

# GASSY GOSSIP



**MAY  
2026**



## **03 COUNCIL NEWS**



## **14 GJRCS NEWSLETTER**



## **40 UPCOMING EVENTS**

A calendar titled "UPCOMING 2025 EVENTS" with the Shire of Upper Gascoyne logo. It lists four events: GP CLINIC (14 MARCH), NURSING CLINIC (19 MARCH), PHYSIO CLINIC (23 MARCH), and GP CLINIC (30 APRIL).

GP CLINIC	NURSING CLINIC	PHYSIO CLINIC	GP CLINIC
GASCOYNE JUNCTION COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE	GASCOYNE JUNCTION COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE	GASCOYNE JUNCTION COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE	GASCOYNE JUNCTION COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE
14 MARCH	19 MARCH	23 MARCH	30 APRIL

# Table Of Contents

3



## COUNCIL NEWS & DATES

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

8



## GREENFIELD

### REPORT

Flood Damage Report Update

12



## BLAST FROM THE PAST

Explores the archives on past news and events.

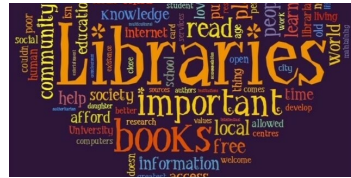
13



## ODD QUESTIONS ONLY

Read the common answers to some unusually silly and odd questions!

14



## LOVE YOUR LIBRARY

Library Lowdown.

15



## GJ SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

19



## COOKS CORNER

Recipes chosen just for you at home.

20



## BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to you all.

21



## GASSY GOSSIP

The latest news and information from across the Shire.

27



## GJ CRAFT GROUP

Interested in joining the Gascoyne Junction Craft Group? Check out the details here.

28



## LET'S EXERCISE

In the gym or at home lets keep active Upper Gascoyne.

29



## GASSIFIEDS

Advertise your business, have something to sell ?

The Gassifieds are the place.

34



## SMOKO TIME

Take a break and enjoy the puzzles and word games.

36



## KIDS CORNER

Puzzles and Games to keep the kids entertained!

40



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Find out what exciting events are coming up next in our Community Calendar. 2

# COUNCIL NEWS

## Ordinary Council Meeting Dates

Tuesday 10th February  
Wednesday 25th March  
Wednesday 22nd April  
Saturday 23rd May  
Wednesday 24th June  
Wednesday 22nd July  
Wednesday 26th August  
Wednesday 23rd September  
Wednesday 28th October  
Wednesday 25th November  
Wednesday 16th 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.

### CEO Report

This month has largely been all about Cyclone Narelle. The cyclone brought significant winds and rain to Gascoyne Junction and surrounds. The town sustained moderate damage to our infrastructure, mainly fences and trees. The road network also sustained damage with an estimated cost of repairs between \$5 to 7 million.

From a recovery perspective we have broken the event down into two separate areas; Insurance Works and DRFWA Works. LGIS have appointed a claims adjuster, we are working with him to expedite the authorisation of claims. Lance from ABBL Contracting has already quoted on the works and many of these have been approved, allowing Lance to purchase materials. It is critical to get materials ordered as there will be a huge drain on materials once Exmouth have completed their assessments. We have made an initial claim with DFES, they have already provided an AGRN (1280), Greenfields have completed the damage assessment pick-ups.

Emergency works have commenced with Ullawarra Road appearing the most impacted Road. Although half of the Shire received good rain, we must remember that the other half did not so they are effectively still in a drought situation. We had further rain fall on the 11th of April necessitating further road closures, but it appears that not all pastoralists received game changing rain.

The week commencing on the 13th of April saw Jarrod effectively leave and Andrea commence her Long Service Leave. As such, we are short staffed in these crucial areas. Sean Walker has stepped up into Jarrod's role and Mark Willis has returned to Gascoyne Junction to temporarily fill Andrea's role. Both Mark and Sean will need a bit of time to get their head's around things but have the full support of the team as they adjust.

I have been in contact with Travis from RSM and between Mark, Travis, Sean and myself we will set a timeline for creating a budget accounting for Councillor Workshops. At this stage I am thinking May and June for Councillors / Staff and adopt the budget in August.

### **Executive Manager of Works and Services Report**

As you all are aware, I am currently the Acting Works Manager while Jarrod is on a well earned long service leave. Jarrod will be finishing at the end of May, and I will be taking the role full time.

Jarrold has had a significant impact on the community, local sporting groups, and the Shire as a whole, and he should be congratulated for all he has achieved. It has been a pleasure working under him, and I wish him the best in his future endeavours.

I won't dwell too much on the details of cyclone Narelle and its associated damage, as John has already covered this. The Works crew has completed the Cobra - Dairy Creek Rd C3398 (RRG) project, as always Dameon and the team have done a fantastic job. They are in the process of commencing the Landor - Meekatharra Rd C3400 (R2R) project, we are aiming to have this finished by the end of financial year.



THEM earthmoving are still in the process of completing the Landor Bypass project, they are doing a great job considering they had a small river come down. They have managed to roll with the punches as they always do, and we look forward to its completion.

The town crew have continued to chip away at the work in the heat over the past few months and have welcomed the cooler change. For such a small crew they punch above their weight. They did a great job cleaning up after the cyclone, with the assistance of a few tourists.

We would like to thank Tony, Tommy, and Bree for assisting the Shire to clean up.

### **Manager of Finance and Corporate Services**

I started on the 24th of March in a temporary role filling in for Andrea while she is on long service leave. The interruption of Cyclone Narelle prevented the in-depth handover we had planned however it should be enough.

Extra administrative work will be required as a result of damage caused by the cyclone. Work continued on preparation of the 26/27 budget numbers.

The FBT year ended on March 31, and work has started on putting the detail for submitting the return in May. The server upgrade slated for the end of March was deferred until April 14th due to the cyclone.

Harpreet Singh, a temporary finance officer will start on April 8th and will be a timely addition to the team.

### **TOURISM & COMMUNITY REPORT**

#### **Tourism**

From March 19-22 the Shire of Upper Gascoyne in collaboration with the Shire of Carnarvon attended the Perth Caravan and Camping Show to promote the region to visitors at all stages of the tourism buying cycle. Given the timing of the event 3 weeks post the start of the Iran conflict, there were lower than expected numbers in attendance.

Those who did attend, were genuine with solid conversations about planning visits. The conversations around fuel were not overly concerned about the price but the security of access to fuel. Work has been undertaken within AGO and the Outback Pathways program about communicating fuel availability so that visitors can plan trips with confidence.

The impact of fuel is having an adverse impact on our local operators with cancellations happening with lack of certainty around fuel availability. The impacts of closures not only to the road network but also Kennedy Range National Park due to Cyclone Narelle especially over school holidays has seen a negative start to the tourism season. A media family trip to the Shire was planned for the week after the Cyclone which is currently being rescheduled to focus on our Shire being open and ready for visitors.

Gascoyne Junction has again been recognised as Tiny Tourism Award Finalist in the upcoming 7News Top Tourism Town Awards. Voting is open until May 1 with the winners being announced at the Tourism WA Conference being held in Carnarvon next month.

Work has recommenced with two Station Stays that had been involved in the Upper Gascoyne Accommodation Building Capacity program ready to recommence their journey into offering visitors to our region accommodation and experiences who due to circumstances needed to pause their project in 2025.

Town Walking Signage is about to commence production ready for installation. Signage has also been ordered for the petrol awning at the Gascoyne Junction Pub & Tourist Park adding some colour and identification to the building.

Our 2026 Digital Marketing Campaign is set to commence with a new digital marketing partner. Work will be undertaken an update to the tourism pages, and continuing to establish our brand identity and destination awareness to our target markets both intrastate and interstate.

An information hub offering visitors 24/7 tourism information including live road report data is also being developed ensuring that visitors are well informed both before travelling to our region and during their visit.

## UNDER Gascoyne SKIES FESTIVAL MAY 22<sup>ND</sup> - 23<sup>RD</sup> 2026



Planning is well underway for our Under Gascoyne Skies Festival to be held from May 22 to 23. Moving the festival to May, will entice visitors to start their journeys earlier in the tourism season and provide events throughout the tourism season. Stargazing and Line Dancing will kick things off on Friday night followed by a music festival with Proud Mary, the Murphy Brothers and Andrew Winton on Saturday as our first Music in the Park for 2026.

### **Community**

After a successful community meeting on reinvigorating the Gascoyne Junction community garden, we are working through some final access and insurance questions before holding our first busy bee at the garden.

A draft copy of the Local Government Health Policy will be shared with this April meeting with feedback taken by May 7 before presenting a final copy to Council for endorsement at the May meeting.

Nursing Clinics have had some interruptions over the past few months due to a change in staffing for the remote practice's services. A flu vaccine clinic will be held at the May clinic subject to vaccine availability. A meeting is being arranged to discuss additional allied health services for the Gascoyne Junction clinic.



CRC

At the start of the 27/28 financial year the way that funding and reporting for CRCs will be changing and over the past two months we have been invited to participate in a co-design process to determine what this will look like. The current amount of funding will not be impacted, and CPI indexing will be added.

The core roles and responsibilities of the CRC will change slightly however our current model is well equipped for these changes. More details will be shared as we get closer to new contract negotiations. The Gascoyne Junction CRC has been selected of one of eight CRCs across the state to be involved in the 2026 CRC Champions program. With support from the Western Australian Council of Social Services (WACOSS) the CRC will deliver targeted, face to face digital inclusion training for CRCs in remote and isolated locations, alongside a suite of online learning resources for all CRC staff and volunteers.

The program will strengthen digital inclusion capability across the network, complemented by additional initiatives that connect service providers and practical tools to further build the skills of CRC teams and the communities they support. Funding will also be available to deliver this face-to-face training across the Shire. The opportunity to participate in this program will keep our CRC in the forefront of delivering on the new outcomes when the new funding agreements come into effect.

Our work pods have cleared customs and are awaiting collection in Perth for delivery and installation. The two pods will provide an additional level of privacy for residents when conducting online calls with Services Australia and RFDS and during in person meetings with CRC staff and visiting service providers.

Once installation has been completed the final stage of the CRC fitout will commence with new library shelving, tables and chairs to create a welcoming community space to share that will be adaptive and fit for purpose as the CRC continues to transition to meet the ongoing needs of our community.





**LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXTRAORDINARY ELECTION  
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS  
Shire of Upper Gascoyne**

An Extraordinary Postal Election will be held on Thursday, 25 June 2026 in the Shire of Upper Gascoyne to fill the following vacancies:

<b>District</b>	<b>1 Councillor</b>	<b>Expiry of term: 20 October 2029</b>
<b>District</b>	<b>1 Councillor</b>	<b>Expiry of term: 16 October 2027</b>

**Nominations Open** on Tuesday, 5 May 2026

**Nominations Close** at 4.00pm Tuesday, 12 May 2026

Nominations must be lodged with the Returning Officer:

- at any time during the above period by arrangement; or
- between 2.00pm and 4.00pm Tuesday, 12 May 2026 (close of nominations) at the Shire of Upper Gascoyne, 4 Scott Street, GASCOYNE JUNCTION.

**Nominations Requirements**

Candidates are required to lodge with the Returning Officer:

- The Commission's preferred method for candidates to nominate is through the Commissions Nomination Builder. This tool assists candidates in completing their nomination form, including their profile and additional information. The Nomination Builder can be accessed via [www.lgportal.waec.wa.gov.au/noms](http://www.lgportal.waec.wa.gov.au/noms). Candidates can complete their nomination details and profile, print the completed form with the allocated nomination ID, and lodge it with the Returning Officer. Alternatively, a copy of the prescribed nomination form is available from the Returning Officer or via [www.elections.wa.gov.au/Candidate-Information](http://www.elections.wa.gov.au/Candidate-Information)
- a single A4 page profile of not more than 1,000 characters (including spaces) containing information about the candidate;
- a nomination deposit of \$100 (cash, EFT, bank cheque or postal order);
- a recent passport-sized photograph (optional);
- every candidate must complete the online course titled *Local Government Candidate Induction*, available at [Induction for Prospective candidates | LGIRS candidates](#), prior to nominating and provide the course code on the nomination form; and
- in addition to the candidates A4 profile, Candidate can provide additional information that they consider to be relevant to their candidature. This written statement cannot be more than 2,000 characters (including spaces), must be in the English language and is for publication on the local government's official website only. (optional)

**Please Note:**

Where an agent lodges a nomination on a candidate's behalf, it must be in the prescribed form with a written authorisation signed by the candidate. The documents may be hand delivered or posted to the Returning Officer and must be received by the close of nominations.

**Information**

Full details about eligibility and nomination procedures for prospective candidates can be obtained by contacting the Returning Officer, **James WILLIAMS** on **0461 432 453** or the Western Australian Electoral Commission on 13 63 06.

**DENNIS O'REILLY**  
ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER  
13 63 06



**SHIRE OF UPPER GASCOYNE – LANDOR MT AUGUSTUS RD UPGRADE 2025-26**  
**MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT – April 2026**

<b>Head Contractor</b>	THEM Earthmoving	<b>Start Date</b>	21 November 2025
<b>Concrete Work Contractor “Nominated Subcontractor”</b>	Exmouth Civil	<b>Practical Completion Date</b>	30 June 2026

**Project Overview**

The 2025-26 Landor Mt Augustus upgrade project will upgrade various segments of the Landor Mt Augustus Rd. The project is fully funded via a combination of Main Roads WA State Initiative Program (SIP) funds and Remote Access Roads (RAR) funding.

Specifically, the work comprises:

**Landor Bypass**

- Upgrade of approx. 6.6km of the Landor Mt Augustus Rd (Slk 1.4 – Slk 8.0) from gravel to seal
- Construction of a new 10m wide concrete floodway over the Gascoyne River
- Construction of a new 10m wide concrete floodway over the Aurilla Creek
- Construction of three new cement stabilised floodways (south of the Gascoyne River crossing)
- Upgrade of the Landor Mt Augustus Rd / Landor Mt Clere Rd intersection
- Construction of two new intersections for the private Landor Homestead Access Rd (original Landor Mt Augustus Rd)
- New 12m wide stock grid
- *Depending on funding, there may be the opportunity to upgrade the “gap” from Slk 0.1 – 1.4 from gravel to seal*

**Pink Hills Culvert Upgrades**

- Construction of new 3 x 1200x600 box culvert structure (Slk 65.4)
- Construction of new 3 x 1200x450 box culvert structure (Slk 65.9)
- Construction of new 6 x 1200x750 box culvert structure (Slk 79.1)
- Reforming and resheeting of the unsealed carriageway in each location

**THEM Earthmoving** is the Head Contractor responsible for all work.

**Exmouth Civil** is the “Nominated Subcontractor” who will complete all concrete and culvert works.



Work Area 8 (Pink Hills 2<sup>nd</sup> Culvert Structure): Embankment **Lift 2**



Work Area 8 (Pink Hills 2<sup>nd</sup> Culvert Structure): Embankment **Lift 3**



## Town Maintenance Supervisor

### About the Role:

The Shire of Upper Gascoyne is looking for an experienced **Town Maintenance Supervisor** to join our Works Department. You will oversee maintenance of all Shire infrastructure, including buildings, parks, gardens, cemeteries, waste facilities, and road verges.

This is a hands-on leadership role for someone passionate about maintenance and community impact. This is an exciting opportunity for someone passionate about maintenance, with excellent attention to detail and a desire to make a positive impact on the community.

### Key Responsibilities:

- Supervise and assist the town gardens and maintenance crew.
- Plan and conduct routine maintenance of the Shire's infrastructure, including buildings, houses, waste disposal sites, parks, gardens, cemeteries, and road verges within the town and surrounding areas.
- Plan and conduct routine maintenance of plant, tools, and equipment under your control.
- Plan and coordinate Local Emergency Management, including the local bushfire brigade.
- Plan and oversee minor projects as required.
- Assist the Executive Works Manager with budgeting, project planning, and capital purchases as needed.

### Remuneration:

- Competitive salary (\$95,000 – \$105,000)
- 3x1 house with shed, rent, utilities and garden maintenance included
- Private use of a vehicle within the Gascoyne Region

### Applicants must demonstrate suitability for the role and provide:

- Resume
- Covering letter outlining your interest in the position, relevant experience, and other skills

### How to Apply:

An application package is available on the Shire's website: [Shire of Upper Gascoyne Employment](#)  
Or by contacting Executive Manager of Works and Services on 9943 0988.

Applications close at **4:00pm on Friday 22nd May 2026**, however, the Shire reserves the right to close the advertising earlier.

Applications should be marked '**Private & Confidential – Town Maintenance Supervisor**' and sent to: [works@uppergascoyne.wa.gov.au](mailto:works@uppergascoyne.wa.gov.au)

**Important:** Canvassing of Shire staff and/or Elected Members will disqualify applicants.

The Shire of Upper Gascoyne is an equal opportunity employer.

**John McCleary, JP, bBus**  
Chief Executive Officer

# Services Australia Information & Resources - Cyclone Narelle



A message for residents of the Shire of Upper Gascoyne from Services Australia containing information and resources about Services Australia payment and support for those affected by Tropical Cyclone Narelle in March 2026.

Please read below:

Please accept my condolences for the damage and loss your community has faced because of Western Australia Tropical Cyclone Narelle, March 2026. I'm reaching out from Services Australia to share some information and resources about our payments and support which you can use to help affected people.

**Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment:** Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment (AGDRP) is a lump sum payment to help people affected by Western Australia Tropical Cyclone Narelle, March 2026.

People may be eligible if they experienced any of the following:

- major damage to their principal place of residence
- major damage to a major asset or assets that they own at their principal place of residence
- serious injury
- an immediate family member who is an Australian citizen or resident has died or is missing.

Equivalent financial assistance is also available to eligible New Zealand citizens. People can find information about eligibility including declared areas and how to claim on the Services Australia website. They can type 'QC 60504' into the search bar. Please check back regularly as other areas may become eligible.

**Disaster Recovery Allowance:** Disaster Recovery Allowance is a short-term allowance to help people directly affected by this disaster. People can be eligible for DRA for up to 13 weeks if they have lost income as a direct result of the Western Australia Tropical Cyclone Narelle, March 2026. Equivalent financial assistance is also available to eligible New Zealand citizens. You can find information about the areas declared for payments and eligibility information on our website. Please go to the Services Australia website and type 'QC 60504' in to the search bar.

**Stay up-to-date with us on social media:** Our social media pages are also a great way to find information about where our staff are, and other important updates for people who are getting Australian Government payments and services. I invite you to follow our page and share any updates that are relevant to your community from your channels. Please go to our website and type 'QC 33601' into the search bar to find all our social media accounts.

**Get in touch with us:** I hope these resources are helpful to you during this difficult time. If you have any feedback on these materials or are looking for additional content about our payments or services, please let us know. If you have any questions or would like us to forward this to a different contact within your organisation, please reply to us at [atcomms.emergencies@servicesaustralia.gov.au](mailto:atcomms.emergencies@servicesaustralia.gov.au)

# BLAST FROM THE PAST

THIS SEGMENT OF THE GOSSIP EXPLORES PAST ARTICLES ON NEWS AND EVENTS IN THE UPPER GASCOYNE.

**The**  
**NORTHERN**

**Guardian**

• CARNARVON • EXMOUTH • DENHAM • CORAL BAY  
• MONKEY MIA • GASCOYNE JUNCTION

Phone: 41 2222. Fax: 41 1746

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1996

Distributed Free

*Come and See:*  
Friday, October 25  
CAKE STALL - SENIOR CITIZENS  
Saturday, October 26  
RAFFLE - ST MARY'S  
NEW WAY MEATS  
Check The Weekly Specials  
*It's all happening at the ...* Carnarvon Boulevard

## New row on Cape listing

By BRONWEN KELLY

CONSERVATIONISTS have called on Premier Richard Court to seek World Heritage listing for the North-West Cape region, despite fierce opposition from the Exmouth Shire Council.

In a letter to Mr Court last week, 19 national and international conservation groups appealed to the State Government to move urgently to provide the area with interim protection from "further environmentally impacting or potentially impacting activities".

The move followed the unofficial release of a consultant's report to the Department of Environmental Protection.

Environment Minister Peter Foss said last week the leaked report would not be released as aspects of it were defamatory.

But WA Conservation Council acting coordinator David Sutton, who wrote the open letter to Mr Court, said it had raised serious concerns about the adequacy of environmental impact assessments for developments in the area.

De Sutton said the region was one of the most significant natural heritage areas in the world but a range of impacts from existing and proposed development activities on the Cape threatened its unique values.

Exmouth shire president Dave Richardson said he would not comment on findings of a report which had not been released to the public.

But he said the council was 100 per cent behind sustainable development in the region and against the call for World Heritage listing.

CALM was doing an excellent job managing the Cape Range National Park and Ningaloo Marine Park and he believed proper environmental management plans were already in place.

He said that the majority of the local community opposed development on the more environmentally sensitive west coast but still wanted to see the town go ahead.

"The community likes the reef as it is and the



IT WAS fun all round on the beach as Jacinta Belottie (left) and Kara Saunders helped Craig Saunders apply sunscreen during the yachting regatta.

## Gascoyne games prove a sporting hit

MORE than 600 athletes converged in Denham between October 12 and 14 as Shark Bay hosted the second annual Gascoyne Games.

Sixteen different sporting events, from basketball and bridge to volleyball were held to make up the biggest single sporting event Shark Bay has seen.

In conjunction with the games, the Shark Bay Festival Committee held a foreshore festival on the Sunday night.

More than 3000 people were estimated to join in the festivities which included a fireworks display, live bands, bootscooting and fire brigade demonstrations.

A 'Back to Shark Bay' trip was organised for former residents who were invited to Denham and a time capsule was buried to mark the occasion.

The Shark Bay Gascoyne games and festival committees, which had planned the event for close to a year, thanked the athletes, sponsors and everyone who had played a part in making it a success.

Shark Bay Gascoyne Games publicity officer Marshall Hipper said the feedback from the event had all been positive.

"Everybody has been thrilled with the success of the program. The grand finale really brought it all together," Mr Hipper said.

The Gascoyne Games started in Exmouth in 1994.

They will be held in Carnarvon next year so they will not coincide with the North-West Games which are scheduled every four years.

● Pictures, results pages 4,5,6

## Leahy, RFDS clashing again

Check out this snippet of the  
1996 Northern Guardian  
Newspaper!

"HA  
HA"  
HA"

# ODD QUESTIONS ONLY



## What is your favourite sound?

'WATERFALLS'

'POURING  
RAIN'

'OPENING A  
CAN'

'CRACKLING  
FIRE'

'RIVER  
FLOWING'

'OCEAN  
WAVES'

'SILENCE'

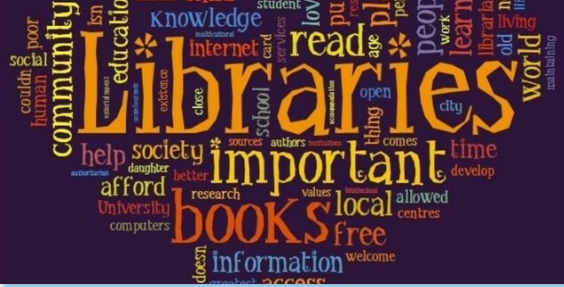
## What would you choose to be if you weren't human?

- A God
- A Dog
- A Penguin
- A Whale shark
- A Tablecloth
- An Eagle
- A rich person's dog
- A White pointer shark

## If you could master one skill, what would it be?

- Welding
- Play cello
- Be lucky
- Play piano
- Picking winning numbers
- Learn Bird Language
- Music Production
- Manual Driving

Have some awesome question ideas? Come and see us in the CRC to tell us your thoughts or send us an email on [crc@uppergascoyne.wa.gov.au](mailto:crc@uppergascoyne.wa.gov.au)



# BOOKS OF THE MONTH

## **EYES OF THE FOREST - Young Adult**

### **Fiction**

**Author: Rachael Johns**

After a bestselling fantasy author disappears, only his biggest fan believes he's in danger and has the courage to uncover the truth in this fast-paced mystery with a chilling psychological twist.

Bridget is RM Haldon's biggest fan. His epic fantasy series, Swords and Shadows, created a lifeline between Bridget and her mom as she lost her battle with cancer. When Bridget met Haldon at his only book signing, she impressed the author with her encyclopedic knowledge of the fantasy world he'd created. Bridget has been working for him ever since as he attempts to write his final book.

Now, Haldon is missing, and Bridget is the only person who seems concerned. Can Bridget piece together Haldon's clues and save him before it's too late?



## **REMAIN - Adult Fiction**

**Author: Nicholas Spark**

When New York architect Tate Donovan arrives in Cape Cod to design his best friend's summer home, he is hoping to make a fresh start following the loss of his beloved sister. Sylvia's deathbed revelation—that she can see spirits who are still tethered to the living world, a gift that runs in their family—sits uneasily with Tate, who struggles to believe in more than what reason can explain. But when he takes up residence at a historic bed-and-breakfast on the Cape, he encounters a beautiful young woman named Wren who will challenge every assumption he has about his logical and controlled world.

Tate and Wren find themselves forging an immediate connection, one that neither has ever experienced before. But Tate gradually discovers that below the surface of Wren's idyllic small-town life, hatred, jealousy, and greed are festering. Tate realizes that in order to free Wren from an increasingly desperate fate, he will need to unearth the truth about her past before time runs out. Love—while transformative—can sometimes be frightening.

A story about the power of transcendent emotion, Remain asks us all: Can love set us free not only from our greatest sorrows, but even from the boundaries of life and death?



# Gascoyne Junction Remote Community School

## NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2026

Responsibility Resilience Respect



### PRINCIPAL'S POST

*Hello to parents, families, and the school community.*

We have started Term 2 off busy, with lots of great learning and activities already underway.

We were fortunate to have Chloe from the Stephen Michael Foundation visit our school, where students participated in a creative and engaging art activity.

On ANZAC Day, Harley did a wonderful job delivering his poem, showing great confidence and respect during this important commemoration.

Bridie is currently preparing for her OLN and is showing great commitment. She will do a fantastic job!

We are looking forward to seeing families and community members at our Do It for Dolly Day morning tea on **12 May**. Don't forget to bring your gold coins. There will also be Dolly merchandise available as prizes.

Amanda Grayson - Principal

### Join us for Dolly's Dream Day Morning Tea

Our school is inviting you to come together with us for a special Dolly's Dream Day Morning Tea on **Tuesday 12th May at 10:30am** at Gascoyne Junction Remote Community School.

Dolly's Dream Day is a National Day of Kindness, raising awareness about bullying, cyberbullying, and the importance of speaking up. It is all about creating safer, kinder communities by encouraging open conversations and supporting one another.

Come along, enjoy a cuppa, share a chat, and show your support. Everyone in the community is warmly welcome.

**Please bring a gold coin donation \$\$\$**

Let's be kind. Let's speak up. Let's make a difference. ❤️

### Thai Green Chicken Curry



#### Ingredients

- 1kg long grain rice
- 2 tbsp canola oil
- 1.25kg chicken breast, diced
- 2 large, sweet potato, diced
- 5 tbsp Thai green curry paste
- 250mL hot water
- 500g broccoli, cut into florets
- 500g green beans, cut into 3cm pieces
- 500g carrots, diced
- 800mL coconut flavoured evaporated milk
- 1 tbsp fish sauce
- 2 cups coriander leaves, chopped

#### Method

1. Cook rice according to packet instructions.
2. Heat oil in a wok or large saucepan, add chicken and cook for 1 to 2 minutes.
3. Add sweet potato and curry paste and cook while stirring for 2 minutes.
4. Pour in water and gently simmer for 5 minutes.
5. Add remaining vegetables and continue simmering until all vegetables are tender (approximately 8 to 10 minutes).
6. Stir in the evaporated milk and fish sauce and heat through.
7. Serve with rice and sprinkle coriander over the top.



## Stephen Michael Foundation Visit

At the end of Term 1, Chloe from the Stephen Michael Foundation visited our school and helped with a hands-on environmental activity with the students. Together, they created their own mini “environments” using banana boxes, filling them with natural materials such as twigs, soil, and stones collected from around the school grounds. Chloe also brought along seashells, which added an extra element of creativity and exploration to their projects.



## What's Happening in SIDE

Students have been actively engaging in their SIDE (School of Isolated and Distance Education) lessons, showing great independence and commitment to their learning. It's been wonderful to see them staying focused and making steady progress across their subjects.

Bride has also been working hard in preparation for her OLN tests, dedicating time to her studies and building her skills. We wish her the best of luck!



# ANZAC Day

On Friday the 24th, Harley spent time baking Anzac Day biscuits before taking them over to the Shire to share with the staff—don't they look delicious!

On Saturday, the Shire held the Anzac Day ceremony, where the community came together to reflect on those who have fallen. Harley proudly represented our school by reading "Not a Hero" by Clyde Hamilton, and we could not be prouder—he read beautifully.

A big thank you to the Shire for always organising such a meaningful ceremony, and to the Carnarvon Horseman's Club for bringing their horses out so they could take part in the march down the main street. It truly is always such a special tribute.



## COMING EVENTS

12/04/26	Dolly's Dream Day Morning Tea
01/06/26	WA Day Public Holiday
20/06/26	Pink Stumps Day
03/07/26	Last Day of Term

# The Gascoyne Junction Remote Community School Invites the Upper Gascoyne Community to...

## JOIN US FOR *Dolly's Dream* ♡ DAY ♡



### MORNING TEA



When: **TUESDAY**  
**12<sup>TH</sup> MAY**



Where: **GASCOYNE JUNCTION**  
**REMOTE COMMUNITY SCHOOL**



Time: **10:30AM**



#### *What is Dolly's Dream Day?*

Dolly's Dream Day is about remembering Dolly Everett and her message of kindness, courage and speaking up. It raises awareness of bullying, cyberbullying and mental health, and encourages open conversations to create a kinder, safer world for all.

#### ♡ *All welcome!*

We welcome all members of our community to come together, enjoy a cuppa, have a chat and show your support.

*Let's be kind. Let's speak up. Let's make a difference.* ♡



**PLEASE BRING A GOLD COIN DONATION**  
All donations help support Dolly's Dream and their important work.



# Triple Cheese & Onion Muffins

## METHOD

### Step 1

Heat oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6 and oil a 12-hole muffin tin. Whisk the oil, egg and buttermilk. In a mixing bowl, mix the flour, 1 tsp salt and mustard powder, then stir in the cheddar, spring onions, chives and half the Parmesan.

### Step 2

Use a large spoon to gently fold the wet ingredients into the dry – don't overmix, just lightly combine. With the final few folds, mix in the soft cheese cubes. Spoon the mixture between the holes in the tin (they will be quite full), scatter with the remaining Parmesan and bake for 25 mins.

## INGREDIENTS

- 150ml sunflower oil (with a little extra to grease the pan)
- 1 large egg
- 284ml carton buttermilk
- made up to 350ml with milk
- 500g self-raising flour
- 1 tsp English mustard powder
- 140g mature cheddar
- grated
- 1 bunch spring onions - sliced
- small bunch chives - snipped
- 25g parmesan
- (or vegetarian alternative), grated
- 200g full-fat soft cheese gently diced into 2cm cubes



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## MAY

- 9 Kevan "Pronto" Brand
- 27 Barney McTaggart
- 24 Anna Collins

## JUNE

- 19 Heejong Hwang
- 19 Cherie Walker
- 20 Sean Walker



## JULY

- 4 Blanche Walker
- 7 Hamish McTaggart
- 13 Darcy McKeough
- 17 Dameon Whitby
- 24 Jarrod Walker
- 27 Jamie Podmore

## AUGUST

- 1 Alys McKeough
- 18 Spags Burnett
- 18 Harry McKeough



Do you live in the Upper Gascoyne? Is your birthday missing from the monthly Gassy Gossip?

Email us at [crc@uppergascoyne.wa.gov.au](mailto:crc@uppergascoyne.wa.gov.au)



UNDER  
*Gascoyne*  
**SKIES FESTIVAL**  
MAY 22<sup>ND</sup> - 23<sup>RD</sup> 2026

**FRIDAY 22 MAY**  
**LINE DANCING & STARGAZING**



**SATURDAY 23 MAY**  
**MUSIC IN THE PARK**  
**FREE CONCERT**  
**FROM 3PM**



**PROUD  
MARY**



**MURPHY  
BROTHERS**



**ANDREW  
WINTON**

**TOWN AMPHITHEATRE AT TWO RIVERS MEMORIAL PARK**

# What's Happening?

Join us in Gascoyne Junction for a weekend of FREE activities to celebrate what we love about living under Gascoyne Skies.

## Friday May 22

The Under Gascoyne Skies Festival kicks off on Friday May 22 at the Gascoyne Junction Pub & Tourist Park.

From 7pm it's time to admire the night sky, with our telescope pointed to the stars and planets above, our incredible dark skies provide the perfect backdrop for premium night sky viewing.

At 7.30pm it's time to grab your boots, or put on those dancing shoes as line dancing takes over the outdoor garden at the pub. From 7.30pm a line dancing class for all will get the night start before a regular hoe down starts from 8.30 to practice those new skills.

## Saturday May 23

The Shire of Upper Gascoyne will hold their May council meeting this morning before an official opening of the RO plant being held at 2pm.

Then it is time for the first Music in the Park for 2026 and what a line up we have.

Starting at 4pm we have Andrew Winton to kick off our festivities at the Town Amphitheatre at the Two Rivers Memorial Park. The music will then continue with the Murphy Brothers and in a much requested encore performance Proud Mary will hit the stage with their Creedence Clearwater repertoire.



## UNDER GASCOYNE SKIES FESTIVAL



22 May - 6:00 pm

Gascoyne Junction Two Rivers Memori...  
Gascoyne Junction

### Scan the QR Code for your FREE ticket





## ANZAC Day

Over 50 community members, visitors, members of the Carnarvon Horsemen's Club & the Australian Defence Force were in attendance at the Gascoyne Junction ANZAC Day commemorative service at the Gascoyne Junction War Memorial on April 25.

The Carnarvon Horseman's Club led a march down Gregory Street from the Gascoyne Junction Community Resource & Visitor Information Centre to the War Memorial. CPL Jack Lawton from the 2nd Pilbara Regiment, Shire President Jim Caunt and Gascoyne Junction Remote Community School student Harley Munns all spoke during the service.

Wreaths were laid and a moment of silence was held to remember those who have served. The community gathered afterwards at the Gascoyne Junction Pub & Tourist Park to enjoy delicious light refreshments prepared by the team. Thank you to all who attended.

## Checking Road Conditions



At the CRC, our focus for April was on reinforcing the importance of checking road conditions and planning ahead, especially during holiday periods or in unpredictable weather. For those stopping by, we have a display up that highlights these tips.

The table display will continue for May, showcasing the joy of reading and creative storytelling. This month's theme invites everyone to take part in a fun reading challenge, explore new books, and even create their own imaginative stories.

Visitors can enjoy interactive elements, share their favourite reads, and get inspired to make reading a regular and enjoyable part of their routine.



SHIRE OF UPPER GASCOYNE

UPDATE

## GREEN TO GASCOYNE

### THE HORROCKS FUNDRASIER GOLF DAY UPDATE

#### THE HAY IS ON THE MOVE!

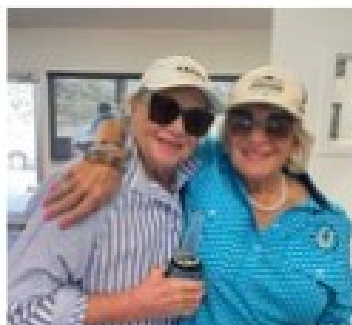
We're proud to share a special update following the Horrocks Fundraiser Golf Day, held to raise vital funds for pastoralists in the Upper Gascoyne facing ongoing drought conditions.

Thanks to the incredible generosity and support shown on the day, the funds raised have now been turned into real, practical support.

The hay is officially on its way to the Upper Gascoyne, where it will provide much-

needed feed for cattle and relief for station families doing it tough.

What started as a community fundraiser has quickly become meaningful, on-the-ground assistance—helping ease the pressure during a very challenging time.



#### WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO

- Sandra Stock-Standen
- Colleen Mills
- Our generous sponsors and supporters
- Everyone who contributed to making the day such a success

Your leadership, generosity, and commitment have made a real and tangible difference.

We also acknowledge the heartfelt gratitude shared by the Shire of Upper Gascoyne, recognising

the significant impact this initiative will have on pastoralists and the way it reflects the strength and resilience of our community.

A special mention to Ben Williams and Thomas Waite, who are currently making the journey north to deliver the hay—thank you for stepping up and ensuring this support reaches those who need it most.

This initiative is a powerful example of what can be achieved when a community comes together behind a shared purpose. The impact of this support will be felt well beyond today.

Thank you again to everyone involved.

# Skin Check Screenings in Gascoyne Junction a Success

## Community Skin Check - Success!

HAVE A READ INTO OUR RECENT SKIN CANCER SCREENING WITH SPOTSCREEN!



22 community members took part in our recent skin check initiative – an excellent step toward staying proactive about skin health.

### Highlights:



- 15-minute full body skin cancer screenings
- Advanced dermoscopy technology for thorough assessments
- Screenings conducted by qualified skin health clinicians
- Personalised skin risk assessments (history, UV exposure, habits)
- Detailed review of any suspicious spots or moles

### Participants received:



- Practical sun safety and prevention advice
- Guidance on how to perform self skin checks
- A take-home booklet with results and information
- GP referrals if further follow-up was needed

### Why it matters:

Early detection plays a key role in better health outcomes. This initiative made it simple, accessible, and informative for our community.

Thank you to everyone who participated.

# FREE Flu Vaccine Clinic

## Wednesday May 20

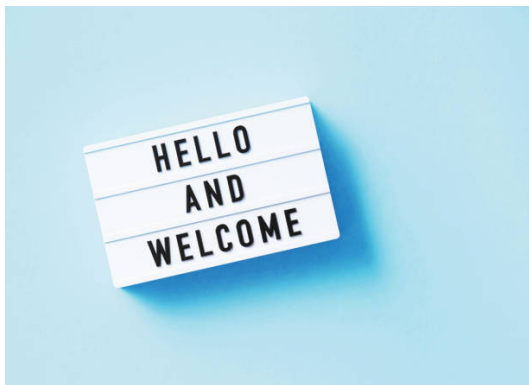
As part of our monthly Nursing Clinic this month, WACHS will be providing a FREE Flu Vaccine Clinic for Shire of Upper Gascoyne residents between 10am and 1pm on Wednesday May 20. To make an appointment please make a booking online on the Shire Website. Go to the Community page and select Medical Clinics or contact the Gascoyne Junction Community Resource & Visitor Information Centre.



## Farewell Ta-Leah

A morning tea was held to farewell Ta-Leah as she leaves us to move south for the next exciting chapter. Ta-Leah has been a loved team member at the Community Resource & Visitor Information Centre, showing innovation and creativity in every task she has undertaken. Good Luck Ta-Leah

## New Faces Morning Tea - May 20



Starting on May 11, two new staff members will be joining the team at the Gascoyne Junction Community Resource & Visitor Information Centre. Paul will be taking on a full time role supported by Amelia in a part time role. In conjunction with the Flu Vaccine Clinic on Wednesday May 20 we will be serving morning tea as a chance for the community to call in and meet Paul & Amelia over a cuppa and nibbles.

# Junction Craft Group Calendar

1 February: End of School Holidays

**21 – 22 February** Untutored

**28 – 29 March** AGM & Mystery Quilt

3 – 19 April: School Holidays

**2 – 3 May** Untutored – Finish Mystery

**13 – 14 June** Finish Mystery Quilt

4 – 19 July: School Holidays

**29 July – 2 August** Retreat – Email for info

**15 – 16 August** Woodwork

**19 – 20 September** Jelly Rolls or BYO or UFO

25 September – 11 October: School Holidays

**17 – 18 October** Mosaic Table

**28 – 29 November** Christmas Craft

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Contact Us:

✉ junctioncraft@gmail.com

☎ 0438 384 603 Alys McKeough - President / Secretary

☎ 0428 841 818 Chris Kearney - Treasurer



Proudly supported by



## JOIN THE GASCOYNE JUNCTION SPORTS CLUB GYM

Did you know that there is a gym in Gascoyne Junction located in the Pavilion Precinct.

Membership is available for all Shire residents.

3 months:

6 months: \$51.35

12 months: \$102.70

To join or find out more please contact the Gascoyne Junction Community Resource & Visitor Information Centre

E: [crc@uppergascoyne.wa.gov.au](mailto:crc@uppergascoyne.wa.gov.au)

T: 08 9943 0988

# LET'S EXERCISE!

I know the last couple months have either been too hot, too windy or too wet to go outside and we are now heading into the months of too cold!

Here is a workout idea for when you're stuck inside.

## 30 Minute INDOOR CARDIO WORKOUT

### WARM UP

- Squats x 20
- Punches x 30
- Single Leg Deadlift x 20

### CARDIO

- Jumping Jacks x 50
- Mountain Climbers x 40
- Plank Jacks x 20
- High Knees x 30
- Skaters x 30
- Bicycles x 40
- Commandos x 20
- Jump Lunges x 30

### COOL DOWN

- Squats x 20
- Punches x 30
- Toe Touches x 20

# GASSIFIEDS

Are you looking for a place to get your business, your event, or your items for sale in front of the residents of the Shire of Upper Gascoyne?



It's time to book an advertising space in the Gassy Gossip. Whether its for one month or year round this is the place to

## **ADVERTISING RATES PER MONTH**

A4 - \$45.80

A5 - \$28.35

A6 - \$22.90

Business Card Size - \$9.25

Contact the CRC on 9943 0988 or  
[crc@uppergascoyne.wa.gov.au](mailto:crc@uppergascoyne.wa.gov.au)







**Thank a  
First  
Responder  
Day**

# Young Voices Art Showcase

**Get creative. Share your thanks.**

This Thank a First Responder Day, children and young people are invited to express their gratitude through art. From drawings and paintings to photography and digital design, every artwork is a powerful way to say thanks.

## Theme

-  Acts of kindness or helping others.
-  What first responders mean to your community.
-  Messages of thanks or support.
-  Community connection or appreciation.

Using the colour teal or the Thank a First Responder Day triple zero heart logo is encouraged.

## Who can enter

Children and young people across Australia.  
Individual, partnered or group/class entries welcome.

## Key dates

- **Entries open:** Friday 1 March 2026
- **Entries close:** Sunday 24 May 2026
- **Winners announced:** Monday 8 June 2026

**Thank a First Responder Day**  
**Wednesday 10 June 2026**



**Win 1 of two  
\$200 book  
vouchers!**

**As a special thank you  
for their creativity,  
two artworks will  
be selected to receive  
a \$200 book voucher.**

[thankafirstresponderday.org.au](http://thankafirstresponderday.org.au)

#ThankaFirstResponder #PowerOfThanks #TAFRD



# There's a Census job for you



Census



- ✓ Support your community
- ✓ Work flexibly and locally
- ✓ Temporary jobs available all over Australia

We're hiring over 30,000 people for the 2026 Census.

See all opportunities at [census.abs.gov.au/jobs](https://census.abs.gov.au/jobs)



# TRAVELLING DURING A BUSHFIRE



**BUSHFIRES CAN START WITHOUT WARNING.** People have been killed or seriously injured during bushfires. If you are travelling or staying near bushland, fire is a real risk to you. **Pack an emergency kit including important items such as woollen blankets, drinking water and protective clothing.**



## IF THERE IS A LOT OF SMOKE

- Slow down as there could be people, vehicles and livestock on the road.
- Turn your car headlights and hazard lights on.
- Close the windows and outside vents.
- If you can't see clearly, pull over and wait until the smoke clears.

## IF YOU BECOME TRAPPED BY A FIRE

- Sheltering inside a vehicle is a very high risk strategy. It is unlikely that a person will survive in all but the mildest circumstances.**
- Park the vehicle off the roadway where there is little vegetation, with the vehicle facing towards the oncoming fire front.
- Turn the engine off.
- Close the car doors, windows and outside vents, **and call 000.**
- Stay in the car until the fire front has passed. Stay as close to the floor as possible and cover your mouth with a damp cloth to avoid inhalation of smoke.
- Stay covered in woollen blankets, continue to drink water and wait for assistance.
- Once the front has passed and the temperature has dropped, cautiously exit the vehicle.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Find the local ABC radio frequency in the area. Stay up to date in a major emergency, when lives and property are at risk, ABC radio will issue broadcast warnings at a quarter to and a quarter past the hour.
- Main Roads provides updated information on road closures throughout WA. Call 138 138 or [www.mainroads.wa.gov.au](http://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au)
- Check the weather forecast and current fire restrictions. Be aware of the Fire Danger Rating for the area you are travelling to and be prepared to reassess your plans.
- Download the Bushfire Traveller's Checklist at [www.dfes.wa.gov.au](http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au)

For more information visit  
[dfes.wa.gov.au/bushfire](http://dfes.wa.gov.au/bushfire)

or contact DFES Community Preparedness:  
[Community.Preparedness@dfes.wa.gov.au](mailto:Community.Preparedness@dfes.wa.gov.au)

or **9395 9816**





# May Stargazing

## Dance of the Planets

The best naked-eye planetary stargazing for 2026 is hitting the night sky from mid-May.

From 19th May and into June, Astrotourism Towns are in for stunning evening night sky views! Venus, Jupiter and Mercury are putting on a show that changes every night and you have a prime time viewing seat! Watch from evening to evening and see the motion of our Solar System in action.

Start on the 19th May. It's a delight with bright Venus appearing alongside a wonderful crescent Moon. Jupiter is higher above. But Mercury is nowhere to be seen.....yet!

As the evenings progress, Venus will appear to get closer to Jupiter, making its closest approach on 10th June. Mercury will appear lower on the horizon in late May, climbing higher in the night sky to join Jupiter in mid to late June. Venus will appear to overtake Jupiter and climb higher into the night sky.

Enjoy this wonderful spectacle of some of the best naked-eye planets dancing across the evening sky.

### When and where to look:

Start watching after sunset from 6.00pm, 19th May. If you want to plan ahead, look at the view on 10th June by visiting <https://astrotourismwa.com.au/june-planets/>.



Image provided courtesy SkySafari.

Planets will dance each evening from mid-May into June. Image provided by SkySafari, a Simulation Curriculum Company, All rights reserved [www.simulationcurriculum.com](http://www.simulationcurriculum.com).

For more what's up in the night sky, visit [www.astrotourismwa.com.au](http://www.astrotourismwa.com.au). Happy stargazing!



# SMOKO TIME

## RIDDLE OF THE MONTH

Jenny has 5 children. The 1st is named May. The 2nd is June. The 3rd is July. The 4th is April. What is the name of the 5th child?

ANSWER: It's name is Whati

# May Day Crossword

tradition  
 celebrate  
 raindrops  
 Gardening  
 festival  
 maypole  
 ribbons  
 outside  
 may day  
 Flowers  
 Basket  
 Spring  
 bloom  
 Sunny  
 buds  
 fun  
 May



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



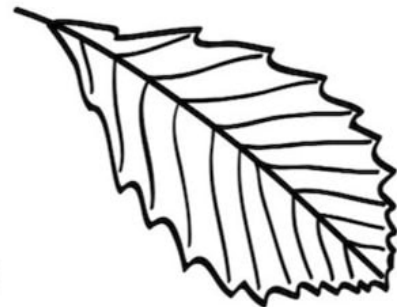
# KIDS CORNER

## KIDS JOKES OF THE MONTH

I come in showers, I help flowers grow,  
and I make rainbows show. What am I?

ANSWER: The rain!

# Autumn Leaves



[babysavers.com](http://babysavers.com)



# Gascoyne Junction

2026 GP

CLINIC DATES



**06 MAY**   **03 JUN**   **01 JUL**   **05 AUG**  
**02 SEP**   **07 OCT**   **04 NOV**   **02 DEC**

# Gascoyne Junction

2026 NURSING

CLINIC DATES



**20 MAY**   **17 JUN**   **15 JUL**   **19 AUG**  
**16 SEP**   **21 OCT**   **18 NOV**   **16 DEC**

- \* Appointments will be 20 minutes long but longer consultations can be requested
- \* Appointments are FREE for residents of the Upper Gascoyne
- \* Video & Telephone Appointments are available
- \* Appointment can be made by online via the QR Code below



This medical service is being supported by the WA Country Health Service Midwest

Delivering a Healthy WA



4 Scott Street Gascoyne Junction | 08 9943 0988  
[www.uppergascoyne.wa.gov.au](http://www.uppergascoyne.wa.gov.au)

**NURSING CLINIC**

GASCOYNE JUNCTION COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE

20 MAY

**UNDER GASCOYNE SKIES FESTIVAL**

GASCOYNE JUNCTION

22 - 23 MAY

**FRIDAY NIGHT STARLIGHTS & LINE DANCING**

JUNCTION PUB

22 MAY

**COUNCIL MEETING**

TOWN PAVILION

23 MAY

UPCOMING  
**2026**  
EVENTS



**RO PLANT OPENING**

TOWN PAVILION

23 MAY

**MUSIC IN THE PARK PROUD MARY**

TWO RIVERS MEMORIAL PARK

23 MAY

**WA DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

CLOSURE OF THE SHIRE & CRC

1 JUNE

**GP CLINIC**

GASCOYNE JUNCTION COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE

3 JUNE

**CRAFT GROUP**

GASCOYNE JUNCTION PAVILION

13 - 14 JUNE

**NURSING CLINIC**

GASCOYNE JUNCTION COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE

17 JUNE

**FRIDAY NIGHT STARLIGHTS**

GASCOYNE JUNCTION PAVILION

19 JUNE

**PINK STUMPS DAY**

TOWN OVAL

20 JUNE