

# SHIRE OF KOJONUP E-NEWS

Edition 203 – 11 December 2020

## COUNCIL BRIEFS

The last Council Meeting for the year was held on Tuesday 8 December with an only small number of items on the Agenda. Some of the outcomes of the meeting were:

### 12.3 Occupational Safety and Health Committee Terms of Reference

Council received the new Terms of Reference for the Occupational Safety and Health Committee.

### 12.4 Reserve Account Appropriateness Review – 2020/2021

The Shire has established Reserve accounts for the purpose of providing a funding source for major projects as contained within the Community Strategic Plan and the appropriateness of these reserves is reviewed annually. This review has now occurred and has been received by Council.

### 15.1 Elected Member Fees & Allowances

Cr Gale put forward a Notice of Motion regarding elected member fees and allowances for considerations of Council. Upon review, Council decided that the current remuneration, being 75% of the allocated funding as determined by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal, are adequate and do not require adjustment.

### 17.1 CEO Recruitment

Council have resolved to appoint Lester Blades as the independent recruitment Consultant to undertake the recruitment, selection and appointment of the next CEO.

For a more comprehensive look at the outcomes of the meeting go to the [website](#).

## Harvesting

Hopefully farmers are having a productive harvest. Council recognises that agriculture is also a barometer of the economic, social and environmental health and well-being of our shire and the region more generally. Please keep safe throughout this hectic period.

## School Leavers

Another school year has almost passed and to those students who are completing Year 10, a new chapter will occur for you in 2021, whether continuing further education, undertaking an apprenticeship or traineeship or attempting to gain employment. We wish you all the very best on whatever path you choose as the choices you are about to make will be the start of a journey that thousands of students throughout Australia will also be making. There will not be another Kojonup District High School Year 10 Class of 2020.

To students entering High School, this will be a different journey Primary School days but also a very exciting journey. 2020 has presented many challenges for all of us and especially for students and educators. Yes, 2021 may be a little daunting to begin with but each journey starts with a step, and your fellow students may be experiencing the same feelings of apprehension. Resist the temptation to lower your values or morals as the “if only” syndrome is very difficult to reverse once we have acted, especially on impulse and the outcome may not be what we envisaged. Remember, that support and reassurance is available

To everyone who is travelling over the festive season, please take care and return safely to your loved ones. Most of all, enjoy the time with family and friends, and Santa too if you are lucky enough to get a visit from him. Please remember those who won't be so lucky.



Shire President  
*John Benn*

Chief Executive Officer  
*Rick Mitchell-Collins*

## CHRISTMAS SHUTDOWN



### Administration Office and Library

The Administration Office and Library will be closed during the Christmas and New Year period from Noon Thursday 24 December 2020 until 8.30am Monday 4 January 2021.

### Works & Services

Closed from Wednesday 23 December 2020 to Monday, Wednesday 6 January 2021. For emergencies please call Craig McVee 0427 427854

## CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES



Happy  
Crafty  
Holidays!



***Join Lorreen at the Library for a  
morning of Xmas craft***

**Monday 21 December**

**Ages 8-15 unless accompanied by a parent**

**Limited places, so please book your child's seat**

**ph. Lorreen 98312412**

**All resource & morning tea supplied**

**10am-11.30am**







#### **Library Closure over Christmas and New Year**

The Library will be closed over the Christmas and New Year period from **Noon, Thursday 24 December 2020 and reopen on Monday 4 January 2021 at 8:30am.**

Please make sure you have enough books to take you on a varied holiday journey, DVD's to watch, Jigsaws to frustrate (sorry that was meant to be enjoy) and ensure you have access to eBooks, eAudios & eStreaming - ask us for more information.

Mostly, enjoy your families & friends and we look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

*From your Library & Early Years Team: Lorreen, Kerry, Hayley, Libby and Alice*

#### **Be Safe this Xmas**

We would like to wish everyone a happy and safe Christmas and New Year.



## New to our Library:

Jigsaws Available plus many more:



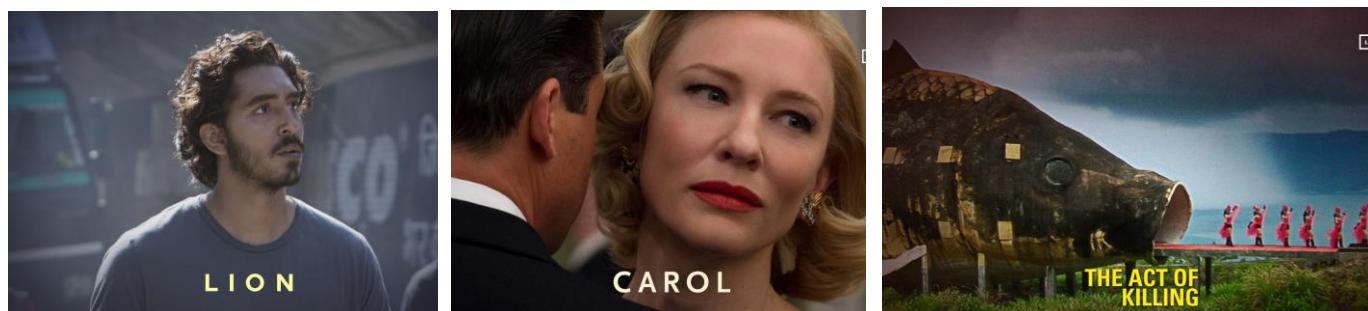
New books available in our library:



Free Films and Documentaries:

Stream hundreds of free, premium documentaries and independent feature films to your device, computer or smart TV, thanks to the generous support of the Shire of Kojonup and your local library using your library membership with **KANOPY**.

For further information call in at the library.





### Electric Vehicle Charging Point – Official Opening

On 27 November, with assistance from Synergy and Gemtek, the Shire officially opened the new Electric Vehicle Charging Point at The Kodja Place.

This project has been in the pipeline for nearly 12 months, and it was wonderful to hold an event to celebrate its conclusion. The unit was officially opened by Shire President John Benn, with attendance from many different electric vehicles vying to be the first to use the charger. This charging unit allows for a 45 minute charge time from empty for most vehicles, and has different plug options to suit cars currently in production. It is operated on the Chargefox billing system, and Council has opted for the unit to be free of charge until the end of June 2021 to promote use of the unit and encourage visitors to stop in Kojonup.

Synergy hosted those in attendance for a morning tea at Kodja Place, and quite a few electric vehicle owners were happy to take visitors for a test run in their cars.

CEO Rick Mitchell-Collins had these comments regarding the charging point:

*“Kojonup’s location on the Albany Highway is ideal for the installation of the clever energy EV Charger as motorists travelling North/South, East/West in the Great Southern Region now have certainty in supply when contemplating travelling from Perth to Albany or from the South West Region to the Great Southern hinterland. The EV Charge Point location close to The Kodja Place and Shopping Precinct allows visitors time to explore our wonderful town. The Shire of Kojonup is delighted to be associated with the ‘Synergy’ EV initiative and local Noongar Elder, Craig McVee’s artwork (Connecting with Community) complements the six season’s mural within the Kodja Place Storyplace/Gallery.*

*Hopefully EV charge points like Kojonup’s will become the norm rather than the exception when travelling rural WA”*



### Tidy Towns Awards

Recently Shire Staff and Councillors represented Kojonup by attending the State Awards presentation at Optus Stadium.

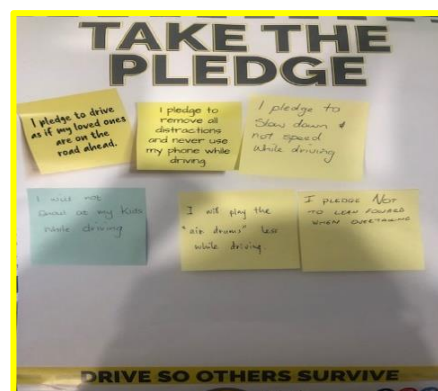
While Kojonup did not win the categories entered, it was great to see what other towns were showcasing, giving us plenty of inspiration and ideas for next year.

Congratulations to Narrogin who came away as the State winner for 2020.

If anyone has ideas or would like to be involved for Tidy Towns please contact Elaine via email [cdo@kojonup.wa.gov.au](mailto:cdo@kojonup.wa.gov.au)



During National Road Safety Week, the Shire of Kojonup admin staff made a pledge to make our roads safer. What will you pledge these Christmas holidays?



### School Holiday Road Safety

After a challenging and different school year, students and teachers are no-doubt looking forward to the School Holidays that will start on Friday 18 December 2020 and run through until 31 January 2021.

This means there will be more children walking, riding and scooting around local streets as well as more people travelling long distances for their holidays. The Shire of Kojonup is asking all drivers to take extra care during this period.

Drivers on local roads are encouraged to slow down especially around areas like playgrounds and skate parks where children are likely to congregate, while drivers heading off on a long trip are reminded to ensure they are well rested and take regular breaks to avoid the dangers of driving tired.

To help you be safe on the roads over the holidays drivers are also being encouraged to

- Turn off your mobile phone before driving;
- Buckle up when travelling in a vehicle;
- Adapt your speed to the weather, light, traffic and road conditions;
- Take a break, have a rest and where possible swap drivers on long trips;
- Visit one of the many operating [Driver Reviver](#) or [Coffee Stops](#) along your journey; and
- Plan ahead. If you are planning to drink, arrange a skipper, organise a taxi or stay overnight.

For more information on road safety and what you can do, visit the RoadWise website [www.roadwise.asn.au](http://www.roadwise.asn.au)





## VARIABLE SPEED DISPLAY DATA FOR NOVEMBER 2020

### NOVEMBER 2020

#### Albany Hwy South - north bound traffic

Total Vehicles 12 Oct - 12 Nov 2020	50km/ph
Vehicles Travelling over 52km	13,007
Percentage travelling over 50km	4,264
Average Speed	33%
	51

#### Albany Hwy North - south bound traffic

Total Vehicles 12 Oct - 12 Nov 2020	50km/ph
Vehicles Travelling over 52km	21,030
Percentage travelling over 50km	4,235
Average Speed	20%
	44

#### Broomehill Rd - heading west to Albany Hwy

Total Vehicles 12 Oct - 12 Nov 2020	60km/ph
Vehicles Travelling over 62km	12,931
Percentage travelling over 60km	3,642
Average Speed	28%
	60

It is of interest to note the gradual increase in vehicle movements which will no doubt continue to increase in December with the relaxation in border restrictions.

The Broomehill Road readings indicate that despite entering the 80km zone, motorists appear to coast into the 60km zone even though this is a residential area.

Please exercise caution on our roads and adhere to speed signs as extensive shoulder works are being undertaken on the Albany Highway.

## SPRINGHAVEN NEWS

Hello Summer!! My favourite of all the seasons, add in a bit of Christmas cheer and it just creates so much happiness. It's certainly felt here, especially when our very festive OTA, Alex, brings in her collection of Christmas CDs.

This month we have organised to take a few residents out for a drive around the district, it is always interesting hearing their stories of how things were when they were growing up here, or raising their children, how much different it was. Part of me feels blessed to have all the technology and other modern things that we are reliant on now, and part of me envies how simple it was back when these people were in their prime. A massive contrast.

Next week we have some local talent (KDHS Pre-primary class) coming in to sing for us which will be a treat considering we haven't had any of the school groups that would normally come in throughout the year, be able to this year. Although they have been in contact via Pen Pal over the last term which was pretty sweet.

I would like to give a shout out to the Renew Op Shop for offering to pay for our residents to each get a Christmas haircut at the end of next week, very much appreciated, as well as all the other donations and help you provide, not only to our residents but all the different ways you all contribute to the community. Thankyou.

Wishing you all a safe and happy Christmas,  
Aleigha x



## THE KODJA PLACE

### What Our Visitors are Saying.....

*"Awesome Stories from Jack"* Garry, Perth

*"Just wonderful. Thank you Jack"* D Oliver

*"Jack is a Knowledgeable Gentleman"* M Ciccaini

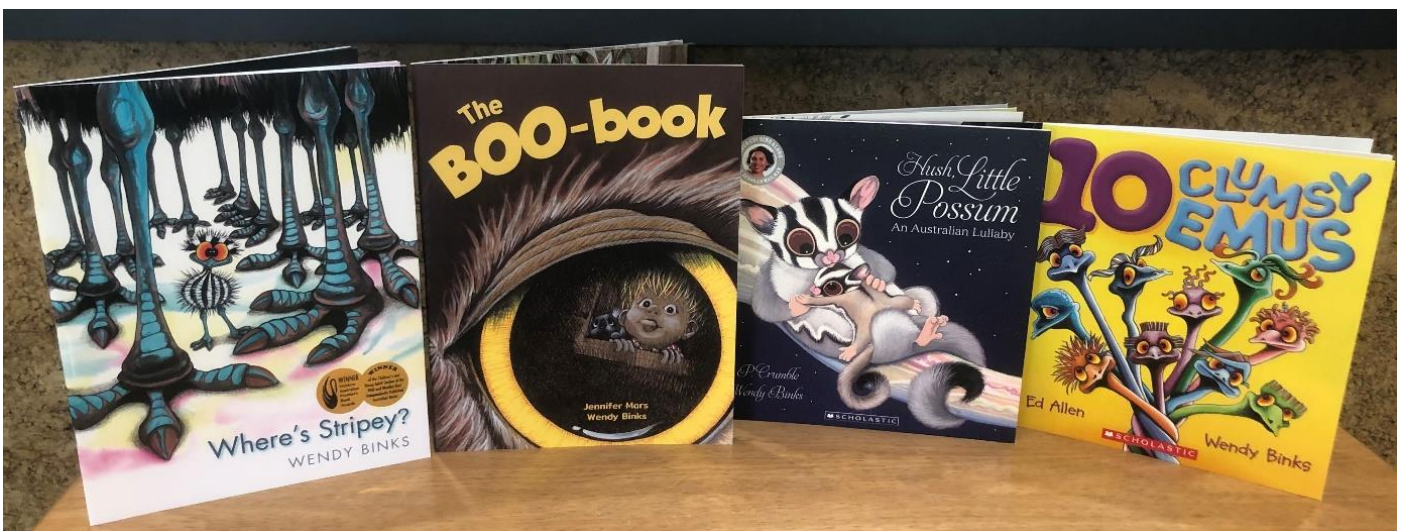
*"Interesting, Jack's a hoot"* M Panther



### Wendy Binks Designs

Wendy is an Australian Artist who has drawn and painted all her life. Wendy's art is heavily inspired by the native creatures she encountered growing up in Denmark, Western Australia. In 2005 Wendy won the WA premiers Children's Literary Award for one of her many books *WHERE'S STRIPEY*.

Wendy is a Creator, Writer and Illustrator and is one of Australia's most successful Self Publishers. Wendy Binks Designs make the perfect children's gift. Visit the Kodja Place and Kojonup Visitor Centre to see more.





## LANDCARE

### Black Cockatoo's why are they disappearing?

There are a number of threats facing Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo:

- Habitat fragmentation, particularly in the northern and eastern areas of the Wheatbelt. Most habitat suitable for breeding and feeding in the Wheatbelt has been cleared entirely or fragmented. In addition, clearing of heathland surrounding breeding sites has reduced the survival rate of fledglings by decreasing the available food sources for the young
- Removal of nest hollows for use as firewood or just to make properties look 'tidy'. Much woodland lacks hollows, and it takes over 100 years for woodland seedlings to mature and form hollows suitable for nesting
- Competition for hollows from other species
- Loss of native food sources caused by urban development on the Swan coastal plain
- Poaching: illegal poaching is still a threat - trees are often cut down or the hollow severely damaged when young and eggs are taken, removing breeding sites
- Invasive species: other bird species such as the Galah and the Western Long-billed Corella are extending their range in the Wheatbelt and are competing with and excluding Carnaby's Black-Cockatoos from traditional nest hollows.



A hollow that could be used by a Black Cockatoo has been inhabited by the Western Long-billed Corella, photo taken in Muradup.

Cockatoo sightings can be submitted online at <https://app.maptionnaire.com/en/7399/> and forms part of a project funded by the Australian Government.

If you require help with the survey, please speak to your NRM/Landcare Officer, Jane Kowald, [landcare@kojonup.wa.gov.au](mailto:landcare@kojonup.wa.gov.au) or 0428712050.

### When was the last time you saw a Christmas spider in the garden?

These festive spiders are commonly found all over Australia, including Tasmania.

Christmas Spiders (*Austracantha minax*) are lovely little spiders that belong to the orb-weaving spider family Araneidae, and like their relative build delicate orb-webs which are rather sticky.



Their prey consists of small flying insects which they consume in their webs after wrapping them in silk and injecting them with venom.

The adult females are less than 1 cm in length, and have several pointed spines on their abdomen, with brightly coloured patches of white, orange and blue. The males are much smaller than the females, and are more uniformly coloured.

Christmas Spiders are most easily observed during spring and summer, with the adult females maturing at this time. They often congregate in large numbers, and are less common in urban settings than in past decades, probably due to insecticides and lack of suitable habitat. However, they are still common in bushland habitats.

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### Shire of Kojonup success for two 2020 Community Stewardship Grants Program through State Natural Resource Management program

96 community projects worth a total of \$7.5 million were announced by the State Government to protect and improve WA's land, water and biodiversity assets.

The Community Stewardship Grants program will provide funding to support diverse project activities ranging from coastal and wetlands rehabilitation, restoration of wildlife corridors and protecting endangered native fauna, to invasive weed removal and feral predator control.

Premier Mark McGowan and Agriculture and Food Minister Alannah MacTiernan announced the funding on 1 December 2020 in the Chapman Valley catchment near Geraldton, where a \$300,000 grant to the Northern Agricultural Catchments Council will support a natural sequence farming program to regenerate and rehydrate productive farmland in the Mid-West.

Other successful projects include a study by Noongar people of cool burn technique for land management in the Great Southern; protecting the red-tailed phascogale which is declining in numbers and building shellfish reefs to restore water quality, fisheries and biodiversity in the Peel-Harvey Estuary.

The Shire of Kojonup received funding for two projects to establish vegetation corridors along Tarup Creek and 52 Mile Creek.

For a full list of 2020 State NRM Community Stewardship Grant recipients visit <http://www.nrm.wa.gov.au>

If you have any project you would like to be considered for the Community Stewardship Grants, please contact your NRM/Landcare Officer, Jane Kowald, [landcare@kojonup.wa.gov.au](mailto:landcare@kojonup.wa.gov.au) or 0428712050.

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### Thinking about Fox Baiting? Free baits still available!

This collaborative project is funded by the Australian Government through the 'Communities Combating Pest and Weed Impacts during Drought Program – Biosecurity Management of Pests and Weeds'. Farmers can get assistance with paying for a Restricted Bait Permit through DPIRD

The first baiting year has gone, but there is still room for **more farmers to be involved**, with comments on the dried meat baits like:

"I am very impressed with these fox baits. As you know I have baited for many years with dried meat and sausages and it is rare to see more than one dead fox for about 20 baits taken (5%) (and even rarer to find red beads in any scat).



So far I am about half way through my baiting and without going out of my way to look for them the dead fox rate is about 12%. The baits get taken quickly too so I think the fact they are vac packed not dried makes a difference. "  
*Lynley Anderson, Boilup Farmer*

"I am so pleased with our baiting success. 80 out of the 100 baits were taken and there are dead foxes all over our farm." *Jen Egerton-Warburton, Moberup Farmer*

If you are interested, please contact your NRM/Landcare Officer on 0428712050 or [landcare@kojonup.wa.gov.au](mailto:landcare@kojonup.wa.gov.au).

## Christmas Fun Fact

Did you know, Santa stretches time like a rubber band, in order to deliver all the gifts in one night? According to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), there are 2,106 million children under age 18 in the world. If we assume that each household has in average 2.5 children, Santa would have to make 842 million stops on Christmas Eve, traveling 221 million miles. Given the different time zones, Santa has 36 hours to deliver gifts, therefore his average speed would be approximately 650 miles per second.



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### HAVE YOU GOT A PASSION FOR EARLY EDUCATION AND CARE?



### JOIN OUR TEAM AS OUR CENTRE MANAGER!

Kojonup Child Care Centre is a not for profit, 23-place community-run, childcare centre providing high quality childcare for its local community. We endeavour to play an active role and respond to the community's needs.

We believe children develop at their own rate and learn through freedom of play within a safe, secure, loving, stimulating and healthy environment. We encourage children to respect and value individuality while nurturing co-operation.

We are looking for a Centre Manager, that is organised, reliable, enthusiastic, and able to lead the team towards our vision and dreams. You will have a genuine interest in children aged 0-12, with a kind, caring and professional manner.

**Qualifications and experience:**

- Diploma in Early Childhood Education and Care, Bachelor of Early Childhood Education or equivalent.
- Experience in a childcare centre environment
- Demonstrated leadership experience
- Strong understanding of the EYLF, NQS and Education and Care Regulations
- Current WWC and Police Clearance
- Current First Aid (HLTAID003), Asthma and Anaphylaxis (HLTAID004) and Child Protection training
- Enthusiasm for creating an amazing service which meets and responds to the needs of our community

An attractive remuneration will be negotiated depending on experience & qualifications. Potential housing offered to suitable applicants with package. This role is preferably fulltime, but open to negotiation or job-share arrangements. We are looking for a commencement date as soon as possible.

**If you have a passion for working with children, then this is the place  
for you!**

For more information, or to discuss your availability, contact:  
Committee Chair – Alice on 0427 070 484

Email applications to: [chairperson@kojonupchildcare.com.au](mailto:chairperson@kojonupchildcare.com.au),  
by close of business 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020