

Meekatharra Dust



Vol. 384

JULY / AUGUST 2025
FREE

NOW
FREE!



HERCULES FLYOVERS IN MEEKATHARRA

*C-130J Hercules aircraft
take to the skies over
Meekatharra*

EMU BOB & RECONCILIATION WALK

*Bev Brosnan shares her
journey on bringing Emu
Bob to town!*

THE SPIRIT OF MEEKATHARRA FESTIVAL

*Meekatharra's annual
festival has something
new this year.*

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.

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, 25 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

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.
Please contact the Community Development Officer to provide
submissions on

08 9980 0600
cdo@meekashire.wa.gov.au

and follow us on our socials!



Welcome!

Welcome to the next issue of the Meekatharra Dust!



As winter begins to fade and the days grow a little longer, we're reminded once again of the resilience, warmth, and spirit that define our Meekatharra community. Whether you've been busy with local events, enjoying the crisp outback mornings, or just taking things one day at a time, we're glad you've picked up this edition of The Dust.

Inside, you'll find updates from around town, highlights from recent gatherings, important notices, and of course, stories that celebrate the people who make Meeka special. From community projects to creative contributions, there's something in here for everyone.

Meekatharra's beloved annual celebration has a fresh new name for 2025, The Spirit of Meekatharra. Formerly known as the Meekatharra Outback Festival, the new name reflects something deeper than location or tradition; it captures the heart of what makes Meekatharra truly special in its vibrant, inclusive, and creative community.

This year's festival promises an exciting line-up of events designed to bring people together in the lead-up to the main weekend. New community workshops will include Cooking & Yarning with the Storyteller Chef, a collaborative mural project with Bobbi Lockyer that invites all ages to contribute.

One of the highlights of the festival will be the **'Dining Under The Stars' | Paint & Eat experience** in the stunning surrounds of Peace Gorge. This special evening will feature live music from **Stephen Pigram**, good company, and a chance to create a collaborative canvas masterpiece with 2021 NAIDOC Artist of the Year, **Bobbi Lockyer**. All while enjoying a delicious six course meal under the wide outback sky with the **Storyteller Chef, Zach Green**.

The signature Meeka Made Art Exhibition returns, opening Saturday 27 September. Showcasing local and regional talent, the exhibition will be part of a festive day full of markets, live entertainment, country musician **Adam Brand**, the "saltwater country" music of **The Pigram Brothers**, interactive workshops, sideshow alley, fireworks and a feast of food vendors offering flavours from near and far.

As always, we welcome your feedback, stories, and photos. The Meekatharra Dust is your paper, and it's your voices that bring it to life.

Stay warm, stay connected, and we'll see you around town!

Community Happenings | Airport Flyovers

C-130J Hercules Aircraft Take to the Skies Over Meekatharra

Residents may have noticed a bit of extra noise and excitement in the skies on Friday, 23 May, as two Royal Australian Air Force C-130J Hercules aircraft conducted flyovers and go-around exercises at Meekatharra Airport.

The twin aircraft made several low passes over the runway, performing training manoeuvres designed to simulate approaches and touch-and-go landings. These exercises are a routine part of RAAF pilot training, helping crews stay sharp and maintain readiness for operations across a variety of environments, including remote airfields like ours.

The impressive sight (and sound) of the C-130Js drew attention from many locals, with some heading out to get a closer look. Known for their size, versatility, and reliability, the Hercules aircraft are a mainstay of Australia's air mobility fleet.

A big thanks to the RAAF crews for giving Meeka a glimpse of their work and for keeping their flight paths respectful of the town while they trained.

What's a Go-Around?

A go-around is a standard manoeuvre where an aircraft discontinues its approach to landing and climbs away for another circuit. It's used in both training and real-life scenarios to ensure safety and flexibility during landing operations.

For the C-130J, which has a wingspan of 40 metres and a maximum takeoff weight of over 70,000 kg, mastering these approaches especially on shorter or more isolated runways is vital.

With the exercises announced early on Friday morning, word quickly spread around town, and a number of curious locals made their way to vantage points near the airport, adding some excitement to the day.



The C-130J Super Hercules is known for its versatility, capable of transporting troops, cargo, vehicles, and even conducting aeromedical evacuations. It can operate from short, unsealed runways which makes it ideal for operations in remote or rugged locations like the Pilbara and Gascoyne regions.

As the Hercules pair completed their circuits and disappeared into the northern sky, they left behind both a trail of jet wash and a memorable buzz of excitement for Meeka's aviation enthusiasts.

Photo credits: Gavin Maxwell

Community Happenings | **Airport Flyovers**



Community Happenings | Emu Bob & Reconciliation Walk

9:30am - 12:30pm, Tuesday 27 May 2025

by Beverly Brosnan

I love walking our dog Snoop around Meekatharra in the morning but I am constantly amazed at how much rubbish is strewn around, particularly along the creek-line from the Coles Express through to Savage Street. Meekatharra Creek is a pretty special place for many who live here and visitors always love to stop in the park near it. So, following discussion about this with a few people at an events meeting, we decided to do something about it.

The event was registered with Clean Up Australia and they sent bags, gloves and some great information about how to run a Clean Up event in our town. Westgold agreed to provide staff on the day along with more gloves and bags and a BBQ lunch for all involved at the end of the event.

We contacted the Meekatharra DHS and they agreed to have some of their High School students and teachers participate. Yulella Aboriginal Corporation provided the Containers for Change trailer for any bottles and cans that were collected, with proceeds going to Meekatharra DHS.

The CRC helped with promotions and the Shire of Meekatharra generously agreed to take the rubbish that was collected to the tip. Mission Australia provided vouchers from Coles Express for the best rubbish collectors. Youth Focus and WA Police also supported this community event and provided some volunteers on the day.

Local artist Sam Assan provided permission for this image to be used for promotional purposes for the Emu Bob. I had purchased it from the Meekatharra CRC.



Community Happenings | Emu Bob & Reconciliation Walk

9:30am - 12:30pm, Tuesday 27 May 2025

We met at Meekatharra Park and first headed north towards Savage Street, then crossed over to the park near the school, followed the creek-line and then crossed it again near Coles Express. We then walked back along Meekatharra Creek to the Swimming Pool park for lunch.

There were 25 people involved and we didn't quite make it along the whole planned route.

Some of the surprising items found included 5 odd socks, some crusty jocks, an interpretive sign, a kit bag, way too many fire extinguishers and someone's blood pressure tablets.

"It was a privilege to be part of something that not only helps the town, but also honours the cultural significance of caring for Country."

- Liam Wright, Senior Environmental Advisor, Westgold

Let's hope that this time next year we won't need another Emu Bob. We will probably have another one before the weather gets too warm again. Let's all put our rubbish in the bins provided by the Shire of Meekatharra and keep our town tidy!

By Beverly Brosnan



Community Event | The Spirit of Meekatharra

THE Spirit of
Meekatharra
FESTIVAL



Friday 26 September

Dining Under the Stars | 'Paint & Eat' Experience
with
Bobbi Lockyer,
The Storyteller Chef,
and live acoustic music with
Stephen Pigram



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: Closed until further notice
Apologies for the inconvenience

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



THE Spirit of Meekatharra FESTIVAL

PREVIOUSLY THE
MEEKATHARRA
OUTBACK
FESTIVAL

Community Workshops

Scan the QR code for full details

24 Wednesday
Sept.

! Cooking & Yarning with
The Storyteller Chef

25 Thursday
Sept.

! Collaborative mural with
Bobbi Lockyer

FREE
COMMUNITY
EVENTS



OPENING EVENT

Dining Under The Stars - Paint & Eat

26 Friday
Sept.

6pm - 9pm
Peace Gorge

- ! Collaborative art piece led by Bobbi Lockyer
- ! Dinner with the Storyteller Chef Zach Green
- ! Live acoustic music with Stephen Pigram
- ! Tickets are strictly limited
Please note: No door sales will be available



Register via
the QR code



Sideshow Alley & Food Vendors

26 Friday
Sept.

6pm - 9pm
Meekatharra Oval

FREE
COMMUNITY
EVENT



'Meeka Made' art exhibition and Community Markets

27 Saturday
Sept.

10am - 12:30pm
Lloyd's Plaza

FREE
COMMUNITY
EVENT



Festival Fun Day

27 Saturday
Sept.

1pm - 10pm
Meekatharra Oval

FREE
COMMUNITY
EVENT

- ! Adam Brand! ! The Pigram Brothers ! Sideshow Alley
- ! Old MacDonalds Farm ! Fireworks and more!



13 August 2025

Rescue Helicopter fleet upgrade ignores the Mid-West

The Nationals WA have condemned the State Government for once again ignoring expert advice to base an emergency rescue helicopter in the Mid-West, while pouring \$26.7 million into new aircraft for Perth and the South West.

Leader and Member for Mid-West, Shane Love MLA, said the latest investment would do nothing for communities north of Perth where access to emergency services is already stretched.

“By concentrating every rescue helicopter in Perth and Bunbury, the State Government is denying thousands of Mid-West residents access to a life-saving services,” Mr Love said.

“This is despite repeated warnings from the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, the State Coroner, and the Chief Health Officer that our rescue helicopter fleet must expand into the regions.”

Mr Love said the Chief Health Officer’s landmark 2022 Inquiry into WA’s aeromedical services – which called for urgent expansion – had been “virtually discarded” by the Cook Labor Government.

“It’s diabolical that a government boasting multi-billion-dollar surpluses continues to ignore its own experts and the communities of the Mid-West on such as critical issue.

“Meanwhile, they continue to push forward with a \$217 million racetrack and a billion-dollar redevelopment of the Perth Convention Centre while delivering substandard regional healthcare.”

Member for Geraldton Kirrilee Warr MLA said the decision showed regional lives were not valued equally under WA Labor.

“Unless you live in Perth or the South West, you are simply not a priority for this Government,” she said.

“Geraldton is one of the busiest regions for the Royal Flying Doctor Service and St John Ambulance, yet we are left without a rescue helicopter that could save lives on our roads, at sea, and in remote areas.”

Ms Warr said the Government had already broken its promise to establish a RFDS base in Geraldton, and its refusal to back a Mid-West rescue helicopter was “further proof” of its disregard for regional health.

“In an emergency, every second counts. Right now, people in the Mid-West are forced to wait, and that wait could cost lives.”

Shadow Minister for Emergency Services, Hon Rob Horstman MLC, said that every West Australian deserved equitable access to life-saving services.

“The Inquiry into Aeromedical Services was clear, doubling our rescue helicopter fleet is the priority, yet two years on communities in the Mid West and northern WA remain dangerously exposed.”

“Emergency response can’t be a postcode lottery. The Government talks about modernising our fleet yet ignores the glaring gap in the Mid West,” Mr Horstman said.

Media Contact: 0428 619 050



MEDIA RELEASE

SHANE LOVE MLA

Leader of The Nationals WA
Member for Mid-West

Shadow Minister for Regional Development; Mines and Petroleum; Electoral Affairs

25 August 2025

Labor failing Murchison families with stalled School Dental Van Service

Member for Mid-West and Leader of The Nationals WA Shane Love MLA has slammed the Cook Labor Government for failing to deliver the School Dental Van Service to the Murchison, leaving children without access to vital oral health care since 2023.

Mr Love said that schools in Yalgoo, Mt Magnet, Meekatharra and Cue have now gone two years without a visit from the School Dental Van.

“The Government promised that a new, larger dental van was under construction and would be ready by late 2024,” Mr Love said.

“Yet here we are in August 2025 — and still, there is no van, no service, and no certainty for families.”

Mr Love said the absence of the service was particularly damaging for the Murchison, where children already face unique health disadvantages.

“These towns are remote — up to 420 kilometres from Geraldton — and families simply do not have alternative access to dental care,” he said.

“Without this service, children in the Murchison are being left behind and placed at greater risk of serious health problems later in life.”

“I’ve heard of children as old as seven who have never seen the dentist before.”

Today Mr Love received a response from the Minister for Health, who blamed a manufacturing defect and ongoing staffing challenges for the continued failure to deliver the dental van service.

“If your family car was recalled for a defect, you wouldn’t accept waiting two years for a replacement — yet that’s exactly what the Minister expects families in the Murchison to endure.”

Mr Love has called on the Cook Labor Government to immediately deploy a van and guarantee that students in the Murchison will not miss out on another year of dental care.

“The Cook Labor Government must stop making excuses. Our children’s health cannot wait.”

Media Contact: 0428 619 050

Keep in touch!

Mid-West@mp.wa.gov.au
PO Box 216, Dongara WA 6525

Electorate Office

(08) 9927 2333
1/17 Moreton Terrace
Dongara WA 6525

Parliamentary Office

(08) 6185 5200
2 Parliament Place
West Perth WA 6005

Follow me on socials

@ShaneLoveMidWest
@ShaneLoveMW



St John



search St John Volunteer



Our volunteers are *Legends*
And you can be one too!

Seeking Volunteer Support Officers

Help restock, tidy, support, and keep us running!

Benefits Include

Free ambulance cover, training, discounts, events, rewards, and recognition.



Want to find out more? Contact

0437 681 562

meekatharra.subcentre@stjohnwa.com.au

HLTAID011

Provide First Aid

1 day course + online learning



St John Ambulance (Western Australia) Ltd | RTO 0392
ACN 165 969 406; ABN 55 028 468 715





Shire of
Meekatharra
A Golden Prospect

UPCOMING
EVENTS

SCAN
ME!



THE Spirit of
Meekatharra
FESTIVAL

Dining Under the Stars
'Paint & Eat'
Experience
with
Bobbi Lockyer,
The Storyteller Chef,
and live acoustic music with
Stephen Pigram

FRIDAY 26 SEPTEMBER
www.meekashire.wa.gov.au 2025

THE Spirit of
Meekatharra
FESTIVAL

- Community Workshops
- The Storyteller Chef
- Artist Bobbi Lockyer
- Live Music
- Sideshow Alley
- Fireworks

24-27 SEPTEMBER
www.meekashire.wa.gov.au 2025

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



Lloyds Plaza Conference Room

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.



Meekatharra Shire Hall

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



Sporting Complex and Oval

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



08 9980 0600



shire@meekatharra.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

Meekatharra War Memorial 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.

Seasonal Hours: 1 October to 31 March each year

Monday - Friday: 12:00pm to 6:00pm
6:00pm to 7:00pm - Adults Only

Saturday - Sunday: 11:00am to 6:00pm

Fees & Charges

Daily, weekly & full season passes available for a variety of needs.

Concessions available with proof of eligibility.

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



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



08 9980 0600



shire@meekatharra.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 racquets or balls.

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 recreational 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 recreational space.
Unfortunately we do not hire racquets or balls.

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!

SEPTEMBER

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 Containers for Change 8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation	7
8	9	10 Containers for Change 8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation	11	12	13 Containers for Change 8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation	14
15	16	17 Containers for Change 8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation	18	19	20 Meeka Creatives 9am - 11am Lloyd's Plaza Council Meeting 11:30am	21
22	23	24 Containers for Change	25	26	27 Meeka Markets Meekatharra Oval	28
29 King's Birthday Public Holiday	30	31 Containers for Change 8am - 12pm Yulella Aboriginal Corporation				





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 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 format, large print, 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 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 - 4:00pm

Monday - Friday

*closed Public Holidays

75 Main Street
08 9980 0600
shire@meekatharra.wa.gov.au



**VOL_NTEER
WE NEEDU**
wa.gov.au/volunteering



Advertising in the Meekatharra Dust

The Meekatharra Dust is a monthly newsletter produced by the Shire of Meekatharra. It highlights local events and helps to distribute information relevant to the area. Distribution channels are via postal subscriptions, online views on the website and local distributors.

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

To advertise in the Meekatharra Dust, please contact the Community Development Officer 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)

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.

Lifestyle | First Aid Tips

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).

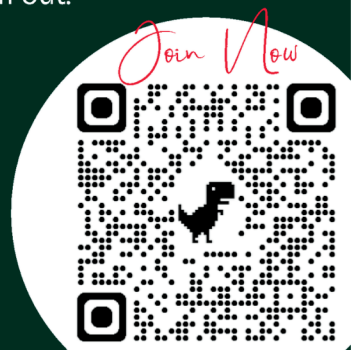
Do not cut the bitten area and try to suck the venom out.

Do not use a tourniquet.

Do not try and catch the snake.



St John





Department of Energy, Mines,
Industry Regulation and Safety



REGIONAL COLUMN

www.consumerprotection.wa.gov.au www.wa.gov.au

With Senior Regional Officer for Midwest – Natasha Pirrottina

What you need to know about dealing with debt collectors

Facing debt collectors can be overwhelming, especially when you're unsure of your rights or how to respond.

Debt collection is a legitimate and necessary business activity used to recover money that consumers owe and are required to pay. A debt collector could be the original credit or service provider, or a debt collection agency acting on the creditor's behalf. Sometimes debts are sold, and the debt buyer is the one doing the collecting.

If a debt collector contacts you, then you should be cooperative, but you should also expect to be treated with fairness, respect and courtesy.

Under Australian law, a debt collector cannot use physical force, harassment, threats or abuse to make you to pay your debt.

They also cannot make any statement or behave in ways that are misleading or deceptive. For example, impersonating someone or attaching a fake letterhead to a document. You have a right to seek a repayment arrangement, and you cannot be pressured into using your superannuation, borrowing money from friends or family or getting into further debt.

Any vulnerability or disability cannot be taken advantage of when collecting a debt and your personal information must be protected.

These laws also apply when contacting anyone connected to you. This includes a spouse, partner or family member.

The Australian Securities and Investments Commission and the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission have published joint guidelines about when a debt collector can contact you.

Contact must be for a reasonable purpose only, and communications must not be excessive. Generally, contact by letter or telephone will be the most appropriate form of contact.

Debt collectors should attempt to call you first before making face-to-face contact, and unless you have specifically requested or agreed to the visit, should only visit your workplace as a last resort.

In most circumstances, phone contact should be between 7.30am and 9pm on business days, and 9am to 9pm on weekends. Additionally, face-to-face contact should generally only take place

Lifestyle | Consumer Protection



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between 9am and 9pm. However, it is important to note that what constitutes “reasonable contact” will differ in each situation.

Debt collectors must not visit your home or work if you’ve refused, and you have provided an alternative way to communicate. If asked to leave, they must do so immediately.

In Western Australia, debt collectors must be licensed and deemed to be a person of good character and repute and a fit and proper person to hold the licence. If you feel that you are being harassed or unfairly treated by a debt collector, let Consumer Protection know 1300 30 40 54 or email consumer@demirs.wa.gov.au.

Prevention is always better than cure, so if you find yourself struggling with debt or to negotiate with a debt collector, contact a financial counsellor near you for free help - fcawa.org or call the National Debt Helpline at 1800 007 007. The Consumer Credit Legal Service of WA can also provide free legal advice on debt issues through their advice line 9221 7066 or www.cclswa.org.au.



1 **Animal Management**
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Phone: 0499 462 829



Department of
Primary Industries and
Regional Development

Backyard Buddies

Your monthly guide to pests, weeds and diseases

July 2025

The Curious Case of the Case-Making Moth



Left to right; case moth cocoons (Family: Psychidae) photos courtesy of MyPestGuide reporter.

Spotted a tiny twig caravan mysteriously travelling along a branch recently? You may have encountered one of nature's most underrated engineers — the case moth. These oddball caterpillars turn silk and local materials into tiny, mobile homes they carry everywhere, like little sleeping bags on a mission.

Welcome to the weird and wonderful world of case moths, found throughout bushland, urban gardens, and natural areas across Australia.

Biology and Lifecycle

While most case moths belong to the family Psychidae, a few other silk case-making moths exist in families such as Tineidae (for example, the case-bearing clothes moth, however these are not the focus of this story). All case moths belong to the vast Lepidoptera order (which includes all moths and butterflies). There is estimated to be hundreds of species of case moths, with a significant number found in Western Australia, however the exact number is not known due to ongoing taxonomic updates and new discoveries.

What makes them so fascinating is not just their DIY homes, but their highly specialised life cycle. After hatching, each larva immediately begins constructing its own silk case using materials from the environment — bark, leaves, twigs, sand, or lichen, depending on the species and habitat.

As the larva grows, instead of leaving the case behind it expands it, reinforcing the structure as needed. The case serves as shelter from predators and weather, and it's always dragged along during movement (think "a botanic onesie with legs"). When the caterpillar is ready to pupate, it seals off the ends and undergoes metamorphosis inside the case, transforming into a pupa and then eventually emerging as an adult moth- or not! In many species, adult females will remain wingless and

larva-like, never leaving the safety of their case. They have underdeveloped legs and no working mouthparts spending their entire adult life emitting pheromones to attract a male. Once mated, the female lays her eggs inside the same case and dies soon after. The cycle then begins anew. Males, on the other hand, emerge with fully developed wings and feathered antennae, which they use to locate females by scent. But it's a brief adult life for males, usually just a few days, living only long enough to find a mate and reproduce.

Impacts and Management

Want to know how to live with (or gently manage) these silk-case residents? The good news is case moths are more fascinating than fearsome. They do not swarm, rarely cause serious or lasting damage to plants, and are not known to be a major pest in Western Australia. In fact, they are generally considered beneficial within the environment. Although some species do feed on living foliage, many others feed on dead leaves, bark, algae or lichens, helping to break down organic material and recycling nutrients back into the soil. They are also an important food source for native wildlife.

Case moth caterpillars are architects, camouflage artists, nutrient recyclers, and a nutritious snack for wildlife, all wrapped up in a snug, organic, portable shelter. They help keep our ecosystems balanced, quietly working away in the background supporting biodiversity, all without asking for much in return.

In a world full of flashy butterflies and buzzy bees, it might be easy to overlook the humble case moth. But maybe it's time we gave these miniature marvels their moment, because let's be honest — watching a tiny caterpillar drag around a twig-covered tent like a snail with a fashion sense? That's very cool.



Report your observations

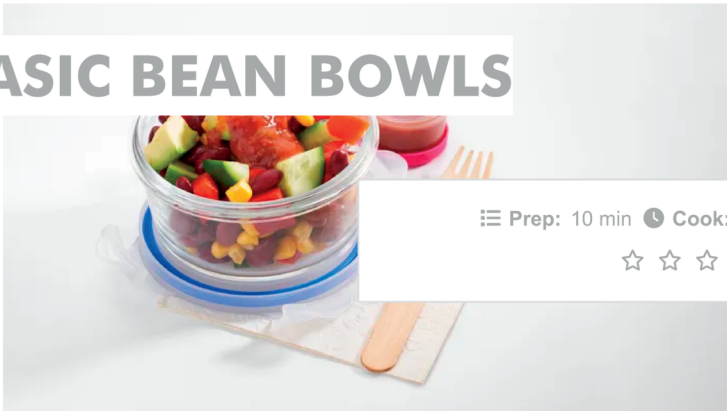
MyPestGuide® Reporter via app or online mypestguide.agric.wa.gov.au

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

Lifestyle | Live Lighter Recipe



HEALTHY BASIC BEAN BOWLS RECIPE



Prep: 10 min Cook: 0 min Servings: 2



Ingredients

- ▲ 1 400 g can mixed beans, black beans or kidney beans
- ▲ 1 cup frozen corn kernel
- ▲ 1 Lebanese cucumber, chopped
- ▲ 1 red capsicum, chopped
- ▲ 1/2 avocado, chopped
- ▲ 2 tbs tomato salsa

☐ Cook Mode Prevent your screen from going dark

Method

1. Drain the beans in a colander in the sink.
2. Add frozen corn to the colander and rinse with hot water from the tap to rinse the beans and defrost the corn in one go.
3. Mix vegetables together, and top with salsa and any other fresh flavours (see serving suggestions).

<https://livelighter.com.au/recipe/814/basic-bean-bowls>

Variation:

- Use the vegetables you have available! Mixed lettuce leaves, tomatoes, baby spinach, tomatoes, tinned or grilled corn, red onion, spring onion, roasted sweet potato and grated carrots would all work well.
- Swap the salsa for a drizzle of olive oil, a squeeze of lime juice and plenty of cracked pepper.



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Meekatharra
A Golden Prospect

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24-27 SEPTEMBER 2025

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The Perth Mint is responsible for managing 22 State Battery sites. Some of these sites require maintenance works and further investigation.

You may see our team or contracting partners at the State Battery site near you undertaking these works.

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For more information visit our website at
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Meekatharra

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Photo from: wanderingwarwickswonderment.wordpress.com

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Motel Rooms

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commieh@westnet.com.au

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Accommodation includes

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- 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



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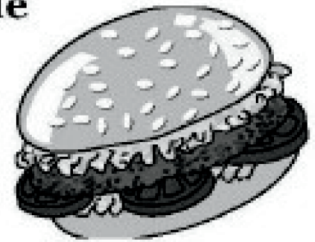
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STORY TO TELL?
OR A PHOTO?
OR PERHAPS AN ARTWORK
ABOUT MEEKATHARRA?



CALLING FOR Submissions!

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Send your submissions to PO Box 129, Meekatharra WA
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Activities

Word Search

Astronomy

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

- MOON
- PLUTO
- COMET
- ERIS
- MERCURY
- METEOR
- ASTEROID
- LEO
- SATURN
- MARS
- WHITE DWARF
- SUPERGIANT
- SUPERNOVA
- NEPTUNE
- BLACK DWARF
- SUN
- EXOPLANET
- NEBULA
- ORION
- EARTH

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/3488/>

Sudoku

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

#27647

Difficulty: moderate

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

#13707

Difficulty: hard

Solutions

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

Solution of sudoku #27647:

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

Solution of sudoku #13707:

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

Activities

Colouring Sheet



MOUNT MAGNET

SATURDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER 2025

Races

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