

What's *Happening*

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Mayor's Message Linda Aitken

Welcome to the first edition of **What's Happening for 2025** - and the first to go officially digital!

Yes, our beloved print newsletter is entering its digital era. You'll still receive a copy in the mail, but you'll now be able to access bonus content via your mobile phone, tablet or computer - expect interactive content, video interviews and a user-friendly design.

In this issue, we're shining the spotlight on our \$77 million capital works program, and the highly anticipated Dordaak Kepup, library and youth innovation hub in Landsdale that we're working towards opening by the end of 2025.

As we approach ANZAC Day, we turn our attention to the Wanneroo RSL sub-branch, which plays a pivotal role in honouring the legacy and sharing the stories and sacrifices of those who served in the armed forces.

Especially, local legend and Royal Australian Navy veteran, Jack Le Cras, who shares his vivid memories of war times, including being aboard the HMAS Bataan when it entered Japan following the official end of World War II.

Lastly, don't forget to check out this edition's Kid's Zone, featuring all the fun school holiday activities coming up and a special message from our Mini Mayor, Ellie.

I hope you enjoy this exciting edition of **What's Happening**, and I wish everyone all the best for a safe, enjoyable Easter period.

Mayor Linda Aitken



ANZAC Day Services

The City's Flagship Funding supports not-for-profit community groups and organisations to deliver community initiatives that recognise, celebrate and commemorate the City's rich history and diverse culture.

The funding has supported the ceremonies hosted by RSL sub-branches in Wanneroo, Quinns Rocks and Yanchep.

Yanchep-Two Rocks RSL sub-branch

Yanchep National Park.
Dawn Service, arrival 5.30am for a 6am start. Gunfire breakfast in the Yanchep Inn following.

Main Day Service, 10.30am for an 11am start.

Parking will be set aside for VIPs and ACROD pass holders, in the area immediately north of the Inn.

Wanneroo RSL sub-branch

Wanneroo Memorial Park, Civic Drive Wanneroo.

Dawn Service commences 5.45am followed by a march and gunfire breakfast.

Quinns Rocks RSL sub-branch

Quinns Rocks Sports Club, 17 Tapping Way, Quinns Rocks.

Dawn Service, arrival 5.45am for a 6am start.

Followed by a gunfire breakfast. Two-up starting at 1pm.

Photo: Dean Palmer, War Memorial, Wanneroo.



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- South-West Ward
- Central Ward
- Central-East Ward
- Central-West Ward
- North-East Ward
- North Ward



Cr Jacqueline
Huntley
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Cr Jordan
Wright
M 0491 043 939



Cr Paul
Miles
M 0416 197 363



Cr Marizane
Moore
M 0413 551 868



Cr Phil
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Parker
M 0409 408 171



Cr Bronwyn
Smith
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Cr Sonet
Coetzee
M 0414 429 936



Cr Alex
Figg
M 0449 704 667

Previous editions of *What's Happening* can be viewed online at wanneroo.wa.gov.au/whats happening

The City of Wanneroo acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land we are working on, the Whadjuk people. We would like to pay respect to the Elders of the Noongar nation, past, present and future, who have walked and cared for the land and we acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contributions made to the life of this City and this region.

Jack Le Cras shares memories of service and sacrifice

Recently, What's Happening was lucky to sit down with Royal Australian Navy veteran, Jack Le Cras OAM, to talk about his war time experiences and his long history with the Wanneroo RSL.

He cemented himself in history by being one of the few Australians who witnessed the Japanese signing of the peace, marking the end of WWII.

A 19-year-old Jack was on board the USS Missouri where Japanese officials signed the surrender documents.

September 2, 2025 will mark 80 years since Japan's surrender ending WWII. This also coincides with Jack's 99th birthday on 3 September.

Jack still holds vivid memories of war times - some even light-hearted, like being aboard the HMAS Bataan when it entered Japan following the official end of WWII.

"We were transferred to the recovery of POW's (prisoners of war) in Japan and the job would be to land, secure the port to wait for the prisoners of war to come out of the mountains to the hospital ships," he said.

"We were advised that we were going to Sendai and a truck turned up with 50 rifles on it. Sailors don't have rifles we only handle the big guns."

Jack said he was one of the 48 sailors selected to disembark in Sendai on foot. "Forty-eight sailors, we had two bullets each and no water, nothing. We were there as the invading force to take over a town in Japan."



Jack Le Cras (Inset) 17-year-old Jack joined the Navy in 1944.



Jack said the 48 sailors reached the town centre beaming with pride having successfully controlled a Japanese town as they approached the railway station, ready to assist in retrieving prisoners of war.

"We're all feeling proud and everything. As we got closer to the station we could hear machinery, and there was a whole heap of US marines with bulldozers and trucks," he said.

"They were extending the platform, they had been there for three days. Here we had all these glorious sailors thinking we invaded and secured a Japanese city. So we went back into town, put all the rifles in a shop and spent two hours sightseeing."

"Forty-eight sailors, we had two bullets each and no water, nothing."



Medals on display at the Wanneroo RSL.

Step inside the Wanneroo RSL

The Wanneroo RSL is just one of the City's RSL sub-branches that will be honouring former and current service members with an ANZAC Day dawn service at Memorial Park.

Despite the Wanneroo RSL forming in 1978, it was not until 2017 that the sub-branch would have its first dawn service.

Today, one step inside Wanneroo Community Centre, the home of Wanneroo RSL, highlights the vast history that the club and its past and present members represent. However, it wasn't always smooth sailing for the group. The sub-branch started as Wanneroo RSL before becoming Wanneroo Districts and then turning to Wanneroo-Joondalup in 1998.

They were without a home base for some time, using different members houses along with a brief stint at Woodvale Community Centre, before rechartering as Wanneroo RSL in 2015.

The group was gifted the Wanneroo Community Centre space in 2020 and today the club's official premises hold a wide collection of private souvenirs from WWI, WWII, the Vietnam War and the Korean War.

In 2017, the Wanneroo Mayor Tracey Roberts, called former Wanneroo RSL President, Jack Le Cras, requesting support for the City to hold its own dawn service with just three months' notice. The event was a success and

the rest is history, with the City proudly supporting the event ever since.

Current Wanneroo RSL President Peter Epps said the dawn service has continued to grow, with 5,500 people in attendance last year, up from 2,500 in 2017. The group now has over 100 members and is beginning to attract a younger demographic.

Peter said the sub-branch is also gaining attention from the public thanks to new signage in the area.

"Over the last financial year we've had about 500 people just drop in, they see the sign and come in to have a look at the museum," he said.

"It's all run by volunteers and any money that we raise has to be spent on members so that's why we have a monthly sundowner - it's all to support the mental health of our members and ex-service members."

Wanneroo RSL is open Tuesdays and Fridays 9am-3pm and the first Saturday each month from 10am-4pm.

5 minutes with Content and Discovery Librarian, Nicole



What does a Content and Discovery Librarian do?

I have the really fun job of buying books for all of the City's libraries! That includes both print and e-resources, such as ebooks. A big part of my role right now is selecting library resources for Dordaak Kepup, our new library and youth innovation hub in Landsdale.

Tell us about the Dordaak Kepup project and your role in gathering library resources?

Our goal is to get 15,000 books on the shelf at Dordaak Kepup. We've set up how the different collections may look and are focusing on what the community in Landsdale and surrounds will want and need.

It's important to have a mix of picture books for young readers and of course what's popular and trending. For example, Reese Witherspoon's book club picks are very popular and resonate with our audience, therefore we'll ensure these books are always available.

We're working hard with our supplier to make sure everything is on the shelves so we can service the community as soon as Dordaak Kepup opens. The team is really looking forward to welcoming our community to this fantastic facility.

What is a highlight of your time at the City?

I love when authors come to our libraries and do their Meet the Author events. It's so interesting to hear how their stories come to life, what their writing journey looks like and what influenced their story.

What's your favourite part of the job?

Part of my role is helping facilitate the Trace your Family Tree program. I like working with people and it's rewarding to help people find out their family history.

What are you currently reading?

The Bad Bridesmaid by Rachel Johns. It is based in Fremantle and there are scenes based in the Fremantle Library. It's fun to read a book where you know the area and location, plus we like books with librarians in them.

What are you most looking forward to at Dordaak Kepup?

Seeing how the community is going to use the space, we want to make it a real community hub. Libraries are so much more than a place to read books, they are a place for people to make real social connections, and our dream is that Dordaak Kepup will be this and more.

Traditional library services will of course be on offer, although I'm looking forward to the podcast studio, gaming room and virtual reality space, which will draw in young people. With so many services online, libraries are now, even more so, a place to be social and meet new people, therefore we want to ensure that we have plenty of activities on for all ages and interests.



Street art with heart

Two new City-funded bus shelters are set to be installed on Girrawheen Avenue.

That means new blank spaces ready to be splashed with colour and the perfect opportunity for a collaborative community mural project, featuring greetings in the many languages spoken by local Girrawheen and Koondoola residents.

This exciting initiative is being led by our dedicated Place Management team, who have been working closely with Our Lady of Mercy Primary School, Girrawheen Senior High School and the talented consultant artist, John Herne, to develop the mural design.

The journey began with a series of design workshops in early February, led by John, where students eagerly shared their creative ideas on how to bring the mural to life.

Now, John will use these ideas to craft a design that truly captures the colourful spirit of both the students and the Girrawheen community.

We look forward to unveiling the mural design, with installation anticipated to be completed by May. Stay tuned for updates.



Project spotlight: Dordaak Kepup reaches new heights

One of the City's most exciting projects, Dordaak Kepup library and youth innovation hub, is on track to open its doors to the community later this year.

As of February, the view from Broadview Park in Landsdale is looking a little different, with steelwork and roof purlins now completed on the 1,700sqm building site.

Senior Project Manager, Mark Little, said this milestone brought the project one step closer to completion.

"Our dedicated team, including our building contractors at Swan Group and architect Bollig Design Group, are all working hard to hit construction targets," he said.

"As we progress with construction, we are particularly excited to see the unique features of the facility take shape."

According to Mark, it's the facility's Noongar name and bespoke design that make it special.

"Every intricate detail, down to the name of the facility, the names of the rooms and the exterior design, reflects the significance of Noongar culture to our City and the area," he said.

The name Dordaak Kepup means 'Place of Living Waters', and was chosen after consultation with Noongar elders and community members, highlighting the facility's location and its connection to the wetlands of the Gngarara groundwater system.

"The design pays homage to the meaning, featuring flowing lines and a distinctive façade," Mark said.



Mark Little, Senior Project Manager for Dordaak Kepup.

"No detail has been overlooked with this project, and we can't wait to reveal Dordaak Kepup in all its glory."

Mayor Linda Aitken said she was excited to see the state-of-the-art facility come to life.

"On completion, Dordaak Kepup will be home to a range of groundbreaking facilities and features and I can't wait to throw open the doors and welcome our community" she said.

"There is truly something for everyone, from classic library elements, senior's activities and early childhood offerings, to youth innovation elements like STEAM programs, a recording studio and podcasting capabilities.

"Dordaak Kepup is the first facility of its kind for our City, and we look forward to seeing it continue to take shape over the coming months."

To hear more from Mark, scan the QR code to watch his short interview. For project specific information, visit our webpage wanneroo.wa.gov.au/dordaakkepup



Construction is underway at Dordaak Kepup.

"No detail has been overlooked with this project, and we can't wait to reveal Dordaak Kepup in all its glory."


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BMX track at McCoy Park, Quinns Rocks

Works are progressing on the renewal of the BMX Track at McCoy Park, Quinns Rocks.

The upgrades encompass a new asphalt track surface, improved landscaping with new trees, and additional park amenities including fencing for improved safety, seating, park benches and a drink fountain.

Progress snapshot

● Due for completion mid-2025

Budget \$552,000

City funding



Gumblossom Community Centre, Quinns Rocks

This widely-used facility is undergoing a major upgrade.

Stage one of the redevelopment will see the refurbishment of wet areas, general amenities and the kitchen, along with a renewal of shared spaces. The area will also be given accessibility and amenity improvements and upgrades to more sustainable LED lighting.

Progress snapshot

● Stage 1 - community hall due for completion mid-2025

● Stage 2 - sports hall and playgroup due for completion mid-2026

Budget \$2.2 million

\$400k - Lotterywest grant
\$700k - City funding



Mayor Linda Aitken with Dep. Mayor James Rowe, Crs Vinh Nguyen, Natalie Herridge and Eman Seif, and Richard from the Vietnamese RSL Tennis Club at Montrose Park.

Montrose Park, Girrawheen

Significant upgrades at Montrose Park in Girrawheen will provide an inclusive and accessible place for local clubs and the community to enjoy.

The upgrades will include new toilets, a kiosk, changerooms, multipurpose space, storeroom, cleaning room, and a verandah that offers improved spectator views.

The park's tennis courts will also be resurfaced, and upgraded fencing and improved sports lighting will be installed to

ensure the courts can be used safely and efficiently.

The park's transformation promises to bring new life to the space, inviting more people to participate in sports, events and leisure activities.

Progress snapshot

● Construction phase due for completion 25/26

Budget \$1.9 million

\$192k - Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries - Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities funding
\$1.78m - City funding

Kingsway Netball Courts, Madeley

A state-of-the-art revamp of Kingsway Netball Courts will transform the experience for players and spectators.

The new resurfaced court area is over 20,000sqm, with a total of 27 courts plus four half-sized practice courts, all designed to meet Netball Australia standards.

The project, which commenced in September 2024, involved removing the existing playing surface, lighting, fencing and stormwater drainage, before re-levelling the new court.

New fencing, stormwater drainage, concrete footpaths and new floodlights are all included in the brand-new construction.



Progress snapshot

✓ Project completed

Budget \$4.1 million

City funding



Mayor Linda Aitken with Councillors Alex Figg and Sonet Coetzee, and Orion Café staff at Orion Café, Yanchep.

Orion Café upgrade at Yanchep Lagoon

Yanchep's much-loved Orion Café has a new lease on life, with upgrades including a new outdoor deck, spacious indoor and outdoor dining areas, and improved building accessibility.

Developed in collaboration with the current tenant, the improvements have increased seating space, and the new deck treats customers to even better ocean views of our beautiful Yanchep Lagoon.

Progress snapshot

- ✓ Project completed
- Budget \$1.2 million
- City funding

The team at Orion Café is excited to welcome everyone to the revitalised space to enjoy a relaxed dining experience.



Mayor Linda Aitken with Councillor Jordan Wright and Scott, President of Wanneroo Cricket Club at Wanneroo Cricket Nets.

Bright future for Wanneroo Cricket Club

Construction of new floodlighting at Wanneroo Cricket Nets has been given the green light, making nighttime training a possibility for Wanneroo Cricket Club.

The project will see 50 lux lighting poles installed around the existing cricket nets at Wanneroo Showgrounds, providing safer training conditions into the evenings and all year round. Completion is set for mid-2025.

Progress snapshot

- Construction phase
- Budget \$187,000
- \$120k - Federal government
- \$67k - City funding



Bellport Park, Mindarie

New court surfacing and improved lighting at Bellport Park is a hit with Mindarie tennis enthusiasts.

There's also new lighting at the side-by-side tennis courts, providing 460 lux illuminance to Court 1, 370 lux to Court 2 and 240 lux to the practice court. The project was completed in February this year, just after the Australian Open!

Progress snapshot

- ✓ Project completed
- Budget \$580,000
- City funding



Shelvock Park, Koondoola

The fitness area at Koondoola's Shelvock Park is about to get even better, with usability upgrades coming.

The installation of new rubber softfall and shade sails has started, so people can expect a more comfortable fitness area and more shade.

Progress snapshot

- Due for completion in April
- Budget \$50,000
- City funding

Heath Park Pavillion, Eglinton

Heath Park is set to become a vibrant hub for sports enthusiasts and community members alike.

The new pavilion features changerooms, first aid rooms, activity rooms, an umpire's room, universal access toilets and showers, kitchens, kiosks and storage. In addition to sporting events, the pavilion will serve as a venue for community gatherings, workshops and celebrations. This development marks a significant investment in the local area, promising to enhance both the social and physical well-being of the community.



Heath Park Pavillion, Eglinton.

Progress snapshot

✓ Complete

Budget \$5.5 million

\$1.9m - Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program

\$710k - Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

\$2.87m - City funding



State of the AARC

Progress continues on the City's highly anticipated Alkimos Aquatic and Recreation Centre (AARC) project.

In February, contractor PS Structures started bulk earthworks on the site, and preparation of building and pool platforms got underway.

March and April will see structural steel drawings for the sports courts and crèche completed and concrete foundation works for the centre and outdoor swimming pools will begin, with the installation of deep-level sewers and the footings of the crèche and sports hall to follow.

The City has received funding commitments of:

- \$30 million from the Australian Government, including \$25 million under

the Priority Community Infrastructure Program and \$5 million under the Female Facilities and Water Safety Stream Program

- \$12.6 million from the State Government, including \$10 million under the WA Recovery Program, \$2.5 million from the Community Sports and Recreation Facilities Fund and \$147,592 through the Changing Places program
- \$15.2 million through the Alkimos-Eglinton Developer Contribution Plan.

Further updates can be found at wanneroo.wa.gov.au/alkimosaquatic

Wannagrow flourishing in the City

Through the Wannagrow program, the City offers native plant bundles to the community at events during the year.

The program is split into Wannagrow Home for private gardens and Wannagrow Verge for verge-friendly plants.

Residents can once again snap up free waterwise plants this year as part of the popular program, with an offering of native trees and shrubs.

The program supports biodiversity and urban greening across Wanneroo, helping create a more liveable City.

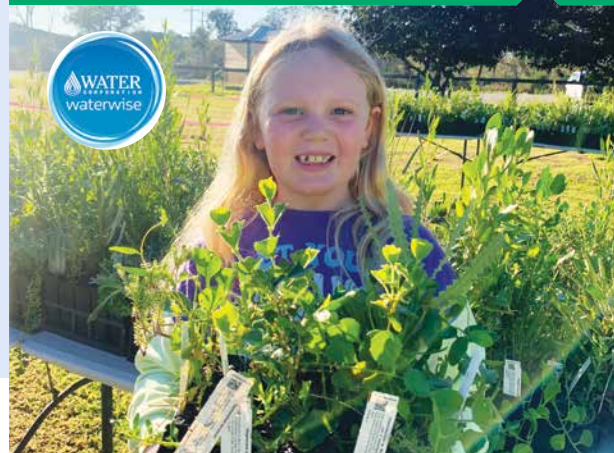
The City will also be giving away native trees and shrubs as part of Wanneroo's participation in the WA Tree Festival on 12 April to 10 May 2025.

The WA Tree Festival highlights the importance of daily connections to nature and the often invisible benefits trees provide, as well as understanding issues around trees canopy loss, climate change and how communities can help.

This will be followed by a Wannagrow Verge giveaway on 15 June, aimed at encouraging residents to convert their verges to native water wise gardens.

All Wannagrow plant species are waterwise natives that fit within the City's current verge guidelines (full height maturity of 60cm or less).

This initiative is proudly co-funded by Water Corporation's Waterwise Greening Scheme and forms part of our ambition for Wanneroo to be a leading waterwise city.





Callum Bull presented with his 2024 WA AFL Open guernsey.



Alex Moshovis (right) competing at the 2024 AFL Open in Brisbane.

City provides Participation Funding for two all-ability footballers on national stage

Two talented all-ability Kingsway footy stars took part in the 2024 Toyota AFL Open thanks to Participation Funding from the City.

Alex Moshovis (27) and Callum Bull (20), who both play for Kingsway Football Club's Integrated team, were selected to represent WA at the Open Inclusion competition held in Brisbane in November.

The Toyota AFL Open Inclusion division is an annual competition for participants aged 16 and over with intellectual impairments.

Callum made his debut in the five-day carnival for WA, while Alex was named in the All-Australian Team for his outstanding performance during the carnival in just his second State tournament.

The WA side successfully finished the competition in the top division (out of two), placing third - edged out by Country Victoria and Queensland, but finishing above NSW/ACT.

The City contributed Participation Funding for the two Kingsway Football Club Integrated team players to compete in the tournament.

"The City of Wanneroo's contribution is wonderful recognition of the City's community support, ensuring Alex and Callum can continue playing the sport they love at the

highest level," WA All Abilities Football Association Executive Officer Hayden Marchetto said.

"This funding directly helped them both continue their pathway development, from Community club footy to representing WA, and in Alex's case, selection in the All-Australian AFL Inclusion team for 2024.

"As an association, we are committed to providing inclusive opportunities and community connection for people with disability. Generous contributions like this not only support individual players, but also help us grow the game and make it more accessible for everyone."

Alex, who lives with autism spectrum disorder and ADHD, said the sport has changed his life for the better and described the tournament as a thoroughly enjoyable opportunity.

"I was brought up to love footy and play it, but playing with Kingsway

"I couldn't thank the City enough, we really appreciate the support from the City of Wanneroo..."

Integrated has changed my life completely to be a better club person and better footballer," he said.

His second time representing WA in the national competition, Alex said he was filled with pride and gratitude to represent WA.

"I couldn't thank the City enough, we really appreciate the support from the City of Wanneroo - it's really good on their behalf and I'm grateful for it."

For Callum, his path to State selection took a different route, regularly representing WA in basketball as well as recently completing three years as a WAFL umpire.

He said his love for both sports sees him committed to basketball in summer and playing footy in the winter months, with his experience as an umpire giving him an edge on the field.

"Your IQ for the game goes up when you're umpiring higher levels, when you're around such great players at WAFL and State level," Callum said.

"You get an idea firsthand what's required to cut it at that level of footy, and you get an idea of what you should be doing and what each position requires."

Callum also lives with autism spectrum disorder and urged others to give inclusive footy a go.

"Going to a new city and seeing a different side of the country was really cool, it opens up different pathways for athletes," he said.

"The pathways to elite sport are more accessible for people in these inclusive tournaments, which is really cool, a really exciting opportunity for us."

Callum said the Participation Funding from the City sent a positive message of support for local athletes like him.

"It's fantastic whenever any government organisation gets involved at a sporting level," he said.

"I think it shows that the City does care about people that live in the area and they're more than open to facilitating people going after their sporting dreams."

Overview of East Wanneroo

50,000
Homes

20,000
Jobs

36
Schools

Did you know the City of Wanneroo delivers 40 per cent of all new lots in the Perth metro area and over the next 40 years will be one of Perth's biggest urban growth areas?

Central to this growth are developments like East Wanneroo.

Set to be home to 150,000 residents on completion, construction of East Wanneroo could start as soon as next year, and is expected to get underway in the western areas of Mariginiup.

Here's a breakdown of the enormous new area, which is expected to include over 30 primary schools when complete.

What is East Wanneroo?

The new urban growth area in Perth's north-west corridor will expand the City's footprint further east into rural areas, stretching over 8,000 hectares in the areas of Wanneroo, Mariginiup, Gnangara, Jandabup and Pinjar.

As well as 50,000 new dwellings, the growth of the area will see the creation of 20,000 new local jobs.

Six new high schools and over 30 primary schools are included in the District Structure Plan.

What is the planning process from now?

A District Structure Plan was finalised by the State Government in 2021, dividing East Wanneroo into 28 precincts which will be constructed over three stages:

- Stage 1 - 2021-2031
- Stage 2 - 2031-2035
- Stage 3 - 2051 onwards.

Developers, such as Stockland, Qube and Hesperia, have had their Local Structure Plans approved by the City for their respective precincts and are awaiting approval from the WA Planning Commission (WAPC).

Once approved, a subdivision approval will be required from the WAPC before new titles can be created and then lots sold for new residential housing.

Parts of the area are still owned by individual land owners, however the City is not involved in the purchasing of land for development.

This responsibility sits with developers to negotiate potential buying prices with current land owners.



Key highlights

A future East Wanneroo Community Facilities Plan will guide even distribution of new facilities such as libraries, community centres and open spaces. Future amenities include:

- A Whiteman Yanchepp Highway has been planned, forming the eastern boundary of East Wanneroo, connecting Perth's north-east corridor to the far-north in Yanchepp.
- Regional sporting fields are planned for Mariginiup City Centre, similar to the City's Kingsway Regional Sporting Complex.
- A rapid transit route through East Wanneroo, which could potentially resemble a trackless tram system.
- Parkland links around the five lakes (Adams, Mariginiup, Jandabup, Badgerup and Gnangara), creating a network of paths for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Emphasis on a sense of place, with the retention of wetlands and native vegetation within East Wanneroo, while creating distinct character in each precinct to visually set them apart.
- Variety of dwellings and living density to boost housing supply.





Detail: John Brack British Modern 1969. The State Art Collection, The Art Gallery of WA. Purchased 1984. Photo: Bo Wong.

Critically acclaimed exhibition comes to Wanneroo

Now open at the Wanneroo Regional Gallery, The Antipodean Manifesto presents a visionary dialogue of art, identity and culture in 1950s Australia.

The prestigious art collection has made its way to Perth's northern corridor, where it will be on show until 3 May 2025.

The exhibition features a selection of representational paintings, prints and ceramics by the seven artists who formed the Antipodean group in Melbourne in 1959 - Charles Blackman, Arthur Boyd, David Boyd, John Brack, Robert Dickerson, John Perceval and Clifton Pugh.

Wanneroo Mayor Linda Aitken said it was an honour to showcase another chapter of Australia's art history at the Wanneroo Regional Gallery.

"The Antipodean Manifesto is a beautiful selection of figurative art that takes you on a journey through the social and political context of 1950s Australia," she said.

"We're proud to add this to our exciting roster of exhibitions, offering visitors the chance to connect with different cultures and stories."

Celebrating creativity: Community Art Awards

Free

The City of Wanneroo Community Art Awards are back for 2025.

This highly regarded event showcases artworks featuring a diversity of talents in the categories of Painting, Works on Paper, Sculpture and Photo, Film and Digital Media.

City of Wanneroo residents and WA residents can apply now, with applications closing once 150 applications have been received.

The exhibition provides an opportunity for artists living in WA to sell their artwork and take home a share of the \$19,900 prize pool.

View the exhibition for free in the Wanneroo Regional Gallery from 21 May to 26 July 2025.

wanneroo.wa.gov.au/artawards



Judy Rogers, 6064 (detail), 2024.

The Antipodean Manifesto features a catalogue of works that express a longing to preserve figurative art and its image, while redefining boundaries in contemporary art.

Drawn from the State Art Collection, the exhibition is curated by Art Gallery of Western Australia Associate Curator of Historical Art, Emma Bitmead.

Ms Bitmead said she curated the exhibition to tell the story of how the Antipodean group of postwar artists came together.

"Many of these artists served in the war, so a lot of the themes relate to loss and their understanding of humanity and society during that time," she said.

"The artwork is figurative, and in some instances portraits, but at the same time, there's quite an emotional and expressive component.

"It was very experimental at the time, so there's definitely a

heaviness in the imagery of the exhibition, but also playfulness as well. I think people could relate to it on a lot of different levels."

Exhibiting until 26 July

Wanneroo Regional Gallery
3 Rocca Way, Wanneroo
Wednesday to Saturday
10am-4pm

wanneroo.wa.gov.au/wanneroogallery

Free



Detail: Clifton Pugh. Woman with cats (Margot Knox) 1955. The State Art Collection, The Art Gallery of WA. Purchased 1955. Photo: Rebecca Mansell.

City's event season prepared for a big finale

The City's events season has almost come to an end, with the program drawing impressive crowds.

Banksia Grove Fun Fest in October kicked off the exciting six-month schedule of events, with 2,500 people visiting Grandis Park to enjoy the festivities.

Ridgewood Evening in the Park also attracted more than 2,000 people, while over 1,000 locals gathered for Sunset Sounds in Alkimos.

With a parade and an appearance from Santa himself, the Christmas Fiesta was a festive season highlight, drawing 3,500 people to the Wanneroo Town Centre for jolly fun.

The Wanneroo Showgrounds lit up in February with the highly regarded Wanneroo Festival, celebrating traditional music, dance, food and art from the many cultures that make up our diverse community.

Six gifted local singers graced the stage at Kingsway Regional Sporting Complex, performing with the Joondalup Symphony Orchestra before an audience of 12,000 at Symphony Under the Stars.

"We thank the community for getting behind these free events over the 2024/2025 season"

"The spotlight is now directed towards our big festival finale, the Beach to Bush Arts Festival..."

Wanneroo Mayor Linda Aitken said she was proud to host exciting and interesting events in every corner of our City.

"We thank the community for getting behind these free events over the 2024/2025 season," she said.

"The spotlight is now directed towards our big festival finale, the Beach to Bush Arts Festival, running from Friday 9 May to Sunday 25 May, at various locations across the City.

"This festival aims to activate local spaces from Girrawheen to Two Rocks and everywhere in between.

"Featuring art of all kinds from members of our community, there will be something for everyone to enjoy, including photography and art and craft, dance and many other artistic endeavours."

Visit our events page for more information, wanneroo.wa.gov.au/featureevents





What's on in your City

Explore all the upcoming events, activities, and happenings across the City of Wanneroo.

April

Mischief and Mysteries at Wanneroo Museum

12 to 26 April

See page 2 of Kid's Zone

Free

April school holidays

14 to 25 April

Keep everyone entertained these upcoming holidays with the City's School Holiday Program.

wanneroo.wa.gov.au/schoolholidayactivities

Australian Heritage Festival

18 April to 18 May

From heritage crafts to exploring the Wanneroo of old through film and image, there's lots to see and do.

wanneroo.wa.gov.au/heritagefestival

Free

Easter - 18 to 21 April

Anzac Day - Friday 25 April

The Antipodean Manifesto exhibition - see page 11

Free

Andy Warhol exhibition

Mick Jagger series exhibiting until 21 June

Wednesday to Saturday, 10am-4pm
Wanneroo Regional Gallery

Electric Chairs series starts 25 June

Free

May

Beach to Bush Arts Festival

9 to 25 May

This engaging arts festival will feature community performances, photography, craft and more.

Ready 4 Adventure Show

9 to 11 May, 10am-5pm
Wanneroo Showgrounds

The ultimate outdoor expo for everything 4WD, caravanning, camping, fishing and boating.
ready4adventure.com.au

Get Reel Two Rocks

presented by Atlantis Beach
Saturday 10 May, 11am-5pm
Two Rocks Marina

The ultimate fishing extravaganza, with angling adventures, family fun, and plenty of fishing puns!

Free

Mother's Day - Sunday 11 May

Public Art Safari

Saturday 17 May, 9.30am-4pm

Guided tour of the City's fantastic public art collection.

Volunteer Week - 19 to 25 May

City of Wanneroo Art Awards

21 May to 26 June - see page 11

Free

National Reconciliation Week

27 May to 3 June

A time for all Australians to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

June

2025 Perth Super 440

6 to 8 June

Carco.com.au Raceway

Experience the excitement of the Championship in Wanneroo!

supercars.com/events/2025-perth

It's All About 3

Tuesday 10 June

9.30am-11.30am, Wanneroo library

Helping parents learn about the milestones of turning three.

Bookings eventbrite.com.au

Free

July

NAIDOC Week

6 to 13 July

Wanneroo Regional Museum and City libraries

Celebrate and recognise the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Free

July school holidays

7 to 18 July

April school holiday FUN

Check out our website for the fun activities planned or visit our youth centres, museum, libraries, Wanneroo Aquamotion and Kingsway Indoor Stadium.

wanneroo.wa.gov.au/schoolholidayactivities



let's goooo

What's *Happening*

 City of
Wanneroo

KID'S ZONE 



School holiday fun

Join an adventure filled with mischief and mystery at Wanneroo Museum!



NEAR
7 km





Mini Mayor's Message **Ellie**

HA HA



I'm excited to welcome you to the What's Happening Kid's Zone - my second as the City of Wanneroo's Mini Mayor!

I'll re-introduce myself my name is Ellie, I am 11 years old and I'm excited to continue Being Wanneroo Mini Mayor. I've already been able to do so many cool activities as Mini Mayor, including joining Mayor Linda to conduct the official opening of The Magic of Christmas event at Wanneroo Botanic Gardens. When I'm not attending City events, I'm working on my best jokes - do you want to hear one?

Why are ghosts so bad at lying?

Because you can see right through them!

During the upcoming April school holidays, I will be at the Wanneroo Museum, joining in with their 'Mischief and Mysteries' themed activities and working on my freestyle at Wanneroo Aquamation.

I hope you enjoy this fun edition - and join me in some of the great school holiday activities happening around the City.

Mini Mayor Ellie



Step into the world of Mischief and Mystery at Wanneroo Museum

Free

Join us these April school holidays for an adventure filled with mischief and mystery at Wanneroo Museum.

Hear the tales of the haunted Alkimos shipwreck. Explore what pranks and tricks the kids got up to at Wanneroo School House back in the day.

Put on your detective hat and get ready to solve puzzles, follow clues and uncover fascinating local stories that will spark your curiosity.

With plenty of hands-on activities and creative crafts to enjoy, there is fun for the whole family.

wanneroo.wa.gov.au/wannerooregionalmuseum

Summer Reading Quest

A quest of epic proportions

500 new friends!



The City's Summer Reading Quest was an epic success, with over 500 courageous kids from just two to 15 years old joining Cam the chameleon in a literary journey over their 2024/2025 summer break.

It wouldn't have been a quest without an official activity booklet, keeping the kids on their toes and making sure they didn't lose all the year's hard-earned learning over the summer break. Thousands of books were borrowed and recorded in reading logs, with a special prize earned for every five books read.

Thanks to the quest, our library community saw huge growth, with almost 1,000 new members signing up throughout December and January.

More than just reading, the quest included 17 fun and interactive activities including painting a glow-in-the-dark chameleon, getting up close with critters, bead-making workshops for teens and tweens, and solving an escape room puzzle.

The quest closed with a special invitation-only party for 180 children who had completed their reading log journey. Zali came out victorious, receiving the booklet competition prize for her age group. There were games, crafts and giveaways for all partygoers with one child exclaiming, "This is the best party I've ever been to!"

The Library team looks forward to delivering another successful Summer Reading Quest later this year. In the meantime, check out all the fun activities at our libraries year round at wanneroo.wa.gov.au/libraries

"This is the best party I've ever been to!"



Zali, winner of Summer Reading Quest 2024/25.



Summer Sounds Workshop at Clarkson Library.