



## Words from the Shire President

Hi Everyone

The seasons are changing, we are still having some warm days but the nights have cooled off and the hours of daylight are shortening. Let's hope we see some rain soon.

During the month of May, we will be seeking input into the Shire of Woodanilling Community Strategic Plan. The plan gives guidance to the Council on the direction the community wishes to go and the projects it would like to achieve into the future. There will be meetings organized with the community as well as individual groups. Please get involved and help shape the future of our community and shire.

Shire Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month, and we welcome everyone to come along and meet with the Council. At the start of the meeting there is Public Question Time where you can ask questions of the shire. You do need to fill in a form prior to asking a question at the meeting. We will endeavor to answer your question, if we are unable to, the question will be taken on notice and responded to once the information is available.

**The oval has just been seeded with ryegrass to get the surface ready for the hockey season. We ask that everyone not to use the oval for the next few weeks whilst the ryegrass establishes itself. We will notify the community when it is available to be used again.**

Stay safe and enjoy life.



**Dale Douglas  
Shire President**







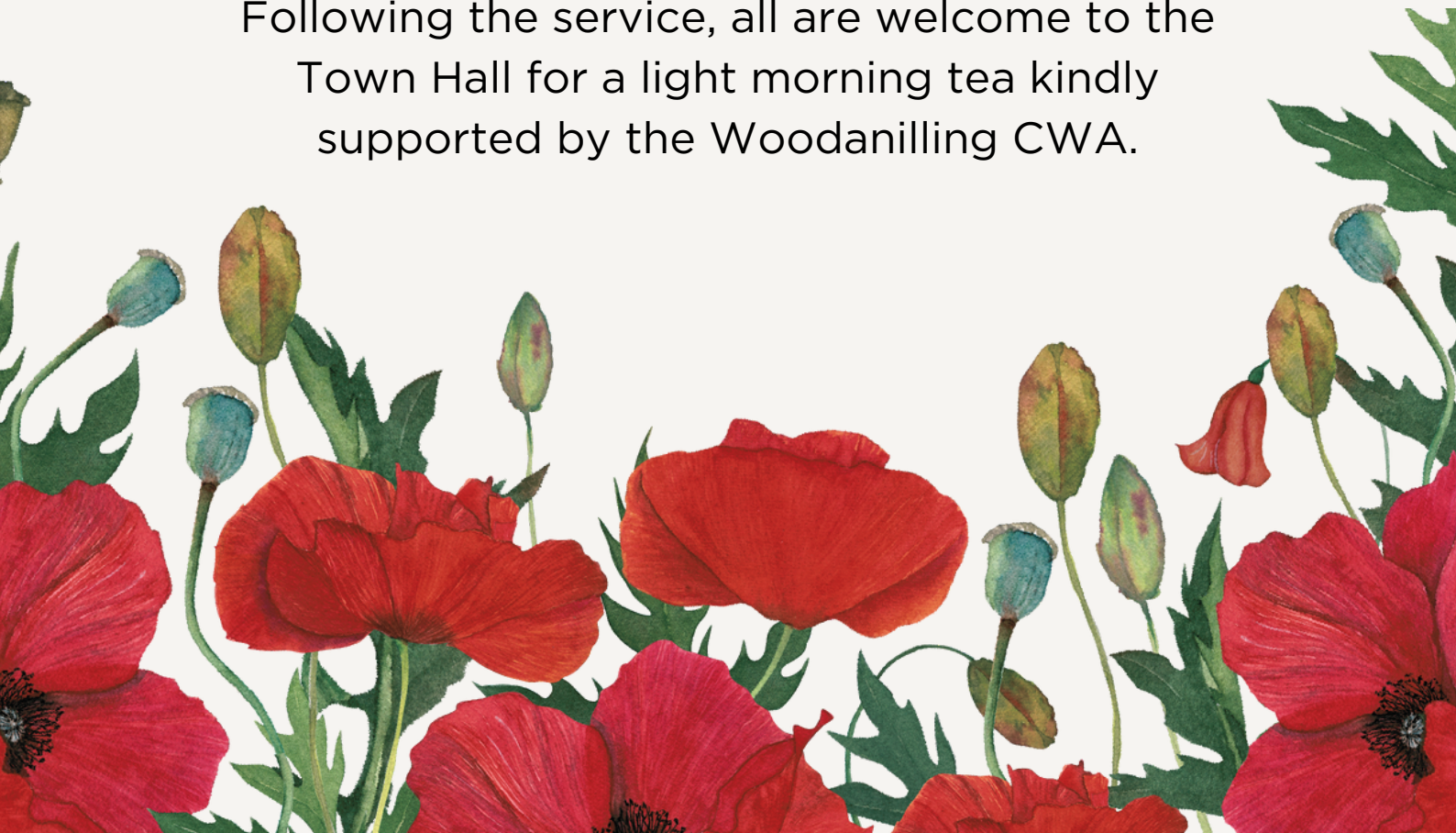
# ANZAC DAY MEMORIAL

**JOIN US IN HONOURING OUR HEROES  
WOODANILLING ANZAC WAR MEMORIAL, ROBINSON RD  
THURSDAY 25TH APRIL COMMENCING AT 9.20AM**

Let us come together as a community to honour the courage, sacrifice and legacy of all our Army Corps.

Any service men, women or civilians wishing to march, please assemble outside the Woodanilling Church at 9.15am

Following the service, all are welcome to the Town Hall for a light morning tea kindly supported by the Woodanilling CWA.

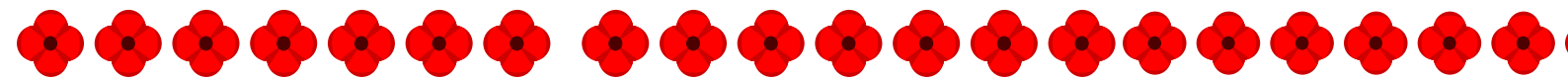


## COMMUNITY WATCH

Ideally, we would like Woodanilling to be a welcoming, safe and secure place for everyone. As a community we can improve our personal safety and household security by reporting suspicious behavior and sharing information that helps build awareness. We strongly encourage reporting of crime or suspicious activity in your area to Police or Crime Stoppers.

Crime Stoppers - 1800 333 000

You can report information about criminal activity to the Crime Stoppers hotline or visit - [www.wa.crimestoppers.com.au](http://www.wa.crimestoppers.com.au) to report online.



## FACILITY HIRE

The Shire of Woodanilling has the Town Hall and Recreation Centre for hire. If you are interested, click on the link and complete the online booking form.

<https://www.woodanilling.wa.gov.au/community/community-facilities/hire-of-council-facilities.aspx>

Or alternatively contact the Shire on 9823 1506 for a facility hire form.



### WOODANILLING WASTE FACILITY OPENING HOURS

Thursday - 9am - 1pm

Saturday - 12pm - 5 pm

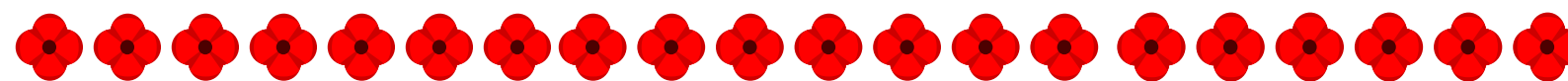
Sunday - 2pm - 5pm

### WOODANILLING SHIRE OFFICE OPENING HOURS

9.00am to 4.30pm Monday - Friday

All Receipting transactions close

4.00pm.

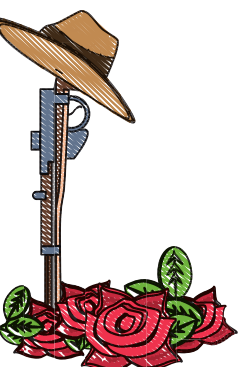


## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Ray Baxter - 9823 1546

Russel Thomson - 0419 950 217

Peter Bartholomeusz - 0447 771 511





## **BARKING DOGS, DOGS NOT CONTAINED IN THEIR YARDS, CATS WANDERING AROUND THE STREETS.**

Complaints have been coming in recently from the community in regard to the above headings.

Council promotes responsible dog and cat ownership. Dog owners need to ensure their dog/s do not become a neighborhood nuisance by barking. Barking is a dogs natural means of communication and often signifies its alertness to danger or intruders. However, a dog that persistently barks to a degree or extent not normally habitual in dogs, constitutes a nuisance. For the purpose of Section 38 of the Dog Act 1976 a dog shall be taken to be a nuisance if the dog:

“Makes a noise, by barking or otherwise, that persistently occurs or continues to such a degree or extent that it unreasonably interferes with the peace, comfort or convenience of any person in any place”

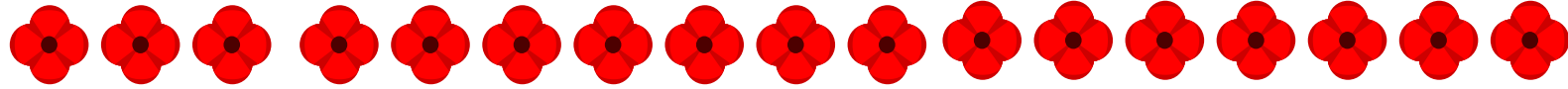
The Cat Act 2011 requires the identification, registration and sterilization of domestic cats, and gives Local Governments the power to administer and enforce the legislation. The legislation, which took full effect in November 2013, provides for better management of the unwanted impacts of cats on the community and the environment, and encourages responsible cat ownership. Local Governments enforce and administer the Cat Act. This is a reminder to Cat Owners to make sure they are being responsible and adhering to the Cat Act.

If you would like further information regarding your requirements as an owner of a Dog or Cat in the Shire of Woodanilling please don't hesitate to contact the Shire.

### **APPLY FOR PENSIONER RATES CONCESSIONS**

Eligible pensioners or seniors may qualify for a concession from Council rates and the Emergency Services Levy and in some circumstances, to rubbish service charges. For the 2023-24 financial year, the pensioner rates capped amount is remaining at \$750. Seniors will have their rebates capped at a maximum amount of \$100.

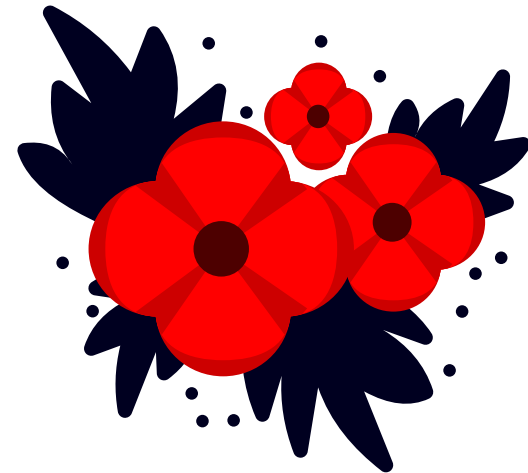
To register for a concession, please visit the Water Corporation's rates concession page. This application will register you with the Water Corporation and the Shire of Woodanilling via one form. Once it is approved by the Water Corporation it will be forwarded to the Shire of Woodanilling to process on the rates account.



## CWA NEWS

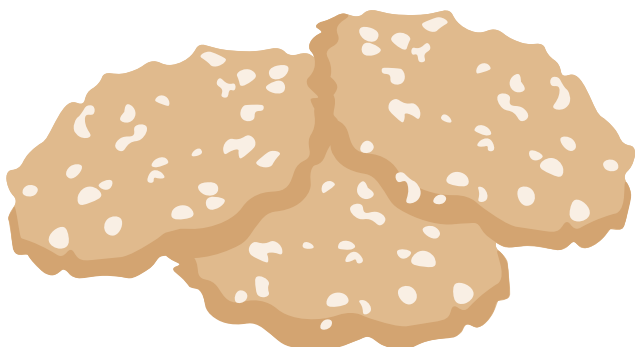


Anzac Day is rapidly approaching and Woodanilling usually is very supportive of the ceremony. The morning tea often sees people sharing a cuppa and a chat so come along and join us at 9.30am on the 25th April. We cater but any sweet treats would be welcome i.e. cakes and slices. I know we are all hanging out for some rain but it can stay away on Anzac Day, then “bring it on”!!!! Many of the CWA branches around WA are celebrating momentous birthdays with our branch turning 90 years old this year. We hope to catch up with past members in September so stay tuned for more detail. Our next informal meeting will coincide with a garden Busy Bee on April 21st prior to Anzac Day.

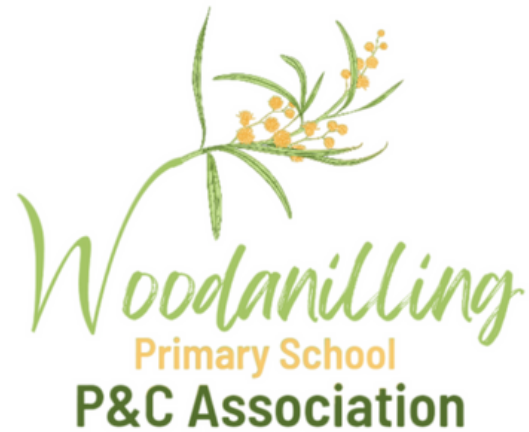
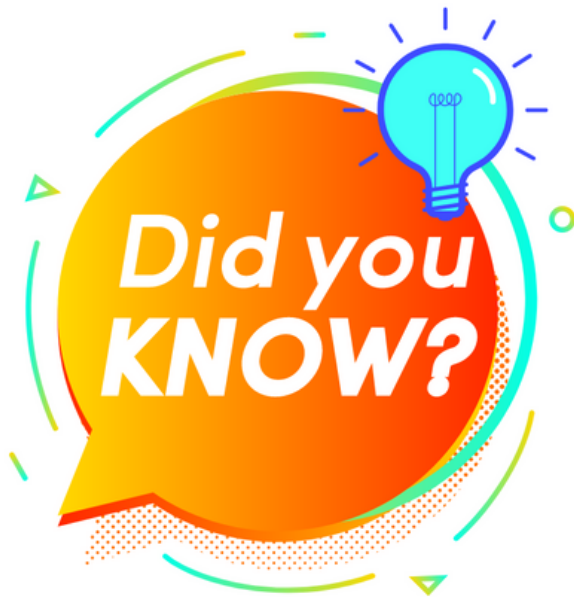


## CARPET BOWLS

We recommence on Monday afternoons 2.00pm on April 15th. Come along and join the fun! Bowlers notoriously get the reputation of being “old” but hey, you’re only as old as you feel and we have some young ones who enjoy a game. Contact Pauline for details on 0439 922 311.







**We now have an IBC located  
at the side entrance of  
Woodanilling Primary School for**



This means that anyone with spare bottles & cans can pop them into our bin and help us easily raise money for the Woodanilling Primary School kids.

How Easy is that!



**ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED.**



# WAGIN / WOODANILLING LANDCARE ZONE

## Woolorama 2024

Bit of a change at this year's Woolorama. We weren't planning on a move, but ended up with our stall in the lifestyle pavilion rather than the DPIRD shed as has been done for many years.... And found the change to be a very beneficial one.



We were busy all event and had many conversations about black cockatoo conservation, feral species, phascogales and more, with people from all over the south west. The large cockatoo in small child eye line was a hit!

We were happy to have fellow landcare officer Amber come and volunteer to help out on Saturday, allowing Gen a break without leaving the stall unattended.







# WAGIN/WOODANILLING LANDCARE ZONE

## Carbon Farming Updates

### Producers perception of Carbon Farming programs

We have had a request from a university Ph.D project from the Australian Federation University looking into research on what the perceptions of real farmers is on the whole Carbon Farming national program and how it could be better implemented across the board.

“The study aims to understand the farmers’ perception of carbon farming, which will help them integrate it into broadacre agriculture. The Ararat Rural City Council, Victoria, funds this research, and the PhD candidate is supported by Federation University Australia and Destination Australia Scholarship.”

[https://federation.syd1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_4Vf95jgsRPdPsQS](https://federation.syd1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4Vf95jgsRPdPsQS)

Contributing to surveys like this helps to have your voice heard in the long run on national programs. If you would like more details on the program prior to completing a survey, get in touch with Gen.

### Carbon farming and land restoration program round 3— Now open!



Round 3 of the Carbon Farming and Land Restoration Program (CF-LRP) is now open. The CF-LRP provides financial assistance to farmers in the South West Land Division developing new revegetation, agroforestry or soil carbon farming projects.

**Applications close** 12 noon (AWST) on Monday 20 May 2024

**Find out how to apply** by reading the [CF-LRP overview](#) and visiting our [webpage](#).

(ctrl click to open pages, or if on hard copy, contact Gen to send more information)



# WAGIN / WOODANILLING LANDCARE ZONE

## 2024 Grant applications

### Landscape Rehabilitation

We are looking for potential sites to include in our current State NRM funding application. We are proposing to include fencing and revegetation as part of the threatened species recovery target the state has set aside.

If you have an area that would have potential links across the landscape (e.g. creekline, fenceline to the road reserve, existing vegetation) we would be keen to hear from you and potentially include your site in our application. These applications are due 17th May, so would need to complete site visit well in advance of this date, so get in touch ASAP if you are interested.

### Drought Resilience

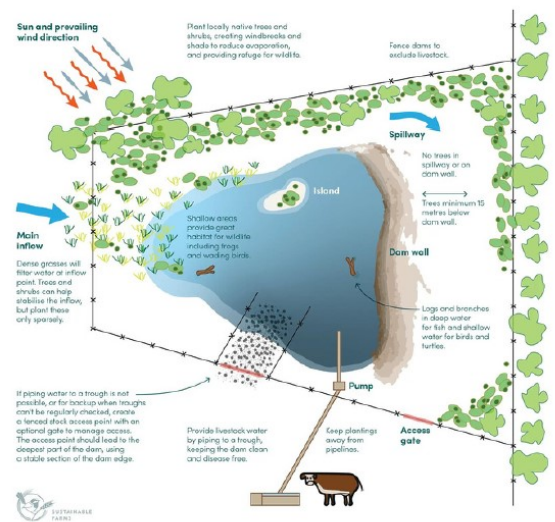
The other area of interest for application is around dams and making them more efficient.

After a recent field day with Katanning Landcare looking at their different dam management programs, we are keen to look at whether we can apply any of those strategies in our coverage area.

You can see the case studies on these dams to follow.

Due to the constraints around grant funding, we would largely look at focusing on enhanced dams and would be keen to hear from anyone who may be interested in applying this strategy to improving the quality and longevity of your dam.

#### Ideal enhanced dam layout, with all features.



Credit: ANU Sustainable Farms

Please get in touch with Gen **before 1st May!** if you are interested in any of these potential projects as time will be tight in getting site visits completed in time for applications.





# IMPROVING THE EFFICIENCY OF FARM DAMS

Water quality can be just as significant as water quantity for livestock drinking water, spray water and other agricultural uses. The ecosystem services provided by more than 1.76 million dams in Australia can benefit agriculture as well as the environment, and enhance the security of quality water supplies.

## ENHANCED DAMS



### Works Undertaken at Both Local Trial Sites

- Fencing to exclude livestock
- Installation of a pump to move water from the dam to a stock watering trough outside the fence
- Revegetation around the back and sides (outside the dam bank) with shrubs and trees
- Revegetation with sedges around the waterline within the dam
- Revegetation of the water entry slope above the dam with groundcovers and low shrubs.
- Costs of pumps and troughs varied based on farmers choice, plants cost around \$1 each and standard 7 line fencing was used.



### What is an Enhanced Dam?

The term “enhanced dam” has been adopted from the Australian National University's Sustainable Farms Program, and refers to a method of managing a farm dam like a wetland ecosystem to improve both environmental and agricultural outcomes.

Enhanced dams are typically fenced to exclude livestock (or controlled hard access point built), revegetated both around and inside the dam, water points for livestock are located off-dam and water inflows are managed to restrict nutrient and sediment entry.

Katanning Landcare has trialled the established of two Enhanced Dams 2022 - 2024. As the full impact of the system won't be visible for a number of years while vegetation establishes, baseline information has been gathered.

### Meet the Farmers

**Name:** Bev Kowald and Kristen Prest

**Locations:** Carrolup & Daping Creek, Katanning, WA

**Enterprises:** Kowald - cropping & sheep; Prest - lifestyle, goats and horses

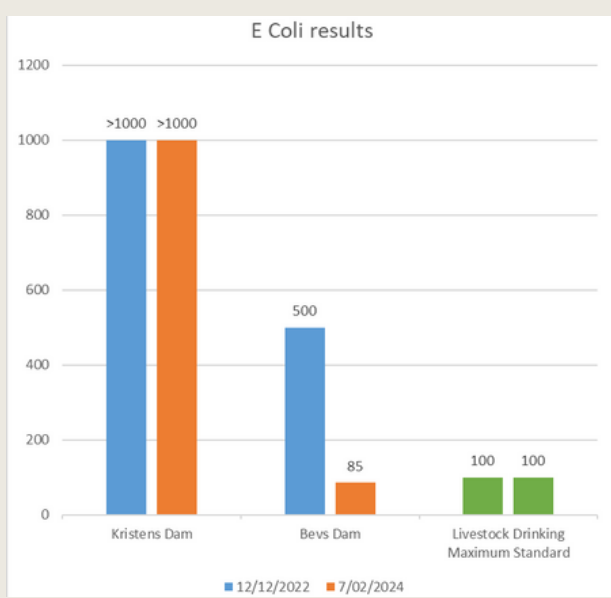
### How do enhanced dams improve water security?

- Vegetation surrounding the dam reduces evaporation through shading (lowering water temperatures) and reducing wind exposure on the waters surface, improving retention of water volume.
- Eliminating livestock pugging, and reducing the inflow of sediment improves water clarity, thus reducing temperatures and improving its usability through pumps eg spraying.
- Reducing nutrient and bacteria loads in the water body lengthens its season of use for livestock watering.

# RESULTS TO DATE

Temperature, surface area, secchi depth (turbidity), electrical conductivity and pH have been measured at both enhanced dam trial sites, and also a control dam where no enhancement works are taking place.

It is expected that no difference in water quantity or quality results will be observed for a few more years while the vegetation establishes.



## E Coli

- E Coli is a bacteria that can be found in water contaminated with faecal matter. As well as impacting human health, it can cause reductions in livestock weight gain.
- ANU studies showed that E Coli reductions could be achieved within 6 months of enhanced dam system establishment.
- Our local testing of E Coli also showed significant improvements at Bev's site, following fencing and planting.
- Kristen's dam E Coli levels were above the measurable limit both times, so we cannot ascertain if there was a change.

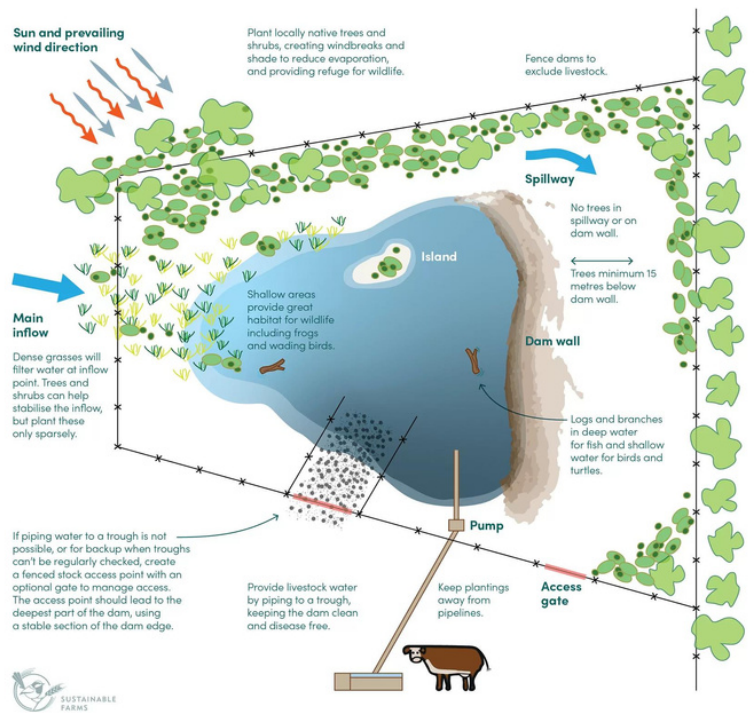
The climate is drying, we have to be improving our water security, but I want to be able to do it in a way that also helps our environment. The enhanced dam system does that.

- Bev Kowald

## Revegetation around the trial dams



## Ideal enhanced dam layout, with all features.



Credit: ANU Sustainable Farms





# IMPROVING THE EFFICIENCY OF FARM DAMS

Annual rainfall in Katanning is approximately 400 mm per year. Annual evaporation is approximately 1500-1600 mm per year (1) - four times more than rainfall.

## DAM COVERS



### Trial Dam Cover Specifications

- Purchased from Daisy Dam Covers ([daisypoolcovers.com.au](http://daisypoolcovers.com.au))
- Modular sections, available in a range of sizes, allowing different configurations.
- Covers used at Richardson's and Sullivan's sites were 4 units each 5.2m x 15m, which cost a total of \$3790 (inc GST), or \$12.70 per m<sup>2</sup> of coverage.
- Covers at Crossley's were 3 units each 5.2m x 20m. 4 units were purchased in 2018 for around \$7000 delivered.
- Made of a heavy plastic "bubble wrap" fabric, white on surface and black underneath, with black mesh edgings containing weighted rope and joining eyelets.
- Modules joined with loops and clips and corners tethered with rope to star pickets on dam bank.



(1) [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au)

### What is a Dam Cover?

Dam covers are physical barriers to evaporation which cover the surface of the water. There are a range of types available including floating mats, hexagonal disks, floating balls and fixed membranes.

Katanning Landcare trialled floating dam mats over the summers of 2022-23 (Year 1) and 2023-24 (Year 2), on two typical farm paddock dams each year.

**Dam covers may be a useful tool in improving dam efficiency by protecting standing water in dams from evaporative loss.**

### Meet the Host Farmers

**Names:** Eric Crossley (Yrs 1 & 2), Tony Richardson (Yr 1) and Mark Sullivan (Yr 2)

**Locations:** Woodanilling, Badgebup & Katanning, WA

**Enterprises:** Cropping and livestock (Crossley & Sullivan - sheep, Richardson - pigs)

### Installation

- Float modules onto the dam surface one at a time, using ropes attached to the corners, and walking slowly along the dam banks dragging the cover.
- Laying on a surfboard, kayak, etc, join the sections together like doing up a zip – starting at one end and working down the join. Have one or two people on the bank with a rope to hold the panels in position.
- Ensure the covers do not reach the edge of the waterline, to prevent damage from livestock stepping on them, or from inhibiting light and oxygen for aquatic life in the dam.

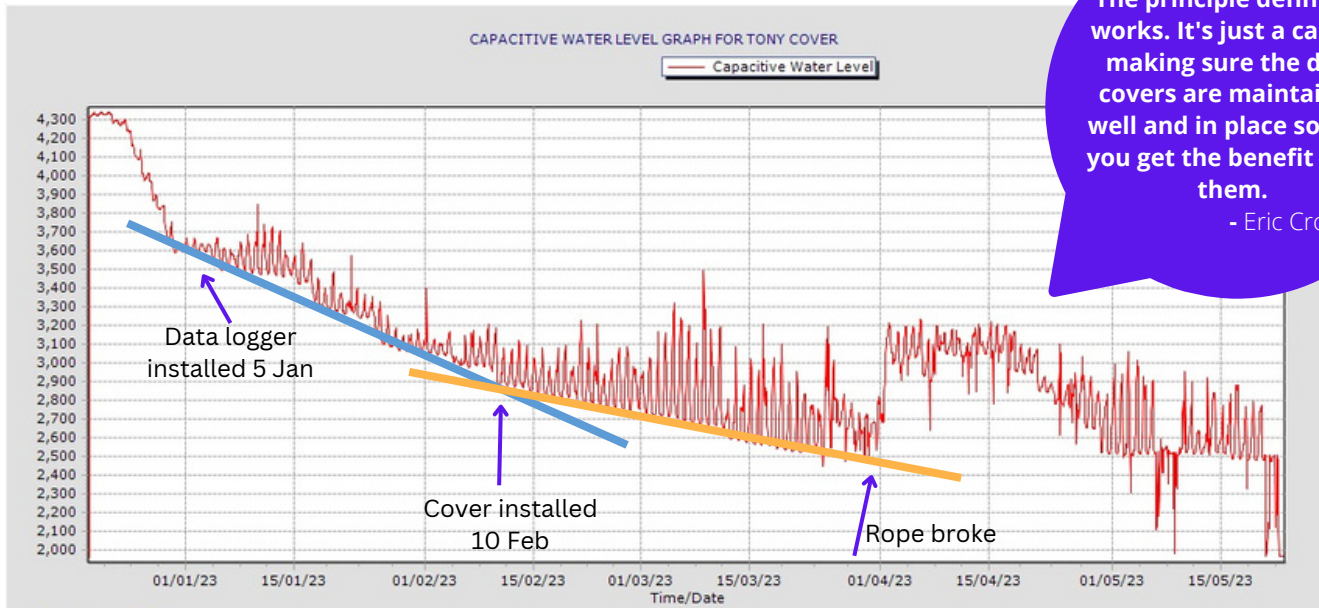




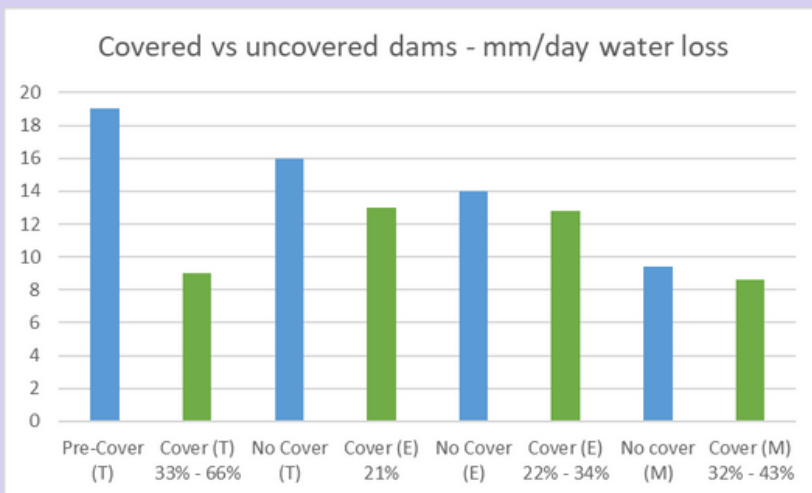
# RESULTS - DAM COVER TRIALS

The principle definitely works. It's just a case of making sure the dam covers are maintained well and in place so that you get the benefit from them.

- Eric Crossley



Odyssey Capacitive Water Loggers were installed in each covered dam, and its nearby control dam, to measure water level changes. This graph from the Richardson dam clearly shows the slowing of water loss from the dam upon installation of the cover, which initially covered 33% of the surface area of the dam water.



Covered dams (green) in the trial consistently showed less daily water loss than their paired control dam (blue). Percentage coverage of surface water changed as water level dropped, ranges for the study period are indicated below each bar.

The covers, as trialled, were not yet sufficiently robust in construction for use in a "set & forget" manner. The seams on the edging join tore on some panels. Three times the covers bunched up after strong winds, all due to either tether ropes breaking (stronger rope needed) or eyelets pulling out. Feedback

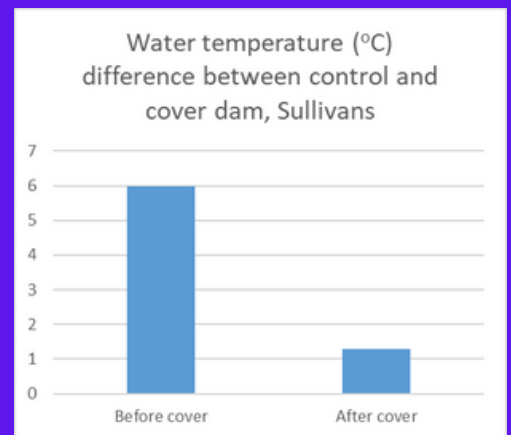


to the manufacturer has been provided. We believe these changes can be easily made for the future. The main "bubble wrap" material itself had no noted problems.



Data loggers measured water depth over the two summers in each set of trial and control dams

Dams with covers were regularly observed to have lower temperatures than the uncovered control dam, or where the covered dam was normally warmer, the temperature difference was reduced. Cooler temperatures reduce evaporation and are better for livestock drinking water.





# IMPROVING THE EFFICIENCY OF FARM DAMS

The south-west agricultural areas of WA have been drier than normal over the 10 years to 2022 and the projection is for more dry seasons. These conditions increase the need for improved water harvesting into farm dams. (1)

## ROADED CATCHMENTS



Pattersons' new 8,000-yard dam was built halfway up a hill in 2020 with two roaded catchments. The dam is enclosed with banks on all four sides.

Water runs off the roaded catchments into a silt pit in front of the dam. Twin 600mm diameter poly pipes slope upwards from the silt pit, allowing water to enter the dam with minimum silt. Ben estimates that it only takes about 10mm of rainfall to fill the silt pit and overflow into the dam. It has a surface area of around 2,400 m<sup>2</sup> when full.

The dam provides water to sheep in the paddock. A solar pump is used to transfer water from the dam to Ben's new home at the top of the hill for watering trees, a vegie garden and lawn. He plans to run water downhill from the new dam to supply troughs in a patch of fenced saltbush so they can confinement-feed ewes before lambing.

**Total dam project cost: \$32,000**

"The inconvenience of manoeuvring large cropping machinery around the roaded catchments is a necessary evil but it's worth it to harvest the water more efficiently and keep the dams as full as possible,"  
- Ben Patterson

### What is a Roaded Catchment?

A roaded catchment is a water-harvesting structure designed to increase the amount of run-off from the catchment above a receiving farm dam.

Roaded catchments are lined with clay and compacted to make a smooth surface that reduces infiltration and increases run-off. The Pattersons of Woodanilling believe that roaded catchments are an efficient and cost-effective way to harvest maximum quantities of water into their dams.

### Meet the Farmer

**Name:** Ben Patterson, Bibikin Farms

**Location:** Woodanilling, Great Southern

**Farm Size:** 13,000 acres / 5,200 ha

**Number of livestock:** 7,000 - 9,000 sheep

**Ha crop:** 3,300 ha

**Number of dams:** 50

- There are around 50 dams across the Patterson properties.
- They have all been upgraded with roaded catchments over the past 20 years.
- Some old roaded catchments were filled in and new ones installed to suit GPS lines which makes cropping around them much easier.
- Building new dams halfway up a hill allows options to pump and gravity-feed water to other areas of the farm.



**Left:** Roaded catchment running directly up slope.

**Below:** Roaded catchment following the contour.

**Having both allows better water-harvesting capability.**



References: (1) DPIRD.



# UPGRADING EXISTING DAMS

**RIGHT:** This dam originally had two roaded catchments - one ran uphill and the other was narrow and short, running across the hill to the farm sheds.

The dam was upgraded with an additional two roaded catchments - one along the contour line (south), the other next to the existing uphill roaded catchment (east).

The dam supplies a 1,500-head sheep feedlot, farms sheds, sheep on crop stubble, crop spraying needs and the main homestead including lawn and garden. It's never gone dry but it needed to catch more water to supply the demands on it, which the roaded catchments are helping achieve.

The dam is located at the foot of a hill which only allows water to be pumped out of it, not gravity-fed. The Pattersons plan to bolster this dam by installing a pipeline to pump extra water from the new dam into this one.



**The Pattersons believe that road catchments are the best value for money. Ben said: "You can spend quite a bit of money on drilling trying to find a good bore and it might take days to find one. With roaded catchments, you spend the money and you are guaranteed to get water."**

## Tips for Planning Roaded Catchments

- Keep silt traps small so they overflow in smaller rainfall events.
- Ensure to harvest catchment from both sides of the dam.
- Ensure the inlet pipe slopes upwards to prevent silt entering the dam.
- Employ a professional contractor with suitable knowledge, experience and GPS equipment.
- Assess the terrain to determine the best location for the roaded catchments, considering factors like slope stability, ease of construction and without interfering with cropping land and A-B lines but sometimes this isn't possible.
- Study rainfall patterns and run-off characteristics in the area to design the catchment system effectively.
- Plan for regular inspection maintenance to prevent deterioration and ensure functionality.

**DPIRD advice states that weeds growing on roaded catchments can dramatically reduce run-off from the surface by breaking up the compacted soil and thus increasing infiltration. Any loosening of the compacted surface will result in a small part of each rain shower being absorbed.**

**Every few years, the Pattersons get a contractor to maintenance grade some roaded catchments, where necessary, to keep them free of vegetation.**

### Contact: Katanning Landcare

☎ 9821 4327

✉ [hello@katanninglandcare.org.au](mailto:hello@katanninglandcare.org.au)

### Contact: Ben Patterson

☎ 0428 159 815

✉ [bibikinfarms@hotmail.com](mailto:bibikinfarms@hotmail.com)



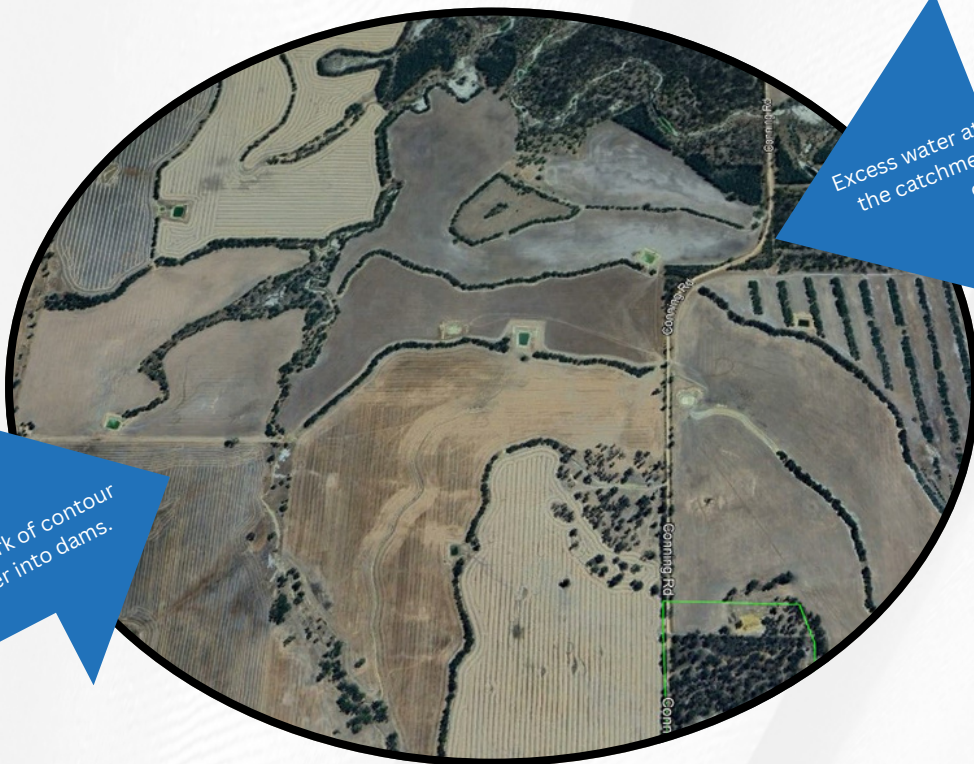


# IMPROVING THE EFFICIENCY OF FARM DAMS

There is a predicted 54% decrease in run off in the South West WA per 1 degree increase in average temperatures. (1)

## CONTOUR BANKS

Contour banks are used to intercept and divert surface water run-off into dams or waterways, to limit soil erosion. Contour banks are usually designed as a set in the middle and upper slopes of hills that have a slope of 2% to 10%. Where possible, broad-based banks are preferred to allow cropping and other machinery to work across the banks.



Inter-connected network of contour banks channels water into dams.

Excess water at the lower levels of the catchment discharge into a creekline.

### Why use contour banks?

Contour banks are an effective and efficient ways of reducing the risk of surface water run-off causing erosion, flooding and waterlogging. Contour banks can also direct surface water into farm dams for farm water self-sufficiency, instead of water running off paddocks and being lost to creeks or salt flats.

### BETTER APPROACH

An integrated, multi-faceted approach to better managing water on-farm has reaped rewards for the Conning family since the first contour banks were installed in 1995.

### Meet the Farmers

**Name:** Rob and Steve Conning  
**Location:** East Katanning, Great Southern  
**Farm Size:** 2,900 acres / 1,150 ha  
**Number of livestock:** 1,700 ewes  
**Ha crop:** 450 ha  
**Number of dams:** 24

Reference: (1) DPIRD



*This project is supported by Katanning Landcare through funding from the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund.*



# CONTROLLING WATER



## CHALLENGES OVERCOME

In the early 1990s, some areas of the Connings' farm were too waterlogged to crop in wet years. Overflowing dams caused problematic flooding across cropping paddocks. This was happening at many dams on the farm.

A contractor with significant knowledge about drainage systems installed the contour banks, with 20 of the farm's 24 dams included in the network.

Steve said: "Quite a few waterlogged areas of between 2 and 10 hectares were recovered and when we get heavy summer storms, the water goes to the nearest dam or seeps away. We don't get the flooding anymore."

More recently, the role of the contour banks has changed slightly with improved tillage methods helping to soak up most of the rain. The contour banks now receive seepage from the paddocks more so than direct run-off during average rainfall events, as well as handling surface run-off from intense rainfall events.

With less rainfall predicted in a drying climate, Steve is looking at converting some end sections of contour banks closest to the dams into roaded catchments to help run more water in lighter rainfall events, while still retaining the majority of the contour bank network for moderate to heavy rainfall events.

Rows of trees were planted and fenced behind the contour banks to help soak up some of the excess water that escapes behind the banks. This section of contour bank nearest the dam has been converted to a roaded catchment to help catch more water in light events.



### Benefits of Contour Banks

- Reduce erosion from surface water run-off.
- Reduce sediment content in run-off.
- Reduce waterlogging at the base of slopes.
- Allow collection and re-use of surface water.
- Lead to increased crop and pasture yields where seasonal waterlogging occurs.
- Reduce flood peak flows.

"The whole farm system is working well to better manage water. It's made areas more productive and reclaimed unproductive land."  
- Steve Conning

## REFLECTIONS

In the 1990s, most of the Connings' neighbours were installing water management features on their farms as well.

The Connings believe that the Carrolup creek system has improved because everyone has better managed their surface water. Steve said there are a lot less bare scald areas in the creeklines, with wheat grasses and samphire vegetation growing again.



# MOVING WATER

## How the system works

Deciding where to move water depends on several factors:

- Rainfall events.
- The time of year.
- Level of water in the main dams.
- Where water has been collected and where it's needed.



**ABOVE:** The water pump is powered by 3 solar panels giving a total of 750 watts. They all sit on a trailer which can be moved around the farm as required. Scott said: "We drag pipes and take the solar pump to shift water from where it is to where it's needed."

The trailer is home-made using what was first a ute chassis which then became a header comb trailer before getting a third lease-on-life to carry the solar pump!

### Tips on Setting up a Consolidation Pumping System

- Preferably position dams high in the landscape so water can be gravity-fed to troughs and tanks instead of being pumped.
- Avoid saline areas at all costs.
- Roaded catchments run cleaner water compared to paddock run-off.

Katanning had a dry spring in 2023. The Newbeys had been pumping water out of the double dams for several months when the property had 34mm of rain during thunderstorms in mid-January 2024. Suddenly the double dams were full again. This demonstrates the importance of freeing up capacity in the low-landscape main dams to take advantage of rainfall events, which can be achieved with consolidation pumping.

## WATER SECURITY GIVES MORE OPTIONS

Productivity improvements can be made when you have water. Scott and Wayne are currently building a 21-pen drought and confinement feeding area with integrated sheep yards and laneways.

Each pen will hold up to 300 sheep and be watered via troughs connected to the consolidation pumping system.

"Being able to move water from dam to dam in the winter, and pump from multiple dams when you have high demand on the pipeline system has been a good combination,"  
-Scott Newbey.

## Less Evaporation

The Newbeys are keenly aware of needing to minimise their water evaporation losses.

"Evaporation in our part of the world is a huge draw on dams. Pumping water from two dams into one dam more than halves the evaporation rate," said Scott.



Water is pumped into this header tank (above) from any of the main dams via the piped network. It is then gravity-fed to stock troughs from the tank. The troughs provide a fresh water option for sheep in paddocks with the eight dry / salty dams.

Header tank water is also used for spraying and fire fighting purposes.





# IMPROVING THE EFFICIENCY OF FARM DAMS

With shallow dams in low rainfall zones, the total annual evaporative loss could be up to 50% of the dam's total storage volume. (1)

## CONSOLIDATION PUMPING

Consolidation pumping involves moving water from a number of small dams to one large dam. This reduces the surface area to volume ratio, keeping the average water temperature cooler and reducing overall evaporation. These are some of the benefits the Newbey brothers sought when they installed their consolidation pumping system in 2021.



Above: The Newbeys have three main dams which supply water to the whole farm via a network of mainly 2" poly pipe. All of the main dams are linked to each other, to header tanks and stock water troughs. The system is set up to provide multiple water-control options, and to reduce evaporation from having water sitting in lots of small dams. Each main dam has different water catchment potential from a combination of roaded catchments, contour banks and paddock run-off.

**Main Dam 1** is the highest in the landscape and is reliant on a double-roaded catchment to fill it. It contains good quality, fresh water. Water was initially pumped into this dam to help fill it after it was installed in March 2021. Being higher in the landscape, this dam can easily gravity-feed water through the piping system into stock troughs and header tanks. It has a 3,000m<sup>2</sup> surface area when full.

**Main Dam 2** is a double-dam positioned at the lowest point in the landscape. They are supplied by a double roaded catchment, two contour banks and paddock run-off. These are the dams from which water is usually pumped in the first instance because they fill first, especially during summer rainfall events when paddock run-off is significant. These two dams have a combined total surface area of about 5,000m<sup>2</sup> when full.

**Meet the Farmers**

Name: Scott and Wayne Newbey, 'Loma Langi'  
 Location: Katanning, Great Southern  
 Farm Size: 2,000 acres / 800 ha purchased in 2021  
 Number of livestock: 11,000 - 14,000 sheep  
 Ha crop: 400 ha  
 Number of dams: 12 of which 8 are going dry or salty.  
 A significant amount of the property is salt-affected.

**Main Dam 3** is mid-point in the landscape. It's supplied by two roaded catchments running east and west along the edge of the paddock, parallel to a road from which it receives run-off via small surface banks connected to each roaded catchment. The dam has good quality, fresh water due to the clean catchments. It has a 2,000m<sup>2</sup> surface area when full.

Reference: (1) Agriculture Victoria



This project is supported by Katanning Landcare through funding from the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund.





THE WOODY SHOP

# Opening Hours

Monday	8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Tuesday	8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Wednesday	8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Thursday	8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Friday	8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday	9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Sunday	Closed



# 1914 ANZAC BISCUITS



First judged in 1981

Makes: 40–50 biscuits



190 g (6½ oz/2 cups) rolled oats  
150 g (5½ oz/1 cup) plain flour  
165 g (5½ oz/¾ cup) sugar  
125 g (4½ oz) butter, cubed

1 large rounded tablespoon golden syrup  
1 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda  
2 tablespoons hot water

- 1 Preheat oven to 160°C (315°F/Gas 2–3). Grease two baking trays.
- 2 Mix together the oats, flour and sugar in a bowl. Melt the butter and golden syrup together, add bicarbonate of soda dissolved in the hot water. Pour into the dry ingredients and mix well.
- 3 Roll into balls the size of a walnut (or a 10-cent piece) and place on the prepared trays. Bake for about 20 minutes until golden. Move biscuit positions while hot. Allow to cool and crisp on tray.







# PUBLIC NOTICE

## Council Meetings for 2024

The Shire of Woodanilling has resolved that Council Meetings will be held on the following dates in 2024:

**No Meeting held in January 2024**

**20 February 2024**

**19 March 2024**

**16 April 2024**

**21 May 2024**

**18 June 2024**

**16 July 2024**

**20 August 2024**

**17 September 2024**

**15 October 2024**

**19 November 2024**

**17 December 2024**

All meetings will be held in the Council Chambers, 3316 Robinson Road, Woodanilling. One of these meeting dates will be held at an alternative location, to be decided within the district.

For further information, please contact the Shire Office on 9823 1506 or by email:

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

**Kellie Bartley**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

25 October 2023



# Public Notice

Mains water supply cannot be guaranteed during a bushfire  
Water Corporation is prepared for bushfire season. However, we cannot guarantee that water pressure or water supply will be maintained in the event of a bushfire. Extreme demand, fire damage and power cuts can all result in a total loss of water.

If you plan to stay and defend your property during a bushfire, you must have your own independent water supply and pumping capability. You cannot rely on mains water.

Details and resources about how to prepare for bushfire season can be found at [mybushfireplan.wa.gov.au](http://mybushfireplan.wa.gov.au). For warnings and advice visit [emergency.wa.gov.au](http://emergency.wa.gov.au).

[watercorporation.com.au](http://watercorporation.com.au)



*care with  
purpose*

## Home Care now available in Woodanilling

Whether you're looking for Home Care services or want to change providers, we are here to help you stay in your own home. Our Home Care services are available in Woodanilling and surrounds, via a funded package or private services.

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*Happy*  
AT HOME

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Contact your local Area Manager, Chloe Turner

0447 469 245    [cturner@summitfertz.com.au](mailto:cturner@summitfertz.com.au)

Shires of Boyup Brook, Katanning, Kojonup, Wagin and Woodanilling.

[www.summitfertz.com.au](http://www.summitfertz.com.au)



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# Home Maintenance & Renovations

Call Greg

## Katanning



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# NEATCARE TREE SERVICES

## TREE LOPPING & PRUNING

Email: [sales@neatcare.com.au](mailto:sales@neatcare.com.au)  
[neatcaretreeservices.com.au](http://neatcaretreeservices.com.au)

Neatcare Tree Services

# 0409 782 628

For all your mechanical repairs and servicing call  
your local mechanic Bob Hyndman Ph: 0438 441  
390



Woodanilling Spreading Service  
Spreading service for Woodanilling & surrounding areas.  
Load cells & GPS, Loader lime, Super, Urea. Pick up from  
CSBP Wagin available



Phone: Tim Brown  
0418 470 920 or 9823 1115  
[timothy.brown@bigpond.com](mailto:timothy.brown@bigpond.com)



# BAD BOY MOWERS

viewing available

152 Beaufort St, Katanning

0459 977 449



THE INDUSTRY STANDARD FOR ZERO-TURN MOWERS

## ZT ELITE

48" DECK	54" DECK	60" DECK
Kohler KT740 725cc 25 hp	Kohler KT745 747cc 26 hp	Kohler KT745 747cc 26 hp
\$12,999 <small>INC GST</small>	\$13,695 <small>INC GST</small>	\$14,295 <small>INC GST</small>

Front axle suspension and seat suspension make the elite range a very smooth ride.

48 and 54 inch deck size machines in stock and ready to go now.

Included in the sale will be a free 1st service and free delivery!!

Total Ag Centre are a family owned and operated business by husband and wife team Kahlia and Damien Stephens.

With over 15 years machinery dealership industry experience, we are well placed to service and support a wide range of agricultural machinery, from small fixed plant to large modern broadacre equipment in a 200 km radius from Katanning.

Our business has grown to develop Total Ag Centre as a local dealership for the KIOTI range of 26hp -140hp tractors and equipment. With full backup and support from PFG Australia we are bringing the full range of quality KIOTI products to the local region. Including and not limited to the Versatile K9 series UTV's up to the premium large platform HX Series. Along with a wide range of attachments for slashing, hoeing, digging or mowing to suit farming, horticulture, property maintenance and grounds care needs.

We are pleased to offer both kioti products and service, as well as maintenance and service to an extensive range of existing customer machinery, particularly Agrifac sprayers. Additionally, all makes of hay and harvest maintenance and breakdown support, as well as being fully licensed air conditioning repair agent.

After sales parts and service support available from our dealership based in Katanning.

Visit our newly launched website at [www.totalagcentre.com.au](http://www.totalagcentre.com.au)



# Anzac Day

## word search

A M E M O R I A L A Z D B T Q O E  
K P P Y W R E A T H B I R S E R L  
J Y R T N U O C T S D G A U C E G  
L R C I T D F E C H I G V R I V U  
Q B W E L G G E F G T E E H F P B  
P L A O C S O L D I E R R X I E W  
S E I C E A S E F I R E Y Y R S I  
E V A O T M H S E B J P Q M C E X  
F M B C D E C B Z S P S O M A R Q  
O A N T E D I K A O X K L C S V A  
A E Z P L A S T P O S T P A M I X  
Z O E W P L J D S Q P R Y Z T C A  
P U G A M S A K L C W N S N L E B  
T H F R E E D O M O P V Y A M X F

soldier  
poppy  
Last Post  
April  
digger  
memorial

Anzac  
medals  
service  
peace  
sacrifice  
bugle

bravery  
country  
wreath  
war  
ceasefire  
freedom



We would love to see new suggestions and ideas for the Wongi.

Do you know someone with an upcoming milestone or a new local to have their birthday added to our calendar or ad put into the Wongi. Perhaps you would like to place an add or make a comment or let us know something interesting.

Email- [shire@woodanilling.wa.gov.au](mailto:shire@woodanilling.wa.gov.au) with your comments, suggestions and updates



Hannah Wilson  
3316 Robinson Rd  
WOODANILLING WA 6316  
Phone: 9823 1506  
**NEW IDEAS ENCOURAGED!!**

**NEXT WONGI - May**  
**Deadline for Articles - 10 May 2024**

### **Advertising Rates 2023/2024**

The below rates are for an A4 page size and in black & white (per month)

Full page \$66.00

Half page \$33.00

1/4 page \$16.50

Business card \$8.25

if you would like to advertise your business in the Wongi, please email  
[cso2@woodanilling.wa.gov.au](mailto:cso2@woodanilling.wa.gov.au)

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