

FEBRUARY 2025

Free

THE DARDANUP TIMES

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

Shire of Dardanup Australia Day Awards

Local citizens' Award Honours and Seven New Citizens Welcomed

The Shire of Dardanup celebrated Australia Day in style with three breakfast events held in Eaton, Dardanup, and Burekup today.

These events brought the community together to honour Australia Day Award recipients and officially welcome seven new citizens to the Shire. Shire President Cr Tyrrell Gardiner described the day as a celebration of community spirit, cultural diversity, and achievement.

"It was a privilege to welcome seven new citizens to the Shire of Dardanup, coming from five different countries – Philippines, Indonesia, United Kingdom, India and New Zealand," Cr Gardiner said.

"Their skills, cultural richness, and commitment to community life will undoubtedly enhance our region. We hope they feel at home and enjoy living in this beautiful part of the world as much as we do."

Cr Gardiner said the day also recognised this year's Community Citizen of the Year Award nominees and recipients, who were celebrated for their remarkable contributions to the Shire. From education and health to environmental initiatives, sports, and social inclusion, their dedication to making a difference has had a lasting impact on the community.

Community Citizen of the Year Award winners and nominees:

Community Citizen of the Year - Brendon Putt:

Brendon has dedicated 15 years to the Dardanup Central Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade, serving in roles such as Training Officer, Captain, and Fire Control Officer. Known for his leadership and commitment to training, he fosters unity within the brigade and mentors cadets to ensure a safer, more prepared community.



Photo credit - Abby Murray

Young Community Citizen of the Year - Tyler Brown:

At 16, Tyler is already making waves as a student councillor at Eaton Community College and Youth Advisory Group (YAG) member at the Shire. He's played a key role in organising six youth-focused events, including the Spring Out Festival, and represented the Shire at state-level youth awards. Tyler's passion and leadership inspire those around him.

Senior Community Citizen of the Year - Kaye Holmes:

Kaye, in her 80s, has been a pillar of the Eaton community for over 30 years. She founded and runs the Friendship Morning Tea, bringing joy and connection to retirees. Over the years, Kaye has selflessly supported her community and church in numerous meaningful ways. Her generosity shines through in organising social outings, offering support to those in need, and dedicating her time to volunteering.

Youth Advisory Group - Active Citizenship Award:

Since 2021, the Shire's Youth Advisory Group (YAG) has delivered six major events annually, including YouthFest. In 2024, they spearheaded a mental health initiative, raising funds through a youth op-shop. Their creativity and commitment make a meaningful impact on local youth.

Nominees (community citizen) received Certificates of Appreciation:

• Caitlin Lomax. • Kerry Lowe. • Nicole Gustiawan. "Congratulations to all our well-deserving nominees and recipients," Cr Gardiner said.

"Your hard work, passion, and service make our Shire an even better place to live, work, and thrive. We appreciate everything you do."

The events were made possible through the support of the Australian Government via a grant from the National Australia Day Council and the dedication of local volunteers who worked tirelessly to bring the celebrations to life.

"These events highlight the best of our Shire – a strong, united, and inclusive community coming together to reflect, respect, and celebrate," Cr Gardiner said.

Cr Gardiner thanked everyone who attended one of the three events held in the Shire, which were assisted by the Australian Government through a grant from the National Australia Day Council, were organised and run by passionate local volunteers.

Shire of Dardanup President Cr Tyrrell Gardiner (far right) with Citizens of the Year Award nominees and recipients (from left) Caitlin Lomax (nominee), Brendon Putt (Community Citizen of the Year), Kerry Lowe (nominee), Tyler Brown (Young Community Citizen of the Year) and Youth Advisory Group members Chelsey North, Raya Noonan, Ella and Damon North (Active Citizenship Award). Absent: Kaye Holmes (Senior Community Citizen of the Year) and Nicole Gustiawan (nominee).

Locals Enjoy The 21st

Dardanup Lions/ Dardanup Residents Assoc Australia Day Breakfast In Carramar Park

A crowd of 210 enjoyed a delicious cooked breakfast, muffins, watermelon and juice all prepared and served by the Dardanup Lions Club and the Dardanup and Districts Residents Assoc for a gold coin donation. These 2 community groups have organized the breakfast for 21 years now and included this years entertainment; the Dardanup Community Choir, the band Stigwood, childrens games and bouncy castle. Cr Jack Manoni addressed the breakfast announcing the winners of the Shire of Dardanup Australia Day Awards. Brian Barrett, Chairperson of Crooked Brook Forest Group delivered a summary of the achievements of that Group over the last 30 years. Colin and Julie Hazelden who will be leaving shortly on a caravanning holiday around Australia were presented with a few funny gifts to prepare them for their journey. We all wished them the best holiday.

The Shire of Dardanup supports the breakfast with funding as well as funding this year through the Australia Day Council.

Annually at the breakfast the Dardanup Lions and Dardanup Residents Assoc presents a Citizenship Award to someone or a group in the community who display outstanding volunteering. This year that award was proudly presented to Helen Humphreys.



Photo credit – Sure Shot Photography

Helen Humphreys with her family; husband David and children Emily, Jessica and Alexander

Helen Humphreys Volunteering Journey From Malena Cahill Deputy Principal, Dardanup Primary School -

Helen Humphreys has been an a highly valued member of the Dardanup Primary School community through her contribution in P & C fundraising activities to enhance the school's resources and programs as well as a member of the School Board. Helen's dedication extended to mentoring students, where she provided guidance and encouragement in the Spelling Mastery Program and the Dardanup Primary School Choir for many years.

Her commitment to creating a positive school environment also included volunteering for extracurricular activities, such as after-school clubs and events as well as sharing her vast knowledge of Bee Keeping. Through her efforts, Helen not only enriched the educational experience for students but also strengthened the sense of community within the school. Her contributions have left a lasting impact, and she is highly regarded by both staff and parents for her unwavering support and enthusiasm for the school's mission. She is to be congratulated in receiving the Citizenship Award.

From the Ferguson Hall Committee-

Helen has been Secretary of the Ferguson Hall Management Committee for around 4 years and does a very thorough job

Dardanup Community Choir -

Helen started the Dardanup Community Choir early 2023 following a suggestion from Wendy Perdon. The choir meets every Monday night at Ferguson Hall and has performed at Australia Day(s), Christmas Carols at St Aidan's church, Dardanup Senior Citizens events, Anzac Day & Bull and Barrel Festival.

From Adam Maskew

President WA Apiarists' Society

Helens passion as a beekeeper has taken her beyond her own property and business. She flew to the Eastern States in 2022 as a volunteer to respond to the Varroa incursion in NSW. More locally she is an active member and the Western Australian Apiarists' Society. She is a member of the committee, a valuable member of the education and training team and is the Editor for their monthly publication Smoke Signals. She is generous with her time and knowledge of beekeeping with all ages and experience.

Ferguson Valley Visitor Centre News

HAPPY NEW YEAR for 2025 EVERYONE

Although by the time you'll be reading this it will already be only eleven months to Christmas!!!

The Visitors Centre was busy at the end of 2024 with a successful Christmas Fete & a steady number of visitors. People are dropping into The Valley more frequently on their way further south or back home. It's a convenient lunch stop & scenic route. It will be interesting to see if we get more visitors from the slightly shortened time the BORR allows bypassing Bunbury. Although some of us have had very confused visitors after trying to find their way off the highway!! Certainly around Christmas our navigation systems were finding it difficult to compute, but it will sort itself out. As usual with change afoot some of us prefer the old ways. Our featured artisans for February are Barrecas Oil situated just south of Donnybrook on South West highway. Highly worth a visit as they are so much more than just oil - which of course is available for sale at the VC & is delicious. Barrecas Olive Grove and olive oil press are nestled within the beautiful grounds of Barrecas Wines.

Our outstanding plantation of Leccino and Frantoio varieties, combined with gentle extraction takes place within one hour of harvesting, ensuring only the highest quality Extra Virgin Olive Oil is produced. Unfiltered, unrefined and proudly 100% estate bottled. Our gift to you is a premium Extra Virgin Olive Oil which not only captures the flavour of harvest, but also a way of life.

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In the ancient world, virgin olive oil was called "liquid gold" by Homer and "the great healer" by Hippocrates.

Libby Pardoe



Robyn Jones, FVVC Volunteer with Barrecas Olive Oil

The Ferguson Hall Management Committee's Successful Fundraising Quiz Night

Held at the end of last year we had a sell out crowd spread over 12 tables, with our expert local quizmasters Colin and Julie Hazelden presiding. Colin and Julie have regularly run quiz nights for the benefit of our community and we are indebted for the time and effort they put in. As most people know, Colin is a cricket tragic and always inserts some tricky questions on cricket usually from times past. It was a fantastic night run at a fast pace with many raffle and "heads and tails" prizes through the night. The auction of selected donated prizes was also a highlight.

The 10 groups of questions were very thought provoking and certainly tested everyone's general knowledge. The worthy winners were on the table booked by Andrea and Kevin from Henty. They are still bragging of their success!

Proceeds from the night exceeded \$3000 thanks mainly to our very generous Dardanup and Ferguson business donors, and we are grateful for their regular support. The money raised is used to maintain the Hall to a very high standard and improve amenities for Hall users.

Rob Webster



Dardanup Heritage Collective News

Settlers cottages in early Dardanup

The idea of thatched roofing conjures images of romantic cottages in small English villages but some of Dardanup's earliest homes also used thatching and had wattle and daub (plaster-like) walls. This would have been a building style well understood by many migrants who came to Western Australia in the 1840s/1850s; farmers and labourers from rural England, Ireland and Scotland. Their homes were modest and affordable at the time, using local materials.

It is interesting to see images of these houses where the majority of settlers would have lived. The Clearys thatched cottage was probably typical of a number of homes in the area. It was removed in about 1920 when Mary Ann Cleary built the current timber and iron cottage on Clearys Road.

Another more local building style had bush slab walls with a shingle or tin roof. Dardanup's first Wayside Inn from about 1850 was of this construction type. It was located near the northern end of what is now Venn Road, once the main road to Bunbury.

The cheaper materials used tended to deteriorate with time and there are almost no examples left of these buildings. An early bush slab cottage at *The Dell* is one example that still exists.

For more information about Dardanup's early houses, go to dardanupheritagecollective.org.au/. Use the Search button (top right), and type in "Houses & Homesteads Dardanup".

Janice CalceiDardanup Heritage Collective News



Slab cottage at *The Dell* in Crooked Brook. The date of building is unknown but it was already on the property in 1896 when Richard Palmer and his aunt moved there from Harvey.

Old State School Needs Our Help!

The Shire of Dardanup has appointed a contractor to proceed with brick fretting repairs on the Old State School on Ferguson Rd.

It will therefore be appreciated if you could advertise in the Dardanup Times for us. We are seeking locally sourced second-hand bricks for replacement purposes. The existing bricks were handmade bricks and we require similar size and colour to photo below.

The building was constructed from 1896 – 1988 according to the State Heritage documentation – Place number 04628.

If any person has an old outbuilding they have demolished and have bricks they are willing to donate that closely match what we are looking for, they can contact me on email

Belinda.Vanvuuren@dardanup.wa.gov.au with a photo and their details or phone 9724 0324

and I will contact them to set-up an appointment to view for suitability.

Kind Regards,

Belinda Vanvuuren

**Senior Project Officer
Shire of Dardanup**

**An Exterior Wall of the Old
State School**



Rural Residents Encouraged to Participate in the 21st Year of Cleanup Their Verge During the March Long Weekend

Sunday 2nd of March is the official National Cleanup Australia Day. Mary Smith, Committee member of the Dardanup and Districts Residents Assoc encourages rural residents to clean up the verge along their boundary. This does not necessarily have to be done on the 2nd March but can be done as soon as you collect a bag from the Shire Office or use your own bags and before Shire Council pick up from Tuesday 4th March. Bags can be collected from the Shire the week prior to the cleanup.

The Dardanup Shire will collect the bags along Crooked Brook Rd, Ironstone Rd and Ferguson Rd from Tuesday 4th March. If you live elsewhere such as Henty, West Dardanup or Wellington Mills then please advise the Shire of Dardanup in Little St and they will arrange collection or alternatively dispose of the rubbish in the usual manner.

Mary will be leading a team of volunteers picking up rubbish along a section of Ferguson Rd so if you would like to assist meet Mary outside the Dardanup Post Office at 8.00am on Sunday 2 March bringing with you hat, sunscreen and water bottle. Will conclude at 10.00am or for as long as you wish to assist.

Dardanup Lions Club News

As 2025 unfolds the news brings us all things catastrophic. Fires, Floods, Earthquakes, Landslides. Lions Dardanup members stand ready for any such that may afflict our community.

Problems in areas of the state where fellow clubs operate - we send some financial help. Our bit plus whatever the other 90 clubs add really can help. Interstate too with contributions to the Australian Lions Foundation. Who'd have thought. Houses in Victoria destroyed by landslide. WE wait for the call - to help with humanitarian aid - together with 1300 other Australian Lions Clubs.

Dardanup Senior Citizens News

Seasons greeting to everyone from Dardanup Senior Citizens Inc

2024 has flown by still we managed to cram a lot into our meetings & outings.

Our 30th Anniversary was celebrated at the Dardanup Tavern, members and guests enjoyed lunch there.

Several guest speakers attended our meetings throughout the year and spoke on subjects interesting to us all.

Members travelled to the Green Jade Chinese Restaurant for lunch after one of our meetings.

Another time we shared a luncheon & Bingo in the Wells Hall, all enjoyable!

Mahjong & Chair Yoga, sponsored by the Shire of Dardanup has also seen Seniors participate.

Royal Gala Tours took us to Anniebrook Farm & Hippo Lake for our October outing, greatly enjoyed by all.

We seek to benefit healthy efforts in the town by money raised and physical help. Some examples are; Australia Day Breakfast, Anzac Day March, Bull & Barrel Festival.

We want our Schools and Sports to flourish. The catastrophic list put up above didn't include War and Civil unrest. Could it be because schools and sports flourish. In sport one can take a side and have fair play and come home intact. We have a continuing programme of support for both. And as an extra - work will continue on our towns War Memorial. Whether it's fund raising or cleaning up some disabled persons back yard we love to help. Friendships and club bonds are our side benefit that comes with membership.

Phil Ottrey

Christmas luncheon in November at the Dardanup Heritage Park was a wonderful experience provided by Jill Brooks & wonderful volunteers, everything was as usual beautifully decorated & very Christmassy. Thank you Jill & crew for your generosity & thoughtfulness.

The Lady of Lourdes School Choir entertained us with a variety of carols & was very much appreciated by us all. Well done & thank you so much!

Our meetings for the year concluded with a bring & share luncheon, bringing a year of fellowship and good wishes to a happy end!

Looking forward to seeing you in 2025, next meeting 18th February, start time 9.30am.

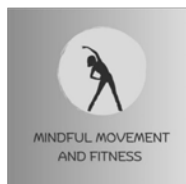
"All Welcome"

"Take time to stop & smell the Roses"

Maureen Ward

Mindful Movement and Fitness- advertisement

With over 5 years in the fitness industry, I take pride in creating classes that are not only fun and inclusive but tailored to meet diverse needs. Whether you're looking for 1:1 or 2:1 personal training, or group classes, I have options to suit everyone. I specialise in supporting people returning to exercise after an injury, as well as navigating pre and post-partum fitness.



Additionally I have extensive experience working with seniors and individuals with neurological conditions and I continuously update my training methods to ensure everyone feels accommodated and empowered.

I feel incredibly fortunate to offer these classes and be apart of our amazing community. If you're interested in discussing how I can help you achieve your fitness goals, you can call me on 0472776737. You can also follow my Facebook page Mindful Movement and Fitness for updates and more information.

Crystal

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South West Country Music Committee News

Our February dance will be held at the Burekup Hall on Sunday 16th, commencing with a Jam Session from 10.30 - 12.30. A light lunch will be available.

Our afternoon dance begins at 1.00 - 4.30 with Peter Delle Coste and Janelle from Perth.

With all the usual door prize, raffles, money board and afternoon tea/coffee available.

Everyone invited to join us for lots of good music and dancing, for a day of wonderful music and lots of dancing.

Admission: Members \$10.00, Guests \$15.00

Enq contact: Vienna 0417 961 456 or Sue 0467 070 248

YOUNG BUCKS EARLY LEARNING CENTRE- Advertisement

Jodie Buck, proud owner of our new adventure, Young Bucks Early Learning Centres. Jodie has extensive knowledge in children's learning and development, as she has been in the Education and Care industry since 1997. Jodie is extremely passionate about exceeding quality standards and leading amazing centres. Jodie was raised right here in the Southwest in Eaton with a strong family connection to Dardanup. Our children are our inspiration behind our motto 'Wild @ Heart' and our family come together to support my journey- my sister Kelly, a Dardanup local helps to keep the company operations flowing and you will often see her at any of our centres. My parents and in-laws are always volunteering their

weekends to jump in and help out.

Inspired by nature, we are opened Young Bucks Early Learning Centre first doors in Dardanup and Treendale. With our educational curriculum focusing on Learning Through Play, we give our absolute love and devotion to our children's play-based learning in a stimulating environment, creating awareness about the communities we live in. We provide environments where mess and learning are merged into one and it is all about letting children, be just that, children.

Our Dardanup director, Katie has been in the childcare industry for over a decade and has a passion for creating an environment in which young children thrive

Please see Young Bucks Early Learning Centre add on page 8



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Events
2024 -25

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530pm

Film on the Ferguson :
"The Fall Guy"
Music by Kasiyarel

Fri 21st Feb
Gates Open
530pm

Film on the Ferguson:
"Fly me to the Moon"
Music by Ian Cocker

Sat 22nd Feb
10am—230pm

"Slow Saturday" Yoga Retreat with
Gyani from Prakriti Yoga

Sat 1st Mar
630pm—10pm

Planets, Galaxies and Grazing with the
Mobile Observatory

Fri 7th Mar
Gates Open
530pm

Film on the Ferguson : TBA
Music by Leni C-C

For more information contact us via
events@saintaidan.com.au Or Phone 97283007

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Shire of Dardanup News Call for 2025/26 Budget Submissions

Members of the community and not-for-profit community groups are invited to make 2025/26 budget funding submissions for consideration by Council in the Shire of Dardanup's annual budget planning process.

Submissions are to be received no later than **Friday, 14 February 2025**.

Any submissions received after 14 February 2025 will be deferred for consideration in the 2025/26 mid-year budget review.

Please forward written submissions to the: Director Corporate & Governance

Shire of Dardanup – Administration Centre Eaton

1 Council Drive, Eaton WA 6232;

or alternatively the

Shire of Dardanup - Dardanup Office

3 Little Street, Dardanup WA 6236.

Submissions can also be made via email
to records@dardanup.wa.gov.au.

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February is the beginning of the Noongar Season *Bunaru* (Second summer). It is the traditionally the hottest month although this year I'm not sure if it will be Hot & Dry or Muggy with some rain...

Time will tell! Regardless, we

need to garden smart. Maintenance is best done in the cool morning/evening and retreat to the house during the heat of the day. The strong easterly winds tend to frazzle us all, so think about slowing it down with some kind of wind break. Water consistently, mulch to reduce water loss and providing shade from the hot afternoon sun will help to reduce the damage in your garden.

Even if you are watering consistently, you may notice that plant leaves tend to droop significantly especially on really hot days. In my garden this is really obvious in the Pumpkin patch. Don't be tempted to put the sprinklers on in the middle of the day or you may just steam those vegies before dinner! Plants are clever, by 'drooping' their leaves they reduce the leaf surface area, which reduces water loss and heat on the leaves. When it cools down in the evening the leaves will outstretch again and the plant will stand up as per usual. You can help buffer the effects of heat in your veg patch by applying Seaweed emulsion - late afternoon once the temperature is below 25 is best and make sure you water it in well to make sure none is left on the leaves.

With the summer heat and humidity, Powdery Mildew can become an issue in our gardens. Brassicas, Curcubits (cucumbers, zucchini, pumpkins), Grapes, Roses, Strawberries and Raspberries are all susceptible. You will notice a white/grey powder-like coating appears on your plant. To prevent it spreading you need to prune/remove effected shoots and leaves. A milk spray can be helpful in reducing the spread but won't stop it. Old or stressed plants are generally more prone, also 'sappy' growth cause by over feeding with Nitrogen fertilisers. Good airflow and mulch is key to preventing this.

Old, tired or stressed plants are always more susceptible to disease. If you notice issues/disease in your veg patch, limit the impact by removing leaves or plants. Younger, stronger, healthier plants are less susceptible so plant a few new replacement ones in a separate bed. To keep your garden producing well into autumn, there is still time to plant another crop of cucumbers, beans and zucchini (yes more). Try a few of the quick cropping dwarf varieties of beans and plant seedlings of curcubits to give you a 3-4 week head start. Mulch them, erect some sort of shade and don't let them dry out. Fast growing greens will taste bitter if they get hot and water stressed so find a patch in the shade or try them in pots.

The Green Shield bugs are making their presence known, they discolour a variety of fruit and vegetables. Tomatoes are a favourite and you might notice yellow patches on your red fruit where they have 'sucked out' the juice. Starting off as small round black bugs with a few yellow dots, they grow into the green 'Stink bug'. I find the best way of dealing with them is to pick them off whenever I see them, then deposit them into a small bucket 1/2 filled with soapy water. This works for most of the unwanted 'bugs' without using nasty chemical sprays. You can compost the bucket contents after a few days and refresh.

It is time to think about Seed Saving. As the first summer crop sowings start to finish, be sure to let a few of your best non-hybrid plants go to seed. Herbs such as Coriander, Parsley, Basil & Chives are very easy to collect seed. As are Carrots, Capsicum & Chilli, Fennel, Tomato, Beans & Snow peas. Saving seeds that have grown well in your garden will produce better crops next year and save you money on seeds/seedlings next season.

Winter season vegetables are planted in early Autumn. It varies from year to year, but here it is generally in late February/March. The weather is still warm enough for good germination and growth before the cold weather sets in. Often you will find that your summer crops are still producing when you want to start planting your winter crops. This isn't too much of an issue, just plant into any of your spaces as you harvest. Growing from seed will give you the best choice of varieties however you will need to plant them asap so they will be mature enough to plant out before the cold weather. Or keep your eye out for seedlings as they become available. Covering your newly planted seedlings, especially Brassicas with netting will help to reduce the impact of Cabbage moths/caterpillars.

What can I plant in February?

Leaf crops - Amaranth, Endive, Lettuce, Rocket, Silverbeet, Celery, Chicory.

Brassica crops * - Broccoli, Brussel Sprouts, Bok Choy, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Collard greens, Kale, Mustard greens, Chinese cabbage.

Root crops - Beetroot, Carrot, Radish, Potato, Kohlrabi, Celeriac, Parsnip, Salsify, Swede, Turnip, Scorzonera. Curcubit crops - Cucumber, Sweetcorn.

Legume crops - Dwarf Beans.

Onion family - Leeks, Spring onions, Shallots, Onions.

Be sure to make the most of your summer abundance - bottle, stew, freeze, dry and cook up a storm.

Enjoy the harvest and Happy Gardening!

Dardanup Veterinary Centre News

Tackling Pet Obesity: A Guide to Keeping Your Furry Friend Fit

Pet obesity is a growing concern, impacting millions of pets worldwide. Just like in people, extra weight can lead to serious health issues in pets, from diabetes to joint problems. Here's how you can help your pet maintain a healthy weight and enjoy a happier, healthier life.

Why Obesity Matters

Health Risks: Extra weight increases the risk of conditions like diabetes, heart disease, and arthritis. It can also shorten your pet's lifespan and reduce their quality of life.

Mobility Issues: Excess weight puts extra strain on your pet's joints, leading to pain and difficulty moving. Maintaining a healthy weight helps keep them active and agile.

Overall Well-being: A healthy weight improves your pet's energy levels, mood, and overall quality of life.

How to Combat Pet Obesity

Portion Control: Follow feeding guidelines and measure your pet's food to prevent overfeeding. Avoid free-feeding and treats that add up quickly.

Healthy Diet: Choose a balanced diet that meets your pet's nutritional needs. Consult with your vet to select the best food and portion sizes for your pet's age, size, and activity level.

Regular Exercise: Incorporate daily physical activity into your pet's routine. Activities like walking, playing fetch, or interactive toys can help burn calories and maintain muscle mass.

Routine Checkups: Schedule regular vet visits to monitor your pet's weight and overall health. Your vet can provide tailored advice and adjustments to your pet's diet and exercise plan.

Watch for Hidden Calories: Be mindful of high-calorie treats and table scraps. Opt for low-calorie treats and healthy snacks, and avoid giving your pet human food.

By taking proactive steps, you can help your pet achieve and maintain a healthy weight, ensuring they lead a long, active, and happy life. Let's work together to keep those tails wagging and By taking proactive steps, you can help your pet achieve and maintain a healthy weight, ensuring they lead a long, active, and happy life. Let's work together to keep those tails wagging and paws moving!





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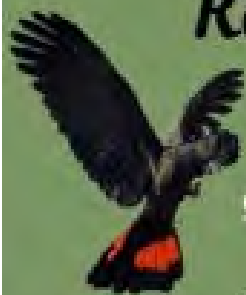
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understanding. Highly recommend
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Want to give back to the community? Spare time on your hands? New to the area? Want to learn new skills? Whatever the reason you get far more back from volunteering than you will ever give as the following local volunteers will testify. They were asked by the Editor of the Dardanup Times to tell you about their volunteering journey in the hope it will inspire other locals to give volunteering a go. That's if you don't already volunteer!

Brian Barrett
Chairperson

Crooked Brook Forest Group

I have been asked to give a brief story of the Crooked Book Forest as part of Dardanups Australia Day breakfast ceremony.

Not far from here, on Crooked Brook Road, where the coastal plain gives way to the native forest is an area with facilities for anyone to use. This patch of Jarrah forest was developed by a group of locals 31 years ago. Many of the original members are still involved with the building projects and maintenance of these facilities.

This state forest was originally controlled by CALM , Conservation and Land Management , now renamed DCBA, Dept of Biosecurity, Conservation and Attractions.

We have created an attraction and they have supported us the whole time. They have funded some of the amenities such as toilets and BBQ's while the volunteers have funded some projects and donated their time to build some of the shelters and bridges.

What have we achieved in 31 years? You will find toilets, BBQ's in shelters, picnic tables, a 600m walk suitable for wheelchairs, 5 and 10 km bush trails, a small playground for children and a lookout with views over Dardanup, Bunbury and the Indian Ocean. The facilities are accessible 24 hours a day to groups or solitary walkers. We recently had 50 people turn up mid week to have a BBQ lunch however most of the time you will always get a seat at a table near a BBQ.

Looking into the future, we are currently in discussion with DBCA for 2 projects. For families we would like to provide an adventure playground and for groups we would develop a speaking circle or amphitheatre for groups to use for public meetings and private events .

So 30 years ago a group of inspired and capable local volunteers had a vision, then had the fortitude to see those ideas grow into what we have today. As with most volunteer groups maintaining numbers is crucial to the continuing success of projects. Peoples lives change . Some leave the area and new people move in. After 30 years some of the original members are still helping , still willing but not as physically able as they once were.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite anyone who would like to learn more about the forest to have a chat to me or any other of the members . Your questions can be about volunteering or any other inquiries about using the facilities. If you can spare some time , we have approximately 4 busy b's through out the year, usually a Saturday morning finishing at noon and followed with a lunch. These are simple tasks of maintenance to keep the trails and structures in good shape. If you are new to the area or a local who has yet to visit , come and take a wander through the forest or a take a refreshment up to the lookout and watch a sunset .

Revely Gardiner

Secretary

Dardanup Senior Citizens

In 1996 I joined Karkana Klub a Bunbury low cost, self help weight watchers group. It is a branch of Weight Watchers Federation of WA. I initially worked in the weight in room. I became the President & held that position for 7 years. I now hold the position of Vice President.

For a short time taught clients at Morrissey Homestead to make Teddy Bears.

In 2018 I became a member of Dardanup Senior Citizens Inc. During my Cancer treatment in 2019 the Club constantly kept in touch. In 2020, I was voted into the Secretary position, I find being involved in the community to be very rewarding & meet a lot of people.

Kerry Lowe

Chairperson

Dardanup Art Spectacular

Vice Chairperson

Dardanup Bull and Barrel Festival

I volunteer because I'm passionate about giving back to my community, supporting local events and culture, and making connections & friendships with others in my local community through these shared experiences.

Volunteering gives me a sense of fulfillment, the chance to meet like-minded people, and the opportunity to contribute to something meaningful that supports and promotes our local area.

I volunteer for two local committees: Dardanup Bull & Barrel Festival -Vice President & Correspondence Secretary (17 yrs) and the Dardanup Art Spectacular - President (14 yrs). In both, I help organize and contribute to the planning and execution of these events, ensuring they run smoothly and that it is a successful day for our supporters and sponsors.

Janice Calcei

Secretary

Dardanup Heritage Collective

My decision to volunteer as inaugural Secretary for the Dardanup Heritage Collective was a no-brainer for me when the opportunity came up in 2020. I was still working at the time and juggling some big early commitments taken on by our group. Now in retirement, the position combines my personal passions for history research and writing with my career experience in the public sector including education, project management, designing online training and building and maintaining web sites.

I believe the work our group does is important; documenting and recording the history and heritage of the Shire of Dardanup and making it available for the community and visitors. To that end in 2021/2022, our first project was to produce signage for sites of significance around Dardanup and to link these to our web site, <https://dardanupheritagecollective.org.au/>. We work closely with the Shire of Dardanup but also spend time visiting local sites of interest and talking to community members.

The work is interesting, demanding at times, but also a lot of fun. I get to do very similar things to what I did when I worked. The variety keeps my brain ticking over and the meetings allow me to catch up each month with a very enthusiastic and nice group of people. I also have the pleasure of liaising with history groups across the south west, a wider network that has developed since 2020, coordinated by the Bunbury Museum and Heritage Centre. Our current project is to establish a base in the Shire office at Little St, to collect and formally catalogue documents, journals and photos relating to our history and heritage. So anyone out there who has library/cataloguing experience and could help us out, perhaps you could consider volunteering too!

Shire of Dardanup Events

Please visit www.dardanup.wa.gov.au/events for more information or to make a booking. All events are FREE to attend. *Bookings essential.

Yoga with Gyani

Whether you're a total beginner or a seasoned yogi, Gyani's got you covered. Feel the fresh air and good vibes as you flow through this all-abilities class, designed to promote well-being, strength and relaxation.

Carramar Park, Dardanup (Ages 16+)

Saturday, 15 February 9am – 10:15am

Whitey's Family Fishing Clinic

Reel in some fun at Whitey's Family Fishing Clinic! Whether you're a seasoned pro or just starting your fishing journey, the awesome team from Whitey's Tackle & Camping will share the best tips and tricks to help you perfect your cast at this land-based fishing clinic.

Eaton Foreshore (All Ages)

Sunday, 23 February 9am – 11am

Storytime in the Park

Get ready for a magical morning with Corenne the Fairy! We'll sing songs, share exciting stories, and dive into some creative crafts. It's the perfect adventure for kids aged 0-5 (and their grown-ups too!).

Carramar Park, Dardanup (All Ages)

Thursday, 27 February 10am – 10.45am

Programs:

Chair Yoga

Come along to a friendly session of chair yoga. This form of gentle yoga is practiced by sitting, standing, or leaning on a chair and is suitable for any age and ability. No bookings required.

Eaton Recreation Centre

Tuesday, 4 & 18 February 1:00pm – 2:00pm

Little Jigglers*

A magical world of discovery! Let your child explore their creativity, imagination and social skills with weekly Little Jigglers sessions presented by Jo Jingles. Little Jigglers is designed to introduce kindy and pre-school aged kids to the world of song, dance, rhythm, musical instruments, and playtime activities. Bookings essential.

Dardanup Hall

Monday, 10 & 24 February, 9:30am – 10:00am

Burekup Hall

Monday, 17 February, 9:30am – 10:00am

Discover Your Family History *

Discover Your Family History is a monthly discussion group to help you uncover the secrets of your family and local history. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced genealogist, this is the perfect place for you to explore and learn more about your past. This month's session will cover Maps. How do you find maps, what to look for and how to use them in your research?

Eaton Community Library (Adults)

Thursday, 20 February, 5:30pm – 7pm

Huge Thank You to the Dardanup Lions

Mary McClare and family would like to say a massive thank you to all the Lions that helped Mary sort out and tidy her yard. They also did a few other jobs around the house that needed doing.

Graham would be beyond pleased and thankful for the great job you all did. Even members that were suffering from sore knees stayed back and went the extra mile.

Once again it is very much appreciated.



Prohibited Burning



All burning in the open is prohibited from 15 December until 14 March each year (subject to change).



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Dardanup Environmental Action Group News Attention! Attention!

A Cleanaway Community Reference Group meeting was held last week. Two DEAG members attended, and were advised that Cleanaway have submitted an application to accept PFAS contaminated soils at the landfill site in Banksia Road (aka Mt Rubbishmore).

Whilst we don't want to alarm everyone at this stage as we don't have all the information, we wish to alert you to this proposal. DEAG does have a lot of concerns regarding the landfilling of PFAS contaminated soils in Banksia Road. PFAS chemicals are dubbed 'forever chemicals' because they don't break down easily, can last in the environment for thousands of years. They can accumulate in humans, and other living species, and are highly mobile in the environment through water, the atmosphere and food chains.

Currently there is only two other sites in WA that are licensed to take PFAS contaminated soil, both just outside of Perth. Dardanup could become the third site, and our concern is that once licenced to take PFAS contaminated soil, then other waste within the same category will come from across the State.

Cleanaway submitted the application prior to Christmas, and DWER will shortly be assessing it before putting it out for public comment. This could be in February, so we want to forewarn you about this so you have time to think about it. DEAG will advise the community on our findings when we meet with DWER, and we believe Cleanaway are going to distribute a Q&A, as they had been advised at the Community Reference Group meeting that the community will have lots of concerns about this.



Happy New Year to All! FVM

enjoyed a break over the festive period but were back at work by mid-January and we are looking forward to a very active 2025.

We celebrated the Visitor Centre Volunteers at a post Christmas function held at St Adian's. It was enjoyed by 25 hard working volunteers who thought it one of their best functions ever. The fun and memorable lunch was thanks to Gae Brussen for her attention to detail, St Adians for their fabulous wine and food and Julie Lawrence with her tireless effort in making certain everyone was well looked after. It was a wonderful day for all.

The Board has been busy working on three key marketing projects.

The first project is the release of a new batch of Ferguson Valley number plates! Numbers will commence from 001 and run up to 999. The plates will go on sale in the 3rd week of February and we are taking early orders (sorry 001 has already gone). Thanks to good negotiation by our Marketing Secretary have kept the price at \$355. To pre book and reserve your number plate of choice just email Marketing@fergusonvalley.net.au and we will be in contact with further details.



Our second marketing project is the updating of five large tourist maps across the valley. These maps are a constant and ready reference source for tourists to the valley. Over the next few weeks each sign will be reskinned thanks to our 8 business sponsors who have made this initiative possible.

Our third marketing project is the development of a set of new fresh designs for our merchandise. Thanks to a fabulous local artist, Ebony Colyer, we have developed a variety of designs that represent the valley and surrounding nature locations that will be used to create a range of tourist often asked for memorabilia such as stickers, fridge magnets, coasters, stubby holders, tee shirts, tea towels, coffee mags, hats and the like. These items will be introduced slowly over the next few months so please keep an eye out for the new gift items at the VC.

Until next month....

Sue Williams – Chair, Ferguson Valley Marketing Inc. Our second marketing project is the updating of five large tourist maps across the valley. These maps are a constant and ready reference source for tourists to the valley. Over the next few weeks each sign will be reskinned thanks to our 8 business sponsors who have made this initiative possible.

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Until next month....

Sue Williams – Chair, Ferguson Valley Marketing Inc.

**Dardanup
Community
Choir**

**7pm Mondays at the
Ferguson Hall**

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

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

Mahjong

Dates 12/2 and 26/2.

Open to all residents, supported by the
Shire of Dardanup.

Contact Revelly Gardiner 0408833761



Book

“Memories of Waterloo”

book has just been published by Jennifer Golding and
can be purchased by contacting Jennifer on grajen1920@gmail.com.

It's a wonderful collection of stories and photos about that locality

What's on In Dardanup

4 February – Mens Welfare Group – 2pm at the Wells Recreation Park Clubrooms
14 February – Free event organised by the Shire of Dardanup- Summer Serenade, 5.30-7.30, see poster back pages
16 February – SW Country Music dance @ Burekup Hall, 1.00 – 4.30, see details this edition
18 February – Dardanup Senior Citizens meeting, 9.30am at the Wells Recreation Park Clubrooms
18 February - Mens Welfare Group – 2pm at the Wells Recreation Park Clubrooms
23 February - Boyanup Farmers Market, 8am
12 March – Dardanup Bull and Barrel Festival AGM, Wells Rec Park Clubrooms, 7pm
22 March- Community movie night under the stars with a showing of "Hop" @ Boyanup Oval. Entry from \$5. Sausage sizzle and canteen available. Movie starts at 7. Contact: info.cardinalsjfc@gmail.com See poster this edition
27 March - Have a go and Registration Day for the Cardinals Junior Football Club at Boyanup Oval. Auskick and Superkick from 4pm. Year 3-6 teams from 4:30pm. Contact: info.cardinalsjfc@gmail.com

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 Environmental Action Group – 1st Tuesday of the month, 5.30pm, contact Sec for further details 0418 281 201
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 Fri 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- for upcoming meeting details please contact Sarah, sarahhennigankeen@gmail.com
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

Wellington Mills Unveils Community Sculpture

Creativity, community and Christmas were celebrated in Wellington Mills on 13th December as residents gathered in its Community Park for festivities and the opening of a new community sculpture - The Leaf Shelter.

The locally-crafted artwork represents the timbered woodlands of Wellington Mills and acknowledges the cultural and natural heritage of the Wellington Mills community. Approximately 60 residents attended the ceremony where local artisan, Rob Doherty, explained the 13 year journey of the Leaf Shelter from vision to completion, before cutting ribbons and cake.

But the Leaf Shelter's history and symbolism actually run much deeper.

Rob used materials including old bricks made in the south-west that were salvaged from buildings, and created wooden seating out of timber from the Bunbury Jetty. "The jetty timber would have originally been sourced from here", explained Rob. "It's spent 100 years under water, which is why it's full of worm holes. Some forward-thinking community members saved it, and now it's done full circle and is back in Wellington Mills".

A metal interpretive panel melds a range of salvaged objects, such as an old saw blade, railway relics, milking cups and a churn to represent the three main industries on which Wellington Mills was founded - timber milling, dairy farming and the railway. Rammed earth, steel and local timbers have also been used in the leaf-shaped, multi-media design.

It was always part of Rob's vision to record past and present Wellington Mills residents in the structure. One of the shelter's panels comprises a mosaic of wooden leaves, on which residents have engraved their family names. Leaves were also engraved for past residents, and there's space for future generations.

"The leaf shelter is a unique and distinctive way to reflect the history of Wellington Mills since it was settled in 1896", commented Mike Hall, whose family have lived in the Wellington/Ferguson district for six generations. "Having names on the leaves connects people. It shows where we've come from and how we have evolved from a mill town, to farming and are now a connected group of people with diverse interests".

The Wellington Mills community is grateful for a grant from Doral Minerals Sands which assisted with engineering costs and the ongoing support of the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.

Kate Macgregor

Eds Note; Can't wait to see this. Well done Rob Doherty and the Wellington Mills Community Assoc



Rob Doherty cutting the ribbon to officially open the Leaf Shelter

Key contributors (L-R) - Rob Doherty, Bernie Dowley, Mike Hall and Rob Watkins. Missing - Ian Barlow, David Doherty



Brian Barrett Talking About Crooked Brook Forest



Breakfast Prepared by the Dardanup Lions

Breakfast Served by the Dardanup Residents Assoc

Scenes From Dardanup's Australia Day Breakfast



Kids Enjoying the Games Organised



Stigwood providing the Entertainment



Dardanup Community Choir Entertaining

The Dardanup Times thanks our generous sponsors



Join the Cardinals Junior Football Club under the stars for a community showing of "Hop"

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The fun starts at 6pm, movie starts at 7pm

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Shire of Dardanup Summer Series Events



Summer Serenade

**Carramar Park, Dardanup (All Ages),
Friday, 14 February 5:30pm – 7:30pm**

Celebrate Valentine's Day with live music at Carramar Park, Dardanup!

Enjoy performances from Clay Mildwaters, Tracey Barnett and Australian Idol finalist, Phoebe Stewart.

Relax under the trees with a picnic or grab a bite to eat from attending food trucks. We've got the little ones covered with FREE face-painting, craft activities and more.

Don't miss this magical night of music, food, and family fun! Completely FREE to attend, no bookings required. Check out the Shire of Dardanup website or Facebook page for more information.



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730pm Pump it up

WEDNESDAY
5pm Pilates- Full body

THURSDAY
9am Pilates- Focus
10am Functional Movement
2pm Pilates- Full body

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Kids are welcome to come along to any classes
Suitable for all fitness levels
\$20 casual or \$15 concession
For more info or to book, please call Crystal on 0472776737 or visit our fb page

FOR MORE CLASS INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT
MINDFUL MOVEMENT AND FITNESS FB PAGE

Class Timetable 2025



FERGUSON HALL SUNDOWNER

**Friday 14 February
from 6pm**

BYO drinks and nibbles
988 Ferguson Rd