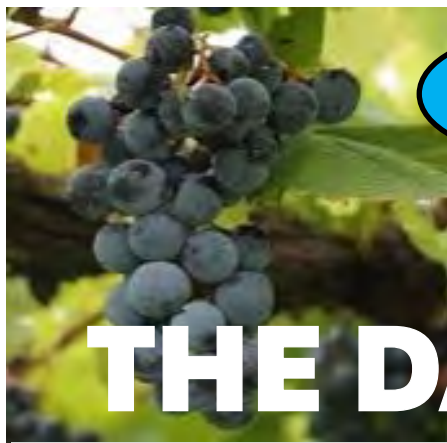




Free



AUGUST 2026

THE DARDANUP TIMES

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

Looking for that Fashionable Item or a Fun Afternoon? We've Got You Covered!



Dianne Allen Models
at Last Years Parade

Dardanup Bull and Barrel Festivals Annual Thrift Shop Fashion Show and High Tea will be returning on **Sunday 16 August, 12.30pm** at the Dardanup Hall. This is a fundraiser for the Festival, Solaris Cancercare and Salvos SW.

Tickets \$35/person include glass of champers and high tea.
Get you tables together now!
See poster on the back pages.
To book a seat/table email
jill.cross@bigpond.com
or text 0418 281 201



Thanks to Wespine and Prime Supplies for funding a new compressor for the Dardanup Central Bushfire Brigade. Finn Dau, Brigade Captain said "the compressor will support our brigade maintain our appliances and equipment ensuring we are ready to respond when our community needs us. Community partnerships like this make a real difference and we sincerely appreciate Wespines and Prime Supplies ongoing support of local volunteer emergency services."



Janet Murray admires the renovated Dardanup Post Office alongside staff member Rebecca who is here to assist if any problems with the new parcel delivery box outside where you can collect parcels 24/7. Go to the Aust Post App and get a delivery address to use when ordering a parcel. You will then also get via text or email a 6 digit code to use to open one of the red doors to retrieve your parcel. Once you have been advised the parcel is ready for collection you have 48 hours to collect and after that time the parcel goes back inside the Post Office for you to collect from there. How convenient is that! Thanks Natalie for all your work and making things easier for your customers



Lions Cancer
Institute (WA) Inc.



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Appointments are essential.
For adults 18 years and over.



**DARDANUP**
SATURDAY 22 AUGUST

**DARDANUP HALL**
FERGUSON ROAD, DARDANUP

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SCAN HERE TO
BOOK ONLINE



This is a visual and observational service only. No diagnosis is made.
Participants are advised to seek further medical assessment or prompt medical review by their GP.
For full terms and conditions visit lions.org.au



Well Done to the South West Rose Society members and local community on the pruning day at the FVVC

Camellias are Spectacular!

Reminder, that now is the time to pop around the back of the Visitor Centre and check out the display of camellias. Spectacular! Thanks to Jenny Gardiner for her vision and hard work in getting this project off the ground. The camellias are so good that the Camellia Soc. of Perth always makes it an annual trip down to view our garden.

Dardanup Senior Citizens Inc

At our Meeting held on the 21st July we had 15 in attendance & 4 apologies. 19 Members enjoyed lunch at the Dardanup Tavern. For September 23rd we are planning a bus trip to Busselton, Jetty tram, underwater Observatory & lunch at the Esplanade Hotel. We enjoyed having guest speakers from HomeMade & Mable Home care. Staying in place, Understanding Aged Care, Smarter Support at Home. Misty Morton & Dex de Bruin were excellent in explaining the process of applying, the packages, costs. All displayed on the big screen. They spent time in answering questions. We were joined by 6 other Dardanup residents. A big plus was, where possible they source local support workers. Help is available for HomeMade/Mable Aged Care. Call Jan Petterson 97251655 or 0488259882 Email sip@eatoncommunityhive.com.au We were saddened by the passing of our local resident Danny Harris. A great supporter of all things Dardanup. Condolences to all his family & friends. Next Meeting 18/8 is our AGM, Memberships are due \$15.00. Soup & a shared plate luncheon. Membership Application forms available. Visitors most welcome. **Revely Gardiner 0408833761** **Dardanupseniorcitizens@outlook.com**



Jan Peterson, Dex de Bruin & Misty Morton Delivered An Aged Care Talk to Dardanup Seniors



Lenore Fairfield from Deeply Felt Designs with her new collection at FVVC

Ferguson Valley Visitors Centre News

Visitors to our region continue to flow into this beautiful piece of WA surrounding Dardanup including the Ferguson Valley. Popular spots include the instagrammable sculpture on Pile Road, Wellington Dam Mural and Gnomesville which can have hundreds of visitors a day in the school holidays. Lunch spots abound in Dardanup and throughout the Valley. Walking the trails at Crooked Brook Forest or the Dardanup Heritage Trail and finding out when the Heritage Park Museum is open (Wed and Sun) have all been requests this week with further information on the website: fergusonvalley.net.au Artisan of the Month is Lenore Fairfield from Deeply Felt Designs who has bought a new range of hats, scarves and smaller items including earrings and birthday gifts. Lenore has been felting for over 20 years inspired by a beautiful cape she saw one day made by a fibre artist in Collie. Lenore's Hats have a new air of sophistication with lovely felted colours. and wool knits. Come and browse the winter woollies on sale between 10 am and 2 pm, winter opening hours 7 days a week. All gifts on sale have been produced by local artists and designers. FVVC welcomes more Volunteers especially during the winter months – can be a minimum of a half or full 6 hour shift a month or just when you are free. The time always goes so quickly! Call in and see what we do or you may be interested in other tourism projects available with the Ferguson Valley Marketing, our umbrella organisation. The Visitor Centre phone number is 97 281 551

Robyn Jones

Eds Note; if you are looking for a special baby rug or knee rug then there are some beautifully hand knitted and crocheted rugs at the FVVC

St Johns 1st Aid Training Saves Lives

Tuesday 27 and Wednesday 28 October at Wells Rec Park Clubrooms, 5.30pm-9.30pm.
The DDRA is subsidizing the cost of the course by \$25/person making the cost to participants \$175.00.
The course is limited to 10 participants so to reserve your spot can you please contact
Mary on 0407 476 661 or smithpm@iinet.net.au



Vale Danny Harris - July 1944 - June 2026

Sincere sympathy to Peter, Brad, Anthony and families

Throughout Danny's life he was a passionate advocate for community facilities, played an important role in supporting Eaton Football Club's move to Glen Huon Reserve and always tried to make Dardanup and the Shire a better place in which to live. His advice will be missed by many. The following are some of the organisations that Danny was involved with. Apart from his community life he raised 3 sons along with his wife Pam and enjoyed a very successful farming career.

- * **Dairy Section - WA Farmers Federation**- President: Late 90's to early 2000's, Led the industry thru Dairy De-Regulation
- * **Shire of Dardanup**; Councillor: 1988 – 1995, President: 1992 – 1995, Councillor: 2011 - 2018
- * **South West Development Commission**- 1997 Deputy Chairman 3 year ministerial appointment
- * **Thomas Little Hall Restoration**- key driver of this project
- * **Dardanup Catholic Parish**- lifetime supporter
- * **WA Catholic Education Commission**
- * **Bunbury Catholic College**- Chairperson School Board: 1986 – 1990, Art Extraordinaire committee member : 1993
- * **Our Lady of Lourdes, Dardanup**- Chairperson school board.
- * **Eaton Boomers**: Awarded Life Membership
- * **Dardanup Heritage Collective**- 2021 inaugural Committee member
- * **St Louis Catholic Church Restoration** - key driver of this recent project

Dardanup Lions Club News

An example of your local Lions Club joining with the 92 club strong District 201 WA conglomeration in the state Of Western Australia to offer a service that brings a level of prevention.

The Lions Cancer Institute (LCI) will be providing a free Skin Cancer Screening in Dardanup on Saturday August 22nd. See poster this edition for booking details. This free service provides for the early detection of skin lesions and where a lesion is identified a referral is made to your GP for further investigation. The LCI is a project of the Lions Clubs of Western Australia. Since early 1990's LCI has been providing full body skin screening clinics throughout Western Australia, with an emphasis on Screening the remote and rural areas of the state.

From humble beginnings the Volunteers of LCI have screened over 80 000 patients and our records show that with the annual rate of referrals to a GP is in the order of 27% (21,600) and lesions suspected of being life threatening are at 6% (1260). Early detection of lesions will save lives and lessen the need for invasive surgery. LCI's screening program is supported by qualified volunteer Dermatologists, Plastic Surgeons, Dermoscopists and GP's. Funding for LCI's screening programs and research grants is provided by donations from Lions Clubs of WA, Business and from the public. It's necessary to book in advance, visit LCI website www.lionscancerinstitute.org.au to do this. Note: Brunswick Club is organised to run a clinic the next day accessible through the website.

We are currently raising funds to replace our two ageing screening units with one purpose built unit. Donations can be made to The Lions Cancer Institute at **WESTPAC BANK, BSB 036-107 ACCOUNT 218 557.**

All donations over \$2.00 are Tax Deductible
Phil Ottrey



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Wespine: proudly supporting our local community.

If you wish to contact Wespine please call us on 9725 5777.

**Wespine News****Shire of Dardanup Councillors visit Wespine**

In July, Wespine welcomed councillors from the Shire of Dardanup for a site visit and briefing with our Executive Leadership Team. The visit offered a valuable opportunity to share current projects and reaffirm Wespine's commitment to supporting the local economy and community as a large employer in the Shire. We thank the councillors for their time and engagement.



Community members are invited to JOIN in a DPIRD-led Polyphagous Shot-hole Borer Identification and Response Workshop as national response to this highly destructive pest transitions from eradication efforts to management.

Did you know? Australia's response to Polyphagous Shot-hole Borer (PSHB) is transitioning from eradication to long-term management by the end of 2026 after experts determined that national eradication is no longer technically feasible. This makes informed community members more important than ever. By becoming extra eyes on the ground and knowing what to look for, we can all play a part in helping slow the spread of this highly destructive invasive pest and protect the trees that define our landscapes and communities.

To date PSHB has **not been detected outside of the Perth metropolitan area**, but as our national response for this highly destructive pest transitions from eradication efforts to management, knowing what to look for is becoming increasingly important. Early detection starts with informed eyes. Be one of them.

Would you know what to look for?

To help answer that question, Leschenault Biosecurity Group is collaborating with experts from the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) to deliver a practical community workshop.

Join us at one of these two DPIRD-led workshops. *Community members are our greatest early warning system. Learn how you can help protect our trees from the Polyphagous Shot-hole Borer.*

• **10am - noon, Saturday, 15th August; Where: The Dardanup Hall, 19 Ferguson Rd, Dardanup**

1pm - 3pm, Thursday, 3rd September at the Donnybrook Recreation Ctr, 15/17 Steere St, Donnybrook

At just **2 mm long (about the size of a sesame seed)**, the Polyphagous Shot-hole Borer (PSHB) is easy to overlook. Yet, this tiny beetle has the potential to cause enormous damage, attacking hundreds of tree species and, in many cases, leading to branch dieback and tree death.

Whether you own a rural property, live on a suburban block with mature trees, volunteer in bushlands/reserves, or simply enjoy spending time outdoors, you could be among the first to notice signs of PSHB.

Come along for practical guidance that will give you the knowledge and confidence to recognise the signs of PSHB, collect samples correctly and best actions we as community members can take in helping to protect the trees in our area. As our national response transitions from eradication to long-term management, informed community members will play an increasingly important role in helping protect our region's trees from this highly destructive, invasive pest.

You don't need to be an expert to make a difference. You just need to know what to look for.

PLEASE REGISTER TO ATTEND:

Scan this code or visit LBG website: www.lbginc.org.au



For more information, contact Leschenault Biosecurity Group on 0477 049 967 or by email at info@lbginc.org.au

West Dardanup Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Do you have what it takes to step up and become a Bush Fire Brigade volunteer?

Now is the time to start training so that when the summer months arrive, and they will, you will have the skills necessary to assist in protecting your community from bush fires.

Being an active firefighter requires a reasonable level of fitness, being over 16 years of age and having a willingness be part of the brigade membership. Firefighters require a level of commitment and the willingness to attend incidents when a call for help comes.

As a firefighter, the brigade will provide you with the required basic training, ensure you have personal protective clothing and equipment, on the job training and access to a fully equipped firefighting appliance which will enable you to keep your community safe.

Thank you for considering joining the West Dardanup Bushfire Brigade as being a fire fighter is a tough but rewarding challenge. As a firefighter you will defend your community against bushfire and other potential fire related hazards. To ensure all members are fully prepared when attending an incident, attendance is expected at brigade training at least once a month.

There has never been a better time to put your hand up and get involved, contact the below for more information. Phone Rob 0417 532 825 or Wayne 0417 907 623, email WDBFB@outlook.com or on facebook - West Dardanup Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Neil Dyer



Ferguson Valley Community Hall News

Come on and join the friendly free Community Choir on Mondays 7-9 pm - just turn up at 7 pm and all welcome! Yoga with Gyani is held during the school term 5.45 – 7 pm, Wednesdays, class fees for term sessions.

Ferguson Hall Community Sundowners are held from 6 pm on the first Friday of the month (open to change of different night) with dates on the noticeboards at Hall and corner of Dowdells Line. The next Community Sundowner is on Friday 7th August where we are having a Community Long Table Dinner. Everyone welcome and bring a winter dish or dessert to share and your own drinks.

The Ferguson Hall, nearly 10 km from Dardanup is available for hire to celebrate community, family events, workshops and weddings. The Hall has a polished wooden floor, stage, kitchen, toilet facilities and a back verandah with clear blinds looking out onto pasture and the sunset - room for a marquee!

Long trestles, round tables and chairs are available for hire onsite with electric heaters for winter and new internal LED lights that can dim! An evening event is a fee of \$350 plus bond. Half day rates and discounts for Ferguson Locals available. Contact Robyn for viewings on 0468 576 950 or email bse7@bigpond.com for the schedule of fees.

Robyn Jones



Dardanup Shire Library News

Let's Talk: Connecting You to Community Services.

Monday 10 August

11:00am – 12:00pm

Eaton Library

This month's participating organisations include:

Compassionate Communities Network – South West

The Compassionate Communities Network is committed to ensuring that everyone can care, die, and grieve with the support of their community.

Representatives will be available to discuss advance care planning, including Advance Health Directives, caregiving networks, and other end-of-life planning considerations.

4families – Relationships WA

4families is a free, community-based mental health and wellbeing service supporting children and young people aged 0–18, along with their parents, carers, and families.

Their focus is on early intervention and prevention, helping families navigate life's challenges, reduce stress, and build strong foundations for children to thrive. No Mental Health Care Plan is required to access this service.

Consumer Protection (Consumer Affairs WA)

Learn how to stay informed, stay safe, and resolve disputes with confidence. Consumer Protection provides information, resources, and support for both consumers and businesses across Western Australia.

To learn more about the organisations involved in our Let's Talk: Connecting You to Community Services program, please visit:

Eventbrite: Let's Talk: Connecting You with Community Support Tickets, Multiple dates | Eventbrite

Boyanup Farmers Market

June was another wonderful market day. Although it was a chilly morning, the weather was kind to us, making for an enjoyable day for everyone. A heartfelt thank you goes to our amazing volunteers. Their time, dedication and hard work ensure the market runs smoothly, and we couldn't do it without them. We truly appreciate everything they do.

Boreham Valley Nursery, located in Lowden, just outside Donnybrook, is a family-run nursery that has been helping local gardeners, landowners and landscapers find the right plants for years. Offering everything from retail plants to advanced trees, Boreham Valley Nursery is known for its healthy stock, particularly fruit trees, personalised service with knowledgeable guidance.

Unlike busy garden centres, Boreham Valley Nursery welcomes visitors by appointment, giving customers the opportunity to browse the nursery at their own pace and discuss their landscaping or gardening needs one-on-one.

With spring planting just around the corner, now is an ideal time to plan your next project and support a local business that is passionate about helping gardens flourish across the Southwest. Be sure to chat to Derrick and Mary-Anne at our market, as they have a lot of knowledge to share.

Tanya Williams Market Manager

News from Synergy - King Rocks Wind Farm

Transportation of wind turbines

Thank you for your patience during the transportation of wind turbine components as part of the King Rocks Wind Farm.

The transportation of components and infrastructure for 17 wind turbines commenced in late May 2026 and will continue until approximately October. Weather and transport conditions permitting, deliveries are occurring up to seven days per week, setting off from the Port of Bunbury at sunrise.

The blades, which measure 80m in length, are scheduled to pass through the Shire of Dardanup in the early morning before travelling through the Shire of Harvey to the wind farm.

Blades and turbine components will be escorted by traffic pilots. If you find yourself behind an oversized load, please do not pass until the pilot has given you an instruction to do so. The blade transport delivery sizes will be up to 94 metres in length, 4.4 metres in width, and 27 tonnes each load. The oversized load will be stopping every 20-25 km along the route to relieve traffic behind.

If slowed behind an oversized load, school bus operators are asked to contact the pilot using a UHF channel 40 to notify them of their position behind the load. The load will then pull over when safe to do so and the pilot will signal for the school bus to pass.

For any questions, please contact our community team on 0482 993 106 or by emailing community@synergy.net.au. We thank you for your patience during this time.

Local Resident Publishes Debut Mystery Thriller

Dardanup resident **Ralph Keegan** has achieved a long-held ambition with the publication of his first novel, *Unseen Hands – Flight MC730*, a suspense-filled mystery thriller inspired by one of aviation's greatest unsolved mysteries.

Built around secrets, deception and hidden forces operating behind the scenes, the novel challenges readers to question what they think they know.

Nearly everyone knew what happened. Many thought they knew why. Only a select few knew how.

While inspired by real-world events, *Unseen Hands – Flight MC730* is entirely fictional. Combining suspense, mystery and international intrigue, the story unfolds through unexpected twists and revelations as long-buried secrets begin to surface. Extensive research helped create a technically authentic backdrop while keeping the story firmly within the realm of fiction.

"Publishing my first novel is the fulfilment of a personal ambition," Ralph said. "I wanted to write a thriller that would keep readers turning the pages while leaving them questioning what they thought they knew."

Unseen Hands – Flight MC730 is available internationally in paperback and Kindle editions through Amazon.

Readers can find it by searching for "**Unseen Hands – Flight MC730**" or "**Ralph Keegan**" on Amazon.

Ralph hopes readers from Dardanup and beyond will enjoy the novel and is already developing ideas for his next thriller.

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Kindy & Pre -primary modified Hervé Tullet's "A Field of Flowers" to incorporate the Noongar Wargarl

(Rainbow Serpent) and to finish we painted our hands and had fun high fiving and mixing paint.



Year 5 & 6 students explored Indigenous seasons.



Year 1 classes collaborated to create a mural about "How the Birds Got Their Colours"



Year 5 students painted Indigenous art on ceramic tiles.



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Year 2 class with their mural.

The year 3/4 class had an amazing experience by talking to children from Nyikina Mangala Community School via a Teams call. The school is situated in Jarlmadangah Burru community in the remote Kimberley region. Our students prepared questions to ask the children from NMCS, to learn more about Aboriginal Culture and people.



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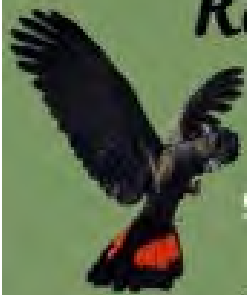
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FEDERAL MEMBER FOR **FORREST**

Standing up for the South West



📍 Units 7 & 8 Grand Cinema Complex, Cnr Victoria and Clifton Streets, Bunbury WA 6230

☎ 9721 3788 📧 ben.small.mp@aph.gov.au 📘 Ben4Forrest

Authorised by Ben Small MP, Liberal, Units 7 & 8 Grand Cinema Complex, Cnr Victoria and Clifton Streets, Bunbury WA 6230.



Curry Night

SATURDAY 29th AUGUST

From 6.30pm,
with curries served at 7.15pm

COMMUNITY FUNDRAISER AT THE THOMAS LITTLE HALL

The Parish & OLOL School are holding a Curry Night and you are invited to wine & dine with community members. Come along to help fundraise much needed money to help keep the Thomas Little Hall maintained.

COST \$45 per person - what do you get for your money?

Antipasto on arrival, a selection of curries & rice cooked by our amazing Dardanup General Store, wine from a local winery followed by high tea style sweets and Tea & Coffee.

Please BYO other beverages other than wine.

Plus your chance to take home a fabulous door prize.

We will also have a \$100 Cash Raffle on the night at \$5 per guess, and other raffles so bring some cash! Tables of 6/7 if you would like to reserve one, please advise at time of purchasing tickets.

Tickets only available to purchase through OLOL School Office 9728 2200 - EFTPOS is available

Gluten Free available
(Pre order only)

WINE SPONSOR:

Ferguson Falls Winery,

172 Pile Road Ferguson

If you haven't tasted
their wines you must!

Tickets will need to be
purchased
by Tuesday 25th August 2026
for catering purposes,
get in quick to not miss out!



Ferguson Falls



Dardanup Environmental Action Group News

This band of volunteers are still vigorously responding to Dept of Water, Environment and Regulation(DWER) when they advertise Cleanaways Landfill Site Works Applications or Licence amendments.

Recently the Minister for the Environment advised his decision on 3 DEAG Appeals that we were waiting on. The result being some tightening of Cleanaways Licence and the take home message from the Minister was that improvements could be made to the Licencing conditions, transparency and monitoring by DWER.

DEAG has also just responded to an application by Cleanaway to install a temporary flare in addition to the existing flare with a permanent flare eventually operating on site. DEAG queried the lack of sufficient information with regards to design and emissions particularly, PFAS.

DEAG is very fortunate to have on our Committee Noel Hayward who has the skills to assess what can be complex matters.

We appreciate the time he spends on commenting on applications which is usually lengthy and his willingness to share his knowledge with others. His work has led to changes in Cleanaway's operations and monitoring, resulting in improved environmental outcomes, thus benefiting our community and the flora and fauna surrounding the landfill. Thank you Noel.

Just a reminder to anyone who wishes to join our Committee that meets monthly or find out the latest they can email deag6236@gmail.com

Also, you are our eyes so if you see a Cleanaway truck or any waste truck that you consider is going to the Cleanaway Landfill site, travelling on the gravel section of Banksia Rd between Crooked Brook rd and the Cleanaway entrance then please report this to the Shire on 97240000. This is very important as the trucks are not permitted on that section of road and it is the Shire that ensures compliance. You don't need to sight the rego plate but do make a note of the time. **Jill Cross, Sec, DEAG**

Shire adopts 2026/27 Annual Budget

The Shire of Dardanup adopted its 2026/27 Annual Budget reaffirming Council's commitment to responsible financial management, renewing community assets and maintaining a strong financial position for the future.

Shire President Cr Tyrrell Gardiner said the budget had been developed with a clear focus on preserving and improving the infrastructure and facilities that residents rely on every day, while ensuring the Shire remains financially sustainable in the years ahead.

"This budget reflects Council's commitment to responsible financial management, maintaining the assets and infrastructure our community relies on, and ensuring the Shire remains in a strong financial position for years to come," Cr Gardiner said.

He said to support these objectives, Council adopted a 6% increase in general rate revenue.

For further explanation from Cr Tyrrell, please see the Shires website

Key budget highlights:

- **\$1.92 million** for roads, bridges, pathways, and drainage upgrades and renewals.
- **\$316,000** for building construction and renewals.
- **\$491,000** for parks and reserves improvements.
- **\$491,186** for community grants, events, and programs.
- **Capital works: \$2.73 million:**

- New/upgrades and renewals.
- Eaton Recreation Centre
- Burekup Hall.
- Don Hewison Centre.
- Dardanup West Road – reconstruction and resealing.
- Ironstone Road – widening works.
- Dowdell's Line – reconstruction design.
- Hale Street – reconstruction design.
- Henty Road shoulder sealing and audible edge line works.

- Various road resal projects throughout the Shire.
- Various pathway renewals and improvements including Recreation Drive.
- Playground renewal at Primrose Vista Park and Lusitano Park.
- New dugout shelters at Glen Huon Football Oval.
- Drainage upgrades and repairs at the Eaton Drive/Recreation Drive Intersection.
- Various park and planting renewals.

Depreciation: \$7.65 million.

Asset maintenance (excluding overheads): \$6.11 million:

- Transport and drainage maintenance.
- Parks and reserves maintenance.
- Buildings maintenance.

Law, order and public safety and health \$1.44 million:

- Critical Fire and Emergency Services
- Animal Control
- Public Safety

Community services and economic development \$1.92 million:

- Libraries and Make-It Space.
- Community programs, events and festivals.
- Education, welfare and community services.
- Economic services.

Waste, sanitation and environment protection \$2.75 million.

Developments services \$1.64 million:

- Building permits and swimming pool inspections
- Planning Services and approvals.
- Development contribution plans.

Eaton Recreation Centre \$1.92 million.

Administration costs \$9.11 million:

- Employee costs.
- Software licensing and services.
- Materials and contracts.
- Finance costs.
- Administration overheads.

General purpose, governance and other expenditure.

Public works \$2.80 million.



Leschenault Biosecurity News

Be Biosecurity-Wise: Source your firewood locally - Buy it where you burn it!

Whether you're heading out camping, sitting around your backyard firepit or just firing up the wood heater at home – **Please remember this simple rule for firewood: Buy it where you burn it.**

Leschenault Biosecurity Group (LBG) would like to us that moving firewood may seem harmless, but even a small bundle can unknowingly transport destructive insects, pests, and plant diseases into new areas. These unwanted "hitchhikers" can have serious consequences for our environment, agriculture and the trees that define our parks, farms, bushland, and neighbourhoods.



August heralds the beginning of the Noongar Season *Djilba*. It is referred to as the first Spring and it is when we begin to enjoy the initial flush of wildflower blooms. In a 'normal' year we experience a mix of wet days, clear cold nights, and this trend doesn't change until

late in the month or into September. We have had a series of cold fronts bringing welcome rains but the temperatures have been rather chilly!

Veggie Patch: It is time to start planning for your spring and summer garden. Growing a variety of crops helps to create abundance and it also helps to provide some resilience in your garden. Clever crop choice and a succession planting strategy will help you keep a small garden full and productive. When you are looking for varieties consider the days to maturity and their preferred growing conditions. Growing from seed gives you the advantage of choosing for taste, yield and conditions. For example some bean and cucumber varieties are best planted in the 'shoulder seasons' of early spring and late summer when the peak heat doesn't effect them (eg. Scarlet runner bean, Mini Muncher). Other varieties thrive in the heat of summer and still provide a bumper crop. (Snake beans, Lima beans, Armenian cucumber). Why not research your favourite crops and try some new varieties. A few online resources: edenseeds.com.au, thrivesustainability.com.au down2earthgardening.com.au, harvestme.com.au, seedsofplenty.com.au

To get a head start I will often 'pot on' seedlings of cold sensitive crops so they are ready to go once the soil warms up and my risk of frost is lower. If you spot a punnet of your favourites grab them and grow them on. Now is also the time to plant seeds of summer crops such as Tomatoes, Capsicums, Silverbeet and Eggplant. These need a soil temperature of 15+ degrees to germinate so benefit from being raised in pots or trays on a heat mat before planting out. You can grow these in a greenhouse, on a window sill or a sheltered sunny corner.

Want to get busy planting in the veggie patch? It is still a bit cold, so choose quick growing seedlings and plant them in a sunny spot for best results. As it warms up then you can plant more:

Leaf crops - Asian greens, Cress, Lettuce, Mustard greens, Watercress, Purslane, Rocket, French Sorrel, Spinach. Brassica crops* seedlings - Cabbage. Root crops - Beetroot, Carrots, Parsnip, Radish, Kohlrabi. Legume crops - Snow peas, Dwarf Peas, Broad beans. Onion family - Leeks, Onions, Spring onions. Perennial Herbs - Artichoke, Asparagus, Berries, Strawberry plants, Nasturtium, Cape Gooseberry, Mint. Greenhouse only / heat mat-Capsicum, Chilli, Eggplant, Tomato, Sunflower

There are a wide variety of edible perennials that can provide food when your annual vegies are a bit scarce. Choose ones that will suit your palette and amount of space. Herbs are my number one choice for any garden - great flavour enhancers and fairly bullet proof, so easy to grow for beginner gardeners. Try growing Chicory, Chives, Fennel, Garlic Chives, Horseradish, Lemongrass, Lemon Balm,

Lemon Verbena, Marjoram, Mint, Oregano, Parsley, Rosemary, Sage, Tarragon and Thyme. Another group of fabulous perennials are Berries...

Bountiful Berries - In our Mediterranean climate we can grow a wide variety of Berry plants. They come in all shapes and sizes including Trees, Bushes, Vines, Canes and Groundcovers. Most are perennial and provide us with a wonderful selection of tart, sweet and savoury berries over the Spring, Summer and Autumn months. A net or cover is essential for berry bushes and trellised cane berries when they are fruiting. Birds love the fruit and won't bother to wait until they are ripe before devouring your whole crop!

There are so many to choose from... Mulberries, Elderberries, Blueberries, Currants, Goji Berries, Kiwiberries, Strawberries, Midyim berries and *my favourites* the Cane berries.

Cane Berries come in a variety of cultivars including Blackberries, Loganberries, Silvanberry, Marionberry, Boysenberry and Raspberries. These are best grown in pots to avoid them suckering and 'taking over' your garden. They are vigorous and can be difficult to dig up, especially if they are the thorny varieties. Prune them in winter to keep them productive and under control. While they are labour intensive and need to be picked daily when fruiting, *don't let this deter you*. Expensive to buy in the shop, the fruit are soft, delicate and freeze beautifully. You can enjoy them year-round for a fraction of the cost.

When potting on your berries, be sure to choose a suitably large sized container. If needed, give them a root prune, before potting. Choose enriched potting medium and mulch well. For Blueberries, choose an Azalea/Camellia potting mix. Water in with a Seaweed solution and don't fertilise until you see good strong new growth.

Maintenance: Clean off and sharpen your Pruning tools. Now is your last chance to prune roses ahead of their spring flush of growth. If you are growing Grapevines over a pergola or structure, it is time to thin out any tangled or congested canes. By leaving evenly spaced strong canes you will allow good airflow, reduce disease and create better coverage. Reining in their growth now will also make it easier for you to pop a net over later in the season if necessary.

If like me you have a few weeds around the garden, why not turn them into garden gold and make some compost. It is a great activity for warming you up on a cold day!

The next **Sustainable Living Workshop** is on **Thursday 13th August, 10am - 11.30am at the Dardanup Hall**. Topic: **Fabulous Backyard Fruit Trees** - Not sure what trees will grow in your area? Maybe you have a few trees that have gone a bit 'wild'. Never fear, help is on hand. Come along as we learn How to Prune for productivity, demystify fertilising and control pests organically. Bookings essential ph: 9724000 or on the website dardanup.wa.gov.au/events



Dardanup Community Choir

**7pm Mondays at the
Ferguson Hall**

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

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME



FREE Mahjong

Sponsored by the Shire of Dardanup.

Free for all residents.

Held on the 2nd & 4th Wed 1.30- pprox. 4pm

at the Dardanup Shire office, Dardanup

Contact Olive Kirkpatrick 0419411000

A Darwin Holiday

Not too many roads in WA aren't occupied by lots of travellers at this time of the year however the Great Central Road can always be relied upon to be the road least travelled. The Great Central links the West and the NT and govts have hoped sealing this road will also provide a link onwards to the eastern states but at this stage no govt seems to be keen on driving this project. In late June Tom and I, Cathy and Steve Miller and a high school friend of mine, Shelly, spent 3 days in our vans on this road which was in pretty good condition, enjoying bush camps and campfires, enroute to Darwin. At Yulara in the Campground, again in overflow \$70, no power or water and long walk to the ablutions. Took a bit of Dardanup ingenuity to join all our 3 hoses together from nearest tap to fill our water tanks – was hoping all the campers would join in and we could have set a Guinness book record but just had looks of admiration or was that disbelief! Highlight was experiencing the 'Field of Light' created by Englishman Bruce Munro back in 2016 and will end in 2029. 4 hectares of pastel coloured lights that are solar powered, 1 m high and change colors regularly. You walk amongst the lights and it really is like walking in a field of flowers. Loved it and they have busloads of people who are also loving it.

Couldn't go past Mataranka without catching up with Hazeldens, both looking well for the 17 months they have been doing the lap. Julie has promised she will be home before the Festival! Julie has actually been organizing the 2 stages whilst on the road- what a trooper she is.

Darwin is a wonderful city to visit being our 2nd time with lots to do especially for families. That waterfront precinct is the best. Great restaurants butting up against one another opposite a wave pool, man made beach all equipped with inflatables and apartments and hotels all in close proximity. How good is that and at this time of the year the nights are glorious with everyone out enjoying the whole precinct. The Stokes Hill Wharf is the place to be watch the harbour and dine on food from around the world, day and night, café style. The RFDS also has a very interesting museum on the wharf with the WW2 bombing of Darwin included virtual reality style which made Tom and I feel bit queasy – too much movement. As we had been to Darwin before we didn't repeat a visit to the very good military, aviation or the Cyclone Tracey museums but looked to things we hadn't done as we only had 10 days in the city.

Catching up with old friend and ex Boyanup boy Mal Green and his family we all went to the outdoor cinema equipped with deck chairs which included dinner. This cinema is right on the waterfront within walking distance of the waterfront precinct and sits within a tropical garden. We hadn't experienced the Mindil beach sunset markets and if crowds aren't your thing then this isn't for you. The crowds all assemble on the beach for the obligatory sundown cheer and then you can browse the many market stalls and sample foods from around the world.

On another day we all took a tour in an authentic WW2 truck called a Studebaker which took us around the city sights with commentary provided by the driver. Honestly he never drew breath and was remarkable maneuvering this cumbersome, manual truck in the city

traffic. When we arrived back at the start he was immediately taking another tour and you could hear him on repeat in the distance. We learnt all about Darwins history, the WW2 bombing and cyclone Tracey and visited city sights we more than likely wouldn't have. Highlight of the stay was our ferry ride and tour of the Tiwi Islands- Bathurst and Melville Islands. Aboriginals from Bathurst island have set up a tourism experience which we thoroughly enjoyed. Known for their arts and crafts we got to screen print a t shirt choosing our design and enjoyed delicious scones for morning tea and a lunch which included Aboriginal bush tucker. We had a guided walk around the community including stops at the new art gallery, oval where the Rioli brothers got their football start, watched local ladies practicing a dance for the upcoming footy grand final, viewed their museum and heard the story about the local pastor who in WW2 tried to alert the mainland when the Japanese fighter planes flew over Bathurst heading for Darwin, learnt about fishtraps which are still in use by the community with the fish being shared by everyone. Very enjoyable day and headed back the 2 ½ hours by ferry to Darwin.

Of course we went to the Rapid Creek markets set in the Rapid Creek Shopping Centre where Mal Green and partner Ursula have run a health food and organic fruit and vege shop for quite some years. Had our fill again from the many Asian food stalls, more paw paw salad plus chicken sates. The range of Asian vegetable is remarkable and really not sure how most of it is prepared. Got a liking for sugar cane juice which is mixed with mango or other fruits or just the juice itself. Unusual taste but not sickly sweet. Couldn't leave Darwin without a trip out to Berry Springs. Lots of visitors but still plenty of room for everyone and the water is the best temperature. Not really warm like Mataranka or the nearby Bitter Springs but just warm enough that you could happily float in the water for hours.

That was our last day to relax before the 4000 km journey home. On the way home via the NW Coastal HWY we stopped in to see locals Heather and Brian Keley holidaying at Pardoo and were treated to a meal of freshly caught mud and blue swimmer crabs and whiting and to top it off 2 mud crabs to take with us to enjoy on the way home.

Got to love our country - the landscape, the people, the stories and the food make for fabulous travels.

Jill Cross



Tom at
Berry Springs

Free Chair Yoga

sponsored by the Shire of Dardanup
for all residents.

Held at Wells Recreation Hall, Recreation Rd,
Dardanup on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays.

Upcoming dates – 11/8, 25/8, 8/9 & 22/9

The Bearded Bloke

Lawn & Garden Services



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Sean - 0422 295 053

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E: thebeardedbloke@outlook.com.au
W: www.thebeardedbloke.com.au

St Johns 1st Aid Training Saves Lives

Mary Smith is coordinating this course on behalf of the Dardanup and Districts Residents Assoc to be held on **Tuesday 27 and Wednesday 28 October at Wells Rec Park Clubrooms, 5.30pm-9.30pm.**

The DDRA is subsidizing the cost of the course by \$25/person making the cost to participants \$175.00.

The course is limited to 10 participants so to reserve your spot can you please contact

Mary on 0407 476 661 or smithpm@inet.net.au

When most of our community lives at least a 20 minutes from medical facilities or medical help 1st aid training is very important and could easily save a loved ones life.

What's on In Dardanup

If you have an event to add
please email

- 3 August- Jingle Tots @ Wells Rec Park Clubrooms, 9.30-11.00. Book through the Shire
- 4 August - Mens Welfare Group – 2pm at the Wells Recreation Park Clubrooms
- 4 August – South West Veteran Car Club meeting, 7.30pm at Wells Clubrooms
- 7 August - Ferguson Hall Sundowner, 6pm
- 9 August - South West Rose Society- Annual General Meeting 9.30am for 10.00am Wells Rec. Club Rooms
- 10 August- Let's Talk: Connecting You to Community Services at the Eaton Library, 11.00-12.00, see info this edition
- 11 August - Chair Yoga organised by the Shire of Dardanup @ Wells Clubrooms, free, 1-2pm
- 12 August – Dardanup Bull and Barrel Festival meeting, 7.30pm at Wells Clubrooms
- 12 August – Mahjong at the Shire office, free, 1.30- 4.00pm
- 13 August – Shire of Dardanup Fre Workshop , 10am-11.30am at the Dardanup Hall. Topic: Fabulous Backyard Fruit Trees, Bookings essential ph: 9724000 or on the website dardanup.wa.gov.au/events
- 15 August – Learn all about the Polyphagous Shot-hole Borer, 10am – noon at the Dardanup Hall
- 16 August – Bull and Barrel Festivals Thrift Shop Fashion Show and High Tea, 12.30pm, see details this edition.
- 18 August - Dardanup Seniors AGM meeting, 9.30am, Wells Rec Park Clubrooms
- 18 August - Mens Welfare Group – 2pm at Wells Recreation Park Clubrooms
- 22 August – Dardanup Lions free Cancer screening bus in town, see poster this edition for bookings details
- 23 August- Boyanup Farmers Market, 8am
- 25 August - Chair Yoga organised by the Shire of Dardanup @ Wells Clubrooms, free, 1-2pm
- 26 August – Mahjong at the Shire office, free, 1.30- 4.00pm
- 29 August – Thomas Little Hall Curry Night Fundraiser, see poster this edition
- 31 August- Jingle Tots @ Wells Rec Park Clubrooms, 9.30-11.00. Book through the Shire

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 Sporting and Community Clubs – 7.00pm, bimonthly at the Wells Recreation Park Clubrooms
- 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 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



David from Capels Mens Shed Showing off their latest project. This is the 3rd bench they have made for the Living Legacy Forest at Wellington Dam and are also working on an octagonal seat for around a tree. Good work chaps and if you would like to join them Capel Mens Shed meets on Wednesday and Saturdays at the Boyanup Railway buildings. For Further details Capelmensshed202018@gmail.com

Congratulations To:

Those locals competing whilst holidaying in the regions-

Ken Gardiner, who unsuccessfully defended his crown as Mens Barn Hill Champion Bowler- next year Ken!

Leanne Depiazzi, who won the Best Double Sponge and Best Jar of Pickles at the Kununurra Agricultural Show and would have won Best Chutney if the judges could have got the lid off. Come on Phil' im sure you could have checked that before the comp!



Bill and Del Nuske celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary on the 20th of August

Stephen Green celebrating his 50th
Lyn Wareham celebrating her 70th



Dardanup Heritage Collective News

Fragile documents back from the brink

Thanks to two recent grants, the Dardanup Heritage Collective has acquired an overhead scanner to allow quick and high-quality digitisation of historic documents and photos for the Dardanup Archive. Grant funding was received from the Shire of Dardanup and the Bunbury Cemetery Board. Digitising means there is a backup in case of damage to the original. It also allows documents to be shared on the Collective's website. In addition, the Collective can take a digital copy of items and then return them to their owners if they don't wish to donate a physical copy to the Archive. The overhead scanner can accommodate larger format photos and foolscap documents.

Whereas in the past these items were mostly copied using a flatbed scanner (like a photocopier), the overhead scanner takes pictures from above. Fragile items don't have to be folded and unfolded into awkward positions on scanners that can generate too much heat and light for their, sometimes, precarious state.

Once the DHC rooms at Little St in Dardanup are modified and fitted out, we hope to invite members of the public to use the scanner for copying their own historic documents.

An example of a recently scanned document is already on our website. The Ferguson Cricket Club Minutes Book – 1920 – 1949 was too fragile to copy on a flatbed scanner but the job was quick and easy using this new piece of equipment.

To have a look at this special document, go to: dardanupheritagecollective.org.au.

Use the Search button (too right corner) and type in Ferguson Cricket Club. **Janice Calcei**



DARDANUP BUSHRANGERS

PLAYERS WANTED!

2026/27 SEASON

SENIORS, JUNIORS & CRICKET BLAST!

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dardanup.cricketclub@outlook.com

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The Dardanup Times thanks our generous sponsors



Thrift Shop Fashion Show & High Tea

Doors Open
12:30pm
Dardanup
Hall
Sunday 16th
August

\$35 entry includes delicious high tea
and glass of bubbles on arrival

Raffle and Lucky Door Prize

Fashions supplied by
'Humble Jumble Thrift
Shop'

To reserve a table/seats and purchase tickets phone
Jill on 0418 281 201 or email: jill.cross@bigpond.com

Raising funds for the...

Solaris Cancer Care

DARDANUP BULL & BARREL FESTIVAL

Humble Jumble Thrift Shop
NOW OPEN
Monday to Friday
9 to 2

72 Brittain Rd, Carey Park.
Leading WA in cancer support
services for people with cancer
and their families

Bussell Hwy & 70 Timperley
Rd Bunbury. Pre loved
clothes, great for your wallet
and great for the planet

Ferguson Valley
Community
DINNER
FRIDAY 7 AUGUST

from 6:30pm
at the
Ferguson Hall

 **FREE
EVENT**

BRING
Winter Dish
OR
Dessert
TO SHARE

**BYO
DRINKS**

OPEN TO THE WHOLE COMMUNITY

SOCIAL RIDES, SHUTTLES, AND ENDURO, XCO RACES

HOSTED BY FERGUSON VALLEY MOUNTAIN BIKE CLUB

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	5TH JULY	PILE RD		
	2ND AUG	WELLINGTON DAM		SHUTTLES
	6TH SEPT	PILE RD		
	20TH SEPT	WELLINGTON DAM		ENDURO, XCO RACES
	1ST NOV	PILE RD		
	22ND NOV	WELLINGTON DAM		
	13TH DEC	PILE RD		

7.30-8.30
CROSS COUNTRY
HANDICAP RACES

8.30-11.30
SOCIAL RIDE, SHUTTLES
AND ENDURO RACES

EST. 2003

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DARDANUP CHAIR YOGA

 1:00pm - 2:00pm

 Wells Recreation Pavilion (Clubrooms)

 Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month



2026	2027
Tuesday 28 th July	Tuesday 9 th February
Tuesday 11 th August	Tuesday 23 rd February
Tuesday 25 th August	Tuesday 9 th March
Tuesday 8 th September	Tuesday 23 rd March
Tuesday 22 nd September	
Break	Break
Tuesday 13 th October	Tuesday 27 th April
Tuesday 27 th October	Tuesday 11 th May
Tuesday 10 th November	Tuesday 25 th May
Tuesday 24 th November	Tuesday 8 th June

