

CARNARVON AQUATIC CENTER

Now Open for the Season

25 Sep. –24 Apr. 2026

Monday - Thursday:
10AM–6PM

Monday, Wednesday & Friday:
6AM–8PM

Friday - Sunday:
10AM–5PM

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

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.org.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: Centacare Family Services

OCTOBER 2026 | ISSUE 18

FROM THE RIVER TO THE REEF

CARNARVON & CORAL BAY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



PHOTO:R U OK? DAY 2026

In this issue

UPCOMING EVENTS | COMMUNITY NEWS | SHIRE UPDATES

Shire of CARNARVON
CATCH A taste OF THE GREAT LIFE

COMMISSIONER COLUMN #5



Welcome to the October edition of River to Reef as the Shire of Carnarvon Council election ramps up. The elector roll now has now closed and nominations for election will occur between 13 and 20 October. The WA Electoral Commission is conducting the election for the Shire and if you are interested in standing for election, I encourage you to contact the Returning Officer (0499 356 614) at the earliest opportunity.

In the last month Council has held community meetings in Coral Bay and Carnarvon following the passage of the budget. Both events were well attended by the community and it presented a great opportunity to present the Shire's financial priorities for the coming year and take questions from the community. Both events were live-streamed and recordings are available on our website.

A number of community members are taking up the opportunity to submit questions to Council following the introduction of a new process allowing questions to be asked at Council meeting but also on notice, recognising that attending Council meetings is not always that accessible to the community. All answers are published in the meeting minutes or online on the dedicated web page for previously answered questions.

It is fantastic to see progress on the Van Dongen Park development nearing its end and it will shortly be open to the public. Council recently re-allocated funding to stage two of the project which will prioritise parking and public toilet facilities which have been key issues raised with me by the community.

Council also recently adopted a five-year road strategy to prioritise and guide investment across more than 1,500 kilometres of road network including footpaths. The strategy identifies sources of road funding and will prove integral to future budget processes as it identifies the highest need and highest impact roads for investment across the five-year horizon. The strategy also identifies the need to develop a reserve to provide for natural disaster impacts and to provide a financial resource to fund future insurance and disaster recovery co-payments.

Round two of the Community Growth Fund has also been finalised, with Council approving ten grant and sponsorships totalling $61,000. Projects include rates and operational support for community groups as well as projects to improve community facilities and support event-based tourism. Round three will open shortly so keep an eye out for more information coming soon.

Lastly, I want to remind the community that the high threat period for tropical cyclone and bushfire is rapidly approaching. Now is a great time to prepare your property and ensure you have a plan in the event of an emergency. Visit the Shire website or www.emergency.wa.gov.au for more information.

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 – SEPTEMBER 2026

The Shire of Carnarvon held its Ordinary Council Meeting on 22 September 2026, with important decisions made to support local community initiatives, strengthen infrastructure, improve financial accountability and prepare for the upcoming local government election.

SUPPORTING LOCAL COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Council approved approximately $61,000 in Community Growth Fund grants, supporting local events, community organisations and initiatives that contribute to Carnarvon's social and economic development. Successful applications included support for Carnarvon Windfest, the Gascoyne Dash, Gascoyne Food Festival, Carnarvon Main Street Christmas Party, the Vietnamese Community Autumn Festival and improvements to facilities at the Carnarvon Horse and Pony Club.

INVESTING IN CARNARVON'S AIRPORT

Council endorsed an application for $4 million in funding through the Remote Airstrip Upgrade Program to support essential pavement upgrades at Carnarvon Airport. The project aims to strengthen the runway and supporting infrastructure to accommodate larger aircraft and maintain reliable regional air services. The Shire continues to advocate for additional government funding to deliver this important project.

PLANNING FOR SAFER ROADS

Council adopted the Strategic Road Plan 2026–2031, establishing a five-year framework to guide road maintenance, upgrades and future investment across the Shire's extensive road network. The plan identifies infrastructure priorities, including footpath improvements, and will help ensure available funding is directed towards areas of greatest need.

SUPPORTING RECOVERY AND RECONCILIATION

Council approved a budget amendment to allocate grant funding towards recovery and resilience projects following Ex-Tropical Cyclone Narelle, supporting the Shire's ongoing recovery efforts.

Progress on the Shire's Reconciliation Action Plan was also considered, with plans to invite additional community members to join the Reconciliation Action Plan Reference Group and contribute to the Shire's ongoing reconciliation journey.

STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Council considered the 2025 Compliance Audit Return, which recorded a 93% compliance rating. Additional reporting requirements were introduced to monitor progress on identified improvements and strengthen accountability.

Changes to upcoming Council Meeting arrangements were also endorsed. The October Ordinary Council Meeting has been rescheduled to Monday, 19 October at 5.30pm in Carnarvon, ahead of the caretaker period for the December local government election. The November and December meetings will also commence at 5:30pm, continuing efforts to make Council Meetings more accessible to the community.



YOU ARE INVITED TO THE NEXT MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

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

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

COMMENCING AT 1:30PM
Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
STUART STREET, CARNARVON
20 OCTOBER

YOUR RATES AT WORK

Investing in Carnarvon's future

Your rates help maintain the services we rely on today and invest in stronger communities for tomorrow.

$8.47M RATES CONTRIBUTIONS

Rates contribute around 44% of the Shire's operating income.

$21.53M CAPITAL WORKS

Planned capital works, supported by multible founding sources.

WHERE THE INVESTMENT IS GOING

Roads & Transport

$4.03M

Upgrades to key loccal roads, including Quabba-Gnaraloo, Speedway and Minilya-Lyndon roads.

$3.88m externally funded

Major Community Projects

$5.50M

Progressing Van Dongen Park, the Tramway Trail, Urban Forest and Local Connect and Create.

External and previously recieved project funding

Community Facilities

IMPROVING LOCAL SPACES

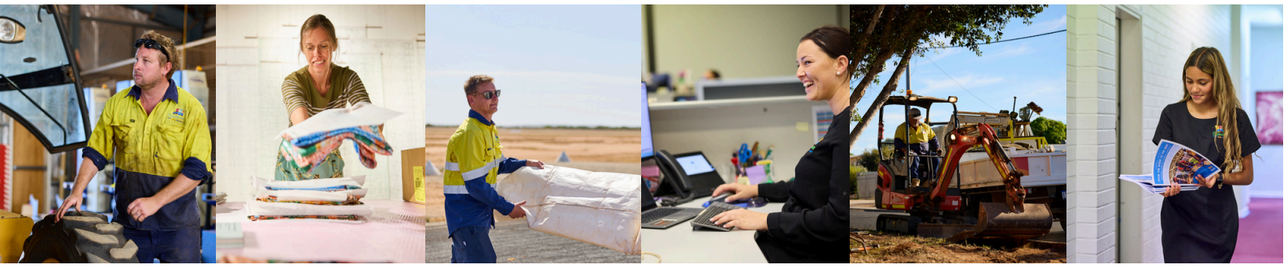
$497k Civic Centre Theatre seating
$150k Woolshed roofing renewal
$75k Playground equipment

Major Community Projects

$350K

Grant funded projects supporting cyclone recovery, local industries and floddplain resilience

Fully funded through recovery grants



See what's planned for Carnarvon and Coral Bay

Scan the QR code to explore current and upcoming Shire projects



COULD YOU SEE YOURSELF ON COUNCIL?

Stand for the Community you call home.

Councillors listen to community views, consider local priorities and make decisions about the services, facilities and direction of the Shire.

You don't need previous Council experience or formal qualifications to nominate. Community members with different experiences and perspectives all have something to contribute.

Listen
Hear community views

Represent
Consider the whole Shire

Contribute
Make local decisions

HOW TO NOMINATE

1. **Check your eligibility**
Be 18 or older, an elector of the Shire and eligible to stand.

2. **Complete the induction**
Finish the mandatory online candidate induction before nominating.

3. **Prepare your nomination**
Complete the form and candidate profile, and include the $100 deposit.

4. **Lodge it early**
Submit it to the Returning Officer between 13 and 20 October.

David Payne - Returning Officer

Phone:
0499 356 614

In person:
Council Chambers, Stuart Street

Email:
LGxro_Carnarvon@elections.wa.gov.au

NOMINATION OPEN

Tuesday 13 October

NOMINATION CLOSE

Tuesday 20 October | 4pm

Check eligibility, complete the inducion and prepare your nomination.

Scan QR Code to stay up to date with Candidates

READY TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP?

Scan for eligibility information, the candidate induction and nomination resources.





FIRE SEASON IS HERE *Are you prepared?*

A hotter-than-usual lead-up to summer is forecast. Now is the time to prepare your property, family and community.

With warmer-than-average temperatures forecast in the coming months, the Shire of Carnarvon is reminding residents, property owners and visitors to take simple steps to prepare for the fire season.

Hot, dry and windy conditions can increase the risk of bushfires spreading quickly. Whether you live in town, along the coast, on a plantation or at a pastoral station, being prepared can make a significant difference.

Prepare Your Property

Reducing fire hazards around your home and property is one of the most important steps you can take.

Maintain firebreaks and ensure they remain clear of vegetation and obstacles.

Clear dry grass, leaves and other flammable materials from around buildings, sheds and fences.

Keep access clear for emergency vehicles and make sure property entrances are easily identifiable.

Check firefighting equipment, water supplies and hoses to ensure they are ready if needed.

Have a Bushfire Plan

Don't wait until a fire starts to decide what to do. Prepare a bushfire emergency plan with your household, know when you will leave, where you will go and what you need to take.

Keep important documents, medications, emergency supplies and arrangements for pets in mind when preparing your plan.

Firebreaks and Burning Restrictions

The Shire's Restricted Fire Season runs from 1 October to 30 April each year.

All property owners and occupiers are required to have their firebreaks completed by 1 October and maintained until 30 April, in accordance with the Shire's Firebreak Notice.

A permit is required for planned burning during the Restricted Fire Season. Burning is prohibited during Total Fire Bans and when fire danger conditions prohibit it.

For permit information or questions about firebreak requirements, contact the Shire on (08) 9941 0000.

Stay Informed This Fire Season

Check daily Fire Danger Ratings, stay alert to changing weather conditions and follow official warnings.

Emergency: 000
DFES Information Line: 13 33 37
Emergency WA: emergency.wa.gov.au

GET READY BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

Fire safety is everyone's responsibility. Taking action now helps protect your family, neighbours, property and our wider community.

Stay up to date with emergency warnings.

Scan the QR code to check current fire warnings, Fire Danger Ratings and emergency information on Emergency WA.

emergency.wa.gov.au

COMMUNITY SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

SNAKE SEASON

Stay alert and stay safe as temperatures rise

Local Snake catcher
Rob Newman 0477 038 738

With warmer weather approaching, snakes are becoming more active across Carnarvon and Coral Bay. The Shire's Community Safety Officers, who also perform ranger duties, are reminding residents and visitors to take simple precautions.

KEEP YOUR PROPERTY SNAKE-SAFE

Maintaining short grass, removing garden debris and clutter, and keeping areas around buildings clear. When walking outdoors, stay alert, wear enclosed footwear and avoid reaching into areas where snakes may be hiding.

WHAT IF YOU SEE A SNAKE?

Remain calm, move away slowly and keep children and pets at a safe distance. Never attempt to catch, harm or relocate a snake yourself.

IN THE EVENT OF A SNAKE BITE

Treat all suspected snake bites as a medical emergency. Call 000 immediately, keep the person still and apply a pressure immobilisation bandage if possible. Do not wash the bite, use a tourniquet or attempt to catch the snake.

Snakes are an important part of our natural environment. Giving them space helps protect both people and wildlife.

GOLDEN CROWNBEARD IS BACK

Help stop this invasive plant spreading in Carnarvon



The invasive Golden Crownbeard (Verbesina encelioides) is appearing again around Carnarvon, and the Shire's Environmental Health Team is encouraging residents to help prevent its spread.

Recognisable by its bright yellow, daisy-like flowers and greyish-green leaves, this fast-spreading weed can displace native vegetation and pose a risk to livestock.

HOW TO REMOVE AND DISPOSE OF GOLDEN CROWNBEARD

1 REMOVE THE ENTIRE PLANT
Wearing gardening gloves, carefully pull the weed from the ground, ensuring the roots are removed.

2 COLLECT ALL PLANT MATERIAL
Place the weed, including flowers, seed heads and roots, directly into a strong garbage bag. Take care not to scatter seeds.

3 SEAL AND DISPOSE
Securely seal the bag and place it in your general waste bin. Do not place Golden Crownbeard in green waste or compost, as seeds may continue to spread.

4 CHECK FOR REGROWTH
Continue monitoring the area and remove new seedlings before they flower and produce more seeds.

By removing Golden Crownbeard from our gardens and properties, we can help protect Carnarvon's unique native vegetation and prevent this invasive species from becoming further established.

Sotted Golden Crownbeard on public land? Report it to the Shire via Snap Send Solve or call (08) 9941 0000. Please include the location and a photo where possible to help our team respond.

Art Gallery

LOOKING CLOSER AT RURAL LIFE: THE GOOD EXHIBITION OPENS AT CARNARVON LIBRARY AND ART GALLERY

Thirty-five people came together at the Carnarvon Library and Art Gallery on Saturday 10 October to celebrate the opening of The Good, a touring exhibition by Western Australian artist Anna Louise Richardson, on loan from Museums & Galleries of NSW and presented locally through ART ON THE MOVE.



Anna travelled to Carnarvon with her husband and children to deliver an artist talk and guide visitors through the exhibition. She shared the stories behind her artworks, offering a closer look at the details drawn from her experiences of living and working on a multi-generational beef cattle farm.

One of the key takeaways for visitors was discovering how everyday objects take on new life on farms and stations, where items are often reused, repurposed and repaired time and again.

Looking closely at the artworks and hearing the stories behind them offered a fresh perspective on the resourcefulness, creativity and rhythms of rural life.



The exhibition brings a striking new presence to the Art Gallery, with 16 large-scale works in charcoal and graphite installed directly onto the Gallery walls. Rich in detail, the works appear almost three-dimensional, inviting visitors to take their time and look more closely.

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The Good is curated by Rachel Arndt and Dr Lee-Anne Hall and is a touring exhibition from Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, The Condensery and Museums & Galleries of NSW, delivered through ART ON THE MOVE.

OPEN FOR SCHOOL AND GROUP EXCURSIONS

The Carnarvon Library and Art Gallery welcomes local schools and community groups to book an excursion to experience The Good.

The exhibition offers an opportunity to slow down, look closely, ask questions and share different interpretations of the artworks. An accompanying education resource has been developed for Years 3–12, with links to the Australian Curriculum: Visual Arts. It can be used to support classroom learning before or after a gallery visit.

Whether you're planning a school excursion, connecting with classroom learning or simply looking for an engaging shared experience, the Gallery team would love to welcome your group.

To book a tour, contact the Art Gallery team at artgallery@carnarvon.wa.gov.au.

A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR ARTS IN CARNARVON

In July, the Carnarvon Art Gallery celebrated the completion of Stage 3 upgrades, made possible through $58,176 in funding from the Public Regional Galleries Improvement Fund.

The improvements included the installation of a new suspended ceiling and professional lighting system, enhancing the gallery's exhibition capabilities and creating a better environment for local artists and touring exhibitions.

The project also supported the local economy, with Norwest Project Solutions and Carnarvon Electrics engaged to complete the works. The upgrades will help attract high-quality exhibitions to the region while providing more opportunities for local artists to showcase their creativity.

Commissioner Martin Aldridge announced the completion during the opening of the Gascoyne Art Awards, marking another important milestone in strengthening Carnarvon's arts and cultural spaces.

The project was jointly funded by the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism and Sport and the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, supporting continued investment in regional arts and culture.



Library

TINY HANDS IN ACTION BRINGS CREATIVITY AND FUN TO THE LIBRARY!

The Library Lounge was a hive of activity during the latest Tiny Hands Craft school holiday session on 7 October, with more than 30 children aged 0 to 5 years attending alongside their parents and carers.

Young participants explored four creative activity stations, including leaf painting, playdough designs, dry clay ice-creams and colourful pasta necklaces. Children moved freely between activities, with a dedicated play zone providing a space to rest and recharge.





The room was filled with laughter, conversation and curious young minds at work, with all activities carefully designed to support the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) developmental domains.

As the session came to a close, children left with happy smiles and bags full of handmade creations. This marked the third successful Tiny Hands Craft session held at the library, with many families expressing their appreciation and enthusiasm for more sessions in the future.

Library



BEE-THEMED STORYTIME CREATES A BUZZ AT GWOONWARDU MIA!

There was plenty of buzz and excitement at a recent special Storytime held at Gwoonwardu Mia, where young children, parents and carers enjoyed an engaging bee-themed morning of learning and discovery.

The session featured stories, songs and hands-on activities celebrating the fascinating world of bees. One of the highlights was a honey tasting, which proved to be a sweet success with attendees.

Excitement reached new heights when Mieke unveiled a special display case containing a burrowing bee. Curious young minds were eager to learn more, sparking lively conversations as children enthusiastically shared their ideas about this unique insect.

With so much excitement surrounding the bee encounter, many children found it difficult to settle into the planned bee craft activity. However, they were delighted to take this home, where they could continue exploring and learning about bees alongside their families.

The special Storytime was a wonderful opportunity for children to connect with nature, ask questions and nurture their curiosity through fun, hands-on learning experiences.

For a more immersive experience, visit the Burrowing Bees Exhibition at Gwoonwardu Mia Gascoyne Heritage and Cultural Centre.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS SESSION A RESOUNDING SUCCESS!

More than 30 community members attended the Emergency Preparedness Information Session at Carnarvon Library & Art Gallery on Wednesday, 23 October 2026, to learn about the new Australian Warning System and how to prepare for emergencies.

Delivered by DFES District Emergency Management Advisor Ranelle Clarke, with support from District Officers Shaun Burton and Jo Bettesworth, the session explored the national warning levels, colours and action statements used for hazards such as bushfire, flood, storm, cyclone, extreme heat and severe weather.



Attendees were also introduced to the Emergency WA app, learning how it can provide timely emergency information and alerts. Following the presentation, DFES officers, the library team, a Fire and Rescue volunteer and the Shire of Carnarvon's Local Recovery Officer helped participants download the app and create personalised watch zones for their homes.



The session also covered emergency planning and the importance of preparing an emergency kit. Conversations about community safety continued over a delicious morning tea.

If you missed the session, emergency preparedness resources are still available at the library, and our tech help sessions can assist anyone wanting support to get started with the Emergency WA app.



CRISTY BURNE
AUTHOR-IN-RESIDENCE

Join Cristy at one of the following events as she returns to work with the Carnarvon community to research and write the second draft of her new novel *Moon Over Carnarvon*.

Saturday 24 October
10am to 12 noon
Children's Week Event Baxter Park

Visit Cristy's stall at this event and enjoy some interactive fun while sharing your memories and ideas about growing up in Carnarvon.

Tuesday 27 October
10am to 12 noon
Carnarvon Space & Technology Museum

Help preserve Carnarvon's stories!
Award-winning author Cristy Burne invites locals to connect with her for a cuppa at the museum cafe and share memories and stories for Cristy's new novel.

Wednesday 28 October
3-4:3pm
Carnarvon Library & Art Gallery

Young People's Writing Workshop
Ages 10 to 18 Calling all young storytellers!
Join award-winning author Cristy Burne for a fun, hands-on writing workshop inspired by Carnarvon.

For more information contact Carnarvon Library & Art Gallery on (08) 9941 3727
Or visit our website
https://www.carnarvon.wa.gov.au/events/

Shire of CARNARVON
CATCH A taste OF THE GREAT LIFE

MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE

Supported by:

Australian Government
BUILDING AUSTRALIA

lotterywest

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
Department of Transport and Major Infrastructure

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

- The transformation of Van Dongen Park is creating an exciting buzz around town with First Class Constructions WA Pty Ltd continuing to make strong progress on Stage One of the construction and landscaping of the park. The shade structures and concreting are now complete, with the final stages of the installation of the banana-inspired play equipment underway. Existing established trees will be complemented by additional landscaping, turf and perimeter fencing to complete this stage of the project.
- The next stages of the Van Dongen Park project have commenced with two Request for Quotes (RFQs). RFQ 17/2026 has been awarded to First Class Constructions WA Pty Ltd to complete the car parking, and RFQ 19/2026 for the design, construction and installation of the toilet facility is currently being advertised.
- The Tramway Walk Trail project continues to progress with the installation of the Healing Shelter commencing this month. Both the Healing Shelter and Tramway Shelter are being constructed by local contractor Trac Building. This project also includes Stage One restoration works to our iconic Tramway Bridge, by contractor Ventia. This project is progressing well. These essential works to the Fascine foreshore-end of the bridge, will protect this asset for years to come, ensuring it remains a safe, beautiful part of the community's landscape.
- Request for Tender 06/2026 Coral Bay Airstrip Pavement Reshape and Stabilisation has closed and submissions currently being assessed. The project is intended to maintain the airstrip in a safe and trafficable condition through the reshaping and stabilisation of the existing pavement using Polychlor Omega.







COMING UP!

- The South Carnarvon Seawater Inundation Mitigation Project continues to progress thanks to a Commonwealth Disaster Ready Fund Grant of $5,582,831. Community engagement opportunities for this important project are currently being planned for November 2026 and will be advertised soon.
- Planning has commenced for the Urban Forest project with Shire Project Officers are working closely with the Parks & Gardens team to develop concept plans. This project aims to improve the quality and quantity of strong street planting to create connected canopies along key arterial routes, to promote the town as an "oasis in the desert". The Shire of Carnarvon acknowledges the generous support of our funding partner, the Australian Government's regional Precincts and Partnership Program (rPPP).
- The Shire would like to thank the community for their feedback on the draft Coastal Hazard Risk Management and Adaption Plan (CHRMAP). The community will be informed of updates as this plan progresses.
- Request for Tender 02/2026 Speedway Road Alignment was awarded to Avon Valley Plant Equipment Pty Ltd (STERRA) at the 25 August 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting. The aim of this project is to improve road user safety on Speedway Road adjacent to the Carnarvon Brown Range Waste Facility and is possible due Main Roads WA Blackspot program funding received by the Shire. Construction works are scheduled to commence on 5 October 2026 through to 30 December 2026. During this period, residents may experience increased movements of construction vehicles and machinery associated with the project works.
- 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
Wednesdays 10:00am - 2:00pm
Jubilee Hall



Shoppe
Saturdays
10:00am - 1:00pm
Baxter Park



Author-In-Residence
Tuesday 27th October
10:00am - 12:00pm
Space & Technology Museum



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



The Good by Anna Louise Richardson
Exhibiting till 5th Dec
Art Gallery Opening Hours
Library & Art Gallery



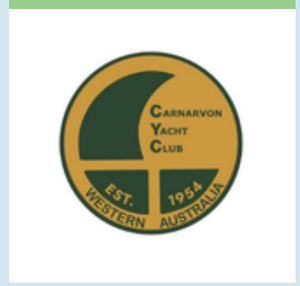
Young People's Writing Workshop
Wednesday 28th October
3:00pm - 4:30pm
Library & Art Gallery



Steak Night
Tuesdays
Dinner
Bill's Bar



Sunday Sessions
Sundays
10:00am - 5:00pm
Carnarvon Yacht Club



Spring Safe Storytime
Friday 30th October
10:00am - 11:30am
Carnarvon Playgroup



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



Storytime
Tuesday 20th October
10:00am - 11:00am
Library & Art Gallery



Girls Soccer Clinic
Monday 2nd November
5:00pm - 6:15pm
Carnarvon PCYC



Bingo
Wednesdays
6:00pm
Senior Citizens Hall



Life on the Land Exhibition
20th October - 17th December
Tue - Fri 9:30am - 5:00pm
Sat 9:30am - 12:30pm
Library & Art Gallery



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



Burger Fest
Wednesdays
Lunch & Dinner
Bill's Bar



Be Connected - Scam Awareness
Thursday 22nd October
12:00pm - 1:00pm
Library & Art Gallery



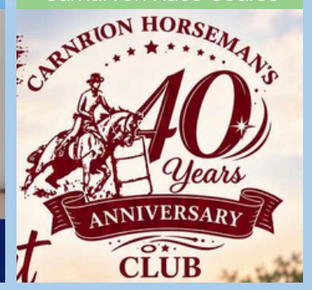
Connecting Carnarvon
Wednesday 10th November
10:00am - 2:00pm
Carnarvon Yacht Club



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



40th Anniversary Gymkhana & Presentation
Saturday 24th October
8:30am - 7.30pm
Carnarvon Race Course



Writer's Club
Thursday 12th November
5:15pm - 6:15pm
Library & Art Gallery



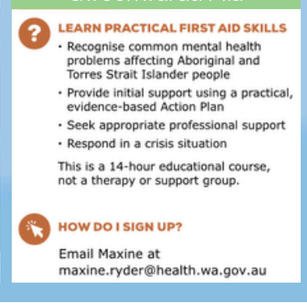
Underwater Hockey
Wednesdays 6:00pm start
Fridays 5:00pm start
Carnarvon Aquatic Centre



Children's Week Family Fun Day
Saturday 24th October
9:30am - 11:30am
Baxter Park



Mental Health First-aider Training
Tuesday 17th November
9:00am - 4:00pm
Gwoonwardu Mia



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

FROM CEBU TO CARNARVON: A FARMING LIFE COMES FULL CIRCLE

When Juanito “Bibie” Surbano Gorgonio Jr looks across the vines of his Carnarvon plantation today, the story behind them begins thousands of kilometres away, with his father in Cebu.



Bibie with his wife, Risa, and their granddaughter

Bibie grew up in Alta Vista, Poro, Camotes, where farming was part of everyday family life. From around eight years old, he was fetching water from the well, feeding pigs, caring for animals and helping look after his younger sisters.

As he grew older, his father began showing him how to grow and care for plants, while his mother taught him to cook.

“Because I learned everything from them. And from my mom, I do whatever I learn from in cooking. And then my dad, I learned in a farm.”

Those lessons stayed with Bibie long after childhood.

At 19, he left home to support himself, working during the day and studying at night. He never imagined at the time that his life would eventually take him away from the Philippines.

One motto from his high school years stayed with him:

“Vision and Courage are the wings of success.”

That move eventually brought Bibie to Carnarvon, where his first years were spent looking for whatever plantation work he could find.

“We're just looking for a job in every [plantation]. Just moving around, for the first time. The owners just give us some time, two hours, three hours in a day. So we just keep on until I found a permanent job in a vineyard.”

Bibie spent around eight years working in the vineyard and learning how to grow and care for table grapes. Eventually, he and his wife decided to try building something of their own.

They sold their home in town and invested the money into a 38-acre property, starting with vegetables and gradually establishing more vines.

After his wife passed away in 2009, Bibie was left with two children and the plantation they had worked to establish.



“It's hard. It hard, you know. It's hard.”

He stayed with the property, continuing “slowly, slowly”. In time, Bibie met Risa in Carnarvon, and together they continued developing the plantation.

“It's lucky, also, that I met Risa in here... So we built up together everything.”

Today, farming remains something Bibie genuinely enjoys, particularly the simple experience of seeing what months of work can produce.

“Because you can see the nature, you know? The nature of the plant, how they grow.”

From helping his father on a small farm in Cebu to tending his own vines in Carnarvon decades later, Bibie's farming life has come full circle.

And while he is still able to do it, he has no plans to stop.

“As long as I can move or I can still do it... I keep on doing.”

Scan QR Code to read the full stories

A SEA CHANGE THAT BECAME A NEW BEGINNING



What started as a desire for a sea change has turned into an exciting new chapter for Minh and her family, who chose Carnarvon as the place to build their future.

After living over east, Minh and her husband were drawn to Carnarvon's relaxed lifestyle, beautiful surroundings and strong farming and fishing industries. With her husband particularly interested in the region's agricultural and seafood opportunities, the family decided to make the move.

Now in her second year of running Kestrel Café, Minh has embraced the opportunity to contribute to the local economy while creating a welcoming space for residents and visitors alike.



Passionate about quality food, Minh enjoys incorporating fresh local produce into the café's menu, drawing inspiration from Carnarvon's plantations and thriving seafood industry. By supporting local growers and producers wherever possible, she is helping showcase the incredible ingredients available right here in the Gascoyne.

For Minh, running a business is about more than serving great food. It's about bringing people together and making a positive contribution to the place she now calls home.

"I love to help and support our community," Minh said, explaining that she wants to play her part in creating a better place for everyone to live and work.

Minh's story reflects the spirit of Live, Work & Invest in Carnarvon. From relocating for a lifestyle change to establishing a local business, her journey highlights the opportunities our region offers for families, entrepreneurs and those looking to build a future in a welcoming regional community.

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Discover the opportunities right here in Carnarvon! Scan the QR code to explore our Live, Work & Invest webpage and learn more about local business opportunities, investment and the future of our region.

Community

Submitted by: Sahneemah Moncrieff



What started as an idea to bring young people and communities together through basketball has grown into an event that welcomes teams from across the state and provides a positive space for connection, healthy competition and community spirit.

This carnival is about much more than basketball. Its purpose is to create positive opportunities for our young people while raising awareness around mental health and suicide prevention and remembering those we have lost to suicide.



Amigos, in pink (Men's Grand Final Champions) with runners-up Leonora Blazers in orange



Kuwinyardu Boys *Gumarda* *Carnarvon Nyamal*

Each year, teams dedicate their guernseys to loved ones and carry their memories onto the court which is particularly meaningful.

The event included men's and women's competitions, a 3-point competition, kids' games, free BBQ lunch and plenty of community activities. The local Kuwinyardu Boys team also took part, providing an opportunity for young local players to experience competing alongside teams travelling from across the State.



TEAM HERA Women's Grand Final Champions



Carnarvon Nyamal (blue) vs. Burringarrah (black) - Women's



Kuwinyardu Boys (black) vs. Gumardu (blue)



Burrringarrah (black) vs. Scorpions (yellow)



TEAM HERA (orange/teal) vs Headland Lightning (white) - Women's

I am incredibly proud to announce the Let's Talk Basketball Carnival was delivered as a Gascoyne Community Services Aboriginal Corporation project, reflecting our commitment to creating community-led initiatives that make a positive difference.

We look forward to hosting a bigger and better basketball carnival next year!

Let's talk about our feelings, Let's talk about seeking help, Let's Talk!



KEEPING ROLLING, ROLLING, ROLLING

There are a few more bowls rolling across the greens at the Carnarvon Bowling Club, with 20 new sets of lawn bowls now available for the community to enjoy thanks to the generous support of Leichhardt and Real Futures.

Having more equipment on hand means more people can simply turn up and have a go, whether it is juniors discovering the sport for the first time, families playing together or community members keen to try something new.

The new sets will support the Club's Junior Bowls and Community Bowls programs, helping introduce a new generation to the game while creating more opportunities for people of all ages to get active, socialise and enjoy some friendly competition on the green.

The Shire of Carnarvon congratulates the Club on this fantastic addition and acknowledges Leichhardt and Real Futures for making the purchase possible, along with Aero Bowls for its support and assistance with the CBC logo. Most importantly, a big thank you goes to the dedicated volunteers behind the Carnarvon Bowling Club, whose time and commitment continue to create these opportunities and keep the sport of lawn bowls alive in Carnarvon.

NOT TODAY, MATE: PROTECT YOUR OFF-ROAD BIKE

Buying and selling bikes online can give thieves an opportunity to see what bikes and property you have.

Through the Not Today, Mate campaign, Crime Stoppers WA, WA Police and Bikelinc are encouraging off-road bike owners to stay alert. If something about a buyer or seller doesn't feel right, stop the deal and protect the information you share online.

Registering your bike with Bikelinc also links it to its VIN or serial number, helping police or the community return it to you if it is stolen and later found.

Find out more



COMMUNITY SAFETY MONTH



As part of Community Safety Month, St John Ambulance and our Shire Rangers were at the markets on Saturday 3 October.

The morning provided a great opportunity for members of the community to meet the teams, ask questions and learn more about the important work they do across Carnarvon. It was also a chance to have a friendly chat and raise awareness around community safety and the services available locally.

A big thank you to St John Ambulance and our Rangers for taking the time to join us and to everyone who stopped by for a chat. We appreciate your support in helping promote a safer and more connected community.



CARNARVON HONOURS FALLEN OFFICERS ON NATIONAL POLICE REMEMBRANCE DAY



On 29 September, Carnarvon joined communities across Australia in commemorating National Police Remembrance Day, with a local service hosted by the Western Australia Police Force.

The annual occasion honours police officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty, recognising their courage, dedication and sacrifice in protecting the communities they serve.

Acting Senior Sergeant Alan Armstrong delivered addresses during the Carnarvon service, marking an important occasion for reflection and remembrance.

National Police Remembrance Day is also an opportunity to acknowledge the commitment of serving police officers, particularly those working in regional communities like Carnarvon and Coral Bay, where officers play an important role in supporting community safety and responding to emergencies.



The Shire of Carnarvon extends its appreciation to the WA Police Force, including our local officers, for their continued service and dedication to our community, while remembering those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.



We will remember them.

Centacare Community Volunteer Service

Carnarvon is home to some incredible volunteers, but even our super volunteers can't do everything forever. As we head into one of the busiest times of the year, now is the perfect opportunity for clubs and organisations to think strategically about sharing responsibilities and engaging new volunteers. Offering both short-term and ongoing roles opens the door for more people to contribute in ways that suit their schedules, skills and interests.

We can help create volunteer-ready roles, support onboarding and planning, and connect your organisation with community members looking for meaningful ways to get involved. Reach out to **cvs@centacarecarnarvon.org.au** or **0455 669 719** for a chat about how we can assist your organisation!

Facebook: Centacare Family Services Carnarvon
Website: centacaregeraldton.org.au

CARNARVON WENT BANANAS!

There was no missing the splash of yellow around Carnarvon for National Banana Day. Banana hats came out, local businesses served up banana-inspired treats and specials, and even our local police joined in the fun.

The pop-up stall kept the celebrations going, while the banana jar had plenty of people stopping to count, reconsider and take their best guess for a chance to win a $100 voucher.

Behind all the fun was something worth celebrating: our bananas grown right here in Carnarvon and the local growers and businesses behind one of our region's most recognisable products.

Thank you to everyone who embraced the theme, supported local and helped Carnarvon go a little bananas for the day!









T-shirts available
@ Visitor Centre

CARING FOR A PLACE OF REMEMBRANCE

There are some places in our community that deserve an extra level of care, and the Carnarvon Cemetery is certainly one of them.

Since taking over the cemetery contract, the Gascoyne Funeral Services (GFS) team has been working hard to address outstanding maintenance across the site and progressively improve the overall presentation of the cemetery.

With a considerable amount of catch-up work to get through, the team has been busy clearing vegetation, managing weeds and undertaking general clean-up and maintenance throughout the grounds. While there is still work to be done, their efforts are already making a noticeable difference, with improvements continuing across the site.

The team has also been installing new grave surrounds, with several completed in recent months, helping families care for and maintain the resting places of their loved ones.

We are pleased to welcome the GFS team and acknowledge the care, effort and hard work they have put in since taking over the contract. Their ongoing work in helping to ensure the Carnarvon Cemetery continues to improve as an important place for our community to visit, reflect and remember loved ones.



Gascoyne Funeral Services Team



before *after*



BACKING THE FUTURE OF RACING IN CARNARVON

Racing has been part of Carnarvon's story since 1883, and a $455,000 investment from the WA Government is helping ensure this long-standing tradition continues.

Through the Regional Racing Infrastructure Fund, the Carnarvon Race Club has already received $100,000 for track resurfacing works, improving racing conditions and safety for horses and riders. A further $40,000 has provided a new track conditioning machine, with another $315,000 allocated for future improvements.

For Carnarvon, the Race Club is more than somewhere horses cross the finish line. Race days are part of the town's social calendar, giving locals a reason to dress up, catch up trackside and enjoy a day of racing, while bringing visitors into town and supporting local businesses.

Behind those race days are also the local volunteers and supporters who continue to put in the time to keep racing going in the Gascoyne.

More than 140 years after racing began in Carnarvon, the Club remains part of the town's identity. This investment gives it the foundations to keep that tradition alive and ensure the sound of racing continues in the Gascoyne for generations to come.



THE CARNARVON CREATIVE SPARKS PROGRAM

Creative Sparks gives children and young people a space to experiment, make something of their own and connect with others through fun, hands-on creative experiences. Guided by the SEW-Arts Framework, the program uses creativity to support confidence, learning, connection and personal growth.

The next session will see participants put their own spin on a candle at a Candle Pen Painting Workshop, designing and decorating a personalised piece to take home.

More Creative Sparks activities will continue throughout 2026. Scan the QR code to find out more about Creative Sparks and upcoming sessions.

- Thursday 22 October
- 3:00-4:30pm
- Carnarvon Library & Art Gallery



PARTY LIKE IT'S Y2K

Flip phones, So Fresh CDs and all the chaos of the early 2000s are coming to Camel Lane Theatre as YUCK Circus brings its brand-new show, NAUGHTIES, to Carnarvon.

Expect high-flying acrobatics, comedy and plenty of Y2K nostalgia, with a throwback to the era of Britney, Backstreet Boys and Furbies.

NAUGHTIES is a 15+ event. Scan the QR code on the poster to grab your tickets and get the crew together for a night of noughties nostalgia.

MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL CELEBRATIONS



More than 250 people came together as Carnarvon's Vietnamese community celebrated the Mid-Autumn Festival, a cherished tradition centred around family, togetherness and gratitude. The occasion is a time to gather with loved ones, share food and celebrate together.

The evening also gave the wider Carnarvon community an opportunity to experience Vietnamese culture and hospitality. Representing the Shire of Carnarvon, Jasper said the welcoming atmosphere made it feel as though he had "stepped into Vietnam itself, right here in Carnarvon's own backyard."

"I was honoured to participate and attend on behalf of the Shire. My sincere thanks to Su Tran and the organising committee for delivering such a memorable evening. Bringing together more than 250 people to celebrate culture, family and community is a remarkable achievement, and everyone involved should be incredibly proud of what they have created." - Jasper.



WHO ARE YOU? WHERE DO YOU COME FROM? WHO IS YOUR MOB?

Join the Department of Communities in Term 4 for My Mob, a free after-school creative program for young people aged 7–17.

Across Term 4, we'll explore identity, family, lineage, culture and connection through storytelling, art and book making. You'll create your own personal booklet filled with drawings, stories, memories and creative pieces - something special to keep and look back on.

📅 Every Wednesday in Term 4
⏰ 3 – 4pm
📍 Carnarvon Community Art Hub
👧 Ages 7 – 17
💚 FREE to attend

Come along, get creative and discover more about your story, your family and your mob.

Come along, get creative and discover more about your story, your family and your mob.

Facilitated by the Department of Communities, supported by Shire of Carnarvon at the Carnarvon Community Art Hub.

For more information and to register your interest, please contact Jo from Department of Communities 0439 069 866.

A MONTH OF MOVEMENT, WELLBEING AND CONNECTION

September's Health & Wellness Month gave the Carnarvon community plenty of ways to get moving, try something new and focus on their wellbeing.

Throughout the month, community members had the opportunity to try new activities, learn new skills, get active and connect with others through a range of health and wellness sessions.



A big thank you to everyone who got involved and helped put health and wellbeing on the calendar throughout September.

The month highlighted the importance of creating opportunities for people of all ages to stay active, support their wellbeing and build meaningful connections within the community.

The Shire of Carnarvon thanks everyone who joined in, along with Outback Fitness, HelpingMinds, Alhasnawi Boxing, Salty Alma Yoga, Sabrina from St John Community Paramedic, Somerset Health, Leanne Gillham and the Carnarvon Community Art Hub, Rejuvenate – The Wellness Booth, Kate Buzzard and the Aquatic Centre, and 6701 Waterfront Café for helping make the month possible.



A WEEK FOR CARNARVON SENIORS

Carnarvon is getting ready to celebrate Seniors Week 2026, with a week of activities planned from Monday 9 to Friday 13 November.

Seniors Week is also an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the important contribution older people make to Carnarvon and the knowledge, experience and connections they bring to our community.

The full program will be released soon, so keep an eye out for what's happening and how to get involved.

Seniors Week 2026 is funded by the Department of Communities and Lotterywest, and coordinated by Advocare.







35 YEARS OF GIVING BACK – THE STORY BEHIND THE CORAL BAY ANNUAL AUCTION

Coral Bay



What began as a simple idea to give back to a much-loved holiday destination has grown into one of Coral Bay's longest-running community traditions. For 35 years, the Coral Bay Annual Auction has brought people together, raised vital funds and helped shape the small coastal community we know today.

The auction was founded by Brian and Glenys Saggers, who have been visiting Coral Bay for an incredible 57 years. After enjoying the town for around three decades, Brian decided it was time to give something back to the place that had provided so many wonderful memories.

"I decided to put something back into a lovely place called Coral Bay rather than take everything out," Brian recalled.

His idea was simple: start a community auction. Brian approached local businesses, gathering donated goods from anyone willing to contribute, and brought everything together for the very first event.

"From that day on, it just kept growing and growing and growing," he said.

Over the following decades, the auction became an important fundraiser for Coral Bay, supporting essential services, infrastructure and community organisations. Early contributions helped the local Nursing Post and Progress Association, including the construction of toilets and showers along the foreshore.

Funds also helped purchase a fully equipped 20-foot Viscount caravan for the Sea Search and Rescue Group, Coral Bay's first fire truck and ambulance, and many other important community initiatives.

One particularly meaningful contribution was helping fund an additional three months of nursing services when government funding covered only nine months of the year, ensuring locals could continue accessing vital healthcare.

For 30 years, Brian and Glenys personally organised the auction, dedicating countless hours to gathering donations, rallying local businesses and bringing the community together. For Brian, the enjoyment was never just about raising money, but also the people and atmosphere that made every auction special.



"I've just loved every moment. I'd do it all over again, no problem," he said. *"I love auctioneering personally. I love the vibe."*

After three decades at the helm, Brian and Glenys handed over the main organisation of the event to Natalie and Adam, who have continued to build on their legacy. The auction has grown so much that Brian believes it has now outgrown its current venue, a testament to the ongoing enthusiasm and generosity of the Coral Bay community.

Today, the Coral Bay Annual Auction is much more than a fundraiser. It is a celebration of community spirit, local generosity and the remarkable difference people can make when they come together.

As the auction celebrated 35 years, the Shire of Carnarvon recognises Brian and Glenys for creating a tradition that continues to give back to Coral Bay. A heartfelt thank you also goes to Natalie and Adam, the many local businesses, volunteers and supporters who have helped keep this wonderful tradition alive.





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

HAVE YOUR SAY, CARNARVON & CORAL BAY!

Are there programs or events you would like the Shire of Carnarvon to continue delivering?
What areas should the Shire prioritise when advocating for our community, such as health services, community safety or housing?

Or perhaps you would like to tell us how well we communicate and keep you informed?

We want to hear from you!

Your feedback helps us understand what matters most to our community, what we're doing well and where we can improve.

Scan QR Code to fill out the Community Scorecard

MARKYT Community Scorecard



What do you need in the Shire of Carnarvon?

Complete a scorecard today

Shire of CARNARVON CATCH A ZEST OF THE GREAT LIFE

CATALYSE FUTYR | MARKYT | CULTYR