

APRIL 2026 | ISSUE 12

# FROM THE RIVER TO THE REEF

CARNARVON & CORAL BAY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



PHOTO: HARMONY WEEK - MAING "LU" AT KESTREL

In this issue

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

# FROM THE COUNCIL

March was a significant month for Carnarvon and Coral Bay, bringing both challenges and moments that highlighted the strength of our community.

At the end of the month, Ex-Tropical Cyclone Narelle and the associated flooding impacted many across our region, affecting homes, businesses, roads and local infrastructure. While these events are never easy, it was encouraging to see our community come together, supporting one another through both the immediate response and ongoing recovery.

Council continues to lead recovery efforts in close coordination with key partners, ensuring a strong and supported response for residents, businesses and our agricultural sector across Carnarvon and Coral Bay.

March also saw strong community connection, with programs like Connect, Create and Engage and Harmony Week celebrations bringing people together across Carnarvon and Coral Bay. Planning is also well underway for major upcoming events, including the WA Tourism Conference, which will provide an opportunity to showcase our region and support local businesses.

As we move into the coming months, our focus remains on recovery, resilience and continuing to build a strong, connected community.

On behalf of Council, thank you for your ongoing support and contribution to Carnarvon and Coral Bay.

Thank you,

**Shire of Carnarvon Council**

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Shire of Carnarvon delivers a wide range of services that support everyday life in our community, from maintaining local roads and parks to managing waste, supporting events, libraries, recreation facilities and tourism.

Behind the scenes, Shire teams also play a key role in emergency response, community recovery, environmental health and long-term planning to help Carnarvon and Coral Bay continue to grow and thrive.

## YOU ARE INVITED TO THE NEXT MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

**21**  
APRIL

COMMENCING AT 12.30PM

### **Agenda Briefing**

COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
STUART STREET, CARNARVON

**21**  
APRIL

COMMENCING AT 1.30PM

### **Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee**

COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
STUART STREET, CARNARVON

**28**  
APRIL

COMMENCING AT 10.00AM

### **Ordinary Council Meeting**

COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
STUART STREET, CARNARVON



## COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS – MARCH 2026

At the March Ordinary Council Meeting, Council considered a range of governance, infrastructure and strategic planning matters that continue to support Carnarvon's growth, transparency and long-term development.

Council received updates from regional stakeholders, including Western Australia Police, providing insight into local trends, service delivery and key issues impacting the Mid West Gascoyne region. These updates help ensure Council remains informed and connected to broader regional priorities.

Council also made a practical decision to amend the May 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting date to Thursday 28 May 2026, ensuring it does not conflict with the WA Tourism Conference being hosted in Carnarvon. This adjustment supports the successful delivery of this significant state event, which will require coordination across multiple areas including logistics, stakeholder engagement and communications.

Supporting the continued delivery of key projects, Council endorsed a Memorandum of Understanding with Main Roads Western Australia for works within the road reserve at Van Dongen Park. This agreement is an important step in progressing improvements within the precinct, helping to facilitate planned works while clearly defining responsibilities between agencies. It also ensures that ongoing maintenance and management of the area is incorporated into the Shire's long-term asset planning, supporting both functionality and presentation of this key community space. The works at Van Dongen Park form part of broader efforts to enhance public spaces, improve accessibility and contribute to the overall activation of Carnarvon's town centre.

Council also considered matters relating to future planning and development, including discussions around proposed renewable energy infrastructure in the region. These conversations highlighted the importance of community consultation, planning considerations and balancing development with local values and environment.

Overall, the March meeting reflects Council's ongoing focus on strong governance, supporting major projects, and ensuring Carnarvon is well positioned to deliver key initiatives, including the upcoming WA Tourism Conference.



# EX-TROPICAL CYCLONE NARELLE AND ASSOCIATED FLOODS

At the end of March, Ex-Tropical Cyclone Narelle brought significant impacts across Carnarvon and Coral Bay, with heavy rainfall, strong winds and associated flooding affecting homes, businesses, roads and community infrastructure.



For many residents, the event was disruptive and, at times, overwhelming. Intense rainfall led to localised flooding across parts of Carnarvon and Coral Bay, impacting access to properties, isolating some areas and placing pressure on drainage systems and road networks. Combined with strong winds, the event caused damage to infrastructure, debris across the community, and ongoing clean-up requirements across both urban and rural areas. Local growers were again impacted, following earlier seasonal challenges, adding further pressure to an already stretched agricultural sector.

Despite these challenges, the strength of the Carnarvon and Coral Bay community was evident. Neighbours checked in on each other, families worked together to prepare and recover, and local crews responded quickly to keep the community safe.

Support services and financial assistance may be available to help residents, businesses and primary producers across Carnarvon and Coral Bay recover. Those impacted are encouraged to reach out early to access practical, financial or wellbeing support. Find more information on the next bottom page.

## LEADING RECOVERY FOR OUR COMMUNITY

The Shire of Carnarvon is leading local recovery efforts across Carnarvon and Coral Bay, working closely with key State Government agencies to ensure a coordinated and supported response.

Recovery is not just about clean up, it is about supporting people, restoring services, and helping Carnarvon and Coral Bay return to normal as quickly and safely as possible.

Shire teams, alongside contractors and partner agencies, have been working across multiple fronts, including clearing debris and restoring access to roads, assessing and responding to flood affected areas, repairing community infrastructure, supporting waste and clean up operations, and coordinating information and support services for residents. This work will continue over the coming weeks as recovery progresses.



## PREMIER'S RELIEF PAYMENT AVAILABLE

Financial support is available for residents of Carnarvon and Coral Bay impacted by Ex-Tropical Cyclone Narelle through the Premier's Relief Payment.

Eligible households whose homes were directly damaged may receive a one-off payment of \$4,000 for severe damage or destruction, or \$2,000 for major damage. The payment is designed to assist with essential needs such as food, clothing, personal items, transport and emergency accommodation.

Residents are encouraged to check their eligibility and apply.

For more information, contact 1800 490 678 Monday to Friday between 9am and 4pm, or email [recoverygrants@dfes.wa.gov.au](mailto:recoverygrants@dfes.wa.gov.au)



## MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

While Ex-Tropical Cyclone Narelle and the associated flooding have had a significant impact across Carnarvon and Coral Bay, our community has once again shown its resilience.

Recovery takes time, but with strong partnerships, coordinated support, and a community that looks out for one another, Carnarvon and Coral Bay will continue to move forward together.

The Shire remains committed to supporting the community every step of the way and will continue to provide updates as recovery progresses.



## WHERE TO FIND HELP AND INFORMATION

To stay informed and access the latest recovery information following Ex-Tropical Cyclone Narelle, we encourage all residents to scan the QR code provided. This will take you directly to a central hub of information, including recovery updates, frequently asked questions, key contacts, available financial support options and a Community Impact Form.

If you prefer to speak with someone directly or need further assistance, the Shire of Carnarvon is here to help. You can contact the team on 08 9941 0000 or via email at [community.recovery@carnarvon.wa.gov.au](mailto:community.recovery@carnarvon.wa.gov.au), and staff will guide you to the appropriate support services.



## STAY INFORMED

### CYCLONE RECOVERY INFORMATION

The Shire of Carnarvon has a dedicated Ex-Tropical Cyclone Narelle webpage available to support residents across Carnarvon and Coral Bay during recovery.

This page brings together all key information in one place, including the latest updates, available financial assistance, frequently asked questions, and important contact details to help guide the community through recovery. Residents can also find practical information on services such as waste, road updates and available support.

The Shire continues to work closely with community members, local service providers and government agencies to ensure residents remain informed, supported and connected throughout the recovery process.

Community members are encouraged to visit the page regularly to stay up to date and access the support available.



Scan the QR code to access the Recovery Page and complete the Community Impact Form. Your feedback is important and will help shape recovery efforts.

## \$20 GIFT VOUCHERS TO A LOCAL CAFÉ FOR 75 LUCKY VOLUNTEERS

As National Volunteer Week approaches, Centacare Volunteer Services would love to take a moment to say thank you to our incredible volunteers in Carnarvon. Your time, care and commitment make a real difference in our community, and we are so grateful for everything you do.

National Volunteer Week runs from 18<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026, and this year's theme is "Your Year to Volunteer". To show our appreciation, we will be gifting seventy-five \$20 gift vouchers to current volunteers and anyone who registers as a volunteer. Let's celebrate National Volunteer Week together and make it a special one!

To learn more about eligibility, how to register, or about volunteering in general, please contact us by leaving a text message, and we will respond on Fridays, between 9 am – 12 pm.

**Facebook:** Centacare Family Services Carnarvon

**Website:** [centacaregeraldton.org.au](http://centacaregeraldton.org.au)



## CELEBRATING THE HEART AND SOUL OF OUR COMMUNITY

This year's National Volunteer Week theme, "Your Year to Volunteer" honours the contributions of volunteers and encourages people across Australia to make 2026 the year they get involved and make a difference. From young changemakers to lifelong volunteers, from dedicated community groups to outstanding sporting clubs, we want to celebrate them all.

Our annual National Volunteer Awards will be held on Saturday, 5 December 2026, aligning with International Volunteer Day. This special evening will include a full awards ceremony, food, entertainment and a well-deserved night of recognition for our volunteers.



Nominations are now open! Scan the QR code to Nominate or pop into the Shire Office to grab a form today!





### TIME TO SHINE, CARNARVON!

Let's put our best foot forward. Stock up, brighten your shopfront and welcome visitors with pride.

### SECURE YOUR SPOT TODAY

Don't miss out!



#### Registrations are open for the WA Tourism Conference 2026

We're proud to be hosting the conference right here in Carnarvon, bringing industry, opportunity and visitors to our region.

Local and regional businesses, this is your chance to connect, learn and be part of something big.

Scan QR Code to register



#### Be Part of the WA Tourism Conference Dinner

We're calling on our community to help bring the WA Tourism Conference Dinner to life.

If you have a potted plant you'd be happy to loan, we'd love to include it. All plants will be clearly labelled, carefully looked after, and returned after the event.

This is a great way to be part of the conference and help showcase our community.

Scan QR Code to register



Scan QR Code to register



#### Volunteers Wanted

The WA Tourism Conference is coming to Carnarvon from 25 to 27 May, and we're calling on our community to get involved.

We're looking for volunteers to assist with a range of roles across the event, from welcoming delegates to supporting functions and helping behind the scenes. Whether you can help for a few hours or across multiple days, your support will help showcase Carnarvon and the Gascoyne at its best.



Scan QR Code to register



# GNULLI FESTIVAL

22 - 24 May 2026

YINGGARDA COUNTRY,  
CARNARVON

A vibrant celebration of Country, culture and community, showcasing the traditions of the **Yinggarda** and **Baiyungu** people. Meaning "All of Us" or "Two of Us," Gnulli brings people together through music, art and storytelling.

**DRONE SHOW • STORYTELLING  
STREET FESTIVAL • LIVE MUSIC  
CULTURAL WORKSHOPS**



Event Partners



Presented by



Principal Sponsor



Major Sponsors



WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
WALKING ON A DREAM



Event Host



SCAN QR CODE FOR FULL  
PROGRAM OF EVENTS  
OR VISIT  
[WWW.GNULLIFESTIVAL.COM.AU](http://WWW.GNULLIFESTIVAL.COM.AU)



# HARMONY WEEK 2026

As part of Harmony Week, the community came together at Kestrel Café for a special cultural experience, learning how to prepare “Lu”, a traditional Tongan dish.



It was a wonderful evening of sharing culture, stories and food, celebrating the diversity that makes our community so unique. Participants had the opportunity to learn firsthand how Lu is prepared, with a choice of fillings including corned beef, chicken or lamb, creating a rich and flavourful dish enjoyed by all.

A big thank you to the team at Kestrel Café for hosting the event, preparing the food and guiding everyone through the cooking process, and to all who attended and helped make the evening such a meaningful celebration.



# GASCOYNE ART AWARDS ENTRIES NOW OPEN!

MORE INFORMATION ON PAGE 24

## HOW TO ENTER

Collect your entry form  
from Carnarvon Library & Art Gallery  
or scan QR code

**ENTRIES CLOSE 31 MAY @ 12AM**

SCAN ME!



## EXHIBITION DATES

Friday 3 July - Saturday 29 August  
Library & Art Gallery,  
18 Egan Street



## CARNARVON THIS LIFE SUMMER SERIES WRAPS UP WITH OVER 1,500 ATTENDEES

The Carnarvon This Life Summer Series has wrapped for 2026, closing out a vibrant season of live music, events and community activation across the town. Now in its second year, the series continues to build strong momentum, with all participating venues returning to partner with the Shire of Carnarvon and collaborate on delivering a dynamic program for the community.

Delivered across ten events throughout summer, the program attracted over 1,500 attendees, activating venues and public spaces during the quieter season while supporting increased trade for local businesses. This marks significant growth from the four events delivered in 2025 during the program's first year.

The initiative also strengthened local industry capability, with Carnarvon-based group Ridley Archive supporting production and event delivery, and regional partnerships continuing to grow. Beyond the stage, the program delivered tangible outcomes for local businesses. Several venues expanded or refined their event offerings, while others have already expressed interest in ongoing programming, including regular live music and themed event nights.

The program spanned a wide mix of genres and experiences, from indie-folk and rock through to DJ sets, ambient music, hip-hop and pop, ensuring broad appeal across different audiences. Importantly, the series also supported local creative development, with three new acts emerging through the program: DJ collective LOTIL, duet Fleur, and First Nations rap artist Mary E; highlighting the strength of Carnarvon's growing music scene.

A huge thanks to all the participating venues who made this a special program and to Carnarvon for showing!



**How Good is the life!**

**January - April  
2026**



## CONNECT, CREATE AND ENGAGE PROGRAM THRIVING

The Connect, Create and Engage program is going from strength to strength, with growing participation and a wonderful sense of community at every session. It's been fantastic to see so many of our older residents coming together to connect, have fun, and be part of something truly positive and welcoming.

Our sessions in Chair Yoga, Gentle Moves, Art Sessions and Line Dancing have all seen fantastic attendance. Participants are not only returning each week but are

also experiencing real benefits, improving their physical wellbeing, building confidence and staying connected with others.

The atmosphere across the program is vibrant and uplifting, and it's clear these sessions are becoming a valued part of many people's weekly routine. Whether it's sharing a laugh, learning something new, or simply getting out and about, there's something here for everyone.

We're now halfway through the program, so there's never been a better time to get involved. If you've been thinking about joining, consider this your sign. Come along, meet new people, and experience the joy for yourself.



## HELP PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY

### Volunteers Wanted

The Gascoyne River Bushfire Brigade is seeking new volunteers to help protect our community during bushfire events. Local volunteers play an important role in safeguarding our people, our river and the surrounding region.

No prior experience is needed, with full training, equipment and ongoing support provided.

If you're looking for a meaningful way to get involved and make a difference, consider joining the brigade.

Find out more or register your interest here:



# MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE

Supported by:



## MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

- Initial works have commenced to install new functional public art along Robinson Street, as part of the Shire's Local Connect & Create project. These custom-designed seating and sandblasting elements, crafted by W&C Co. Mechanical and Civil with the support of local carpenter Stuart Parker, feature designs by artist Peta Riley and incorporate salvaged timber from the historic One Mile Jetty. Combining practical use with storytelling, creating places for people to sit, pause & connect in the town centre, keep an eye out for the installation of these new artworks at the Civic Centre and near the Gascoyne Bakery in the coming months.
- Works are progressing on the Fascine to Harbour Walk project, a project that will create a continuous pathway connecting the town centre to the Carnarvon Harbour. The project is currently in the design phase, with contractors recently undertaking ground scanning works to safely located underground services to help inform the final design. We will continue to share updates as the project progresses and look forward to the increased recreational use this project will provide.
- The tender to support the landscaping and construction of Van Dongen Park Stage One has closed. Submissions are currently being evaluated. We look forward to seeing Van Dongen Park, affectionally known as the "Big Banana Playground", coming to life later this year.
- Registrations officially opened for the WA Tourism Conference in Carnarvon on 25th - 27th May 2026. The final program has been finalised with Tourism Council WA and funding partners confirmed for the main events. The Request for Quote for catering services during the conference is now closed and submissions being evaluated.
- The Gnulli Festival has been announced as a pre-conference experience for Carnarvon. This will be made possible thanks to the Baiyungu Aboriginal Corporation, Chevron and Tourism WA.
- Phase 1 of the design for the Carnarvon Airport Upgrade is currently being conducted through Aerodrome Management Services (AMS), and an ITE (Independent Technical Expert) has recently been engaged to conduct required works. We we continue to provide updates as this project progresses.



### Coming Up!

- Construction to commence on the Tramway Bridge refurbishment and reinstatement, as part of the Tramway Walk Trail project.
- A request for quote is under development for the next stage of the Local Connect & Create project, to develop an art-lighting trail within the town centre.
- Installation of interpretive signage and seating along the Tramway Walk Trail to commence as part of the Tramway Walk Trail project.
- Keep your eyes peeled for the Gnulli Festival lineup announcement - This is sure to be an exciting event for the Carnarvon community!

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





## SUPPORTING ANIMAL WELFARE IN CARNARVON

The Shire of Carnarvon has secured \$50,000 in State Government funding to support the wellbeing of companion animals across the community.

The funding has been awarded through the Animal Welfare Grant Program, an initiative of the Western Australian Government designed to improve the care and protection of pets and wildlife through practical, community-based projects.

As part of this funding, the Shire will deliver a subsidised vaccination and desexing program for companion animals, helping reduce barriers for pet owners and promoting responsible pet ownership across Carnarvon.

As part of this funding, the Shire will deliver a subsidised vaccination and desexing program for companion animals, helping reduce barriers for pet owners and promoting responsible pet ownership across Carnarvon.

This initiative will play an important role in:

- Improving the overall health and wellbeing of pets
- Reducing unwanted litters
- Supporting long-term population management
- Assisting households who may face financial barriers to veterinary care

By delivering accessible veterinary services at a local level, the Shire is helping create a safer, healthier environment for both animals and the community.

Further details on how to access the program will be shared with the community as planning progresses.



## SUPPORTING CORAL BAY DURING PEAK SEASON

To support the busy visitor season, the Shire of Carnarvon now has a Ranger based in Coral Bay during peak periods.

This increased presence helps ensure the area remains safe, well managed and enjoyable for both residents and visitors. The Ranger will be actively working across the town and surrounding areas, assisting with

compliance, providing guidance to visitors and supporting the protection of the natural environment.

Having a Ranger on the ground in Coral Bay during this time allows for a more responsive and proactive approach, helping to maintain the high standard our community and visitors expect.

## ★ FIGHT the BITE ★

Following recent weather and flooding, areas of standing water remain across parts of Carnarvon, creating ideal conditions for mosquito activity.

The Shire's Environmental Health team has been actively assessing drainage and water pooling throughout Carnarvon and has treated affected areas where required. Monitoring will continue over the coming weeks as conditions change.

Residents are encouraged to take simple steps to reduce mosquito risk around their homes and protect themselves and their families. This includes removing any standing water from yards and containers, avoiding areas of pooled or floodwater where possible, and using insect repellent or wearing protective clothing, particularly at dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active.

Taking these small actions can help reduce mosquito breeding and keep our community safe and comfortable.

★ COVER UP. REPEL. CLEAN UP. ★

**WEAR LONG, LOOSE-FITTING, CLOTHING.**

**USE INSECT REPELLENT.**

**REMOVE THE WATER THEY BREED IN.**

# Upcoming



Carnarvon Adventure Group  
Thursdays  
12.30pm - 2.00pm  
Library & Art Gallery



Ladies Day  
Thursdays  
3.00pm - 5.00pm  
Carnarvon Golf Club



Nook Exhibition | Leanne Gillham  
Thursday 16th April  
3.00pm - 5.00pm  
Library & Art Gallery



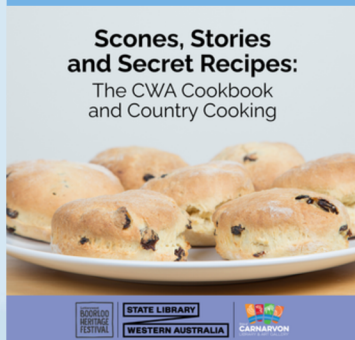
Ashtanga Vinyasa Yoga  
Thursdays  
5.30pm - 6.30pm  
Library & Art Gallery



Carnarvon Toy Library  
Saturdays  
8.30am - 9.30am  
Library & Art Gallery



Scones, Stories and Secret Recipes  
Saturday 18th April  
10.00am - 11.30am  
Library & Art Gallery



Competition Day - Mixed  
Saturdays  
12.30pm - 5.00pm  
Carnarvon Golf Club



Storytime  
Tuesdays  
10.00am - 11.00am  
Library & Art Gallery



Coral Coast Cup  
Sunday 26th April  
9.00am - 6.00pm  
1296 Speedway Road



Memory Lane Cafe | Family History Resources  
Wednesday 29th April  
10.00am - 11.30am  
Library & Art Gallery



The Crafty Bookworms  
Wednesday 29th April  
3.00pm - 4.00pm  
Library & Art Gallery



Trivia Night  
Thursday 30th April  
6.00pm - 9.00pm  
Bowling Club



# Events



METAFIT  
Fridays  
6.00am - 6.30pm  
Pelican Point

Chair Yoga  
Fridays  
9.30am - 10.30am  
Library & Art Gallery

Yin Yoga  
Saturdays  
Locations & Timings differ  
Refer to Facebook Page

Parkrun  
Saturdays  
7.00am  
Baxter Park



Bingo  
Wednesdays  
6.00pm  
Senior Citizens Hall

Seniors Line Dancing  
Wednesdays  
9.00am - 10.00am  
Senior Citizens Hall

The Makers Hub | 3D  
Printing  
Thursdays (Last on 14 May)  
3.00pm - 4.30pm  
Library & Art Gallery

Gascoyne Series - Round 1  
Saturday 25th April  
Refer to Facebook Page  
Carnarvon Speedway



Friday Film Club  
Friday 1st May  
1.00pm - 3.00pm  
Library & Art Gallery

Mother's Day Craft Morning  
Saturday 2nd May  
10.00am - 11.30pm  
Library & Art Gallery

Movie Screening  
Saturday 2nd May  
4.00pm - 6.00pm  
Camel Lane Theatre

Cocktail Party  
Saturday 2nd May  
6.30pm - 11.59pm  
Carnarvon Race Club



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

## COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: WHY THESE STORIES MATTER

This story is part of a growing effort to document and share the voices of Carnarvon, creating a living archive of local people, experiences, and stories. By sharing their journeys, we aim to celebrate the people who shape our community and preserve the stories that make Carnarvon what it is today.

If you know someone with a story to share, a local artist, elder, community member, or everyday voice, we'd love to hear from you. Help us continue building this archive by reaching out, nominating someone, or sharing your own story.

*Because every story matters, and every voice is part of Carnarvon's history.*

**Contact:** [media@carnarvon.wa.gov.au](mailto:media@carnarvon.wa.gov.au)

### COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: KAREN RYAN "BIG MOMMA"

Karen Ryan, known to some as "Big Momma," is a local Carnarvon artist whose work is grounded in lived experience, community, and creativity.

She has called Carnarvon home since the 1970s, growing up on the reserve in tin sheds without lights or power. She reminisces about a simple life defined by a strong sense of community and belonging, a foundation that has remained with her throughout her life.

Family has always been central to Karen's life. For a period, she stepped away from the creative scene to pursue secretarial work, supporting her loved ones while developing skills for her future. Her resilience, sense of responsibility, and deep care for others are values that are strongly ingrained and evident in the way she practices her craft.



In time, these values led her back to what she holds dearly. After several years away, Karen returned to the local arts space with a renewed sense of connection and direction.

Her lived experiences now inform her creative practice, guiding a practical and resourceful, hands-on approach. Embracing a "make do with what's here" mindset, she often repurposes discarded materials, turning them into expressive artworks.

She draws inspiration comes from everyday life, including the landscapes she travels through, the stories she carries, and the creative influence of artists from other regions whom she has met along the way.

Since returning to her practice, Karen has sold eight artworks, and had pieces featured at the Gwoonwardu Mia Heritage and Cultural Centre. For Karen, art is about more than creating; it is also about giving back. She regularly volunteers at the Community Art Hub, shares her work, and encourages others to step forward and express themselves.

**Her message is simple: *spread the love, put yourself out there, and give back where you can.***

Karen remains deeply connected to the community that has shaped her and, in turn, continues to inspire it through her work and generosity. Her journey reflects how courage, a strong sense of purpose, and a good heart, can shape not only what we create, but also the impact we can have on others.

# Community

## RESTORING A CARNARVON ICON – ONE MILE JETTY WORKS UNDERWAY

Work has officially begun on the restoration of Carnarvon's iconic One Mile Jetty, marking an important milestone in bringing this much-loved community asset back to life.



Built in 1898, the jetty has long been a symbol of Carnarvon's history and identity, once serving as a vital link for the export of goods and movement of people across the region.

Following significant damage from Cyclone Seroja in 2021, the jetty was closed due to safety concerns. Since then, planning, design and heritage approvals have been progressing to ensure the structure can be restored in a way that respects its historical significance while providing safe access for the community.

The current works, led by the Department of Transport in partnership with key stakeholders, will see a section of the jetty restored for public access, helping reconnect the community with one of Carnarvon's most treasured landmarks

This project is not just about rebuilding infrastructure, it's about preserving heritage, strengthening tourism opportunities and celebrating the stories that have shaped Carnarvon.



Once complete, the restored jetty will provide a renewed space for locals and visitors to walk, connect with the coastline and experience a significant piece of the Gascoyne's history.

### ADVERTISE WITH US

Contact us or visit our website to view our Media Kit

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

Book your space today!

### WHY ADVERTISE WITH US

- STRONG COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**  
Be part of a trusted platform people regularly read and rely on.
- REACH LOCALS AND VISITORS**  
Share your business with residents, tourists, and seasonal travellers.
- SUPPORT THE LOCAL ECONOMY**  
Promote local spending and help strengthen our regional community.

### Scan QR Code to view our Media Kit



## A SWEET MORNING BY THE WATERFRONT

It was a sugar-rushed morning at 6701 Waterfront Café, courtesy of the Easter Bunny, as families gathered for a joyful Easter Egg Hunt.

The morning began with a sense of contained excitement, but it wasn't long before children eagerly filled their baskets, and soon after, their bellies. Chocolate-covered smiles were everywhere, with many little faces (and plenty of outfits) proudly wearing the evidence of the Easter Bunny's treats.

It was a heartwarming scene, with the delight of the young ones matched only by the amused expressions of parents navigating the inevitable sugar rush. No doubt, many families enjoyed a much quieter afternoon once the excitement gave way to well-earned rest.

A huge thank you to the team at 6701 Waterfront Café for hosting the event and serving up delicious meals and coffee, helping to make the day even more enjoyable. And to everyone who came along, your presence and energy made the event 'eggs-tra' special. It wouldn't have been the same without you.



*It's a six!*

## KARA STALKER SCORES BIG FOR CARNARVON CRICKET



Carnarvon's cricket community is celebrating a proud moment, with Kara Stalker named Woolworths Cricket Blast Coordinator of the Year at the WA Community Cricket Awards.

The award recognises outstanding volunteers who create inclusive, engaging, and skill-building environments for young players while strengthening community connections. Kara's passion and dedication to grassroots cricket in Carnarvon have made a lasting impact, growing participation and fostering a love of the game.

Her efforts have been evident through initiatives like the newly launched Smash Series, a fast, fun, and social T20-style competition for players aged nine to 17. Designed as a natural progression from the Junior Blast program, the six-week Friday night series has created an accessible and welcoming space for young cricketers of all skill levels.

With a focus on fun, community, and inclusion, the Smash Series has already attracted strong participation, with players supporting one another and even bringing along friends to join in. The social format encourages learning through play, with older participants and parents helping guide newer players along the way.

Kara's journey into cricket began simply, inspired by her children's interest in the sport. What started as support for her family has grown into a meaningful contribution to the wider community.

Her recognition at the state level highlights not only her individual efforts, but also the strength and spirit of Carnarvon's cricket scene.



## Easier ACCESS TO TRANSPORT SERVICES IN TOWN

## HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF *Polyphagous Shot-Hole Borer*

A statewide awareness campaign is underway to help protect Western Australia's trees and gardens from the invasive polyphagous shot-hole borer (PSHB).

A range of new materials, including posters, flyers, magnets and stickers, are now available to support communities in identifying and reporting the pest, and understanding quarantine requirements

Community members play a key role in preventing further spread. This includes reporting suspected activity through the MyPestGuide Reporter app, avoiding the movement of wood or plant material outside quarantine areas, and purchasing firewood locally where it will be used.

By working together and staying informed, we can help protect our region's natural environment, gardens and industries from this damaging pest.

For more information, scan QR Code or visit [dpird.wa.gov.au/pshb](http://dpird.wa.gov.au/pshb).



The Department of Transport and Major Infrastructure (DTMI) Carnarvon Service Centre has relocated from the boat harbour site to a more central and accessible location in Town at 30 Robinson Street.

The new Robinson Street premises has been designed to provide a more convenient and welcoming experience for the community.

The upgraded facility features an expanded space, two service counters, and improved accessibility, including a ramp and wide doorway to better support wheelchair access.

Customers can continue to access the same range of services, including driver licensing, boat registrations, NDIS applications, photo cards, and more. Importantly, the friendly and knowledgeable DTMI staff will remain on hand to assist the community.

**Opening hours: Monday to Friday 08.15am to 12.30pm, 13.30pm to 16.30pm**

PSHB has been detected in the Perth metropolitan area, with quarantine zones in place to slow its spread and protect regional WA. Residents are encouraged to remain vigilant by checking plants for signs of infestation such as small entry holes, sawdust-like residue and tree dieback.



## KEEPING MENTALLY HEALTHY

Looking after your mental health is just as important as your physical health, and often it's the simple things that make the biggest difference.

The Act Belong Commit approach encourages people to stay active, stay connected and do things that feel meaningful. One of the most important steps is simply to get moving. Being active, whether it's going for a walk, gardening, dancing or joining a class, can boost your mood and improve overall wellbeing. The key is finding something that works for you and that you enjoy, making it easier to keep it part of your routine.



Mental wellbeing is also strengthened by staying connected with others and being involved in your community. Spending time with friends, joining a local group or attending events can help build a sense of belonging and support.



Doing something meaningful, whether it's learning a new skill, helping a neighbour or volunteering, can also give a sense of purpose and improve how we feel day to day.

You don't need to make big changes. Even small actions, like getting outside, trying something new or connecting with others, can have a positive impact on your mental health.



To find more information visit [actbelongcommit.org.au](https://actbelongcommit.org.au) or scan the below QR Code



## KEEP BATTERIES OUT OF THE BINS

If an item lights up, makes a sound, moves, or needs charging, it contains a battery and should never go in your bin.

From toys and headphones to power tools and toothbrushes, many everyday items have hidden batteries. When crushed, batteries can spark fires and leak toxic chemicals.

When crushed, batteries can spark fires and release toxic chemicals, posing a risk to waste crews, the community and the environment.

Lithium batteries, including vapes, power tool batteries, camera batteries, mobile phones, laptops, rechargeable AA and AAA batteries and e-scooter batteries, can be safely dropped off at the waste facility, Mitre10 or Woolworths.

For larger electronic items such as laptops, desktop screens and TVs, these can be dropped off at Gascoyne Office Equipment for safe recycling.

Doing the right thing with your batteries helps keep our community safe and protects our environment.





## Coral Bay's STRENGTH SHINES

Tropical Cyclone Narelle tested the small coastal community of Coral Bay, bringing challenging conditions, flooding and road closures that temporarily cut off access to the town.

In the days that followed, the community quickly shifted into recovery mode, assisting with clean-up efforts and preparing the town to welcome visitors again. Thanks to this collective effort, Coral Bay was able to reopen shortly after the cyclone, a testament to the strength, adaptability and community spirit that defines the region.

Despite this, the resilience of the Coral Bay community was on full display. Locals, businesses and emergency services worked together to support one another, share resources and ensure visitors and residents remained safe throughout the event.

As recovery continues, the Shire is asking community members and local businesses to share how they were impacted. This information is vital in helping advocate for support and funding, and to better understand the needs of our community moving forward.

Access the Shire's Recovery Page for important updates, available support information and resources following TC Narelle. While you're there, we strongly encourage all community members and local businesses to complete the Community Impact Form. Sharing your experience helps us understand the full extent of impacts across our region and strengthens our ability to advocate for funding and support where it's needed most.



**Scan the QR Code.**



## Update ON THE MAJOR REDEVELOPMENT of RAC Ningaloo Reef Resort

A significant transformation is underway at the RAC Ningaloo Reef Resort in Coral Bay, marking an exciting new chapter for one of the region's most iconic tourism assets.

The redevelopment will see the resort expand from 34 units to around 90 contemporary accommodation options, including one-bedroom stays through to larger family units. A new clubhouse precinct will feature a restaurant, bar, alfresco dining and function spaces, alongside a resort-style pool overlooking the bay.

Construction is well underway, with modular accommodation units now installed and key buildings progressing toward completion. The resort is expected to reopen in late 2026, bringing increased capacity for up to 270 guests and setting a new benchmark for tourism in the region.

This redevelopment represents an important investment in Coral Bay's future, supporting local jobs, strengthening the visitor economy and enhancing the experience for those travelling to one of Western Australia's most treasured coastal destinations.

# LIBRARY

## NATIONAL PLAYGROUP WEEK CELEBRATIONS!

National Playgroup Week celebrated "The Power of Playgroups!" at Baxter Park with an Aboriginal Playgroup collaborative play session on Tuesday 17 March. Members of the Gascoyne Early Years Network came together to provide a fun, outdoor engaging space for parents and carers of children aged 0-4 years, building connection and creating early learning opportunities.



Active play is essential for positive early childhood growth and development. The event provided space for children and parents to create freely with scented playdough, crawl through our rainbow tunnel, experiment with coloured slime, and make giant bubbles! Participants also enjoyed singing while finding rhythm with tapping sticks, story time and a healthy lunch made by the team at the Carnarvon Community College canteen. The variety of activities targeted the development of physical health, emotional maturity, social competence, language and cognitive skills and communication and general knowledge, with the aim to enhance school readiness.

Playgroups empower parents and children to embrace lifelong learning and community connection. Did you know over 35,000 children, parents and carers go to playgroups across Australia every week? We thank our playgroup staff, volunteers and participants for their commitment to seeing our early years families thrive.

This event was supported by the Shire of Carnarvon's Early Years Project Officer, a role which is vital in connecting our early years' service providers, funded through the Local Government Australian Early Development Census Grants Program.



### Memory Lane Cafe Family History Resources



Learn how to do searches on your family history, and enjoy morning tea as we celebrate the *Australian Heritage Festival*.

- Discover *ancestry.com* and other resources you can access at the library
- Find out about the National Library of Australia's collection of newspaper articles in *Trove*
- Look for someone's name and occupation in the Post Office directories

**10-11:30 am Wednesday 29 April**  
**Free event ~ Light refreshments provided**  
Call (08) 9941 3727 for more information

 **CARNARVON LIBRARY  
& ART GALLERY**

### Memory Lane Cafe Family History Resources



Get started on researching your First Nations family history with an introduction to a range of helpful resources, and enjoy a light lunch as we celebrate the *Australian Heritage Festival*.

- Learn how to begin your journey into your family history
- Browse the collection of photographs on *Storylines* on the State Library of Western Australia website
- Discover the Shire of Carnarvon Library digitised image collection

**11am-1pm Wednesday 13 May**  
**Free event ~ Light lunch provided**  
Call (08) 9941 3727 for more information

 **CARNARVON LIBRARY  
& ART GALLERY**



## STORIES & POETRY AT THE LIBRARY

The library celebrated Harmony Week from 17-21 March, the celebration that recognises our nation's diversity and brings together Australians from all different backgrounds!

We started the week with a special harmony-themed Storytime on Tuesday, and finished with an Open Mic Day in our Library Lounge. Carnarvon locals and visitors enjoyed powerful performances from some of Carnarvon's rhyme-inclined residents, with themes of Gascoyne's nature, ageing, history, and more!



## START SAVING ENERGY & MONEY!

Use the **Energy Audit Kit** to check your home for inefficient energy use so you can start saving energy and money! The kit is available to borrow from the library for free using your library card.

The kit will enable you to understand how effectively your home uses power and water, and to identify actions you can take to improve your home's efficiency. Over the period of a week, take measurements around your home using the equipment provided to conduct your own mini science experiment.

The Energy Audit Kit includes:

- A thermal imaging camera to help you locate draughts around your home and gaps in insulation, for checking fridge seals, and measuring hot water temperature.
- A plug-in energy monitor for measuring energy consumption and the running costs of appliances.
- A basin flow measuring cup to determine the water flow rate of your taps.
- A thermometer for measuring the temperature of rooms, fridges and freezers.
- A document case containing an energy audit kit instruction manual and other useful resources.



Some conditions apply, so call the library on (08) 9941 3727 if you have any questions.



This initiative is possible with the support of Energy Policy WA in the Department of Energy and Economic Diversification. For more info on the Switch Your Thinking initiative scan the QR Code.

# ART GALLERY



## A NIGHT UNDER THE STARS: LINDA TEGG'S SITUATIONAL AWARENESS LAUNCHES AT THE SPACE MUSEUM

**NOW SHOWING AT THE CARNARVON SPACE AND TECHNOLOGY MUSEUM**

The official launch of Situational Awareness, a striking new exhibit at the Carnarvon Space and Technology Museum drew an impressive crowd on Saturday 21 March for a truly memorable evening. Guests enjoyed fascinating speeches, lovely nibbles and drinks, all under the fitting backdrop of Carnarvon's night sky.

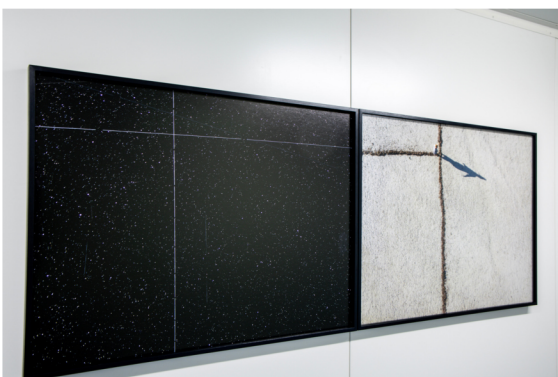
Melbourne-based Circular Economies artist Linda Tegg has created a thought-provoking body of work exploring Carnarvon's growing light pollution and how modern satellite technology is beginning to interact with the constellations that have guided people for thousands of years.

Central to the exhibition is a collaboration with Yinggarda custodian Rennee Turner, who holds deep cultural knowledge of how the night sky is used by local First Nations people. Mungullah Hill, the site of the Space Museum itself, holds immense significance in Gwoonwardu, with generations of Yinggarda people using the stars as a calendar to forecast weather, medicines, and foods coming to Country.

Together, the two women documented satellite trails above Carnarvon, translating those patterns on the ground using natural elements such as sea grass from Bush Bay. These stunning trail studies, combining astrophotography and sea grass, are on display at the museum before moving to the Perth Institute of Contemporary Art in October.

The collaboration has inspired Rennee to continue sharing her cultural knowledge of the sky before it is further impacted by light pollution, a powerful reminder to look up and connect with the night sky, as generations have done before us.

We encourage everyone to visit the museum to experience this remarkable exhibition while it remains in Carnarvon.



# Nook EXHIBITIONS 2026

@L.GILLHAM ART

## ART WITH GILLS: LEANNE GILLHAM'S DEBUT SOLO EXHIBITION DREW A CROWD

The debut solo exhibition Art with Gills, hosted at the Nook in the Library & Art Gallery has come to a close, leaving behind a wave of inspiration and admiration. The official opening last Friday afternoon set the tone for what proved to be a resounding success, with guests packing the gallery from the start, filling the space with vibrant energy, engaging conversations, and appreciation for the work of Western Australian artist Leanne Gillham.

Throughout the event, heartfelt speeches celebrated Leanne's extraordinary journey as an artist, highlighting her debut solo show and a decade of creative evolution. Her deep passion for the ocean, the outdoors, and the artistic process was palpable in every piece, creating lasting connections with visitors.

We're delighted to share that the exhibition not only drew impressive crowds but also resulted in several works finding new homes, including sales on opening day, a true testament to the resonance of Leanne's art. Congratulations to Leanne and all the proud new owners!

A sincere thank you to everyone who attended and supported this exhibition. Your enthusiasm made it an unforgettable experience from start to finish.

As a promising emerging artist with boundless potential, we look forward to seeing much more of Leanne's captivating work in the future.

## LANDSCAPES BY J. LARMAN - THE NEXT NOOK EXHIBITION

We are thrilled to announce the next Nook exhibition in the Library & Art Gallery, showcasing the beautiful landscape paintings of long-time Carnarvon resident and accomplished artist, Jessie Larman.

Jessie Larman (née Wyatt) was born in England, where she held several art exhibitions and published works before emigrating to Australia in 1973 with her husband Patrick and their three children. The family settled in Carnarvon, WA, and Jessie has called it home ever since.

A passionate artist and author with several published books to her name, Jessie's creative talents are matched by her dedication to the community. Over the decades, she has served as President of the Mothers' Union Australia at the Anglican Church for many years and has been actively involved with the Gascoyne Arts Society, as well as contributing to numerous other local committees and groups.

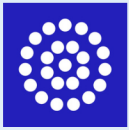
Jessie's landscape paintings capture the beauty of the world around her, and through both her artwork and her books, she generously shares her remarkable life story. As Jessie herself says - she hopes you enjoy them as much as she does.



# J.Larman

14 April- 09 May 2026

# WELLBEING & SUPPORT



Lifeline

We are a national charity providing all Australians experiencing emotional distress with access to 24 hour crisis support and suicide prevention services. Crisis support services, counselling services, community services, self-led support resources, training, research, and advocacy.

**Call 13 11 14    Text 0477 13 11 14**



[Website](#)



If you, or someone you know, are feeling worried or no good, we encourage you to connect with **13YARN on 13 92 76 (24 hours/7 days)** and talk with an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Crisis Supporter.



[Website](#)



We are a big blue door for many in the community: a safe and reliable place for millions of people to access information, advice and support – whether they're well and want to stay that way, unsettled or struggling and need support, or in recovery and want to reconnect.

**Call 1300 22 4636 - 24/7**



[Website](#)



Free mental health services, education and carer supports. Helping Minds offers a wide range of mental health services across Western Australia.

**Call +61 8 9427 7100**



[Website](#)



**kids help line** Kids Helpline **1800 55 1800** (offers 24/7 online chat for children, teens, and young people up to age of 25)



[Website](#)



**1800RESPECT 1800 737 732** (24-hour national sexual assault, family and domestic violence counselling line)



[Website](#)



CFSS WA LTD is a community organisation that provides a range of family services to people in Carnarvon and other parts of the Gascoyne region.

- Gascoyne Women's Refuge
- Child Sexual Abuse Therapy Service
- Protective Behaviours Education Service
- Family and Domestic Violence Outreach Service
- Public Tenancy Support Service
- General Counselling Services
- Financial Counselling
- Sobering Up Centre
- Men's Anger Management Service



[Website](#)



## Rubbish Collection

### Monday

Morgantown / Babbage Island

### Tuesday

South Carnarvon

### Wednesday

Brockman

### Thursday

East Carnarvon / Kingsford / Brown Range

### Wednesday

Plantations - North / South

### Monday 27 April, ANZAC Day

Bin collection is scheduled for  
Tuesday, 28 April



## 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.



## Browns Range Waste Disposal Facility

Monday - Friday  
7.00am - 4.00pm

Sunday  
8.00am - 2.00pm

Closed Saturday & Public Holidays

**Closed on Monday, 27 April,  
ANZAC Day**

# GNUII FESTIVAL

22 - 24 May 2026

## 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

## 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

## 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)

## 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.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

**SPONSOR:**

