

DECEMBER 2025 | ISSUE 08

# FROM THE RIVER TO THE REEF

CARNARVON & CORAL BAY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



PHOTO: YARNING CIRCLE AND BUSH TUCKER

In this issue

UPCOMING EVENTS | COMMUNITY NEWS | SHIRE UPDATES



Shire of  
**CARNARVON**  
CATCH A *taste* OF THE GREAT LIFE





# CHRISTMAS STREET PARTY

## SATURDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

### 4-8PM

Join us for an unforgettable afternoon of festive fun as Main Street comes alive with music, colour, and community spirit! Bring your friends and family and enjoy free entertainment for all ages, including:

- Children's Rides
- Live band (M8 Mewsic)
- Roaming Entertainers
- Bouncy Castle
- Community Choir
- Local dance performances
- Market stalls
- Delicious food vendors
- Face painting
- Fairy floss



Enjoy the warm summer evening, explore local stalls, grab something tasty to eat, and settle in for an entertainment-packed program that showcases the incredible talent and spirit of our community.

Whether you're bringing the kids for a night of excitement or catching up with friends under the festive lights, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Come along, soak up the atmosphere, and help us celebrate the magic of Christmas together.





# FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we approach the end of 2025, I would like to extend my warmest wishes to everyone in our community for a safe, happy, and enjoyable Christmas and New Year. This season offers an opportunity to reflect on what we've achieved together and to look forward to the year ahead with optimism.

November was a busy and productive month for the Shire. We saw important progress on the Tramway Bridge restoration, with Ventia advancing detailed design work and conducting onsite inspections, a key milestone for this significant community project. We also launched the annual Buy Local Campaign in partnership with the Carnarvon Chamber of Commerce & Industry, encouraging residents to support local businesses throughout the festive period.

Across our works program, ongoing improvements at the Blowholes, road upgrades, and new Farmbot weather stations are helping us maintain safety, support local access, and prepare for the cyclone season. Our community programs continued to thrive, and the WA Tourism Connect event brought industry together as we prepare to host the 2026 WA Tourism Conference.

Thank you to our residents, volunteers, local businesses, Traditional Owners, and community partners for your support throughout the year. I wish you all a wonderful festive season and a bright start to 2026.

Thank you,



**Eddie Smith**  
President, Shire of Carnarvon



## SHIRE PRESIDENT'S MANTRA

STABILISE OUR  
FINANCIAL  
POSITION



IMPROVE OUR  
TOWN AND  
SURROUNDS  
AMENITY



FIX WHAT WE GOT!



## YOU ARE INVITED TO THE NEXT MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

**9**  
DECEMEBR

COMMENCING AT 8.30AM  
**Agenda Forum**  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
STUART STREET, CARNARVON

**16**  
DECEMBER

COMMENCING AT 9.00AM  
**Ordinary Council Meeting**  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
STUART STREET, CARNARVON

**16**  
DECEMBER

COMMENCING AT 10.30AM  
**Audit and Risk Committee**  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
STUART STREET, CARNARVON



# SHIRE UPDATES

## RESTORATION IN MOTION

The Shire of Carnarvon is excited to announce that restoration works on the iconic Tramway Bridge are continuing to progress.

Shire President Eddie Smith met with Ventia onsite last week, in the next step toward bringing the much-loved bridge back to life. Ventia has been contracted to prepare the detailed design and deliver Stage One of the bridge restoration works and were on site to perform required inspections.

"This bridge means so much to our community, it's part of our identity and our history," said President Smith. "Seeing restoration works underway is a powerful sign of progress. We're not just preserving the past, we're investing in a shared future that honours it."

The Australian Government's regional Precinct and Partnership Program (rPPP) funding has been allocated to support the reinforcement of the



multi-faceted cultural trail, including an allocation towards the first stage of the reinstatement of the Tramway Bridge.

The Shire looks forward to providing further updates as the project progresses and thanks the community for its ongoing support.



## MEET THE SHIRE PRESIDENT

Do you have a Shire issue that you wish to discuss or may have a great idea for Carnarvon? The Shire President extends an invitation to members of the public to meet with him to discuss your issues or ideas. Please note that these meetings will be by appointment only. The Shire President will be available every Friday between the hours of 9.00am to 12 noon. If you would like to catch up with the Shire President please contact Dannielle Hill at the Shire Office on 99410050 or by email at [hill.d@carnarvon.wa.gov.au](mailto:hill.d@carnarvon.wa.gov.au)

The Shire President looks forward to meeting with you.





# SHIRE AND CHAMBER TEAM UP FOR BUY LOCAL CAMPAIGN

The Shire of Carnarvon has once again partnered with the Carnarvon Chamber of Commerce and Industry to encourage the community to shop, dine, and spend locally this festive season.

Through the Shire's Outgoing Sponsorship Program, Council has provided \$10,000 to support the Chamber's Christmas Buy Local Campaign and the Dine Local initiative launching in early 2026. The campaign aims to boost local spending, support small businesses and highlight the importance of keeping money circulating within our community.



Shire President Eddie Smith said buying local strengthens jobs and the local economy, while Chamber President Paul Dixon emphasised the difference every local purchase can make.

The Buy Local Campaign launched on 10 November, with the first prize drawn on 14 November. For details on how to get involved, visit the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Facebook page.

# SPONSORSHIP AND GRANTS WITH IAN CRAWFORD

The Shire recently hosted an informative evening for local clubs and not-for-profit organisations with global speaker and coach Ian Crawford. Participants gained valuable insights into strengthening sponsorship approaches, improving grant applications, and building long-term relationships with funding partners. Ian shared practical strategies, real examples, and clear, actionable advice that organisations can apply straight away. The session was very well received, with many groups expressing appreciation for the opportunity to build their capacity and confidence in securing future funding.



# GASCOYNE COUNTRY ZONE WELCOMES NEW LEADERSHIP

The Shire of Carnarvon recently hosted the November Gascoyne Country Zone meeting, where member councils came together to discuss regional priorities.

At the meeting, Cr Paul Kelly (Shire of Carnarvon) was elected Chair, and President Peter Stubberfield (Shire of Shark Bay) was elected Deputy Chair for the 2025-2027 term.

This was their first meeting in these new roles, setting the groundwork for the goals and collaboration they hope to achieve over the coming years.

The Zone also received updates from WALGA and government agencies and discussed key matters such as regional roads, tourism, and advocacy priorities.







## SHIRE OF CARNARVON CREATES LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH THE RJED PROGRAM

The Shire of Carnarvon is proud to be delivering new local employment opportunities through the Remote Jobs and Economic Development (RJED) program, a national initiative supporting long-term local job creation in remote communities.

Through this program, the Shire has secured \$3 million in funding over three years (approximately \$1 million per year), enabling the creation of 13 full-time equivalent positions across a range of work areas. This investment is not only supporting local employment but is also being directly

reinvested into our local economy, helping strengthen Carnarvon's economic resilience.

In partnership with Real Futures Pty Ltd and our local schools, the Shire is working to connect school leavers and community members with meaningful, stable employment. Importantly, all RJED employees will have access to professional development opportunities and the ability to undertake formal qualifications, supporting their long-term career pathways.

By building skills and providing real employment options within the community, this program will help grow our local workforce capacity and increase the number of young people to stay in town, build their careers, and contribute to the future of Carnarvon.

If you're interested in learning more or know someone who might be, simply scan the QR code to find out how to get involved.



## 16 DAYS IN WA CARNARVON CAMPAIGN

The 16 Days in WA campaign begins today, shining a spotlight on Family and Domestic Violence under this year's theme: Play Your Part.

In the lead-up to the campaign, a collaborative community banner was created at the Community Art Hub with Creative Project Manager Carmen Reilly, bringing together contributions from local organisations, schools, and service providers.

Following the march, the banner joined the GRAMS 16 Days in WA Luncheon, marking the official start of Carnarvon's campaign. It will now remain on display until 10 December as a symbol of the community's ongoing commitment to safety, respect, and support for those affected by Family and Domestic Violence.

The banner took centre stage during the Gascoyne Women's Refuge White Ribbon March, supported by the Shire of Carnarvon depot team with traffic management to ensure the community could safely move through town. The march drew strong participation, with many residents joining along the way in a show of unity and awareness.







## WA TOURISM CONNECT EVENT

The Shire of Carnarvon extends its thanks to the many community members and business representatives who joined us for the Tourism Connect event on Tuesday, 25 November. Held in partnership with Tourism Council Western Australia and the Carnarvon Chamber of Commerce & Industry, the evening took place at the One Mile Jetty – Carnarvon Heritage Precinct, providing a truly iconic backdrop.

A special thank you goes to the Heritage Precinct team for hosting us, and to Kestrel Café and Mundillya Homestead for the outstanding catering that made the event even more memorable.

The gathering offered a valuable opportunity for local operators and stakeholders to come together, share insights, and strengthen connections across the tourism sector. It also marked an important step as we continue building momentum toward hosting the 2026 Perth Airport WA Tourism Conference right here in Carnarvon. With just six months to go until the conference on 25–27 May 2026, we encourage everyone to save the date as we prepare to showcase our region and welcome delegates from across Western Australia.



## CELEBRATING SENIORS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Seniors Week 2025 was a wonderful celebration of connection, creativity and community spirit, with events held across Carnarvon that brought our seniors together in meaningful and memorable ways. The week began with Teatime and Wellness Tips at Gwoonwardu Mia, where guests enjoyed a relaxed morning tea and explored the cultural exhibition.

Our Have a Go Day at the Senior Citizens Hall was filled with fun activities, games and plenty of laughter, followed by a packed Community Conversations session at the Carnarvon Library & Art Gallery, featuring special guest author David Price and presentations from the Local History Collection.

Creativity bloomed during a hands-on weaving workshop with Liz Gardner, and the week concluded in true style with a lively Seniors Sundowner at Kestrel Café, brought to life by the acoustic music of Eoghan Monaghan, before wrapping up with a shared lunch and screening of POMS at the Civic Centre.



A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us in celebrating our seniors and shining a spotlight on their valued place in our community. The Program is supported by the Department of Communities and Lotterywest.



## ROAD GRADING WORKS UNDERWAY

Our Works crew is currently completing grading across several key unsealed roads, including Edagee Road, EllaValla-Marron Road, Calagiddy-Winderie Road, Meeragoolia Road, and Yalbalgo North Road. These works help maintain safe access for residents, pastoralists, and visitors as we move into the summer season.

We appreciate the community's patience during this period. If you notice areas requiring attention, please contact the Shire so we can prioritise them appropriately.



## FARMBOT WEATHER

The Shire has installed several new Farmbot weather stations across the region. We are currently working with the supplier to establish a system that will allow pastoralists to access real-time rainfall data, helping support better decision-making and faster response after weather events.

## QUOBBA–GNARALOO ROAD RESHEETING COMPLETED

The Shire has recently completed resheeting along priority sections of Quobba–Gnaraloo Road to improve surface quality, drainage, and overall safety. The project involved importing and compacting new gravel, restoring the road profile, and carrying out targeted drainage upgrades to reduce future washouts.

These improvements provide safer driving conditions, more reliable access for pastoralists and travellers, and reduced long-term maintenance needs. The works are especially timely as the region heads into cyclone and fire season, ensuring this vital coastal route remains accessible when it matters most.



## CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SHINE BRIGHT ON MAIN STREET

This year, Carnarvon's Christmas lights are bigger and brighter than ever! From a sparkling cockatoo and festive Christmas train to towering candy canes and a spectacular 6-metre illuminated reindeer, our main street has truly come to life for the festive season.

Our Lifestyle & Community Team worked closely with the Parks and Gardens crew to bring this display together, including the installation of new electrical pathways to ensure each feature could shine at its best.

We hope the community enjoys the colourful display and that it brings a little extra festive cheer to everyone this season. Wishing you all a joyful and safe Christmas!



# RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

## YASMIN RANGER'S ARTWORK SELECTED FOR SHIRE OF CARNARVON'S RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN



The Shire of Carnarvon is proud to announce that Connection to Country, a powerful artwork by local artist Yasmin Ranger, has been officially chosen by the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Reference Group to feature as the cover image for the Shire's Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2025–2027.



'Connection to Country' (2025)

Was exhibited at the 'Reconciliation - Bridging Now to Next' Exhibition in May 2025  
Acrylic on canvas

Created for the 2025 Reconciliation Exhibition: Bridging Now to Next, Yasmin's piece beautifully captures the deep cultural connection Aboriginal peoples have with the land.

Yasmin, a proud Yindjibarndi woman from the Pilbara, now calls Carnarvon home. After a challenging period,

Yasmin found healing and inspiration through painting at the Community Art Hub in Carnarvon's main street.

"Painting has never been my thing, but now that I'm older, I think it's grown on me," Yasmin shared. "The story behind my artwork comes from when my family had followed our strong cultural love by

going out country. Having love of country, and living off the land, gathering and visiting waterholes. The kangaroo, emu and goanna are mostly what we ate. These times help me feel a connection to country."

Yasmin's artwork not only sold at the exhibition but also resonated deeply with the community and leadership, symbolising the enduring ties to land and culture.



## ARTIST STORY

Hello Carnarvon, my name is Yasmin Ranger. I'm a proud Yindjibarndi woman from the Pilbara who recently moved down from Karratha and Hedland. I've been here about 3-4 years now, and I'm loving every minute of being back down south enjoying Carnarvon's lovely cool weather.

Over the past six months, I've been through a rough patch which led me to get out of the house and find a way to put my mind at ease. That's when I stumbled across the Community Art Hub on the main street and decided to give painting a go.

Painting has never been my thing, but now that I'm older, I think it's grown on me. My very first painting had a very true background and meaning. The ladies at the Art Hub encouraged me to enter it in the Reconciliation Exhibition 2025, and just like that, it sold! I was so excited and wasn't expecting it at all. I just wanted to feel alive again after everything I'd been through.

A few months later, I was checking my emails when I felt that excitement all over again. My piece of art, Connection to Country, had been chosen for the cover of the Reconciliation Action Plan.

The story behind my artwork comes from when my family had followed our strong cultural love by going out country. Having love of country, and living off the land - gathering and visiting waterholes. The kangaroo, emu and goanna are mostly what we ate. These times help me feel a connection to country.

I now feel confident enough to keep going with my art. I'd like to say thanks to all who've helped me along the way.

Yours sincerely,  
Yasmin





# BLOWHOLES MAINTENANCE AND NEW CAMPSITE UPDATES

In early November, the Shire's Works crew completed a series of important maintenance tasks at the Blowholes to improve safety, access, and the overall visitor experience. This included levelling several campsites, installing a new drainage system at the Aquarium car park, and ensuring the boat ramp remained clear and accessible for recreational use.

During this time, we also introduced five new general camping sites and six new Members Only sites. These

areas were previously designated as car parks, but following community feedback and after observing that they were not being used as intended, they have now been redesigned to better meet visitor needs.

These updates reflect our ongoing commitment to maintaining the Blowholes as a safe, enjoyable, and well-managed destination for both locals and visitors.



## Your Christmas Escape Starts Here

Dreaming of salty mornings, coral-blue water and slow summer days? The Blowholes Camping Reserve is the perfect place to unwind this festive season, but sites are booking fast!

- *Swim in crystal-clear lagoons*
- *Wake up to ocean views*
- *Snorkel vibrant coral gardens*
- *Set up camp right by the dunes*
- *Or secure one of our new Members-Only premium sites*

Whether you're planning a family getaway, a sun-soaked road trip or a quiet Christmas by the sea, now is the time to secure your spot.

**BOOK YOUR CAMPSITE:**



## GIRLS GROUP COMMUNITY ART AT TONKIN PARK

The Girls Group enjoyed a creative morning at Tonkin Park, painting repurposed reef modules that have been transformed into decorative cement wreaths. Things got a little messy, but the smiles were worth it the girls were incredibly proud of their colourful creations.

A few young residents from Tonkin Crescent also joined in, turning the activity into a wonderful community moment.

A big thank you to Ngala Carnarvon for leading this activity and supporting our young artists. It's inspiring to see local creativity, teamwork, and recycled materials come together to brighten our neighbourhood.







# RANGER UPDATE

## RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP – KEEP OUR COMMUNITY SAFE

The Shire reminds all dog owners that dogs must be kept on a lead at all times when in public areas, unless in a designated off-leash zone. This ensures the safety of your pet, other animals, and community members.

Failing to keep your dog on a lead in a public place may result in a **\$200 infringement**, so please make sure your furry friend is always under control.

If you witness or experience a dog attack or aggressive behaviour, please report it immediately to the Shire

Rangers, even if your own dog was off lead at the time. All reports help us prevent future incidents, protect the community, and ensure the right actions are taken.

By keeping our dogs on leads and reporting incidents, we're helping make Carnarvon a safer and more enjoyable place for everyone, two-legged and four-legged alike!

To report an incident or concern, contact:  
[rangers@carnarvon.wa.gov.au](mailto:rangers@carnarvon.wa.gov.au)  
(08) 9941 0000



## TURTLE NESTING SEASON BEGINS ON THE NINGALOO COAST

One of the most magical times of the year has arrived along the Ningaloo Coast, with turtle nesting season now underway from November through to March. During this period, mature female green and loggerhead turtles

return to our shores to lay their eggs, a tradition they've followed for generations. About 60 days later, tiny hatchlings begin emerging, usually from January onwards, making their first brave dash toward the ocean.

beaches, and keep pets well away from nesting areas. Beach driving should also be avoided between October and April, as vehicles can damage nests hidden beneath the sand.

With nesting and hatching activity peaking between late October and early April, visitors may be lucky enough to witness these incredible moments firsthand. However, it's important we all play a role in protecting the turtles and their fragile nesting sites.

To help keep them safe, visitors are reminded to follow the Turtle Watching Code of Conduct, minimise artificial lighting near

As we enjoy this special season, let's work together to ensure these remarkable marine creatures continue to thrive along our coastline for generations to come.





# MAJOR PROJECT UPDATE

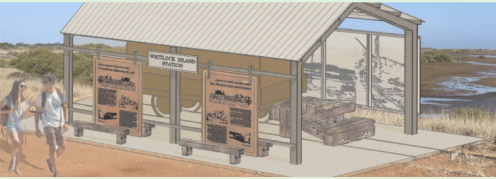
## TRAMWAY WALK TRAIL

The Tramway Walk Trail connects the Tramway Bridge on the Fascine Town Beach to the Carnarvon Heritage Precinct. This project is centred on reinforcing the existing ~2.5km walk into a multi-faceted cultural trail with educational significance. Wayfinding signs, interpretive signs and artwork, viewing points, rest nodes and shade shelters are planned to be located along its length.

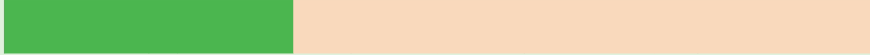
**Stage One:** Works to progress the construction and installation of signage and seating along the trail walk was awarded to local contractor Stuart Parker in October. Works have recently commenced, with Stuart collecting recovered timber from the historic One Mile Jetty for use in the project.

A Public Tender to construct the Tramway Shelter and Healing Shelter is currently advertised (closing 12 December), with the tender award anticipated for early 2026. This project has been made possible through a Lotterywest grant of \$763,530.

**Stage Two:** The Australian Government's regional Precincts and Partnership Program (rPPP) funding has been allocated to support the reinforcement of the existing Tramway Walk Trail into a multi-faceted cultural trail, including an allocation towards the first stage of the reinstatement of the Tramway Bridge. As a critical part of the Trail, connecting town to Babbage Island, the Tramway Bridge stage one works was awarded to Ventia in September 2025. Work has commenced on the detailed design and related site inspections, with restoration works to follow at the Fascine foreshore end of the bridge.



Funding Obtained    Designed    Tender Awarded    Mobilising/Construction    Project Completed



## VAN DONGEN PARK

A destination park focusing on iconic play equipment at an important Carnarvon gateway. Multiple play zones with bespoke equipment and nature plan, public art, turf, trees, picnic nodes, public toilets, lighting and parking.

**Stage One:** The fabrication of the Big Banana play element is nearing completion and necessary geotechnical investigations to confirm footing design for the structure have been completed.

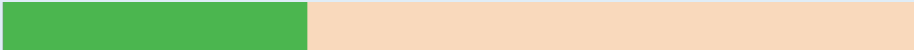
A Public Tender for construction of the park is currently advertised (closing 12 December), with the tender award anticipated for early 2026.

This project has been made possible through a Lotterywest grant of \$1,807,424.

**Stage Two:** rPPP funding has been obtained to support further park improvements to ensure the park is an amenity-rich public open space for the community and visitors alike. The detailed design for Stage Two of the park's development is underway by H&H Architects. This stage may include elements such as lighting, vehicle parking, accessible toilet facilities and further landscaping. A Tender for construction of these additional works will follow in 2026.



Funding Obtained    Designed    Tender Awarded    Mobilising/Construction    Project Completed



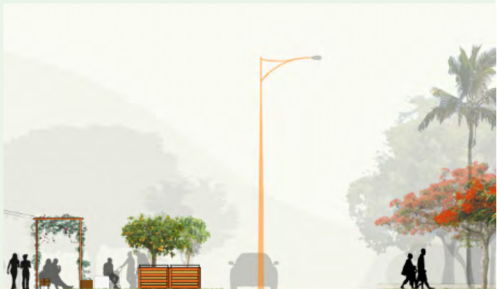
## URBAN FOREST

The Urban Forest focuses on bolstering the quantity of strong street trees set along key arterials, in colourful timber planter boxes and arbors. The combined result is the creation of cool, connected canopies and iconic, activated spaces throughout Carnarvon's CBD, attracting tourists and providing spaces and places for relaxing and consuming local goods. This project will be funded through the rPPP.

**Status:** A Request for Quote is under development to support detailed design and will be released in the coming months.



Funding Obtained    Designed    Tender Awarded    Mobilising/Construction    Project Completed

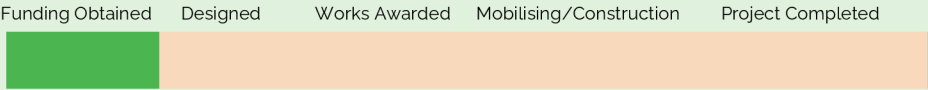




# FASCINE TO HARBOUR WALK

The Walk will further connect the town centre to the Carnarvon Harbour with a continuous pathway, to further amplify and encourage usage of the town's iconic fascine skyline. The Carnarvon Harbour is already home to tourist-related activities and attractions, but the lack of pedestrian amenity makes it difficult to access without a vehicle. Improving the connection of the Harbour to the town centre will give the existing fascine pathway a more tourist-friendly end destination along with increased recreational use for locals. This project will be funded through the rPPP.

**Status:** Due diligence investigations and detailed design of the Fascine to Harbour Walk is underway by Projex Partners. A Tender for the project construction will follow this stage of works.

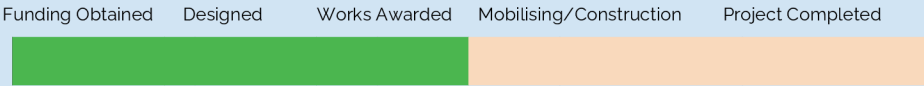


# LOCAL CONNECT & CREATE

Activation of key public spaces including a series of public art installations to encourage exploration and an urban screen to showcase local stories and events to complement 'The Hub', a local making & exhibition space.

**Stage One:** Following artist engagement and detailed design, local contractor W&C Co Mechanical and Civil have recently been awarded works to undertake the construction, coordination and installation of a series of public art pieces for this project. Works have now commenced with the contractor recently collecting recovered timber from the historic One Mile Jetty for use in the project. This has been made possible through a Lotterywest grant of \$786,648.

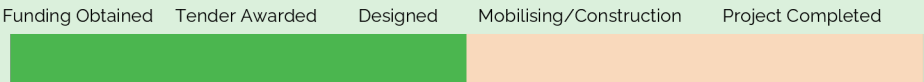
**Stage Two:** Funding has been obtained from the rPPP for the next stage of this project, to deliver a locally created art and lighting trail to the local artist hub to complement Stage One of the project and the town's existing public art. A Request for Quote is under development to support detailed design and will be released in the coming months.



# AIRPORT UPGRADES

Runway upgrades will soon strengthen the region's air connectivity, enhancing safety, supporting tourism and essential services, and securing the long-term future of Carnarvon's airport. This has been made possible through Department of Transport and Major Infrastructure funding of \$7.6M.

**Status:** Design has commenced by Aerodrome Management Services (AMS).



Scan QR Code for more information on current & completed projects:







# December

Exquisite Bodies  
Until 28th Feb 2026  
Check for Opening Hours  
Library & Art Gallery



Christmas Storytime Party  
Tuesday 9th December  
10.00am - 11.00am  
Library & Art Gallery



16 Days Closing Morning  
Tea  
Wednesday 10th December  
10.00am - 11.00am  
Library & Art Gallery



Be Connected | Apps for  
Smarter Travel  
Thursday 11th December  
10.00am - 12.00am  
Library & Art Gallery



Beach Day  
Friday 19th December  
12.00pm - 3.00pm  
Town Beach



Champagne & Cheese Night  
Friday 19th December  
12.00pm - 3.00pm  
Cuppa & Crumb



Five Nights at Freddy's 2  
Saturday 20th December  
5.00pm - 7.00pm  
Camel Lane Cinema



Christmas Day  
Thursday 25th December



Zootopia 2  
Wednesday 7th January  
3.00pm - 5.00pm  
Camel Lane Cinema



Lego Build Challenge  
Thursday 8th January  
10.00am - 11.30am  
Library & Art Gallery



Fishing  
Friday 9th January  
12.00pm - 3.00pm  
Town Beach



Carnarvon Windfest  
Friday 9th January  
Refer to event page  
Bush Bay





# Events



Human Intelligence,  
Artificial Art by Josh Herriets  
Thursday 11th December  
2.00pm - 4.00pm  
Library & Art Gallery



Boardgames Club  
Saturday 13th December  
10.00am - 11.30am  
Library & Art Gallery



Christmas Street Party  
Saturday 13th December  
4.00pm - 8.00pm  
Main Street



Opening Closets Training  
Wednesday 17th December  
9.00am - 1.00pm  
Gwoonwardu Mia



New Year's Day  
Thursday 1st January 2026



Pool Party  
Monday 5th January  
11.00am - 3.00pm  
Aquatic Centre



Games Day  
Tuesday 6th January  
11.00am - 1.30pm  
Mayu Mia Youth Hub



Creative Sparks Program  
Tuesday 6th January  
2.00pm - 4.00pm  
Community Art Hub



Carnarvon Windfest  
Saturday 10th January  
Refer to event page  
Bush Bay



Carnarvon Windfest  
Sunday 11th January  
Refer to event page  
Bush Bay



Pool Party  
Monday 12th January  
11.00am - 3.00pm  
Aquatic Centre



School Holiday Program  
Tuesday 13th January  
11.00am - 4.00pm  
PCYC & Community Art Hub



For more Information visit our website  
[www.carnarvon.wa.gov.au/community/events](http://www.carnarvon.wa.gov.au/community/events)



# Community



## HONOURING REMEMBRANCE DAY

The Carnarvon community came together to honour the courage and sacrifice of those who have served our nation in wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations. The Shire thanks everyone who attended the service led by the Gascoyne RSL Sub-Branch, and for paying their respects by observing one minute of silence at 11.00 am. Students at Carnarvon Christian School contributed with beautifully handmade wreaths and lanterns, reflecting their appreciation of those we have lost and those who continue to serve. An army truck brought down by Jana Kingston inspired a sense of pride, compassion, and honour for these real-life heroes.



## HMAS SYDNEY II MEMORIAL SERVICE

On 19 November, the Gascoyne RSL Sub-Branch held a commemorative service honouring the 645 Australians lost when *HMAS Sydney II* was sunk in 1941 after an engagement with the German raider *Kormoran* off the Western Australian coast. Community members gathered to pay tribute to the crew's courage and sacrifice, sharing a toast in their memory and reflecting on their service during World War II. This annual memorial stands as a lasting reminder of their bravery and the significant place HMAS Sydney holds in Australia's naval history.



Lest We Forget





Photo by: Midwest Times



## JUNIOR CRICKET RETURNS TO CARNARVON

After a six-year break due to COVID restrictions, junior cricket has made a strong comeback in Carnarvon, with more than 70 children registered to begin training this week. The revival of the Carnarvon Junior Cricket Association has been led by local parent and business owner Kara Stalker, who also runs Outback Floral Design. She relaunched the Woolworths Cricket Blast program last year, which grew from 45 participants to 74 this season.

The Shire of Carnarvon has supported the program with a \$2,500 contribution to help get them back on the pitch. WA Cricket representative Tia Hatch has provided invaluable guidance throughout the program's rebuild. She recently travelled from Geraldton to run a coaching course for 10 local participants, strengthening the skills and confidence of community volunteers. Interest from boys and girls aged 4 to 13 continues to grow, with 20 girls already enrolled.

Plans are also underway for a girls-only program in Term 1 next year. With the popularity of the junior game rising, there is renewed excitement about restarting the senior competition. The community looks forward to seeing the next generation of cricketers hit it out of the park. Training is held each Tuesday from 4.30 pm to 5.30 pm at Baston Pavilion in East Carnarvon.

## GASCOYNE GYMNASTICS CLUB SHINES AT STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS



The Gascoyne Gymnastics Club had an amazing weekend at the State Championships in Perth, travelling by plane with support from generous sponsors Carnarvon Growers Association, Carnarvon Medical Centre, and Everywhere Travel. Our talented gymnasts dazzled on the competition floor, achieving personal bests and proudly bringing home multiple ribbons.

Congratulations to the winners:

### Level 4:

- Abigail Condo – Personal best

### Level 3:

- Cleo – Silver
- Eleanor – Bronze
- Evelyn – Bronze
- Aaliyah – Bronze

The Shire celebrates the dedication, courage, and spirit of all Gascoyne Gymnastics Club athletes. Their outstanding achievements highlight the strength of Carnarvon's sporting community and the value of supporting our local champions.





# GASCOYNE RIVER BUSHFIRE BRIGADE FIELD DAY IN CARNARVON



The Gascoyne River Bushfire Brigade demonstrated how they work to keep our community safe from bushfires through a hands-on and informative event. Supported by the Bushfire Volunteers Association, children were thrilled to meet Bushy Bear and Squirt, the world's smallest fire truck.

The day featured plenty of engaging activities, with kids able to try real fire-fighting equipment and get a feel for what it's like to be part of the team. Live fire safety demonstrations, along with bushfire awareness and preparedness tips, were also shared, and the community had the chance to explore the facilities on display.

Living in a region where bushfires are ever-present, this event was a valuable reminder of the importance of staying vigilant and prepared. We extend our gratitude to the volunteers. Your bravery, commitment, and dedication to keeping our community safe never go unnoticed.



## STATE FINALISTS – CARNARVON'S LITTER LEGENDS

Carnarvon's Litter Legends have been named State finalists, a proud achievement for a volunteer-led program that has transformed local clean-up efforts into a community movement.

Led by dedicated volunteers Wayne and Jeannette, the group has inspired residents of all ages to get involved, strengthening community spirit and encouraging shared responsibility for our environment. What began

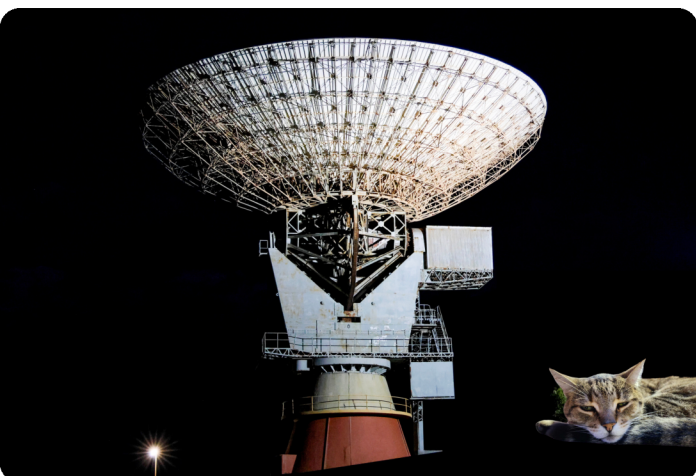
So far, Litter Legends have delivered 42 clean-up events across 17 sites, collecting more than 800 large bags of rubbish. Their efforts have not only improved the appearance of our town but have also shifted public attitudes. Locals now regularly thank volunteers while they work, showing a visible rise in community pride. Litter Legends is more than a clean-up group; it's a symbol of what local action, commitment, and collaboration can achieve. Congratulations to our State finalists!

through the Shire's Clean Community Coffees pilot, supported by Keep Australia Beautiful WA grants, has now grown into an impressive community initiative.





## A NEW ERA FOR CARNARVON'S ICONIC SATELLITE DISH



Power has officially been reconnected to Carnarvon's historic satellite dish, marking the first major step in its transformation after nearly four decades of inactivity. Canadian space company ThothX is preparing to upgrade the dish with deep space radar capability, enabling it to detect objects in geostationary orbit where many of Earth's key communications satellites operate.

Managing Director Phil Youd and Museum Manager Tim Shackcloth said the power connection is just the beginning of an exciting journey. With electricity restored, the team can now install equipment, run transmission tests, and confirm the dish's operational readiness before moving on to full-scale renovations.

The project has generated great excitement and is expected to be a major draw, with 250–300 visitors already coming daily during peak season. And of course, Buzz the cat will be on hand to give everyone a "pur-fect lift-off" into the world of space exploration! This milestone represents an exciting new chapter for the site. Congratulations to ThothX on this remarkable achievement and for bringing new life to a piece of Carnarvon's space history.

## CARNARVON MUSEUM OPEN DAY A RESOUNDING SUCCESS



The One Mile Jetty Heritage Precinct recently held its Museum Open Day on 30 November 2025, welcoming the community to explore developments since the precinct's reopening in June 2024. The event was a wonderful opportunity for locals to see the ongoing work and enjoy a day of discovery, refreshments, and community engagement.

A range of activities was on, including the announcement of the colouring-in competition winners, with prizes generously donated by Toyworld Carnarvon and Talomac Tackle and Camping. Despite the heat, the strong turnout reinforced the vital role of community involvement in ensuring the precinct remains a must-visit destination.



A recent highlight for the precinct has been the construction of a new playground, completed by dedicated volunteers. This project not only provides a safe and enjoyable space for children to play but also stands as a testament to the remarkable community spirit that Carnarvon possesses.



# LOCAL BUSINESS FEATURE



## CELEBRATING OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

As we come to the end of another busy year, the Shire of Carnarvon would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the many local businesses that have worked alongside us throughout 2025. From tourism operators and retailers to trades, service providers, hospitality teams and community-minded organisations. Each partnership has played an important role in strengthening our town.

Your support has helped deliver events, improve facilities, enhance visitor experiences, and contribute to projects that benefit the whole community. Whether through collaboration, sponsorship, services, or simply showing up when needed, our local businesses continue to demonstrate the resilience, creativity, and generosity that make Carnarvon such a special place to live, work and visit.

Thank you for your commitment to our region and for being valued partners in building a vibrant and thriving Carnarvon. We look forward to continuing this work together in the year ahead.



AND SO MANY MORE!



# CARNARVON CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY



## SHOP LOCAL THIS CHRISTMAS, CARNARVON!

This festive season, let's celebrate the incredible small businesses that make our community shine. Whether you're hunting for the perfect gift, catering, or something special for your Christmas table, our locals have you covered with absolute gems!

Here's just a taste of what's waiting for you around town:

- Cuppa & Crumb Cafe: Beautiful little gift ideas, treat boxes for sharing (or keeping for yourself), and stunning teas that make the perfect stocking filler!
- Telomac Tackle & Camping: All your fishing and camping essentials ready for summer plus the limited edition Yeti colours everyone's talking about! Perfect for the adventurer in your life.
- Kestrel Cafe: Planning a Christmas party? Let Kestrel take the stress out of it with their delicious catering options.
- Taste of Italy by Valeria: Think Christmas platters but elevated - local delicacies, premium cheeses, cured meats, and all the Italian goodness Valeria is known for. Your Christmas table = sorted!
- OutBack Floral Designs: Gorgeous, ready-made gift packs that make gifting a breeze. Thoughtful, beautifully put together, and made with love.





# LIBRARY



## SENIORS WEEK 2025: COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS AND CONVERSATIONS

The Library Lounge was filled with over 40 locals and visitors as special guest author David Price shared insights into his latest book *The Shameful Isles*. David guided the audience along with interesting questions about history and truth-telling, offering some understanding on how he worked through the process of bringing over 700 referenced works together. This significant achievement now makes

this story more accessible to a wider audience and continues the journey of acknowledging Western Australia's past.

After a break for morning tea, the seniors enjoyed a presentation from the Library Team, showcasing Cecily Miller's *Photographical History of Carnarvon and the Gascoyne*. Thank you to our library volunteer Christine who shared her recent work on these volumes, and thanks also to Rowena,

Cecily's daughter, who shared personal insights about Cecily's life outside her research work.

Our Library Team look forward to ongoing conversations with our community, ensuring that we continue to work together in preserving and sharing Carnarvon's stories. This year's event was supported by the Department of Communities and Lotterywest. Stay tuned for our 2026 Seniors Week program!

## YOUNG FILM-MAKERS FOCUS ON HERITAGE

The library's STEAM program *The Makers Hub: Film-Maker Edition* swung into action in Term 4 under the tutelage of Gascoyne Media. The budding filmmakers, aged between 11 and 17 years, were given a project brief to showcase Carnarvon's rich heritage using the power of the camera and computer in their pocket: smartphones!

Over the four week program, attendees learnt the roles of Camera Operator, Narrator, Editor and Sound Technician. An expedition to The One Mile Jetty Precinct was a chance to tour the newly upgraded Precinct and Lighthouse Cottage, and film an interview with local legend Joan Seth. A follow-up interview with Carnarvon local John McCloy was another

chance to put their new video and audio capture skills to the test. Working together, the students learnt how to 'cut to the beat', utilise the green screen effect, and how to story tell through sound and narration. In this way they were able to relate historical events in their own community through the editing process. Thanks to The LBW Trust funding received for this program, providing learning opportunities for young people in regional and remote Western Australian communities.

The Makers Hub returns in 2026 with more STEAM workshops for kids, so keep an eye on our website!





# CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

*Share the joy this Christmas!*

3 - 16 DECEMBER 2025  
CARNARVON LIBRARY & ART GALLERY

Spread some Christmas cheer by donating a gift to our community

## CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

between 3–16 December 2025!

Simply drop off a new, wrapped, non-perishable gift  
at the library during our opening hours.

Please label your gift with its target age and gender.

All donations will be distributed by Mission Australia  
to local community members who may not  
otherwise receive a present this festive season.

*Let's make Christmas brighter together!*

*This initiative is brought to you by*



**MISSION  
AUSTRALIA**



# MONSTER MAYHEM!

**COMING TO THE LIBRARY THIS SUMMER!**



Join the **Summer Reading Quest**

Read books and conquer challenges to win monstrous prizes!

More details will be announced soon,  
including monster-themed school holiday events!



# COMMUNITY ART HUB

## FRIDAY NIGHT ART CLUB: WHERE THE WEEK UNWINDS AND CREATIVITY FLOWS

A new artist every week, new skills to learn and new people to meet.

There's something special happening every Friday night at the Community Art Hub, and it's the perfect antidote to the working week.

Friday Night Art Club brings you a rotating lineup of talented local and visiting artists who share their expertise through interactive workshops. Each week unveils a different art form: painting, sculpture, printmaking, mixed media, and more. It's hands-on, it's social, and it's a brilliant way to upskill while unwinding.



Come for the art, stay for the community.

Meet fellow creatives, try something completely new, or just embrace that Friday feeling – these evenings are all about connection and good vibes. Plus, there's delicious food to fuel your creativity.



Art experience optional, Friday fun guaranteed!

Friday Night Art Club is a grant-funded initiative through the Carnarvon Alcohol & Other Drug Working Group (CAOD) which is administered by the Shire of Carnarvon with funding from the Alcohol and Drug Foundation. These nights are all about creativity, connection, and offering a safe and fun way to socialise alcohol-free.



## SUPPORT LOCAL ART 365 DAYS A YEAR!

Take a piece of the gallery home with you! We are thrilled to launch our limited-edition Gascoyne Artists Calendar, celebrating the incredible talent right here in our region. This stunning collection features curated artworks from our 2025 standout exhibitions; Reconciliation Exhibition: Bridging Now to Next, and Radical Futures: SOLID GROUND.

Best of all, this is a purchase with a purpose. All proceeds go directly to our Community Art Hub, helping us keep the creativity flowing. Grab yours before they sell out!

Available at the Visitor Centre, Shire Office, Library & Art Gallery, the Community Art Hub and at Cuppas & Crumb.





# ART GALLERY

## EXQUISITE BODIES | INTRODUCING THE CREATIVE FACILITATORS NEW FACES AT THE GALLERY!

FOR MORE INFO  
& BOOKINGS



The Exquisite Bodies project is in full swing, and we want you to meet the creative powerhouse leading the charge. Get to know Project Manager Stu and our trio of Creative Facilitators, Jimmy, Josh, and Andre.

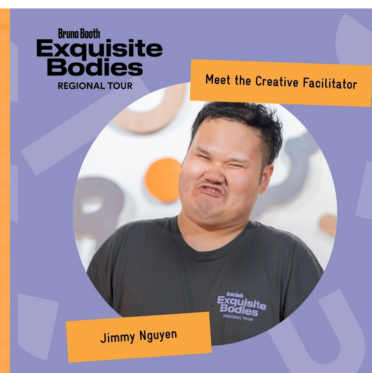


Meet the Creative Facilitator

Joshua Herrits

### About Josh Herrits:

Meet Josh, a lifelong creator and proud West Aussie who has called Carnarvon home for years. As a creative facilitator for the Exquisite Bodies exhibition, his passion for community and collaboration shines. Guided by his daily mantras: "Don't judge people by their looks," "Be kind, be yourself," and "Strong self, strong spirit."

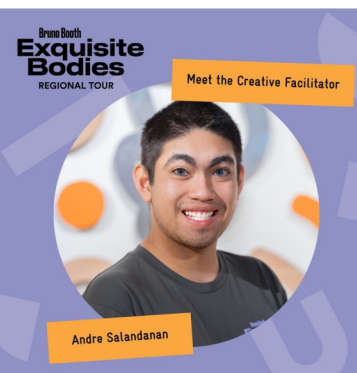


Meet the Creative Facilitator

Jimmy Nguyen

### About Jimmy Nguyen:

Meet Jimmy, a multitalented 25-year-old artist on the autism spectrum. Not only is he the artist behind Creative Way of Doing Art, but he's also a creative facilitator for the amazing Exquisite Bodies exhibition! His personal exhibition is an invitation to celebrate a different way of seeing!



Meet the Creative Facilitator

Andre Salandanan

### About Andre Salandanan:

Meet Andre Salandanan, an enthusiastic and approachable artist who brings a positive energy and a spark to the community. His love for interacting with people of all ages shines in his role as one of the three creative facilitators for this exhibition. He hopes to one day inspire and help other artists to achieve their own creative dreams.



Meet the Project Manager

Stuart McMillan

### About Stuart McMillan:

Working as a multidisciplinary artist and facilitator for over 20 years, I enjoy sharing art with individuals and community, to see the connections it nurtures and generates. Working across generations, I have experienced first-hand the healing power of the arts. I believe Art and Creativity is for all to experience and embrace.

This exhibition needs you and your friends! Exquisite Bodies is interactive, so it literally comes alive when people step in. Want the full experience? Bring a group!

## BOOK THE NOOK | CALL FOR ARTISTS HAVE YOUR OWN EXHIBITION NEXT YEAR AT THE NOOK!

Ready to see your art on the wall? The Carnarvon Library & Art Gallery has just a couple of spots left for month-long exhibitions in 2026, and we want you to fill them!

"Book the Nook" is the perfect, low-pressure way to debut your work. Whether you want to dip your toes into selling or simply learn the ropes of curating, our team is here to support you.

### We'll help you master:

- Professional hanging and "hooking" (a skill for life!)
- Curating your display for maximum impact.
- Confident pricing.
- Marketing your show through Gallery & Shire channels.

### Remaining 2026 Dates:

17 March – 11 April

20 Oct – 14 Nov

24 Nov – 18 Dec

### Ready to claim your space?

Email: [artgallery@carnarvon.wa.gov.au](mailto:artgallery@carnarvon.wa.gov.au)

Call: (08) 9941 3388







FOR MORE INFO

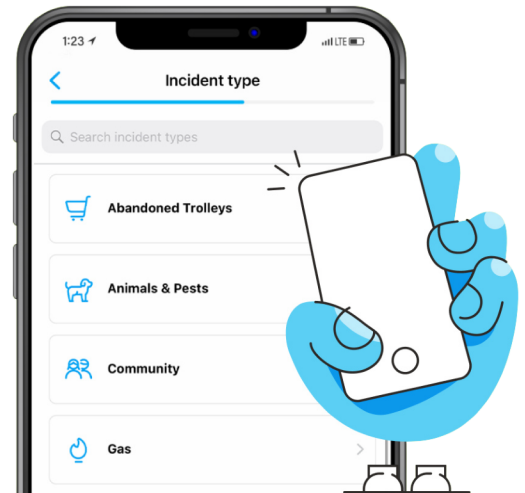


# SNAP SEND SOLVE

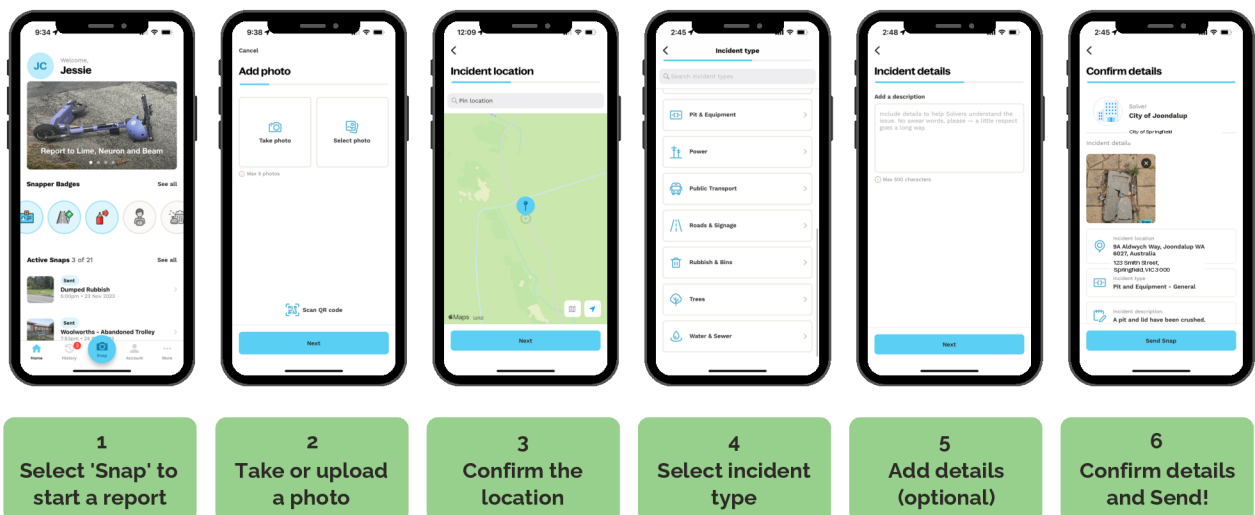
## BEING A COMMUNITY LEGEND HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER!

### Why use the app?

-  The fastest way to report, anywhere
-  See your impact
-  Be an advocate for your local area
-  Be confident your Snap has been received



### HOW TO USE THE SNAP SEND SOLVE APP



Examples of issues you can report through the app directly to the Shier team



## DOWNLOAD THE APP







## Rubbish Collection

### **Monday**

Morgantown / Babbage Island

### **Tuesday**

South Carnarvon

### **Wednesday**

Brockman

### **Thursday**

East Carnarvon / Kingsford / Brown Range

### **Wednesday**

Plantations - North / South



## Browns Range Waste Disposal Facility

Monday - Friday

7.00am - 4.00pm

Sunday

8.00am - 2.00pm

Closed Saturday & Public Holidays



## Aquatic Centre

### **Monday - Thursday**

10.00am - 6.00pm

### **Friday - Sunday**

10.00am - 5.00pm

### **Monday, Wednesday & Friday**

6.00am - 8.00am

(Lap Swimming Only)

### **Closed on all Public Holidays**

The Aquatic Centre management

team can be contacted on

[btx6701@outlook.com](mailto:btx6701@outlook.com).

Or call 9941 1415 during opening hours.

You can also check out what's happening at the Aquatic Centre on Facebook.

For further details and fees please visit the Shire of Carnarvon website.



## Share Your Story!

Have a local event, story, or announcement to share? Email [media@carnarvon.wa.gov.au](mailto:media@carnarvon.wa.gov.au) to be featured in our next community newsletter!

Merry Christmas

## Shire Administration

3 Francis Street, Carnarvon

Monday - Friday

9.00am - 4.00pm

Closed Public Holidays



Text or call 0427 410 046



(08) 9941 0000



[shire@carnarvon.wa.gov.au](mailto:shire@carnarvon.wa.gov.au)

## Library & Art Gallery

18 Egan Street, Carnarvon

Tuesday - Friday

9.30am - 5.00pm

Saturday

9.30am - 12.30pm

Closed Monday, Sunday & Public Holidays



(08) 9941 3727



[library.gallery@carnarvon.wa.gov.au](mailto:library.gallery@carnarvon.wa.gov.au)

## Join Our Team!



Exciting career opportunities are now open at the Shire of Carnarvon! Explore current vacancies and take the next step in your career at:

[www.carnarvon.wa.gov.au](http://www.carnarvon.wa.gov.au)

## Civic Centre

For information relating to the hire of the Woolshed, contact the Visitor Centre



(08) 9941 1146



[shire@carnarvon.wa.gov.au](mailto:shire@carnarvon.wa.gov.au)

## Visitor Centre

Cnr Robinson Street/Camel Lane

### May - October

Monday - Friday

9.00am - 5.00pm

Saturday

9.00am - 12.30pm

Closed Sunday

### November - April

Monday - Friday

9.00am - 3.00pm

Closed Saturday & Sunday



(08) 9941 1146



[info@carnarvon.org.au](mailto:info@carnarvon.org.au)