

MEEKATHARRA DUST

Vol. 381

MARCH 2025
\$2.50



A NIGHT AT THE MOVIES!

*Ghostbusters:
Frozen Empire*

*Brought to you by
Shire of Meekatharra
Yulella Aboriginal
Corporation
and
Meekatharra Community
Resource & Visitor Centre*

POOL SEASON

*Highlights from the Pool
Manager as pool season
comes to a close*

AIRPORT HAPPENINGS

*What's new at
Meekatharra Airport*

Photo credit: Shaun Ford

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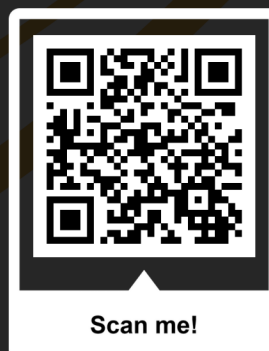
WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM
YOU SO PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US ON

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



COUNCIL MESSAGE | CEO Report



Thank you to the Council of the Shire of Meekatharra for entrusting me to lead the Shire as the new Chief Executive Officer.

Coming up to nearly a year as a resident in Meekatharra I am committed to a lengthy stay, building productive relationships, and helping to generate much needed change to ensure a positive future for the townsite, and greater area.

Recent Shire happenings are below –

Rubbish Collection

After careful consideration, the Shire is bringing townsite rubbish collection back as an “in-house” service. I take this opportunity to sincerely thank Mark Tipple for his many years of service to the area and wish him all the best in his future endeavours. Initially the Shire will be operating a second-hand rubbish compaction truck (sourced from the City of Armadale), before taking possession of a new truck in 8 – 10 months. It is a steep learning curve for our town crew, and I have every confidence in their ability to undertake this crucial service.

Safer Meekatharra Strategy

Council members recently agreed to undertake a study, and develop a strategy, to identify initiatives to help make a safer Meekatharra. Amongst other matters, this will include the development of CCTV facilities throughout the town, with a priority given to improving greater integration with WA Police. Other initiatives to be considered include the provision of financial incentives for ratepayers to install their own CCTV systems and additional lighting.

Cattle Grid Management

Shire contractors have recently cleared several cattle grids of dirt and other materials thus returning the grids to a usable standard. The program has been so successful, and the work performed has been of such a high standard, Council has agreed to additional funding to extend the service over the next few months. Funding in outgoing years is also likely, and a program of future works is being prepared.

Floodway Installations

Contractors have recently completed installation of 4 floodways on the Ashburton Downs-Meekatharra Road. The project, which totalled \$4.5 million, has improved accessibility on this regionally significant road. The floodways were installed at Big Pingandy Creek, Little Pingandy Creek, Mucalana Creek, and Gorge Creek. Further floodway works are proposed.

COUNCIL MESSAGE | CEO Report



Meekatharra-Sandstone Road Re-sheeting

The Shire Road Crew is progressing re-sheeting works on the Meekatharra-Sandstone Road. These works complement other recent works on the road and are being funded with assistance from the State Government's Regional Road Group program. The 30-kilometre section of works is located 80 kilometres from the Meekatharra townsite.

Branding Change

Council members recently considered a branding change for the Shire. It was considered the current branding is outdated and a more modernised brand was appropriate. The change will incorporate a new logo for the Shire as well as a return to the original shield for Council.

Strategic Community Planning and Master Planning

Shire officers will be seeking community input and hosting community sessions soon for community planning for the Shire of Meekatharra and the Meekatharra townsite. Your involvement is very much sought after and appreciated. Be sure to look out for notices regarding how you can help plan the future of Meekatharra.

Nathan Cain

Chief Executive Officer

Community



Happenings

WHAT'S CURRENTLY HAPPENING IN MEEKA?

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS | A Night at the Movies!

Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire

On Saturday 15 March, the community came together for a free movie screening of the highly anticipated Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire movie.

Around 80 attendees filled the Shire hall for the free event, an exciting opportunity for fans to catch the latest installment in the iconic Ghostbusters franchise.

The screening wasn't the only treat for attendees. A free community BBQ was provided with traditional favorites like lamb chops and snags along with healthy salads made and cooked by the team from Yulella Aboriginal Corporation.

Families and friends enjoyed delicious food before the show. The aroma of grilled favorites filled the air, adding to the atmosphere. Popcorn, a movie staple, was also provided free of charge, ensuring that everyone was ready for an unforgettable cinematic experience.

Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire offered the community an exciting new chapter in the beloved series, and the evening's BBQ and popcorn made it even more enjoyable.

With both food and fun, the event helped strengthen local bonds and made for a memorable night for all who attended.

A big thank you to our partnering organisations, Yulella Aboriginal Corporation and the Meekatharra Community Resource & Visitor Centre.



COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS | A Night at the Movies!



COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS | Pool Season!

A Message From Pool Manager Fordy.

The 2024/2025 swimming season at Meekatharra War Memorial Swimming Pool has come to a close, marking another successful six months.

Over 7,800 swimmers enjoyed the pool's facilities throughout the season, making it one to remember.

A special congratulations goes to some of Meekatharra's dedicated lap swimmers. Mitch Fialkowski swam an impressive 20km, Monique Wijbenga reached an outstanding 100km and Lucinda Hanczakowski surpassed all with 110km during the season. These remarkable achievements highlight the dedication and commitment of local swimmers.

Additionally, a special mention is in order for Pat Eisenlohr from Westgold, who took on the challenge of both the Rottnest Channel 19.7km team swim and the Port to Pub 25km Ultra swim.

Pat completed the Port to Pub swim in a phenomenal 8 hours and 54 minutes, showcasing incredible stamina and determination. Pat's training, which took place after work at the Meekatharra pool, serves as a testament to his hard work and willpower.

Well done everyone, stay safe and look forward to seeing you all next season!



Mitch Fialkowski and Monique Wijbenga



Lucinda Hanczakowski (110km lap swimmer)



Pool Manager Fordy, Mitch Fialkowski (20km lap swimmer) and Monique Wijbenga (100km lap swimmer)

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS | What's New At The Airport?

There's a new player in town!

Here's a few photos of the Airnorth Embraer E170 Jet that commenced new charter operations at Meekatharra airport on Monday 17th February this year.

Meeka Metals, who are operating the Andy Wells mine 55km north of Meekatharra have engaged Airnorth to provide charter operations for their FIFO operation.



Here's a few fun facts regarding the Embraer E170

- 4.5 hour flight range
- Capacity is 76 passengers
- 2x lavatory facilities
- 2 x 2 seat configuration
- Engines: 2x General Electric CF34-8E5
- Wingspan: 26m
- Length: 29.9m
- Height: 9.95m
- Maximum Take-Off Weight: 37,200kg
- Maximum Cruise Altitude: 41,000ft/12,535m
- Optimum Cruise Speed: 440kts/815kmph
- Crew: 2 pilots, 2x cabin attendants



COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS | What's New At The Airport?



COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS | National Youth Week

‘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)

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS | Youth Services

Department of Fire & Emergency Services Visit

The Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) recently visited Meekatharra Youth Services to engage with young people about the serious consequences of deliberately starting fires.

The educational session aimed to raise awareness about the dangers of arson and the significant impact it has on communities, the environment, and individuals.

The event began with an introduction to the DFES, outlining the department's crucial role in keeping communities safe. Children were reminded of the vital services DFES provides, including emergency responses to fires, and the ongoing work to prevent fire-related disasters.

A key part of the presentation was educating youth on the science of fire. DFES experts explained how fires start and how quickly they can spiral out of control, especially in dry conditions. With the rising risks of bushfires in certain seasons, understanding fire behaviours is important.

A special emphasis was placed on the efforts of local volunteer firefighters, in Meekatharra. The volunteer firefighters play a vital role in protecting the community, often working tirelessly under challenging conditions. These brave individuals, who are part of the DFES network, give their time and effort to safeguard their towns and surrounding areas.

These volunteers, who are often balancing work and family life, demonstrate the importance of community involvement and the critical role volunteers play in emergency services.



COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS | Youth Services

Department of Fire & Emergency Services Visit



COMMUNITY FACILITIES | Available For Hire

LLOYDS CONFERENCE ROOM

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

Location: Lloyd's Outback Plaza, 64 Main Street, WA 6642

Amenities include kitchenette, external toilets to conference room (incl. disabled access toilet) and on-street parking.

Fees & Charges

\$50.00 per 4 hour block

\$80.00 per whole day

TOWN HALL

One of the most important buildings in town, our beloved Meekatharra Shire Hall is a multi-purpose space where your team, or family can utilise for almost anything.

This space accommodates a maximum of 250 people.

Location: Savage Street, WA 6642

Amenities include: kitchen, walk-in cool room, toilets, outdoor twin BBQ, separate bar area, equipment hire, projector, inflatable screen and on-street parking.

Fees & Charges

Please contact us for a full break down of charges dependent on your needs.

SPORTING COMPLEX AND OVAL

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

The Meekatharra Sporting Complex and Oval might be the space for you. It boasts a luscious green oval with peaceful views of the area. It is accompanied with an indoor function space that accommodates a maximum of 50 people.

Location: Landor Meekatharra Road, WA 6642

Amenities include: kitchen, internal & external toilets, outdoor twin BBQ, equipment hire and ample parking.

Night Light Usage

\$10.00 per hour - Basketball, Tennis Courts, Oval

Night light key bond \$50.00



Lloyds Plaza Conference Room



Meekatharra Shire Hall



Sporting Complex and Oval

Please contact us
directly for any queries,
or to book a facility.



08 9980 0600



cs0@meekashire.wa.gov.au



www.meekashire.wa.gov.au



COMMUNITY FACILITIES | Sport & Recreation



GYM

The gym is located at the Sporting Complex off the Landor Meekatharra Road behind the main building and can be accessed daily.

This unmanned gym has all the equipment you will need to complete your workout.

Access to the gym is with a membership which can be purchased from the Shire Office. Make sure to sign up and check out the space.

Access is restricted to 16 years of age and above.

Opening Hours: 5:00am - 10:00pm

Fees & Charges: (as of July 2024)

\$20 once-off sign up fee + then \$32 per month

Concessions available with proof of eligibility.

Fees apply for lost cards

SWIMMING POOL - CLOSED UNTIL OCTOBER

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



Please contact us
directly for any queries,
or to book a facility.



08 9980 0600



cso@meekashire.wa.gov.au



www.meekashire.wa.gov.au



COMMUNITY FACILITIES | Sport & Recreation

SQUASH COURT

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

This is an unmanned facility.

Unfortunately we do not hire equipment (racquets, balls etc.)

Opening Hours: 5:00am - 10:00pm

Fees & Charges: (as of July 2024)

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



BASKETBALL COURTS

The basketball courts are located at the Meekatharra Sporting Complex off the Meekatharra Landor Road and is a free-usage community space.

This is an unmanned facility and space.

Opening Hours: 5:00am - 10:00pm

Fees & Charges: (as of July 2024)

- Court Hire - No charge
- Lights - \$10 per hour
- Key Bond (lights) - \$50 (cash only)



TENNIS COURT

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

This is an unmanned facility and space.

Unfortunately we do not hire equipment (racquets, balls etc.)

Opening Hours: 5:00am - 10:00pm

Fees & Charges: (as of July 2024)

- Court Hire - No charge
- Lights - \$10 per hour
- Key Bond (lights) - \$50 (cash only)



COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS | What's On!

APRIL

2025

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
	1	2 Containers for Change 8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation	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 'Meekatharra Welcomes You' Event Lloyd's Plaza 6:00pm shire of meekatharra a golden promise	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 Lloyd's Plaza	20 Easter Sunday Public Holiday
21 Easter Monday Public Holiday	22	23 Containers for Change 8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation	24 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	25 ANZAC Day Public Holiday Dawn Service Paddy's Flat	26 Containers for Change 8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation	27
28	29	30 Containers for Change 8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation				

UPCOMING EVENTS

SCAN ME!



COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS | What's On!

MAY

2 0 2 5

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
			1	2	3 Containers for Change  8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation	4
5	6	7 Containers for Change  8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation	8	9	10 Meeka Markets 9am - 1pm Community Resource & Visitor Centre 	11
12	13	14 Containers for Change  8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation Girls Group 6pm - 8pm Youth Focus	15	16	17 Meeka Creatives 9am - 11am Lloyd's Plaza Council Meeting 11:30am 	18
19	20	21 Containers for Change  8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation Craft & Sip 7pm - 9pm Community Resource & Visitor Centre	22 Gina Williams & Guy Ghouse on Tour 7pm - 9pm Sports Complex Function Room 	23	24 Containers for Change  8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation	25
26	27	28 Containers for Change  8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation Girls Group 6pm - 8pm Youth Focus	29	30	31 Containers for Change  8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation	

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 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



Choose
Safety



Show
Respect



Deliver
Value



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.

Opening Hours: 9:00am to 4:00pm, Monday to Friday.

Located at: 75 Main Street Meekatharra

Ph: (08) 9980 0600

cs@meekashire.wa.gov.au

KIDS ZONE & YOUTH CENTRE

Kids Zone and the Youth Centre are open most of the year round. Both facilities provide after school programs for youth from ages 5yrs-17yrs and give them a safe space to connect with others.

Both areas have staff trained to supervise and guide the youth in what they want to do. The facilities are well equipped to provide a broad range of resources and activities to keep young minds busy.

Kids Zone welcomes children from age 5yrs-9yrs years, while the Youth Centre welcomes youth from age 10yrs-18yrs.

All youth are welcome to attend.

Opening Hours

Kids Zone: 3:00pm - 5:00pm, Monday to Friday

Youth Centre: 3:00pm - 5:00pm, Monday to Friday
6pm - 8pm everyday Monday to Friday

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



Senior Youth Officer: Kadisen King



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

Join Now



Life



Style

THINGS WE DO HERE IN TOWN.

SERVICE PROVIDER | Mission Australia



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

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

Phone: 0499 462 829



Department of Energy, Mines,
Industry Regulation and Safety



REGIONAL COLUMN

www.demirs.wa.gov.au www.wa.gov.au

6 February 2025

With Senior Regional Officer for Midwest – Natasha Pirrottina

Beware of this sneaky tactic when booking your next holiday

One way to get over post-holiday blues is to book another holiday. It'll give you something exciting to look forward to when the daily grind is getting you down. However, as you start searching for a great deal on your next getaway be on high alert for a sneaky practice that could blow your budget.

Drip pricing is a tactic used by websites or apps to trick or manipulate you into spending more money than you'd planned. It happens when an attractive price is advertised at the beginning of an online purchase, but then extra fees and charges (such as booking and service fees, insurances) are gradually added during the purchase process. It can also include pre-selected extras you may not want, and add-ons presented in a way that makes you feel you must buy them.

This type of pricing tactic is commonly seen when purchasing flights, event tickets, accommodation or rental cars. All the things you're likely to need for that exciting holiday.

When you have to manually un-tick and opt-out of the pre-selected extras before you get to the final price, you're more likely to get caught out by drip pricing. And when you end up paying more than intended or you felt misled about the price – then you've experienced consumer harm.

To prevent being stung extra through sneaky drip pricing, remind yourself about the deal you saw on the flashy ad that drew you in.

Stick to your holiday budget. When you start the online booking process, prepare to back out if the final price is not what you were expecting and shop around for a better final price.

As you move through each screen during the booking process, keep your eyes peeled for any pre-selections. Deselect anything you don't want and double check again before you hit that final pay button.

Under the Australian Consumer Law (ACL), businesses are only allowed to add pre-selected charges and fees if the additional prices are disclosed at the beginning of the purchasing process. Otherwise, their advertising could be considered misleading.

If you are misled into paying an optional charge, then raise this with the business and request a pro-rata refund to the value of that added charge.



Department of Energy, Mines,
Industry Regulation and Safety



If you believe a business is breaching the rules on pre-selected fees and charges contact Consumer Protection on 1300 30 40 54, or consumer@demirs.wa.gov.au for advice.

Looking to book a holiday house? Make sure the short-term rental accommodation (STRA) registration number is displayed on the ad. This lets you know that the host has complied with new rules for operating STRA in WA. You can also check that a STRA registration number is valid, and the postcode of the STRA matches the location that you are booking for. This may help to identify illegitimate ads. [Check if a STRA is registered](#) via wa.gov.au

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.

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

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



Department of
Primary Industries and
Regional Development

Backyard Buddies

Your monthly guide to pests, weeds and diseases

March 2025

Weeding out a bad sale



From left to right: *Salvinia molesta* (close-up), *Pistia stratiotes* and *Eichhornia crassipes*

“Let the buyer beware”

It may not have crossed your mind that plants being sold online or privately, might be prohibited in Western Australia! Or that you have a responsibility as a consumer, to be aware of the risks associated with a purchase. There is legislation that underpins the regulation of importation and trade of plants that are not permitted in Western Australia. The goal of this regulation and legislation is to protect natural ecosystems and primary production systems in WA from the many pests, weeds and diseases found elsewhere. There can be consequences for people who are aware yet continue to engage in distribution of certain species. The consequences for the environment, however, can be devastating if pest species make it into natural ecosystems.

A work in progress

To be eligible for import into WA or trade within WA, a species must be assessed and given a legal status, under the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* (BAM Act). Once classified, the species is then listed as a ‘permitted species’ or ‘declared pest’ in a database called the Western Australian Organism List (WAOL). If an organism is not listed on WAOL it cannot be imported or traded. A person can request to have an organism assessed for classification by filling in an assessment form which is available on the department’s website.

End the circulation cycle!

During the Covid-19 pandemic many people started new hobbies. One growing trend is aquascaping an aquatic garden inside an aquarium or pond. Plants were brought in by people who were unaware of the requirements. Subsequently, prohibited plants have

been circulating in WA and advertisements of prohibited plants may occur on a variety of online advertising platforms. It is important that consumers learn how to weed out a questionable sale and how to determine if a plant is prohibited.

Some examples to be aware of: *Salvinia species* (ALL varieties), floating crystalwort (*Riccia fluitans*), *Rotala rotundifolia*, water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*), floating water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) and frogbit (*Limnobium laevigatum*). *Rotala rotundifolia* is often sold under ‘cultivar’ names. A cultivar is a variety of a species that has specific physical features, but all cultivars of a species share the same classification as they are the same species.

The buyer’s checklist:

1. Before making a purchase, check whether a plant has a ‘permitted species’ status (find the scientific name of the species through internet searches).
2. Enter the scientific name into WAOL: <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/organisms>
3. Don’t buy or distribute unlisted species or species that have a ‘declared pest’ status.
4. Advertising/selling ‘declared pests’ is prohibited and can be reported as an illegal agricultural matter on [crimestopperswa.com.au](https://www.crimestopperswa.com.au)
5. If you are unsure you can also email padis@dpird.wa.gov.au

If you find that you have ended up with a prohibited plant because you were not aware, please put it in a sealed plastic bag and leave that in the sun for two weeks on a hard surface, before putting it the bin. This will stop it being viable and it won’t become invasive in the environment.



Report your observations

Pest and Disease Information Service (08) 9368 3080 | padis@dpird.wa.gov.au
MyPestGuide® Reporter via app or online mypestguide.agric.wa.gov.au



Main Chicken Lunchbox Suitable for freezing Freezer Friendly Light meals Lunch Dinner Take Away Nut-free Egg-free Seafood-free Footy Finals Melbourne Cup 5-Ingredients Video

☐ Cook Mode Prevent your screen from going dark

Method

1. Put the yoghurt and breadcrumbs into separate bowls. Mix the paprika into the breadcrumbs if using.
2. Dip the chicken pieces into the yoghurt and then press down into the breadcrumbs to coat all sides.
3. Heat half the oil in a large frying pan. Cook half the chicken pieces over a medium heat until outside is brown and crunchy, then flip chicken pieces and cook the other side.
4. They will need about 5 minutes on each side. Repeat with the rest of the oil and chicken.
5. Make sure to check that the chicken is cooked through before serving.

Variation: Use a beaten egg or milk instead of yoghurt.



Ingredients

- ▲ 400 g skinless chicken breasts, cut into chunks
- ▲ 2 cups low-fat natural or Greek yoghurt
- ▲ 1 cup breadcrumbs
- ▲ 1 tsp smoked paprika, optional
- ▲ 2 tbs canola oil

Healthy tip!

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



Containers For Change

MEEKATHARRA

NEW OPEN HOURS

Wednesday & Saturday

8.00—12.00

BAG DROP OFF AVAILABLE



UPCOMING
EVENTS

SCAN
ME!



<https://livelighter.com.au/recipe/514/chicken-nuggets>

Classified Ads

& Miscellaneous

OTHER HELPFUL INFORMATION ABOUT MEEKA



Meekatharra

Commercial Hotel

Photo from: 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

Website

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

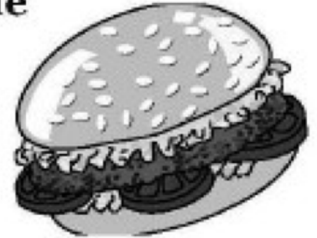


Pub

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

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

ACTIVITIES

WORD SEARCH

Ice Cream Flavors

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

COCONUT
STRAWBERRY
VANILLA
FUDGE
ROCKY ROAD
COOKIE DOUGH
NEOPOLITAN
COTTON CANDY
HOKEY POKEY
CHOCOLATE
MOOSE TRACKS
GREEN TEA
TIGER TAIL
PECAN
REESES
BANANA

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/416/>

SUDOKU

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

#210234

Difficulty: hard

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

#156201

Difficulty: moderate

SOLUTIONS

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

Solution of sudoku #210234:

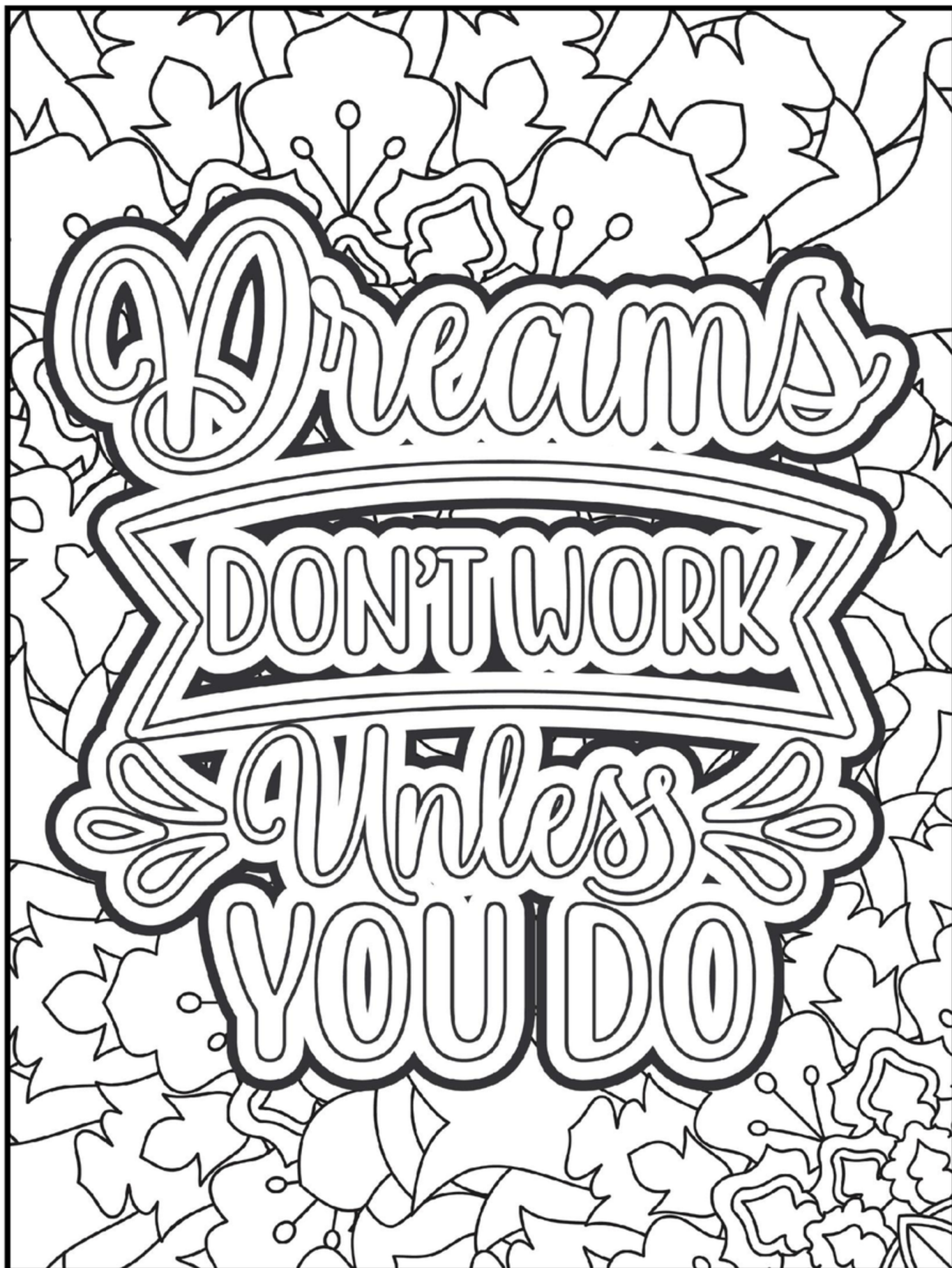
8	5	9	6	4	1	2	3	7
6	7	3	2	9	5	4	8	1
4	1	2	3	7	8	5	6	9
7	9	6	1	3	4	8	2	5
2	3	1	5	8	9	7	4	6
5	4	8	7	6	2	1	9	3
1	6	7	8	2	3	9	5	4
3	2	4	9	5	7	6	1	8
9	8	5	4	1	6	3	7	2

Solution of sudoku #156201:

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

ACTIVITIES

COLOURING SHEET



MEEKATHARRA
WAR MEMORIAL POOL

SURVEY

Have your say on opening & closing times at the pool next season.

*Do the survey for a chance
to win a \$200 voucher!*

**Survey closes Monday 21st April
2025**

SCAN HERE



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

NAME: _____

POSTAL ADDRESS: _____

