



The Cuby News

Publication by The Shire of Cuballing
PO Box 13 Cuballing WA 6311

Monthly publication for Cuballing, Yornaning and Popanyinning

November 2017

The Shire of Cuballing would like to thank Deb Hopper and the Popanyinning Progress Association for producing our local, monthly newsletter *Cuby News*. For the past 4½ years Deb has put together a great publication, featuring local content and pictures that have brought our community together. Through Deb's editorship, the production values of the *Cuby News* increased to be the equal of any community newsletter in the region.

Inspired by what Deb built the *Cuby News* into, the Shire of Cuballing wants to continue the publication of a monthly newsletter. The Council believes the local news, publicity for local community groups and events and local advertising is important for our Shire

Shire staff will now prepare the monthly newsletter and continue to print and distribute *The Cuby News* to local postal addresses. Local residents or those who live outside the Shire can obtain a copy by email if they wish. The Shire will continue to publish *The Cuby News* on the Shire of Cuballing website each month.

This edition of *The Cuby News* does not include any advertising from local businesses. The Council will consider including advertising in future editions of *The Cuby News* at the November Ordinary Council Meeting.

For all queries about *The Cuby News*, if you have a suggestion or a story for publishing call into the Shire Office in Cuballing, call on 08 9883 6031 or email enquiries@cuballing.wa.gov.au.

Thank
You!

FIRE SAFETY — PROHIBITED BURNING

Due to local weather conditions the prohibited burning period has been extended to 15th November 2017. Residents can obtain a permit to light a fire from their local Fire Control Officer until 14th November 2017

CAN WE FIT



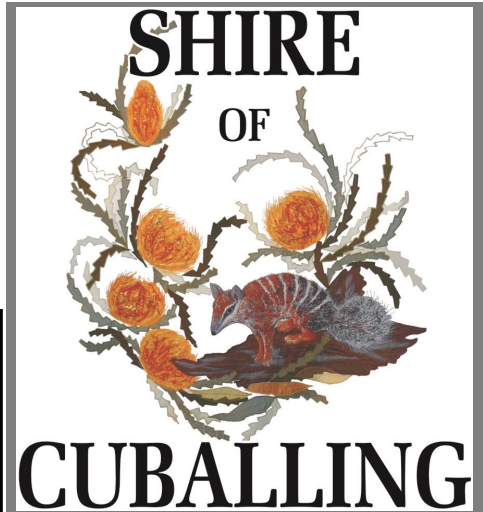


WILL WE FIT?
 THROUGH YOUR GATES
 UNDER YOUR TREES
 AND CAN WE TURN
 AROUND (30M)

FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS

Chief BFCO	Anthony Mort	0429 898 214
Deputy Chief BFCO	Graeme Dent	0427 890 068
Popanyinning East	Justin Page	0427 884 032
Popanyinning Town	Fred Chapman	0456 601 827
Popanyinning West	Craig Cousins	0427 870 040
Cuballing East	Mike Burges Rob Harris	0427 836 045 0458 939 097
Cuballing West	Nelson Young	0427 845 255
Shire of Cuballing	Gary Sherry Bruce Brennan	0427 836 031 0427 836 063

Office Opening Hours:
 Monday—Thursday,
 8.30am—4.30pm
 Friday,
 8.30am—4.00pm



COUNCILLOR CONTACTS

- Cr Mark Conley**.....0417 503 343
 president@cuballing.wa.gov.au
- Cr Eliza Dowling**.....0488 775 095
 t.w.dowling@bigpond.com
- Cr Scott Ballantyne**....0418 814 761
 gunnastay@bigpond.com
- Cr Dawson Bradford**....0427 877 055
 hillcroftbradford@gmail.com
- Cr Tim Haslam**.....0429 112 976
 haslams1@bordnet.com.au
- Cr Roger Newman**..... 0428 836 036
 roger@lintonparkfarms.com

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Thursday 19th October 2017
 Monday 23rd October 2017
 Thursday 16th November 2017
 Thursday 21st December 2017

All meetings are open to the public and will commence at 2.00pm with fifteen minute Public Question Time at the commencement of each meeting.

Agenda's for each meeting are included on the Shire website by the weekend prior to each meeting.

Minutes of all Council meetings are available on the Shire website as soon as possible after each meeting.

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 www.cuballing.wa.gov.au

President's Pen

In recent months Council has had a focus on long term issues for our Shire and has started a process that identifies potential projects. Also tying in with this work has been movie nights and discussions in Popanyinning and Cuballing show casing how other small rural townships have taken the initiative to improve and build their communities. In all the examples community groups were the drivers behind the success with support from their Council. It is a model that we know works and one that the Cuballing Tennis Club used well to upgrade and improve their facilities. As a Council we love these projects because we are helping deliver what the community wants.

I encourage all our community groups to talk with the shire if they are considering projects to improve facilities or participation. You never know what we might be able to achieve.

One of Council's identified projects is Yornaning Dam. The site was developed as a picnic area around 20 years ago but has become a busy unauthorised camping ground. The popularity of the area has resulted in degradation of the natural environment as the camper's spread further into the bush and remove fallen timber for camp fires. The walk trails have become less distinguishable and some of the firebreaks are being used as four wheel drive and motorbike recreational access.

The improvement's to Yornaning Dam will take several years but as a start, the Shire will clearly define vehicle access and block other possible entry points. Other ideas floated were to allow camping and design an area similar to Congelin camping ground where there is a circular roadway with caravan and camping sites around the perimeter with camp kitchen and ablution block in the middle. Community input is needed and I will be calling a meeting of interested people in the second half of November to kick ideas around and discuss further. Keep an eye out for date and time.

Please call on 0417 503343 if I can help with any Shire matters.

Mark Conley
Shire President

Rates Incentive Prize Winners for 2017

Shire President, Cr Mark Conley, recently completed the prize draw for the Council's Rates Incentive Prize Winners for 2017:

1st Prize Winner – Gail Murdoch – two nights accommodation studio hotel style ocean view room at Quality Resort Sorrento Beach

2nd Prize Winner – Stanley Osborne – one nights accommodation for two including a bottle of sparkling on arrival & fully cooked breakfast at Country Comfort Inter City Perth

3rd Prize Winner – Paul & Jennifer Olsen – one nights accommodation at Windsor Lodge Como

Election of Shire President, Deputy Shire President

At the Special Council Meeting held on Monday 23rd September, Cr Mark Conley was re-elected as Shire President unopposed. Cr Conley, first elected as Shire President in 2013 will serve a two year term as Shire President through until 2019.

Cr Eliza Dowling was also re-elected as Deputy Shire President unopposed. Cr Dowling was first elected as Deputy Shire President in 2015 and will also serve in this role until 2019.

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2018 SHIRE OF CUBALLING CITIZENSHIP AWARD

The Shire of Cuballing's Citizen of the Year Award highlights active citizenship, outstanding contribution to the local community and Australian pride and spirit.

The three award categories available are

- outstanding community contribution by a local citizen;
- outstanding community contribution by a local citizen under 25 years of age; and
- outstanding community contribution by a local group or community event.

The winners will be announced at the Australia Day Breakfast function on 26th January 2018.

Local residents are encouraged to nominate an inspiring community member or group from the Shire of Cuballing for this award.

Completed nominations need to be lodged at the Shire by 5th December 2017

Nomination forms are available at the Shire and for more information please contact 9883 6031.

COUNCIL SHORTS

At their October Ordinary Meeting, the Council:

- Adopted the 2016/2017 Annual Report and set the date for the Annual Electors Meeting for the 19th November 2017 at 6.30pm in the Shire of Cuballing Council Chambers;
- Adopted the 2017-2032 Strategic Resource Plan and an Integrated Workforce Plan;
- Agreed on the next steps for the Wheatbelt South Aged Housing Alliance, including a grant application for the Building Better Regions Fund;
- Adopted the Shire of Cuballing Local Planning Strategy. The Strategy will now be referred to the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage for approval. A copy of the Local Planning Strategy is available for viewing at the Shire Office or online for comment.

The complete minutes of all Council Meetings are available on the Shire Website or at the Shire Office.

GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS 6:30 pm, Thursday, 16th November 2017

In accordance with section 5.27 of the Local Government Act (1995), notice is hereby given that a General Meeting of Electors of the Shire of Cuballing will be held at the Shire of Cuballing Administration Centre, Campbell Street Cuballing, on Thursday 16th November 2017 commencing at 6:30 pm.

Order of Business

1. To receive the Annual Report for the year ended 30th June 2017.

General Business

Electors are invited to raise items of general business, which they may wish the meeting to discuss. To allow complex questions to be answered at the meeting, notice of such questions should be lodged in writing at least two working days prior to the meeting.

Copies of the Annual Report 2016/17 are now available upon request at the Shire office during normal business hours and are also available on the Shire website.

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UPCOMING EVENTS - November

Cuballing Senior's Day

1st November 2017

Where: Cuballing AG Hall

Time: 10.30am -2.30pm

Information Session hosted by Julie from Narrogin Cottage Homes followed by a catered lunch and light activities



RSVP is essential for catering purposes

Bus service is available from Popo to Cuballing and back again.

RSVP 27th October 2017 to 98836 031

cdo@cuballing.wa.gov.au

Yornaning Dam

Community Consultation

Have any ideas on the Yornaning Dam?

Join us at the Cuballing Hall

Wednesday Nov 22nd

7pm

UPCOMING EVENTS - December

Thank a Volunteer Day

2017

Tuesday December 5th, 2017

6.00pm

Popanyinning Railway Station

Presentation followed by a community BBQ - all are invited

CUBALLING



For further info contact

Cuballing Shire office on 98836031

Family Movie Night

at Cuby

ALEC BALDWIN

THE BOSS BABY



COOKIES ARE FOR CLOSERS

Date: Saturday 9th Dec at 7pm

Location: Cuby Rec Centre

Sausage sizzle & drink \$4.00 or BYO picnic

BYO rugs and chairs



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CUBALLING TENNIS CLUB GRAND OPENING

On Saturday 14th October the Cuballing Tennis Club Open Day was held for the 2017/18 season. This was combined with the official opening of our new clubroom by Shire of Cuballing representatives Eliza Dowling and Bruce Brennan together with Life Members from the club.

The Cuballing Shire have been extremely supportive of the club's endeavours to upgrade our facilities and over the past 2 years have provided us with a clubroom, fenced around the club and carpark, painted the clubroom and concreted between the club and the courts. We now have facilities that our members are proud of and they will be enjoyed for many years to come.



Our Open Day was celebrated by an afternoon of good tennis. The many kids in attendance enjoyed the playground and spent hours using the ball machine while numerous spectators enjoyed afternoon tea and a barbeque dinner to finish off the day.

We would love to invite all members of the community to join us in enjoying social tennis in Cuballing. Please contact bevan.jodie@iinet.net.au or see our Facebook page (Cuballing Tennis Club) to see what's coming up at the club.

GOLF UPDATE

G`day Sports Fans. Yes that's right golf has finished, and all done and dusted until next year.

As the rain fell out of the sky golfers pushed on through the barrier and challenged mother nature with their skill and tolerance to whatever was thrown at them.

It was a close fight over the season who was going to be best qualifying putting the player in the best position on the ladder for becoming a club champion. There are 5 qualifying rounds and the Captain (HOWIE THE YOWIE) takes the best 2 scores adds them together and creates the top to bottom player placement. This, like I said is over the year so while players are trying to get best position on the ladder, every other week a stableford or par round could be on just to keep them in tune.

The big weekend on the 3rd weekend in August is the Cuballing Cup. The 4bbb is played on the Saturday and then the men's and ladies combine, and the club house is full of cheer and joy. A golf star emerged out of the rain that day with Brian Hare Hitting 88/24/64 nett giving Brian the opportunity to put his hands on the prestigious CUBY CUP.

The weekend was the usual good numbers and the finest cuisine cooked by the Cuballing ladies. You must give it to the girls they don't play golf, but they relentlessly make the effort to feed the hungry mob after the game. WELL DONE LADIES.

The year goes fast and before you know it Championships are over and closing day all done as well. Champion A grade this year after chasing this win for decades was The Baker boy Wayne McLeish. He Fought hard to crush the seasoned player Rob Harris after 20 holes. B grade Winner, Mike Clark who punched the lights out of the feared Terry Clark who by all reports had worn himself out early and just couldn't go the distance. C Grade winner Graeme Dent after getting back on the pro tour emerged by dragging Peter George down to his level the stomping on his fingers so Pete couldn't hold a club. Nasty stuff these seniors get up to always ready to kill someone.

Closing day was a 13-hole Ambrose and 15 players turned up. The winners Howies crew emerged with a cheating score to take the crown. The evening went on with a BBQ tea and Presentations and funny stories were the flavour of the night. Hobby's and Wife's all had fun.

Well Done to all the winners this year and unfortunate for those who just didn't make it. Better luck next time. To all the members at Cuballing there will be 9 Hole golf every Sat starting Nov 4th hitting off at 2pm, we will keep playing while weather is kind.

Thanks again to all our helpers, and players for a momentous year. To all the Clubs Sponsors Thank you for the support.

Until Next time, Keep Golfing-- Grip it and Rip It

CUBALLING WAR MEMORIAL *by Stephen Bowes*

As we continue to illuminate the Cuballing Roll of Honour, we come to the inscription "J Mortimer". This name is almost certainly a typographical error, which we may now seek to correct.

James Alfred Mortimore had come to Australia from Devon, England as a twenty two year old. Ten years later, with the British Empire at war with Germany, Austria-Hungary and Ottoman Turkey, John took his loyal oath in September 1915 at Perth under the watchful eye of one Lieutenant Weaver, and became a soldier of the King in the Australian Imperial Force. His small stature which may have prevented his enlistment at the outbreak of the war, was no longer deemed reason to exclude him, such was the demand for fresh recruits to fill the ranks of those who had fallen at Gallipoli.

4256 Private James Mortimore was described in his enlistment papers as Church of England, a single man whose occupation was as a teamster, five feet three inches tall, one hundred and forty pounds with fresh complexion, blue eyes and brown hair. He embarked at Fremantle on January 17, 1916 on HMAT Borda with the 13th Reinforcements to the 11th Battalion. Among his embarking comrades were William Henry Martens (railway fireman from Narrogin), William O'Rourke (farm labourer of East Narrogin) and Henry George Ryan (stationer of Pingelly). The new troops arrived at Suez on February 9, and after a short stay in Egypt, left Alexandria on March 20 aboard HMT Transylvania. After transit from Marseilles to Etaples in France, James was transferred to the 1st Pioneer Battalion at the end of May.

Pioneer battalions were filled from soldiers with practical skills and trades who could assist the Royal Australian Engineers units in their duties, often involving construction of front line installations, such as trenches. We know little of James brief time in Flanders with the 1st Pioneers, only that this was known as a 'nursery sector', a quiet part of the front line where battalions new to battle could be introduced to static trench warfare. Never the less, the artillery of both sides was active in raining death and destruction onto their opposition's trenches. James was killed in action on June 16, 1916. The inventory of his effects returned to his father in England comprised three identity discs, letters, photos, four badges, a mirror, a wallet and a belt. James Alfred Mortimore was buried in the Rue-Petillon Military Cemetery at Fleurbaix, in northern France.

CUBY MEN'S SHED UPDATE

With the Trash and Treasure behind us we're looking at several activities that are coming up.

Some of these involve more Shed/Shire cooperation- great stuff.

We have made space in the workshop by selling several tractors and we are finishing off the restoration of the Champion tractor.

When that one is out of the door, we'll start on the building of the meeting/smoko room which will involve a bit of a reshuffle of the spray painting area.

With the woodworking part becoming operational and a new blacksmithing member on board we have been contemplating some new activities.

These could be loosely covered under the term "garden ornaments" such as sculptures, planter boxes, tin men etc.

Mind you, we still will do many other things such as a secret event that we are developing, the odd truck and other work for and in the community.

Tuesday the 31st of October, John Buise (President) and I (Secretary) will attend the West Australian Men's Shed Association (WAMSA) Zone meeting in Naremben where representatives of 15 Wheatbelt Sheds will discuss Shed matters; democracy in action.

The concept of bringing the Men's Shed to aged care, such as we started 1.5 years ago at Residency by Dillons in Narrogin, is starting to take off with other Sheds doing similar things. We always welcome new members with new ideas and skills; even if you have no skills and you're a nice enough bloke, you're welcome too.

Carry Van Empel

Our Heritage — Schools of the District

YORNANING SCHOOL SITE REMEMBERED

From the Narrogin Observer 1989—Provided by Win & Lock Burges

On April 9 another of those nostalgic events occurred commemorating the history of small hush schools. A plaque was unveiled on a cairn marking the site of the Yornaning School and its separate teachers' quarters.

Over many months, Mrs Win Burges of Cuballing, had done all the necessary spadework by obtaining the details of the teachers who taught, and the pupils who attended, from the school's opening in 1909 till its closure in 1943.

By public notices, 'numerous letters and phone calls following information by word of mouth, she was able to locate a great many of these people who accepted her proposal to bring a picnic lunch to the Yornaning hall, share memorabilia and revive old friendships.

About 90 people gathered quietly, filtering in by all roads, even one party by small aircraft to this isolated little spot on the Great Southern Highway.

If Win and Lock Burges had ever doubted that their months of painstaking work had been worthwhile they had their rewards in the obvious delight of this group of mostly senior citizens.

For a generation that had been brought up in the home to be seen and not heard, whose schooling entailed endless hours of attentive listening to a teacher, whose opinion was never to be questioned, this group excelled in making itself heard.

Their stories and their memories reflected the vicissitudes of life in this State over decades - the pictorial and personal reminiscences offered an insight into the life of the times. It is now 80 years since Yornaning school opened its doors and 46 since it closed.

It says much for the maintenance of records in the Education Department that Mr Walter

Gable, known for his research into small bush schools, was able to supply the names of all 10 teachers and the 140 students who had walked through its doors.

From the perspective of today's student, life was simple, even deprived, but in the final analysis it is the calibre of the end product which determines if it was worthwhile.

These little one-teacher schools had a character of their own; they tend to foster self-reliance, industry and group cooperation.

In that all important but elusive function in education, character building, this school seems to have been as successful as any.

The oldest student at the gathering was Mrs Violet Lyne (nee Mead), from Glen Forrest, who had attended in 1911. She led the parade of other students eager to jump on the hall dais and tell of their cheeky exploits.

A fitting backdrop to this was the array of enlarged, old black and white photos supplied by Walter Gable. They historically recorded the ubiquitous jarrah weatherboard schools, with the tank on the stand at the side, and often the horse and cart drawn up in front.

Attracting much interest from today's farming families was the plan of Yornaning townsite, drawn up by the Surveyor-General Harry F. Johnston, and gazetted in 1907, with its school site of 2 acres 3 roods and 22 perches.

At 2pm the group moved a few chains north of the hall to this actual school site where Mrs Marjorie Alcock, the teacher who closed the school because of falling numbers, unveiled the brass plaque on its rock plinth.

The last roll call was made and 19 students answered to align themselves around her. Her daughter, Mrs Pat Ballantyne, read a history she had written of her two years at Yornaning School in 1942 and 1943.

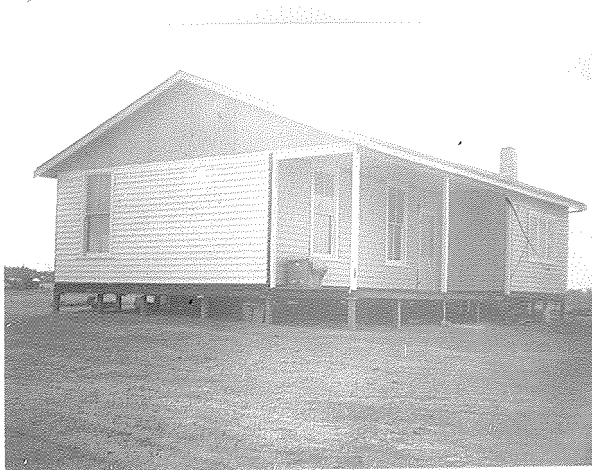
In Western Australia, at this time in history 56% of all schools were one teacher.

Ten years later the ratio had dropped to 23% as the policy of consolidation of schools brought to an end the era of little bush schools except in isolated pockets.

Then Mrs Barbara Allen, a representative of the Henderson family, one of the largest groups there, vying with the Christensen's, read a history of the Yornaning School's development since an application for its establishment was made by the Yornaning Progress Association on September 29, 1907.

The school and quarters were built under contract by Parker and Company for a total cost of 450 pounds.

Mrs Burges has plans for a similar reunion for the old schools of Aldinga and Cuballing



Pictured Left The Yornaning School House was shifted to the Young's property. Before its relocation the school house was used as temporary accommodation on the original school site at Yornaning

The Yornaning school was relocated for a supplementary school room at Shackleton.

Yornaning School Photo 1936

BR—Lila Bean, Nellie Kelly, Betty Murfett, Effie Henderson, Doreen Tunnercliff, Joyce Johnston

MR— Bob Townsend, Norman Christensen, Kath Townsend, Phil Townsend, Jean Murfitt, Betty Johnston, Nora Christensen, Herbert Henderson, Glen Taylor

FR- Frankie Johnston, Joe Tunnercliff, Doug Christensen



CUBALLING TOWN BUSH FIRE BRIGADE

On Thursday 19th October the Cuballing Town Brigade held a training night that covered the new Fire Truck that was delivered in September. The training involved how to use the gear on the truck and a rundown of all the new safety features that DFES are putting into all the fire trucks state wide.

Paul BLECHYNDEN from DFES conducted the training, taking the crew over pre-season awareness and making sure that the Cuballing crews are up to date with the latest fire fighting skills. The Cuballing and Popanyinning brigades are now equipped with new trucks and firefighting gear, thanks to the ESL levy and thanks to the Shire for their support.

The Popanyinning Bush Fire Brigade has meetings on the 1st Tuesday of each month. For more information give Fred a call 0456 601 827 or pop in and see what is happening at the Popanyinning Fire Station in Howard street over road from Birds Silos.

The Cuballing Town Bush Fire Brigade Meet on 3rd Thursdays of each month and get together to make sure all gear is in good order. On these meeting nights you might hear the shed siren go off and this is to check and maintain the workings of the siren. In big emergency's you might hear the sirens at both Cuballing and Popanyinning activated calling for help. A test only goes for a couple minutes. For information about meetings and fire related matters call Morty CBFCO 0429 898 214

The Years looking like it's going to be another heavy fuel load and I hope all take care over summer and be fire conscious. Clean up rubbish heaps and mow long grass, every bit that you do will make your asset safer in case of an emergency.

PROPOSAL TO WIND-UP THE EAST YORNANING LAND CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Public comment has been invited in relation to the proposed wind-up of the East Yornaning Land Conservation District Committee (LCDC).

LCDC's are statutory bodies formed under section 23 of the *Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945*. Their functions include undertaking land conservation works, promoting soil conservation programs and providing advice to the Department of Agriculture and Food on land use issues within their districts.

The LCDC is proposed to be abolished because of lack of interest.

If you wish to comment on this proposal, please write to the Commissioner by 30 November 2017.

All comments received will be presented to the Minister for Agriculture and Food before the LCDC is formally wound-up.

Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation
Department of Agriculture and Food
Locked Bag No 4
Bentley Delivery Centre WA 6983

For further information please contact:
Gisela Warman (08) 9368 3301

FIRE SAFETY—FIREBREAKS

The Shire of Cuballing requires that property owners maintain their properties in a fire safe manner with fire breaks or reduced fuel loads from 1st November 2017 until 15th May 2018.

For owners of rural or larger rural residential properties this means installing and maintaining a 2.5 metre wide fire break.

For smaller town site properties this means mowing down long grass across all the property.

Shire staff will be inspecting firebreaks around the Shire commencing on 1st November.

For further information about fire breaks and your requirements, contact the Shire Office on 08 9883 6031 or your local Fire Control Officer.



Magpies – Swooping and Safety Issues

Identification and Distribution

The Australian magpie *Cracticus tibicen* (or *Gymnorhina tibicen*) is a large butcherbird with a black head, body, wing tips and tail tip with patches of white. The bill is blue-grey in colour, the legs are black and the eyes are brown. Males have a white nape, whereas females have a grey nape. Magpies are characterised by strong, rich and varied carolling.

The Australian magpie occurs throughout much of Australia, including bushland, farmland towns and other urban areas. Two of Australia's five sub-species occur in Western Australia: the western magpie *Cracticus tibicen dorsalis* occurs in the south-west and the black-backed magpie *Cracticus tibicen tibicen* is found in the central and northern regions. These two subspecies interbreed where their ranges meet. Refer to www.naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au to find further information on the species distribution.



Photo. P. Curtis/DBCA

Behaviour

The diet of the Australian magpie includes some plant material, but consists mainly of small animals that are found on the ground, including beetles, ants, spiders, lizards, frogs and carrion. They have very good hearing which allows them to locate lawn beetle larvae. They also eat other garden and farm pests and are valued as natural pest control agents.

Magpies breed between August and October and at least 2-3 ha (0.02-0.03km²) of territory is needed for pairs to successfully raise young. The female selects the nest site, which is usually in a tall tree, and constructs the nest from sticks lined with grass, roots and other fibres. Up to 6 eggs are laid and a new clutch may be laid if the first brood fails. The female incubates the eggs for about three weeks and feeds the chicks for about four weeks. Young magpies are forced to leave the territory by their parents within two years. They then join another group or take over a territory as part of an adult breeding pair. The young are vulnerable and many die within the first months of independence due to poor weather conditions, lack of food, road hazards and natural predators.

Magpies have a complex social structure and form tribes and flocks. Tribes consist of 2-10 birds of both sexes, which defend a territory of up to 8 ha (0.08km²). They vigorously defend this territory against other magpies because this is the area in which they obtain their food, build nests and rear their young. Flocks consist of birds that are young or too old to breed and are unable to form a tribe or gain access to a territory. These birds live in areas that do not contain sufficient water, feeding or nesting resources. The flock is nomadic as it moves from place to place in search of food.

Environmental Law

All fauna native to Australia, including fauna that naturally migrates to Australia, are afforded protection under both State and Commonwealth legislation.

Depending on the type of fauna-related activity, a licence issued by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions may be required. It is an offence to intentionally or recklessly kill, injure, trade, keep or move them unless authorised by a permit. To obtain a licence, the applicant needs to demonstrate that all reasonable non-lethal methods have been attempted and environmental impacts have been assessed. Further information is available on the Department's website.

Magpie-Human Interactions

Magpies swoop to protect eggs and young from potential predators during the nesting season. They rely largely on intimidation to deter human intruders by flying low and fast, often clacking their bill as they pass overhead. The sound of their wings whistling past and the movement of air can be alarming, but is usually just a bluff.

FAUNA NOTES – Magpies – Swooping and Safety Issues

Like dogs, magpies seem to sense fear and may capitalise on this by pressing on with harassing any perceived threat. Occasionally, a magpie will actually strike an intruder on the head with its bill. While such strikes are rare, magpies can inflict serious injuries. Information collected at hospital emergency departments has shown that the eye was the most common target. Magpies are more likely to swoop cyclists and postal workers.

If you find a sick or injured magpie contact the [Wildcare Helpline](#) on (08) 9474 9055 for information on registered wildlife rehabilitators and centres who can assist you with your enquiry.

Reducing the risk from swooping magpies

If you have problems with a swooping magpie, several avenues of action are open to you. Keep in mind that the birds swoop only during the nesting and rearing period (from August to October) and each bird generally only swoops for a few weeks during this time. If we can understand the catalysts and the patterns of magpie behaviour, we can greatly reduce the risk.

Living safely with magpies

The following steps can be followed to avoid or reduce the impact of a swooping magpie:

- Never deliberately provoke or harass a magpie. Throwing sticks or stones usually makes them more defensive. Magpies have good memories and they may continuously swoop a potential aggressor.
- Avoid areas where magpies are known to swoop. Remember, magpie hostility lasts only a few weeks and they usually only defend a small area of about 100m radius around their nest.
- Locate the bird and keep watching it when entering its territory. If it swoops, don't crouch in fear or stop: move on quickly but don't run.
- If you are riding a bike make sure you wear a helmet, and dismount and walk through nesting magpie territory.
- Wear a hat and sunglasses or carry an umbrella for protection. Magpies initially attack from behind but can swoop back around.
- Adopt a confident stance as this can have a strong deterrent effect.

Remember that the magpies are just trying to protect their young. Learning to live alongside wildlife is an important step towards building a better living environment, and observing and listening to magpies can be an enjoyable experience.

Taking a bird or nest from the wild is illegal without a permit and while such actions may temporarily stop attacks, it is not uncommon for another nesting bird to move in. It is better to avoid the area or live with the swooping bird for six to eight weeks until the chicks learn to fly and the problem ceases.

Citation

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. (2017). *Fauna notes: Magpies – Swooping and Safety Issues*. Retrieved from <http://www.dbca.wa.gov.au/>

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For more information see the department's website www.dbca.wa.gov.au



Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

We acknowledge the Noongar people as Traditional Custodians of this land and pay our respects to all Elders past and present

Landcare matters

Hotham-Williams sub-catchment update



PHCC Working Together
Peel-Harvey Catchment Council

Edition 16
November 2017



NRM is the management of natural resources such as land, water, soils, plants and animals. It brings together land use planning, water management, biodiversity conservation and sustainability of industries such as agriculture, mining, tourism, fisheries and forestry.



Rivers 2 Ramsar Celebration

PHCC staff, landholders and project partners came together on the 11th of October in Dwellingup to celebrate the completion of our 4 year, \$3.6 Million Rivers 2 Ramsar Project.

whole Peel-Harvey Catchment. This included 28 projects with Hotham-Williams landholders, a fantastic achievement by our upper catchment community.

We celebrated four years of partnerships and collaboration that enabled landscape-scale restoration projects and helped build community capacity across the

We thank everyone involved in these projects and also those who came along to the celebration.



Fish Ladder Sign gets a Makeover

Friends of the Reserves – Boddington (Inc.) are delighted with their rejuvenated sign for the Boddington Fish Ladder. The updated sign helps to educate the community of fish fauna in the Hotham River and the role of the Fish Ladder; a rock ramp fishway helping native fish migrate up the river.

The re-printing of the sign was funded through PHCC's Small Local Action Grants.

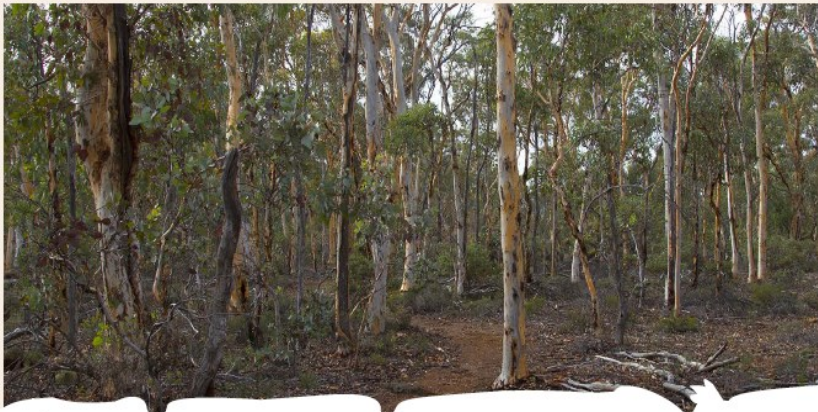


Hotham-Williams to benefit from Grants

Six Hotham-Williams landholders have been successful in securing funding through Round 3 of PHCC's Community Environment Grants.

The funding, available through the Australian Government's National Landcare Program, will maintain and improve Threatened Ecological Communities of the Western Wheatbelt, improve ecosystem services and contribute to the protection of threatened species' habitats and communities.

Funds totalling \$30,000 will be injected into local projects which include fencing to protect bushland, creeks and rivers as well as weed control and 1080 baiting.



Grants Still Available

Grants of \$100 to \$1,000 please visit: www.peel-harvey.org.au

Do you have an NRM event you would like us to promote? Please contact Mel Durack at hotham-williams@peel-harvey.org.au or 0455 166 780



natural resource management program



hotham-williams@peel-harvey.org.au

www.peel-harvey.org.au

This project is supported by the Peel-Harvey Catchment Council through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program and the State NRM Program



Community Calendar—November

- Wed 1st Cuballing Senior's Day @ Cuby Ag Hall
- Fri 3rd Blue Light Disco in Narrogin @ John Higgins Center
- Sat 4th Cricket @ Cuby Rec Ground
- Sun 5th Social Tennis @ Cuby 3pm
- Tue 7th Craft Day @Cuballing CWA Hall
- Tue 7th Men's Shed meet @ Cuby Men's Shed 9.30am
- Sat 11th Cricket @ Cuby
- Sun 12th Social Tennis @ Cuby 3pm
- Tue 14th Men's Shed meet @ Cuby Men's Shed 9.30am
- Tue 14th Craft Day @ Cuby
- Thu 16th Shire of Cuballing Annual Electors meeting
- Sun 18th Social Tennis @ Cuby 3pm
- Tue 21st Craft Day @ Cuby
- Tue 21st Men's Shed meet @ Cuby Men's Shed 9.30am
- Wed 22nd Yornaning Dam Community Consult 7pm @ Cuby Hall
- Sat 25th Cricket @ Cuby Rec Ground
- Sun 26th Social Tennis @ Cuby 3pm
- Tue 28th Men's Shed meet @ Cuby Men's Shed 9.30am
- Tue 28th Craft Day @ Cuby

Community Calendar—December

- Tue 5th Thank a Volunteer Day @ Popo Railway Station 6pm
- Tue 5th Men's Shed meet @ Cuby Men's Shed 9.30am
- Tue 5th Craft Day @ Cuby
- Sat 9th Cuballing Family Movie Night at Rec Centre Movie starts @ 7pm

To add an event to the Community Calendar please email your event through to enquiries@cuballing.wa.gov.au