RAVENSWOOD COMMUNITY GROUP INC

# MURRAY COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

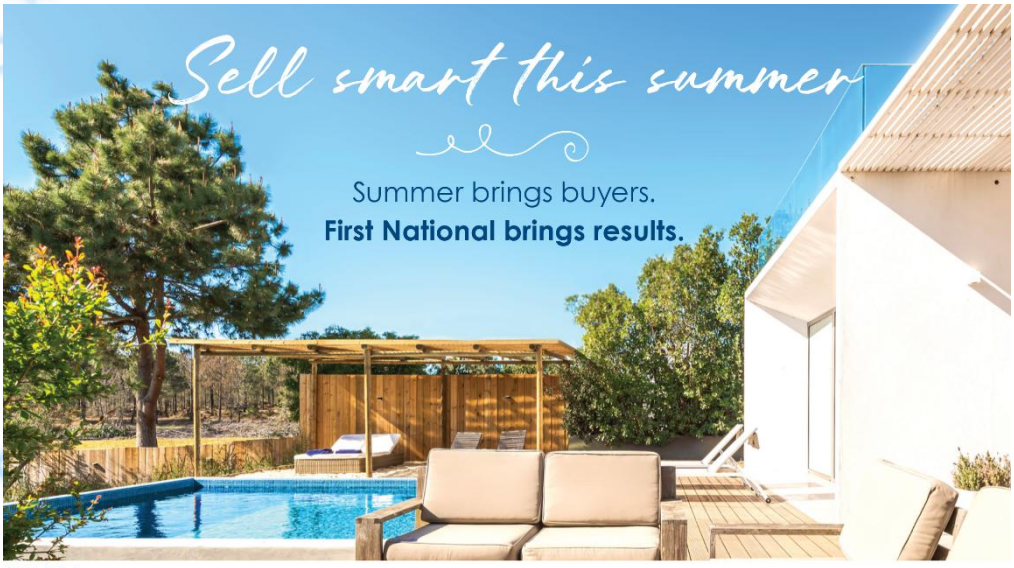
Your Local Connection

PO Box 536 Pinjarra WA 6208 Ph 08 62455501 Email: editor.rcgi@outlook.com

December 2026 Issue Number 352 FREE

**From the Committee of Ravenswood Community Group Inc., we wish all our readers, members and the wider community a safe and happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year.**

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# FROM THE EDITOR

***December 2026 Christmas Edition***

Welcome to the December edition of the Murray Community Newspaper, our final edition for 2026.
As we approach the end of another year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported the newspaper and the Ravenswood Community Group Inc. over the past few months.
Since taking over the publication earlier this year, we have been working hard to ensure the newspaper continues to provide a voice for our local community. It has been wonderful to see so many local organisations, community groups, businesses and residents contributing articles, sharing their stories and supporting the paper.
The Ravenswood Community Group has also had a busy few months, with our regular activities continuing to grow. Our Games Café, Chess Group, Elder Elise Arts and Crafts (open to all) and newly established Community Choir are bringing people together, creating friendships and providing opportunities for residents to get involved.
Of course, one of the highlights of December will be our **Christmas Celebration on Saturday 5 December, from 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm at the Ravenswood Community Centre**.

This is a free community event, with Santa, face painting, children's activities, a climbing wall, petting zoo, market stalls, entertainment and plenty more. We are looking forward to welcoming families and residents for an enjoyable evening together.
I would also like to extend our sincere thanks to **Pinjarra Community Bank Branch – Bendigo Bank** for sponsoring our Christmas Celebration, and to **David Bolt MLA, State Member for Murray-Wellington**, for his generous support. Our thanks also go to the many local businesses, organisations and volunteers who have contributed towards making this event possible. Without their generosity and support, community events like this would not be possible.

As we look ahead to 2027, we have plenty of plans for both the newspaper and the Community Group. We hope to continue expanding our activities, welcoming new members and building on the community connections established this year.
The newspaper will be taking a short break in January, with our next edition published in February 2027. Contributions and advertising enquiries for the February edition are welcome, with the submission deadline being **17 January 2027**.
Finally, on behalf of the Ravenswood Community Group Committee and everyone involved with the Murray Community Newspaper, I would like to wish all our readers, advertisers, contributors and volunteers a very safe and happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year.
Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to seeing you all in 2027.

**William Bessent**
*Editor – Murray Community Newspaper*
*Chairperson – Ravenswood Community Group Inc.*



# Rotary Club of Pinjarra

The Rotary Club of Pinjarra has supported Bedingfeld Park- a Pinjarra community-owned not-for-profit residential aged care facility- since it started in 1983. The facility is situated on the banks of the Murray River and features 70 suites, including a dedicated memory support unit with 25 beds, 43 single suites for varying care needs, and 2 suites for temporary respite care.
Bedingfeld Park is fully accredited by the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission and is an approved provider for the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing.
The facility bears the name of Doctor Thomas Bedingfeld, who was appointed Magistrate and District Medical Officer for the Murray District in March 1864.
Most recently, the Club purchased two Patient Monitoring Devices with wheeled Trolleys to support medical staff.

**********

The Rotary Clubs of Pinjarra and Mandurah Districts share participation in two local projects- Rotary Peel Sail into Life, and the Combined Peel Rotary Clubs Golf Day.
The Rotary Clubs have joined with the Mandurah Offshore Fishing and Sailing Club in cooperation to provide the Sail into Life Program for people, especially those with special needs or disabilities, who would love to try sailing but find it too difficult or uninviting to do so.
The Sail into Life Program uses Access Dinghies, whose design features allow total novices of any ability to sail with a skipper, nearly regardless of the conditions.
The Sail into Life program occurs during the summer months and with the support of Rotary members you can see them sailing in front of the club every second Sunday. This Year's Program started on Sunday 18th of October.



To inquire about participating in the Sail into Life Program, please contact **Beth Aitken** on **0412 342 291**.

**********

**The Annual Alcoa-Peel Rotary Golf Classic** will be hosted at the Mandurah Country Club on Thursday 12th of November. Last year, over $25,000 was raised which was distributed to local charities in Pinjarra and Mandurah.
Players can enter a team of four players for a round of golf (18 holes) at the Mandurah Country Club at a cost of $700 per team. The entry fee will provide-

- A sausage sizzle lunch prior to the shotgun-start and drinks all day
- A sumptuous three-course dinner, inclusive of drinks, in the evening

Please contact **Mervyn Williams 0415 441 343**, or **Geoff Booth 0400 118 567** to register a team.

As in past years the Mandurah Country Club has been incredibly supportive, and they do have a limited number of golf carts available for hire, so get in early if you would like to reserve one. Please phone the course direct on **9581 2968**.

**********

The Rotary Club of Pinjarra is always eager to welcome people who share our passion for service. For more information, please contact the Club Membership Officer, Mrs. **Bridget Bolt**- mobile **0402 948 262**.

# DO YOU NEED A WILL?



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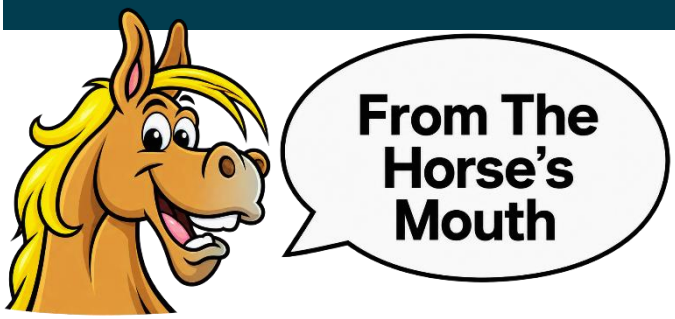


## PROBABLY PROBATE

Kerry was upset, panicked and didn't know what to do when Tom fell into the dam and drowned.

Clearly upset and understandably anxious, Kerry said, "somebody told me I need Probate straight away". Knowing that Kerry would become less stressed after the funeral, we agreed to meet again in a month.

"So, what is Probate, anyway?" Kerry asked, when we met.

"It's the legal way to step stepping into Tom's shoes so you take ownership of his assets and give them to his beneficiaries", I told her. In Tom's case, his sole beneficiary was Kerry.

So, together we looked at what Tom owned and discovered that everything was jointly owned with Kerry: the house and all bank accounts. That meant that Kerry didn't need to get Probate at all because she got everything anyway - through SURVIVORSHIP.

"Oh, so if a married couple own everything jointly, they might not need to get Probate," said a relieved Kerry.

"Probably not," I said.

If you need a Will or are an executor wondering whether you need to apply for Probate, call NashClavey-Mandurah on 95351577.





# What a Day

Friday the thirteenth of November 2026, opened the former St. John's Church just after 11am for any visitors that would like to check it out. Started out quietly, not many visitors so I settled down to a project, a former Primary School mate, the late James Richard Corbett had sent me a two-page A4 sheets of Aboriginal family trees absolutely crammed together to the point of illegibility. So, I enlarged them to 2 pages 600 by 450 and glued them together on an advertising card. Now I have to overwrite the text as it became patchy. So now I work at this during the quiet times, didn't stay that way for long, had a visitor in the afternoon, Descendant of Reverend James Allen, 3rd Minister at St. John's 1893 until 1900. Needless to say, I enquired about access to the family tree, that organised, He mentioned He was interested in the Organs in the former Church as He is musically inclined. The oldest one took quite a bit of pumping up, then He was away, the music filling the building and Visitors magically appeared, the former Church seemed to have come alive. Surprises like that certainly make it easy for me to keep opening the doors on behalf of the Murray Districts Historical Society.

Mervyn Beacham.





Would you like to get involved in the hobby of model boat building, operating a radio-controlled model boat either Sailing, Scale Steering or a Fast Electric Speed Boat.
We operate our models at the Ravenswood Sanctuary lake opposite the Peel Zoo. We are a small family orientated club with wide ranging interests. The types of models operated by our members include Tugboats, Merchant Ships, War Ships, Fishing Boats, Racing Yachts and Pleasure Cruisers. You will find that there are others who share your interests and will provide help and advice along the way.
We sail 3 classes of yachts,
**Dragon Force DF 65** sailed on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month a 1pm start
**Dragon Force DF 95** sailed on Tuesdays 1pm start.
**International 1 Meter (IOM)** sailed on Thursdays 1pm start.





**Scale Steering Try** your skill at navigating your model through a set course against other skippers.



**Fast Electrics Speed Boats** Try your skill at tie trialing run on the 3rd Sunday of the month.



Visit our web site at **ravenswoodmodelboats.org.au** for details or like us on Facebook.
For further information contact Colin Elton 0407 426 513

**U3A Mandurah** Meets twice weekly. Wednesday & Thursday 1.30- 3.30
FAITH CITY CHURCH - 245 Wanjeep Street, Coodanup
February to November (Back on Feb 3, 2027)

We have a great variety of talks, activities and outings for the over 50's.
Our membership is a diverse group with both male and female equally represented.

**Website:** [www.u3amandurah.org.au](http://www.u3amandurah.org.au) **Mandurah U3A**

## A Short Explanation of U3A and its History

**The University of the Third Age (U3A)** is a worldwide movement aimed at encouraging older people to remain mentally, physically and socially active.

The term University is used in its original sense as "*a community of people who come together to learn from each other*"

***Third Age*** means the period of life following the ***First Age*** of childhood and the ***Second Age*** of working. For many it's the time of achieving one's maximum potential after the stresses of the second age are past.

**U3A** began in Toulouse, France in 1972. Since then, it has spread worldwide, coming to Australia in 1984 and to Mandurah in 1990.

Whatever our backgrounds we all wish to continue learning, broaden our knowledge, and retain active minds in friendly atmosphere.

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## Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

As the year draws to a close, I would like to acknowledge and thank the many individuals, volunteers, community groups and local organisations whose dedication and generosity continue to make our community such a wonderful place to live.

Your contributions, whether large or small, help strengthen our community and make a positive difference in the lives of others.

On behalf of myself and my electorate team, I wish you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and safe New Year. We look forward to continuing to represent and support our community throughout 2027.

The Electorate Office will be closed on
Thursday 24 December 2026
and will re-open on Monday 4 January 2027

Emails will be monitored during this time - if your matter is urgent please email
David.Bolt@mp.wa.gov.au

David Bolt MLA
Member for Murray-Wellington



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### Nose Piercings

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## KNOW YOUR FIRE DANGER RATING

Fire Danger Ratings tell you how dangerous a fire could be if one starts. Check the rating regularly and be prepared to act.

**MODERATE PLAN AND PREPARE**

Most fires can be controlled, but you should remain alert and review your emergency plan.

**HIGH BE READY TO ACT**

Fires can be dangerous. Stay informed and be ready to act if a fire starts.

**EXTREME TAKE ACTION NOW**

Fires will spread quickly and can be extremely dangerous. Put your emergency plan into action and consider leaving early.

**CATASTROPHIC LEAVE EARLY**

These are the most dangerous conditions. For your survival, leave bushfire-risk areas early do not wait for a fire to start.

A day showing **"No Rating**" does not mean a fire cannot start. Always remain alert and follow local restrictions.

Check current ratings and warnings at emergency.wa.gov.au or call 13 DFES on 13 3337.

Source: Department of Fire and Emergency Services WA

KERRY COURT

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- Resource Guarding
- Jumping. Barking & Chewing
- Puppy Planning
- Bad Manners

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Answers to page 21

**ACROSS**

5 Kookaburra
9 Markets
10 Foreshore
11 Murray
12 Dwellingup
14 River
15 Summer

**DOWN**

1 Christmas
2 Community
3 Ravenswood
4 Kangaroo
6 Chess
7 Choir
8 Volunteer
13 Pinjarra

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# RECYCLE LOCALLY

Help keep recyclable items out of landfill.

## PINJARRA LIBRARY




Household batteries
Mobile phones
Printer and toner cartridge
Used postage stamps for the Lions Club

## MURRAY HOUSE

Empty medication blister packs






## IS YOUR HOUSEHOLD READY FOR AN EMERGENCY?

Emergencies can happen with little warning. Preparing a basic emergency kit can help your household respond quickly and safely.

Keep your emergency supplies together in a waterproof container that everyone in your household can easily find.




### YOUR EMERGENCY KIT SHOULD INCLUDE:

- Emergency contact details
- Copies of identification and insurance documents
- Battery-operated radio and torch
- Spare batteries and phone chargers
- A complete first aid kit
- Essential medications
- Toiletries and sanitary supplies
- Spare clothing and enclosed shoes
- Supplies for babies, older people or people with disability
- Pet food, leads, carriers and medications
- Spare house and car keys

Household members should also know where they would go if they needed to evacuate and how they would contact each other if they were separated.

Check your kit regularly and replace expired food, medications and batteries.

### IMPORTANT EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Life-threatening emergency: 000
SES emergency assistance: 132 500
DFES emergency information: 13 3337
Health direct: 1800 022 222



Source: Department of Fire and Emergency Services WA

# Positive Thoughts

## GIFTS AT CHRISTMAS

Are you looking forward to this year's Christmas gifts? Throughout the world many people feel that way right now. In many places in Europe the giver of gifts is supposed to be Saint Nicholas, and our Santa Claus came from that tradition. In other countries gifts are given by many other characters. In Greece Saint Basil is supposed to visit the children with gifts on New Years Day, while north in Hungary the Christmas angel is the gift bearer. In the Netherlands presents are given on December 5th (St Nicholas Eve), and in Germany, the Christkindl rings a bell to announce his deliveries on Christmas Eve (the basis of our Kris Kringle tradition). In England tradition calls for stockings to be hung to receive presents, while in Chile the children put shoes on the windowsill.

Traditions and stories are part of who we are as a culture, and here in Australia we have a society which is made up of people from all over the world. Because of that, around our country Christmas gifts will be given from December 5th right through to January 7th. However, there is one thing which Christmas gifts are based on - they celebrate the greatest gift given to anyone anywhere in the world – Jesus Himself. The Gospel of St John says it well: "For God so love the world that He gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life" – What a gift!!

As we celebrate Christmas, there are a number of public events here in the Shire of Murray. The first is the Shire's "Christmas on The Murray" at Murray River Square and the Foreshore from 5pm onwards on Thursday 3 Dec. Others include the Ravenswood Christmas Celebration on Saturday 5th Dec. from 5-7pm at the Ravenswood Community Centre and the Combined Churches Carols, for all who like to sing traditional carols, on the lawns of the Anglican Church (cnr Murray & Henry St) from 6pm on Sunday 13th Dec. You are also welcome to join us at Pinjarra Alliance Church for our Christmas Day service at 9.30am

I pray that you, your family and your friends will have a great Christmas, safely enjoy your celebrations and gifts, and truly experience the blessing of God's gift to you in Jesus.

Rev John Coman
Pinjarra Alliance Church
0402033285



## Pinjarra Community Kitchen

*In partnership with Peel Community Kitchen*

**EVERY TUESDAY from 11am-1pm**

**Free lunch provided to anyone in need**

Located at the rear car park of the Alliance Church - Corner of George and Peel Street Pinjarra Family Church, Uniting Church, Alliance Church, Catholic Church

For more details please call : Pastor John on

**0402 033 285**

## PINJARRA ALLIANCE CHURCH

Corner of George and Peel Street, Pinjarra
Parking at the rear off Peel Street

**Sunday Worship Service 10am**

**Home Groups various nights**

**ALL WELCOME**

Contact: Rev. John Coman 0402033285
Email: cmalliance@westnet.com.au
Website: pinjarracma.org.au

# Happenings at Murray Arts and Crafts

I know we say it each December, Christmas is nearly upon us again. It is a time to get together with friends and relatives and, traditionally, a time for gift giving which can be something of a headache. At Murray Arts and Crafts, we aim to smooth this situation with a bounty of giftware at most affordable prices. Our gift shop is brimming with all manner of beautifully hand-crafted items produced by our talented members.
We are open every day from 10am to 3pm and two of our members are always on hand to assist with your purchases. Why not drop in and browse, we look forward to seeing you.

**Out of the Blue Exhibition…**An interesting presentation by our members will commence 5th December through to 14th December and features all manner of artforms each of which celebrates the colour **blue.** The exhibition will be in the Community Rooms situated at the rear of the Edenvale Tea House and open on weekdays 10am to 3pm, and on weekends 10am to 5pm. All exhibits will be hand crafted by our members. Admission is free. Here's an opportunity to start your Christmas shopping early.

**Workshops & Classes…**are available throughout the year and we offer a range of interesting teaching endeavours in a variety of skills for beginners and those with some experience.
For those interested in honing their skills our classes are ongoing weekly in such crafts as painting and drawing, pottery, leadlighting and mosaics. Classes fill quickly so if you are interested don't hesitate to contact us and secure your place.
Details and contact numbers can be found on Pinjarra Art Hub's Facebook page or flyers can be picked up in our shop.

**Art Galleries…**At Murray Arts & Crafts you will find an art gallery section of the shop dedicated mainly for the presentation of paintings produced by our members. You can also see a collection of our paintings displayed in the Doctor's Lounge at the Exchange Hotel in Pinjarra and in Murray House 14 James Street, Pinjarra. Paintings in both these locations are for sale and will be changed over quarterly. Please note, Murray House is not open on weekends Interested in exploring your artistic talents? Classes are available weekly.

**Summer 27 Workshops…**Coming 15th to 23rd January 2027 at Edenvale Heritage Precinct. The workshops will be promoted on Facebook, Instagram, and Murray Arts website. There will also be Flyers you can pick up in our Murray Arts and Crafts shop. Join a session, get creative and learn a new skill or hobby. Don't miss out, Workshops sell out quickly.

Enquiries…9531 3598
**Jo, Printmaking,** on Mondays 10am to 3pm **0405 725 857.**
**Gayle, Pottery, Mosaics, Lead Lighting,** a Self-Help Tuesdays 10:00am to 3:00pm. **0439 903 470**
**Corrie, Pottery a** Self-Help Group on Wednesdays 12:00pm to 3:00pm. **0437 780 358**
**Rita, Painting & Drawing** Self-Help Group each 1st, 2nd, & 4th Wednesday. **0431 825 636.**
**Judy, Leadlighting** on Fridays 8:30am to 11:30am **9581 1894**
**Jo, Printmaking,** on Fridays 10am to 3pm **0405 725 857.**
**Sue, Coffee, Craft & Chat.** 1st & 3rd Saturdays of the month, 1pm to 3pm. **0487 313 217**

*Mike James, Public Relations, December 2026*



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Make a difference in a young person's life.
EdConnect Australia trains and supports volunteers to work in local schools. EdConnect volunteers support students where the school has identified they need it the most - in key learning areas or supporting their social and emotional wellbeing.

Visit our information pop-up session to discover how you can share your skills, experience, and time to help young people thrive.
Murray Library
Monday 7th December
11am-12:30pm
We'd love to meet you and answer your questions.

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*Pinjarra Locals*
*Luke & Sharon Bray*

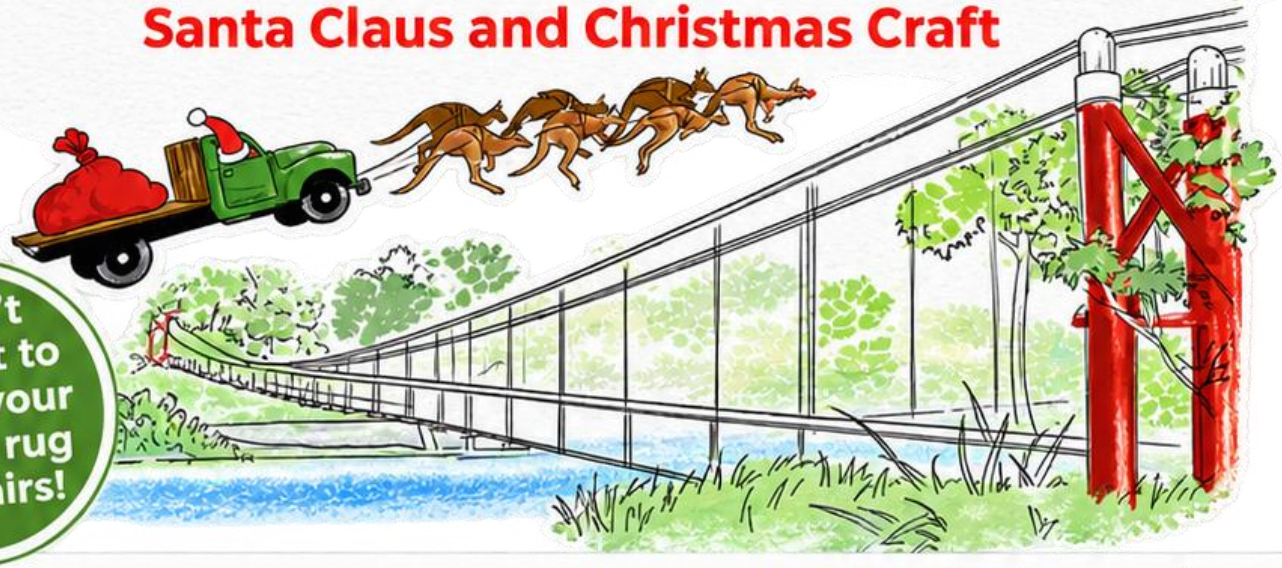
# Shire of Murray | Murray Kids' Activities

Don't miss out on upcoming kids' activities these holidays, sign up for our newsletter today!



# Christmas on the Murray

**Thursday 3rd December • 5.00pm to 8.00pm**
**Murray River Square and Foreshore**
**Christmas Carols**
**Santa Claus and Christmas Craft**



Don't forget to bring your picnic rug & chairs!

Shire of Murray | lotterywest | Alcoa | Community Bank Pinjarra Bendigo Bank

# Pinjarra Men's Shed

PINJARRA COMMUNITY MEN'S SHED

🎄 MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE MEN'S SHED! 🎄

As another year draws to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to wish our members, families, supporters, sponsors and the wider community a very Merry Christmas and a happy, safe and healthy New Year. It has been another busy and rewarding year at the Shed, filled with friendship, laughter, hard work and plenty of cups of tea and coffee!

Our Men's Shed is much more than just a workshop. It is a place where friendships are formed, skills are shared, new projects are undertaken and everyone has the opportunity to feel welcome and valued.
Throughout the year, our members have been involved in a variety of projects and activities, all made possible through the enthusiasm and generosity of our volunteers and the ongoing support of our community.
We would especially like to thank our sponsors, local businesses, organisations and individuals who have supported us throughout the year. Your generosity, donations and encouragement make a real difference and help us continue providing a welcoming place for people in our community. To our hardworking volunteers and members, thank you for the time, effort and commitment you give to the Shed. Whether you are working on a project, helping maintain the facilities, making a cuppa, lending a hand or simply sharing a conversation, every contribution is appreciated. If you haven't visited us before, we welcome community members, families, visitors and anyone interested in finding out more about what we do. Why not drop in, have a chat with our members and see the Shed for yourself? You might be surprised by what we have to offer! We encourage everyone in the community to continue supporting our Shed. Community support helps us keep our doors open and our activities growing.

Our Model Train Display and Retail Shop at Pinjarra Junction Shopping Centre, it is definitely worth a visit as things constantly evolve. It's a wonderful attraction for visitors and an important part of showcasing what our Shed has to offer. Please spread the word among family, friends and the wider community. The display is open on Wednesday and Saturday mornings, but we would like to open more often, we are seeking volunteers to supervise our retail shop so if you have an hour or two to spare, we would love to hear from you. Or maybe a retired family member who is sitting at home with nothing to do may like to help.

Our classes are still ticking over nicely with leatherwork, lead-lighting, mosaic, silver jewellery, welding and woodturning. We have a commercial grade kitchen, which is available for hire, as is our meeting room. Contact details below.

Our Saturday morning BBQ breakfasts continue to be a great opportunity to catch up with fellow members and guests alike. These mornings are all about good food, friendship and a bit of friendly banter. We encourage everyone to come along and enjoy the company. If this sounds like you then we'll be here from 9.00am with bells on. $4 for members, $5 for non-members. Come and join us.

We will be closed from December 19 where we will enjoy our last BBQ breakfast for the year, and we will re-open on Monday January 4, 2027. From all of us at the Men's Shed, we wish you and your families a wonderful Christmas filled with happiness, laughter and good company. Please stay safe over the festive season, and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year. MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!
The Mens Shed Team
pcms@pcms.org.au
0419 827 554



A Lifesize Nutcracker Figurine made by a talented member.

# PINJARRA SERVICES

**Bus Service**
Route 600 Mandurah - Pinjarra Via Pinjarra Road
Route 604 Mandurah - South Yunderup Via North Yunderup
Timetables available at: Pinjarra Community Resource Centre, News Agency, Shire of Murray and the Library

**Contacts**

| | |
|---|---|
| Taxi: | 13 10 08 |
| RAC service: | 13 11 11 |
| Pinjarra Police: | 13 14 44 |
| Mandurah Crime Prevention: | 0418 948 809 |
| Murray Hospital: | 9531 7222 |
| Shire of Murray: | 9531 7777 |
| Public Library: | 9531 7712 |
| Recreation Centre: | 9531 2000 |

**Churches**

| | |
|---|---|
| Murray Bible Baptist: | 9537 7248 |
| Pinjarra Alliance: | 9531 3173 |
| St Augustine Catholic: | TBA |
| Anglican Church: | 9531 1248 |
| Bridge Christian Fellowship: | 9531 3034 |
| Uniting Church: | 9531 2296 |

**Alcoholics Anonymous**
Every Monday 7:00pm at the Health Clinic, Pinjarra Hospital.
Contact: Dean on 0450 258 076

**Austin Lakes Radio Sailing Inc.**
Sailing every Wed & Sat
Located at Austin Lake, Inlet Blvd, South Yunderup at 1:00pm
All welcome, boat available to try.
Contact: Lawrie 0438 720 655
Email: austinlakesradiosailing@gmail.com

**Bedingfeld Ladies Auxiliary**
Volunteers needed!
The Auxiliary meets at the Bedingfeld Aged Care Facility every third Tuesday of the month.
Phone: Vanessa - 0403 597 860

**Boddington Markets**
Located at Boddington Old School Oval
For upcoming dates, see the Facebook Page
www.facebookBoddingtoncommunitymarkets/
Contact via email:
boddingtoncommunitymarkets@gmail.com

**Combined Probus of Murray Districts**
Meetings every second Tuesday of the month at Pinjarra Bowling Club 9:00am-11.30am
Email:
murrayprobus1999@gmail.com

**Coolup Craft Social Group**
Wednesdays at 9:30am at the CWA rooms
Phone: Maxine 0488 991 347

# AROUND TOWN

**Coolup Progress Association**
For meeting times, please contact:
Secretary: Demi
Email: coolupprogress@outlook.com

**Dwellingup Markets**
Located at CWA hall
Third Sunday of the month, 9:00am-1:00pm
Great variety of stalls
For more information contact:
Bev 9538 1151 or
Colleen 0438 916 719

**Dwellingup Trails and Visitors Centre**
Open 9am-4pm 7 days a week
Marrinup Street, Dwellingup
Phone: 9538 1108
Email: dtvc@murray.wa.gov.au

**Freemason:**
The Peel District Day Lodge
Meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 9:15am.
Enquiries to the secretary;
Benjamin 0416 341 474

**Friends of Murray District Hospital**
Meets on the first Wednesday of the month in the Murray District Hospital Board Room at 2:00pm
Phone: Ailsa Boekhorst 0439 990 241

**Heartspace Womens Support Circle**
We meet monthly at the Pinjarra Community Garden
Contact: Tanya Langford
Phone: 0411 792 006

**Hotham Valley Tourist Railway**
Train Rides—Dwellingup
Every Sat & Sun 10:30am & 2:00pm
Restaurant Train every Saturday departing 7:00 pm
During Winter (May to October) the Sunday service is the Steam Train.
All services are operated by volunteer members.
Book Online:
www.hothamvalleyrailway.com.au
Enquiries: 6278 1111 9:00am-5:00pm Mon-Fri

**JP Signing at the Pinjarra Library**
Every Thursday from 1pm to 3pm
Queries call Kiri Campbell 0419 196 962

**Murray Aquatic & Leisure Centre (MALC)**
16 Camp Road, Pinjarra
Phone: 9531 2000
Website: www.themalc.com.au
Open 7 days a week—See website for opening and closing times
MALC Gym open 24/7

# AROUND TOWN

**Murray Health Exercise & Tai Chi**
Tuesdays at 1:00pm at the Community Health Centre, McKay St, Pinjarra - Rae on 0407 988 580

**Murray District Historical Society**
Home of the Local History Library
Located at the Old Schoolmaster's House, Edenvale Precinct.
Open Friday, Saturday & Sunday 11:00am-3:00pm
Committee meets on third Wednesday of every month.
Community Meetings are held bi-monthly on an arranged date.
Contact: Anne Cubitt, secretary
Email: mdhspinjarra@outlook.com

**Murray District Machine Knitting Group**
Meet every Wednesday at the West Murray Community Centre 9:00am-noon
Phone: 9592 9808 or 0403 983 371

**Murray Districts Playgroup**
Mondays & Wednesdays at 9:30-11.30am during school term
Visit https://www.facebook.com/murraydistrictsplaygroup/ for more details

**Murray CRC**
Phone: 9531 7785
Email: CRC@murray.wa.gov.au

**Murray Toy Library**
Opening hours are;
9.30am-11.30am
First Sunday of the month
Second & fourth Saturday of the month.
Opening dates on Facebook!
All enquiries to president Michelle Pellew 0408 952 453 mtlpinjarra@gmail.com

**Pinjarra Swimming Club**
For more information please email
President: pinjarrascpresident@gmail.com
Secretary: pinjarrascsecretary@gmail.com

**North Yunderup Community Association**
General meetings 3 monthly, all welcome.
Members notified via Facebook
Hall at 45 Culeenup Road available for hire - discounts for members.
Contact: Linda
Phone: 0409 687 926'
Email: lgregory@iinet.net.au

Murray Community Newspaper:
Editor: William Bessent
Advertising: William Bessent

# AROUND TOWN

**Old Blythewood**
Built in the 1860's overlooking the Murray River, Southwest Highway, Pinjarra. Open for viewing—small entry fee applies.
Open Saturdays and Sundays
12:30pm-3:30pm
Phone: 9321 6088

**Murray Arts & Crafts**
Located at the Edenvale Heritage Precinct Pinjarra, Weekly classes and workshops all things art and craft.
Contact: Deb Cooke tel: 0439 577 623
Email: murrayartslink@gmail.com

**Pinjarra Bowls Club**
Dixon Avenue, Pinjarra
Phone: 9531 1840

**Pinjarra Community Garden Inc.**
Lot 362 Pinjarra-Williams Rd, Pinjarra
Open Hours; Tues & Fri 10:00am –2:00pm & Sat Morning 9:30am—12:30pm
Contact:
info@pinjarracommunitygarden.com.au
New members & volunteers welcomed
Venue and plots available for hire

**Pinjarra Community Men's Shed**
Phone: 0419 827 554
Email:
pcms@pcms.org.au
Open Mon, Wed, Fri, 9 - 1pm
Sat 8.30am - 12.30pm

**Pinjarra Craft Group**
Tuesday at 10:00am-1:00pm
Located at the Anglican Parish Hall
Phone: Jennifer 9531 1928

**Pinjarra Croquet Club**
Come and join in on the fun!
Located on Delta Drive, South Yunderup
Every Tuesday @ 10:00am
Contact: Lyn (m) 0417 917 876

**Pinjarra Golf Club**
For bookings, please phone: 9531 2588

**Pinjarra Horse & Pony Club**
Rallies each month at the Equestrian Centre, Coolup.
New Members Welcome
Website: www.pinjarrahpc.net for enrolment details
Find us on Facebook

# AROUND TOWN

**Pinjarra Family Church**
**F**riendship **R**estoration **E**mpowering **E**quipping
289 Wilson Road, Pinjarra
Service time: Sunday 10:00am-11:30am
Followed by free morning tea.
All warmly welcome!
Daily Bread R Us Community Care:
Wednesday 10:00am-1:00pm
Office hours: Mon-Wed 9:00am-3:00pm
Youth group, Ladies & Men's Groups
For more info: Sheryl Gangell
Senior Minister 0424 239 367

**Pinjarra Markets at Edenvale Homestead**
Held every second Sunday of each month
September—May 7:00am-12:00pm
Twilights Markets, Food Trucks are every third Saturday of Nov, Dec & Jan 5-9pm
All enquiries: 0400 310 370

**Pinjarra Netball Association**
Toni Bennett—President
Didi Deslandes—Registrar
Email: pinjarranetballassociation@gmail.com
New Members Welcome & needed

**Pinjarra Patchwork & Quilters Club**
Old School House Edenvale
Open 10:00am-3:00pm daily
Great display of handmade items for sale
New Members Welcome
Phone: 9531 1026

**Pinjarra Red Cross**
Pinjarra Red Cross are looking for new volunteers to help with our Trolley service at MDH group 3 monthly meetings.
Please contact: Cherle on 0437 807 893

**Lions Club—Pinjarra**
Lions Club of Pinjarra Inc. meet on the first and third Tuesday of each month—6:00pm for 6:30pm start
Event Coordinator: Marlene 0419 657 365
Contact: Les Hill
Phone: 9586 1749 or 0418 136 448
Email: hillie1@bigpond.com

**Pinjarra RSL Sub Branch**
President: Brett Treacy
Phone: 0414538105
Secretary: Sue O'Donnell
Phone: 0478 636 732
Email:Pinjarra.secretary@sb.rslwa.org.au

**Pinjarra Volunteer Walk Group**
Every Monday meeting at Dome Pinjarra
Summer - 8am first week of December
Winter - 9am first week of April
For info phone Anna 0423 852 102
* All walkers must take responsibility for themselves and should make sure they are fit and well before undertaking these walks*

Disclaimer The advertisements, advertorials and community editorial content published in the *Murray Community Newspaper* are the responsibility of the respective authors and/or advertisers. The views and opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the *Murray Community Newspaper* or the *Ravenswood Community Group Inc.* While every reasonable effort is made to ensure the accuracy of published information and to avoid misleading claims or statements, the *Murray Community Newspaper* accepts no responsibility or liability for the quality, performance or suitability of any products or services advertised, nor for any claims made by advertisers or contributors.

# AROUND TOWN

**Ravenswood Community Group Inc.**
Email:
secrcgi@outlook.com
Website:
www.ravenswoodcommunitygroup.org.au

Phone 0862455501

**Ravenswood Sanctuary Model Boat Club**
Located next to Peel Zoo at Ravenswood Sanctuary every Thursday afternoon from 1:00pm and Sundays from 9:00am. People from all ages welcome.
Website:
ravenswoodmodelboats.org.au
Or see our Facebook page.
For further info: Ken 0482 063 943

**Roger May Machinery Museum**
Men interested in becoming a part of this group of valued volunteers can phone 9531 7777 for more info.

**Rotary Club of Pinjarra**
Meets each Wednesday at 6:15pm at the Pinjarra Golf Club
Contact: Vince Costantino
Phone:
0427 420 499
Email:

rcpinjarra.secretary@gmail.com

**The Peel Slot Car Club**
For more information—get in touch:
Email: peelscc@yahoo.com
Phone: Shayne 0437 168 776
Or Paul 0497 874 689

**Yunderup Sport & Recreation Club**
Office open Mon 8-3pm, Tues-Thurs 8am-1.30pm, Friday 8-12pm
Bar open daily from 3:00pm
Phone: 9537 6587
Email:
mail@yunderupsportclub.org.au

**University of the Third Age (U3A)**
Meets Wed & Thurs 1.30-3.30
For Talks on a Variety of Subjects
Cnr Pinjarra Rd & Wanjeep St
Mandurah – Contact via
https://u3amandurah.org.au/program/

Tech solutions made simple - Efficient - Logical - Patient.

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# IS YOUR CANAL WALL DUE FOR REPLACEMENT?

Aurumba – Canal Wall Replacement | South Yunderup

- Old non-friable asbestos wall removal
- New SG225 vinyl sheet piling
- Turn Key Project compliant with Shire of Murray stage One requirements
- Tie rods, anchors, walers & capping
- Backfill, scour protection & reinstatement

## NEIGHBOURS – TEAM UP & SAVE

- Site mobilisation & establishment
- Materials, engineering & surveying
- Excavator transport & piling plant
- Asbestos removal & waste disposal

*CONTACT US NOW FOR A FREE CANAL WALL & BOAT RAMP INSPECTION*

**2–5 ADJOINING PROPERTIES = SHARED COSTS**
Less duplicated access and labour - plus one clean, continuous canal wall.

**Remove ageing asbestos.**
**Protect your property.**
**Upgrade your canal frontage.**

- SAFER PROPERTIES
- STRONGER WATERFRONTS
- BRIGHTER COMMUNITIES

SOUTH YUNDERUP

## AURUMBA MARINE & CIVIL

Canal Wall Installation • Pile Driving • New GRP/FRP/Composite & Marine Grade Aluminium Fixed and Floating Jetties • Jetty Repairs & Reconstruction • Pile Preservation & Repair Re-decking • Timber Jetty Oiling & Staining • Safety Ladders • Cleats • Fenders Marina Hardware and Jetty Accessories • Boat Ramp and Slipway Works

Talk to Aurumba about your property or a combined neighbour project.

Aurumba.com | Admin@Aurumba.com | 0402 788 908

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# Waroona Carpet Care

Waroona, Harvey and local surrounding areas

Locally owned family business offering:

- Hot water extraction carpet cleans
- Tile & grout cleans
- Vacate & commercial carpet cleans
- Upholstery & leather lounge cleans

Karen 0482 692 273 | waroonacarpetcare@outlook.com

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COME ALONG & JOIN THE FUN!

# GAMES CAFÉ

Enjoy an afternoon of games, friendship and fun!

**EVERY MONDAY**

**1:00 pm–4:30 pm**

# CHESS GROUP

Come along for a friendly game of chess!

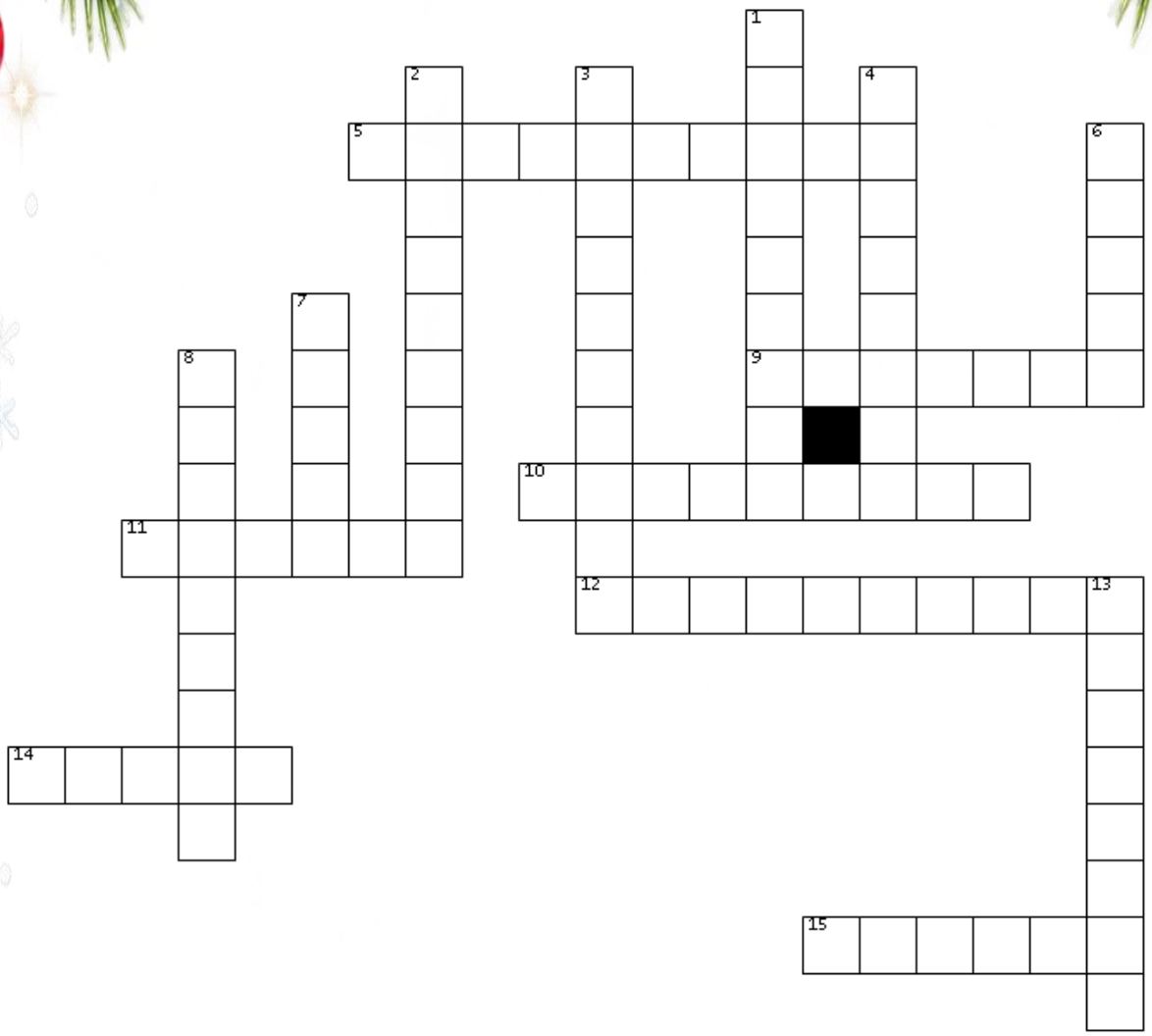
**EVERY TUESDAY**

**10:00 am–12:30 pm**

**RAVENSWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE**

*Everyone is welcome.*

# The Puzzle Patch



ACROSS
5. Australian bird famous for its laugh
9. Place to buy local products and handmade goods
10. Popular riverside place to relax
11. Name of our local shire
12. Popular forest town for outdoor adventures
14. Waterway flowing through Pinjarra
15. Season that begins in December in Australia

DOWN
1. Festive celebration held in December
2. People coming together to support one another
3. Community located beside the Murray River
4. Australian animal known for hopping
6. Board game played with kings and queens
7. Group of people who sing together
8. Someone who gives their time to help others
13. Historic town in the Shire of Murray



Answers pg 10

# Pinjarra Lions Roar

FEED IT FORWARD our Lions Club provide every Friday is proving to be a very welcoming event, especially
with so many families finding themselves struggling to make ends meet. The last couple of weeks is proof of this with our weekly numbers rising, we are now sitting in the mid sixties. Every Friday it's mostly bakery and fruit and vegetables, but due to so many very kind locals we are now receiving extras.
A big Thankyou goes to the public who kindly bring in fresh products from your own gardens. The ones who donate pantry and personal hygiene products out of your own pay. Those who are busy "spring cleaning" their pantries these extra's put a smile on many struggling families faces.
This event is a community service run by your local Lions Club of Pinjarra.

If at anytime you are wanting to lend a helping hand to this or any of our Club events, we'd love to have you. Maybe becoming a "Volunteer" is what you're looking for, we'd be grateful to have you join our team. Lions Club of Pinjarra meet every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month, 6.15pm for a 6.30pm meeting start. Meetings are held at the Alliance Church; this is situated opposite the Vibe service station.
Being a Lion is very rewarding, you are not only working and helping your local community, but you are also making new friends. Being a Lion helps improve one's confidence by increasing self worth.
If leadership is something you are interest in, then there are always positions on the committee for you. We have fun. We laugh. We bond.
Contact Membership Les Hill 9586 1749.OR Events Co-Ordinators Marlene Hinkley 0419 657 365 David Croad 0419 982 899.

LIONS CHRISTMAS CAKES!
Lions Christmas Cakes and Puddings are back! Prices have increased slightly this year due to higher transport costs. Gluten-free cakes are now part of the regular range and come boxed. Although the packaging may make them appear smaller than last year's trial cakes, they are still the same 400g size.
We will be commencing our yearly cake stalls in the Pinjarra Junction shopping centre on Saturday 24th October,2026.
Other dates will be Thursday 29th Otober,2026. Thursday 19thNovember,2026. I will post more dates next edition. You will find our stall opposite the Newsagency.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| LARGE CHRISTMAS CAKES | 1.5Kg | $21.00 |
| MINI SLICES | 85g | $3.00 |
| SMALL CHRISTMAS CAKES | 1.Kg | $17.00 |
| LARGE PUDDINGS | 900g | $17.00 |
| GLUTEN FREE CAKES | 400g | $13.00 |




Should anyone require any cakes etc before hand
PLEASE PHONE; 0419 657 365 Marlene. ( Ravenswood).
PR MARLENE..... WE SERVE.

# Tech Tips & Tricks

with Madam Geek.

**The Great FREE Trial Trap**

Ever spotted mysterious payments on your bank statement and wondered what on earth you've bought? There's a fair chance your phone has been helping itself to your hard-earned dollars!

Welcome to the wonderful world of digital subscriptions, where signing up is insanely easy but remembering what you've signed up for is another matter entirely.

**When FREE isn't quite FREE!**

"Try FREE for 7 days!" Great stuff, so you download the app, have a little play, life happens and you promptly forget about it. Here's the catch. Most free trials automatically become paid subscriptions unless you cancel before the trial ends. Somewhere in the fine print, you agreed to it. Sneaky? Sure is. Most apps charge weekly rather than monthly, but a harmless-looking $9.99 a week adds up to more than $500 a year. Ouch!

**Subscription detective time! Apple and Android make subscriptions easy to find and cancel.**

| **Apple iPhone or iPad?** | **Android… Samsung, Oppo, Google Pixel and friends?** |
|---|---|
| **1. Open Settings (the little grey cogwheel).** | **1. Open the Google Play Store.** |
| **2. Tap your name at the very top.** | **2. Tap your profile picture in the top-right corner.** |
| **3. Tap Subscriptions.** | **3. Select Payments & subscriptions, then Subscriptions.** |
| **4. Tap anything you no longer want.** | **4. Tap anything you don't want, select Cancel subscription and follow the prompts.** |
| **5. Select Cancel Subscription and confirm.** | |
| **If there's no cancel button and an expiry date is showing, it's probably already cancelled.** | |

Easy-peasy! Now here's something VERY important. Deleting an app does NOT cancel its subscription! I'll say that again because it's caught plenty of people out. **Deleting an app does NOT cancel its subscription!**

Removing that fancy photo editor, exercise programme or horoscope app from your phone, doesn't cease payments. You'll keep paying for the privilege of not using it until you cancel the subscription itself.

**What happens when you cancel?**

With most paid subscriptions, you can keep using the service until the period you've paid for runs out. Cancelling simply stops the next automatic payment.

**Free trials can behave differently, so check first.** Apple recommends cancelling at least 24 hours before a trial finishes. Afterwards, make sure it actually went through: look for an expiry date instead of a renewal date, and check for a confirmation email



**Can't find that mysterious subscription?**

Not everything is billed through Apple or Google. Some companies take payments directly through their own websites. Check your bank statement, search your emails for receipts and see exactly who's taking your money. You might also have signed up with another Apple or Google account.

Madam Geek's final word… grab a cuppa, spend five minutes checking your subscriptions and see what's lurking in there. You might find absolutely nothing. **Brilliant!** Or you might discover you've been generously donating to an app you haven't opened since last Christmas.

Remember, FREE ain't always free! Read the fine print and don't just click your way through all the yes, yes, yeses. Those little clicks could end up costing you a pretty penny!







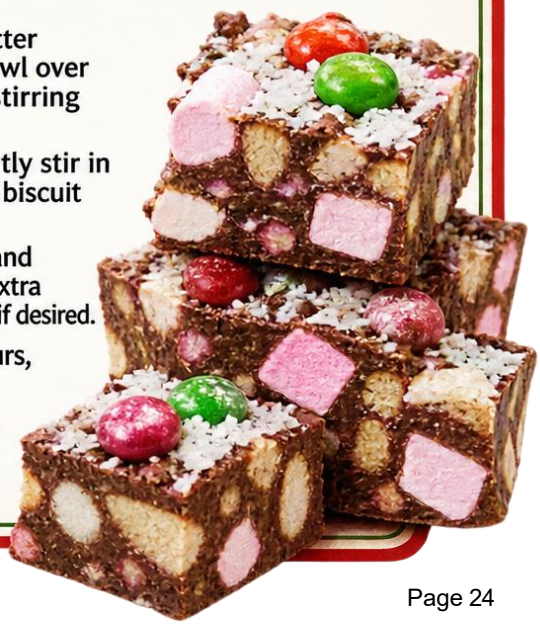

# Christmas Rocky Road

## Ingredients

- 375 g milk or dark chocolate (good quality)
- 125 g butter
- 1 cup mini marshmallows
- 1 cup Christmas lollies (e.g. red & green M&Ms)
- 1 cup biscuit pieces (e.g, gingernut or plain biscuits)
- ½ cup desiccated coconut
- ½ cup chopped nuts (e.g. almonds or pistachios – optional)

## Method

1. Line a slice tin (approx. 20 × 30 cm) with baking paper.
2. Melt the chocolate and butter together in a heatproof bowl over a pot of simmering water, stirring until smooth.
3. Remove from heat and gently stir in the marshmallows, lollies, biscuit pieces, coconut and nuts.
4. Pour into the prepared tin and smooth the top. Add a few extra lollies or a sprinkle of coconut, if desired.
5. Refrigerate for at least 3 hours, or until firm.
6. Cut into squares and enjoy!



TerryWhite Chemmart Pinjarra

# Why Fragrance makes the perfect Christmas gift

## Discover the magic of fragrance – where memories, emotions and personal style come together.

There is something truly special about fragrance. A familiar scent can transport us back to a favourite holiday, remind us of someone we love, or bring back a treasured moment from years ago. More than simply smelling beautiful, fragrance has the wonderful ability to influence our mood, awaken our senses and become part of the memories we create.

### The Power of Scent

Our sense of smell is closely connected to the parts of the brain responsible for emotion and memory. Unlike our other senses, scent has a particularly direct connection to the limbic system, which plays an important role in how we experience feelings and recall memories. This is why the aroma of freshly cut flowers, a particular perfume or even a familiar fragrance can instantly evoke a feeling, person or special occasion.

A light, fresh fragrance may make us feel energised and uplifted, while warm, comforting scents can create a feeling of relaxation and familiarity. Choosing a fragrance is therefore a very personal experience – one that reflects not only our taste but sometimes our mood and personality.

### A Little History Behind the Bottle

Fragrance has been treasured for thousands of years. Ancient Egyptians used aromatic oils and scented preparations in religious ceremonies, beauty rituals and everyday life. The Greeks and Romans embraced perfumes for bathing and personal grooming, while the art of perfumery continued to develop through the Middle East and Europe.

Over time, fragrance evolved into the sophisticated art we know today, combining traditional ingredients with modern creativity and craftsmanship. Today, a perfume can be a signature accessory, a personal statement or an invisible finishing touch that makes us feel confident and special.

### Understanding Fragrance Notes

Have you ever wondered why a perfume smells different when you first spray it compared with a few hours later? This is because fragrances are carefully blended in layers, commonly known as notes.

**Top notes:** These are the first scents we notice when applying a fragrance. Often fresh, light and uplifting, they may include citrus, bergamot, lemon, mint or light fruity aromas. They create the first impression.

**Heart notes**: Also known as middle notes, these emerge as the top notes fade. Often floral or spicy, ingredients such as rose, jasmine, lavender and geranium give a fragrance its character and personality.

**Base notes:** These are the deeper, longer-lasting aromas that develop over time. Think vanilla, sandalwood, musk, amber, patchouli and woody notes. They provide warmth, depth and lasting appeal.

Together, these layers create a fragrance that unfolds throughout the day, making the experience of wearing perfume wonderfully unique.

### The Gift That Creates Memories

When it comes to gift-giving, fragrance is a timeless favourite. It is thoughtful, personal and wonderfully luxurious, making it suitable for birthdays, anniversaries, Mother's Day, Christmas or simply as a special surprise.

Unlike many gifts, a fragrance can become associated with the person who gave it. Every time it is worn, it may bring back a happy memory or a special moment shared together. From delicate florals and fresh citrus scents to rich woods and warm oriental-inspired blends, there is a fragrance to suit every personality and preference.

### Discover Your Signature Scent

Whether you are searching for a new everyday fragrance, something special for an evening out, or a beautiful gift for someone you love, exploring fragrance should be an enjoyable experience.

Visit us at TerryWhite Chemmart Pinjarra and discover a world of beautiful scents. Take your time, explore different fragrance families and find the one that makes you feel wonderful.

After all, fragrance is more than a scent – it is an expression of who we are, a celebration of individuality and a beautiful way to create memories that last.

Regards, Rob, Yang & Rebecca

**TerryWhite Chemmart Pinjarra**
27 Forrest St, Pinjarra | 9531 2436

# December in the Garden

With John Bodycoat

The festive season is fast approaching and to ensure the garden is in top condition to host those summer BBQs and backyard cricket matches, preparations should start now. Use this time to neaten up garden areas and prepare for your summer fertilising. It's time to start to prune wilting flowers and encourage new blooms for summer by pruning your roses or dead-heading these plants. Keep an eye out for aphids, caterpillars and snails and apply natural pest control when necessary.
Apply liquid feed to your vegie patch: Give your plants a boost ahead of the hot summer.
For native plants use Native Plant fertilisers, so make sure that some fertilisers do not contain large amounts of phosphorous, as phosphorus sensitive plants such as grevilleas and banksias will die.
For those early zucchini growers check for powdery mildew as we did have a smidge of rain in mid to late November with some warm weather in the next few weeks to set up spores of powdery mildew.
It's not too late to still plant out tomatoes and cucurbits, such as pumpkins, melons, egg plant and cucumbers. However, if you plant these out into well made soil with compost and manures, cover with either barley or pea straw to prevent your plants being burnt or dried out. Or make a shade house garden, 30% shade and grow your summer vegetables in there.
Petunias, cosmos, portulacas, sun flowers, summer bulbs and other summer and autumn flowering flower plants can also go into your Garden.
Place blood and bone or any organic fertiliser around your flowers and fruit trees.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Check** | Roses for aphids and Chilli thrip. Water well and dead head spent flowers. |
| **Check** | Lawns for lawn beetle and get rid of these. Pellets are available at your friendly stores and water well. Don't cut your lawns too low to avoid your lawn from sunburn. |
| **Check** | Citrus trees for a broad range of pests, diseases and deficiencies. Leaf curl, sooty mould, and heat stress. Citrus likes a soil pH of 6. To 7.00. |
| Check | Your gutters for leaves, plus clean up your back yards in case of snakes and fire. If you are going away, please put out bowls of water for household pets plus native animals. |
| **Check** | Your irrigation for hose and pipe leaks and blocked sprinklers. Repair these |
| **Check** | your soil Ph as most plants will grow well in a soil pH 6.5-7.5 except blue berries and azaleas which prefer an acid type soil less than 6. |
| **Growing** | Blueberries like an acid soil, so use blueberry potting mix or Azalea potting mix. There are many blue berries plants species for sale now. Make sure they are suitable for your area. |
| **Plant** | Melons, eggplant, tomatoes, chilli, capsicums, lettuce and corn out into your garden beds, however, you must provide shade cloth or plant, so the hot sun doesn't fry your plants. Put barley or pea straw around these new plants. Add blood and bone and sea sol. |
| **Fertilisers** | All fruit trees and plants with the recommended fertilisers and in the cool spray Sea Sol especially on newly planted plants. |
| **Clean out** | Your chicken pens and manure, then place straw in nesting boxes and add shell grit to your chicken's diet. Shell grit is vitally important – it's essential to their digestive system and helps to ensure they have access to the nutrients their bodies demand. |
| **Be careful** | When driving on the road watchout for young juvenile fledging birds and reptiles who have no road sense. Slow down and save these animals. |

Happy Gardening

# Pinjarra Community Garden

Our TUTT or Tea Under the tree is on Saturday 5th December at the garden with a morning tea under the tree. We have plants for sale for that Special Christmas gift.
So, when having your cuppa, you can enjoy your stroll looking at all the new work at the garden.
All welcome.




Caring For You Since 2008

OPENING HOURS:
MONDAY 0830 - 1630
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# 25 Years of Community Service

It's a sad but satisfying end to the closure of Murray House Community Resource Centre after 25 years of service. I can only speak from what I know, having been secretary of the management committee for the last 5 years and the wonderful people I had the pleasure of working with. We did the best we could for as long as we could. It really was a financial decision and the world as we know it forced our hand.

People today have printers at home, they scan things on their phones, they get advice from google; times change and we have to change with it. Luckily, all services have been picked up by the Shire of Murray with business as usual along with their community development people working out of Murry House. The DOT operations have moved over to the Shire building, and they continue to assist and inform us.

The fantastic Murray Community Newspaper is now provided by the Ravenswood Community group who are doing an excellent job. Thank you, we would have hated seeing that vanish as it's such an important part of the community. Thank you to Sonya Fletcher the centre coordinator who did an amazing job building the newsletter up making it what it is today.

Our committee in the final year was Barbara Hammond the amazing lawn bowler, Hilton Berry from Hiltons Handyman Services, the dynamic duo of Merv and Brenda Beacham along with Anne Cubitt from the Murray Districts Historical Society whose local knowledge just amazes me. Pop in and have a chat when you have a spare hour, what a history we have. Julie Gray from Pinjarra High School and so many community boards and committees, a font of knowledge and an exceptional tireless worker for our community, and our chair Christine Thompson OAM, JP. Thank you for your guidance and support throughout what was a tough last few weeks. Tying up loose ends, closing accounts, winding up an incorporation isn't a walk in the park that's for sure.

Now comes the happy part. Our committee voted to donate residual funds of $8343 to Murray Districts Historical Society who have said "Thanks to the generous donation from Murray House Resource Centre, Murray Districts Historical Society are looking forward to using some of the funding to complete the St John's Graveyard Project, with a sign identifying the 100 or more burials in unmarked graves within this site. This will provide the local community and others with a visual of who they are and assist in tracing people's family history. Other funds will be utilised to refurbish the current storage systems to protect the historical collections and records."

Take care have a wonderful Christmas and I hope a new year with cheaper food and fuel

Diane Eldridge.




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## HOTHAM VALLEY RAILWAY

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Web: www.hothamvalleyrailway.com.au Email: hvr@hothamvalleyrailway.com.au

## TIMETABLE

## TRAINS DEPART FROM DWELLINGUP STATION

### Marrinup St, Dwellingup

| Day | Date | Service | Departure |
|---|---|---|---|
| Saturday | 12 December | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Saturday | 12 December | Restaurant Train | 7pm |
| Sunday | 13 December | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| | | | |
| Saturday | 19 December | No Service | |
| Saturday | 19 December | No Service | |
| Sunday | 20 December | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| | | | |
| Saturday | 26 December | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Sunday | 27 December | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| | | | |
| Saturday | 26 December | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Sunday | 27 December | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Monday | 28 December | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Tuesday | 29 December | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Wednesday | 30 December | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Thursday | 31 December | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Friday | 1 January | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Saturday | 2 January | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Sunday | 3 January | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| | | | |
| Tuesday | 29 December | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Wednesday | 30 December | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Thursday | 31 December | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| | | | |
| Saturday | 2 January | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Sunday | 3 January | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| | | | |
| Tuesday | 5 January | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Wednesday | 6 January | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Thursday | 7 January | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| | | | |
| Saturday | 9 January | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Sunday | 10 January | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| | | | |
| Tuesday | 12 January | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Wednesday | 13 January | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Thursday | 14 January | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| | | | |
| Saturday | 16 January | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Sunday | 17 January | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| | | | |
| Tuesday | 19 January | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Wednesday | 20 January | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Thursday | 21 January | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| | | | |
| Saturday | 23 January | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |
| Sunday | 24 January | Forest Train | 10.30am and 2pm |







# Hotham Valley Railway Happenings

As we head towards the Christmas season on behalf of Hotham Valley Railway may I wish all readers and supporters a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

With the holiday season it is very likely that idle hands will make mischief by way of vandalizing or trespassing on HVR property. These acts against the railway divert not only volunteer's time but finances away from infrastructure projects to sustain the railway. Therefore, we ask if anyone sees inappropriate actions to report it to the Police. A thank you goes the community minded person who reported someone in the act of placing graffiti on a carriage thus restricting the damage. Fortunately, the Police were able to apprehend the young person and they were subsequently charged. Hopefully, they have learnt a lesson and will refrain doing graffiti again.

Also, it is appropriate at this time to remind people of the need to be aware of their own safety, and not to become complacent whether around the house, swimming, driving vehicles or hiking. As a railway we are often confronted with people who are completely oblivious of dangers or being near the railway line. All deaths, injuries and near misses on the rail networks can be avoided if people simply obey the rules and avoid becoming distracted. Often people hike along the railway track, believing it is unused. However, it should always be taken that a railway vehicle may travel at any time, for example maintenance vehicles are not timetabled.

This January our Forest Train will be operating Tuesday to Thursday as well as Saturday and Sundays. So, there will be more railway action then previously so hikers please be careful.

As a thank you to our hard-working members train services will be suspended for Saturday 19 December to enable all members to attend our Christmas Party at the Point Walter Golf Club.

The train buffs and photographers were out in force during October to catch a glimpse of Diesel G50 operating on the Ranger service. The Locomotive has been out of service for several years since the engine failed. During this time, many people have enquired have about the progress. After many thousands of dollars of expenditure and hours of passionate work interspersed with keeping the railway operating it has come to fruition. Thanks go to all members who were involved in the process of getting the Locomotive back on track.

Merry Christmas to all

Come join in our adventure

Have you made a booking on one of our services?
All bookings for Hotham Valley are online at
www.hothamvalleyrailway.com.au
Telephone enquiries: 6278 1111 (M to F 9am to 5pm)

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Backyard Buddies
Your monthly guide to pests, weeds and diseases

# European wasps: on the naughty list!

December 2026




European wasps drawn to a dessert (© Adobe Stock), a European wasp and its most common look-alikes.

The annual hunt to detect and eradicate European wasps (*Vespula germanica*) from WA is underway, and with the season of festive gatherings, celebrations and alfresco dining around the corner, it's a great opportunity to spot them. Keep watch over the Christmas BBQ, guard the prawns and the pavlova, monitor your pet's food and check the insects you scoop from the pool. European wasps, we are looking for you!

The European wasp is a declared pest and must be reported. It has threatened to establish in WA since six nests were found and destroyed near Fremantle in 1977. Thanks to ongoing collaborative surveillance between the Department, community, local governments and business, WA has so far prevented permanent establishment and spread.
Widely established across southern Australia, these adaptable scavengers hitchhike across the border into WA every year, and they'd love an invitation to your Christmas party.

## Where we're focusing this season

Greater Perth remains a top priority, with most detections made in the metro area. However, increasing detections in the south-west means our activities in regional areas are increasing. We need everyone in these areas to be on high alert:

- **Albany region** - from Millbrook Reserve in the west to Kalgan in the east, and north to the Porongurup National Park
- **Woodridge** (north of Perth)
- **Bunbury** - in particular the Picton region and the port
- **Geraldton** - from Wonthella up to Sunset Beach and out to Strathalbyn
- **Hyden**

If you live in or near these areas, please be extra vigilant this summer, and report anything suspect!

## What to look for

The widespread black and yellow paper wasp is easily mistaken for our target species, so look closely. European wasps:

- scavenge on human and pet food
- feed on fruit such as grapes and stone fruit
- nest underground, with nests growing to the size of a basketball in a single season, and often a single, golf ball-sized entrance hole
- have completely black antennae
- do NOT dangle their legs when flying.

## Where to report

Every report counts, but the more accurate, the better. If you think you've spotted a European wasp or a nest, note exactly where you saw it (a street address, nearby landmark or GPS pin is ideal) and, if safe to do so, take a clear photo. Report suspected European wasp detections to the department by contacting our Pest and Disease Information Service (PaDIS) on 08 9368 3080 or email padis@dpird.wa.gov.au or use the MyPestGuide® Reporter app/website. For more on the eradication program and how to identify wasps, visit dpird.wa.gov.au/europeanwasp.

# Community CHOIR

## Join Our Community Choir!

Love to sing? Come along, meet new people and be part of a fun, friendly and welcoming choir right here in Ravenswood!

**Wednesdays**

**5:30 pm – 7:30 pm**

**Ravenswood Community Centre**

New Members Welcome!

**$5 for Members** | **$10 for Non-Members**

*to cover licence and choir master costs*



# DECEMBER 2026
## MURRAY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **1**<br>**Online Scam Awareness Workshop**<br>11 am – 12 pm | **2**<br>**LEGO Club**<br>(Murray Library)<br>3:30 – 4:30 pm | **3**<br>**Christmas on the Murray**<br>(Pinjarra)<br>5 – 8 pm | **4** | **5**<br>**WA Mower Racing**<br>8:30 am – 4:30 pm<br>**Ravenswood Christmas Celebration**<br>5 – 7 pm | **6** |
| **7**<br>**Games Café**<br>1 – 4 pm<br>Ravenswood CC | **8**<br>**Chess Group**<br>10 am – 2:30 pm<br>Ravenswood CC | **9**<br>**Community Choir**<br>5:30 – 7:30 pm<br>Ravenswood CC | **10** | **11** | **12**<br>**Out of the Blue Art Exhibition**<br>Edenvale<br>(5 – 14 Dec)<br>10 am – 5 pm | **13**<br>**Pinjarra Markets**<br>8 am – 1 pm<br>**Food Truckin' Adventurescape**<br>5 – 8 pm |
| **14**<br>**Games Café**<br>1 – 4 pm<br>Ravenswood CC | **15**<br>**Chess Group**<br>10 am – 2:30 pm<br>Ravenswood CC | **16**<br>**Community Choir**<br>5:30 – 7:30 pm<br>Ravenswood CC | **17** | **18** | **19**<br>**Pinjarra Twilight Markets**<br>4 – 8 pm | **20** |
| **21**<br>**Games Café**<br>1 – 4 pm<br>Ravenswood CC<br>**Christmas Race Day**<br>(Pinjarra Paceway)<br>From noon | **22**<br>**Chess Group**<br>10 am – 2:30 pm<br>Ravenswood CC | **23** | **24**<br>*Christmas Eve* | **25**<br>*Christmas Day* | **26**<br>*Boxing Day* | **27** |
| **28**<br>**Family Fun Day at the Trots**<br>12 noon – 6 pm | **29**<br>**Chess Group**<br>10 am – 2:30 pm<br>Ravenswood CC | **30** | **31**<br>*New Year's Eve* | | | |

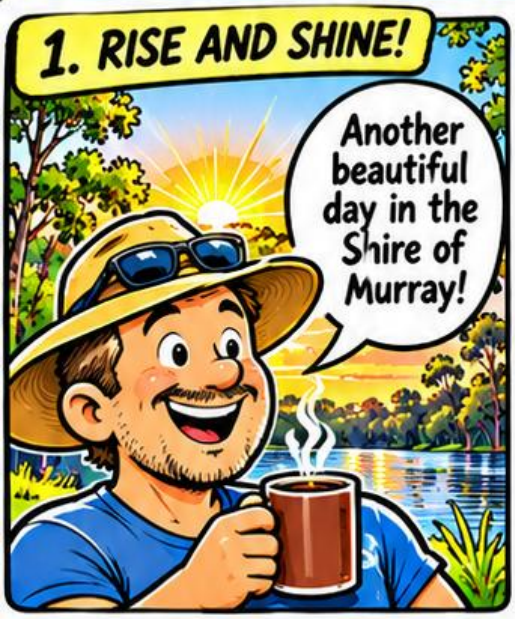
***Check times and bookings with organisers before attending.***

# A Day in the Life of a Murray Local!

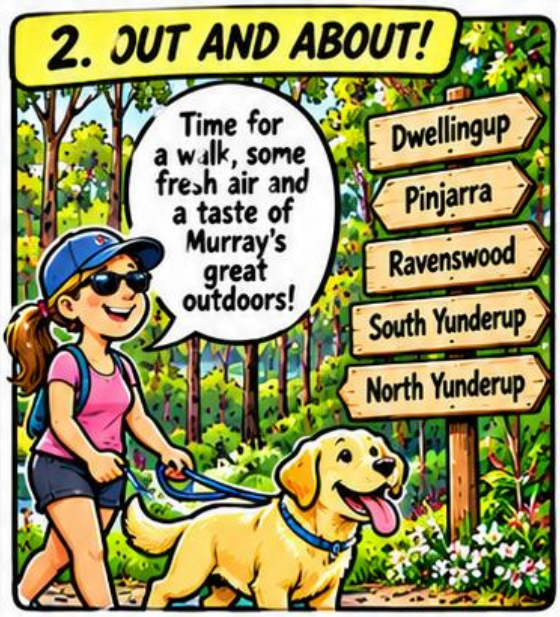
## Life, Community and a Little Bit of Murray Magic!

A fun look at life in the Shire of Murray!

### 1. RISE AND SHINE!




### 2. OUT AND ABOUT!




### 3. COMMUNITY TIME!




### 4. SUPPORT LOCAL!




### 5. GET ACTIVE!




### 6. WIND DOWN!




### 7. WHY WE LOVE THE SHIRE OF MURRAY!



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