



## ACCOMMODATION CENTRE

Open Daily 6.00am—9.00pm

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

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

or call on 99811253



### 1 Animal Management

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



2

### Pest Control treatments

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



3

### Community Housing

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



4

### Distribution

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



5

### Education

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



Call Melissa on 9980 1339



Core Services

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

FOOD FOR THE MOB

TRANSPORT

SERVICES FOR APPOINTMENTS

YARD & GARDENING SERVICES

SOCIAL PARTICIPATION CLASSES

HOUSE CLEANING



For more information please contact our Community Hub Coordinator

Email: [communitycoordinator@yulella.org.au](mailto:communitycoordinator@yulella.org.au)

Phone: 0499 462 829





Department of Energy, Mines,  
Industry Regulation and Safety



## REGIONAL COLUMN

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

**With Senior Regional Officer for Midwest – Natasha Pirrottina**

### **Beware the trap – work from home scams flooding social media**

New year, new job! But watch-out for job scams that hope to steal your money, rather than make you any.

Social media or encrypted message platforms like WhatsApp or Telegram are currently flooded with job scams, offering easy employment online with no experience needed and the added benefit of working from home.

The phony jobs require people to perform tasks for a commission, such as leaving fake “five star” reviews on food delivery services apps and online shopping platforms, or liking and following social media accounts. Some people are asked to purchase products before leaving a false review, so they appear as a “verified buyer” on the platform.

Victims often have to send evidence of their “work” to an “auditor” (i.e. scammer), and they are led to believe they are helping a business’ profile with their fake positive reviews. But it’s got nothing to do with the reviews, it’s about scamming you out of your hard-earned money. Scammers will request money through bank transfer or crypto currency to cover taxes, keep your account active or to cover conversion rates when paying out your “earnings”.

To secure the job, victims are deceived into investing a substantial amount of money with the false promise of high returns. They will be encouraged to create an account where they are often asked to provide forms of identification as well. Once the person realises there won’t be any payment or promised return, the scammers then begin a harassment campaign for further payments.

One person reported losing nearly \$2,000 to a job scam where she was assigned tasks to rate products online. After setting up a cryptocurrency account, she initially earned \$400 and felt positive about the new job. She was then asked to deposit her own money into the account to continue receiving tasks and was also added to a group chat with scammers posing as other excited employees encouraging the newcomers to invest in this “wonderful opportunity.”

Sadly, these job scams generally target new parents, retirees, international students and people living with disability. However, anyone could become caught in a scammer’s web.

WA ScamNet has already received several reports of these scams this year. The victims have lost almost \$60,000 in total.





Department of Energy, Mines,  
Industry Regulation and Safety



Keep an eye out for the red flags and practice the pause – take a moment to consider if the job is too good to be true. Scammers are highly sophisticated and may post ads on legitimate job websites or on social media to appear as genuine businesses. Be alert to any vague job descriptions and communications conducted through social media and message platforms.

Verify company information through your own internet searches and be suspicious if there is no physical address.

Beware of job offers made without a formal interview and never provide payment upfront, especially by cryptocurrency. It's unlikely you'll ever get your money back and you should never have to pay a fee to secure employment.

If you think you have fallen prey to a job scam, cease and block all contact with the scammers, contact your bank and report the scam to ScamNet – [scamnet.wa.gov.au](http://scamnet.wa.gov.au) or call 1300 30 40 54.

Also be on high alert for follow up scams where fraudsters contact you again claiming to be a fund recovery agency able to help retrieve the lost money. This is also a scam and should be ignored.

## MOVIE NIGHT

## Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire

PG



**Shire Hall**



**Saturday 15 March**  
**Doors open 7:00pm**  
**Movie starts 7:30pm**



**FREE ENTRY**

\*Children under 10yrs must be accompanied by an adult at all times.



THIS IS AN  
ALCOHOL,  
SMOKE &  
VAPE-FREE  
EVENT

**FREE  
COMMUNITY  
BBQ, POPCORN  
AND WATER  
PROVIDED**

**FEEL FREE TO  
BRING YOUR  
OWN  
CHAIR,  
BLANKET OR  
BEAN BAG**







Meekatharra

# Commercial Hotel

Photo from: [wanderingwarwickwonderment.wordpress.com](http://wanderingwarwickwonderment.wordpress.com)

## Facilities:

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

## Located at:

77 Main Street,  
Meekatharra, 6642

*We serve excellent  
counter meals daily*

## Lunch

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

## Dinner

6-8 pm  
(Sun-Sat)



Motel Rooms



Motel Rooms

## For bookings and enquiries:

### Telephone

99811020

### Email

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

### Website

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



## Accommodation includes

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



Beer Garden



Pub





Department of  
Primary Industries and  
Regional Development

## Backyard Buddies

Your monthly guide to pests, weeds and diseases

### European wasp surveillance in full swing



European wasps feed on grapes and other fruit, human and pet food, insects and dead animals like rats, kangaroos and bandicoots.

#### The annual hunt to detect and eradicate European wasps (*Vespula germanica*) from WA is in full swing!

Guard your BBQs, monitor your pet's food and check the insects you scoop from the pool! European wasps, we are looking for you!

The European wasp is a declared pest and must be reported. It has threatened to establish in WA since six nests were found and destroyed near Fremantle in 1977. Thanks to ongoing collaborative surveillance between the Department, community, local governments and businesses, WA has prevented the permanent establishment and spread of this species, to date. This is globally unique, and an extraordinary achievement.

European wasps are widely established across most of southern Australia and Tasmania which aren't subject to such a coordinated program. Consequently, new queens hitchhike their way into WA each year, and this is our 48th year spent competing in a sophisticated game of 'hide and seek' against this highly adaptable and destructive pest.

These wasps have the proven potential to establish nests from Kalbarri to Eucla, with outbreaks historically

in Kalgoorlie, Kalbarri, Geraldton and regional towns across the south-west. Most detections are made in the Perth Metro, but current regional detections include the Bunbury, Geraldton and Albany regions. These are huge areas to monitor, so please keep your eyes peeled.

#### What to look for

There are similar looking black and yellow wasps in WA, so look for these key characteristics:

- **Scavenging** on human food and drinks, fruit like grapes, apples and stone fruit, pet food and roadkill (carrion).
- **Nest underground** - nests are HUGE, grow larger than a basketball in a single season, and have a small (golf ball sized) entrance hole.
- Completely **black antenna**.
- **Legs up** in flight (rear legs don't dangle).

#### Learn more or report

For more information about the eradication program and how to identify wasps see [European wasp: declared pest | Agriculture and Food](#) or contact our Pest and Disease Information Service (PaDIS). Reports of suspected European wasps can be made to PaDIS or the MyPestGuide® team. Please include as much information and photos where you can.



#### Report your observations

MyPestGuide® Reporter via app or online [mypestguide.agric.wa.gov.au](https://mypestguide.agric.wa.gov.au)

Pest and Disease Information Service (08) 9368 3080 | [padis@dpird.wa.gov.au](mailto:padis@dpird.wa.gov.au)



MARCH

2 0 2 5

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
31					1 Containers for Change  8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation	2
3 Labour Day Public Holiday	4	5 Containers for Change  8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation	6	7	8  WA State Election Shire Hall 8am - 6pm Meeka Markets Shire Hall 9am - 1pm Community Resource & Visitor Centre	9
10	11	12 Containers for Change  8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation  Girls Group 6pm - 8pm Youth Focus	13	14	15  Council Meeting 11:30am Meeka Creatives (new group)  Movie Night Shire Hall 7pm - 9pm	16
17	18	19 Containers for Change  8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation  Craft & Sip 7pm - 9pm Community Resource & Visitor Centre	20	21	22 Containers for Change  8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation	23
24	25	26 Containers for Change  8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation  Girls Group 6pm - 8pm Youth Focus	27	28	29 Containers for Change  8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation	30



APRIL

2025

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
	1	2	3	4	5 Containers for Change 8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation	6
7	8	9 Containers for Change 8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation	10 Girls Group 'threads' 6pm - 8pm Youth Focus	11 Welcome to Meeka Lloyd's Plaza Time TBC	12 Council Meeting 11:30am Meeka Markets 9am - 1pm Community Resource & Visitor Centre	13
14	15 Infinity Skate Workshop Skate Park Youth Services	16 Infinity Skate Workshop Skate Park Youth Services Craft & Sip 7pm - 9pm Community Resource & Visitor Centre	17 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS Easter Egg Hunt Sports Complex Time TBC	18 Good Friday Public Holiday	19 Meeka Creatives 9am - 11am	20 Easter Sunday Public Holiday
21 Easter Monday Public Holiday	22	23 Containers for Change	24 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	25 ANZAC Day Public Holiday	26 Containers for Change	27
28	29	30 Containers for Change 8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation				

UPCOMING EVENTS

SCAN ME!





## HEALTHY CHUNKY CHIPS

### RECIPE



📋 Prep: 8 min  
🕒 Cook: 25 min  
🍴 Servings: 6  
★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
[Print](#)

🍴 [Deadly Tucker](#) 🍴 [Sides](#) 🍴 [Vegetarian](#) 🍴 [Vegan](#) 🍴 [Gluten-free](#) 🍴 [Dairy-free](#) 🍴 [Take Away](#)  
🍴 [5-Ingredients](#)

☐ Cook Mode Prevent your screen from going dark

#### Method

1. Preheat oven to 200°C.
2. Cut potatoes into chunky pieces. Place on tray, add oil and toss. Sprinkle with paprika and chilli powder.
3. Place in hot oven until brown or place on barbecue until crisp.

*Recipe from Deadly Tucker cookbook (Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander-FOODcents manual, 2006), North Metropolitan Health Service, Department of Health WA, reproduced with permission.*

<https://livelighter.com.au/recipe/218/chunky-chips>

#### Ingredients

- ▲ 6 potatoes, unpeeled, cut into chunks
- ▲ 1/2 tsp paprika
- ▲ 1/2 tsp chilli powder
- ▲ 2 tbs olive oil

#### 💡 Healthy tip!

Choose plain water or soda water in place of a sugary drink.



Ingredients



Equipment



Cut potatoes into chunky pieces



Place on tray and toss in oil



Sprinkle paprika and chilli powder, cook.



Containers For Change

MEEKATHARRA

**NEW OPEN HOURS**

Wednesday & Saturday

**8.00—12.00**

BAG DROP OFF AVAILABLE







## Aboriginal Justice Open Day

Meekatharra Shire Hall

75 Main Street, Meekatharra

When: Tuesday 25 March 2025 from 9am – 4pm



Aboriginal Justice Open Days are a 'one-stop shop' where you can access services that can help you with identification, fines and driver's licence enquiries

### Who can help you on the day



#### Department of Transport

Apply for a driver's licence, WA Photo (ID) card, driving assessments, licence status queries and other information about licencing services

Theory Test: **\$21.20**

Learner's Permit: **\$143.30**

Log Book: **\$10.70**

WA Photo (ID) Card: **\$47.50**



#### Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages

Register your children's births: **Free**

Apply for Birth, Death and Marriage Certificates: **\$55.00**

Change of Name: **\$190.00**



#### Fines Enforcement Registry

For queries on fines and make arrangements for time-to-pay



#### Services Australia – Centrelink

Identification requirements for licensing only

#### Community Services

Yulella Aboriginal Corporation

**Please arrive early to ensure that you do not miss out accessing services**

**Ensure that all children are accompanied by a parent or guardian and supervised at all times**

**THE ABORIGINAL JUSTICE OPEN DAYS ARE OPEN TO EVERYONE**

So that you may be assisted in the best possible way, please bring as much of the following on the day:

- Birth Certificate
- Medicare card
- Centrelink card
- Bank card

Bank statement or official letter/bill from a government agency or employer that has your address and is no older than 6 months

- Either cash or credit card/debit card for payment





**Classified Ads**

**& Miscellaneous**

OTHER HELPFUL INFORMATION ABOUT MEEKA



# Merome BEARD

LIBERAL FOR MID-WEST

SHADOW MINISTER FOR DISABILITY SERVICES;  
SHADOW MINISTER FOR HERITAGE;



## Mid-West Deserves Better



Hello, I'm **Merome Beard**, but most people call me Mem.

I'm a Liberal Member of State Parliament already representing areas in the Mid-West, Gascoyne and Murchison, and I'm your Liberal candidate for the new Mid-West electorate in the upcoming March election.

My family and I have a long connection to the regions spanning four generations in the pastoral industry. For 22 years my husband Tony and I have owned and operated regional businesses including a pub, raised our kids and volunteered with community groups.

I know first-hand what makes living and working in the regions great but I also know just how hard the past few years have been for many in the bush. I understand the issues, challenges and opportunities across our communities - I live it and I know it!

It's time we had real discussions and debate - we can't keep doing what we are doing, with a lack of consultation and legislation being rammed through Parliament. If we don't stand up for what we truly believe in, then nothing will change.

**I'm COMMITTED to FIGHT HARD for the things that matter to us and protecting our way of life.**

The **Labor Government** has failed to adequately fund or tackle **important issues** right across our regions such as:

- Cost of living and helping small businesses
- Health services, housing and neglected infrastructure
- Law and Order
- Reliable Communication
- Better management of power, water and coastal erosion
- Royalties for Regions - spend the money where it's generated
- Live Exports - 'Keep the Sheep'
- Firearms Act - I opposed this bill
- Electoral Reform - which reduced regional voices

And the list goes on ...



## Did You Know?



✓ **YOUR electoral boundaries have changed.** The current seats of Moore and North West Central have been abolished and re-aligned to the **one new electorate of Mid-West.**

✓ **What this means for you** In March 2025, your local Member of State Parliament will be the voice for towns as far north as Carnarvon, inland to Meekatharra and south to Muchea and Chittering in a seat covering approx. 420,000 km<sup>2</sup> being the electorate of Mid-West.

✓ **As your Liberal Candidate for the Mid-West,** I very much look forward to meeting with you, and for the opportunity to represent you and our regions as a strong voice, long into the future.

✓ **We DESERVE Better** - I'm driven to stay for the long haul and keep fighting for the regions and the large seat of Mid-West to ensure balance and common sense are restored in our State Parliament and our regional voices are heard **With your support I can deliver for MID-WEST.**



## Get in Touch

I'd love to catch up to say hello!

📞 0418 706 700 ✉ [merome.beard@waliberal.org.au](mailto:merome.beard@waliberal.org.au)

📍 MemBeardMLA 📍 35 Robinson Street, Carnarvon WA 6701

Authorised By S.Morgan, Liberal Party, 2/12 Parliament Place, West Perth WA 6005



Your vote for **Shane Love** at this election can make a real difference for our community.



Practical, common-sense solutions.



Putting local people before politics.



Restoring Royalties for Regions.



**NATIONALSWA**

**SHANE LOVE MLA**

**THE NATIONALS WA FOR MID-WEST**

**LEADER OF THE NATIONALS WA**

(08) 9322 7856 shane.love@nationalswa.com

Authorised by Shane Love, 39 Hasting Street, Jurien Bay 6516

## ADVERTISING IN THE MEEKATHARRA DUST



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 copies sold around town, copies sent in the mail, and those viewed online.

**Local non-for-profit organisations are eligible 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](mailto:cdo@meekashire.wa.gov.au).

SIZE	COLOUR	B & W
Full Page	\$77.00	\$49.50
Half Page	\$44.00	\$27.50
Quarter Page	\$27.50	\$16.50
Eighth Page	\$16.50	\$11.00

Prices (from 1st of July 2024)

**VOL\_NTEER  
WE NEEDU**

[wa.gov.au/volunteering](http://wa.gov.au/volunteering)



### ANNOUNCEMENTS!

From 1 July 2023

Department of Transport Servicing

Tuesday 9am to 1pm

Thursday 9am to 1pm

And when the Testing Officer is visiting.

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

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

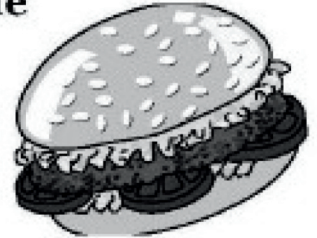
-Jo from CRC



# 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**

## 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](mailto:mtaugustustouristpark@skymesh.com.au)

DO YOU HAVE A  
STORY TO TELL?  
OR A PHOTO?  
OR PERHAPS AN ARTWORK  
ABOUT MEEKATHARRA?



## CALLING FOR Submissions!

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

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



# ACTIVITIES

## WORD SEARCH

### Safari Animals

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

KUDU  
 LEOPARD  
 SPRINGBOK  
 ELAND  
 CROCODILE  
 BABOON  
 GIRAFFE  
 ELEPHANT  
 BUFFALO  
 HIPPO  
 RHINO  
 WARTHOG  
 GAZELLE  
 ZEBRA  
 CHEETAH  
 CIVET  
 HYENA  
 LION

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/11/>

## SUDOKU

		3	7	1		6	2	
				9		3		5
								4
					4		6	3
		9						
2		1	3					
8			5					
		6			7		1	
		7	9		8			

#141031

Difficulty: easy

					7			
	3							
			6	4		2		
9								
		6		8	5	1		
	7	5			2	6	9	
		9		7			5	
	2		4				3	
			1				4	

#96829

Difficulty: moderate

## SOLUTIONS

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

Solution of sudoku #141031:

9	4	3	7	1	5	6	2	8
6	1	8	4	9	2	3	7	5
5	7	2	6	8	3	1	9	4
7	8	5	1	2	4	9	6	3
4	3	9	8	7	6	2	5	1
2	6	1	3	5	9	4	8	7
8	9	4	5	6	1	7	3	2
3	5	6	2	4	7	8	1	9
1	2	7	9	3	8	5	4	6

Solution of sudoku #96829:

2	9	1	5	3	7	4	6	8
6	3	4	8	2	1	5	7	9
7	5	8	6	4	9	2	1	3
9	1	2	7	6	4	3	8	5
3	4	6	9	8	5	1	2	7
8	7	5	3	1	2	6	9	4
4	6	9	2	7	3	8	5	1
1	2	7	4	5	8	9	3	6
5	8	3	1	9	6	7	4	2







# ‘Our Threads, This Place, Your Moment’

Youth Week 10-17 April 2025



## Threads of Meekatharra

### Our Place, Our Stories

A Community Book for Meekatharra

♥ Calling all Elders, Young People, and Community Members! ♥

We’re creating a special book filled with advice, stories, poems, and artwork from the people of Meekatharra. This book will bring together wisdom from Elders, voices of young people, and the spirit of our town. Let’s bring the voices of Meekatharra together in one special book!

#### What’s Inside?

- ✓ Advice from Elders – What they wish they knew when they were young.
- ✓ Stories from Young People – What they want Elders to understand about their lives today.
- ✓ Poems & Artwork – Creative expressions about life in Meekatharra.
- ✓ Our Community’s History – Memories and experiences of growing up here.
- ✓ Humour & Everyday Wisdom – Funny moments, local sayings, and things passed down through generations.

#### How Can You Contribute?

Write – Share a short story, a lesson, or something important about your life.

Draw or Paint – Submit artwork inspired by Meekatharra.

Speak & Share – If writing isn’t your thing, we can record your story and write it down for you!

Deadline for Submissions: 28 March 2025

Drop off your contributions at: Youth Focus

For more info, contact: Timika or Paulette (0499 444 626)



## Subscriptions

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

Subscription Price is \$39.65 GST inclusive.

Subscriptions are for a 12-month period, including postage. Alternatively, you can get a free copy online via our website. If needing assistance, please call our office on 9980 0600.

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

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