

AUGUST 2026 | ISSUE 16

FROM THE RIVER TO THE REEF

CARNARVON & CORAL BAY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



PHOTO: NAIDOC OPENING DAY

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UPCOMING EVENTS | COMMUNITY NEWS | SHIRE UPDATES



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

COMMISSIONER COLUMN #3

Welcome to the August edition of my column where I hope to celebrate some of our successes and update you on the work of Council.

I had the pleasure of attending the Real Futures Career Expo in late July. It was fantastic to witness the buzz of exhibitors engaging with our youth to showcase many of the great local career and training opportunities that we have in our region. From tourism to mining, service industries to trades, our region has so much economic potential as well as great young people who will be our employees and leaders of the future.

Later this month, the Gascoyne Food Festival will kick off with numerous events and experiences over two weeks with the Taste of the Gascoyne and The Plantation Feast hosted right here in Carnarvon. Culinary workshops and sunset cruises in Coral Bay are also among the highlights which stretch right across the Gascoyne region.

I know community safety has been top of mind in town recently and I have met with Police, government agencies and businesses affected by recent incidents. I am pleased to see through the hard work of our local Police that arrests have been made and more than 50 charges referred to the courts. Council is committed to continuing our support for community safety and our budget proposes upgrades and expansion to our CCTV network which often proves critical in securing convictions.

Council resolved to commence public consultation on our draft Coastal Hazard Risk Management and Adaptation Plan (CHRMAP). The plan identifies coastal risks that are predicted to impact upon Carnarvon and Coral Bay and strategies to respond and adapt to these across a 100-year horizon. Once adopted, this will inform Council decisions on planning and development as well as response to coastal impacts.

The 2026/27 Shire budget is progressing with Council now having considered the public submissions and has resolved to seek ministerial approval for the differential rating proposal. It is expected that the final budget will be presented to Council in August following a ministerial decision. Council received at its July meeting a detailed presentation from staff on the draft budget which can be viewed from our Shire website that may answer many of the questions that the community has.

Our next Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 25 August commencing at 5:30pm. Council has agreed to commence a three-month trial with meetings commencing at 5:30pm rather than 10am. The trial hopes to improve public attendance at meetings whereby community members can ask questions of Council and make deputations in relation to matters listed on the agenda. If community members do seek detailed information, we encourage them to submit questions prior to the meeting so that appropriate research can be undertaken.

Thank you,

Hon Martin Aldridge
Commissioner, Shire of Carnarvon

Contact Commissioner Aldridge
Mobile: 0428 308 279
Email: commissioner.aldridge@carnarvon.wa.gov.au



COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS – JULY 2026

The Shire of Carnarvon held its Ordinary Council Meeting on 28 July 2026, with several important items considered that will help guide the future of the Shire.

A key focus of the meeting was an overview of the proposed 2026/27 Budget, providing the Commissioner and community with greater insight into how rates fund essential services, infrastructure renewal and community projects. The presentation highlighted the Shire's continued success in attracting external funding, leveraging almost \$10 in grant funding for every \$1 invested by the Shire, while outlining priorities including road improvements, airport upgrades, waste infrastructure, community facilities and major projects.

To make Council Meetings more accessible to the community, Council endorsed a three-month trial of commencing Ordinary Council Meetings at 5:30pm. The later start time aims to make it easier for residents to attend after work and participate in local government. The trial will apply to the August, September and October meetings, with attendance and community participation to be monitored before Council considers whether to adopt the change on a permanent basis.

Planning for the 3 December 2026 Extraordinary Election also progressed, with Council appointing the Western Australian Electoral Commission to conduct the postal election.

Other key decisions included adopting the revised Local Planning Strategy, approving a Local Planning Scheme Amendment for land at Kingsford, updating governance policies, establishing a CEO Selection and Performance Review Panel, and making administrative changes to Council committee meeting dates and reporting schedules.

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 25 August 2026 at 5:30pm, marking the beginning of the new evening meeting trial.

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE NEXT MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

18
AUGUST

COMMENCING AT 12:30PM
Agenda Briefing
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
STUART STREET, CARNARVON

25
AUGUST

COMMENCING AT 9:00AM
Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
STUART STREET, CARNARVON

25
AUGUST

COMMENCING AT 5:30PM
Ordinary Council Meeting
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
STUART STREET, CARNARVON



JULY RECOVERY UPDATE

Recovery outreach continued throughout July, with a strong focus on ensuring Carnarvon's horticultural community could access clear, practical and culturally appropriate support following Severe Tropical Cyclone Narelle.

Between 6 and 10 July, the Shire of Carnarvon worked alongside the Western Australian Council of Social Service, the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and Rural West to provide coordinated, on-ground assistance to impacted growers. This included individual discussions, help to understand available recovery funding, guidance regarding supporting documentation and referrals to the most appropriate agency or assistance pathway.

A key part of the week was an evening information session held on 7 July, which brought growers and recovery agencies together in an accessible and familiar setting. The session provided an opportunity for growers to ask questions directly, clarify eligibility requirements and receive practical assistance. Interpreting support and engagement with trusted community representatives also helped ensure information was communicated effectively to members of Carnarvon's Vietnamese growing community.



The Shire has continued its regular outreach presence at the Carnarvon Growers Association on Tuesdays and Thursdays. These sessions provide growers with a consistent local contact point to seek assistance, follow up applications and discuss emerging recovery needs without having to navigate multiple agencies independently.

This ongoing outreach reflects the Shire's commitment to a locally led and community-focused recovery. By working collaboratively with the Carnarvon Growers Association, government agencies, support organisations and community leaders, the Shire is helping ensure affected growers remain connected to available assistance while supporting longer-term recovery and resilience.

NEED RECOVERY SUPPORT?

If you have been impacted by Ex-Tropical Cyclone Narelle and are unsure where to start, the Shire of Carnarvon's Recovery Team is here to help. We can connect you with the right support services, provide information on available assistance, and help guide you through the recovery process. Scan the QR code to access the Recovery Hub, where you'll find the latest recovery updates, funding opportunities, FAQs, key contacts and the Community Impact Form.

If you would prefer to speak with someone directly, contact the Shire on (08) 9941 0000 or email community.recovery@carnarvon.wa.gov.au



DFES



Shire of Carnarvon

CARNARVON PIONEER CEMETERY REOPENS

From 1 August 2026, the Carnarvon Pioneer Cemetery will once again welcome visitors, providing the opportunity to explore one of the region's most significant heritage sites.

The cemetery is the final resting place of many of the pioneers, pastoralists and community members who helped shape Carnarvon and the Gascoyne. A visit offers a unique glimpse into the people and stories that have contributed to the region's rich history.

The cemetery will be open daily from 9:00am to 4:00pm. To help protect this important heritage site while ensuring public access, visitors are asked to register online before their visit. Access details will be provided once registration is complete.

Whether you're researching family history, exploring Carnarvon's heritage or simply interested in the stories of our past, the Pioneer Cemetery offers a fascinating journey through the region's history.



Scan the QR code to register your visit and receive access information.



BUILDING CAREERS IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Shire of Carnarvon was pleased to welcome representatives from WALGA to showcase the importance of workforce development and training opportunities in regional local government.

WALGA plays a vital role in supporting the professional growth of local government employees across Western Australia through nationally recognised training and career development programs.

A highlight of the visit was celebrating Business Concierge Officer Jannali, who has become the first school-based employee to undertake WALGA's Certificate III in Local Government. Her achievement demonstrates how flexible training pathways can help young people build rewarding careers while remaining in their local community.

Supported through the Australian Government-funded Remote Jobs and Economic Development (RJED) Program, the Shire continues to invest in local people by creating employment opportunities, developing skills and building long-term career pathways. Jannali's success is just one example of how the program is helping shape the future local government workforce in Carnarvon.



HORIZON POWER PARTNERSHIP A LAUNCH PAD FOR LASTING CREATIVE IMPACT IN CARNARVON

Horizon Power's Community Partnerships Program has helped create a lasting creative legacy in Carnarvon through the Carnarvon Creatives Collective Program.

Running from January 2025 to June 2026, the initiative funded local artists to deliver free community workshops, creating employment opportunities while making arts and culture more accessible. Through an open expression of interest process, local creatives led sessions in weaving, painting, collage, boomerang art and watercolours on Country, with First Nations artists playing a significant role in sharing local knowledge and culture.

The program has had a lasting impact on the community. More than 50 people participated in Devinia Wainwright's weaving residency, producing a collaborative artwork that featured in the 2025 Reconciliation Exhibition, Bridging Now to Next. Raymond Edney's watercolour workshops inspired the now well-established Friday Night Art Club, while Jo Schapel's vision board workshops fostered new friendships and an independent community art group.

More than a series of workshops, the program helped establish the Carnarvon Community Art Hub as a vibrant creative space where artists can share their skills, residents can connect through creativity, and community wellbeing continues to flourish.

The Shire of Carnarvon sincerely thanks Horizon Power for its investment in local artists and for helping build a stronger, more connected creative community.



CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP DAY

The Carnarvon Civic Centre was filled with laughter, creativity and connection as friends, colleagues and community members came together to celebrate International Friendship Day.

The evening began with a picture frame decorating workshop led by Kara from Outback Floral Designs, where guests enjoyed getting creative while sharing conversation and making new memories. The celebrations continued in the theatre with a special screening of Mamma Mia!, accompanied by delicious grazing boxes prepared by Bec from Cuppa and Crumb Café.

The event was a wonderful reminder of the importance of friendship and taking time to connect with those around us. A heartfelt thank you to Kara and Bec for helping make the evening so memorable, and to everyone who joined us to celebrate the friendships that help make our community stronger.





R U OK? Day - Community Event

Joe Williams

Former NRL Player and Mental Health Advocate

Join us at Gwoonwardu Mia Cultural Centre in the outdoor space for an inspiring evening with Joe as we talk openly about mental health, building resilience, and exploring the importance of connection.

10 September 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Gwoonwardu Mia - Around the fire
146 Robinson St, Carnarvon WA 6701

gascoyne.pcwa@ngala.com.au

www.ngala.com.au

FREE to register via QR code
Doors open at 5.30pm

Joe Williams is a Wiradjuri/Wolgalu First Nations Aboriginal man, with 15 years as a professional athlete in the NRL and as professional boxer. Following his own lived experience of bi polar and a suicide attempt, Joe is one of Australia's leading voices on trauma-informed mental health, child development and the lifelong impact of childhood experiences. Through his organisation, The Enemy Within, he has delivered trauma-informed wellbeing programs to more than 200 communities across Australia and internationally, helping families and organisations build resilience through stronger attachment, parenting and connection.

Joe recently featured in the award-winning parenting documentary Seen, exploring the science of childhood development, trauma and healing. He is also an author, Adjunct Associate Professor at the School of Psychology, The University of Queensland, and a PhD candidate at The University of Melbourne, researching Indigenous Knowledges and trauma recovery. Above all, Joe considers his greatest achievement to be his ongoing transformation as a father to his five children.

SCAN ME



MONDAYS ARE FOR EVERYONE!

Start your week with the Monday Connection Club, a free weekly program running from 10 August to 7 December.

Enjoy gentle movement, creative activities, great company and a shared meal in a welcoming and inclusive environment. Open to all ages, the program is designed to build friendships, support wellbeing and strengthen community connections.

Community transport is available for those who need assistance.

The Monday Connection Club is delivered by the Shire of Carnarvon and proudly supported by the Department of Communities through the Women's Grants for a Stronger Future program.

For more information, contact the Community Art Hub team, email communityarthub@carnarvon.wa.gov.au, or visit the Community Art Hub on Monday 3 August to register your interest and arrange transport if required.



MONDAY CONNECTION CLUB!

10 AUGUST – 7 DECEMEBER 2026

ON THE PROGRAM

-  **9:00–9:30am** – Community transport pick-up (available on request)
-  **9:30–10:30am** – Gentle Moves with Vanessa at the Woolshed
-  **11:00am–12:00pm** – Creative activities at the Community Art Hub
-  **12:00pm** – Shared community meal
- 12:30–1:00pm** – Community transport drop-off

HOW TO GET INVOLVED!

- You can choose to go to either the Gentle Moves with Vanessa, or the Creative Activity at the Hub, or both.
- Ask at the Community Art Hub if you need pick-up and drop-off
- Get in touch if you would like to facilitate a creative activity
- Everyone is welcome.

MOVEMENT + CREATIVITY + CONNECTION

For more information contact: communityarthub@carnarvon.wa.gov.au

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
Proudly funded by the Department of Communities.



Semester Two Appointments from 11 August 2026

ECU Tax Clinic

Need help with taxes?
Backlog of past tax returns?
Tax debt? ECU can help.

134 328 | +61 8 6304 6190 for more info
To apply for assistance
Email: taxclinic-carnarvon@ecu.edu.au
or scan the QR code.





CREATIVITY IN FULL BLOOM: HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GASCOYNE ART AWARDS CREATIVE PROGRAM

The Gascoyne Art Awards Creative Program is still running until 29 August, and it has already delivered some truly special moments of connection, calm, and creativity.

Deb Ralphs opened our eyes to the world of needle felting, describing how the slow, repetitive work settles her mind and lifts her mood, an enthusiasm that quickly spread around the table. Participants turned simple balls of wool into completely unique little characters, each one different and personal.



Our most recent highlight was a beautiful day Painting on Country with Yinggarda teacher and artist Raymond Edney. The day began with a meaningful smoking ceremony, followed by sketching in a tranquil spot by the river. After the smell of sizzling sausages on the BBQ and a delicious lunch, Ray gave an inspiring watercolour demonstration. Everyone's pencil sketches transformed into personal artworks that reflected both the landscape and their own unique style. With gorgeous scenery, great company, afternoon tea, and distant music drifting from town, the atmosphere was perfect. Participants drove home with the sun on their faces and the biggest smiles.



Karla Tittums then led an evening of weaving, and the room hummed with lively chatter as participants tackled natural raffia. It was a wonderful exercise in patience and community building, with everyone taking home extra materials to finish their vibrant woven pieces over the weekend.

These workshops have shown what community creativity is really about, shared joy, learning, and making something with your hands.

Want to join us for the remaining workshops? Explore the full program on our website. We'd love to see you there! We will be closing The Gascoyne Art Awards with a celebration, and before then, make sure you visit the exhibition and cast your vote for your favourite artwork! Open from Tuesday - Friday 9:30am-5pm, Saturday 9:30am-12:30pm



Closing Event + People's Choice Award

Celebrate the grand finale of the Gascoyne Art Awards 2026! Join us for the presentation of the People's Choice Award, enjoy your last chance to view the exhibition and buy an artwork to treasure. Presented in partnership with the Gascoyne Arts Society. Don't miss this celebration of local and Western Australian talent!

29 August · 10am-12pm · Art Gallery · FREE

JUDGES EXPLAIN BEST OVERALL WINNER

What makes an artwork stand above the rest? Watch the video to hear directly from the judges as they explain why *Sculpture without Wazza* was selected as the standout work of the 2026 Gascoyne Art Awards.



Bringing together three respected voices from across Western Australia's contemporary arts sector, the judging panel included Mark Tweedie, Maxxi Minaxi May and Sarah Roots. Together, they spent six hours alone in this year's exhibition, considering creativity, technical skill, originality and artistic impact before choosing the category winners and the Best Overall work that would join the Shire of Carnarvon Community Art Collection.



For artist Markham Boston, the award represents the culmination of decades of dedication.

"God loves a trier! I've been entering the Gascoyne Art Awards since Wally Dale was Shire President."

Established in 1984, the Gascoyne Art Awards have been celebrating regional creativity for more than 40 years. While Markham has previously won category awards, 2026 marks the first time he has received the exhibition's highest honour.

The winning artwork was created on reclaimed packing board with Markham trying this new technique, and he confirmed the paint is ultramarine blue. The talented and unique technique captured the judges' attention.

As the Best Overall Award is acquisitive, *Sculpture without Wazza* now becomes part of the Shire of Carnarvon Community Art Collection, ensuring the work will be preserved and exhibited as part of the region's artistic legacy for years to come.

You can hear from Markham more at the People's Choice Closing Awards on Saturday 29 August 10am, where Gascoyne Arts Society are funding the People's Choice winner, and artists will be present to speak to their works.



Watch the video here

Library

2026 CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

SYMPHONY OF STORIES



22-28 August 2026



**GET EXCITED FOR A WEEK FULL OF ACTION!
VISIT CARNARVON LIBRARY & ART GALLERY TO WIN AWESOME
CBCA CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK THEMED PRIZES!**



Costume Competition
TUESDAY 25 AUGUST
AGES 0-12 9:30am to 5pm

Bring your favourite book character to life! Visit the library wearing your costume, take your photo in the Adventure Zone, and send the image to our library mobile.

Drop-in Book Challenges
WED 26 AUGUST
AGES 4-12 2:30-5pm

Visit the library and complete one of several fun activities.



Book Fun Creativity
FRIDAY 28 AUGUST
AGES 0-12 9:30am-5pm

Visit the library and get creative in the KIDS ZONE

Door Prize

Visit the library and participate in any of our activities and enter your name in the door prize raffle!

SCAN THE QR CODE OR HEAD TO THE LIBRARY WEBSITE FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION ON OUR CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK PROGRAM!



SPECIAL GUEST DJ LO

TEENS BOOK WEEK KARAOKE

Bring your favourite stories to life through music!

Carnarvon Library & Art Gallery
Thursday 27 August 2026
4:30 to 6pm
Ages 12 to 16

Prizes Galore! Literary Mocktails & Pizza

Scan QR Code to Register



RANGER UPDATE



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A COMMUNITY SAFETY OFFICER

When people think of Rangers, they often picture parking tickets or enforcing local laws. In reality, the Shire's Community Safety Officers (CSOs) perform a broad range of ranger duties while also playing a much wider role in supporting the community, with no two days ever the same.

On any given day, CSOs may be responding to wandering livestock, reuniting lost pets with their owners, assisting with animal welfare matters, patrolling beaches and reserves, monitoring camping areas, protecting native wildlife, investigating customer requests or helping residents and visitors understand local laws and regulations.

Beyond performing ranger duties, Community Safety Officers play an important role in keeping Carnarvon safe, welcoming and enjoyable for everyone. Whether protecting our unique natural environment, responding to community concerns or assisting residents and visitors, they work every day to support the community and preserve the places we all enjoy.



STAY ALERT FOR H5 BIRD FLU

Western Australia continues to respond to detections of H5 avian influenza (bird flu) in wild migratory seabirds, with 10 confirmed detections recorded across the State as part of 74 confirmed detections nationally. While there is evidence of local transmission between some recent wild bird detections in South Australia, there is no evidence that H5 bird flu is established in Australia and no detections have been found in poultry. The risk to the general public remains low.

Community members can play an important role in protecting wildlife by remaining alert and reporting sick or dead birds and marine mammals. If you notice wildlife that appears sick, injured or has died unexpectedly, do not touch or handle the animal. Keep children and pets away, record the location and, if it is safe to do so, take a photo before reporting it to the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888. Every report helps authorities monitor the disease and respond quickly if further cases are detected.

If you own or care for birds, help reduce the risk by preventing contact between wild birds and poultry, keeping pens and equipment clean, and washing your hands thoroughly after handling birds.

Scan the QR code to learn more about H5 bird flu, how to recognise the signs and what to do if you find sick or dead birds.

Australian Government

Help spot H5 bird flu

H5 bird flu
is the most serious type of bird flu and has killed millions of birds and mammals worldwide.

Avoid	Record	Report
Don't touch sick or dead animals	Photos or video Date, time and location What you've seen	Call the 24-hour Emergency Animal Disease Hotline 1800 675 888

Keep pets away

Find out more at birdflu.gov.au or scan the QR code.

MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE



JULY HIGHLIGHTS

- First Class Constructions WA Pty Ltd have commenced on Stage One of the construction and landscaping of Van Dongen Park. We look forward to seeing the park, affectionately known as the "Banana Playground", come to life.
- The installation of interpretive signage and seating along the Tramway Walk Trail by local carpenter Stuart Parker is now complete. As part of the Tramway Walk Trail project, these functional items incorporate reclaimed timber from the historic One Mile Jetty, preserving an important part of Carnarvon's heritage for the community to enjoy for years to come.
- The Tramway Walk Trail also includes a Healing Shelter and Tramway Shelter along the track. The onsite installation of the Tramway Shelter has commenced by local contractor Trac Building. The fabrication of the Healing Shelter is underway with installation to follow in the coming months. We will continue to provide updates on the construction and installation of these structures.
- Request for Tender 02/2026 Speedway Road Alignment (Blackspot Program) is now closed. The submissions are being evaluated for discussion at the August Ordinary Council Meeting. The aim of this project is to improve road user safety on Speedway Road adjacent to the Brown Range Waste Facility, Carnarvon, and is possible due Main Roads WA Blackspot program funding received by the Shire.
- The initial community consultation for the Coral Bay Settlement Structure Plan is now complete. Consultants, Hames Sharley and Shape Urban, are currently preparing the Draft Structure Plan which is anticipated to be discussed at a late 2026 or early 2027 Ordinary Council Meeting. The Coral Bay Settlement Structure Plan will help guide development in Coral Bay to ensure it is well managed and aligns with broader planning strategies and local community needs.



COMING UP!

- Restoration works to our iconic Tramway Bridge continue to progress. A key component of the Tramway Walk Trail project, these essential works to the Fascine foreshore-end of the bridge, will protect this asset for years to come, ensuring it remains a safe and beautiful part of the community's landscape.
- At the 30 June 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting, Commissioner Martin Aldridge moved that Council accept the Commonwealth Disaster Ready Fund Grant of \$5,582,831 for the South Carnarvon Seawater Inundation Mitigation Project, and requests that engagement be undertaken prior to presenting back to the new Council in early 2027. The Shire will keep the community informed of engagement opportunities for this important project.
- The overlay design for Carnarvon Airport has been completed and is currently undergoing final revisions. The next steps are to obtain design certification, secure approval from the Department of Transport and Major Infrastructure (DTMI), and gain approval for the P90 cost estimate before progressing to tender phase.
- The Minilya-Lyndon Road (SLK 142.0 to 150.0) project is schedule for delivery in 2026-27. This project will address potholes, surface erosion, and pavement subsidence through road re-sheeting works. The upgrades will improve road condition, safety and reliability for all road users.
- The Quobba-Gnaraloo Road (SLK 13.5 to 15.5 and SLK 23.69 to 29.50) project is planned for 2026-27. This project is for re-sheeting works which will rectify pavement deterioration, including potholes, erosion and subsidence. The project will enhance road safety, improve driving conditions, and help preserve this important transport route for residents and visitors.

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



Upcoming

Events

Craft Group
Mondays
6:00pm - 9:00pm
Jubilee Hall



Jag the Joker
Mondays
6:00pm - 9:00pm
Bill's Bar



Steak Night
Tuesdays
Dinner
Bill's Bar



Gentle Gym
Wednesdays 3:00pm - 4:00pm
Fridays 9:00am - 10:00am
Senior Citizens Hall



Bingo
Wednesdays
6:00pm
Senior Citizens Hall



Burger Fest
Wednesdays
Lunch & Dinner
Bill's Bar



Fish & Chips + Karaoke Night
Thursdays
Karaoke from 9pm
Bill's Bar



Friday Night Footy
Fridays
5:00pm onwards
Festival Grounds



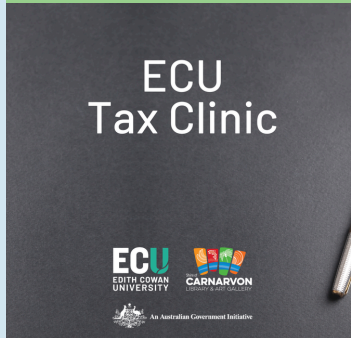
Elder's Yarning Circle
Fridays until end of
September
10:00 - 11:00am
Gwoonwardu Mia



Courtyard Craft Markets
Saturdays
8:00am - 11:30am
Carnarvon Visitor Centre



ECU Tax Clinic
Tuesday 11th August
10:00am - 4:30pm
Library & Art Gallery



Women's Cuppa & Connect
Tuesday 11th August
10:00am - 12:00pm
Gwoonwardu Mia



Business After Hours
Tuesday 11th August
5PM
Library & Art Gallery



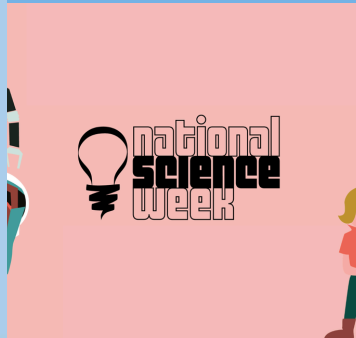
Gascoyne Dash 2026
13th - 16th August
Refer to schedule online
Miaboolya GasDash Track



Embodied Movement w
Miranda Plum
Friday 14th August
6:00pm - 8:00pm
Cuppa & Crumb



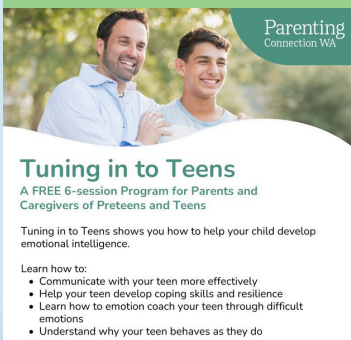
National Science Week
15th - 23rd August
TBC
Library & Art Gallery



Stargazing Nights
Monday 17th August
5:00pm - 8:00pm
Gwoonwardu Mia



Tuning in to Teens
Wednesday 19th August
6:30pm - 8:30pm
Ngala Meeting Room



Gascoyne Food Festival
Friday 21st to 28th August
Refer to schedule online
Various locations



Nature Sculpture with Stu
McMillan
Sunday 23rd August
10:00am - 12:00pm
River Gum Cafe



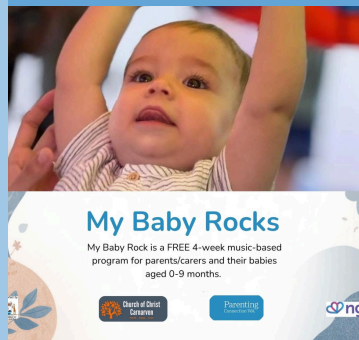
CBCA Children's Book
Week
Tuesday 25th August
9:00am - 5:00pm
Library & Art Gallery



CBCA Teens Karaoke
Tuesday 27th August
4:00pm - 6:00pm
Library & Art Gallery



My Baby Rocks
Monday 31st August
9:30am - 11:00am
Church of Christ



Yirra Yaakin 7 Stages of
Grieving
Thursday 3rd September
6:00pm - 7:00pm
Camel Lane Theatre



Events are subject to change.
Please refer to the organiser's Facebook
page or website for the latest updates.

For more Information visit our website
www.carnarvon.wa.gov.au/community/events





(Toni with Ketchup Kid in the mid 80s)

ANTOINETTE (TONI) ROE

Some people leave their mark through a single passion, Antoinette Roe has spent a lifetime following many. From horses and weaving to culture, community and the Gascoyne's unique burrowing bees, her story is one of lifelong learning and always finding her way back to Carnarvon.

Growing up in Carnarvon, Antoinette spent her days fishing the Gascoyne River, exploring the bush and riding horses alongside her grandfather, a respected cross polo champion.

What began as a childhood passion led to years of equestrian competition, championship titles and working with local racehorses before dawn, but horses were only the beginning.

After spending time away from Carnarvon, Antoinette returned home, where a chance visit to the Healing Circle sparked a love of weaving. As a member of the Jilinbirri Weavers, she travelled across the Gascoyne and overseas, learning and sharing traditional weaving techniques while strengthening her connection to culture and community.

Her journey later led her back to Gwoonwardu Mia Aboriginal Heritage and Cultural Centre, where she helped reopen the centre and met Elder Maureen. That friendship would change her life, eventually entrusting Antoinette with sharing the story of the Gascoyne's unique burrowing bees through the guided tours she leads today.

At the heart of Antoinette's story are the people who shaped her: her grandparents, her mum and her Elders. Their lessons continue to guide her as she passes that knowledge to the next generation, ensuring Carnarvon's stories, culture and connection to Country continue long into the future.



Her message is: "Be respectful. Respect people. Respect your Elders. Respect Country. Listen, keep learning and, when someone shares knowledge with you, pass it on."



Scan QR Code to read the full story

FROM WORKING HOLIDAY TO BUSINESS OWNER

Almost 10 years ago, Gabi arrived in Carnarvon from Germany on a working holiday visa, expecting to spend a short time experiencing regional Australia. Instead, she discovered a community that felt like home.

Today, Gabi and her husband proudly own and operate Outback Oasis Caravan Park, welcoming travellers from across Australia and around the world while contributing to Carnarvon's growing tourism industry.

Every day, Gabi meets grey nomads, tradies and international visitors, sharing the best of the region with guests. From fresh fruit and vegetables straight from local plantations to the stunning coastline and unique inland landscapes, she enjoys introducing visitors to everything that makes Carnarvon special.

But it was more than the scenery that convinced her to stay.



"I fell in love with the town and the people and never left," Gabi said.

Now raising her own family in Carnarvon, Gabi says the community offers a wonderful lifestyle for children, with opportunities to get involved in activities such as gymnastics and horse riding while enjoying the benefits of a close-knit regional community.

Gabi's journey is a wonderful example of the opportunities Carnarvon offers. What began as a working holiday has become a life built around family, business and community.



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: EVERY STORY MATTERS

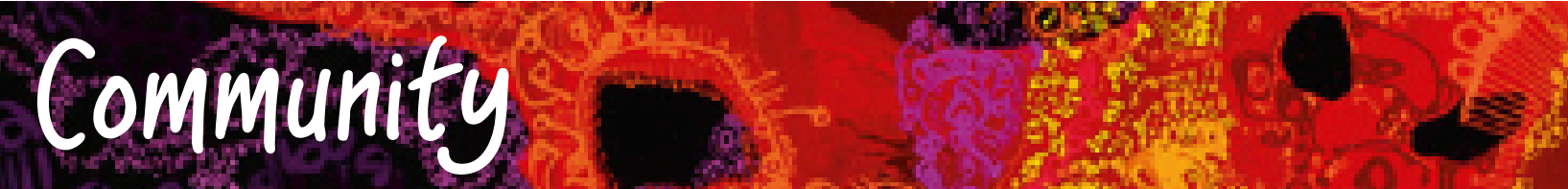
Our This is Life – Carnarvon & Coral Bay feature shines a spotlight on the people, businesses and local identities whose stories make our community unique.

Each story helps build a living archive of Carnarvon and Coral Bay, preserving the experiences, achievements and memories that shape our community. From local businesses and volunteers to artists, growers, sporting legends and everyday residents, every story adds another chapter to our shared history.

Do you know someone with a story worth telling? We'd love to hear from local identities, Elders, artists, businesses, community groups or anyone making a positive contribution to our region. Contact: media@carnarvon.wa.gov.au

Scan the QR code to read previous Community Spotlight stories.





Community

A WEEK OF CULTURE, CONNECTION AND CELEBRATION

This year's NAIDOC Week brought the Carnarvon community together to celebrate 50 Years of Deadly, recognising five decades of honouring the strength, resilience, achievements and enduring cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Throughout the week, community members of all ages came together to celebrate culture, create connections and acknowledge the people who have helped shape the past while inspiring future generations.

Opening Ceremony

The celebrations began with the annual Opening Ceremony and Community March, as community members walked together from the Fascine to Gwoonwardu Mia.

One of the most heartwarming moments of the morning was seeing local children proudly carry the NAIDOC banner, painted by Yinggarda artist Toni Edney, leading Elders, families and community members through the streets. The march reflected the spirit of 50 Years of Deadly, paying tribute to those who have paved the way while celebrating the strength, culture and leadership that continue to shape First Nation communities today. The ceremony set the tone for a week of reflection, celebration and community pride.



Deadly Youth Ball

The celebrations continued with the ever-popular Deadly Youth Ball, where local young people arrived dressed in their finest and walked the red carpet like stars.

Performances by Razzy Mak, Zero Emcee and didgeridoo player Thairon Hayward-Moylan created an unforgettable atmosphere, but it was the pride of families that made the evening truly special. Parents, grandparents and loved ones gathered along the red carpet, capturing photos and celebrating the confidence, achievements and bright futures of Carnarvon's young people.



NAIDOC Family Fun Day

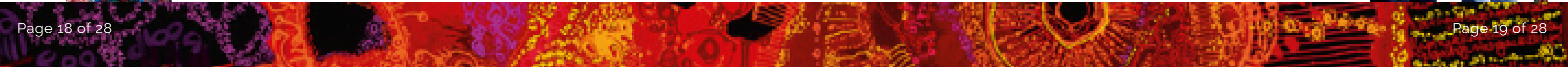
The week concluded with the annual NAIDOC Family Fun Day, coordinated by Ngala and supported by 14 local organisations, attracting more than 250 community members.

Families enjoyed a fantastic day of live music, cultural performances, basket weaving, mini golf, a mechanical bull, bouncy castles and plenty of food and entertainment. One of the highlights was a special performance by local youth alongside Razzy Mak and Zero Emcee, showcasing the creativity, talent and confidence of Carnarvon's next generation.

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF DEADLY

This year's celebrations were a reminder that NAIDOC is more than a week of events, it is an opportunity to honour the generations of Elders, leaders, artists and communities who have kept culture strong and ensured their stories continue to be shared. As the nation celebrated 50 Years of Deadly, Carnarvon proudly celebrated the people, culture and community that make our region so special.

The Shire of Carnarvon thanks the Elders, community organisations, performers, volunteers and families who contributed to another successful NAIDOC Week. Through their dedication, the celebrations continue to strengthen community connections, celebrate culture and inspire future generations.



HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC HEALTH IN CARNARVON

With the Shire's Public Health Plan now in place, we are establishing a Public Health Plan Working Group to help bring the plan to life. The Working Group will provide valuable feedback, share ideas, identify opportunities for collaboration, and support the implementation of actions that improve the health and wellbeing of our community.

We're looking for people with an interest or experience in areas such as:

- Health and wellbeing
- Community services
- Physical activity and recreation
- Healthy eating and nutrition
- Mental health



Expressions of Interest

PUBLIC HEALTH PLAN WORKING GROUP

LOCAL RIDER SELECTED TO REPRESENT WA

Congratulations to Carnarvon rider Damian Leighton, who has been selected to represent Western Australia in Darwin! Damian earned second place in the 2025 Under 16s 250cc Championship, an outstanding achievement that has now earned him the opportunity to compete as part of the WA team.

A fantastic achievement for Damian and a proud moment for Carnarvon. Good luck in Darwin!

CARNARVON'S PLACE IN BROADCASTING HISTORY

This year marks 60 years since Carnarvon played a pivotal role in Australia's first live television link with the United Kingdom.

In 1966, cutting-edge satellite technology connected families in Carnarvon live with loved ones in London, placing the small Gascoyne town at the centre of a major technological breakthrough.

To commemorate the milestone, Stephen Gilham travelled from Victoria to Carnarvon to honour his uncle, Alan Gilham, one of the engineers involved in the historic broadcast. Stephen marked the occasion by video calling his now 96-year-old uncle in the UK - a fitting reminder of how far communication technology has come in six decades.

The anniversary also celebrates Carnarvon's wider contribution to space and communications history, with the Tracking Station later supporting NASA's Apollo missions, including the historic Moon landing.

Today, this remarkable legacy lives on at the Carnarvon Space and Technology Museum, sharing the stories of the people and technology that helped connect Australia with the world.



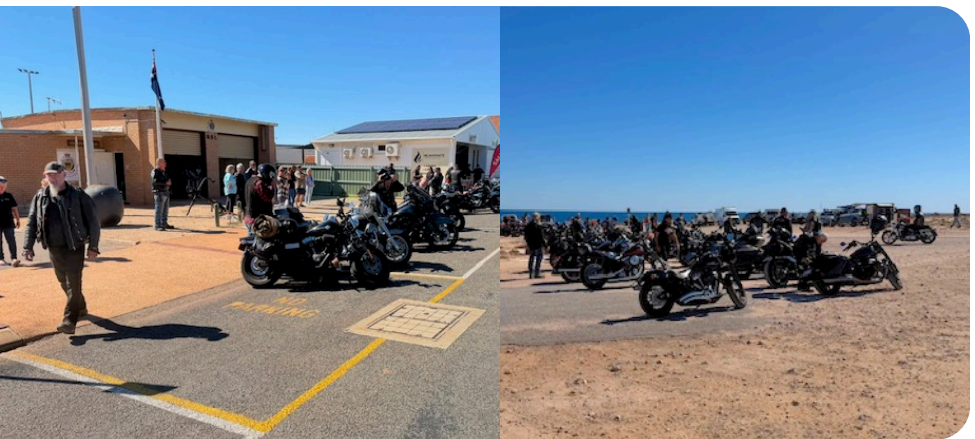
ANNUAL SCRABBLE RUN SUPPORTS LOCAL SOFTBALL TEAM

The Carnarvon Riders Association (CRA) once again brought the community together for its annual Scrabble Run, with 49 participants, including 39 motorcycles, taking part in the scenic ride across the region.

Starting at the RSL, riders travelled to Nine Mile Bridge, the Blowholes, Bumbak's, before finishing at the CRA Shed at Carnarvon Airport for an evening of camaraderie and presentations.

The event not only celebrated a shared passion for motorcycling but also gave back to the local community, with the Carnarvon Softball Team receiving a donation on the night to support the upcoming season.

Congratulations to the Carnarvon Riders Association on another successful event and for continuing to make a positive contribution to the Carnarvon community.



CARNARVON LOCAL CELEBRATES 100 WAFL GAMES

From the football fields of Carnarvon to the WAFL, local talent Glenn Byron has reached an incredible milestone, celebrating his 100th game for South Fremantle Football Club.

Growing up in Carnarvon, Glenn developed his love for the game before taking his talents to Perth, where he has built an impressive career with the Bulldogs. His 100-game achievement is a testament to his hard work, determination and commitment to the sport.

Glenn's success is a proud moment for the Carnarvon community and highlights the talent that continues to emerge from our region. Congratulations, Glenn, on this outstanding achievement, we look forward to seeing what comes next in your football journey!



CENTACARE VOLUNTEER SERVICES

We are pleased to introduce Isa Peltomaa as the new Community Volunteer Service Officer for Gascoyne, who is based in Carnarvon. Isa is dedicated to providing guidance and support to individuals who wish to volunteer, and to not-for-profit groups/organisations in Carnarvon on all aspects of volunteer recruitment. She looks forward to exploring collaboration opportunities that will further promote and enhance volunteering in our community, ensuring a positive impact for all involved.

Volunteering is a meaningful way to give back to the community, meet new people, build new skills, as well as improve your mental and physical health. We invite members of the community to offer a few hours occasionally, or a regular commitment, as your time and energy can have a lasting impact.

Whether you are a volunteer or a not-for-profit group/organisation, please visit our website centacaregeraldton.org.au to register with Centacare Volunteer Services and to learn about existing volunteer opportunities. Alternatively, please text 0455 669 719 or email Isa on cvs@centacarecarnarvon.org.au for more information.



GASCOYNE FOOD FESTIVAL 2026

CARNARVON

THE FOOD BOWL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA



From plantation feasts and farm gate adventures to hands-on workshops and fireside storytelling, discover the people, produce and places that make Carnarvon one of Australia's most extraordinary food destinations.

TICKETS ON SALE NOW

[GASCOYNEFOODFESTIVAL.COM.AU](https://gascoynefoodfestival.com.au)



FRIDAY 21 AUGUST

TASTE OF THE GASCOYNE

An evening celebrating the growers, flavours and community that define the Gascoyne.



TUESDAY 25 AUGUST

HANDS-ON WORKSHOP FISH FILLETING & SMOKING

From ocean to plate, discover the stories and skills behind exceptional seafood.



SATURDAY 22 AUGUST

THE PLANTATION FEAST

Dine amongst fragrant mango blossoms with an exquisite menu curated by WA Good Food Guide Young Chef of the Year, Jessica Roe.



WEDNESDAY 26 AUGUST

FIRESIDE YARNS: LAND, SEA & STORY

Featuring Paul Iskov (Fervor) and live music from the Family Shoveller Band.



MONDAY 24 AUGUST

HANDS-ON WORKSHOP SAUSAGE MAKING

Learn traditional craft using premium Gascoyne beef, lamb and goat.



FRIDAY 28 AUGUST

HANDS-ON WORKSHOP FISH PRINTING & JAPANESE CUISINE

Create traditional Gyotaku fish prints while enjoying a Japanese-inspired dining experience.



TASTE OF THE GASCOYNE
FOOD TRAIL



TASTE YOUR WAY THROUGH THE GASCOYNE FOR YOUR CHANGE WIN!
VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR PARTICIPATING EATERIES & MORE INFO

GASCOYNE
FOOD FESTIVAL

RARE • REMOTE • UNFORGETTABLE
21 AUGUST - 6 SEPTEMBER 2026
[GASCOYNEFOODFESTIVAL.COM.AU](https://gascoynefoodfestival.com.au)

TICKETS ON SALE NOW



MELBOURNE CUP TOUR GALLOPS INTO CARNARVON

The Carnarvon Race Club welcomed a large crowd for its Family Fun Day as the 2026 Melbourne Cup Tour made a special stop in town, giving locals the rare opportunity to see, hold and have their photo taken with Australia's most famous racing trophy.

As one of only two Western Australian destinations on this year's tour outside of Perth, the visit brought together racing enthusiasts, families and visitors for an afternoon of racing, entertainment and community celebration. Three-time Melbourne Cup-winning jockey Damien Oliver also joined the event, meeting attendees and sharing in the excitement of the tour.



Off the track, there was plenty to keep families entertained. Children enjoyed a range of free activities throughout the afternoon, while the popular Fashions on the Field competition brought plenty of colour, creativity and style to the racecourse as entrants showcased their best race day outfits across a variety of categories.

Between races, many took the opportunity to meet Damien Oliver and stand alongside the iconic Melbourne Cup, with queues forming as people waited for their chance to hold the trophy and capture a photo with one of Australian sport's most recognisable prizes.



For a small regional town, hosting the Melbourne Cup Tour was a rare privilege. Giving the community the opportunity to see, hold and photograph one of Australia's most celebrated sporting trophies made it a truly memorable day for racing fans and families alike.

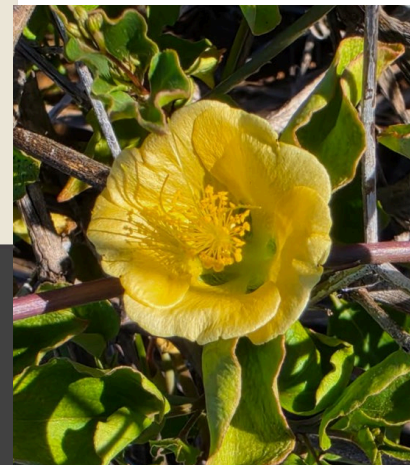


NATIONAL TREE DAY HOSTED BY CARNARVON TREE SOCIETY

The Shire of Carnarvon joined the Carnarvon Tree Society and community volunteers to celebrate National Tree Day with a planting event at the Carnarvon Arboretum on Robinson Street.

Around 50 coolabah trees were planted using a simple "no dig" planting method, alongside native pigface succulents and native seeds to help enhance the Arboretum and preserve Carnarvon's unique flora for future generations.

Participants also enjoyed a guided walk through the Arboretum, discovering local native species including currant bush, Pimelea, Eremophila and Abutilon, many of which are currently in flower thanks to favourable seasonal conditions.



For more than 50 years, the Arboretum has been cared for by dedicated volunteers and remains a valued community space where residents and visitors can explore native plants, learn about local species and collect seeds and cuttings for their own gardens.

The Shire thanks the Carnarvon Tree Society, community volunteers and everyone who took part in this year's National Tree Day. A special thank you to Dave and Les for sharing their knowledge and passion for Carnarvon's native flora.

Community members are encouraged to visit the Arboretum throughout the year or join the Carnarvon Tree Society for upcoming spring seed harvesting walks. The Arboretum is open Saturdays from 10.00am to 12.00pm, with everyone welcome.

To learn more, contact Dave at aridlandscapes@bigpond.com or Kylie at kylie@coralcoastplumbing.com.au

ROOM FOR GROWTH IN CARNARVON'S ECONOMY

Carnarvon's business community continues to demonstrate confidence in the region, with local businesses expanding, investing and introducing new services that are creating jobs, strengthening the local economy and providing greater choice for residents and visitors.

Across the town, businesses are investing in larger premises, expanding their service offerings and embracing new opportunities. From hospitality and health to beauty and wellness, these investments reflect growing confidence in Carnarvon's future and highlight the important role local businesses play in shaping a vibrant and resilient community.

Gascoyne Bakery Café

One of Carnarvon's favourite local cafés is now welcoming diners well into the evening, with Gascoyne Bakery Café expanding into dinner service.

The new menu showcases authentic Vietnamese cuisine alongside quality local ingredients, offering dishes including fragrant Pho, Bun Bo Hue, crispy pork, grilled lemongrass pork chops, shaking beef, rice noodle dishes and locally inspired prawn skewers. The expansion provides locals and visitors with another dining option while adding to Carnarvon's growing hospitality scene.



DINNER SERVICE HOURS:
Wed to Sat: 5:00PM - 8:30PM
WhatsApp: +61 407 384 379
Phone: 08 9941 2265



Gascoyne Nail & Beauty Lounge

The opening of Gascoyne Nail & Beauty Lounge has added another small business to Carnarvon's town centre, expanding the range of professional beauty services available locally.

Since opening its doors in July, the salon has been warmly welcomed by the community. The new business is another example of entrepreneurs choosing to invest in Carnarvon and contribute to the town's growing retail and personal services sector.



OPENING HOURS:
Mon to Sat: 9:00AM - 5:30PM
Phone: 0418 977 751



Flow Wellness

Health and wellbeing services in Carnarvon continue to grow with the expansion of Flow Wellness.

Founded by chiropractor Jordan in 2026, the business has evolved from Coastal Chiropractic into a multidisciplinary wellness hub bringing together chiropractic care, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, traditional Chinese medicine and a 24-hour gym under one roof.

By expanding allied health services locally, Flow Wellness is helping residents access quality care closer to home while strengthening Carnarvon's growing health sector.

OPENING HOURS:
Tues & Thurs: 8:00AM - 4:30PM
Wed: 9:00am - 5:30pm
Fri: 7:30am - 2:00pm
Phone: (08) 9967 1511
Email: info@flowwellness.au

DISCOVER MORE OPPORTUNITIES

Carnarvon continues to grow as a place to live, work and invest. Whether you're looking to start a business, relocate, expand an existing enterprise or learn more about the opportunities our region has to offer, visit the Shire's Live, Work, Invest webpage.

Scan the QR code to discover investment opportunities, business support, lifestyle information and why more people are choosing to call Carnarvon home.



Scan the QR code to explore current employment opportunities with the Shire of Carnarvon.

OPENING DOORS TO LOCAL CAREERS

Students from across Carnarvon had the opportunity to explore future career pathways at the Real Futures Carnarvon Career Expo, where local businesses, organisations and training providers came together to showcase the wide range of employment opportunities available within the region.

The expo gave students the chance to speak directly with employers, discover different industries and learn about the skills, training and qualifications needed for a variety of careers. From trades and health to tourism, community services and government, the event highlighted that rewarding careers can be built close to home.

The Shire of Carnarvon was proud to participate in the expo, showcasing the diverse range of careers available within local government. Students learned about opportunities across administration, engineering, parks and gardens, ranger services, libraries, communications, planning, environmental health, community development and more, while also exploring pathways through traineeships, apprenticeships and work experience.

Events such as the Real Futures Career Expo play an important role in connecting young people with local employers, encouraging them to consider the many career opportunities available in Carnarvon. By investing in our future workforce and promoting local career pathways, we can help build a stronger, more skilled community for years to come.



Coral Bay

CELEBRATE THE MAN
BEHIND CORAL BAY

CORAL BAY SUNSET CRUISE: SEAFOOD,
SUNDOWNERS & COASTAL SOUNDS

FRIDAY, 28 AUGUST

A CORAL BAY
SUNSET CRUISE:

SEAFOOD, SUNDOWNERS
& COASTAL SOUNDS



Rubbish Collection

Monday

Morgantown / Babbage Island

Tuesday

South Carnarvon

Wednesday

Brockman

Thursday

East Carnarvon / Kingsford / Brown Range

Friday

Plantations - North / South



Brown Range Waste
Disposal Facility

Monday - Friday
7:00am - 4:00pm

Sunday
8:00am - 2:00pm

Closed Saturday & Public Holidays

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE
HOME LIBRARY
SERVICE?

If you are unable to visit
Carnarvon Library & Art Gallery,
the library can visit you!

If you are stuck at home for
health or medical reasons,
we can deliver library
books to your front door.

Ask the friendly library
team for more
information.





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

Civic Centre

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

- (08) 9941 1146

 shire@carnarvon.wa.gov.au

Visitor Centre

Cnr Robinson Street/Camel Lane

May - October

Monday - Friday
9:00am - 5:00pm

Saturday
9:00am - 12:00pm

Closed Sunday

November - April

Monday - Friday
9:00am - 3:00pm

Closed Saturday & Sunday

- (08) 9941 1146

 info@carnarvon.wa.gov.au

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