

Gassy Gossip



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Dear Readers

On behalf of all the Staff of the Shire of Upper Gascoyne and the Shire Councillors, we would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year. Many of us will be on the road to visit our family and friends, so please drive carefully. We will to see you all in the New Year.

2017 has been another very busy year for your Shire, we have managed to get through a lot of work. Some of the highlights have been:

- Construction of two new staff houses.
- On-going re-sealing of Carnarvon-Mullewa Road and town roads.
- Major unsealed road repairs delivered through WANDRRA funding – this is a \$10.5M project.
- Developed a new community strategic plan and associated corporate plan, asset management plan, long term financial plan and workforce plan.
- Up graded the pavilion playground.
- Completed the museum.
- Major repairs on the pavilion septic system.

In addition, we had a Council election where we had Lachlan McTaggart sign off as both Councillor and President. Mr Don Hammarquist was elected president with Jimmy Caunt taking the deputy president position. Blanche Walker has come on as a new Councillor, and both Hamish McTaggart and Alys McKeough were re-elected. The community should be very proud of their elected representatives as they truly have the best interests of the district at heart.

From a staffing situation we had Anna and Blanche leave. Anna went back to Glenburgh and Blanche got a position at the Gascoyne Junction Remote School. Amanda Leighton replaced Anna and Kim replaced Blanche. In addition we created a new position, Town Works Supervisor. This position was filled by Lance Root. A big thanks goes out to Anna and Blanche for their contribution. The new staff members have settled in very well and are making a considerable contribution to our organisation. Both Jarrod Walker and I have entered into long term employment arrangements with Council, and we hope to be here for many more years to come. I believe that stability both in Council and in the organisation, is crucial for our long term sustainability.

2018 promises to be another busy year for the Shire with the roads continuing, development of a new war memorial and redevelopment of the tennis court. In the current climate of budget repair, it is very difficult to get grants and additional funding to do a lot of new works. It is imperative that we continue to design our projects, get them fully costed and be 'shovel ready' so that we are ready to take advantage of any funding that comes available either federally or via the State.

Again, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

Kindest Regards
John McCleary, JP
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2018

Wednesday 21st February 2018

Wednesday 28th March 2018

Thursday 26th April 2018

Wednesday 30th May 2018

Wednesday 27th June 2018

Wednesday 25th July 2018

Wednesday 29th August 2018

Wednesday 19th September 2018

Wednesday 31st October 2018

Wednesday 28th November 2018

Friday 14th December 2018

All Audit Committee meetings commence at 8.00am. Council meetings commence at 8.30am. All meeting will be held at the Shire Council Chamber, 4 Scott Street, Gascoyne Junction.



The Shire of Upper Gascoyne would like to thank the following people and organizations who helped to make the 2017 Horizon Power Community Christmas Party a very special event:

Horizon Power

Hastings Technology
Metals Limited

Australian Gas
Infrastructure Group

Dampier Bunbury Pipeline

OK Contracting

Greenfield Technical Services

Junction Contracting Services

Talis Consultants

Lacy Bros Pty Ltd



Refuel Australia – Geraldton

Carnarvon Electrics

Dust Up Projects

Carnarvon Motor Group

Barry Evans Comfort Style Furniture

Mitre 10

Kingsford Bakery

Cool Room Cottage

Mynt and Co Candles - Studio Meer

Scentsy – Tupperware

AND

Shane Aylmore





*A very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year*

to

you all

From the

Shire Councillors & all

Staff at the shire.

Christmas Wishes

*We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and
all the best for the New Year 2018.*

From Betty, Thomas & Ellen

*Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous
New Years!*

Cheers from the Leightons

Wishing everyone a lovely Christmas with family and friends and a safe,
happy New Year for 2018.

Margaret & Colin Rowe.

Merry Christmas and best wishes to all this festive season.

Stay safe on the roads.

Warm regards Kim & John McCleary

*Merry Christmas to one and all of the
Gascoyne area. Hope you have a great
Christmas & see you all in the New
Year.*

Ken & Diane.

*Merry Christmas to one and all,
Hope you all have a great New Year.*

Best Wishes Leeson & Robyn

Merry Christmas to you all & a happy New Year.

From Michael & Buster.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year. Everyone.

Mick & Edna

GASCOYNE JUNCTION REMOTE COMMUNITY SCHOOL CELEBRATION OF LEARNING 2017









GASCOYNE JUNCTION CHRISTMAS PARTY 2017



Merry Christmas 12







Media Release

Vincent Catania MLA

Member for North West Central

7 December 2017

Funding win for regional sportsters

Regional athletes and sporting fans will benefit from two recent Department of Sport and Recreation grant rounds aimed at improving facilities and bringing quality competition to country WA.

The latest Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund (CSRFF) grants round allocated more than \$600,000 to 24 projects, 18 of which are in regional towns. CSRFF small grants are offered for projects under \$200,000.

Vince Catania MLA said improving regional sporting facilities in North West Central had a positive impact on participation rates and overall community health and wellbeing.

"Making access to sporting clubs and facilities easier for community members encourages more participation, growing active sport and recreation clubs at the grassroots level," Vince said.

Congratulations to the Shire of Upper Gascoyne on their successful application through the Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund to re-surface the Gascoyne Junction multi-purpose tennis court.

"Sports plays an important role in social interaction and improving the well-being of all who participate. It promotes healthy team and club cultures as well as providing economic benefits for local contractors who carry out improvement works at our facilities," added Vince.

Nationals WA Sport and Recreation spokesman Peter Rundle said bringing high profile fixtures and events to regional WA was a great way to bring communities together and give them exposure to elite sporting codes they might not otherwise be able to see.

"Quality sporting experiences also encourage more people to get involved, whether it's on the field or off the field in a volunteering role," he said.

"It's a great way to showcase the regions and at the same time remind elite athletes of the important role grassroots sport plays in the development of healthy individuals and communities."

For media enquiries please contact Vince Catania on (08) 99412 999 or email northwest@mp.wa.gov.au

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THE NATIONALS for Regional WA

Vince CATANIA MLA

NORTH WEST CENTRAL



**Wishing you a safe
and Merry Christmas**

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 Vince Catania MP  @VincentCatania

NATIONALS for Regional WA

www.nationalswa.com

Report on the Rangelands Fibre and Produce Association field day at Edah station Yalgoo, 23 November 2017

Edah Station is located between Yalgoo and Mt Magnet. The field day was the culmination of a project funded by the National Landcare Program sponsored by the Mt Magnet Rangelands Fibre and Produce Assoc. The project focused on developing management methods to regenerate the native perennial grasses in the region.

The challenge was to manage Total Grazing Pressure (TGP) so juvenile grass plants that had germinated, with the excellent rains of autumn 2015, could continue to expand. There is strong scientific evidence showing that carrying capacity, livestock productivity and environmental outcomes, can be greatly improved when grazing management is designed to support the maintenance and regeneration of the perennial grasses.

The project included erecting mesh exclosures to demonstrate that controlled grazing pressure and rest periods could be used to accelerate the regeneration process. The mesh ensured protection from kangaroo and goat grazing. Greg Brennan, rangeland consultant, showed a series of slides of the exclosures on Nallan, Austin Downs and Edah stations. Whilst definitive results are not expected in the short term, at one Nallan exclosure extreme grazing pressure from kangaroos outside the exclosure had **caused the death of almost all of the juvenile Neverfail perennial grass plants** compared to good survival inside the exclosure. The learning here is that even low populations of kangaroos can keep country in a degraded state and pastoralist's who wish to improve their country need to actively control such un-managed grazing animals.

The loss of perennial grass and other ground-cover perennials has serious landscape consequences because their ground cover enables raindrops to soak in where they land instead of splashing hard on bare ground and running off into the Indian Ocean, while transporting valuable top soil. Perennial grasses also slow down over-land water flow preventing sheet and gully erosion.

The effect of maintaining ground cover was demonstrated with infiltration rings placed over a perennial grass tussock and bare ground. A simulated 50 mm of rain took two minutes to soak into the grass and over 17 minutes to soak into bare ground. **This dramatic variation in infiltration means that if you have bare ground, you are giving away a lot of water that will never have the opportunity to grow forage for you.**

Edah station



Inspecting a grazing enclosure, Edah Station

MERRY
CHRISTMAS
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR





**GASCOYNE JUNCTION
CRAFT GROUP**

Christmas Craft





Merry
Christmas





CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR

OPENING HOURS

Christmas Eve 8am - 6pm

Christmas Day Closed All Day

Boxing Day 12 noon - 6pm

New Years Eve 8am - 6pm

New Years Day - Closed

Please note, due to the quiet nature of the business during this quite season the Pub may close early as 8pm.

Over the holiday period the kitchen will be closing at 7pm.

We advise to call during the day, if you are planning on coming for dinner.

Phone: 08 99430868





As the New Management team for the Junction Pub and Tourist Park, we would like to thank everybody who supported us, on returning the pub and roadhouse back to a place to be enjoyed, with a good feed and cold beer.

We now have a New Chef on board, so in the New Year we would like to think that with your support, we can have a specials night with a different menu, i.e. Chinese, Pasta, Pizza, or Roast Nights.

So to all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Management Junction Pub and Tourist Park.

Mitch, John and Marcia





1080 baiting: a risk to domestic pets

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development advises that baiting programs using 1080 are carried out across the state, and are aimed at controlling wild dogs, foxes, feral cats, feral pigs and rabbits.

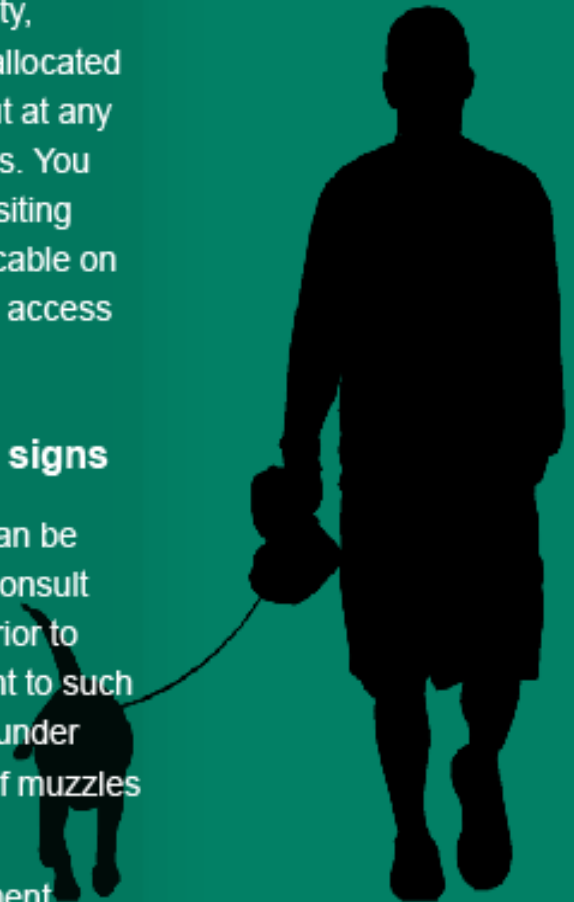
Baiting of pastoral leases, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) reserves, unallocated Crown Lands and freehold farms may be carried out at any time. The poison baits remain toxic for many months. You need to exercise caution when working within, or visiting these areas. Warning signs are placed where applicable on pastoral, DBCA, unallocated Crown Land and main access roads in agricultural areas.

Do not rely upon the presence of warning signs

Signage may not be in the immediate vicinity and can be weather damaged, removed or destroyed. Please consult with individual pastoralists, DBCA and/or farmers prior to entering their lands. Baiting may take place adjacent to such areas and domestic pets should be kept close and under control at all times. Owners may consider the use of muzzles for their domestic pets.

1080 baiting is part of the integrated pest management program to protect livestock from death and injury, reduce the impact upon agricultural production and help preserve the unique flora and fauna of WA.

If poisoning occurs, please seek immediate medical attention or veterinary assistance or contact the Poisons Information Centre on 13 11 26.



Travellers reminded about baiting programs to keep pets safe

People travelling around Western Australia with pets are reminded to be aware of their surroundings as 1080 baiting programs may be underway in the area.

Those travelling along the Eyre Highway from Southern Cross to Eucla and in the Pilbara, Kimberley and Carnarvon regions should be particularly aware to prevent accidental pet poisoning.

The 1080 baits are used in WA's agricultural and pastoral regions to control feral pests such as foxes, wild dogs and rabbits.

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development invasive species policy officer Andrew Reeves said baiting was important to protect livestock and native animals from attacks by wild dogs.

"Landholders generally bait in autumn and spring to protect livestock and crops, however, travellers should be aware that baiting can occur year-round and a cautious approach must be taken when travelling with domestic pets," Mr Reeves said.

"Baits are placed away from roadsides and warning signs will be in place at property entry points, however, pet owners may not always see warning signs when exercising their dogs.

"The 1080 bait is used because most native animals have a degree of tolerance to the chemical as it is found naturally in some plants.

"However, if ingested by domestic pets, such as cats and dogs, it can be fatal, which is why we're reminding travellers to be aware of their surroundings."

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions pests program coordinator, Dennis Rafferty said the 1080 meat baits were attractive even to well-trained pets, especially dogs.

"Travelling around WA with your pet should be an enjoyable time," Mr Rafferty said.

"There are some simple guidelines to follow to reduce the risk of accidental 1080 poisoning.

"Keep your pets on a lead or fitted with a muzzle at all times, particularly if you stop on the side of the road, in a parking bay or overnight camping area.

"Don't let your pet scavenge for food and remember pets are not allowed to be taken into national parks where baiting is often undertaken.

"Also, keep an eye out for signs indicating 1080 baits are being used in the area."

Travellers who suspect their pet has taken bait should induce vomiting and immediately seek veterinary assistance.

If there are any suspect cases of 1080 poisoning they should be reported to Gerard Leddin on [9363 4019](tel:93634019) or email rcp.applications@dprid.wa.gov.au.

Media contacts:

DPIRD media liaison, Jodie Thomson/Katrina Bowers, +61 (0)8 9368 3937

DBCA media liaison, +61 (0)8 9219 9999



Mt Augustus



We are proud to announce that our Tourist Park has gained Australian Tourism accreditation. This shows we have achieved nationally recognised quality assurance standards and deliver quality tourism experiences.

Come stay with us and explore the extraordinary.

Units, powered and unpowered sites available all year round.

www.mtaugustustouristpark.com.au

089 9430527





Junction Phone Book 2018



We are currently in the process of updating the local phone book if you want to add or make any changes to your details please fill out the form

below and return to the Shire Office or email to

adminmanager@uppergascoyne.wa.gov.au

Name: _____

Station Name: _____

Home Phone: _____

Other Building's Phone: _____

Satellite Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Mobile/s: _____

Email: _____

UHF Channel: _____

If you own a business and wish to advertise in the Phone Book, Please fill out the details below and return to the Shire Office.

Business Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Fax: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

What you can offer: _____



Thank you to all those in the community who attended the 2017 Horizon Power Community Christmas Party.

Special thanks to Diane Kempton for all the food preparations and special thanks to Lance Root and the crew for all your effort in setting up and cleaning up after the event.

Thank you to all the ladies who helped throughout the night and to anybody that we may have missed.

Thank you and have a fantastic New Year.



Gassified

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

January

- 3 *Elia Hoseason - Smith*
3 *Hazel McTaggart*
3 *John McCleary*
17 *Nat Rogers*

February

- 3 *Robyn Perry*
17 *Dart Kempton*
24 *Anna Ullrich*
28 *Cooper Capewell*

**Got a Birthday coming up? Contact
the Gassy Gossip by email at
crc@uppergascoyne.wa.gov.au**

Christmas Main Course



EASY SLICE CHRISTMAS DINNER PARCEL

Heat a drizzle of oil in a frying pan, and use a little more to grease a 900g loaf tin. Put the onion in the pan and cook gently for 10-15 mins until caramelised. Tip into a large bowl and set aside to cool. Line the loaf tin with a double strip of foil, leaving plenty overhanging either end (you can use this as a handle to remove the parcel once cooked).

Stretch each piece of bacon a little with the back of your knife. Arrange the rashers so the base of the tin is covered with overlapping bacon and the rashers come neatly up the sides in a single layer, overhanging generously. Sprinkle the breadcrumbs on top of the bacon.

Once the onion has cooled, add the sausage meat and sage to the bowl. Mix everything together, then pack half the mixture into the tin. Spread over about a third of the cranberry sauce.

Cut each turkey breast steak into three strips. Layer roughly half the turkey on top of the stuffing mix, filling any gaps like a jigsaw, but keeping the turkey in one thick layer, then season. Spread over a little more cranberry sauce, then top with the remaining stuffing, cranberry sauce and turkey in the same way, making sure there are no gaps between the layers. The parcel should be full to the top when you're finished. Fold over the overhanging bacon and wrap the tin in foil. Can now be chilled for up to 2 days.

Heat oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4. Put the tin on a baking tray and cook for 1 hr 30 mins. Remove the tin from the oven and leave to cool for 10 mins. Carefully lift the parcel out of the tin, using the foil handles. Roll the parcel over onto a baking tray. Return to the oven for a further 15-20 mins until the outside is crisp and browning. Test the internal temperature with a thermometer, if you have one – it should read 75C when it's ready. Or insert a metal skewer into the centre of the parcel and check it is piping hot. Cover loosely with foil and leave to rest for at least 15 mins before serving. Top with the reserved sage leaves, then slice. Leftovers will keep in the fridge for 2 days.

Ingredients

- drizzle of vegetable oil, plus extra for greasing
- 1 onion, chopped
- 24 rashers smoked streaky bacon
- 2 tbsp. fresh breadcrumbs
- 400g pack sausages (we used pork & leek), meat squeezed from the skins
- 8 sage leaves, chopped, plus a few small leaves to serve
- 250g cranberry sauce, see goes well with for recipe or buy a good-quality jar
- 450g turkey breast steaks





Christmas Dessert



CHOCOLATE CHRISTMAS PUDDINGS

INGREDIENTS

- 1/3 cup (35g) baking cocoa
175g plain flour
175g light brown sugar
175g unsalted butter, softened
- 1/4 cup (60ml) pure (thin) cream
3 eggs
1 tsp vanilla extract
2 tsp baking powder
1/2 tsp bicarbonate of soda
2 tbs brandy
Halved glacé cherries
chocolate holly leaves,
to decorate
- **Chocolate sauce**
- 200g dark cooking chocolate
300ml pure (thin) cream
1/3 cup (115g) golden syrup
2 tsp vanilla extract
2 tbs brandy

METHOD

Preheat oven to 180°C. Grease six 1-cup pudding basins or ramekins.

Whiz all pudding ingredients in a food processor until well combined. Pour mixture into basins. Cover with greased baking paper and 2 layers of foil, then secure with kitchen string. Place basins in a roasting pan and fill pan with enough boiling water to come halfway up sides of basins. Bake for 1 hour.

Meanwhile, for sauce, place ingredients in a heatproof bowl over a pan of simmering water (don't let the bowl touch the water). Stir until melted and smooth.

Invert puddings onto a plate, pour over a little sauce and top with cherries and chocolate holly leaves.

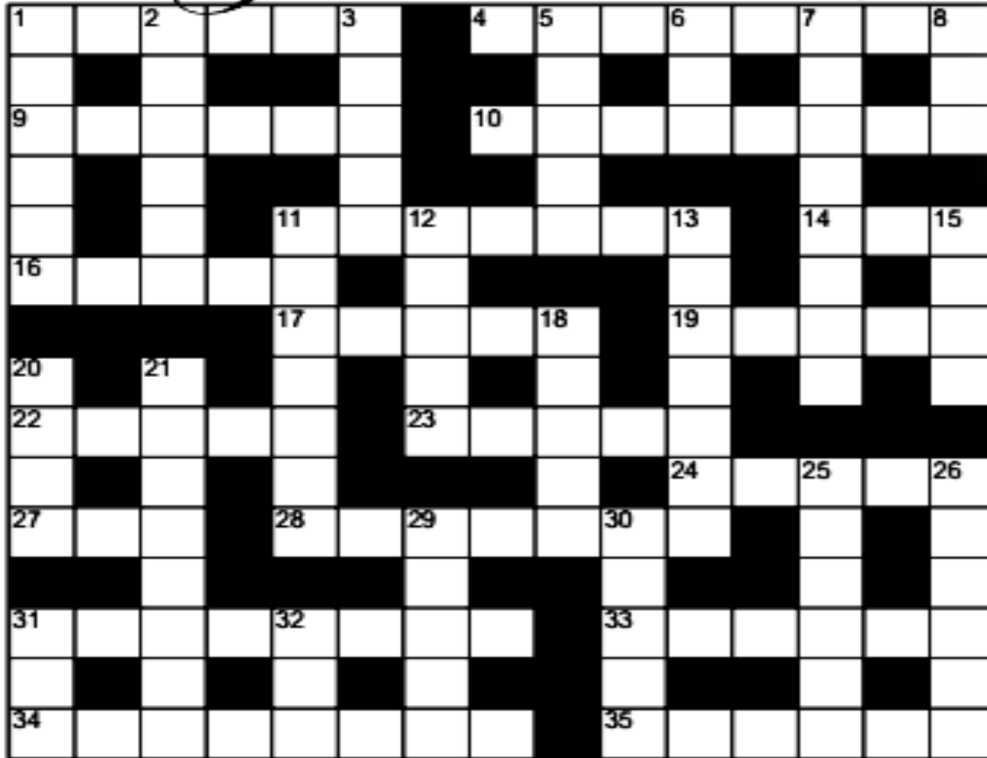
To make chocolate holly leaves, melt 100g cooking chocolate, then spread evenly on a lined baking tray. Allow to set, then cut with holly leaf moulds (from cake decorating shops).





Smoko Corner

The Gourmet



© Denise Sutherland TG084

Across

- 4. German crisp biscuit (8)
- 9. Boil gently (6)
- 10. Short pasta tubes (8)
- 11. Spanish fried snack (7)
- 14. Taproom (3)
- 16. Sashimi dip (5)
- 17. Peels (5)
- 19. Guzzle (5)
- 22. From Holland (5)
- 23. Ouzo flavouring (5)
- 24. Japanese noodle soup (5)
- 27. Extinct bird (3)
- 28. French washed rind cheese (7)
- 31. Australian apple cultivar (4,4)
- 33. Wheat-free Japanese soy sauce (6)
- 34. Forcemeat loaves (8)
- 35. Simple sugar (6)

Down

- 1. Bitter herb (6)
- 2. Spice, var (6)
- 3. Ionian island (5)
- 5. Milled rice (5)
- 6. Historical period (3)
- 7. Aromatic German loaf (8)
- 8. Maori food, informally (3)
- 11. Parboiled wheat, var (7)
- 12. Chinese Malay fusion cuisine (5)
- 13. Food traditionally served with mignonette sauce (7)
- 15. Flat boat (4)
- 18. Winter sportsman (5)
- 20. Cheese from 22 A (4)
- 21. Chinois (8)
- 25. Mild Mexican chilli (6)
- 26. Apprentice (6)
- 29. Elbow (5)
- 30. Fragrant organic compound (5)
- 31. Saucepan
- 32. Polynesian garland (3)



Christmas Food

A	S	T	U	F	F	I	N	G	T	E	G	M	I
E	N	P	A	U	K	D	G	O	L	E	L	U	Y
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N	E	K	A	C	T	I	U	R	F	U	R	G	C
T	G	O	N	G	G	E	G	A	N	N	T	Y	C

HAM
 EGGNOG
 MINCE PIES
 GOOSE
 MULLED WINE
 GINGERBREAD
 DUCK
 STUFFING
 CANDY CANE
 FRUITCAKE
 PUDDING
 YULE LOG
 TURKEY

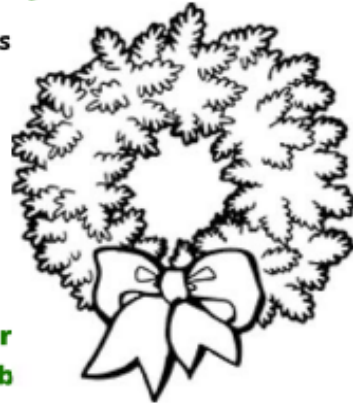




Christmas



Find the hidden words



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celebrate
merry
eggnog
mistletoe
christmas tree
reindeer
blitzen
dancer
vixen

frosty
noel
fruitcake
poinsettia
elves
sleigh bells
comet
donner

holiday
stocking stuffers
sweet potato
wreath
jolly
santa claus
cupid
prancer



Merry Christmas!



Colour Santa in for Christmas.

DECEMBER 2017



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 <i>Disco in the Desert</i>	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 <i>Council Meeting & Community Xmas Party</i>	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 <i>Shire Office Shutdown</i>	23	24
25 <i>Christmas Day</i>	26 <i>Boxing Day</i>	27	28	29	30	31

NOTES:

Upcoming Events

January

8th

Shire Office Re-Opens for Business

21st

February

Council Meeting

