



FEBRUARY 2026



# THE HIGHLIGHTS

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER ADDRESS  
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# SHIRE NOTES

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## WORDS FROM THE SHIRE PRESIDENT AND THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

We hope everyone enjoyed a safe and relaxing festive season, and that the new year has begun positively for you.

### **Welcome to Our New Executive Manager**

In December we were pleased to welcome Judy Stewart, Executive Manager Corporate Services. Judy brings extensive local government experience and is already proving to be a tremendous support as we continue to strengthen our governance and compliance practices. If you haven't yet met her, please take a moment to say hello and make her feel welcome.

### **Australia Day Celebrations**

This year's Australia Day event was a great success, with over 120 community members joining us in the beautifully cool weather. Council once again cooked breakfast for attendees, and thanks to a \$10,000 grant from the Australia Day Council, we were able to add extra fun with inflatable playgrounds, soft-serve ice cream, live music, and our much-loved tug-of-war and thong-throwing competitions.

### **Congratulations to Our 2026 Citizenship Award Recipients**

#### **Active Citizenship Award (Group or Event) – Tom Curtain Event**

The Tom Curtain Event brought more than 400 people together for a family-friendly showcase of rural life, featuring live music, working dog and horse demonstrations, and powerful storytelling. The event not only boosted community spirit but also promoted important messages around mental health, rural resilience, antibullying through Dolly's Dream, and the challenges facing regional communities.



# SHIRE NOTES

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## **Active Citizenship Award (Group or Event) – Woodanilling Rangers Hockey Club**

The Woodanilling Rangers Hockey Club celebrated a strong 2025 season, fielding three senior teams and a middle school side:

- Women's B Grade – Premiers (3-2 win in Robins Grand Final)
- Women's A Grade – Competitive season
- Men's B Grade – Premiers (2-1 win in Williams Grand Final)
- Middle School (Years 7-9) – Grand Finalists

The club continues to grow junior involvement, supported by an exceptional group of volunteers across umpiring, coaching, canteen operations, team management, and the community crop program. A special highlight included Penny Shackley receiving the 2025 UGSHA Women's B-Grade Most Valuable Player award.

## **Community Citizen of the Year (Senior) – Jason and Julene Cronin**

Joint recipients Jason and Julene Cronin were honoured for their decades of service.

Jason has dedicated around 40 years to the Glencoe Bush Fire Brigade, holding roles including Deputy Captain, Captain, and most recently Chief Bushfire Control Officer (2021-2023).

Julene has been a steadfast volunteer in her own right, providing ongoing support to Jason, the Brigade, and the Shire. Their commitment to community safety and service is deeply appreciated.

## **Annual Electors Meeting**

The Annual Electors Meeting on Tuesday 10 February saw a record attendance of community members. We appreciate the high level of interest, and Council will carefully consider all feedback and suggestions provided.

## **New Ninja Obstacle Course Open**

We're excited to announce the opening of the new 'ninja' obstacle course at Centenary Park, completed in mid-February. Supported by Lotterywest funding, the new course offers challenges for all ages and is comfortably shaded for year-round enjoyment.

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# SHIRE NOTES

## Upcoming Projects

The next few months will be busy as we progress several key initiatives:

- **Solar Pump Installation:** Completion of the system at the CBH sump will allow winter rainwater to be pumped to the town dam for irrigation of the oval and Centenary Park during summer.
- **Non-Potable Water Strategy:** Work is underway to develop a strategy focusing on community assets, emergency needs, drought resilience, and environmental considerations—positioning us to pursue future funding opportunities.
- **Road Works:** Capital road projects will commence shortly, including renewals on Robinson Road West and Oxley Road, and targeted resheeting on Douglas, Darby, Church, and Onslow Roads.
- **Public Health Plan and Disability Access and Inclusion Plan:** The Shire is developing its first Public Health Plan and reviewing its Disability Access and Inclusion Plan, and is seeking feedback from residents to identify key priorities, challenges and opportunities. We encourage all residents to complete the Survey which can be found in this newsletter, on our website and will be distributed next week (or drop in to get a copy from the Shire). The survey closes 4pm, Friday 27 March.

## A Curious Community Mystery... Missing Wheelie Bins!

We need your help.

A supply of empty recycling bins is kept at the rubbish tip for residents without collection service to swap full bins for empty ones. Unfortunately, several of these have recently gone missing, leaving us unable to provide the usual “swap and go” service.

If you’ve accidentally taken an extra bin, please return it to the tip during opening hours or to the Works Depot. Your help in keeping this service running is much appreciated.

Russel Thomson  
Shire President



Anika Serer  
Chief Executive Officer



# SHIRE NOTES

## AUSTRALIA DAY PHOTOS



# SHIRE NOTES

## AUSTRALIA DAY PHOTOS





# SHIRE NOTES

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## PUBLIC HEALTH PLAN AND DISABILITY AND ACCESS INCLUSION PLAN SURVEY 2026

The Shire of Woodanilling is developing its first Public Health Plan and reviewing its Disability Access and Inclusion Plan. Local governments play a vital role in creating healthy environments by way of providing safe and accessible public spaces, performing compliance checks, providing environmental monitoring and investigative services, enabling inclusivity, and promoting active lifestyles. Additionally, whilst a lot of health functions are outside the scope and capacity of local government, Council can advocate for improved health services provided by State and Federal Governments with the aim of improving local health outcomes. The Shire is seeking feedback from residents to help identify key health priorities, challenges, and opportunities. By responding to the questions in this survey, your input will continue to assist in identifying and guiding actions that address local needs and contribute to a healthy and inclusive community. Please complete this survey (or use the QR code to complete the survey online) and submit to the Shire of Woodanilling **by 4.00pm, Friday, 27 March 2026**. If completing a paper copy please return to: Shire of Woodanilling, PO Box 99 or 3316 Robinson Road, Woodanilling or via email to: [emcs@woodanilling.wa.gov.au](mailto:emcs@woodanilling.wa.gov.au). If you need assistance, please contact us on 9823 1506.

**Anika Serer**

**Chief Executive Officer**



# SHIRE NOTES

## Public Health Plan and Disability and Access Inclusion Plan Survey 2026

Please tick applicable

1. What age range are you in?  15-19  20-24  25-34  35-44  45-54  55-64  65-74  75-84  85+

2. Where do you live?  Rural  Townsite  Local Rural (small acreage properties - edge of townsite)

3. How do you identify:  Male  Female  Non-Binary  Self describe \_\_\_\_\_  
 Prefer not to say

4. Background:  Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander  Non-indigenous Australian  
 Culturally/Linguistically Diverse  Live with disability  
 Carer  Other \_\_\_\_\_

5. How concerned are you about the *above-State average* risk factors for your own health?

Smoking (including vaping):  Very  Somewhat  Not particularly  Not at all

Physical activity:  Very  Somewhat  Not particularly  Not at all

Obesity:  Very  Somewhat  Not particularly  Not at all

Alcohol Use:  Very  Somewhat  Not particularly  Not at all

Dietary Inadequacy:  Very  Somewhat  Not particularly  Not at all

Injury (transport accidents/intentional self-harm):  Very  Somewhat  Not particularly  Not at all

6. How important are the following factors to you for living a healthy and happy life in your community?

	Low Importance	Medium Importance	High Importance
Accessing community recreation facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Being physically active	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Accessing healthy food options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Safer communities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Injury prevention	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Walking and cycling paths	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Parks, playgrounds, and open spaces	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Accessing mental and general health services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Participating in community activities and events	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community vaccinations and health screening	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Environmental health protection (i.e. mosquito control, good quality air)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Emergency preparedness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7. In your opinion, how much do the following health issues impact your community? Please rate each issue on the scale below.

# SHIRE NOTES

	Not at All	Slightly	Moderately	Very	Extremely
Harmful alcohol consumption	<input type="radio"/>				
Illicit substance use (e.g. Marijuana, Methamphetamine)	<input type="radio"/>				
Tobacco smoking or vaping	<input type="radio"/>				
Injury from accidental falls	<input type="radio"/>				
Physical inactivity	<input type="radio"/>				
Overweight/obesity	<input type="radio"/>				
Poor nutrition	<input type="radio"/>				
Low immunisation rates	<input type="radio"/>				
Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI's)	<input type="radio"/>				
Communicable diseases (e.g. flu)	<input type="radio"/>				
Chronic diseases (e.g. diabetes, heart disease)	<input type="radio"/>				
Poor housing conditions	<input type="radio"/>				
General environmental health conditions (e.g. water safety, waste management, litter)	<input type="radio"/>				
Air quality	<input type="radio"/>				
Mosquito control	<input type="radio"/>				
Poor mental health conditions (e.g. stress, anxiety, depression)	<input type="radio"/>				
Social isolation and poor social connection	<input type="radio"/>				

**8. What would you like to see occur that could improve health and liveability in our community for your age group, or others, within the scope of the Shire of Woodanilling’s capacity to provide or advocate for?**

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# SHIRE NOTES

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## **Disability and Access Inclusion Plan Review**

A Disability and Access Inclusion Plan (DAIP) ensures that people have equitable access and inclusion in services, events, buildings and facilities, information, employment opportunities, consultation processes, and complaints mechanisms; and requires local governments to proactively identify and remove barriers to participation. The Shire is currently reviewing and updating its DAIP, and seeks your input:

Website: <https://www.woodanilling.wa.gov.au/documents/585/disability-access-and-inclusion-plan-2016-2020>

**Barriers to Access:** Have you experienced any barriers to access or inclusivity?  Yes  No If Yes, please provide detail \_\_\_\_\_

**Public Participation:** Are public consultations and events held in formats and locations that allow you to attend and participate fully?  Yes  No If No, please provide detail \_\_\_\_\_

**Physical Accessibility:** Are buildings and facilities easy to enter, exit, and move around in (e.g., ramps, wide doorways, accessible car parks)?  Yes  No If No, please describe \_\_\_\_\_

**Information Accessibility:** Is information provided in formats you can readily access?  Yes  No

If No, please describe \_\_\_\_\_

**Service Quality:** When accessing Shire services, do staff provide services that meet your expectations and specific needs?  Yes  No

If No, please describe \_\_\_\_\_

**Equal Employment Opportunities (EEO):** Are you aware that EEO or existing inclusion supports for people with disability exist within the Shire of Woodanilling?  Yes  No

**Complaint Processes:** Are processes for lodging a complaint or providing feedback easy to find and use?  Yes  No

**Thank you for your input to the Public Health Plan & Disability Access and Inclusion Plan.  
Your feedback is appreciated.**

## EARTHQUAKE INFORMATION

Small earthquake swarms have been happening across the region for many years including the ones that occurred back in 2018 at Lake Muir, 2022 Arthur River and currently the Gnowangerup swarm.

Earthquakes detected by Geoscience Australia will automatically appear on the Emergency WA website and app. If you have watch zones set up in your app you'll receive alerts directly to your mobile device showing the location, magnitude and depth of the earthquake.

### During An Earthquake

- If indoors – Follow the DROP, COVER, HOLD ON sequence and stay indoors until the earthquake has stopped. Cover your head and neck with your arms and shelter under a sturdy desk or table. If there isn't safe shelter nearby, crouch alongside a bench or an inside wall. Hold onto your shelter and be prepared to move with it until the shaking stops.
- If outside – Follow the DROP, COVER, HOLD ON sequence, but check your surroundings to stay away from windows, overhead structures, awnings, concrete fencing, bridges, power lines, trees etc.
- If driving – Park in a safe place and stay inside your car until the shaking stops. Avoid stopping close to power lines, and other hazards. When safe, continue your route giving way to emergency vehicles. If power lines fall on your vehicle stay inside until a trained person removes the wires.

### After an Earthquake

- Stay at home if there is no indication of damage to the building. Open a door to secure an exit.
  - Evacuate the building only if walls, ceiling or roof have visible damage. Take your emergency kit.
  - If its nighttime use a torch instead of a naked flame.
  - Shut off gas bottles and power if there is potential damage to lines or pipes
  - Check on neighbours
  - If you have a life threatening situation, call Triple 000
  - Stay informed through official information sources Emergency WA App, radio, TV, or other methods available at the time. Use a portable battery radio that should be in your emergency kit.
  - Contact family and friends using text messages. Avoid using the telephone calls for non-essential and non-emergency calls, as this could overload telephone lines.
  - If you need help to remove debris to make the area safe, call the SES 132 500.
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# SHIRE NOTES

## After an Earthquake

- Be aware calls are prioritised first to assist those most in need, so it may take several hours or days before assistance can arrive.
- Contact your insurance company to report any damage or loss as soon as possible. Check with them before entering a contract with cleaning or repair contractors to avoid additional costs.
- If your property is a heritage protected building check with your Local Government to determine if any heritage approvals are needed before repair work can be undertaken.

Further information can be located on the following link or a paper copy of information can be picked up from the Shire office <https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/hazard-information/earthquake>

Geoscience - [Earthquakes@GA](mailto:Earthquakes@GA)



## A REMINDER ABOUT RESPONSIBLE CAT OWNERSHIP

### **Cat Registration**

As a cat owner you are required to register your cat with the local government once it reaches 6 months of age. In order to be registered your cat is required to be sterilised and microchipped

The registration period is from 1 November to 31 October.

Registration renewals are forwarded to registered animal owners in October each year.

1 year and 3-year animal registrations expire 31 October regardless of the month your animal is registered (any 1-year new annual registrations purchased from the 1 June to 31 October, the fee payable to the Shire is half the normal price as the registration will expire on the 31 October of that same year).

If you hold a pension card, you are eligible for a 50% discount on registration fees.

Proof of identity and pension card must be sighted.

Please note: Proof of sterilisation and microchip is required.

For fees and charges, please visit the Shire of Woodanilling website.

If you are struggling to meet the cost of sterilising your cat and a concession card holder, there are programs like Spay It Forward ([wapetproject.com.au](http://wapetproject.com.au)) that may be able to assist. Your veterinary clinic may also know of other programs or support available.

# SHIRE NOTES

## RECOGNISE THE VOLUNTEERS WHO SUPPORT OUR CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Nominations for the Mike Stidwell Medal are now OPEN!

Across the Great Southern region, our sporting clubs and associations continue to grow and thrive thanks to the dedication and commitment of volunteers who work behind the scenes. For over 25 years, the Mike Stidwell Medal has recognised the remarkable contributions of individuals who strengthen our sporting community through their leadership and service in sports administration.

Nominations for the Mike Stidwell Medal are now open, and we encourage you to put forward someone whose dedication deserves to be celebrated. Whether they manage club operations, coordinate volunteers, oversee governance, or simply step up whenever needed - this is your opportunity to acknowledge their contribution.

To learn more about the award and to lodge a nomination, please visit:

<https://www.cits.wa.gov.au/department/regions/great-southern/mike-stidwell-medal>

Nominations must be received by midnight Monday 20 April 2026.

If you require any further information or assistance with the online nomination process, please contact the CITS Great Southern Office on 9892 0100 or [greatsouthern@cits.wa.gov.au](mailto:greatsouthern@cits.wa.gov.au)



# SHIRE NOTES

## 2026 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Woodanilling Shire wishes to advise the following dates for the 2026 Ordinary Meetings of Council starting at 5pm

17 February 2026

17 March 2026

21 April 2026

19 May 2026

16 June 2026

21 July 2026

18 August 2026

15 September 2026

20 October 2026

17 November 2026

15 December 2026



# SHIRE NOTES

## How To Sort Your **WASTE**



[recycleright.wa.gov.au/a-z](http://recycleright.wa.gov.au/a-z)





# COMMUNITY

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## WOODANILLING CWA

A new year begins and with it, our AGM meeting held on February 16th. I was reelected President with Colette Annice filling the Secretary/Treasurer roles. Our calendar of events already has volunteering at Woolorama (5th,6th March), Anzac day (25th April), Bloom Festival (Sept.) and Christmas in the Park(Dec.) pencilled in. We are available for other catering activities primarily to support our Woodanilling community.

Playgroup also recommenced in the cottage and the happy chatter and children and Mums brightens every second Wednesday morning.

Robyn's craft group meets every Wednesday afternoon and we decided to 'make with a purpose', so Feelie Hearts are on the go!!! Anyone is welcome, any craft to share.

Woody Action will be meeting soon to get projects moving to enhance the townscape.

If you have any suggestions or concerns, and, CWA can help, give us a call. Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of the month. If you can't make it but have ideas, contact one of our members. We're here for you.

Regards Pauline.




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## SHORT MAT BOWLS

Anyone can join! Bowls available. Come and socialise on Monday afternoons at 2.00p.m. at the Woodanilling Recreation Centre.

Contact Pauline for details or just turn up!!




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## TO BE ADDED TO THE WONGI EMAIL LIST

If you would like to be added to the Wongi email list to receive future editions straight to your inbox, please email [shire@woodanilling.wa.gov.au](mailto:shire@woodanilling.wa.gov.au)

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# COMMUNITY

## CWA SENIORS CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The recent Seniors Christmas Lunch was a great success, with many attendees sharing positive feedback about the day and praising the delicious meal provided. Guests expressed their appreciation to the Woodanilling CWA for organising such an enjoyable and welcoming event for the community.

The Shire of Woodanilling proudly supported the lunch through sponsorship, helping make the celebration possible and ensuring local seniors could come together to enjoy good food, conversation, and festive spirit.

Pictured at the event are Shane De Souza, Steve Fitzpatrick, Chris Berry, and Harry Coutts, who were among those enjoying the day.

The Shire thanks the CWA Woodanilling for their continued dedication to supporting the community and creating meaningful local events.



# RECIPES

## ROAST PUMPKIN & FETA SALAD WITH HONEY BALSAMIC DRESSING

### INGREDIENTS

For the salad:

- ½ a medium butternut pumpkin (about 800g), peeled and cubed
- Olive oil
- Salt & pepper
- 100g feta cheese, crumbled
- ¼ cup pepitas (pumpkin seeds) or walnuts
- A handful of rocket or baby spinach
- Optional: ½ red onion, thinly sliced and lightly pickled in vinegar

For the dressing:

- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tbsp balsamic vinegar
- 1 tsp honey
- 1 tsp Dijon mustard
- Salt & pepper to taste

#### Step 1:

Preheat oven to 200°C (fan-forced).

#### Step 2:

Toss pumpkin cubes in olive oil, salt, and pepper. Spread on a baking tray and roast for 25–30 minutes until golden and tender.

#### Step 3:

While pumpkin roasts, toast pepitas or walnuts in a dry pan for a few minutes until fragrant (watch closely so they don't burn).

#### Step 4:

Make the dressing: whisk together olive oil, balsamic, honey, mustard, and a pinch of salt and pepper.

#### Step 5:

Assemble the salad: layer roasted pumpkin, rocket or spinach, crumbled feta, toasted nuts/seeds, and onion if using. Drizzle with dressing just before serving.



# COMMUNITY

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Did you know that we have 2 JP's in Woodanilling.

Ray Baxter - 0428 525 530

Russel Thomson- 0419 950 217



## SUPPORT OUR LOCAL WOODANILLING BUSINESS



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

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0447 469 245**



# PETER RUNDLE MLA

DEPUTY LEADER OF THE NATIONALS WA

MEMBER FOR ROE

NARROGIN

☎ 08 9881 1225

📍 83 Federal Street

✉ peter.rundle@mp.wa.gov.au

ESPERANCE

☎ 08 9071 6555

📍 107 Dempster Street

📘 @PeterRundleRoe

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## WONGI CONTRIBUTORS

All contributions are to be sent to the new Wongi email or to the volunteers listed below; or may be left at the Woodanilling Store in a box provided or handed into the Shire office. Any queries, comments or complaints are to be directed to the Wongi Volunteer.

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## WONGI CONTACT

For any inquiries, please contact Ciara Whitmore at 3316 Robinson Rd, Woodanilling WA 6316, or by phone at 9823 1506.

*NEW IDEAS ENCOURAGED!!*

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

By chance do you know someone with upcoming births, marriages, milestones, new locals to have their birthdays added or ad put into the Wongi. Any comments in passing, interesting activities happening in Woody?

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

All contributions are to be sent to the new Wongi email or to the volunteers listed below; or may be left at the Woodanilling Store in a box provided or handed into the Shire office. Any queries, comments or complaints are to be directed to the Wongi Volunteer.

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## ADVERTISING RATES 2025/2026

For black & white A4 advertisements per month:

Full page: \$66.00 - Half page: \$33.00 - 1/4 page: \$16.50 - Business card: \$8.25

To advertise in the Wongi, email: [shire@woodanilling.wa.gov.au](mailto:shire@woodanilling.wa.gov.au)

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**IF UNCLAIMED**

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