

Murchison *Monologue*

VOLUME 45 | EDITION 1

February

2021



murchisonshire

Ancient land under brilliant skies



murchisonshire
Ancient land under brilliant skies



Editor's Message

Hi Everyone,

Sam and I hope you enjoy this edition of the Monologue. If you are interested in the history of the Murchison Settlement Michael Foulkes-Taylor has written his version of events of how it all came about. It's quite fascinating.

We have photos from (relatively) recent events and news from Pia School, including former principal Fiona Tamminga's journey to the remote school at Pia.

I was very happy to read that the RFDS is now offering video consultations and there's more information about that on page 10.

If you are into gardening I've provided a planting guide to vegetables and flowers in a hot desert climate. I've printed this out and store it with my seeds in the cool room. There are some ideas in there that you might find interesting.

Special thanks to the kids that sent in photos and stories of their summer holiday adventures.

As always we are keen to hear from you any time. If you have any feedback on this edition of the Monologue or some ideas of what you would like to see in future editions please don't hesitate to share with us.

Until next time

Emma F-T

Cover photo: When it's hot and you need to clean the trough... no worries, reckons Tyler Broad. He'll gladly help!

Shire Contact Details

OFFICE: 9963 7999

Fax: 9963 7966

Web: www.murchison.wa.gov.au

CEO: Bill Boehm

E | ceo@murchison.wa.gov.au

DCEO: Tatjana Erak

E | dceo@murchison.wa.gov.au

Admin/Finance: Racheal King

E | admin@murchison.wa.gov.au

Customer Service/Finance: Vicki Dumbri

E | finance@murchison.wa.gov.au

DEPOT: 9961 3805

Works Supervisor: William Herold

E | works@murchison.wa.gov.au

Technical Officer: Kaye Doyle

E | to@murchison.wa.com.au

ROADHOUSE: Pete & Nicole Mahony

Phone: 9961 3875

Fax: 9961 3876

E | murchisonoasis@westnet.com.au

MIDWEST FREIGHT: Mark Teal

Mobile: 0419 427 686

E | mwfreight@iinet.net.au

MEDICAL : Dr Nalini Rao

Mullewa Medical Centre

Thomas Street Mullewa

Phone: 9961 1063



From the Shire President's Desk



Hello All,

A few have unfortunately missed out, and I feel for them, but I have really enjoyed hearing about some decent rainfall around the northern parts of the Shire in the last few weeks. Our friends in the adjoining parts of the Upper Gascoyne Shire have also done pretty well. A lot of the country in these areas has been doing it pretty tough so a good drink is fantastic to see.

The road construction crew have been mainly working on the Mullewa/Carnarvon Road upgrade around Bullardoo, Pinegrove, and Woolgorong. Various sections of road in this area have always been hard to maintain due to the country type and Council is hopeful that the decent foundation being laid down will allow for several kilometres of safe, smooth and relatively low maintenance sealed road to be constructed. Tenders for this road sealing have been called and the job, which is due to start around mid to late March, has been awarded to Boral.

The two houses installed on Mulga Crescent to accommodate extra staff have been completed and are now being enjoyed by their new occupants.

Council has engaged the help of a planning mob called UDLA to work through different options around how to best utilise existing facilities within the Settlement and also where to place some additional services Council has planned for the medium and longer term. An extra ablution block at the caravan park is the first improvement we hope to get underway. With a decent effort being put into forward planning Council hopes these new assets can be constructed in a position that allows for maximum use while fitting in with the surrounds.

After four years of running the show Nicole and Pete have decided not to renew their lease at the Oasis Roadhouse. Thanks very much for all their efforts over this time and we wish them well with what they plan to get up to next.

The Christmas Tree show was an enjoyable event, with some very generous volunteer work going into putting on an outstanding meal. Santa seemed to come over a bit sweaty in what looked like a new outfit specially designed for a Norwegian winter but he soldiered on stoically. A few of the kids were quite spooked by the big bearded bloke in a red outfit but it wouldn't be Christmas without that.

Until next time.

Rossie F-T

CEO's News

Hi All

Whilst it still COVID-19, COVID-19, COVID-19, 2020 was a very good, positive year to reflect upon and appreciate. The COVID-19 situation has enabled the Council to heed the messages from State Government to spend to stimulate the local economy, but in a responsible manner, and we have been and are doing just that!

As previously indicated, Council has been looking at advancing several road projects, with emphasis on the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road. Additional works, to extend flood damage repair and potentially advance solar power to the Murchison Settlement, are just a few things that have been programmed. We are delighted with progress on all these fronts.

Construction wise, Mark Jones and crew, comprising of Ivor Dumbris, Glen Pinnegar, Brent Cowmeadow and new plant operator Peter Troy, have been well established down south-working on constructing a large section of the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road north of the Shire boundary.

Several floodway sections remain, with a 7.2m seal to Bullardoo planned for the end of March 2021 using mixture of Council, Roads to Recovery and Local Roads Community Infrastructure funds.

A 1km section at Curbur will also be sealed in this year's sealing program.



Our contracted Flood Damage crews (THEM Earthmoving and Squires Resources) are well advanced and have undertaken additional Council funded repair works.

Council aims to start delivering a suite of long overdue projects in and around the Settlement. Extent and scope are being determined but these include, in no particular priority order: a Transportable Classroom, Community Sports Centre Upgrade, Community Swimming Pool and Splash Pad, New Caravan Ablution Block, New Ensuite to Caravan Park, General Settlement Amenity Improvements and an interactive playground upgrade. Whilst not all projects will be achievable initially, substantial inroads are



expected.

Concept planning for these projects is well advanced, with Cr Emma Foulkes-Taylor, Cr Andrew Whitmash and myself as an initial Working Group liaising with consultants UDLA. Concept plans are nearing the stage to be viewed by Council and then the community.



Cont.....

Meanwhile, designs for solar power to the Murchison Settlement are well advanced.

As recently as a few weeks ago, the current operators of the Murchison Oasis Roadhouse and Caravan Park have advised Council not to renew the final two years of their sublease and that they will cease their management on 28 February 2021.

Nicole and Peter Mahony have worked tirelessly over the past four years operation and we wish them well in their future endeavours.

As part of the local community focus that underpins Council's decision making regarding the Murchison Community and Settlement, it has been decided that operating the roadhouse using Council resources and staff could potentially be cost effective while enhancing this community focussed approach.



For this to occur Council plans to utilise various resources and support across a range of functions including hospitality, food preparation, tourism promotion, cleaning, gardening and general maintenance. Some full-time positions will be required and several part time roles.

This process is underway, along with a raft of other operational matters. Change won't be instant and will evolve over time, however we are all keen and look forward to this new direction for our Community's Roadhouse.

Finally, as foreshadowed, after last year's cancellation due to COVID-19, YUCK Circus has been rescheduled. We have just been advised that the Murchison Performance will be on **Saturday 15 May 2021** at the Community Centre so save the date! Details to follow.

That's it for now!!

Ciao

Bill Boehm

Save the Date
YUCK CIRCUS
All female Australian Circus Crew
Performing at Murchison on
May 15 2021

<https://www.yuckcircus.com/>

Murch Shindig

On the 7th November we held the “Murch Shindig” at the Sports Club in the Murchison Settlement. Sideways Jane, a local band from Geraldton, turned up the heat on the dance floor with their old and new rock n roll. With divine food, cold drinks and a scene set to impress any fairy light fanatic, the night was enjoyed by many locals and visitors. Will keep you updated when the next dance will be held. (photo credit: Rebecca Wheadon and Jocelyn Pumpa)



Local girls Jocelyn Pumpa & Christine Densley



Rosie and Nanny F-T



CSIRO's Brett Hiscock, Kaye Doyle, Rossco F-T, Tom F-T



Ivor, Nat, Vicki and

Murchison Settlement History-How it all began

1875 – The Murchison Road Board was gazetted by the WA Government.

The first road headed north from Mullewa (which at the time was an out-camp of Tibradden) up to the Greenough River then east- north east to Yuin Homestead.

The Murchison Road Board (MRB) met when it was considered necessary at various homesteads including Murgoo, Yuin, Boolardy and Beringarra- with one of the station bookkeepers usually acting as the secretary. This situation continued for many years, mainly because although there were several attempts to build wayside taverns, these never became permanent establishments. Police Stations were constructed at various locations but weren't used for meetings. Although Post Offices and Telegraph Stations were proclaimed at some strategic station homesteads, none went on to become settlements or towns.

Fast forward to 1961 when all WA Road Boards Districts were changed to Shire Councils and we became "The Shire of Murchison", with board members to be called Councillors and a Shire Clerk replacing the secretary. In around 1995 Shire Clerks were re-named as Chief Executive Officers (CEOs).

The Boolardy Station bookkeeper, George Clark, retired in 1963 and the whole idea of a permanent headquarters for the Murchison Shire Council (MSC) became a priority for the district, with lots of time spent by the councillors and community on a solution.

We had to find a location that met quite a few important criteria such as being geographically central and having reasonable access from all directions and having: an adequate supply of drinkable water, reasonable soil, good drainage and, probably considered most important of all, good communications. Historically, earth return party lines had been built by pastoralists; heading north from the Yalgoo Exchange to most stations on the east side of the Murchison Shire, and another line heading north from the Mullewa Exchange catering for those properties on the west side. These services were subject to many limitations such as strict opening hours on weekdays and even stricter short timeslots on weekends. These earth return lines were very susceptible to outages from rain and strong wind and, on more than one occasion, pink and grey galahs overloading the wire by lining up along the wire and their general carry-on hooking the wire on snags below. The galah problem was particularly prevalent where lines had a fence line below, especially on the Rabbit Proof Fence around Yuin, Tardie, Jingemarra, Woogalong and Pindathuna. Pedal radio was available to places without phone lines but this was used more as an emergency telegraph facility in the Murchison during this period.

Back in 1948, the Mullewa-Carnarvon telephone line was completed by the Post Master Generals Department (PMG) with a swag of money contributed from NASA. PMG was the equivalent of Telstra back then and, as a point of interest, the name changed from PMG to Telecom in 1975 and then to Telstra in July 1995. NASA became involved because the completion of this line gave them a more reliable connection between their Satellite Tracking Station at Carnarvon and Perth. Once they were connected to Perth their main communications were then with Houston in the USA.

Cont.....

This new telephone line was made available on 24 hours a day basis to all the station homesteads on its route, which was the path that the Mullewa-Carnarvon Road follows.

Back to 1963 and three possible sites for a Murchison Shire headquarters began to emerge:

Cockney Bill Well / Murgoo Hstd area. Points in favour of this site included: being quite accessible from all directions by reasonable roads; a good water supply, though not quite as fresh as it might be, and; the Beringarra-Pindar road was at that stage probably the most significant Pastoral road in the district, being used for a significant proportion of the wool transported out of the district. A couple of negatives were that it was not as central as was ideal and had a quite unreliable phone service via the Yalgoo north line.

Barloweerie* (south west of Mt Barloweerie somewhere near the Murgoo/Wooleen Rd). Points in favour here included: a very good aerodrome, quite good road access from three directions, along with being more central than the Cockney Bill/Murgoo Hstd area option. Going against this option were that it only had basic "party line" telephone lines heading past and the water supply and quality were unknown.

Meeberrie Hstd area somewhere north or south on the Carnarvon/Mullewa Rd. This site had good road access from the North, South, and East and, if Butchers' Track could be opened up, there would be good access to the west as well. Following approaches to the Shark Bay Shire they agreed that opening up Butchers' Track across to the NW Coastal Highway was a good idea, so this site was now accessible from all directions. Very good phone connections along with a known plentiful water supply of drinkable water also existed here. Some perceived resistance from the affected pastoralist concerning giving up some land for the proposed headquarters for this option was about the only negative for this site.

Council deliberations regarding the proposed headquarters occupied plenty of time during meetings over the 1962/1963 period. The Murgoo option was eliminated quite early due to its relatively poor communications and lack of centrality. Barloweerie only ever had any real support from Councillor Burt Fitzgerald (from Murgoo) and myself, with the Meeberrie Hstd area soon emerging as the obvious choice amongst the majority.

The area which the Settlement now occupies seemed the best specific site, especially as it was far enough away from the Meeberrie Hstd so as not to interfere with the management of the property. The Settlement actually sits on the Errabiddy block of Wooleen Station and, as negotiations progressed, the Sharpe family were happy to release the area needed from their pastoral lease. In early 1964, the Council decided to accept the offer of land release from the Sharpe Family and by the end of the year had agreed on plans and accepted a tenderer to build a residence and office on the site. Bill Cole from Geraldton was the builder and the construction proceeded well, with the job completed by mid 1965. Completion of the residence meant that the new Shire Clerk Mr Alan Summers, who had been living in a rented cottage at Wooleen Homestead, could move in and set up shop.

Cont.....

Council meetings duly commenced in the new office which was the south-east corner room of the building. All councillors brought their own lunch but tea, coffee and a ration of one carton of beer per meeting was provided by the Shire. Governments of all persuasions don't often move that fast and it wasn't until 1970 that the area of approximately 400 hectares was officially gazetted as the Shire of Murchison Settlement. Following this, it wasn't until 1983, when it took a bottle of Scotch and about three hours of earnest discussion in the Wooleen kitchen involving a Shire representative and the owner of Wooleen, Chris Sharpe, for an agreement to be reached on the specifics of a formal takeover by the Shire of the Settlement excision.

Back to 1981 and the Sports Club building and ablution block were built to specifications drawn up from a wish list put together by Jano Foulkes-Taylor and a few other community members way back in 1973. These rough plans included the cricket/polocrosse ground to the east and tennis courts to the west. This construction was overseen by Councillor Bob Scott from Billabalong Station.

By 1985 the newly formed Museum Committee managed to get a government grant, known as Westrek, to allow for the construction of the museum and the curator's cottage. The same year saw the establishment of the roadhouse which, in its initial format, consisted of three second hand dongas put together with expertise from local handy-man Jim Brown and assisted by his wife Suzie.

Last but not least, in 1986 the Administration office was completed. This building, designed by Georgina Foulkes-Taylor, consisted of the CEO's office, reception area, store room, library, boardroom/Council Chambers, internal court yard, kitchen and ablutions. Several staff houses, including some as duplexes for single staff, have been erected over the ensuing years in a planned development following a semi-circle to the east of the Administration Building (Mulga Crescent). The southern section of the Settlement was planned and now caters for the more industrial components including the Power Station, Works Depot (moved from just north of the CEO's residence) main water pump with bores, tanks, loading ramp and material storage.



Constructing the Murchison Museum 1985

*Barloweerie Aerodrome was completed in 1949 and was used on a weekly basis by Airlines (WA) Ltd. This service was utilised for mail delivery to the three bookkeepers from Murgoo, Wooleen and Boolardy who would meet the aircraft each time it landed. Passengers were also transported by these planes, with the service ceasing in 1969 as it had become unprofitable.

Michael Foulkes-Taylor

Freeman, Shire of Murchison

XMAS TREE 2020

Our annual Xmas tree was held at the Sports Club on 12th November. The kids were very excited when Santa arrived in style on the Fire Truck.





Free New Service to Medical Chest Custodians

The Royal Flying Doctor Service is always looking for new ways to extend the reach of our emergency and community health care for patients located remotely across Western Australia. As such we are delighted to let you know we have added video telehealth services into our Medical Chest program, enabling you to connect visually and consult with our doctors in real-time, whenever and wherever you need us.

The Good Sam Instant-On-Scene video Telehealth service will enable RFDS doctors to assess and manage your condition from afar.

The Good Sam Telehealth service comes at no additional cost for Medical Chest custodians and is easy to use; all you need is a mobile phone, tablet or other internet-connected device with a camera and microphone. There is no need to download any apps or software.

If a video telehealth consult is required, you simply receive a text message or email from our doctor that will prompt you to enable access to your location, camera and microphone. Your RFDS doctor will then be able to identify your exact location and you will continue to talk to the doctor on the phone as per normal, while simultaneously sharing video.

Doctors will only host video consultations with your permission and the same patient privacy and confidentiality standards that apply to face-to-face consultations will apply. Please note your telehealth video consultation with us will not be recorded.

We are excited to enhance our Medical Chest program for you and your community by integrating this new telehealth capability and look forward to any feedback you may have as we roll out this new service.

If you have any further questions as to how this service works, please do not hesitate to get in touch with our Medical Chest coordinator Rosemarie Adams on

(08) 9417 6302 or rosemarie.adams@rfdswa.com.au

Yours sincerely

James Sherriff
General Manager Health Service Delivery
RFDS Western Operations



Providing the finest care to the furthest corners of Australia. Visit us at <http://www.flyingdoctor.org.au/wa>

RFDS Western Operations respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Elders of the lands that we operate within, providing our Service to all that live, work and travel across these lands.



In the Veggie Garden



Are your green fingers starting to itch now that we've had some rain and autumn is inching ever closer? Mine certainly are! I am resisting only because my compost isn't ready yet and I am reluctant to plant without it. Soil is everything for success in the garden, particularly so in the food garden. Compost is the best form of soil conditioner but animal manure works pretty well too. If you've got access to cow and sheep poo get it on the garden and be generous....although it's best to let it age a bit first. Pig poo is wonderful but again, you need to age it well or better still, compost it first. Apparently pig poo is some of worms' favourite foods. Chook poo is great but it can raise the soil pH so if you already have alkaline soils it might not be the best choice. I like to add chook poo to the compost pile first.

Other 'sprinkles' I like to add to my garden soil include: blood and bone, trace elements and pelletised seaweed. Soil microbes are like your gut microbes in that they thrive on a diverse diet. It's also important to mulch your beds. Mulch protects the soil from spikes in temperature and provides a lovely layer of protection between soil and sun....it's like sunscreen for soil!

Tom and Julia have been doing a lot of vertical growing this summer and it's worked really well. They've trained cucumbers, melons, pumpkins and edible gourds (cucuza or New Guinea bean) up a big trellis under 50% shade cloth and they have done really well. They have essentially created a green wall and it's provided a wonderful microclimate for other things like capsicum and eggplants. (pictured) I'm definitely going to do this next spring/summer. One thing that's surprised me by going well all summer is carrots. I have a raised bed made from an old steel tank which we filled with a very 'loose' sandy mixture and sowed with carrot seeds in spring. It gets sprinkled every day and we have been picking nice carrots all summer.



So, what can you plant in March? I think we are a bit lucky because we can still sneak in some 'summer' crops as well as starting to plant our winter crops. You could still plant beans, tomato seedlings and even some zucchinis/squash now. Some cool season veg that cope with the autumn heat and are good to get in early are: silverbeet, carrots, broccoli, kale, spring onions, bok choy etc, cabbages and leeks. If you are feeling more adventurous check out the planting guides on the following pages for more ideas.

Happy gardening!

Planting Guides *I've been following a talented gardener from Phoenix Arizona, where the climate is not dissimilar to ours, on social media. Angela grows a fantastic food garden on a suburban block and shares her experiences and knowledge in a blog at <https://growinginthegarden.com> and on Instagram @growing.in.the.garden*

I have collated Angela's planting guides and adjusted the months to fit the southern hemisphere. I've been following her ideas with much success and thought other growers in our hot climate might be interested also. They are available on the following 2 pages.

Emma Foulkes-Taylor

January	February	March	April	May	June
<p>Rockmelon Capsicum Shallots Winter Squash Pumpkin Armenian Cucumbers Snake Beans Black-Eyed Peas all month long.</p> <p>If there is some tropical moisture in the middle of January plant</p> <p>Tomatoes, Tomatillos Amaranth Cucumber Eggplant Basil Okra Corn Tepary Beans Pinto Beans Lima Beans Pole Beans Bush Beans</p> <p>yellow cosmos globe amaranth vinca purslane zinnias sunflowers</p>	<p>Seeds of Pumpkins Winter squash Black eyed peas to 15th</p> <p>Seedlings of tomatillos tomatoes (shade)</p> <p>seeds of beans corn carrots</p> <p>Spring onions All month long</p> <p>After 15th plant seeds Bok choy Broccoli Brussels sprouts Cabbage Cauliflower Celery Collard greens Cucumber Endive Kale Kohlrabi Lettuce Leeks Mustard Green Onions Parsnips Radishes Spinach Cauliflower Celery Collard greens Cucumber Endive Kale Kohlrabi Lettuce Mustard Green Onions Parsnips Radishes Spinach Turnips</p> <p>After March 15th plant Beetroot (seeds), Peas (seeds), Potatoes l'itoi Onions Strawberries.</p>	<p>Early in the month (before September 15th) seeds Summer Squash and Beans. seeds of Bok Choy Broccoli Brussel Sprouts Cabbage Carrots Cauliflower Celery Chard /silverbeet Collard Greens Cucumbers Endive Kale Kohlrabi Lettuce Leeks Mustard Green Onions Parsnips Radishes Spinach Turnips all month long. After March 15th plant seedlings of Broccoli Brussels Sprouts Cabbage Cauliflower Celery Lettuce. After March 15th plant Beetroot (seeds), Peas (seeds), Potatoes l'itoi Onions Strawberries.</p>	<p>seeds or seedlings of Beets Bok Choy Broccoli Cabbage Chinese Cabbage Carrots Cauliflower Celery Collard Greens Endive Kale Lettuce Mustard Green Onions Peas Potatoes Radishes Spinach Swiss Chard Turnips</p> <p>African Daisy, Ageratum, Alyssum, Aster, Baby's Breath, Calendula, Carnation, Dianthus, Echinacea, Forget-Me-Not, Geranium, <u>Gloriosa Daisy</u>, Lobelia, Marigold, Nasturtium, Painted Daisy, Petunia, Poppy, <u>Rudbeckia</u>, Snapdragon, Stock, Straw Flower, Sweet Pea, Verbena</p>	<p>Arugula* Asparagus* Beets* Bok Choy* <u>Broccoli</u>*, <u>Brussels Sprouts</u>(T) <u>Cabbage</u>* <u>Wombok</u>* Carrots Cauliflower*, Celery* Collard Greens* Endive* Globe Artichoke Kale*, Kohlrabi* Lettuce* Mustard* Onion plants Onion seeds Green Onions* Parsnips Peas Radishes Rutabagas Spinach Strawberries (T) (through May 15th) <u>Silverbeet</u>* Turnips * = Seeds or Transplants Transplants only</p> <p>African Daisy, Ageratum, Alyssum, Aster, Baby's Breath, Begonia, Bells of Ireland, Bishop's Weed, Butterfly Weed, Calendula, Candy Tuft, Carnation, Clarkia, Coral Bells, Coreopsis, Cornflower, Delphinium, Desert Marigold, Desert Milkweed, Desert Zinnia, Dianthus, English Daisy, Evening Primrose, Echinacea, Flax, Forget-Me-Not, Gaillardia, Gazania, Geranium, Globe Mallow, <u>Gloriosa Daisy</u>, Hollyhock, Larkspur, Lobelia, Lupine, Mexican Hat, Nasturtiums, Nemesia, Ornamental Cabbage, Painted Daisy, <u>Peas</u>, Petunia, Phlox, Pincushion Flower, Poppy, Primrose, Ranunculus, <u>Rudbeckia</u>, Shasta Daisy, Snapdragon, <u>Statice</u>, Stock, Strawflower, Sweet Pea, Verbena, <u>Viola</u>, <u>Violet</u>, Yarrow</p>	<p>Seedlings of Asparagus Kohlrabi Onions</p> <p>seeds or seedlings of Beets Bok Choy Broccoli Cabbage Chinese Cabbage Carrots Cauliflower Celery Collard Greens Endive Kale Lettuce Mustard Green Onions Peas Radishes Rutabagas Spinach Swiss Chard Turnips</p> <p>African Daisy, Ageratum, Alyssum, Aster, Baby's Breath, Calendula, Carnation, Dianthus, Echinacea, Forget-Me-Not, Geranium, <u>Gloriosa Daisy</u>, Lobelia, Marigold, Nasturtium, Painted Daisy, Petunia, Poppy, <u>Rudbeckia</u>, Snapdragon, Stock, Straw Flower, Sweet Pea, Verbena</p>

July	August	September	October	November	December
Artichokes Asparagus Beetroot Broccoli Cabbage Carrots Cauliflower Collard Greens Endive Kohlrabi Lettuce Leek Mustard Green Onions Onions Peas Potatoes Radishes Strawberries Swiss Chard Turnips Alyssum, Carnation, Dianthus, Gaillardia, Geranium, <u>Gloriosa</u> Daisy, Larkspur, Nasturtium, Pansies, Petunia, Poppy, Primrose, <u>Rudbeckia</u> , Stock, Straw Flower, Sweet Pea, Verbena	Artichokes Asparagus Beets Carrots * <u>Rockmelon</u> Collard Greens *Corn *Cucumbers *Armenian Cucumbers Lettuce Mustard Green Onions Onions Peas Peppers Potatoes Radishes Spinach *Summer Squash *Tomatillos *Tomatoes Turnips *Watermelon *After 15 th August Alyssum, *Angelonia, Bee Balm, Butterfly Weed, *Desert Marigold, Desert Milkweed, English Daisy, Gaillardia, Gazania, Geranium, <u>Gillia</u> , <u>Gloriosa</u> Daisy, Hollyhock, <u>Marigold</u> , Mexican Sunflower, Periwinkle, Petunia, Primrose, Purslane, Ranunculus, <u>Rudbeckia</u> , Safflower, Strawflower, Sunflower, Sweet Peas, Verbena, Wild Hyssop, Yarrow	Armenian Cucumber Artichokes* Blackberries <u>Rockmelon</u> Carrots Corn Cucumber Eggplant* Grapes Green Onions Malabar Spinach Okra Peanuts Capsicum/chilli* Pumpkin Radishes Sweet Potatoes* Summer Squash Sunflowers Tomatillos* Tomatoes* Watermelon Winter Squash *= from seedlings After 15 th September Beans Black-eyed Peas Edamame Lima Beans Okra Peanuts Rosella Snake beans	Plant seeds of: Armenian Cucumber, Beans (Lima*, Snap and Snake Black-eyed Peas <u>Rockmelon</u> Corn* Cucumber Edamame Green Onions Luffa Malabar Spinach Okra Peanuts Rosella Summer Squash* Seedlings: Armenian Cucumber <u>Rockmelon</u> Cucumber Luffa Green Onions Malabar Spinach Roselle Hibiscus Summer Squash* Sweet potato slips	Amaranth, Armenian Cucumber Basil Black-eyed peas <u>Rockmelon</u> Okra Edamame Malabar Spinach Rosella Snake Beans Sweet potato Angelonia, Balsam, Celosia, Coleus, Coreopsis, Cos mos, Dusty Miller, Four O'Clock, <u>Impatiens</u> , Globe Amaranth, <u>Lisianthus</u> , Marigold, Mexican Sunflower, Ornamental Pepper, <u>Portulaca</u> , Purslane, Salvia, Sunflower, <u>Vinca</u> , Zinnia	Amaranth Armenian Cucumber, Black-Eyed Peas <u>Rockmelon</u> Snake Beans Angelonia Celosia* Coleus* Cosmos Four O'Clock Globe Amaranth <u>Lisianthus</u> Marigold* <u>Portulaca</u> Purslane Sunflowers <u>Vinca</u> , Zinnia

LEARN NATURAL SEQUENCE FARMING

This course is a practical hands-on workshop that will show you how to read a landscape and develop your skills to reinstate its' natural functions



SLOW THE FLOW

Learn the natural patterns and processes of the landscape that ensured it remained hydrated and running at full efficiency. Develop the skills to locate, design and build natural landscape structures.



LET ALL PLANTS GROW

Plants along with water are the builders of our system. Understand the role that plants play in the landscape and how they can be used to their full potential.



CAREFUL WHERE THE ANIMALS GO

Learn to observe the interaction of livestock with the landscape and recognise the role that they play as tools within our production systems.



FILTRATION IS A MUST KNOW

Understand the process of filtration and where it occurs within the landscape. Learn how to recycle the nutrients back to the top to best reduce losses.

This four-day course will have you walking away with the knowledge and understanding of how the landscape operates and how you can maximise your farms productivity by implementing the information taught

Accommodation is available at Wooleen Station for a 60% discount. Please directly contact Wooleen Station for more details.

Hosted by Wooleen Station
Murchison, WA: 26-29 July 2021

Price: \$2,850 incl. GST per person

Email info@tarwynparktraining.com.au Visit tarwynparktraining.com.au Follow @tarwynparktraining





PIA Wadjarri News

What a HUGE end of the year everyone has had at Pia Wadjarri School. The teachers and students have been so busy with many school activities, NAIDOC week, an excursion to Cue and Yalgoo, Tidy towns awards in Perth and even a disco night.

We welcomed Miss Marika Stephaniw at the start of Term 3 2020. Marika has been working as an early childhood teacher in remote communities for over 6 years. She has been helping out and continuing the programme the students have been working on routinely and making a few adaptations such as—Fitzroy reading and spelling program, Maths activities and folders for each student, puzzles and some excellent new incentives for students positive behaviour.

Marika has started a 'War on Waste' programme for Science. Students in both Junior and Senior classes are learning about the waste and the impact it has upon the environment.

She is also teaching the students to cook and will be able to take home their own recipe books at the end of the year.

We hope Miss Marika will enjoy being a part of our team.



Miss Marika (right), Mr Brad (behind) teaching students about waste management



Mrs Fiona Tamminga (right) with some of the students that received a certificate and gift at the awards assembly

Welcoming a new staff member to our school we had to sadly say goodbye to our wonderful Principal Mrs Fiona Tamminga at the end of the year.

Principal's Final Message

Well the end of the year has finally come. This is a very emotional time for me as I need to say my goodbye to a place that I have grown to love and to the people who have become very dear to me. I would like to thank everyone who has been apart of my time here. I especially want to thank my team. Nan Julie and Pop Lenny, Kylie Simpson, Sean and Melissa, Brad and Lulu, Sonia Nelson, Jocelyn Pumpa.

To the parents who have raised some amazing kids. Lastly to the students, the reason we are all here. I would like to also thank our supporters, TLG and Deadly Science for being so supportive throughout the year.

Love always to all of you x x x x

Fiona Tamminga

Waste Management



Gardening

Preparing seeds for the garden beds



Donation

Paul from the Murchison Settlement donated Atlases and HASS learning area books



Upcycling at Pia Wadjarri

Fiona Tamminga, Principal, Pia Wadjarri RCS

What got you into education in the first place?

Over the years, I have tried my hand at many different occupations. Although I was good at whatever I put my hand to, these jobs just didn't satisfy my desire to make a difference in the world.

My decision to become a teacher was thrust on me by necessity really. I was working as a swimming supervisor and swimming teacher with EDWA, and absolutely loved the part time job. Due to the Global Financial Crisis, my husband found himself without a job and Charles came to me saying, "Look Dad, you have always wanted to go to uni. Now's the time." So, Charles became the Mr Mum of our 5 kids and I went to Uni.

I graduated (with a Bachelor of Education K-10, majoring in Drama and minoring in Communications), the financial crisis was over, and Charles was back on the tools. We were really looking for an adventure, so I applied for all sorts of positions, country, remote, bought a caravan, rented out the house ready to go to some exotic destination. The department sent me to Coolbellup! We lived in a caravan park for 6 months in the middle of the city, 10 minutes from our rented house.

Since then I have worked in a number of hard to staff and country locations doing all sorts of interesting things.

Tell us a little bit about your leadership journey.

I have always aspired to leadership, not because I wanted to be a leader but because I love supporting others to be the best that they can be. I have been involved in all sorts of leadership roles, including curriculum leader for Maths, Literacy, Science,

the Arts, Design and Tech and Digital Tech. I have been involved in writing the Science standards with SCSA and the original Australian Curriculum (in Maths) collaborating with others to work on these documents. When there was a push for technology through the department, I started training teachers how to use robotics in the classroom and was selected to be a Teachers Can Code Teacher, providing PL in the Wheat-belt. After that, I started to apply for Principals positions and landed the Perenjori PS acting position for 3 months, followed by an Acting Principal position for the last year and a quarter here at Pia Wadjarri RCS, absolutely loving the challenges of the role.

What has been a highlight of your career?

As a teacher - I have had many highlights. As a teacher there are always amazing things you see and do and learn to appreciate. I personally love being creative and encouraging the arts into my everyday learning. One of my highlights was while I was working at Nerrigen Brooke PS and for NAIDOC Day, I worked with students and the AEIO to design and paint an 11m x 3m mural on the side of a demountable, facing the main road. The result was fantastic, and the community loved it.

As a Principal - It would have to be this whole year. Even though it was very hard with COVID-19, the vision I had for the school went full steam ahead and our NAIDOC Celebrations in July were just amazing. The team that I work with outshone themselves and should definitely be congratulated for all of their effort.

Can you tell us about a few of your favourite innovations that you have been a part of at Pia

Wadjarri RCS?

COVID-19 highlighted the need to secure food supply especially for remote communities like ours as we found ourselves not being able to access fresh food and vegetables, or household supplies due to shut down by suppliers. The shops have no idea what it is like out here, 2 rolls of toilet paper just doesn't cut it when you have to travel 350 km one way just to get it! The freight company was not able to deliver us food or supplies either. So, we really had to be innovative on how we would source necessities, not only for ourselves but for the community as well. It took many, many phone calls to finally secure what we needed.

In the meanwhile, we all worked together to develop and implement a Sustainable Schools Plan - to secure food supplies and hopefully future proof our school and community. We designed and planted a native bush-tucker garden, expanded our orchards, and tripled the size of our school veggie garden. We provided native animal rehabilitation services, rescuing joeys that had been orphaned by vehicles or as a result of cultural practices of hunting for food. We also started a fish farm. The goal is to lower our carbon footprint at the school and become more sustainable. We planted the majority of the native plants sourced from the local area with some from other regions as well. The gardens and new tree planting provide shelter for native animals and birds.

We use the food from our gardens in our classroom cooking, breakfast, crunch and sip, and healthy eating programs run by the school. Left over scraps from the program provide food for pets.

Animals assist in the turning over and improvement of the soil





nutrient content without the need for chemicals. Chickens provide eggs for our school kitchen and also for staff and students. The chicken manure is used in veggie patches.

In July this year I encouraged the start-up of an aqua culture project where we breed fish and use plants to filter the water. It is only in its early stages with a limited number of fish which will be increased over time. This will result in the fish providing food for staff, students and wider community as well as fertilising garden beds and aqua beds.

We really started to look at how we could recycle everything so that it wouldn't cost us anything. Paper recycling from the classrooms and office is shredded and used in the chicken pens in their nesting boxes with grass clippings in our mulching process. Boxes are used as art canvases in the classroom projects or incinerated to be used in the garden beds and mulching process as well. Metal drums and car parts were used to create 'Iddawarra', the Wadjarri Warrior Sculpture, created by Charles Tamminga (my husband) which was installed at the front of the school. Staff members fossick for disused materials from around the community and tip to use at the school, including:

- » recycling tyres protect bases of trees in the orchard,
- » recycling timber for garden beds,
- » sheet metal to build chicken coops and animal pens, drums for water and feed troughs,
- » reused hessian and shade cloth for shade and barriers for kangaroos to separate them from the veggie gardens,
- » old fencing reused in chicken coops and animal shelters,
- » repurposing old pumps and water tanks,
- » old branches from dangerous trees made into an aboriginal mia mia, for students to play in,
- » plastic and glass jars and other recyclable materials are used in student artwork and for storage,
- » pipe, wire and newspaper recycled to create a display of a beanstalk, and other interesting frames,
- » a giant chicken coop was created from 100% recycled materials,
- » unused plant pots are sent back to a small market gardener to reduce waste and help the market gardener lower his costs, and
- » students participate in clean up-dates for the school and community, picking up litter.

We ended up being a finalist in the Tidy Towns Competition for schools in the Sustainable Education category which was really great.

Another highlight was in July 2020. We celebrated NAIDOC Day bringing together people from all over the state to visit our school, documented by ABC News. It was fabulous.

What does WAPPA mean to you?

I really enjoy the WAPPA Facebook page, watching everyone's ideas and seeing all the amazing learning taking place right across the state. It really inspires me!

I enjoy the comradery and supportive nature of everyone. I am encouraged everyday by the stories of others.

The PL opportunities are also amazing, and I hope to become more involved in the coming years. ☺



Southern Rangelands Pastoral Alliance Inc.

"Connected, producer-driven, healthy landscape, better business"

The WA Southern Rangelands encompass all of the land area south of the Pilbara, but not including the South West Land Division.

The pastoral industry of the Southern Rangelands has lacked an industry leadership group, with no single voice to determine and address priorities for revitalisation. This situation has now changed with a group of pastoral businesses forming a group to address this situation.

On October 2nd, 2020, a "roundtable" forum was held at Mount Magnet to gauge pastoralists' interest in forming a grower group to represent the Southern Rangelands area. There was unanimous endorsement to establish a Grower Group for the Southern Rangelands and an interim committee was nominated. The committee subsequently agreed to name the group the Southern Rangelands Pastoral Alliance (SRPA).

The objective of the Southern Rangelands Pastoral Alliance is **to lead and support sustainable pastoral production and diversification in the Southern Rangelands**. The group in no way intends to "take over" or subsume any of the existing smaller groups such as LCDCs, catchment groups, RBGs or any others. Membership will be voluntary for individuals or businesses in the Southern Rangelands. However, the SRPA will be able to provide industry-wide representation on topics relevant to pastoral business and landscape regeneration across the zone.

The SRPA will assist the pastoral industry in three ways:

- ♦ Capacity building and skills for businesses;
- ♦ Collaboration on common issues and facilitating community-led action; and
- ♦ Serve as a central hub between the pastoral industry, government and agribusiness enterprises.

Further, the SRPA will enable an industry-led approach to address landscape function repair for sustainable production improvement across the Southern Rangelands. This will build the production capacity of the Rangelands, and allow a bottom-up approach to building capacity of people working together in the industry.

The SRPA Interim Committee is comprised of 11 members who are pastoralists, each one in a different local government area. The geographic spread is from Upper Gascoyne in the north, to Kalgoorlie in the South, Wiluna and Laverton in the east and Yalgoo and Murchison in the west. The group's Executive Officer is supported by the Mid West Development Commission and based in the DPIRD office in Geraldton.

SRPA recently held its first Strategic Planning workshop in Mt Magnet. This will guide the group's efforts over the next 6 to 12 months.

For more information please contact Margi Weir, Executive Officer, SRPA Inc. **0408 210 285**, margi.weir@mwdc.wa.gov.au

Members of the SRPA committee with stakeholders and support personnel at their first Strategic Planning workshop in Mt Magnet in February





Murch Kids

What did you do on your school holidays over Christmas?



Catherine Prow from the Murchison Settlement visited the Zoo in Perth and had a fun photo shoot with the smurfs and other animals. That sandwich definitely looks very delicious to eat!!

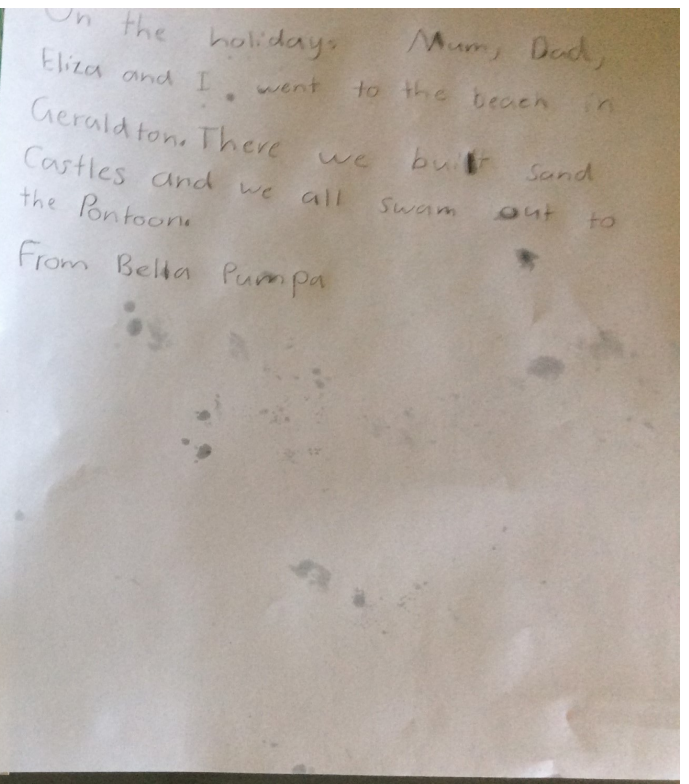
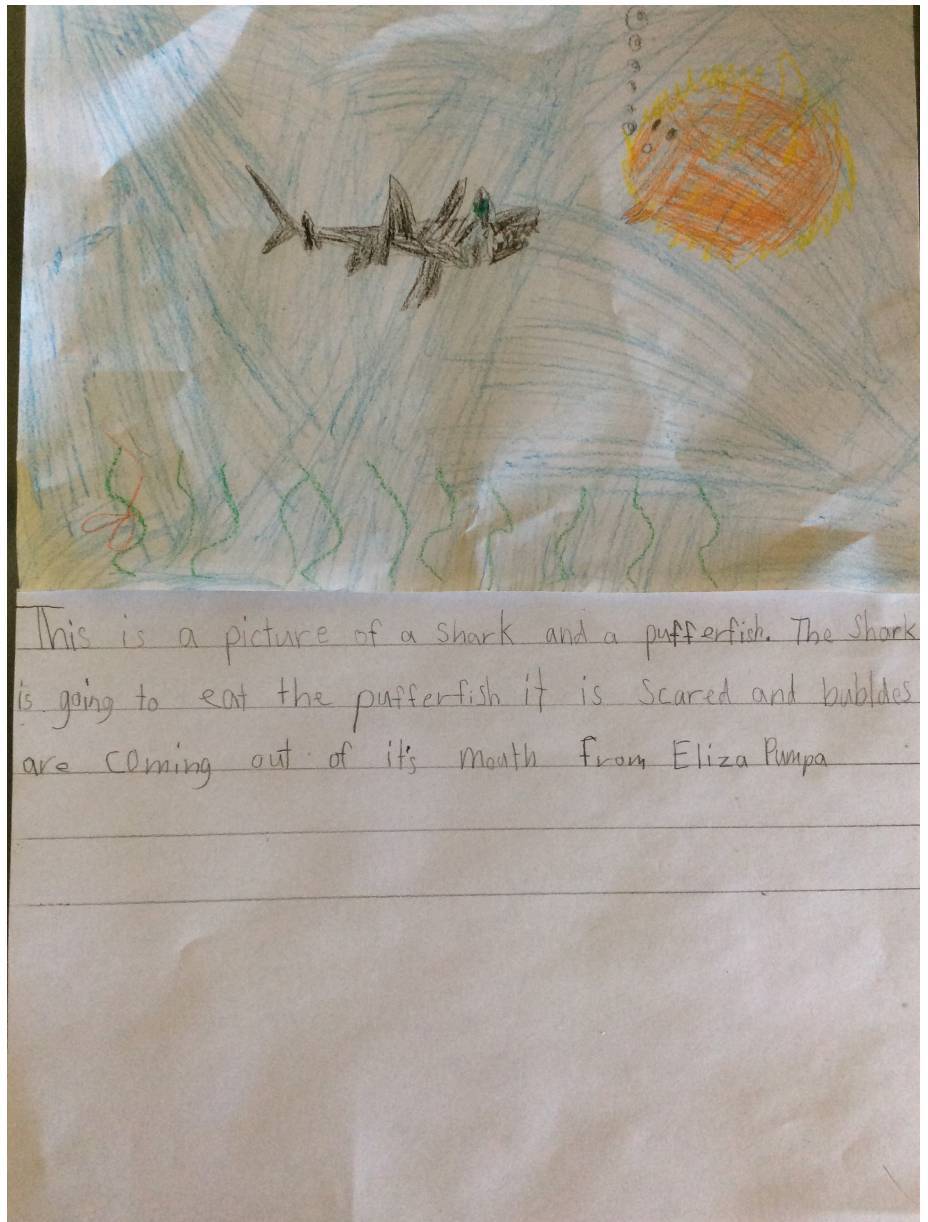
It looks like Tatjanna's daughter, Rhiannon had a pet filled holiday!




Oscar (left) and Rosie F-T (right) from Yuin had great fun catching up with their favourite sausage dog, Archie.






Bella and Eliza Pumpa
from Murgoo Station
visited the beach in
Geraldton. What a
refreshing sea change.





Kidz Corner



SUMMER

ACROSS

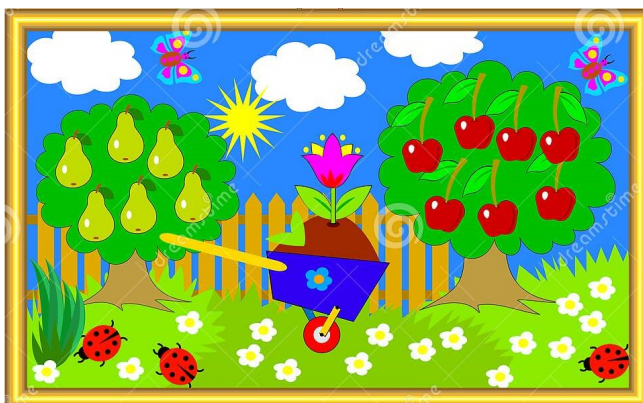
2. Let's build a _____ to help keep us warm.
4. hot weather or temperatures
5. a swimming _____
8. a usually long walk especially for pleasure or exercise
9. the warmest season of the year

DOWN

1. an area with sand next to an ocean or lake
3. a place usually in nature where people set up tents
6. a large area of water that is surrounded by land
7. Can I ride my _____?
9. very tiny, loose pieces of rock that kids like to play in

Copyright © 2019 TreeValleyAcademy.com

Find 9 Differences





KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS 2021

Children born between 1st July 2016 to 30th June 2017 are eligible to enrol for kindergarten for 2021. Do you live out of town or on a station and not sure of the options for schooling for your child ?

Let us help you at Carnarvon School of the Air !

We are very excited about your child's future at Carnarvon School of the Air.

CONTACT US

9947 2600 or email

rachel.johnson2@education.wa.edu.au





MSOTA PLAYGROUP

Do you have a child or know a child who will be starting Kindy in 2022 at Meekatharra School of the Air?



Play group takes place in Term 3 and 4- a great opportunity to prepare children for School of the Air.

For further information or to enrol, please contact Naomi Haynes or Shona Nash on 99235200 or email

naomi.johnston@education.wa.edu.au

shona.nash@education.wa.edu.au

Vince

CATANIA ^{MLA}

Vote

1

**Member for
NORTH WEST CENTRAL**

To continue advocating for you & your community
as your strong REGIONAL VOICE in Parliament
I need your support at this State election on March 13th
– Vote 1 Vince Catania –



CONTACTS



@VinceCataniaMP



northwest@mp.wa.gov.au



99412 999

Authorised by P Dixon, 39 Gascoyne Road, Carnarvon WA 6701

THE NATIONALS *for Regional WA*

Trust the Signs, Trust your Gut, Ask R U OK?



Changes in sleep
patterns



Mood swings or
changes



Quiet or
withdrawn



Anxious, worried
or overwhelmed



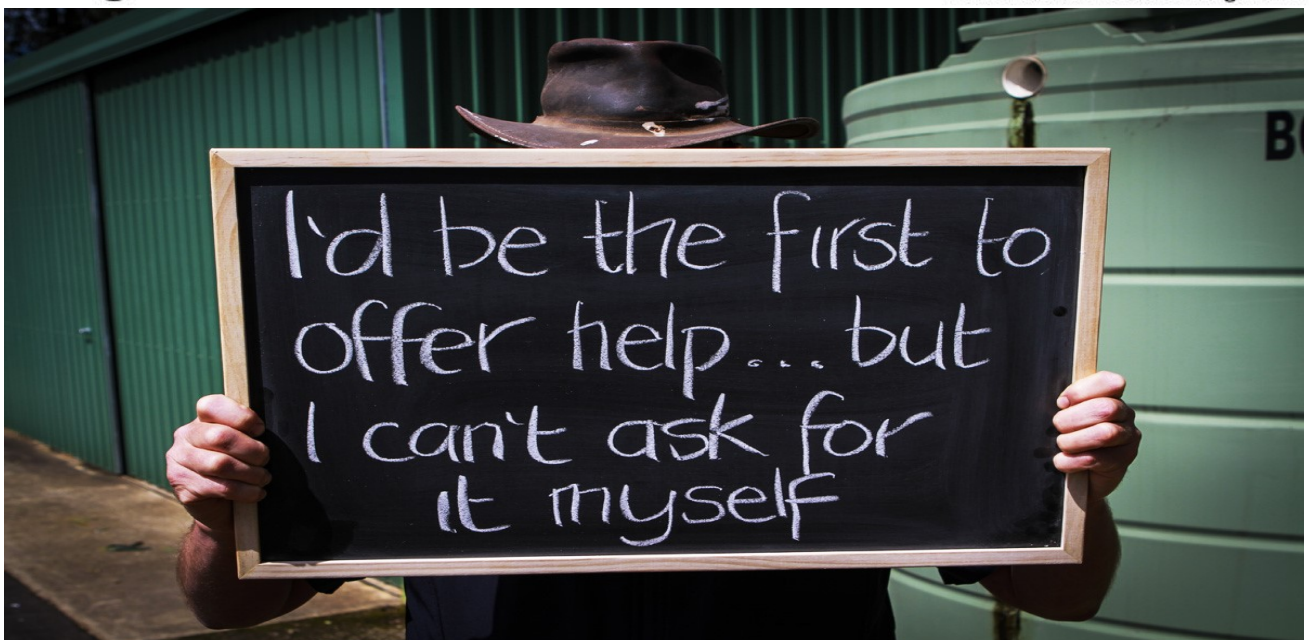
Irritable or
angry



Losing interest in things
they once loved

Learn the signs and how to ask at
ruok.org.au

R U OK?[™]
A conversation could change a life.





Would you like to promote what you have to offer?

Full Page - black & white or colour - \$25.00

Half Page - black & white or colour - \$15.00

Quarter Page - black & white or colour - \$7.50

Calling for Submissions

*If you have any news, photos,
stories or advertisements to
share please forward to:*

Samantha Walton

cpo@murchison.wa.gov.au



GENERAL DISCLAIMER

The Murchison Monologue is published by the Shire of Murchison as a public service for the community. The opinions expressed have been published in good faith on the request of the person requesting publication, and are not those of the Shire of Murchison. All articles, comments, advice and other material contained in this publication are by way of general comment or advice only and are not intended, nor do they purport to be the correct advice on any particular subject or matter referred to. No person should act on the basis of any matter, comment or advice contained in this publication without first considering, and if necessary taking appropriate professional advice upon, the applicability to their particular circumstances. Accordingly, no responsibility is accepted or taken by the Shire of Murchison, or the authors and editors of the Murchison Monologue, for any damage or loss suffered by any party acting in reliance on any matter, comment or advice contained herein.