

# GASSY GOSSIP

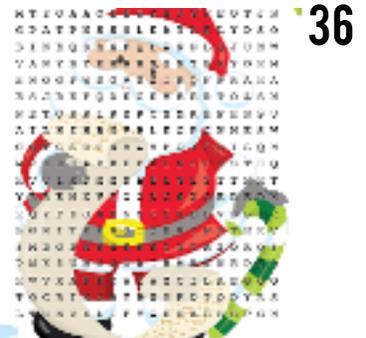
DECEMBER 2020



COUNCIL NEWS & DATES



COOKS CORNER



KIDS CORNER



Gascoyne Junction  
Community Resource Centre  
*Your local connection*

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## COUNCIL NEWS & DATES

Here you will find news about the Shire straight from your CEO along with Council meeting dates.

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## GJSCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Learn what the local school children have been up to.

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10,000 facilities. "It is an exciting time for the Gwoynne Junction community, who have been united in their passion about the growing need for a school in the town to meet the educational needs of their children from Koolberran to Year 12." Mr Carpenter said the provision of better education infrastructure was part of the State Government's strategy to increase school retention rates in the State by improving the delivery of education in remote communities. The Minister said the original Gwoynne Junction school was closed in December, 1994 by the previous government. "Gwoynne Junction now has 16 school-aged children of Indigenous and non-Indigenous backgrounds in the community and improved school facilities are essential," he said. "The number of students is expected to rise further due to increased housing construction already under way in the area. "However, some families have not taken up the available Aboriginal housing due to the lack of a school and we believe some Aboriginal families will return to the area when the school reopens." Mr Carpenter said the current education program being accessed through distance education, while appreciated by the community, did not meet their expectations for the education of their children. "Students of primary age

## BLAST FROM THE PAST

Explores the archives on past news and events.

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## LOVE YOUR LIBRARY

Library Lowdown



## COOKS CORNER

Recipes chosen just for you at home



## BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to you all.



## GASSIFIEDS

Advertisements, new arrivals, birthdays and more.



## GLENBURGH STATION STAY

.Natural Bushland Camping sites on the banks of the



Camp on green shady sites or camp in our comfortable accommodation.



## SMOKO TIME

Take a break and enjoy the puzzles and word games.



## KIDS CORNER

Puzzles and Games to keep the kids entertained.

## Ordinary Council Meeting Dates

Wednesday 12th February

Wednesday 25th March

Wednesday 29th April

Wednesday 27th May

Wednesday 24th June

Wednesday 29th July

Wednesday 26th August

Wednesday 30th September

Wednesday 28th October

Wednesday 25th November

Thursday 17th December

Council meetings commence at 8:30am in the Shire Council Chambers located at 4 Scott Street, Gascoyne Junction.

All ratepayers and residents are welcome to attend the council meetings and participate in the Public Question Time session which is held at the beginning of each Council Meeting.



# COUNCIL NEWS

## CEO Update

It is that time of the year again, this time last year I was not sure if I was going to get another Christmas under my belt but thanks to the doctors, the support offered by Councillors, Staff and Family I am here to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy and Prosperous New Year. As you are aware we will be closed from the 18th of December until the 4th of January, arrangements have been made for rubbish collections and mail collections for this period. I am available on my mobile should any issues arise that need my attention and will be monitoring my email as well.

Don, Jarrod and I attended three meetings on the 27th of November 2020. The first meeting was with the Director General of DBCA and this was attended by our neighbouring Shires. It was more generalist in nature however the common theme was the need for inclusion, improved communication and action. I believe the DG was left with no misunderstandings as to the failings of his department, they have committed to having 6 monthly meetings with all Shires to assist with rebuilding relationships and getting work done on the ground. The other two meetings were the WALGA Zone meeting and the Regional Road Group meeting.

I have been advised by our internal Auditors, AMD, that the report on Reg 17 and Financial Management Review will not be available until the February meeting due to extenuating circumstances. I have been advised that this will not affect our compliance as the review was undertaken in this calendar year.

I am still dealing with legacy issues, recently the mains water pipe burst and this runs through our depot. After some investigation it appears that the shire gates and fencing are in the wrong place and they should be in line with Horizon Powers fence line. Apparently Smith Street has two road reserves hence the distance of the set back and the location of the mains water supply. However, all is not lost, there is the very real possibility that the water main will need to be replaced as this is the third time it has ruptured, if this is to occur I will see if they will relocate the mains outside of the current depot footprint and go through Landgate and see if we can resume the second road reserve and have this amalgamated onto our existing title.

Significant time has been spent on finalising our Annual Financial Report with plenty of back and forth with the OAG, RSM, Auditors and our staff.

We have had the surveyors on site and they have surveyed the proposed new roads that are to service the new residential lots as well as the sealing works on the Carnarvon/Mullewa Road. Once they have compiled all their data I will send this to Greenfields to get engineering undertaken as it appears that we will need to bring in a lot of fill.

The hydrologist has been in town for a couple of days and has looked at Mongers and other potential areas where we could look for water. I will wait for his report but after general conversation I believe we will need to undertake electromagnetic surveying to further identify highly likely sources.

In the same week we had our AMD audit, staff also held a bike challenge event to support National Road Safety Week. The premise of the campaign is to advocate for road safety and to bring awareness to what is such an important message for everyone. To maximise on promoting this crucial safety message, the Shire invited teachers and students from the local school to participate in a Bike Challenge. Participants were required to travel a planned route around town and along the way, make a pit stop at a marked location where they would need to answer a series of road safety questions and complete a task. Once the task was completed, the participants could proceed to the next pit stop. To conclude such a successful challenge, the Shire hosted a barbeque lunch and provided prizes for all the kids who attended the event. We received great feedback from the teachers and students and support to run a similar challenge next year. The event was funded by a small grant the Shire received from the National Road Safety Committee, so was nil cost to the Shire in the end. Without the hard work of staff and extended support, this event would not be possible. I would like to say a big thank you to our staff in the lead up and on the day of the challenge and also to the staff and students from the GJRC School for supporting the event on the day.



Now, drum roll please..... I am pleased to announce that our application for Tidy Towns 2020 was successful in taking out the General Appearance category! This again would not be without the efforts of our staff so I extend a huge thank you to Amanda, Sean, Nat and Ali for all the work they put in to make our little town stand out - great work team!

**Tidy Towns Winners 2020**

## General Appearance

Recognises improvements to a community's general appearance including, but not restricted to, entries/approaches to town, sporting areas, public parks and gardens, and private homes and streets (including footpaths and verges).

## GASCOYNE JUNCTION Winner



The Shire prides itself on delivering and maintaining a high level of service to our community. Some of the most recent outcomes include new footpaths in town, upgrades to the town pavilion, resealing and kerbing of Hatch Street, sale of town blocks, town beautification project and delivery of COVID19 relief packages. This is in addition to spending \$1.5M in road upgrades and \$14M flood damage repairs to roads.



We are also busy preparing to deliver more projects such as an alternate water supply for the town, construction of a \$2.7M tourist stop beginning in January, reconstructing the seal around the pub and caravan park, 17km of new seal on the Gascoyne Junction to Meekatharra route beginning in February and the construction of a 4x2 staff house in Gascoyne Junction.

### **Maintenance Graders:**

Ray Hoseason-Smith has continued to fill in for Thomas and has worked his way up the Ullawarra road concentrating on the corrugated sections only. Ian has completed grading the remaining top end of Ullawarra and Cobra Gifford Creek roads. The lads will demobilise and begin washing up equipment for on the Christmas shut down period.

### **Construction Crew:**

The crew have completed the Landor re-sheeting works and have demobilised for the Christmas break. When we return next year we will begin the new bitumen works on the C'von Mullewa road approximately 20km east of town.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the team in the Shire for their devotion and hard work this year. Thank you to the Council for their support and guidance and I hope everyone has a safe and happy Christmas.

# COUNCIL UPDATE....



## FLOOD DAMAGE REINSTATEMENT REPORT

### SHIRE OF UPPER GASCOYNE – AGRN908 FLOOD DAMAGE REINSTATEMENT MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT – December 2020 (PACKAGE 1)

Contractor	QEM Group	Package Start Date:	19 Sept 2020
		Forecast Completion Date:	Sept 2021
<b>Works this period (Dec 2020)</b>		<b>Works next period (Jan 2021)</b>	
<p><b>Landor Mount Clere Rd</b> Works have continued on this road working from Waldburg Rd intersection west towards Landor / Mt Clere Rd boundary. Works have predominately comprised removal of silt, reforming and resheeting and drainline reshaping.</p> <p><b>Waldburg Rd</b> Works commenced on this road approx. 30km north of the Landor Mt Clere Rd intersection. Works have comprised resheeting, medium and heavy reshaping and drainline reinstatement.</p>		<p><b>Landor Mount Clere Rd</b> Continue work on this road working west towards Landor / Mt Clere Rd boundary. The works are similar and include removal of silt, reforming and resheeting and drainage works.</p> <p><b>Waldburg Rd</b> Continue work on this road working south towards Landor Mt Clere Rd intersection. The works are similar to current works and include removal of silt, medium and heavy reshaping and reinstatement of drainlines and floodways.</p> <p>The work crew will demobilise on Saturday 19 December 2020 for the Christmas break and return to work Wednesday 6 January 2021.</p>	
<b>Status of Roads</b>			
		<b>This Month</b>	<b>Last Period</b>
<b>Overall Package</b>		25%	20%
Bingegaroo Rd		Not yet commenced	
Cobra Gifford Creek Rd		Not yet commenced	
Cobra Mt Augustus Rd		Not yet commenced	
Dooley Downs Rd		Not yet commenced	
Edmund Gifford Creek Rd		Not yet commenced	
Landor Mt Clere Rd		58%	41%
Dalgety Downs Landor Rd		Not yet commenced	
Landor Meekatharra Rd		99%	99%
Landor Mt Augustus Rd		14%	14%
Lyndon Minnie Creek Rd		Not yet commenced	
Meekatharra Mt Clere Rd		100%	100%
Mount Augustus Rd		Not yet commenced	
Mount Augustus Woodlands Rd		Not yet commenced	
Mooloo Downs Access Rd		Not yet commenced	
Pingandy Rd		Not yet commenced	

Pingandy Homestead Access Rd	Not yet commenced	
Potts Rd	Not yet commenced	
Waldburg Rd	8%	-
Wanna Rd	Not yet commenced	

Discussion Items	
Water / Materials	Refer attached resources report
Camp	<p>The camp is located at Landor station "Roo shooters camp". The camp comprises of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accommodation for 22 staff,</li> <li>• Kitchen and separate mess station,</li> <li>• Male and Female ablutions,</li> <li>• Contractor site office,</li> <li>• Laydown area,</li> <li>• Workshop and container storage,</li> <li>• All catering / cleaning etc is being undertaken by a dedicated camp attendant.</li> </ul> <p>This camp will be in this location until approximately February 2021.</p>

# FLOOD DAMAGE REINSTATEMENT REPORT CONTINUED...



## SHIRE OF UPPER GASCOYNE – AGRN908 FLOOD DAMAGE REINSTATEMENT MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT – December 2020 (PACKAGE 2)

Contractor	THEM Earthmoving	Package Start Date:	08 Nov 2020
		Forecast Completion Date:	End 2021 / early 2022
<b>Works this period (Dec 2020)</b>		<b>Works next period (Jan 2021)</b>	
<p>All plant and equipment and operators were mobilised to site for the December work swing.</p> <p><b>Camarvon Mullewa Rd</b> Works have continued on this road between Pells Crossing and the Congo Creek Crossing (Slk 88 - 114). The works consisted of removal of silt, reinstatement of drainlines, medium and heavy grade.</p> <p>Works between Slk 63 - 68 have been omitted from the Contractor's scope of work and will be completed by the Shire in conjunction with the upgrade to seal planned to commence February 2021.</p>		<p><b>Camarvon Mullewa Rd</b> Continue work on this road from the Congo Creek Crossing to Dalgety Downs Glenburgh Rd. Planned works are similar to current works and involve removal of silt, reinstatement of drainlines, medium and heavy grading and isolated reforming and resheeting works.</p> <p>The crew will demobilise on Saturday 19 December 2020 for the Christmas break. They will recommence works Wednesday 6 January 2021.</p>	
<b>Status of Roads</b>			
	<b>This Month</b>	<b>Last Period</b>	
Overall Package	5%	2%	
Carey Downs Road	Not yet commenced		
Camarvon Mullewa Road	22%	10%	
Cobra Dairy Creek Road	Not yet commenced		
Dalgety Downs Glenburgh Road	Not yet commenced		
Dalgety Downs Landor Road	Not yet commenced		
Erong Road	Not yet commenced		
Eudamullah Road	Not yet commenced		
Gilroyd Road	Not yet commenced		
Gregory Street	Not yet commenced		
Hatch Street	Not yet commenced		
Killili Road	Not yet commenced		
Lyons River Road	Not yet commenced		
Minnie Creek Road	Not yet commenced		
Mooloo Downs Access Road	Not yet commenced		

Newton Drive	Not yet commenced
Pimbee Road	Not yet commenced
Riverside Drive	Not yet commenced
Rubbish Tip Road	Not yet commenced
Scott Street	Not yet commenced
Ullawarra Road	Not yet commenced
Viveash Way	Not yet commenced
Weedarrah Road	Not yet commenced

Discussion Items	
Water / Materials	Refer attached resources report
Camp	<p>The camp has been established on Dalgety Downs Station. The camp is the same camp as used on the last package and will comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accommodation for 20 staff,</li> <li>• Kitchen and separate mess station,</li> <li>• Male and Female ablutions,</li> <li>• Contractor site office,</li> <li>• Laydown area,</li> <li>• Workshop and container storage,</li> <li>• The catering / cleaning out by Dalgety Downs Station.</li> </ul> <p>The camp will be in this location until Feb / Mar 2021.</p>

Waldburg Rd



Carnarvon Mullewa Rd



# BLAST FROM THE PAST

## Japanese tourist found dead on Mt Augustus

GARETH PARKER

A Japanese tourist missing since Christmas Day at remote Mt Augustus has been found dead halfway up the monolith.

State Emergency Service volunteers found his body on Flintstones track about 3pm yesterday.

The SES and Meekatharra police launched a ground and air search at first light yesterday after the man was reported missing on Sunday by staff at the Mt Augustus Outback Tourist Resort.

The 55-year-old man, who was travelling alone, checked in at the resort on Christmas Eve. He was last seen at 8am on Christmas Day.

Mt Augustus, 320km east of Carnarvon, is popular with backpackers and bushwalkers.

It is the world's biggest monolith, two and a half times the size of Ayers Rock.

Meekatharra Sgt Rosanne Scarvaci said the man was found just 280m up the track in steep, rocky terrain. There were no outward signs of serious injury and he may have had a heart attack.

"We believe he was only in the country for five days," she said yesterday. "He flew to Carnarvon and drove straight out to Mt Augustus."



"It appears that maybe he passed away a couple of days ago."

The man's rented Toyota Land-Cruiser was spotted abandoned at the foot of the 700m rock on Sunday afternoon and resort management raised the alarm.

The RAC search and rescue helicopter flew from Jandakot Airport on Sunday night to help in the search.

SES volunteers from Geraldton and Meekatharra also travelled to Mt Augustus.

Police said the man's body would be taken to Perth today for an autopsy.

Police have asked that the man's name not be released as his family in Japan are yet to be notified of his death. Japanese consular officials were last night attempting to contact his family.



THIS SEGMENT OF THE GOSSIP EXPLORES PAST ARTICLES ON NEWS AND EVENTS. THIS ARTICLE WAS ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN THE NORTHERN GUARDIAN NEWS IN DECEMBER 28 2004

# **GASCOYNE JUNCTION PLEASE KEEP IN TOUCH**

## **We're here to help you**

It's important to share any concerns, issues or ideas you may have to allow us to work together to find solutions as we all travel through difficult times

### ***CONTACT US & STAY in TOUCH***



Email - [northwest@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:northwest@mp.wa.gov.au)



Telephone - 99412 999



@VinceCataniaMP

Regular updates will be available via facebook & email

**Let's Stay Safe, Stay Well  
& Keep our Distance...**



# Merry Christmas



## Dear Customers

The Shire and the CRC will be closed from 12pm  
Friday 18th December 2020 and re-opening on  
Monday 4th January 2021.

During the Christmas Shut Down period,  
residents can collect their mail from the CRC on  
the following days:

**TUESDAY 22ND DECEMBER 8AM - 12PM**

**THURSDAY 24TH DECEMBER 7:30am - 10AM**



# SAVE TIME GO ONLINE



Our online services continue to grow and make dealing with the WA Police Force quick, easy and convenient.

## APPLY FOR INFORMATION

- Record of Traffic Infringement Notices • National Police Certificate
- Record of Traffic Crash or Crime Incident

## REPORT AN INCIDENT

- Traffic Crash • Hoon drivers • Graffiti • Damage • Lost or stolen property

## CHECK STATUS

- Firearms Licence Application • Stealing or damage related crime reports



[www.police.wa.gov.au](http://www.police.wa.gov.au)

DECEMBER 2020



# Minilya-Exmouth & Burkett Road Widening Projects



**DELAYS EXPECTED**  
**11 January 2021 until**  
**approximately 28 May 2021**

## Contract awarded to Central Earthmoving

Minilya-Exmouth and Burkett Roads provide access to Coral Bay, Exmouth, pastoral, fishing, tourism and community areas. Due to the isolation of communities, residents and visitors of the region rely on a safe and reliable road network.

Both projects will be delivered as one contract over a 20 week period, anticipated commencement is 11 January 2021 with an estimated completion 28 May 2021.

### Scope of works

Targeted seal widening on Minilya-Exmouth Road 3km south of Ningaloo Road to the intersection of Burkett Road.

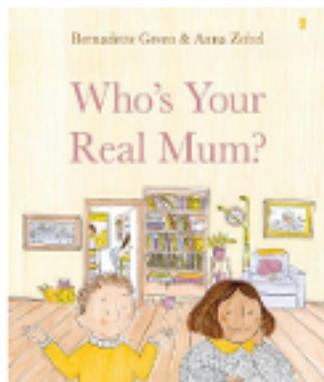
Targeted seal widening on Burkett Road from the Minilya-Exmouth intersection to the North West Coastal Highway intersection.

Traffic management will be in place from January to May 2021 delays are expected; this includes speed reductions and lane closures. Please approach works with caution, obey all traffic management signage and controllers.

### Further information

Contact the Customer Services Manager  
Andrea Pitcher on 08 9941 0777.

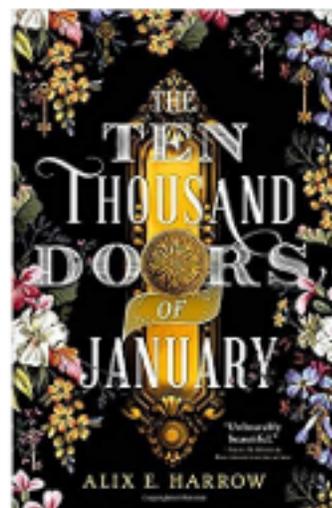
## BOOKS OF THE MONTH



### WHO'S YOUR REAL MUM?

When Nicholas wants to know which of Elvi's two mums is her real mum, she gives him lots of clues. Her real mum is a circus performer, and a pirate, and she even teaches spiders the art of web.

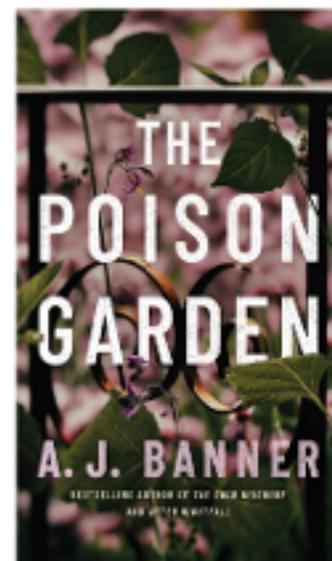
But Nicholas still can't work it out! Luckily, Elvi knows just how to explain.



### THE TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS OF JANUARY

In a sprawling mansion filled with peculiar treasures, January Scaller is a curiosity herself. As the ward of the wealthy Mr. Locke, she feels little different from the artifacts that decorate the halls: carefully maintained, largely ignored, and utterly out of place.

Then she finds a strange book. A book that carries the scent of other worlds, and tells a tale of secret doors, of love, adventure and danger. Each page turn reveals impossible truths about the world and January discovers a story increasingly entwined with her own.



### THE POISON GARDEN

A woman's idyllic life becomes a deceptive hall of mirrors in a thriller of exquisitely constructed psychological suspense by A. J. Banner.

Elise Watters seems to have it all—a blissful marriage, a gorgeous Victorian home surrounded by lush gardens, and a dream job running her late mother's herbal boutique.

But on the eve of her first wedding anniversary, Elise makes a shocking discovery that turns her life upside down and casts doubt on everything she thought she knew—about her marriage, her friends, and even herself. As she treads into dangerous territory, Elise is forced to wonder: Is her whole future at stake? Or is paranoia getting the best of her?

If she is to believe what she sees, Elise has every reason to fear for her life...

## WHAT IS HAPPENING IN YOUR CRCLIBRARY

Need something to read but can't access our Library - we've got just the thing for you! Access all the library content you need with a click of your finger! Jump online and get access to eResources at home including eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines, stream videos and online learning resources.



### ONLINE VIDEO TUTORIALS FOR ELIBRARY RESOURCES

Here is a list of step-by-step online video tutorials (eBooks and eAudiobooks, eMagazines and eFilms). As you click on each link, you will notice down the right hand side of the screen you can select on the instructions for your specific device.

**BORROWBOX**- is an eBook and eAudiobook service that makes it easy to browse, preview, reserve, and download bestselling titles on your electronic devices. The service is free to all library users, so all you need is a library card number - contact our friendly CRC and Shire staff for more information on how to access this great service!

<https://my.nicheacademy.com/cityofwanneroolibraries/course/2077>

**OVERDRIVE/LIBBY/OVERDRIVE FOR KIDS**- Borrow and download thousands of eBooks and eAudiobooks, including fiction and nonfiction specifically aimed at children. <https://my.nicheacademy.com/cityofwanneroolibraries/course/1451>

**RBDIGITAL**- There are now more than 3,500 magazines to choose from, many of them in languages other than English. Enjoy a huge range of full colour, interactive eMagazines to download and keep, from a wide range of genres including automotive, health & fitness, food & cooking, hobbies and even celebrity & gossip. No holds, no checkout periods, and no limit to the number of magazines you can download. <https://my.nicheacademy.com/cityofwanneroolibraries/course/177>

**KANOPY** - Gives you free access to over 30,000 movies and documentaries, including selections from Criterion Collection, the Great Courses, film festival winners, independent directors and much more. Streaming requires an internet connection.

<https://my.nicheacademy.com/cityofwanneroolibraries/course/3129>



## Newsletter

03/12/2020

### PRINCIPAL'S POST

Our fabulous teachers are so talented in so many ways. They bring a wealth of educational knowledge, a love of facilitating children's learning and their own unique skills and life experiences to each school they visit. Right now they are using a combination of these their skills to conduct and collate assessments ready for reporting.

Quality teaching is what student learning is all about.

Teachers' dedicate so much time and energy to your children every single day with tasks that go way beyond a job description.

On this note I am very happy to share that Mr Polakiewicz was nominated as a teacher of excellence in this year's Mid-West awards. Congratulations Mr Peter from all of us.



Gascoyne Junction Remote Community School  
PETER POLAKIEWICZ

*A diligent, dedicated teacher and role model for our students. Peter responds to the whole child consistently and positively. He proactively implements current educational strategies to achieve the highest outcomes possible for all students.*

This is what our students' have to say about this dedicated professional.

I've learned a great deal.  
My teacher is extremely helpful.  
He makes things creative for us.  
He is kind and helpful.

### STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Now let's get back to the assessment and how the students at Gascoyne Junction Remote Community are progressing.

Students have sky rocketed in the standardised testing conducted this year.

Our target is for students to improve by one year, every year. In the time from February to November of this year, students have progressed a whopping 1.5 to 2.0 years above their age norm in word recognition tests. Although this is one aspect only, it is significant because it combines all skills required to assist fluency when reading.

This is in a word....

## FANTASTIC!!!

So how do we know our marking and testing is accurate?

1. Observation and assessment using many work samples across different contexts and learning areas.
2. Use of rubric to assist with marking.
3. Moderation of the marking rubric submitted by 3 staff
4. External moderation once a semester or as required.
5. Comparison against the Brightpath ruler standardised norms through Western Australian Primary Principals Association (WAPPA).
6. A recent analysis of On Entry Assessments revealed that a number of schools papers were withdrawn and had to be remarked. Our school was not one of those schools.
7. Comparison of NAPLAN marks and Teacher's grades are on point in of cases.

### REPORTING TO PARENTS

You and your child are invited to attend a three way reporting session with your child's teacher.

When? Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December

Where? In your child's classroom

Why? To advise and discuss student progress and plan for 2021.

Please contact Mrs. Walker on 99430515 to arrange your appointment time.

## NAIDOC 2020

**Ms Jodie Gibson and Mr Peter Windie assisted with NAIDOC this year.**

Here Jodie explains and demonstrates how to prepare kangaroo tail for a delicious kangaroo tail stew whilst Bride and Dustin look on.



Dustin is supervised as he has a go at skinning the tail.



Willing helpers assist with vegetable preparation for the stew.



Mr Peter Windie welcomes us to country and speaks on behalf of our Nation's first people.



Students weaving activities were incorporated into the day.



Damper on a stick was enjoyed by all.



# WHAT A GREAT DAY

Heads up to the staff from the Shire for running this awesome event for National Road Safety Week. Special thanks to Amanda.



Last week when children were bike riding for the morning fitness session, along came the Police on their way to Burringurrah!! What are the chances?! All was good and they were complimented for the road sense they were demonstrating along the way. Phew!!



Holidays are drawing closer and it is prudent to remind parents and carers about the necessity of informing their child about Protective Behaviours.

Prior to holidays, teachers revise each child's network. This is when students nominate 5 people they trust. These people become their network. This encourages students to say "No!" and to "go tell" someone on their network should they feel worried about anything.



#### Tips to Help Protect Children.

1. Teach children accurate names of private body parts.
2. Avoid focusing exclusively on "stranger danger." Keep in mind that most children are abused by someone they know and trust.
3. Teach children about body safety and the difference between "okay" and "not okay" touches.
4. Let children know that they have the right to make decisions about their bodies. Empower them to say no when they do not want to be touched (e.g., politely refusing hugs) and to say no to touching others.
5. Make sure children know that adults and older children never need help with their private body parts (e.g., bathing or going to the bathroom).
6. Teach children to take care of their own private parts (i.e., bathing, wiping after bathroom use) so they don't have to rely on adults or older children for help.
7. Educate children about the difference between good secrets (like surprise parties—which are okay because they are not kept secret for long) and bad secrets (those that the child is supposed to keep secret forever, which are not okay).
8. Trust your instincts! If you feel uneasy about leaving a child with someone, don't do it. If you're concerned about possible sexual abuse, ask questions. The best time to talk to your child about protective behaviours is NOW.

[Free resources on child protection, and body safety \(safe4kids.com.au\)](http://safe4kids.com.au)

## COMING EVENTS

This week staff began Christmas activities with students. This may include speaking about other countries' cultural celebrations for this time of the year.

Students are responsible for organising and presenting the Celebration of Learning event that occurs on December 17<sup>th</sup>. This is bound to be the highlight of your year!! Please keep a look out for your invitation.

This is followed by the Shire Christmas Party.

Date	Event
4 <sup>th</sup> December	Assessments complete
9 <sup>th</sup> December	Reports due
10 <sup>th</sup> December	Staff dinner/secret Santa
11 <sup>th</sup> December	Reports distributed
14 <sup>th</sup> December	Three way interviews/parent, student, teacher
17 <sup>th</sup> December	Fun Day, Celebration of Learning, Shire Christmas Party
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Holidays
27 <sup>th</sup> January	Staff return
1 <sup>st</sup> February	Students return

# GIVE THE GIFT OF CONVERSATION

*How are you?*

Learn what to say at  
[ruok.org.au/yournattermatters](http://ruok.org.au/yournattermatters)

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**CARE**  
FOUNDATION

# RUOK?™

A conversation could change a life.

# COOK'S CORNER

Do you have family recipe that you would love to share with us? Send it through to us at [crc@uppergascoyne.wa.gov.au](mailto:crc@uppergascoyne.wa.gov.au)

## Shortbread Cookies

### Ingredients

- 1 cup unsalted butter ( cold diced into cubes)
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1 3/4 cups all purpose flour
- 200g chocolate, chopped (optional)



### Method

1. Add butter and sugar to a bowl and mix using an electric mixer. Sprinkle salt into the bowl, set mixer on a low speed and mix until combined.
2. Add vanilla blend mixture until well combined ( scrape down bowl as needed).
3. Pour in flour and continue to mix until combined.
4. On a floured surface, roll dough out 1/3 inch thick. Cut into squares or rectangles.
5. Transfer to a baking sheet spacing 1 inch apart.
6. Transfer baking sheet to fridge and chill for 30 minutes.
7. Bake in the centre of the oven until cookies are just set (13 - 16 minutes)
8. Let cool on a baking sheet for 15 minutes, than transfer to a wire rack to cool.
9. Optional: Place chocolate in microwave safe dish. Melt for 20 second increments, stirring between intervals until melted and smooth.
10. Dip cooled cookies about halfway into the chocolate.
11. Transfer to baking paper and place in fridge to set.



## **BIRTHDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### JANURARY

- 3 Ella Hoseseason-Smith
- 3 Hazel McTaggart
- 3 John Mcclearly
- 17 Nat Rogers
- 17 Gracie Collins

### FEBRUARY

- 6 Sophie Wright
- 17 Dart Kmepton
- 24 Lachlan Wright
- 24 Anna Collins



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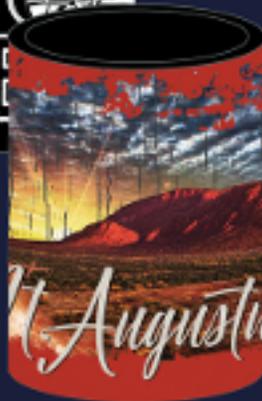
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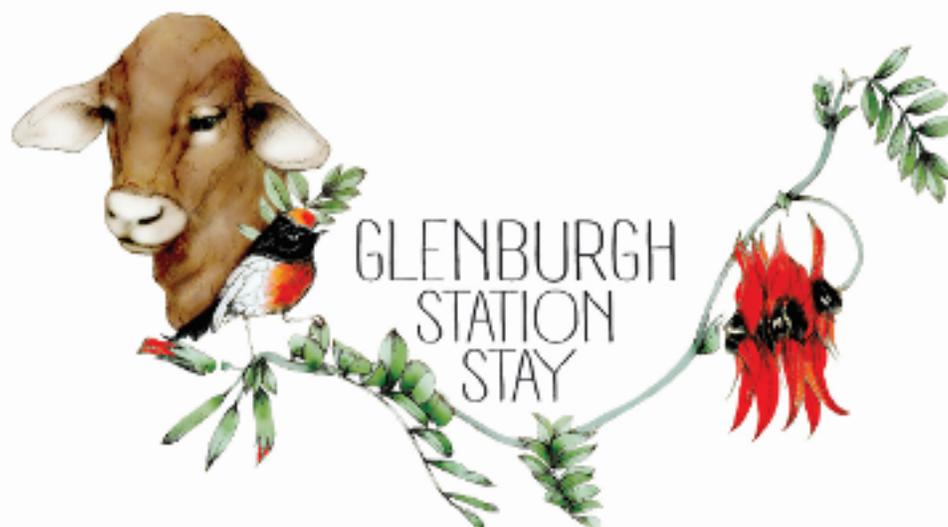
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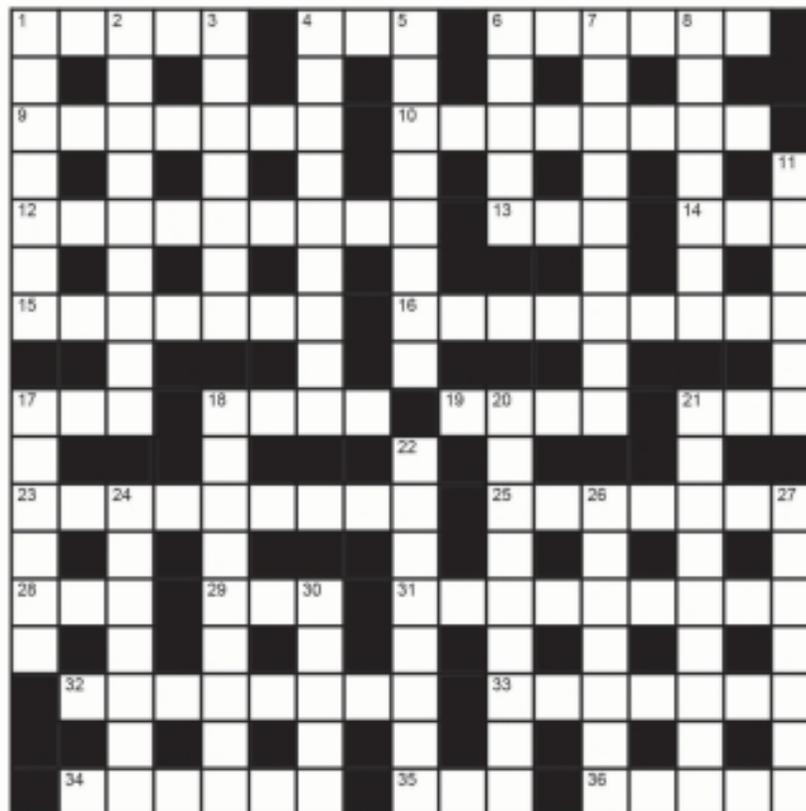


# SMOKO TIME





# Christmas crossword



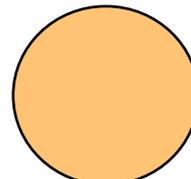
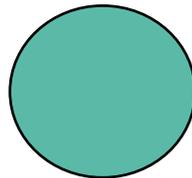
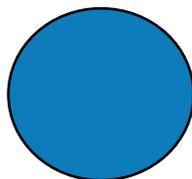
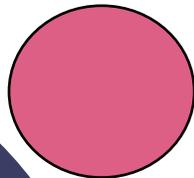
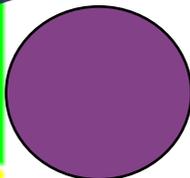
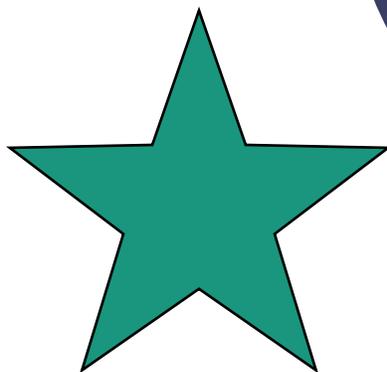
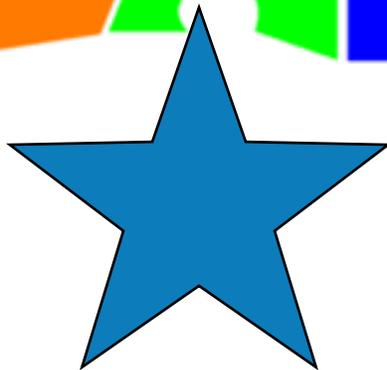
## Across

- 1 Santa \_\_\_\_ (5)
- 4 Colour of Rudolph's nose (3)
- 5 Another reindeer employed by 1 Across (6)
- 9 Changed (7)
- 10 Christmas fare (5,3)
- 12 What you'll be eating for days after Christmas dinner (9)
- 13 Crazy (3)
- 14 The frozen North Pole has plenty of this (3)
- 15 Good fortune, prosperity (7)
- 16 She has a royal Christmas message for the British (9)
- 17 Mary rode one to the manger (3)
- 18 Wait, stay (4)
- 19 Improvised jazz singing (4)
- 21 Ruminant (3)
- 23 First course (9)
- 25 Answer (7)
- 28 Lyric poem (3)
- 29 Traditionally burnt in the fire at Christmas (3)
- 31 Ovenproof dish (9)
- 32 Equine marine creature? (8)
- 33 Powerful businessman (7)
- 34 Treads heavily (6)
- 35 Distress signal (3)
- 36 Lolly (5)

## Down

- 1 \_\_\_\_ Dickens, writer of *A Christmas Carol* (7)
- 2 Items of archeological interest (9)
- 3 Miserly character in 1 Down (7)
- 4 Set right (9)
- 5 Large bin (8)
- 6 Jeans fabric (5)
- 7 Resolute (9)
- 8 Building (7)
- 11 Male relative (6)
- 17 Warrior woman (7)
- 18 Town where Jesus was born (9)
- 20 and 24 Down Yuletide gift (9,7)
- 21 Kind of money you might find in your stocking (9)
- 22 They go off with a bang at Christmas dinner (8)
- 24 See 20 Down
- 26 Santa and you can use them for riding (7)
- 27 Furthest down (7)
- 30 Micro-organisms (5)

# KID'S CORNER



What do you call  
Santa Claus when  
he doesn't move?

Santa Pause



What did the cow  
get for Christmas?

A COWculator!



Why is it always  
cold at Christmas?

Because it's  
Decemberrrrrrrrr!



What do elves learn  
in school?

The elf-abet.



What's Santa's  
favorite candy?

Jolly Ranchers!



What did the  
Gingerbread Man  
put on his bed?

A cookie sheet!



What's red and white,  
red and white,  
red and white?

Santa Claus rolling  
down a hill.



What do you call a  
snowman in the  
summer?

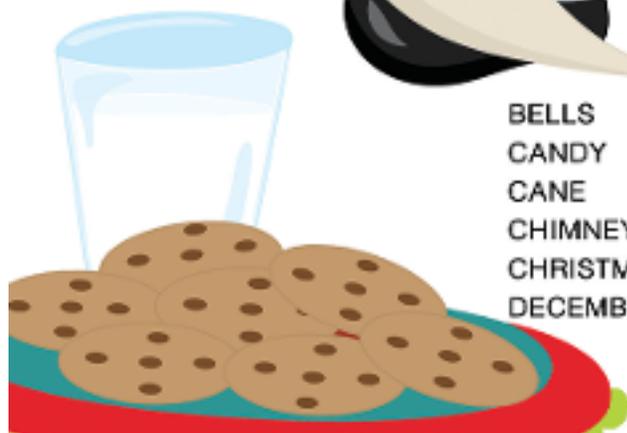
A puddle!



# CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH



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



BELLS	ELVES	MISTLETOE	SCROOGE
CANDY	GINGERBREAD	NORTH	SEASON
CANE	GREETINGS	POLE	SLID
CHIMNEY	HOLIDAY	PRESENTS	SNOW
CHRISTMAS	JOLLY	REINDEER	SNOWMAN
DECEMBER	MERRY	SANTA	WREATH





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