



Free



FEBRUARY 2026



THE DARDANUP TIMES

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

Locals Enjoy The 22nd Dardanup Lions/ Dardanup Residents Assoc Australia Day Breakfast In Carramar Park

A crowd of 250 enjoyed a delicious cooked breakfast, muffins, watermelon kindly donated by Orchard Rd Watermelons at Burekup 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 22 years now and included this years entertainment; the Dardanup Community Choir, singer Geoff, childrens games kindly organized by the Dardanup Bushfire Brigade Cadets, kids facepainting and bouncy castle.

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 Jenny and Ian Trigwell.



Dardanup's Australia Day Breakfast



Jenny and Ian Trigwell with their
DDRA/ Dardanup Lions Citizenship Award

The following outlines all the volunteering Jenny and Ian have done in this community over many years. Congratulations Jenny and Ian!

Where would the Dardanup Equestrian Centre be without the vision, dedication and tireless volunteer efforts of Jenny and Ian Trigwell? Quite simply, it would not exist.

Jenny Trigwell recognised the need for a dedicated equestrian facility in Dardanup at a time when the Commonage land was at risk of being sold off. When submissions were called for by

the Shire, Jenny, together with Gail and Richard George, prepared a proposal advocating for the land to be retained for equestrian use. Their submission was ranked number one in the SouthWest, opening the door for the long-held community vision to become a reality. A grant of \$100,000 was subsequently secured to commence development at the site. To ensure a viable and incorporated entity could manage the facility, Henty Riding Club was reconvened and relocated to Dardanup as the primary body through which the grounds could be established.

To further demonstrate genuine community demand, Jenny and Ian were instrumental in forming the Dardanup Horse and Pony Club in the late 1990's. Early rallies were conducted from Trigwell's paddock. Jenny ran a canteen from the shed, Ian supplied some jumps and barrels in the paddock and local kids brought their nags eagerly getting the club underway. It was definitely a "grass-roots" beginning.

Through the engagement of Henty and Dardanup Horse and Pony Club, the foundations were laid for what would later become the Dardanup Equestrian Centre.

That was the easy part. Now the real work began.

In a purely volunteer capacity, Jenny assisted with planning and infrastructure, funding applications, stakeholder liaison and overall project management.

Networking is one of Jenny's greatest strengths. A natural ambassador for the community, she established and led a grounds committee, taking on the formidable task of transforming a filled-in rubbish tip into a fully functioning equestrian facility.

Through her determination and hands-on leadership, Jenny was active in progressing the facilities to include an all-

purpose sand arena, subsurface drainage, arena lighting, fencing, temporary ablution facilities, storage sheds, yards, essential equipment, and our magnificent clubrooms which form the meeting hub for our members. Jenny partnered each project through from conception to completion.

During this time, Ian played a pivotal role in keeping momentum moving forward. As President of Henty Riding Club for more than a decade, his leadership was crucial during the formative years, guiding early growth and the establishment of essential facilities.

Together, Jenny and Ian coordinated countless volunteer hours, secured significant in-kind contributions from local businesses, engaged companies for infrastructure support, supplied equipment, and worked closely with the Shire to ensure the Centre's long-term viability. Jenny also managed the canteen for many years to support ongoing fundraising efforts, always stepping in wherever help was needed.

Through their involvement, the Dardanup Equestrian Centre has grown to include Dardanup Campdraft and the Australian Stock Horse Dardanup Branch. A combined membership exceeding 600 riders continue to benefit from the outstanding facilities made possible through Jenny and Ian's vision and commitment in those early days.

The Dardanup Equestrian Centre stands today as a lasting legacy of Jenny and Ian's community spirit, perseverance and selfless service. Their extraordinary contribution has rightly been recognised through Honorary Life Memberships.

Together, Jenny and Ian Trigwell exemplify the very best of community volunteering. On behalf of the equestrian community, we thank them both.

Darline Morgan, Dardanup Equestrian Centre Comm

Jenny became the inaugural Treasurer for the Dardanup Heritage Collective in 2020 and has been re-elected unopposed every year since then.

Jenny's monthly reporting and the summaries of annual finances for the group are impeccable of course, but it is her interest in the history of the Dardanup area that makes her a most valued member of the committee.

Jenny has a detective's eye for uncovering the most obscure yet interesting detail and she has been responsible for identifying some wonderful early

articles and photos, even as far away as South Australia.

Jenny is an incredibly hard worker and quick thinker, helping out regularly with tracking down historical items and sorting some of the hundreds of documents and photographs received by the Dardanup Heritage Collective over the past couple of years.

Her grasp of administrative requirements at local, state and national levels has been an absolute asset to this group as has her advocacy for documenting and recording the history and heritage of the Dardanup and nearby localities.

Janice Calcei, Secretary, Dardanup Heritage Collective

Jenny and Ian have been involved with the Dardanup Environmental Action group since its formation in 2019 and their fight to oppose the Banksia Rd Refuse Site goes further back to 1999. When DEAG formed it meant weekly meetings plus an enormous amount of work on Jenny and Ian's part and others to ensure the best outcome for this community. Considering Jenny doesn't have a science background I've always admired her ability to read and understand some very complex information and then be able to make others understand and use that information to write up some very good submissions. I would hate to estimate the amount of work Jenny and Ian have done for DEAG since 2019 and continue to do so. Ian is also a member of the Cleanaway Reference Group representing the community as well as Chairperson of DEAG from 2022 – 2024

Jill Cross, Sec, Dardanup Environmental Action Group

Other Community Groups that Jenny and Ian have been involved with-

Dardanup and Districts Residents Assoc- Jenny has been a member since 2004, Ian since 2019

Dardanup P&C President, coached junior hockey, Get Careers (formally Apprenticeship and Training Group) board member for 38 years

Dardanup Senior Citizens Inc News

At our Meeting on the 16th December, 18 in attendance & we had 2 apologies.

Members enjoyed a shared luncheon for Christmas & we wished Anne Adams a Happy Birthday for Christmas Day! It was a great time to catch up with friends.

Meeting discussions re places to go, outings either carpool or bus, suitable bus requirements was a main topic.

Recently 3 Members inspected a 35-39 seater bus at Bunbury Bus Service. Very suitable for seniors with mobility concerns. Bus actually lowers using air-bags & can also tilt to make steps lower, an amazing feature. Affordable for club day outings or shorter.

Feedback wanted from our community residents on how we can encourage new members.

Membership open to over 55's with Membership fee \$15.00. What activities or outings would interest you? Would you like to go on a bus trip with us as a visitor, at an agreed \$ contribution?

Chair Yoga

Sponsored by the Shire of Dardanup recommences on 3rd March. Future dates 17/3, 31/3, 21/4, 5/5, 19/5, 2/6, 16/6 & 30/6. Free at Wells Recreation Hall, Dardanup 1.00-2.00pm

Our next Meeting is on 17th February at Wells Recreation Hall, Dardanup 9.30 start.

Visitors welcome.

"Take the Time to Smell the Roses"

Revely Gardiner 0408833761



Dardanup Community Choir Performing at the Dardanup Seniors Xmas Lunch Held at the Dardanup Heritage Park

Celebrating 30 Years of the Dardanup Bushrangers Cricket Club!

This year marks a very special milestone for the Dardanup Bushrangers Cricket Club as we celebrate 30 years of cricket, community and mateship in the South West of Western Australia!

Founded in 1996 (approximately) as part of the vibrant cricketing community in the Bunbury & Districts Cricket Association, the Bushrangers have grown from a spirited group of local players into a club with deep roots in the Dardanup community. Over three decades, the club has provided opportunities for players of all ages and abilities to enjoy the great game of cricket and forge lifelong friendships. Cricket has long been an important part of life in Dardanup — local sporting teams and competitions have connected families, friends and neighbours for generations. The town's recreation grounds have hosted cricket and other sports since the early 20th century, helping bring the wider community together.

The Bushrangers have proudly entered teams across multiple grades and age groups in the Bunbury & Districts Cricket Association. From senior men's teams like the 3rd, 4th and 5th grade sides, to junior Bushrangers competing in year-level competitions, the club's green and gold colours are a familiar sight on match days throughout the season.

None of the Bushrangers' achievements over the past 30 years would have been possible without the passion and commitment of players, coaches, volunteers and supporters

— from scorers and ground workers to team managers and sponsors. The club has been shaped by people who give their time freely, share their skills with younger players, and foster a welcoming culture for everyone who walks through the gate. Calling All Former Bushrangers!

As part of our 30th anniversary celebrations, the club is reaching out to former players, coaches, committee members and volunteers from across the years. Whether you played one season or helped shape the club for many years, we want to hear from you! This is a chance to reconnect, share stories, celebrate milestones and recognise the contributions that have helped make the Dardanup Bushrangers what they are today.

Join Us for the Celebration on Saturday 28th February 2026

Details of the anniversary event, including special fixtures, presentations and social catch-ups, can be found in this edition of the Dardy Times. Make sure to keep an eye on club notices and social media — and spread the word to others who might have been part of the club's journey. Let's come together to celebrate 30 years of cricket, community and camaraderie!

Senior & Club Enquiries to
Sean Child 0422 295 053
Junior & Cricket Blast
Enquiries to Leila Cooper 0418 247 780



Dardanup Cricket Club
dardanup.cricketclub@outlook.com



Dardanup Veterinary Centre News ALERT

At the beginning of this snake season we have seen some very aggressive snakebites and due to an extended hibernation they carry more venom. IF YOUR PET IS BITTEN BY A SNAKE CALL YOUR VET AND BRING IT IN AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE
Discussion regarding dog and cat vaccinations and titre testing

Vaccinations provide health and benefit to dogs and cats against severe and debilitating viral diseases (that can sometimes kill pets). Generally having a large percentage of animals in a population vaccinated or immune also limits the spread of those diseases. But should we always vaccinate? And what can titre testing tell us.

In mid-2024 the WSAVA (World Small Animal Veterinary Association) brought out guidelines for vets for vaccinating based on up-to-date scientific literature and immunological principles. Whilst different diseases are worse/better in different parts of the world, the guidelines are subject to that variation, and many vaccines are recommended in areas of endemic diseases.

What was recommended for non-endemic regions was similar for dogs and cats.

Dogs

Vaccinate every 4 weeks from 6-8 weeks up until 16 weeks
Then at 6 months (C5 vaccination)

Then kennel cough yearly and Parvovirus every 3 years

Cats

Vaccinate every 4 weeks until 16 weeks and then at 6 months
(Feline Enteritis, Cat Flu and Leukemia)

If vaccinating for FIV give 3 injections from 8 weeks

If Chlamydia give 2 injections from 7-9 weeks, 2-4 weeks apart.

Then give annually (all)

These new recommendations seem to be working very well, and we have definitely seen a reduction in Kennel Cough in vaccinated dogs, and we are fortunate in this area to see minimal Parvovirus although there are regular outbreaks in Perth and tourist areas.

Titre testing is available for select diseases

Canine Parvovirus, not Kennel Cough

Feline Enteritis

Feline Calicivirus and Feline Rhinotracheitis (Cat flu)

The titre tests are ONLY recommended in well vaccinated ADULT animals i.e. The puppy and kitten vaccinations are very important, and immunity is not well developed until at least 13 weeks, (i.e. DO NOT expose dogs and cats to the general environment or other animals until at least 13 weeks of age) and vaccines are recommended up to 16 weeks and then again at 6 months also no matter.

The titre testing is done by IDEXX in USA and can take several weeks. Vtnostics in Perth can also do them, and they are quicker (possibly not as accurate). If animals have sufficient immunity on this blood testing, it suggests they don't need vaccinating for 12 months. When they either need another test or vaccination. Sometimes results can be falsely positive or negative. Titre tests can be done only individually and are usually more expensive than vaccinating in the region of more than \$200 a test.

Dr Liz Suter B.Sc., B.V.M.S.



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Dardanup Community Connections Night

Are you new to Dardanup and want to meet the locals? Got a bit of time on your hands? Have some skills that you would like to put to good use? Would like to help out in the community but don't know what's on offer?

If you answered yes to any of these questions then you are warmly invited to the **Dardanup Community Connections Night at Wells Recreation Park Clubrooms on Tuesday 17 February at 7pm.**

Community groups such as the Dardanup Residents Assoc, Dardanup Heritage Collective, Crooked Brook Forest and the Dardanup Bull and Barrel Festival to name a few will be showcased so you will find out what they do and things they need a hand with.

Could be anything from busy bees at Crooked Brook Forest to helping with the Anzac Day Service to cataloguing documents for the Dardanup Heritage Collective. The volunteer work is varied and the good thing is you can consider offering as little as 1 hour per month. Any help would be most appreciated and no decisions required on the night.

Why You Should Consider Advertising In The Dardanup Times

Dear Business Owner,
The Dardanup and Districts Residents Assoc Committee invites you to advertise your business in the Dardanup Times, a free, monthly, 16 page community newsletter, distributed around the 1st of the month and printed 11 times during the year.

The December and January issues are combined. The Dardanup Times is read by over 875 families in the Dardanup townsite and localities.

Advertisements cost \$26 per month for coloured adverts and \$14 per month for black adverts in the white pages. Adverts can be changed at any time.

Free Included with your 1st advert - 250 words about your business and you

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Advertisements are very important to the production of the Dardanup Times as not only are they advertising local businesses but they fund the production of the Dardanup Times.

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Come along and find out what's out there in your community, and let's work together to make this a thriving and supportive community. Please see the poster this edition for further information.

This evening is organised by the Dardanup and Districts Residents Assoc in partnership with Volunteer SW. Any queries- Jill Cross, 0418 281 201, jill.cross@bigpond.com



Volunteers In Action - Bull and Barrel Cleanup Mob

Boyanup Farmers Market News

Hope everyone had a Merry Christmas as the Boyanup Farmers Market looks forward to another successful year, and being part of the *Dardanup Times* in 2026. The market remains a strong community favourite, with all regular stallholders returning in the new year. Many of these stallholders have been part of the Boyanup Farmers Market for over 15 years, reflecting the long-standing support for local producers and small businesses.

Last year also saw the welcome addition of several new stalls, adding even more variety for shoppers. These included Blackwood Fired Bread (sourdough), Down South Chilli Jam, Down 2 Earth Gardening (seeds and seedlings), Ghost Gum Farm (garlic and flowers), Pastartisan (fresh pasta and sauces), Preston Valley Distillery (vodka and rum), Western Australian Sandalwood Nut Co, and Unison Farms (eggs and chicken products).

With a mix of familiar favourites and new offerings, the Boyanup Farmers Market looks set to continue its role as a vibrant hub for the community in 2026.

Our February market date is **22nd February, 2026** between 8.00am and 12.00pm and we will still be having a great raffle full of goodies donated by the stall holders,



What a Raffle Prize!

Dardanup Heritage Collective News

Looking to 2026

The Dardanup Heritage Collective has spent the past year meeting with Council staff to negotiate setting up working and display spaces at the Shire's Little St offices. The DHC has already started sorting materials for an Archive of the Shire's precious past documents, photographs, journals, meeting books and similar items. These will be held in perpetuity for the community and used for displays and research. The Shire has agreed to some modifications of the building and, alongside other projects, the group's collecting and sorting work will continue in 2026 with Dardanup hoping for a facility looking something like the wonderful Ron Maidment Archive at Capel.

Anyone out there with an interest in the heritage and history of the area, or looking to volunteer, of any age or background, is most welcome to join us. The DHC meets on the second (sometimes third) Friday of each month. Many, many, interesting conversations are had at each meeting.

Late last year, the Dardanup Heritage Collective put together a fun display of "Clothing of the Past" at the Thomas Little Hall in Dardanup. This was one the community could really get their teeth into and some quaint and quirky items of clothing past made their reappearance! Thanks to everyone who contributed and visited on the day.

For more Dardanup stories, go to our website: dardanupheritagecollective.org.au.

If you would like to talk more about the work of the group, feel free to contact me, Janice Calcei 0402 783 019, or Jill Cross 0418 281 201. Hoping to see some new faces in 2026 or email us at dardanupheritagecollective@gmail.com

Our first meeting of the year will be held on Friday 13 February.

Email me closer to the time for venue and time.

Janice Calcei

Gwen Wells on left and Margaret Giumelli enjoying the "Clothing of the Past" display



Ferguson Valley Visitors Centre News

Pop in and visit for locally sourced gifts and cards for Valentines Day or that special occasion at 5 Ferguson Road right in Dardanup, open 9.30 – 3.30 pm daily.

A big welcome to Sky, our latest Dardanup Local to volunteer and brings a fresh new Supplier with him – partner Philippa. (I have already succumbed to those pink galah earrings as a gift!)

Visitors love to see Locals and as a Volunteer it is easy to spend 3 or 6 hours a month, chatting to happy Overseas and Australian Tourists in the beautiful old Queen Anne style Building built in 1896.

The Volunteers are a friendly bunch and very much appreciated our annual Volunteers lunch at Hackersleys this year on the 15th January. If you want to come in anytime or leave your name and number on 97 281 551- we will follow you up with some training and time to spend with another Volunteer if you like the sound of it.

Our Coordinator Gae Bessen of 6 years has retired end of last year with Lindsey Kennewell from the FV Marketing Board taking on the FVMB liaison role at the Monthly Meetings. Social Media / Marketing has had a huge boost from little to no social media presence up until March 2025 to now being on facebook, Instagram and Threads with many thanks to the talented Tania McMurtrie (Skating Goose Farm) all in good hands with Ebony Harding, Admin Officer for FVMB in 2026. Thanks also to Libby Pardoe for continuing the huge job of juggling the Roster, Judith Steele for stepping in with Admin duties, Kaye Leach – Suppliers and Stock Control and Margaret, Carol and Robyn for other help within the Centre.

Robyn Jones



Ferguson Valley Visitor Centre Volunteers Thankyou Lunch @ Hackersley – one of the advantages of being a volunteer at the VC is Ferguson Valley Marketing treat the volunteers to a lunch as thankyou for all their hard work during the year

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Dardanup Lions Club News

In the creation of a Lion there are just certain undertakings. Our behaviours as the Dardanup Lions Club members follow a well discerned pattern. Men of the area that surrounds Dardanup can apply to be awarded membership and the process involves them getting acquainted with the "Purposes", "Ethics" and Heritage of the club. The same standards that existing club members have upheld since 1972. (One Lion Allen is still going.) In order for the work to be maintained despite Lions leaving us either by geographical or Life (or death) changes we induct new members.

As well we insist that – family and work obligations must have priority over their Lions work.

Phil Ottrey

Lion Geoff Brandli with (yet to get his kit) Nathan Potter



Save the Date!

Dardanup and Brunswick Lions Clubs are holding a fundraising auction of farm and Small Holding equipment on Saturday March 28th, 2026 on Wells Oval.

If you have any farm equipment/fencing items/retic items to donate or items to sell on commission, then please contact Rob Webster on 0417 900 008



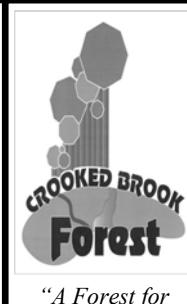
SW Country Music Club News

Feb 15th Hugh Kilpatrick Hall, Boyanup
Jam session 10.30 - 12.30
Sausage sizzle available \$5.00
Band 1.00 - 4.30 pm
RockNup West

March 15th Hugh Kilpatrick Hall, Boyanup
Dance 1.00 - 4.30pm
Band BANDWAGON

Tea/coffee/ plates of afternoon tea available at all dances, along with raffles/money board/ members draw/door prize
Everyone welcome to share in an afternoon of fun, great music and dancing
Members: \$10. Guests \$15.

Further enquiries:
Vienna 0417 961 456
Sue 0406 7070 248



If you enjoy nature, have a bit of spare time and want to join a positive and dedicated group of volunteers this could be for you. Please come to meet us in person and share an evening of fun and chatter.

This is a great opportunity to meet more of your neighbours and the locals.



Children playing on the "Flintstone Car" in the playground

Crooked Brook Forest AGM Saturday 21st February 2026 at 4.30 pm

to be held at Crooked Brook Forest - BBQ to follow
BYO meat, utensils, drinks, drinking vessel, chairs, etc

A – L bring a salad M – Z bring Sweets / Desserts

Over 30 years ago Crooked Brook Forest was created by a group of community minded people who set about to establish a "Forest for All People".

Their commitment and achievements has put Crooked Brook Forest in the top three tourism attractions of the area and regularly enjoyed by many tourists and locals.



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Further enquiries: Contact :-
Chairperson Brian 0407 440 669
Secretary Tina 0417 948 913

Further information see our
webpage:
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Authorised by Ben Small MP, Liberal, Units 7 & 8 Grand Cinema Complex, Cnr Victoria and Clifton Streets, Bunbury WA 6230.

2026 HARVEST LAUNCH PARTY



**21ST.FEB
.2026**

St Aidan
FERGUSON VALLEY

Saint Aidan Wines is hosting the 2026 Harvest Launch party and you're invited!! Woodfired pizzas, tacos fresh off the grill, and an ice cream van for your sugar fix.

Tickets to the event are free!



St Aidan Wines

cellardoor@saaintaidan.com.au

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754 Ferguson Rd Ferguson WA 6236

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Monday - Thursday 11pm - 4pm

Friday - Sunday 11am - 5pm





February is the beginning of the Noongar Season *Bunaru* (Second summer). It is the

traditionally the hottest month. When the Marri trees bloom, the Marsh/March Flies will arrive and I am still amazed at how they can bite through jeans! Cover up to avoid being bitten and be sensible in the heat by harvesting and planting during the cooler early morning and late evening.

As this is usually our hottest month, double check your irrigation systems are working and delivering the water to the right place - Every drop is precious this time of the year. Remember trees prefer a good deep soaking a couple of times a week, whereas your vegies will need a daily drink. Don't forget your pots and hanging baskets.

To help your fruit trees manage the heat, require less water and not take over your backyard (Mulberries especially!) grab your loppers/secateurs/chainsaw and do some summer pruning. Choose a convenient height for you. I prune most of my trees so that they are no taller than 2.5m, this means I can pick from the ground and throw a net over if needed. You want to remove any crossing, rubbing, damaged or diseased limbs. These are ones that you don't want to grow back. Keeping the central area of your vase trees clear of leaves and branches will assist with air flow and reduces disease. Remove all suckers. Some trees are more prone to suckering than others and is when the rootstock grows/sprouts from below the graft line, taking energy away from the grafted part of the tree. If these are left you risk loosing the grafted part of the tree. Remove all Water-shoots, these usually grow straight up/vertical and often grow higher than the general canopy level of the tree. Common on citrus and espaliered trees, they don't produce fruit and reduce the overall fruit yield.

There are a few trees that really don't like severe prunes and will sulk, not give you fruit for several years or just turn up their toes and die. Some formative pruning is ok, however it is best to tip prune or follow the prune by 1/3 rule especially with Avocados, Apricots, Lychee, Mangosteen, Persimmon and European Plums.

Planting in February? Don't feel that you have to plant anything this time of year. It is better to focus on keeping the water and shade up to the plants you have rather than trying to nurse new seedlings through searing heat. If you are keen to plant, it is best done in the cool of the evening so that your seedlings have a chance to settle in before the heat of the next day.

The strong easterly winds tend to frazzle us all, so do what you can to limit the damage in your garden. If you notice issues/disease in your veg patch, limit the impact by removing leaves or plants. Old, tired or stressed plants are always more susceptible to disease. 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.

To keep your garden producing well into autumn, plant a few new replacement ones in a separate bed, 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 ('Simba' or 'Provider' will crop in 50 days) 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. Leaf crops - Amaranth, Endive, Lettuce, Rocket, Silverbeet, Celery, Chicory. Brassica crops *(plant seeds in trays) - 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, Scorzoner. Curcubit crops - Cucumber, Sweetcorn. Legume crops - Dwarf Beans. Onion family - Leeks, Spring onions, Shallots, Onions.

While we are enjoying a healthy harvest of summer vegies and continuing to succession plant, it is also time to start thinking about our Autumn/Winter Brassica crops. Planting 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 and so you get to eat them before September.

A little clarification about Planting Guides... You will notice that on many of the planting calendars (including mine) they recommend planting Brassicas now and I have noticed a bit of debate recently online about the timing of this. Yes, I do plant mine now and here is why... Planting guides are useful especially when you are new to gardening but it is helpful to understand that they aren't rigid rulebooks and there is quite a bit to consider when timing your plantings - including your climate, location, varieties and when you want to eat the vegies. Firstly there are a plethora of planting guides, both paper versions and those online. [Gardenate](http://www.gardenate.com)

www.gardenate.com is a commonly used online one and the timing is good for Perth to Mandurah, with Bunbury roughly 6 weeks later and Dardanup / inland a couple of weeks later again. This does vary with changes in yearly seasons but it is a good general guide. When planting from seed you need to consider the sowing to harvest time of each crop and this is written on your seed packet eg. 10-12 weeks or 70-84 days. This varies between varieties of these crops and some mature quicker than others, for example typical sow to harvest dates for Broccoli are 60-90 days, Cabbage 60-110 days, Brussel sprouts 90-120 days and Cauliflower 110-155 days. *Why does this matter?* Well, it depends on when you want to harvest / eat these crops. As the weather cools in April most of my summer crops are finished and I would like to be picking cooler season crops, so I need to think about *what I want to eat and when*. The next step is to count back the number of days to work out when I need to plant the seeds, for example to be picking early variety Broccoli in mid to late April (60+days) I need to plant it around the 12th

February. *Hint: Yes it is still hot*, so for your early plantings chose more heat tolerant varieties or early maturing varieties planted slightly later. If you are limited with space then Broccoli is a better option than Cauliflower. They are ready for harvest a month sooner and once you remove the main 'head', they will continue to give you delicious side shoots for another 6 weeks.

It is easy to become overwhelmed as there is a plethora of information 'out there'. Just remember, it is better to plant something rather than stressing about whether it is the 'best day'. Your seedlings will always do better in the ground than staying confined to their punnet and we all kill a few plants - *that includes me!* Celebrate your harvests, keep learning and until next month... Happy Gardening!

Ferguson Valley Hall News

Dust off your braincells after the Christmas/New Year break and grab your tickets fast for the **Quiz Night** on Friday 13th February. Tickets are \$20 each with tables of 8 on Sticky Tickets (QR code on Poster in this edition) Doors opening from 6.00 pm for start at 7 pm. BYOG and finger food. Sundowners on the first Friday each month commencing on Friday 6th February at 6 pm. Look out for dates of the next event on the Hall Noticeboards. About 30 families (45 kids and 50 plus adults) attended the Ferguson Christmas Tree on the Hall rear lawn last year on the 21st December with a special visit from Santa. The new round tables were a treat with a gazebo for extra shade.

What's Happening with Ferguson Valley Marketing – and How You Can Help

The Ferguson Valley Marketing Association (FVM) has been busy behind the scenes doing the groundwork needed to strengthen how our Valley is promoted, supported and experienced — for visitors and locals alike. Over recent months, FVM has been working closely with the Shire of Dardanup, Tourism WA and the South West Development Commission to set a clear strategic direction for the future. This includes progressing a Regional Economic Development (RED) Grant application, supported in principle by the Shire, which aims to improve visitor services, infrastructure and promotion across the Valley. The focus is very much on practical outcomes: clearer signage, better wayfinding, stronger visitor information, and support for experiences that reflect what makes the Ferguson Valley special — food and wine, nature-based activities, wellness tourism, trails, events and short-stay accommodation. While this planning work is important, FVM knows that the real strength of the Valley lies in its people. Volunteers continue to be the backbone of what happens on the ground, particularly at the Ferguson Valley Visitor Centre and at pop-up activities at Gnomesville. These volunteer-led activities do more than welcome visitors. They also help generate vital funds that are reinvested directly back into the Valley — funding things like signage, promotional materials and initiatives that help more people discover what we have to offer. That's why FVM is putting the call out to the community. Whether you're recently retired, new to the area, a local with

Special Thanks to Taneta & Hartley Bell who organised the event, Toni & Andy Crilly for help with set up and those members of the Committee that donated Sausages & Buns (Mary Smith), Lolly bags (Robyn Jones) and Raffle items. If you would like to sing in the friendly Community Choir on Mondays 7-9 pm or attend Yoga with Gyani during school term 5.45 – 7 pm, Wednesdays, please just roll up on those days this year. Choir has no charge with a class fee payable to Gyani who has a Yoga retreat in the Hall on 22nd March. Hall Hire queries to Robyn on bse7@bigpond.com Details on Shire website and join **Ferguson Community Hall** on facebook **Robyn Jones**

great Valley knowledge, or simply someone who enjoys meeting people, volunteering is a simple and rewarding way to give back. Even a few hours here and there can make a real difference.

If you care about the Ferguson Valley and want to help shape how it's seen and experienced, FVM would love to hear from you.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED – HELP PROMOTE THE FERGUSON VALLEY

Ferguson Valley Marketing Inc is currently seeking volunteers to help with:

- Staffing the Ferguson Valley Visitor Centre
- Assisting at Gnomesville pop-ups and busy periods
- Supporting activities that raise funds for Valley signage and promotion

No experience needed — just a friendly attitude and a willingness to help.

Contact:

Ebony Harding
Executive Admin & Marketing
Ferguson Valley Marketing Inc
PO Box 7180, Eaton WA 6232
Mob: 0428 281 551
Email: marketing@fergusonvalley.net.au
Website: <https://fergusonvalley.net.au/>

Dardanup Community Choir

7pm Mondays at the Ferguson Hall

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

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

Mahjong

Sponsored by the Shire of Dardanup.

Free to all residents.
Shire Office, Little St, Dardanup
2nd & 4th Wednesday 1.30 to 4.00 pm

Teachers in attendance
Revely Gardiner 0408833761



Next Stop! R&R Bus Retreat

For Simon and Judith Allington, lifelong farmers in Western Australia's, the idea grew quietly over time. It was shaped by years of working the land, a shared love of travel, and a longing for the kind of places that invite you to slow down and breathe.

"We have always loved staying somewhere a little bit different," Judith says. *"Places with a story, where you feel connected to nature, to the past, and to each other."*

That love eventually found its way home.

On their working homestead farm, tucked beside the stream and framed by towering trees, Simon and Judith saw the potential to create something deeply personal. They wanted a retreat that reflected who they are and how they live. Not flashy or overdone, but thoughtful, warm, and grounded. The result is R&R Bus Retreat, an adults-only escape built around two beautifully restored vintage buses, affectionately named Betsy and Charles.

Each bus tells its own story. Betsy built in 1962, bold and blue, is filled with character and colour. Charles built in 1964, quieter and more understated, offers a softer and more intimate feel. Inside, guests find carefully chosen vintage pieces, cosy textures, and modern comforts, all lovingly curated to feel more like a home than a hotel.

Renovating the buses was a labour of love. *"We wanted to honour their history while making them comfortable and welcoming,"* Simon explains. *"It was important to us that nothing felt rushed or mass-produced."*

Nature plays just as important a role as the buses themselves. Guests wake to birdsong, watch the stream drift by, and spend evenings under wide country skies. It is a place where time stretches, phones are forgotten, and conversations come easily.

Supporting the local community is woven into everything they do. From local produce to regional wines, Simon and Judith are passionate about sharing the flavours and stories of the valley they call home.

"Ferguson Valley has so much to offer," Judith says. *"We love being able to introduce people to the producers, the walks, and the quiet beauty that can sometimes be taken for granted."*

R&R Bus Retreat is intentionally adults-only, not to exclude, but to protect the calm. It is designed for couples reconnecting, friends celebrating milestones, or anyone craving space to rest and reset.

More than anything, the retreat is a reflection of Simon and Judith themselves. Grounded, generous, and quietly nostalgic.

"We hope people leave feeling lighter," Judith says. *"Rested. And maybe inspired to slow down a little when they go back to their own lives."*

At R&R Bus Retreat, the buses may be vintage, but the memories made inside them are entirely new.

For further information and booking:

Website: www.rrbusretreat.com.au

Email: hello@rrbusretreat.com.au (general enquiries)



Judith and Simon Allington Alongside their Beautifully Restored Bus 'Betsy'

Shire of Dardanup News

Council Endorses Rural Kerbside Waste Services With Transition Support

The Shire of Dardanup Council has endorsed an expansion of the two-bin rural kerbside waste collection service to all rural properties with a dwelling, following its December Council meeting.

The service will be progressively rolled out across rural areas between April and May 2026, with charges applying from 1 July 2026.

To support rural residents during the transition, Council has approved a one-off 50 per cent discount on 20 x 240-litre bin tip passes for properties newly included in the service.

Shire of Dardanup President Cr Tyrrell Gardiner said the discounted tip pass voucher was a key transition measure to support households as the new service is introduced.

"We recognise this is a significant change for some rural residents, which is why Council has deliberately included a one-off discounted tip pass offer to help people transition to the new kerbside service," Cr Gardiner said.

Cr Gardiner said the decision followed years of feedback from rural residents seeking a more reliable and consistent waste solution.

"For many years, Council has been hearing from rural residents who wanted a more consistent waste service," he said.

"This decision ensures all eligible rural properties are treated equitably, while also improving safety by reducing the need for regular self-haul waste trips."

In 2024, the Shire successfully trialled a voluntary rural kerbside waste service in parts of Henty and the Ferguson Valley, which demonstrated strong community uptake and operational success.

"The success of that pilot gave Council confidence that extending the service across the entire rural community would deliver positive outcomes," Cr Gardiner said.

"Based on that experience, we believe this service will be a practical, fair and sustainable solution for the Shire long-term."

Cr Gardiner said the rollout would occur in stages to ensure a smooth and orderly implementation.

"Bins will be delivered progressively across rural areas, and the service will commence once bins are received," he said.

"Importantly, residents will receive clear information well before the service begins, including delivery timeframes, collection details and costs."

Eligible rural property owners will receive information by mail, including details about the service and the discounted tip pass voucher.

Interested in Giving Tennis A Bash?

A meeting to get the Dardanup Tennis Club organised for the season will be held at Wells Rec Park Clubrooms on Monday 2 February, 6.30pm.

If you miss the meeting but are still interested in tennis then contact Peter on 0466 628 956

What's on In Dardanup

2 February – Dardanup Tennis Club Meeting, 6.30pm at Wells Rec Park Clubrooms
 3 February – Mens Welfare Group – 2pm at the Wells Recreation Park Clubrooms
 6 February – Ferguson Hall Sundowner, 6pm, see details this edition
 8 February – Dardanup Cricket Club Pink Stumps Day, see poster this edition
 13 February – Ferguson Hall Quiz night, see poster this edition for details
 11 February – Mahjong at the Shire office, free, 1.30- 4.00pm
 14 February - Riley Pearce @ Green Door Wines
 17 February - Dardanup Seniors meeting, 9.30am, Wells Rec Park Clubrooms
 17 February- Mens Welfare Group – 2pm at Wells Recreation Park Clubrooms
 17 February – Dardanup Community Connections Night, 7pm – 9pm at Wells Rec Park Clubrooms, see poster this edition
 20 February – Shire of Dardanup event at Carramar Park, bands and food trucks, 5.30-7.30pm
 21 February – Crooked Brook Forest AGM @ the Forest, 4.30pm, see poster this edition
 22 February - Boyanup Farmers Market, 8am
 25 February – Mahjong at the Shire office, free, 1.30- 4.00pm
 28 February – 30 year Reunion of Dardanup Cricket Club, see poster this edition
 3 March - Chair Yoga organised by the Shire of Dardanup @ Wells Rec Park Clubrooms, free, 1-2pm
 2 March – Dardanup Art Spectacular Art Entries Open
 28 March – Dardanup / Brunswick Lions Auction @ Wells Recreation Park
 10 April – Dardanup Art Spectacular Art Entries Close
 1 May – Opening Night Dardanup Art Spectacular
 2/3 May – Dardanup Art Spectacular Exhibition and Art Trail

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 Revely 0408 833 761



Friday 20 February, 5.30-7.30pm, Carramar Park

Get ready for a magical evening of live music under the stars!

Join us at Carramar Park for a hoe down – showdown featuring emerging young artist Clay Mildwaters, and local country music legends, Amberley Mary Ellen, and Codee-Lee and band.

Delicious food trucks,
Fun activities to keep the kids entertained.
Free event | All ages | No bookings required

STRONGER TOGETHER

Stronger Together is a group exhibition featuring Ferguson Valley local, Diana Neggo (painting), Catherine Meads (botanical sculpture) and ex Ferguson Valley local, Heather Elliott-Smith (glass). Responding to the same landscape, the artists explore connection and place through three distinct mediums.

Val Anne Community Space, 31 Holman Street, Bunbury
6–19 February 2026
Artist talks and opening times to be announced
FB Event link: STRONGER TOGETHER

Congratulation to

Mick Bennett, past Shire President for his OAM award at the recent Australia Day honours

Ron Tyrrell from Waterloo for being awarded the Shire of Dardanup Australia Day Community Citizen of the Year for all his work with the Woodaburru Cup held for 52 years, fundraising for Civilian Maimed and Limbless (now known as Alinea)

Jennifer Gardiner for being awarded the Shire of Dardanup Australia Day Senior Community Citizen of the Year for all her work in the Dardanup community particularly establishing the Rose and Camelia garden at the F.V. Visitor Centre

Dardanup Lions Club for their nomination for the Shires Active Citizenship award for their Lions Eye Health Program.

Dardanup Community Playgroup is held Wednesday mornings during school terms between 9.30am and 11.30am at the Community Centre on Little Street. New families are always welcome. Bring along a piece of fruit to share for morning tea and enjoy a relaxed morning of playtime, craft activities, and the chance to have a cuppa and make new friends.

Sheree Cann



BE PREPARED!

Restricted Burning (Permits required):
1 November - 13 December 2025

Prohibited Burning (No fires permitted):
14 December 2025 - 13 March 2026

Restricted Burning (Permits required):
14 March - 25 April 2026
(subject to extension)

Permits to burn are required all year round in the townships of Dardanup, Burekup and Eaton.

IN AN EMERGENCY



DARDANUP CHAIR YOGA



Wells Recreation Pavilion



1:00pm-2:00pm



Every second Tuesday (Except school holidays)

First session of 2026: Tuesday, 03 March 2026

Shire of Dardanup

For more information call: 9724 0323

The Dardanup Times thanks our generous sponsors



DARDANUP CRICKET 30 YEAR REUNION

SATURDAY 28TH FEBRUARY
Wells Recreation Ground
Food & Drinks from 6-11pm
\$30pp - Bank transfer or EFT on the night
(BSB: 663-000 ACC: 161163993)

RSVP BY 13TH FEB to 0422295053
or dardanup.cricketclub@outlook.com
E Grade Game from 10am

YOU'RE INVITED!

Night will include;
Catching up with old players.
Player statistics.
Presentation of life members & milestones.

SAVE THE DATE

DARDANUP art SPECTACULAR

Opening Night Fri 1st May
Trail Sat & Sun 2/3rd May 2026

Ferguson Hall Sundowner

Friday 6 February | 6pm
Meet us at the Ferguson Hall | BYO drinks and nibbles
We'd love to see you there!

EVERYONE WELCOME

LINKING LOCAL VOLUNTEERS WITH LOCAL CAUSES

DARDANUP COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS NIGHT

ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

Join us for an inspiring evening where some of Dardanup's most loved not-for-profit organisations come together to meet community members, share their missions, and showcase volunteer opportunities.

What to Expect

- Meet a range of local not-for-profit organisations
- Discover volunteer roles that match your skills, interests, and availability
- Learn how you can support meaningful community projects
- Build connections with like-minded people
- Enjoy a relaxed, welcoming atmosphere

Event Details
Tuesday 17th February 2026
7pm - 9pm
The Wells Recreation Park
Clubrooms,
Ferguson Rd, Dardanup

Please ring
Volunteer South West
on 9791 3214
Tues, Wed & Thurs 9:30am -
2:30pm
to register for this **FREE** event.

Light bites will be provided!

13

QUIZ NIGHT

TRIVIA, TACTICS & A TOUCH OF CHAOS.

FERGUSON HALL

Visit Sticky Tickets for further info and tickets