

Murchison Monologue



Our new bridge with the first lot of water running under it.

Photo by Kylie Bubner

January / March 2017 VOL.37 NUMBER 1



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Full page colour	\$81.00
1/2 page colour	\$46.00
1/4 page colour	\$25.50
Full page black & white	\$22.50
1/2 page black & white	\$12.50
1/4 page black & white	\$6.50

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MONOLOGUE

If you have any articles or information about events or photo's you wish to share with our readers, then please do not hesitate to contact the office. We would love to include them.

News from the CEO's Desk

Hullo Community Members

It's a bit late to wish you all well for the New Year, but I will, as this is our first Monologue for 2017, so HAPPY NEW YEAR! I hope 2017 brings you great joy and happiness.

The year has certainly started well for most as far as rain goes, but along with that we have once again sustained some wide-spread damage to the roads. The rain events of January and February have been rolled into one WA Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangement (WANDRRA) event and so we have started down the path of opening-up and road damage audit. Once our claim has been approved by Main Roads, we will call tenders for the required repair works.

Apart from the flooding, we have had some drama in the Settlement, with generator failures and then to top things off, an invasion of the CryptoLocker computer virus today, which has set us back in our March month end endeavours as our IT support crew, 2V.NET, work hard to get us up and running again. This is a malicious cyber threat that encrypts all your files so that they are inaccessible and at this stage no-one has worked out how to break the encryption code. In response to my question as to the mentality of people who do this, I was told that the CryptoLocker hackers are holding companies to ransom literally. They contact those companies whose files they have encrypted and demand payment to make them accessible again. It's been a good test of our data risk management, as the only way to get up and running (without paying a king's ransom) was to restore from our back-up, which happened successfully. I share this with you all so that you can make sure you have a sound computer back-up regime in place and strong passwords. It would be devastating for a business to lose all its data.

For those of you in the civil contracting field, there may be opportunities to quote for work on the upgrade of the proposed route to the SKA, which is scheduled to get underway in 2017/18. We are planning a meeting between Main Roads and interested contractors at the Shire of Office in the near future – I'll forward a community email once we have a definite date.

The design for the construction and seal of up to 9 km of the Carnarvon Mullewa Road immediately south of the Ballinyoo Bridge is complete and the tender has been advertised. It will be awarded at the next meeting of Council, which is on the 23rd March.

Changes are afoot at the Murchison Oasis Roadhouse, with John and Marcia moving on and new lessees taking over on the 16th of March. I would like to thank John & Marcia for their hard work and dedication over the last two and a half years. Best wishes from all of us for the next stage of your life journey.

Please note that Council decided at its last meeting that all Ordinary Meetings of Council will now be held on the fourth Thursday of every month, so please pencil that into your calendar if you are interested in attending any meetings. The start time will remain the same at 10:00 am.

Happy reading - I hope you enjoy looking at photos of water, water everywhere, as much as we enjoyed taking them.

Dianne Daniels
Chief Executive Officer

1 March 2017



Photo's of the Murchison River at the Ballinyoo Bridge



Murchison River at Meeberrie Crossing



“ Well Brian looks like we might close this crossing. “





“ Yep Pete I think we might close the crossing on this one “



Melissa Price MP

Federal Member for Durack



Price delivers support for youth jobs

16th February 2017

Member for Durack Melissa Price said new Federal Government incentives are now available to help local businesses hire additional staff.

Ms Price welcomed the changes, saying they will help local business to hire young people in our community.

New wage subsidies are a key component of the Government's new *jobactive* PaTH Program, which will be fully rolled out in April and will help up to 120,000 vulnerable young Australians through pre-employment training, internships and these new wage subsidies.

"Financial incentives of up to \$10,000 are available to encourage businesses to employ new staff. This will help our local economy and in turn, create more jobs," Ms Price said.

"There is no higher priority for our community and for the Government than creating jobs. That means not only growing our economy, but also help people become job ready."

"I'm delighted to see these incentives are being improved, to support more local employers to hire more workers.

"Our *jobactive* PaTH Program is all about getting young people ready, giving them a go and getting them a job.

"I strongly encourage more local business owners to take advantage of this program, including new wage subsidies, to take on extra staff and grow their business."

Ms Price said *jobactive* PaTH will increase young people's employability and provide them with the real work experience they need to get a job.

"This program will help more Australians capitalise on the opportunities presented by Australia's economic transition," Ms Price said.

For more information visit jobsearch.gov.au/path.

END

Settlement Water Supply



We recently had the four Settlement bores cleaned and water flow recorded by local contractor, Yuin Pastoral. This is another step towards improving the quality of water in the Settlement.

Along with that, we have completed the circulation of the Settlement water supply, so that there are no 'dead legs' in the system where amoeba may breed.

Our Health Officer, Phil Swain, will be back in the Settlement towards the end of March to take water samples. Once they have been processed, we will know if we have to take the next step or not, which is installing a chlorinator.



PET OWNERS BEWARE



Under the wildlife recovery program *Western Shield*, the Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPaW) carries out 1080 fox and feral cat baiting operations on nearly three million hectares of land it manages. The program is working to bring native animals back from the brink of extinction by controlling introduced predators such as the European red fox and feral cat. As a result of baiting, many native animal species have increased in number or continue to persist in the wild.



1080 is poisonous to humans and will kill domestic cats and dogs.

1080 POISON RISK



Dried meat or sausage baits containing **1080 POISON** are regularly laid in this area to control **FOXES AND FERAL CATS**.



1080 is poisonous to humans and will kill cats and dogs. Please leave your pets at home or prevent them from entering this area.

Contact your local DPaW office for information on the *Western Shield* Wildlife Recovery Program.



Department of
Parks and Wildlife



Pet owners please be aware that large areas of State forest, national parks and nature reserves are baited throughout the year and must be considered dangerous areas for pet dogs and cats at all times. If visiting these areas it is advised that you leave your pets at home. Do not take your pets into areas baited with 1080.

Baiting operations extend from Karratha in the north, through the forests of the south-west to areas east of Esperance.

All baited areas are signposted (see example above). Pet owners are asked to observe 1080 warning signs and remain vigilant in preventing pets from entering baited areas.



Department of
Parks and Wildlife





Above 1080 meat baits used for introduced predator control.

1080 baits are made of meat and are extremely attractive to dogs who can detect the baits from many metres away. The baits will tempt both well-trained dogs and fussy eaters.

Please be aware that it is legal for DPaW and other neighbours to bait as close as five metres from your boundary and as close as 150 metres from your dwelling. Pets can travel these distances very quickly.

Take your pet to a vet immediately if you suspect it has taken a bait. Vomiting may be induced if there will be a reasonable delay in getting to a vet. Be aware that it is not easy for an untrained person to make an animal vomit. If you do succeed in inducing vomiting the pet should still be taken to a vet as some poison could have been absorbed and the pet may not be out of danger.

Maps of areas baited as part of the *Western Shield* program can be viewed on DPaW's website at dpaw.wa.gov.au/westernshield.

For further information about 1080 poison risk areas please contact your local DPaW office.



**Department of
Parks and Wildlife**



Patient Assisted Travel Scheme

Our commitment: The Nationals WA will improve the Patient Assisted Travel Scheme with a \$52 million investment.



Background

The Patient Assisted Travel Scheme (PATS) provides financial subsidies toward some of the travel and accommodation expenses associated with receiving medical treatment that is not available in their home town.

The Nationals WA believe PATS needs to be improved to ensure the standard of healthcare in regional areas, and access to these services, is comparable to the metropolitan area.

A recent Parliamentary Inquiry into PATS highlighted a number of issues, recommending changes to eligible health services and the outdated subsidy schedule for fuel and accommodation costs.

Royalties for Regions provided a much needed funding boost to PATS in 2008/09, but it is the vision of The Nationals WA to see PATS transformed so it better meets the needs of those living in regional WA.

What we know:

PATS needs to be improved. The Parliamentary Inquiry identified several problems with the way eligibility is determined, the outdated subsidy schedule for fuel and accommodation expenses, the health services covered and the process for claiming.

Distance criteria can be unfair

A family requires weekly specialist medical care for their two children at Princess Margaret Hospital. The family lives within 100km of the hospital and are not deemed eligible to receive financial subsidy for fuel and accommodation costs, despite the considerable distance travelled over the weeks and months.

Patient preference is not taken into account

The Scheme will only provide subsidies to the nearest specialists. This may be a private practitioner where patients are faced with higher costs, or a practitioner that isn't preferred.

No retrospective claiming

If a patient requires urgent after-hours medical treatment in Perth, there is currently no capacity for retrospective claiming to assist with their return travel expenses.

Our commitment:

If The Nationals WA are in government after the next election, we will commit \$52million to enhancing the Patient Assisted Travel Scheme by:

Increasing the Existing Subsidies:

- Increasing the fuel subsidy to 19 cents;
- Increasing the accommodation subsidy to cover approximately 50% of the average hotel rate in Perth (Private \$23, \$46 (with escort); Commercial \$100 (with or without an escort);

Changing the Eligibility Requirements:

- Changing the air travel eligibility to 8 hours or 700km surface travel, instead of the current 16 hours or 1,400kms;
- Including eligibility for cumulative travel (greater than 200kms for 2 or more trips per week);
- Changing the Scheme to provide patients with access to the public health system in the first instance, even if that is further away.

Enhancing the Scheme:

- Extending subsidies for patients with treatment modalities greater than 6 months;
- Providing patients requiring long term treatment and their escorts with the option to return home once, every 30 days;
- Providing pregnant women with an additional week of accommodation when relocating for childbirth, and providing funding assistance for a travelling escort;
- Including coverage for:
 - Allied health services (Out-patient department referred)
 - Dental treatment for children aged 9-16 under General Admission,
 - Oral medical and oral pathology specialists services; and
- Implementing an electronic application and claims form system

The Nationals WA welcome your feedback on this policy:

Ph: 1300 628 792 Email: info@nationalswa.com

www.facebook.com/TheNationalsWA www.nationalswa.com

Media Release

Vincent Catania MLA
Member for North West Central

\$52 million injection for PATS to benefit North West Central

15th February 2017

The Patient Assisted Travel Scheme (PATS) will receive a massive \$52 million boost if The Nationals WA are returned to Government at the State election.

PATS provides vital financial assistance to regional West Australians by subsidising travel and accommodation for patients travelling long distances to seek specialist medical services.

Member for North West Central, Vince Catania welcomed today's announcement that The Nationals' will increase existing subsidies, revise eligibility requirements and expand the scheme if re-elected on March 11.

"Unlike city people, regional West Australians often travel vast distances to access vital health services so this scheme is essential," Vince said.

"As the only party solely dedicated to regional WA, The Nationals' understand the importance of ensuring all regional West Australians have access to specialist health services regardless of where they live."

Mr Grylls said The Nationals' flagship *Royalties for Regions* program had provided a funding boost to PATS in 2008/09 but there was room to transform the program to ensure it better meets the needs of regional West Australians.

"A recent Parliamentary inquiry into PATS highlighted a number of issues with the way eligibility is determined, the outdated subsidy schedule for fuel and accommodation expenses, the health services and the claims process," Vince said.

"This is why The Nationals WA are committed to the continual improvement of this important Scheme to ensure the standard of healthcare in regional areas, and access to services, matches that of the metropolitan area."

For more information visit: www.nationalswa.com/policies

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www.buildyourwa.com.au

THE NATIONALS
for Regional WA



Melissa Price MP

Federal Member for Durack



Aussie kids given immediate access to life-changing cystic fibrosis drug

8th February 2017

From today, children aged two to five will have immediate and free access to Kalydeco® (ivacaftor) – a life-changing drug that addresses the causes of cystic fibrosis rather than just the symptoms.

Member for Durack Melissa Price welcomed the news and said previously, only children six years of age and older with the G551D or other class III gating mutations had subsidised access to Kalydeco.

"Expanding access to this vital drug is fantastic news for Australian families. We know that many parents have been worried about how their young son or daughter could get access to this life-changing drug. Now they have it," Ms Price said.

"Without government subsidy, the treatment would cost each patient around \$300,000 per year."

Cystic fibrosis is the most common life threatening recessive genetic condition affecting young people in Australia. It affects organs such as the lungs and pancreas causing irreversible damage and can cause death.

The announcement follows a recommendation from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) that subsidised access to Kalydeco should be extended to children aged two to five years old.

Kalydeco is due to be formally added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) on 1 May 2017.

Until then, the manufacturer (Vertex Pharmaceuticals) has agreed to provide the drug free of charge for children aged two to five.

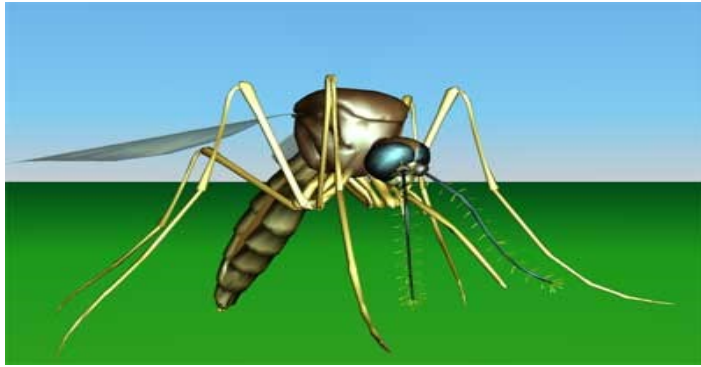
From 1 May 2017, the drug will cost \$6.30 for all concessional patients and \$38.80 for general patients.

The Turnbull Government has a rock solid commitment to Medicare and part of this commitment is ensuring people have access to medicine when they need it.

Information about medicines subsidised by the Government through the PBS is available at pbs.gov.au.

END

Biting insect and mosquito-borne disease risk increase across Western Australia



The Department of Health is warning residents and travellers to take precautions against biting insects following the widespread rainfall and recent flooding events across Western Australia.

Managing Scientist Environmental Health Hazards, Dr Michael Lindsay said the wet weather and flooding had created ideal conditions for breeding of mosquitoes and other biting insects across much of WA.

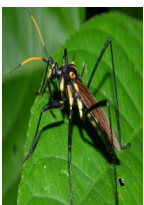
“While local government mosquito management programs are in place around WA, it is not realistic or logistically feasible to keep mosquitoes and biting flies below nuisance levels when such vast areas of the State are affected with the recent weather conditions,” Dr Lindsay said.

“Increased mosquito activity is likely to result in an increased risk of the mosquito-borne diseases Ross River virus (RRV), Barmah Forest virus (BFV), Murray Valley encephalitis virus (MVEV) and Kunjin virus (KUNV) in some parts of WA.”

Symptoms of infection with RRV and BFV include painful or swollen joints, sore muscles, skin rashes, fever, fatigue and headaches.

The warning comes as KUNV was recently detected in a sentinel chicken flock in the Pilbara. KUNV belongs to the same group of viruses as MVEV, both of which can only be transmitted by mosquitoes and are more common in northern regions of WA.

Dr Lindsay said for most people, disease caused by MVEV and KUNV had fairly mild symptoms such as headache, fever, aching, swollen joints and rash. However, in rare cases these viruses, especially MVEV, can lead to a serious inflammation of the brain and result in long term disability or even death.



“There are no specific cures or vaccines for mosquito-borne diseases in Western Australia, so it is very important that people take care to prevent being bitten,” he said.

An increase in the number of March flies has also been reported in the Pilbara region. At least one species of March fly, known to occur in parts of the Pilbara and northern Goldfields, has a bite that can cause serious allergic reactions in some people.

"Although March flies are not known to transmit diseases to humans in Australia, the bites of some species can cause allergic reactions, including skin redness and swelling. In rare cases, people may also experience serious symptoms such as hives, fever, wheezing and even anaphylaxis which requires urgent medical attention", Dr Lindsay said.

People living or travelling throughout Western Australia do not need to change their travel plans but should take extra precautions to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes and

- wearing protective (long, loose-fitting, light coloured) clothing when outdoors
- applying a personal repellent containing 20 per cent diethyl toluamide (DEET) or picaridin to exposed skin or clothing. The most effective and long-lasting formulations are lotions or gels. Natural or organic repellents may not be as effective as DEET or picaridin, or may need to be reapplied more frequently
- wearing head nets if outdoors
- ensuring insect screens are installed and in good condition – the use of bed nets when sleeping will offer further protection
- using mosquito nets or mosquito-proof tents when camping or sleeping outdoors
- ensuring infants and children are adequately protected against biting insects, preferably with suitable clothing, bed nets or other forms of insect screening.



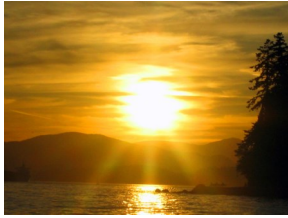
The recent rainfall is also a timely reminder for residents to minimise mosquito breeding around the home by taking some simple steps to remove or modify breeding sites such as:

- disposing of all containers which hold water
- stocking ornamental ponds with fish and keeping vegetation away from the water's edge
- keeping swimming pools well chlorinated, filtered and free of dead leaves
- filling or draining depressions in the ground that hold water
- fitting mosquito proof covers to vent pipes on septic tank systems and sealing all gaps around the lid and ensure leach drains are completely covered
- screening rainwater tanks with insect proof mesh, including inlet, overflow and inspection ports
- ensuring guttering does not hold water
- emptying pot plant drip trays once a week or fill them with sand
- emptying and cleaning animal and pet drinking water bowls once a week.

For more information on how to prevent mosquito bites visit:

<http://healthywa.wa.gov.au/fightthebite>





SUMMER SALADS

Salad wedges with buttermilk dressing

Ingredients

75 g almonds
1 handful of mixed seeds
125 g sugar
1 iceberg lettuce
4 endives
150 ml buttermilk
2 lemons
extra virgin olive oil
1 bunch of fresh chives



Method

1. Place a non-stick frying pan on a medium heat and dry-toast the almonds until golden, then add the seeds.
2. Sprinkle in the sugar, a generous pinch of sea salt and gently caramelize until all the sugar has dissolved. Don't stir, or it will form large crystals.
3. Gently swirl the pan until you have a gorgeous golden caramel, then pour the mixture onto a greaseproof-lined tray. Leave to one side to cool.
4. Cut the lettuces and endives into large wedges, through the stem so that they stay in one piece. Rinse, if needed, and dry with kitchen paper.
5. Arrange them on a serving platter and leave to one side.
6. Make the dressing by spooning the buttermilk into a jam jar, season well and grate in the lemon zest. Squeeze in the juice from 1 lemon and add a couple of spoonfuls of oil. Shake the dressing to mix well and set aside.
7. In a pestle and mortar, crush the caramelised nuts and seeds so you have fine bits and chunky pieces.
8. Drizzle the buttermilk dressing over the salad wedges. Finely chop and scatter over the chives along with the crushed nuts and seeds.



Roasted beetroot, red onion watercress salad

Ingredients

2 x 600 g bunches beetroot (12 - 15 beets)
5 tablespoons olive oil
3 tablespoons baby capers
4 red onions
4 cloves of garlic
125 ml white wine
a few sprigs of fresh dill
a few sprigs of fresh mint leaves
a few sprigs of fresh flat-leaf parsley leaves
2 x 75 g bags of watercress
VINAIGRETTE
3 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
4 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 180°C/gas 4.
2. Trim the stalks from the beetroot bulbs, reserving the leaves, then slice into 1cm pieces. Place in a baking tin, add 2 tablespoons of olive oil and fill the tin to a depth of about 5cm with water.
3. Cover the dish with tin foil, then bake for 1 hour to 1 hour 15 minutes, or until a knife slips easily into the flesh and the skins slide off. Remove the beets from the tin and leave to cool.
4. Peel and chop the onions into wedges, peel and finely chop the garlic, then drain and rinse the capers. Pick and chop all the herbs.
5. On a baking tray, toss the onion wedges in 2 tablespoons of the olive oil and season well. Add these to the oven too, and roast for about 30 minutes, or until soft. Remove and set aside to cool.
6. When the beetroot is cool enough to handle, rub off the skins, then cut into wedges (wear plastic gloves for this, or your hands will be pink for days). Set aside.
7. Blanch the beetroot stalks and leaves in a pan of boiling salted water for about 2 minutes, then drain well.
8. Heat the remaining tablespoon of oil in a pan over a high heat, add the beetroot stalks and garlic and fry for a few minutes, until the garlic is golden. Then turn down the heat to medium, pour in the wine and cook for 10 minutes. Add the beetroot leaves, season, and cook until wilted.
9. To make the vinaigrette, whisk the vinegar into the mustard, then stir in the olive oil and season to taste. Set aside.
10. Now put the salad together. In a large serving bowl, gently toss the roasted beetroot and red onions with the stalk mixture, chopped herbs, capers and vinaigrette, then mix through the watercress and serve.

Sweetheart slaw with passion fruit dressing

Ingredients

- 1 sweetheart cabbage
 - 3 large spears of asparagus
 - 3 spring onions
 - 2 sticks of celery
 - 1 large green eating apple
 - 1 carrot
- PASSION FRUIT DRESSING**
- 1 large orange
 - 3 ripe passionfruit , plus extra to serve
 - 2 tablespoons cold-pressed extra virgin olive oil
 - 1 tablespoon poppy seeds



Method

1. For the dressing, finely grate the orange zest into a bowl and squeeze in all the juice. Halve the passion fruit and scrape in the pulp, then add the oil and mix together.
2. Finely slice the cabbage, discarding the core. Remove the woody ends from the asparagus, then finely slice along with the trimmed spring onions and celery. Peel and coarsely grate the apple and carrot.
3. Pop all the shredded fruit and veg into a large bowl. Pour over the dressing, mix well and season to taste.
4. Enjoy straight away, or better still, cover and refrigerate for 1 to 2 days so the veggies soften slightly and the flavours mingle and develop. Mix well before serving and spoon over a little extra passion-fruit pulp, top with shredded spring onions and sprinkle with poppy seeds.

Pastoralists

The shire of Murchison has developed a wild Dog Bounty Scheme to aid in the control of wild dogs on properties. Details as follows:-

The Shire of Murchison Wild Dog Control Bounty Scheme has been developed to offer a bounty of \$100 per dog for every wild dog killed.

It covers all stations within the shire of Murchison. All claims are to be made by the station owner/manager. Persons destroying the dog must take the scalps to the property owner/ manager. The property owner/manager makes their own arrangements with the person who destroyed the dog regarding payment.

Scalps are defined as the two ears and the strip of scalp connecting them.

Property Owner/Manager must complete the form with all details and verify number of scalps.

Property Owner/Manager is then responsible for getting the forms and the scalps to one of the three regional coordinators for authorization.

Once regional coordinators have authorized payment the form is to be sent to the Shire of Murchison who will make the payment to the claimant and maintain a data base of all the details.

Regional Coordinators are:-

Mark Halleen

Boolardy Station Tel: 08 9963 7987

Andrew Whitmarsh

Byro Station Tel: 08 9961 3870

Reg Seaman

Murgoo Station Tel: 08 9963 7985

Scalps are not to be taken directly to the Shire of Murchison



Murchi-

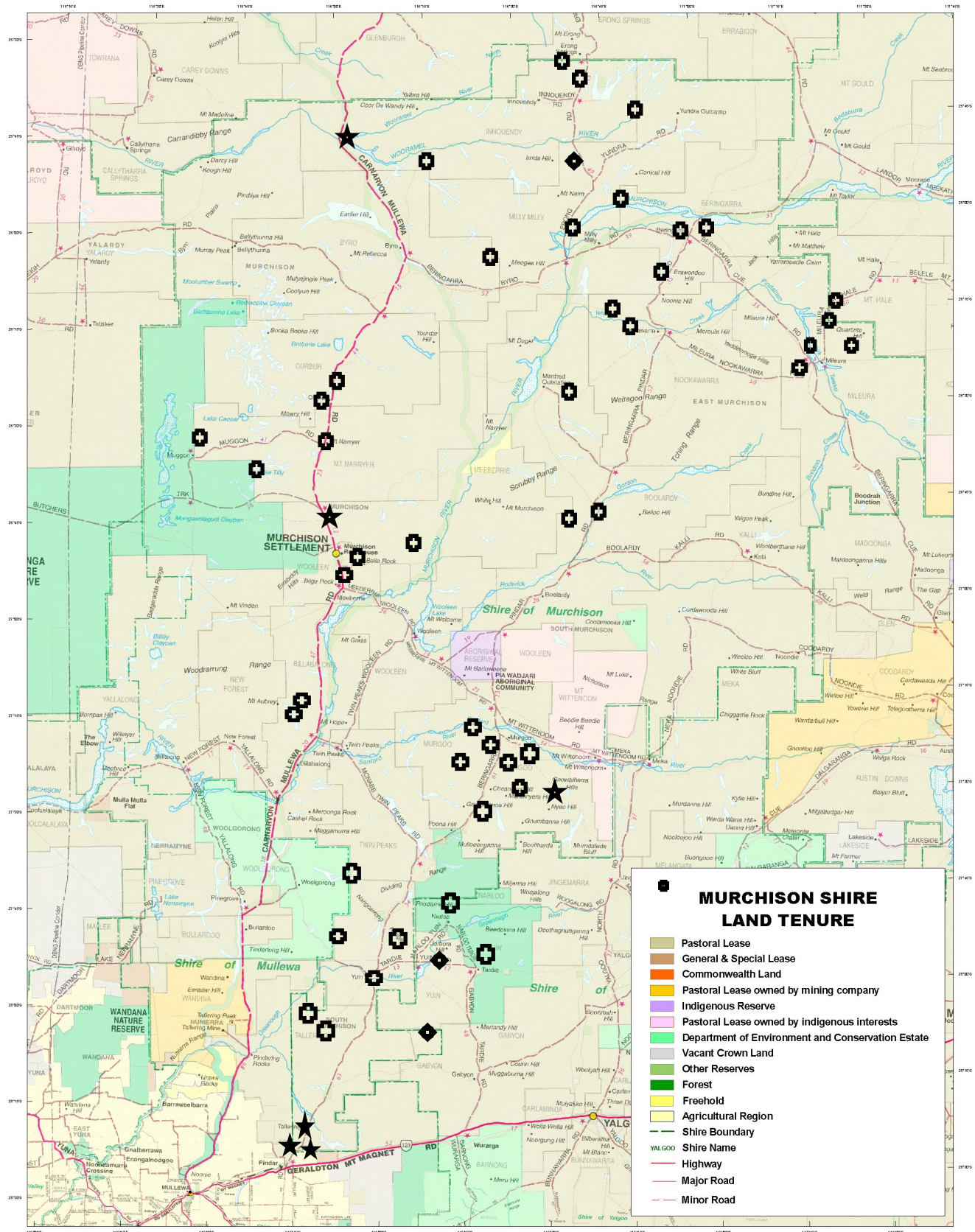
(Wild dog bounty scheme)

Bounty paid out in the months 1st January 2017 to 28th February 2017

No record of dogs for these two months.

Approximate Location of Wild Dog captures.

23rd Feb. 2015 - to 19th February 2016



DISCLAIMER While all reasonable care has been taken in the preparation of the material in this document, the Western Australian Government and its officers accept no responsibility for any errors or omissions it may contain, whether caused by negligence, or otherwise, or for any loss, however caused, sustained by any person who relies on it.

Job number: 2009014
 Date: November 2010
 Datum: Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA94)
 Projection: Transverse Mercator
 Datum: Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994
 Grid: Map Grid of Australia 1994
 Source Data: DAFWA Client Property Database, November 2008.
 Road network supplied by Western Australian Land Information Authority, 2008.

Murchison Oasis Roadhouse

Proprietors: John Farrell and Marcia McIntosh

Opening Hours

Monday to Friday 7am - 7pm

Saturday 8am - 4pm

Sunday 10am - 1pm

(Sunday opening hours from mid April will be extended 8am – 6pm)

Kitchen open during opening hours

24 hour access to fuel bowser with card swipe facility available

Accommodation

Units:

Double unit with ensuite @ \$120 per night for up to two people

One double motel room @ \$85 per night for up to two people.

Two single units with three beds. First bed @ \$75 per night \$10 extra per person after that. i.e. 3 people = \$95 per night

**Caravan Park: Powered sites @ \$25 per night for 2 people
(\$5 per extra person per night)**

**Unpowered sites @ \$15 per night for 2 people
(\$5 per extra person per night)**

Shower only (no accommodation) \$5 per person.

Free BBQ available in gazebo for guests.

Meals

New meals include T bones, Surf & Turf with creamy garlic sauce, sweet chilli mango chicken with rice and salad, and grilled snapper. Any sit down meals—please order by 2pm for preparation.

Groceries and ice also available

Phone: 08 99613875

Fax: 99613876

Email: murchisonoasis@westnet.com.au

Best steak sandwiches ever...just call up on channel 7 to order .



Marcia and John would like to thank the Shire of Murchison for their support, help and understanding during the past 2 1/2 years whilst lessees of the Murchison Oasis Roadhouse and caravan Park.

We hope that the new lessees will enjoy the business as much as we have and have an equally good stay as we have.

Once again, many thanks to everyone in the Shire, Settlement and Pia Wadjarri for their continued support during our time here. During our time here we have met some lovely people and some good friends.

Cheers

Marcia and John





SHIRE OF MURCHISON 2016-2017

PROHIBITED BURNING PERIOD

A **Prohibited** burning period is operational in the
Shire of Murchison from the

1st November 2016 to the 31st March 2017 (inclusive).

HAZARD REDUCTION WORK – BUSH FIRES ACT 1954

As a measure to assist in the control of bushfires or prevent the spread of a bush fire, all owners or occupiers of land within the Shire of Murchison are required to install and maintain firebreaks.

Rural Areas

Three metre wide trafficable firebreaks are required to be installed on the land and to be clear of all flammable material.

All buildings require a minimum twenty metre clearance of all flammable material and graded/ploughed/hoed or chemical applied firebreaks should be installed at the outer edge of that clearance.

Advice Is Available

Advice on how to protect your home from fire, and when and how to burn off, is available from the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (CEO). The CBFCO can be contacted at the Shire Office on 08 9963 7999.

Barbecues & Incinerators

Gas and electrical barbecues are permitted to be used at any time. Solid fuel barbecues, incinerators and camp fires are prohibited on days of VERY HIGH and EXTREME Fire Danger and during the PROHIBITED burning period.

Burning Off

Burning is prohibited on days of VERY HIGH or EXTREME Fire Danger and during the PROHIBITED burning period.

FIRE DANGER

Information on Fire Danger Ratings is available at www.dfes.wa.gov.au/firedangerratings and

Information on Alerts is available at www.dfes.wa.gov.au/alerts.

The ABC radio also issues information and alerts for your area.

BUSH FIRE CONTROL CONTACT DETAILS

Please note, that under the Bush Fires Act 1954, it is the land owner's responsibility in the first instance to take all possible measures to extinguish a bush fire on your property.

If these measures prove in vain and you require assistance, contact your nearest Bush Fire Control Officer, the Captain of the Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade or the Shire Office.

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

Dianne Daniels 9963 7999 (bus hrs) or 9963 7977 (a/hrs)

Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (north)

Sandy McTaggart 9963 7972

Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (south)

Tom Foulkes-Taylor 9963 7019

Captain Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Brian Wundenberg 9963 7999 (bus hrs) or 9963 7216 (a/hrs)

Thank you for helping to keep the coming bush fire season event free.

Dianne Daniels

Chief Executive Officer

Shire of Murchison



Support
the
Hanson
Community
Festival

GRAMS Family FUN DAY!

**SMOKE & ALCOHOL
FREE EVENT**

Saturday March 25, 2017

11.00am - 7.30pm

Hukara Farm 115, Hanson - Howatharra Road, Hanson

Join in the Free Fun • Giveaways • Bouncy Castle

Camel Rides • Live Music All Day • Climbing Wall

Multi Cultural Foods & Refreshments on Sale! • & Heaps More!

FREE BUSES from town to the event and return — Pick up/drop off points.
BRING A CHAIR, PICNIC BLANKET, PICNIC BASKET & HAT!

Parents please bring **TOWELS & CHANGE OF CLOTHES** for water activities available for the children (Dam is open from noon — 6.00pm).

KIDS UNDER 12 FREE!

13 yrs and over and Adults \$5.00 — "Smoke & Alcohol Free" Event.

All incoming vehicles will be inspected. For more information please 1904 0000.



Easter in Australia

The four-day Easter weekend is a welcome break and a chance to enjoy a range of sporting and cultural events.

Many people attend church services even if they do not attend services regularly during the rest of the year.

As part of the Easter season, the death of Jesus Christ by crucifixion is commemorated on Good Friday which is always the Friday just before Easter. Easter Sunday is celebrated as the day Jesus rose from the dead after he was crucified.

Christians believe that Jesus Christ was sentenced to death by crucifixion by Pontius Pilate, the governor of Judea. He was crucified on a Friday and when he died, he was laid in a tomb. On the following Sunday, a group of women visited the tomb and found it empty. Jesus is believed to have been brought back to life. This resurrection is celebrated on Easter Sunday which can fall anywhere between March 22 and April 25. Easter is always celebrated on the Sunday immediately following the Paschal Full Moon.

The biblical account of Jesus' death on the cross, or crucifixion, his burial and his resurrection, or raising from the dead, can be found in the following passages of Scripture: Matthew 27:27-28:8; Mark 15:16-16:19; Luke 23:26-24:35; and John 19:16-20:30.

Lent is a 40 day period of fasting, repentance, moderation and spiritual discipline in preparation for Easter. In Western Christianity, Ash Wednesday marks the start of Lent and the Easter season. Easter Sunday marks the end of Lent and the Easter season.

Because of Easter's pagan origins, and also because of the commercialisation of Easter, many Christian churches choose to refer to the Easter holiday as Resurrection Day.

On Easter Sunday, many people receive or give Easter eggs. Traditionally, Easter eggs are delivered by the Easter rabbit/bunny. However, rabbits are seen as pests in Australia, as they destroy crops and natural habitats. For these reasons, there has been a movement to suggest that Easter eggs are hidden by the Easter bilby. The bilby is a small, shy mammal with big ears, which is native to Australia and an endangered species.

On Easter Sunday, nearly all organizations, businesses and many stores are closed, even if they are normally open on Sunday.



Easter Bunny or Easter Bilby?

The Easter Bunny has been an important part of Easter celebrations all over the world, but Australians have often questioned its suitability for our country.

In Australia feral rabbits are a major environmental problem. The reason for the rabbit being a pest goes back to the early settlers who brought it over from the Northern hemisphere. Many were released into the wild so that they would breed and thus provide a food source. Unfortunately, no one realised how well the rabbit would breed and adapt to our harsh climate. The huge rabbit population competes against the native fauna for food and so threatens their existence.

The Australian government has gone to major lengths such as the huge rabbit proof fence to try and control the rabbit population. An assortment of viruses and also culling, have been tried, however they remain a major problem.

In recent years the Bilby has been put forward as an alternate Easter symbol. The Bilby is a native Australian animal that has become endangered. It is a small rodent with a long nose and tail. It does share one feature with the rabbit, and that is its ears! The Easter Bilby is becoming more common on our supermarket shelves alongside the traditional rabbit and most manufacturers donate some of the proceeds from Bilby sales to saving the Bilby.

Interesting Bilby Facts

Bilbies have a horny spur hidden in the white tufty bit at the end of their tails. It is as sharp as the spur on a rooster's foot but nobody knows why Bilbies have them.

Bilbies and Bandicoots are from the same family.

A Bilby's large ears act like coolant towers, radiating excess heat away from their bodies.

In the wild Bilbies don't have to drink as they get all their water from their food - seeds, insects and fruit. The Bilby's eyesight is poor but their smell and hearing is good, so if they do sense danger their best defence is to hide.



Easter Bunny Funnies

What do you get when you pour hot water down a rabbit hole?

A Hot Cross bunny.



What do you call a rabbit with fleas?

Bugs Bunny.

What do you call a dumb bunny?

A hare brain.

Why did the Easter Bunny have to fire the duck?

He kept quacking the eggs.

Knock, knock.

Who's there?

Esther.

Esther who?

Esther Bunny!



What's the best way to catch a unique rabbit?

You 'nique up on him.

Why shouldn't you tell an Easter egg a joke?

It might crack up!

How does the Easter Bunny stay fit?

EGG-xercise and HARE-robics!

What's the best way to send a letter to the Easter Bunny?

Hare mail!



What's the difference between a counterfeit dollar bill and a crazy rabbit?

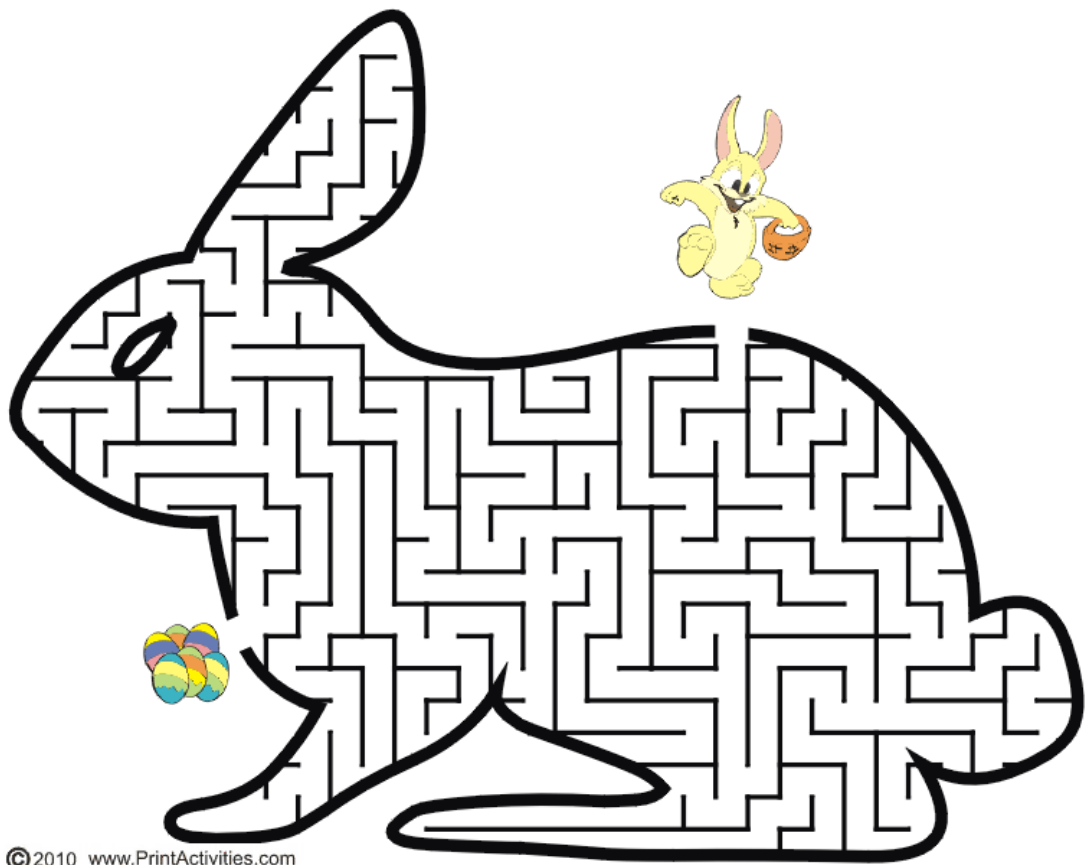
One is bad money, the other is a mad bunny!

What do you call the Easter Bunny on the day after Easter?

Tired.



Guide the Easter Bunny through the maze to find the Easter Eggs

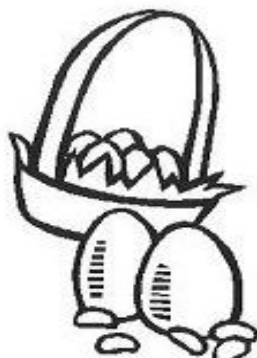


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Easter Word Search

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

BASKET
BUNNY
CHICK
CHOCOLATE
CRACKING
CUDDLY
DUCKY
DYED
EASTER



EGGS
MARSHMALLOW
PAINTING
PASTEL
QUACK
RABBIT
SPRING
TREATS
YUMMY

Happy Easter!



March 2017

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Labour Day	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Council Meeting	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

April 2017

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 Good Friday	15	16
17 Easter Monday	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 ANZAC Day	26	27 Council meeting	28	29	30