

Free

APRIL 2024

THE DARDANUP TIMES

A Newsletter for the localities of
Dardanup • Crooked Brook • Ferguson • Wellington Mill • Dardanup West • Waterloo • Paradise • Henty

New Dardanup Shire Office Open For Business

Come and explore the new Shire of Dardanup Library, Administration and Community building! The recently completed two-story building which houses the Eaton Library, Council Chambers, Administration Centre and state-of-the-art Make-It Space will be open to the community on Saturday, 4 May 2024. The Community Open Day is a FREE event open to all which offers the chance to explore the new building and celebrate the conclusion of this exciting project together as a community. The event will feature,

- 📄 Guided Tours
- 📄 Facepainting and Paint your Own Library Bag Workshop
- 📄 Sausage Sizzle & Coffee Van
- 📄 YAG Rubik's Cube workshop
- 📄 Make-It Space Demonstrations

The event is FREE to attend but registrations are required for all tours, please book by phoning the Shire on 97240000 as limited places may be available on the day.

Shire's New Building Wins Two Prestigious Awards

From the Shires website



The Shire of Dardanup's newly constructed Library, Administration, and Community Building claimed two distinguished awards at the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA) Awards.

The groundbreaking \$16.5 million project received the Best Public Works Project Greater than \$5 million Award (Regional) and the Excellence in Environment and Sustainability Award.

Shire of Dardanup President Cr Tyrrell Gardiner said these accolades underscore the Shire's unwavering commitment to excellence in community infrastructure and environmental stewardship.

"It is truly an honour to receive these prestigious awards from the IPWEA. This recognition underscores Council's vision in creating a space that not only serves our residents but also champions sustainability and environmental consciousness," Cr Gardiner said.

"Congratulations to everyone involved in the creation of the new Library, Administration, and Community Building. It marks the culmination of an 11-year project and the beginning of an exciting new chapter for the Shire's community members, businesses and staff."

Scheduled to become the new heart of municipal operations, the two-storey complex will house the Eaton Library, Council Chambers, Administration Centre, Café, and a state-of-the-art Make-It Space.

Cr Gardiner emphasised the significance of the project which

Shire of Dardanup

Community Open Day

Whats on

- ✔ Tour the New Building
- ✔ Eaton Lions Sausage Sizzle
- ✔ Free Face Painting
- ✔ Free Library Activities for Kids
- ✔ The Repair Cafe and More

**SATURDAY
4 MAY
10AM - 1PM**

For more information visit our website or scan the QR Code

is the fourth all-timber build undertaken by the Shire, reflecting its commitment to Council's 2050 Vision and Wood Encouragement Policy.

"By incorporating timber into our civic structures, we are not only reducing our carbon footprint but also leading in sustainable construction practices," Cr Gardiner said. "We can't wait to open this building to the community and believe this is something they can all be proud of and utilise daily, in the heart of Eaton."

Cr Gardiner said staff relocated into the new building between Monday, 18 March and Monday, 25 March. He said members of the community can access the new building from Monday, 25 March, followed by the reopening of the Eaton Library on Tuesday, 26 March.

Cr Gardiner said the Shire will host a Community Open Day on Saturday, 4 May from 10 am-1 pm, which will include guided tours of the new building, a sausage sizzle, face painting, engaging library activities for children, and dynamic Make-It Space activations. The new Library, Administration and Community Building was designed by Perth architect Peter Hobbs and constructed by local construction company Perkins Builders.



Pictured at the awards ceremony are (from left) CEO André Schönfeldt, Shire President Tyrrell Gardiner, Director Special Projects and Community Susan Oosthuizen, Senior Project Officer Belinda Vanvuuren and Councillor Stacey Gillespie.



Exhibition and Art Trail Weekend Gearing Up

\$10,000.00 in prize money will be awarded to winning and highly commended artists in this year's Dardanup Art Spectacular to be held over the weekend of the 20 and 21 April. \$1000 awarded to the individual major prize winners plus cash prizes of \$100 and \$200 awarded to Primary School and Secondary School students in the general art category and photography. Categories for adult artists are Open, Emerging (Shire of Dardanup resident only), Portrait, Theme (Identity), 3D and Photography.

In 2023 the Art Spectacular Committee sold over \$9,000.00 in art with a commission received on sales.

The annual Dardanup Art Spectacular is organised by the community of Dardanup and sponsored by the Shire of Dardanup to showcase the work of emerging artists in the Shire as well as art exhibited from the wider community. The Art Spectacular relies on the generosity of our corporate sponsors and local businesses to ensure the success of this annual event.

The Opening Night is a must attend event on Dardanup's social calendar, also a fundraiser for our 2 primary schools, Dardanup P&C and Our Lady of Lourdes P&F who cater for the evening as well as supervise the art exhibition over the weekend. In 2023 the 2 schools received \$1700.00 each for their efforts.

Venues confirmed on the Art Trail this year include Old Convent, Ferguson Valley Visitor Centre, By the Crooked Brook on Joshua Brook Rd, Thomas Little Hall, Diana Negro Gallery as well as wineries and galleries throughout Ferguson Valley. Peppermint Lane Lodge with all the sculptures are a must see on the Trail. Some venues have multiple artists displaying their work.

The Dardanup Art Spectacular Committee looks forward to seeing you over this special weekend so invite your friends and family.

Important dates to remember -

Friday 19 April – Art Spectacular Opening Night, 7pm @ the Dardanup Hall. Tickets can be purchased on line for this event. \$20 ea, \$35/couple, \$50/family includes drinks and supper so keep an eye out for this info on the Dardanup Art Spectacular facebook page, website and local posters.

Saturday 20 April, 10am – 5pm and Sunday 21 April, 10am – 4pm, Art Spectacular Art Exhibition @ the Dardanup Hall and Art Trail Open. Venues in town and in the Ferguson Valley



Elli Barrett will open her beautiful hand crafted studio 'By The Crooked Brook' for the 1st time. Elli specialises in paintings, baby clothes, cushions and cards showing her beautiful whimsical animal designs. A studio on the Art Trail not to be missed.

Dardanup Heritage Collective News

Dardanup's Story

The story of Dardanup's early settlement contrasts the investment ambitions of large, wealthy landowners with the more modest aims of small holders who migrated from England and Ireland. Dardanup's first inhabitants were the Wilman, Kaneang and Wadandi language groups of the Nyoongar people. From the 1830s, thousands of acres around Dardanup were progressively taken up by settlers; the Henty brothers, Charles Prinsep, Thomas Little, and Henry Venn. Irish migrants with small holdings settled around what is now the town site of Dardanup. The region was important in Western Australia's early development for its roles in horse-breeding, and the timber, wheat, potato and viticulture industries.

If you would like to read more of the Dardanup's fascinating history, you can download five information pages, prepared for the 2023 celebrations, free from the Dardanup Heritage Collective's website.

Go to: dardanupheritagecollective.org.au click on the Search button (top right) and type in *Dardanup's Story*. **Dardanup Heritage Collective News**

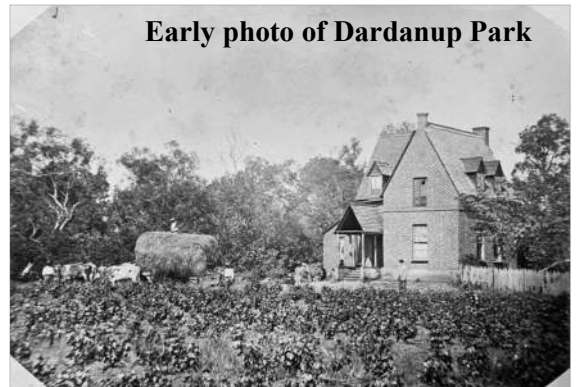
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Early photo of Dardanup Park



Newly constructed wall dedicated to 'All Who Served'

will be officially dedicated at the Dardanup Anzac Day Service. Thanks to Danny Harris who funded this project and Darren Foster who did all the research. Over 400 names listed. Take the time to have a look.

Dardanup Lions Club News



At our February meeting Lion Adrian Tyrrell congratulates Kate Eiszele and Kate Brown on their Pony Club Nationals wins last October. The contest was held at Brigadoon North of Perth. Dardanup Lions helped a lot with entry fees, stabling fees and accommodation



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Dardanup Bull and Barrel Festival Committee News

The Festival Committee is off to a flying start with 5 new Committee members volunteering their time at the recent AGM. How fabulous!

Stallholder applications will be soon available on the Festivals website.

The Festival theme this year will centre around our 21st Birthday, bringing back some of your old favourites and looking forward to a birthday parade. The craft tent will be the place to make your birthday hat to wear in the parade. This is an event solely organised by our community that showcases our community groups, tourism businesses, agriculture and businesses. Many of our community groups rely on the Festival for their main fundraising for the year and the Festival Committee relies on these community groups to assist where possible.

Mark the date in your calendar – Saturday 5 October

The following were elected to the Committee. As you can see it takes quite a few people to make this event happen.

Everyone welcome to attend any of our monthly meetings held at the Wells Recreation Park Clubrooms on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7pm.

Chairperson- Jill Cross

Vice Chairperson- Kerry Lowe

Treasurer- Caroline Vernon

Correspondence Officer- Kerry Lowe

Secretary (minutes)- Jessica Zappia-Church

Executive Committee- Jill Cross, Kerry Lowe, Jessica Zappia-Church, Caroline Vernon, Brian Keley, Ken Gardiner, Rob Allen, Tracey Moyle

S.W Group delegates - Jill Cross & Kerry Lowe

Dardanup Sporting and Community Club delegates- Jill Cross & Tracey Moyle

General Committee –

Corporate Sponsorship Officer - Monique Warnock

Grants Officer – Jill Cross & Kerry Lowe

Stalls Coordinator – Tracey Moyle

Volunteers Coordinator – Jane Field

Safety Officer – Rob Allen & Shayne Griffin

Promotions Officer – Kerry Lowe & Hayley Lowe

Stage Entertainment Coordinator – Flora Toft & Julie Hazelden

Logistics Officer – Ken Gardiner & Brian Keley

Wine/ Beer Marquee Coordinator – Phil Smith

Merchandise Coordinator – Mel Gardiner

Children's Rides Coordinator – Tracey Moyle

Compliance Coordinator (forms, applications) – Rob Allen & Jill Cross

Small Animals Coordinator – Sharon & Rebecca Dauti, Monique Warnock, Marie Griffin

Kids in the Kitchen Coordinator - Zoe Bouteloup

Hall Coordinator - Mike Hall

Kids Craft Tent Coordinator - Carol Gardiner & Marie Griffin



2024 Festival Committee; Photographer Julie Hazelden

Dardanup Senior Citizens News

At our Meeting on 19th March, 16 Members attended. It was great to be back at the Wells Clubrooms. We had a lively discussion for future activities & trips, together we will work out a program. Our Member's input is valuable & if you have further ideas please contact the Club.

Next meeting 16th April 2024.

Our 30th Anniversary was enjoyed by all. Gwen Wells took lots of photos to add to our albums. 39 Members attended lunch at the Dardanup Tavern. 2 guests attended, Deputy Shire President Ellen Lilly and Mr Danny Harris. Cr Ellen Lilly gave an excellent speech about how invaluable the older generation has been over the years, supporting the Community of Dardanup. We were sorry some of our guests were unable to attend.

Members were able to look at the Clubs photo albums, lots of shared fellowship & trips over the years. A big thank you to Jenny Trigwell & Sue Baskott for donating their decorating skills for our Anniversary cake.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of our inaugural member Gloria Maslin. Many happy memories over the years. We extend our deepest sympathy to her family & our fellow members.

Mahjong for all residents, sponsored by the Shire of Dardanup.

At the Dardanup Shire in Little St, Dardanup. Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday 1.30pm to approx. 3.30pm. Contact 0408833761.

Revely Gardiner 0408 833 761

Calling All Youth!

Dardanup Bushfire Cadets are commencing again on Tuesday 23rd April at 6pm at Dardanup Central fire station.

The Bush Fire Cadets are our local youth aged between 12-16 years old who are looking to gain some new skills in a friendly and fun environment. The Cadets learn a variety of Bush Fire skills, teamwork, make new friends and have unique self-confidence building experiences in a safe and welcoming environment.

Enquiries, please contact Chris on 0419 047 805 or turn up on the afternoon of 23rd, it would be great to see you there.

**Chris Bouteloup
Coordinator**

Eds Note; the Dardanup Bushfire Cadets also coordinated the Dog High Jump Comp at the Bull and Barrel and the Festival Committee cant wait to have them back.

**No Folks This Hasn't Gone Away!
Greenbushes to Bunbury Rail Project – Detailed
Feasibility Study**

January-February 2024 Update

Thanks for your continuing interest in the Greenbushes to Bunbury Railway Project Detailed Feasibility Study (DFS). We wanted to take this opportunity to provide an update on the status of the DFS.

Engagement Opportunities

The most recent community information sessions were held in Manjimup and Bridgetown on 20 and 21 February 2024, respectively. The feedback received during the sessions has been fed into the technical studies that are underway. We are in the process of engaging with the local government authorities through which the rail line passes. The focus of the discussions is how the rail line will be managed where it passes through town sites.

Please keep a look out for upcoming community information sessions, which will likely occur mid-year. This is when we are expecting to have more to share on the studies that are currently underway. Information about upcoming sessions will also be posted on www.talisonlithium.com/projects, and through local channels.

Other Upcoming Activities

You may notice additional people undertaking works along the rail line in the coming months. This includes geotechnical surveys, which are starting to occur along the line. These works are required to inform the DFS.

Frequently asked questions

We continue to receive questions via email, and thought we would share these with others, as outlined below.

Will there be train drivers or will the train be automated?

Train drivers will be required, the train will not be operated autonomously. Multiple train operators may be required for a single train – this is yet to be determined.

Is there an opportunity for tourist/passenger rail if the line is recommissioned?

If the railway were to be recommissioned, the infrastructure would be available to other users. The DFS is investigating a freight rail operation, which has different requirements to passenger rail. In summary, a passenger rail operator would need to meet a different set of regulatory requirements and

come to its own commercial arrangement.

How many Talison freight trains would travel the line each day?

It is expected that eight train movements per day will be required – four movements each way.

How long will a driver or pedestrian have to wait at a level crossing for a train to pass?

The wait would be approximately 90 seconds, for freight trains carrying Talison product.

Has the project group considered redirecting the railway into the mine? For example, across the highway?

The scope of the DFS is to investigate recommissioning of the current gazetted line, and is not currently investigating redirecting or extending the line. At this stage, it is expected that Talison trucks will cross the South West highway, to transport product from the mine to the proposed intermodal facility, the location of which is currently being evaluated.

How will noise impacts be managed?

The noise freight trains make is dependent upon a combination of factors which include speed, the rail corridor environment (for example, tunnel or open track) and the rail and wheel contact dynamics. This combination means the same train may make different noises at various points on the track. There is a requirement for train horns to sound on the approach to a level crossing. The sounding of the horn is therefore intentionally loud and above ambient noise to effectively warn of and to attract attention to an approaching train, even if it isn't immediately visible.

Noise will be further investigated as a part of the Detailed Feasibility Study. This study will include noise related to operation of the proposed intermodal terminals, as well as other potential sources of noise, such as trucks.

If you have any specific questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards, Greenbushes to Bunbury Railway Project:

Detailed Feasibility Study group

e: info@talisonrail.com

t: 1800 418 581

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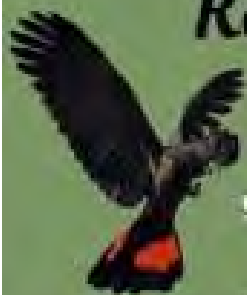


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April is the beginning of the Noongar season **Djeran**. Autumn is here, the Magpies song has changed and there is dew in the mornings.

We are still waiting on the rain but heed the cues! It is time to get busy preparing your soil and planting your Autumn/Winter crops.

April is a month for pruning and tidying up in the garden. If you have access to a mulcher, try to chip/shred as many of your prunings as possible. Smaller sized pieces break down faster in the compost heap and save you money on buying mulch. Pruning your fruit trees now will shape your trees for next season and help to promote good fruiting. While it isn't as easy to see all the branches with the leaves still on, it will limit the crazy growth that happens when you winter prune dormant trees.

Healthy soil means healthy crops. If you haven't done it already, get busy preparing your soil. Feed the soil microbes by adding compost or aged manure, some rock dust and/or vermicompost (from your worm farm). Remember that your Brassica crops are 'hungry' and will need enriched soil to give you a good harvest. During the colder months, extra applications of fertilisers and tonics take longer to be effective, so good soil preparation now will save you time and effort during winter.

Two important yet often overlooked Autumn garden tasks are saving seed and planting green manure crops.

Why save seeds? Saving your own seed (from open pollinated varieties) is a great way to reduce your costs, gives you the ability to grow & eat more variety, while having seeds that continue to adapt to your local conditions. Easy ones to get started with are Beans, Tomatoes and Pumpkins. When ordering and planting your Winter crops, try to get open pollinated seeds or seedlings, so you can save your own for next season.

Green manure Crops 'work' for you in a variety of ways to replenish the soil, feeding microbes, acting as a living mulch and suppressing weeds. You can purchase an Autumn mix from most stockfeed stores and selected garden centres. Broad beans are a fabulous nitrogen fixing green manure with the bonus of beans to eat and tender top shoots that are yummy stir-fried.

It is also a great time to give your herbs a haircut. Don't waste the prunings, just cut and dry them for use during the winter months. Mint, Thyme, Rosemary and Oregano all dry really well with stronger flavour when dried. For softer summer herbs such as Basil, try freezing them in ice cube trays with a

little water or butter. Alternatively, why not make pesto! Garlic is easy to grow, tastes much better than shop bought stuff and doesn't cost \$60/kg! Not all garlic is equal - *Don't* plant the Chinese shop bought garlic - It has been fumigated and is sterile.

It is worth searching out locally grown bulbs first, as they are already adapted to our local conditions. Organic garlic bulbs for planting can also be purchased at Farmers markets & Health food shops, Online from Urban Revolution or Green Life Soils. This past year was a difficult one, so don't leave buying garlic until late in the month or you may miss out!

Plant Garlic when the daytime temperatures are consistently 25degrees C and below. They prefer enriched soil in a sunny, well drained position. If you have soil prone to water-logging, I would recommend planting Garlic in pots or mounded. Break the bulb into cloves, leaving the 'papery-skin' intact. Plant the cloves, 10-15cm apart, pointed end up, to the depth of the clove. They hate competition so be careful to keep them free of weeds, mulching will help with this. They will take about 7-8 months to be ready to harvest, so if you plant them now, you will have Fresh garlic for Christmas.

What to plant in April?

Leaf crops - Celery, Cress, Collard greens, Chicory, Endive, Lettuce, Mizuna, Choi Sum, Gai Lan, Pak Choy, Chinese Cabbage, Mustard greens, Rocket, Spinach, Silverbeet, Radicchio, Witlof and Corn salad. Brassica crops (seedlings only*) - Broccoli, Broccoli Raab, Brussel Sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflower and Kale. Root crops - Beetroot, Carrot, Radish, Daikon, Celeriac, Kohlrabi, Salsify, Swede, Turnip. Legume crops - Broad Beans, Snow peas and Peas. Onion family - Garlic, Leeks, Spring onions, Onions, Potato onions, Tree onions and Shallots. Herbs - Artichoke, Bay, Chives, Coriander, Fennel, Lemon Balm, Mint, Rosemary, Oregano, Parsley, Rosemary, Sage, Thyme and Burdock. Happy Planting!

The next Sustainable Living Workshop is on Thursday 11th April at the Dardanup Hall. Topic: **Homegrown Fertility - Composting made easy**. There is no need to continually buy in fertility. We will focus on ways to utilise your food waste and convert your scraps into something useful. Learning a few simple skills on how to increase soil fertility and soil health in your backyard.

Bookings essential ph: **9724000** or on the website dardanup.wa.gov.au/events

Ferguson Valley Visitors Centre News

The Ferguson Valley Visitors Centre is preparing for a busy month. School Holidays and DAS are all busy times for volunteers at the Visitor Centre as visitor numbers increase. If you haven't been in to say hello recently, I can report some changes worth checking out. We are participating in the DAS - weekend of 20/21 April - with Sara Brandli as our Artist in Residence. Sara is a ZIA Artist, a visual storyteller. Zentangle Inspired Art has a whimsical flavour with the finished pieces - cards, notebooks, and small pictures intricate and appealing.

Apart from the fabulous new 'i' sign which significantly increased our visibility, we also have some new artisan suppliers. A new olive oil supplier and, in addition to raw, unprocessed honey, we now have beautiful candles and beeswax.

Just received is a range of really cute tee shirts - all sizes. These complement the 'Ferguson Valley - 'I found it' stylish tee shirts and new range of FV Linen Tea Towels - all make fabulous gifts for Mother's Day. A new Dardanup supplier has brought in a range of beautifully designed crochet rugs, crochet bags, peak cap holders and winter weight cardigans - one with 'wool' made from recycled plastic bottles - I kid you not.

If your garden needs a lift after this long, dry, hot summer, consider the hardy geranium. We have a selection of sizes in pots ready and waiting and a selection of quirky gnomes waiting for their forever home. We look forward to welcoming you - hours generally 9.30am to 3pm seven days per week.

Gae Bessen, FVVC Coordinator



VALE

**Gloria Maslin. 26 January 1931
– 26 February 2024**

Gloria was born in Collie to parents Jack and Mary Bertelli, Gloria being the eldest and had siblings Gordon and Mary. Some other siblings died in infancy and sadly Gloria's mother Mary aged 35 died when baby Mary was born. The children were farmed out to relatives

especially Mrs Zannini who looked after them in their early years. Gloria's father Jack leased the farm on Dowdells Line and returned to the sawmills for work. Gloria's grandparents, the Pedrolinis had earlier settled on this farm at Dowdells Line with Jack and Mary eventually purchasing this property from his parents.

At this time Gloria was sent to boarding school at the Bunbury Convent and she said was the best years of her life supported by a loving and caring Nun, sister Rose. Gloria left school in 1945 and continued to work with father on the farm with some time spent working in Manjimup and Perth.

Gloria met and married Guy Maslin on the 24th September 1949, we believe. Brian Wells drove her to the church in the local priests car for her wedding at the Dardanup Church. Sadly, brother Gordon died at aged 12 years about this time.

Guy had work with the railways stationed at Katanning and the newly married couple resided there in very poor conditions.

Gloria's father Jack offered them a lease of the farm at Dowdell's Line, Paradise and they set off together with two little girls Lynne and Ronnie to start their farm life. This continued for a time until finally they bought the farm from Gloria's father Jack. By 1961 Gordon had arrived and Jenny and Ann. Gloria and Guy sadly lost baby Robert who died at aged 5 months.

The family ran a full milk dairy business. Gloria working so hard every day and finding time to bring up her family, to care for them, get them to school, growing vegetables for the table as well as growing

fruit from their orchard, all being turned into preserved bottled fruits, jams pickles etc of all kinds. Gloria found time to sew for her growing family, knitting beautiful garments, baking beautiful cakes, so lovingly decorated for family and friends

In 1965 with the help of Guy's war efforts through serving in WW2 they were able to build a new home on the farm at Dowdells Line, Paradise which Gloria remained in for 55 years until her health declined and she moved to Bethanie Fields Nursing Home, Guy having predeceased her.

Gloria was a very community minded person supporting her church parish and all the committees and services supporting the school with canteen duties and fundraising for the various needs. Gloria was an inaugural member of the Dardanup Senior Citizens enjoying all the activities, trips and companionship of friends. She was involved with the Riding for the Disabled Group, ever there with fundraising help for the cause. Gloria was involved with Red Cross as a member which commenced in 1971 receiving many awards along the way. Her long service medals and gold bars and finally her 50th gold Laurel Wreath. In 2022 she served as President of the unit for many years. Every year together with family would march with the unit on Anzac Day laying the Red Cross wreath at times. Gloria always very proud marching with family wearing her grandfather's war medals. Gloria was a member of the SW Rose Society enjoying growing her own roses.

She joined the Ferguson Valley Visitors Centre doing her bit working at the centre.

She also loved playing golf with her friend Ethel Quadrio as well as playing tennis, badminton, and doing Thai chi at Eaton with friends.

Gloria travelled with husband Guy all over Australia on caravan trips, enjoying the friends they met on the way. Had a few overseas trips also one especially with Barbara when they visited Italy to find relatives.

Gloria was an ever loving Grandma to the family grandkids, always there for whoever had needs, taking them on beach caravan stays, enjoying teaching them all sorts of board games and they were always in her mind.

Although very direct at times with others she was giving and loyal to everyone she met and fiercely independent.

Gloria loved her garden, grew beautiful orchids, shrubs of all kinds and roses.

Her garden was always immaculate from hard work.

She so appreciated the help in the latter years of her girls who did so much to keep her happy in the garden.

Gloria died on 26th February at Bethanie Fields Nursing home aged 93 years.

Loving sympathy to all her family. A Tribute to a life well done.

Eds Note; After reading Gwen Wells and daughters Jenny and Annes obituary on Gloria think we can all despite early setbacks Gloria had a rich and fulfilling life which many of us would like to aspire too. Thanks Gwen, Jenny and Anne for sharing the life of a very important community member and we extend our sympathies to Gloria's family and friends.

Save the Date

Remember how much fun you had at the Gatsby Ball in May last year.

Well the same Committee supported by the Dardanup and Districts Residents Assoc are organising another dance, maybe not quite so elaborate this time. Disco theme, so dust off your silver jumpsuits and start practising your best dancing queen moves. Saturday 20 July is the date and the Dardanup Hall is the place. More info to come.



Dardanup Community Choir

7pm Mondays at the
Ferguson Hall

Helen Humphreys | 0422 095 870 | hkhumphs@gmail.com

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME



stumperie@outlook.com

9795 1120

Sue Rigg

*Natural Attributes
Flowers ~ Nature
Art & Fabrics*



Dardanup Playgroup Monthly Update: Spring Fun and Easter Preparations!

It's been a bustling month at our playgroup as the little ones settle in and forge new friendships.

Our recent flower craft session brought smiles to the children's faces as they explored their artistic talents, creating beautiful blooms to adorn our play space. A delightful dress-up day added an extra layer of excitement, igniting imaginations and fostering a sense of playful camaraderie among the kids.

As Easter approaches, we've been busy crafting adorable egg wreaths and bunny garlands, infusing our playgroup with festive spirit. Excitement is mounting as we prepare for an Easter hunt, with eager hands ready to fill baskets with sweet treasures.

If you're new to Dardanup or the surrounding area, we extend a warm invitation to join us every Wednesday morning from 9:30 to 11:30 am at the Dardanup Community Centre on Little Street. Whether you're a seasoned playgroup enthusiast or curious newcomer, there's always room for more laughter and fun.

For further details or inquiries, feel free to reach out to us via Facebook or email at Dardanupcpg@gmail.com.

Come be a part of our playgroup community and create cherished memories with your little ones!

Hayley Panzich



**Easter Art Work By
Playgroup Kids**

An Indian Wedding

Anybody who has been into the store in the last 12 months will know that I (and a couple of other locals) were invited to my new boss's (Sam) wedding in the Punjab state of India. I had no hesitation in saying yes to what I was told was a 4 day wedding at the end of February 2024. I then went home and checked with David. Thumbs up from David.

20th Feb - When we arrived at the family home in Chaudakur part of the wheat field had been cleared for the luncheon with the whole village (approx. 600), family, friends and representatives from the brides (Sukhman) family. Shopping for clothes for the wedding was next. When it comes to an Indian wedding there is no such thing as too much bling. I was in heaven. David was measured for 2 suits. 1 Punjabi suit and one "normal". These were picked up the next day. (I must say David looks really good in a tailor-made suit.)++While we were shopping the contractors arrived to put up the two lots of framework, 1 in the backyard and 1 on the cleared wheat field. This would have given our OH & S people palpitations. Once the framework was up both sections were covered in material and decorated with flowers, umbrellas, loads and loads of fairy and other bits and pieces. Again enough to give OH&S nightmares. While this is happening the chefs arrived to make the gifts, sweet and savoury, to give to all the visitors, guests and family who came to say congratulations (or see the Aussies). The pots and pans used were massive. I have never seen anything as big. Its hard to explain the tools they used to make tiny round biscuits and long almost spaghetti like ones. The small plot next door was cleared of weeds and debris to be used as a makeshift kitchen for the luncheon. There was hired staff, they specialise in weddings, to cook for the many visitors, contractors and family. This includes the guys renovating the house. The Holy Book is bought to the house for reading in the 4 days leading up to the luncheon. Everything has to be washed, including the road for the walk from the temple to the house.

The celebrations started with the ladies gathering in the living room for 2 evenings of singing and dancing. It starts off sedately and quietly until someone brings the drum and spoon. Then it gets a little louder and more upbeat. Once they have sat for long enough they start dancing. I must say this was my favourite part. The Haldi ceremony is held before the luncheon. Here the family and visitors paint the grooms hair with turmeric oil and put turmeric paste on his face. An Indian tradition representing a life of prosperity for the couple to begin their new life. (Turmeric is a very good cleanser). I dried some of my roses and was allowed to shower some on Sam at this time. The groom (and bride at a separate ceremony) are also showered with monetary gifts.

28th - The Holy Book is moved to the canopy in the backyard and guests come and listen to the reading and blessing of the groom before the book goes back to the temple. Again, more showering with gifts and photos. The luncheon was served in the cleared paddock, which has been covered with carpet and surrounded by walls. There

was a security guard with a very big gun to ensure no undesirables showed up. After the luncheon the ladies go to visit the bride and her family to take material gifts and shower the bride with gifts. This is called Shagun. At this ceremony the closest females put makeup on the bride. On returning to the family home there is fireworks, then we set off on Jaggo. This is where the maternal relatives wander around the village singing. Jaggo means "wake up". This involves carrying a Jaggo pot on your head that is decorated with lights. The ladies take turns at carrying it. When we got back from the walk a DJ had set up a dance floor, sound system and lights that would rival any nightclub in the backyard. The men tend to take over the dance floor. I think the Indians may have invented the first head banging music. This was a very long day. My last photo was taken at 2am on the 29th.

A day off is needed in between each celebration to gather your wits and get ready for the next set of celebrations.

1st March - The day of the wedding Sam is again cleansed with turmeric, and everybody gets ready for another big day. When everyone is dressed and ready there is walk to the temple for blessing and celebration's. The family is taken in decorated cars to the temple where the wedding ceremony is performed. Then we all go the wedding reception venue. The families sit at tables and are fed a variety of snacks. (We would call it a full meal.) I like their snacks because dessert is served first. At this time Sukhman is having time to change and redo anything that needs redoing. While we are served all the other guests are treated to a buffet both inside and outside the venue. So much food. When the bride arrives they walk together to a couch where they sit and allow the family and friends to come and congratulate them and shower them with more gifts. This also includes more photos. While they are being congratulated the other guests are entertained by singing and dancing. Very high energy. After the wedding we went back to the family home for more fireworks and another disco. Unfortunately, this one as cut short by a natural fireworks show and rain.

In Australia this would be the end of the wedding but in India the next day we went back to the local temple for more blessings. After the blessings the bride and groom walk around town. Unfortunately, there was more rain so everyone got extremely wet. Once everyone was dried there was another tradition to carry out. The bride and groom both wear Gana which symbolises deep love and solidarity. They take each others off and try and hang onto their own. Then they try and find the gold coin in a bowl of milk to see who will rule the house.

After this we left the family and moved to a hotel in Amritsar.

It was the most amazing experience.

Shirley Wells

Eds Note; Congratulations Sam and Sukhman and best wishes for your future together

Wespine News

Seeking YOUR Timber Creation Stories

Wespine loves receiving feedback on what people use our timber to create. Recently we've featured a few of these in our social media posts (eg. on Facebook and Instagram). Creations include: a deck, a staircase, a cubby house and... water skis! Check them out on our 'Wespine' and 'Staxa' pages – feel free to follow our pages and comment on our posts in the process! We'd really like to hear (and see) what you've been making with our timber, and perhaps feature it on our social media pages.

There are so many creative possibilities! Please email your story (with photo/s) to Claire at: ECC@wespine.com

What's on In Dardanup

- 1 April – Dardanup Art Spectacular Entries close
- 2 April – Mens Welfare Group – 2pm at Wells Rec Park Clubrooms
- 3 April – Dardanup Heritage Collective meeting, 1.00pm at Old Mill Manager's House – 564 Wellington Mills Road, Wellington Mills.
All welcome
- 5 April – Ferguson Valley Community Dinner at the Ferguson Hall, 6.30pm, see add back pages
- 5 April, Youthfest at the Dardanup Hall, 11-2, see details this edition
- 7 April - 4 May – Citizen Science Annual Ringtail Tally - register online at <https://leschenaultcc.org.au/ringtailtally>
- 10 April – Mahjong at the Shire office, Little St 1.30-3.30. Beginners welcome
- 10 April- Dardanup Bull and Barrel Festival meeting, 7.00pm at Wells Rec Park Clubrooms
- 11 April - Sustainable Living Workshop, Dardanup Hall. Topic: Homegrown Fertility - Composting made easy.
Bookings essential ph: 9724000 or on the website dardanup.wa.gov.au/events
- 16 April - Mens Welfare Group – 2pm at Wells Rec Park Clubrooms
- 16 April – Dardanup Seniors, 9.30am at Wells Rec Park Clubrooms
- 19 April – Dardanup Art Spectacular Opening and Awards night, see add back pages
- 20/21 April – Dardanup Art Spectacular Art Exhibition and Art Trail
- 23 April – Dardanup Bushfire Cadets(12-16 yrs) meet, 6pm at the Dardanup Central Brigade building, Recreation Rd,
new members welcome
- 24 April - Mahjong at the Shire office, Little St 1.30-3.30. Beginners welcome
- 28 April - Boyanup Farmers Market, 8am
- 3 May – Ferguson Hall AGM, 5pm
- 4 May – Shire of Dardanup New Offices Open Day, free event, reserve aspot, Shire 97240000

If you have an event to add
please email
jill.cross@bigpond.com

Dardanup and Localities Clubs and Meetings

- Dardanup Community Choir- every Monday, 7pm @ the Ferguson Hall, Helen 0422 095 870
- Edible Gardening Group – 2nd Saturday of the month at 9.30am, ph Ros 0408949160 or Leanne 0418781121
- Cardinal Junior Football Club - winter
- Dardanup Bull and Barrel Festival Committee – 7.30pm, 2nd Wednesday of every month, Wells Recreation Park Clubrooms
- Dardanup Cricket Club(Junior and Senior) - summer
- Dardanup Horse and Pony Club – meets 4th Sunday of the month at the DEC
- Dardanup Lions Club – 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month, 6:30pm at the Dardanup Tavern
- Dardanup Playgroup – every Wednesday of school term, 9.30am – 11.30am @ Dardanup Community Centre
- Dardanup Shire meetings – every fortnight on Wednesday @ Eaton. ph 97240000
- Dardanup Senior Citizens – 3rd Tues of the month @ the Wells Recreation Park Clubrooms, 9.30am – 11.30am.
- Dardanup Social Dance – 1st Saturday of each month, Dardanup Hall, 8pm, \$12 ea, supper to share.
- Dardanup Sporting and Community Clubs – 7.00pm, bimonthly at the Wells Recreation Park Clubrooms
- Dardanup Tennis Club – every Saturday from 9.00am, beginners welcome
- Eaton/ Dardanup Football Club(Soccer) – winter season
- Ferguson Hall Committee– 1st Mon of the month @ 5pm, prior to the sundowner. For Hall booking Robyn Jones, 0468 576 950,
email bse7@bigpond.com
- Ferguson Hall Sundowners – 1st Friday of the month @ 6.00pm, BYO drinks and nibbles.
- Ferguson Valley Visitor Centre Volunteers- 1st Tuesday of each month @ the VC Centre, 9.30am.
- Ferguson Valley Marketing- 3rd Thursday of each month, 5.30pm at the Thomas Little Hall
- Henty Riding Club – meets Wednesdays and other days at the Dardanup Equestrian Centre
- Joshua/ Crooked Brook Sundowner – 2nd Friday of the month, 7.00pm at the Fireshed.
- Knits and Knots Group – Every 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month, 1.00 -3.00pm @ the Dardanup Shire office
- St Aidans Church, every 3rd Sunday, 9am, all denominations welcome.
- SW Rose Soc – 2nd Sunday of each month, 10.00am, @ Wells Recreation Park Clubrooms
- SW Veteran Car Club – 1st Tuesday of the month, 7.30pm at the Wells Recreation Park Clubrooms.
- Wellington Mill Sundowners – last Friday of the month, 6 – 8pm @ the Fireshed
- Wellington Mills Community Association- 3rd Wednesday of the month, 7.30 pm, Wellington Mills Fireshed
- Dardanup Central Bushfire Brigade training @ the Fire Station, Recreation Rd, 5.30pm every Wednesday
- Ferguson Valley Mountain Bike Club – 1st Wednesday of the month at the Wells Rec Park Clubrooms, Mark, 0408 331 447
- Mens Welfare Group – 1st and 3rd Tuesday, 2-5pm at the Wells Recreation Park Clubrooms , Ray 0417 932 898
- Mahjong - Every fortnight on Wednesdays 1.30pm to 3.30pm at the Dardanup Shire office in Dardanup Revelly 0408 833 761

FERGUSON VALLEY

The Month of March was a mix of celebration by our dedicated Visitor Centre volunteers and frantic activity by the Ferguson Valley Marketing board. Our volunteers chose to postpone their 2023 Christmas Lunch until this year and as a result celebrated in style at Evedon Lakeside Retreat. They enjoyed an informative and relaxed tour of the Retreat including the wedding venue, cabins, forest, lake-side walks and bike trails. Lunch was held on the vine-covered terrace overlooking the lake on what was a perfect autumn day. Thank you to all our hard working volunteers who so readily give their time to man the Visitor Centre.



The Volunteers at play

Peter Giumelli entertaining us with some historical facts.

The most significant achievement for March was the appointment of our new event-management group (Atelier – House of Events) to deliver Lost and Found 2024.

They were one of four event-management groups interviewed and we are excited to have found and secured such a professional and successful event-management group.

Atelier have developed and delivered significant wine, food and immersive-style festivals in WA, the South West and overseas. Their web site <https://atelierhouseofevents.com/> is bursting with great snapshots of their work.

Ferguson Valley Marketing was in contact with all participating

Congratulations to

Dianne Webster who recently celebrated her 70th birthday

Everyone who picked up rubbish along their rural verge and to the Shire of Dardanup for collecting the rubbish bags. Thank you to Mary Smith for distributing the Clean Up bags to rural residents and coordinating this activity. *Did you know according to Clean Up Australia 'young and old, from the beach to the bush, you got your gloves on and stepped up and cleaned up! More than 11,000 events were registered with over 750,000 of you champs joining in*

Greg Gibbs Out Collecting Rubbish along Ferguson Rd



Ferguson Valley
Community
DINNER
FRIDAY 5 APRIL

from 6:30pm
at the
Ferguson Hall



FREE EVENT

BRING
Hot Dish
or
Salad / Side
or
Dessert
TO SHARE

BYO DRINKS

OPEN FOR THE WHOLE COMMUNITY

Dardanup Anzac Day Services
Organised by the Dardanup and Districts Residents Assoc.
Thursday 25 April, 2024

Dawn Service – 6am
@ War Memorial alongside Shire Office, Little St, Dardanup

Main Service –
Marching off from the Old Covent Car Park, Ferguson Rd @ **sharp.**
Parking in Our Lourdes P.S.



Lady of Car Park

At the conclusion of the Main Service, morning tea will be served in the Main Hall.
Please bring a small plate of morning tea to share.
Complimentary Sausage Sizzle served by Dardanup Lions Club.
In the case of inclement weather the Service will be held in the Hall.

The Dardanup Times thanks our generous sponsors



 Youth Advisory Group presents

Youthfest

11am - 2pm | Friday 5 April | Dardanup Hall

EXCITING GAMES & ACTIVITIES
LIVE MUSIC - STALLS & MORE!

Visit our website or scan the QR code for more information! www.dardanup.wa.gov.au/youthfest-2024

  [shireofdardanup](https://www.facebook.com/shireofdardanup)
 [@shireofdardanup](https://www.instagram.com/shireofdardanup)

free entry



DARDANUP art SPECTACULAR

Entries now open until 1st April

\$10,000 Prize Money over Seven Categories

Opening night 19 April

Exhibition at Dardanup Hall & Art Trail in Dardanup townsite & Ferguson Valley venues 20/21 April

dardanupartspectacular.com.au

Major Sponsors





BEV MOUNTFORD ART
7 Ferguson Road
DARDANUP
All Art 50% off Marked Price
Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st
April 2024
Open 9.00am to 4.00pm both
days
On Display and for Sale
In conjunction with
DAS Art Trail

FERGUSON HALL

AGM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY 3 MAY 2024 5PM at the Ferguson Hall **FERGUSON VALLEY**

EVERYONE WELCOME