

Kalamunda Connect

Autumn 2025, Edition 17

**Nurturing the Environment:
Working with Local Students**

**Project Updates:
Hartfield Park
Norm Sadler Pavilion**

**Community Activation:
Haynes Street Revival Project**

City of
Kalamunda




Dear Residents,

It's an exciting time for the City of Kalamunda as we focus on delivering key projects that will enhance the lives of our residents and support the continued growth of our community.

Among the most significant projects underway is the Hartfield Park redevelopment, a major initiative aimed at transforming this iconic space into a vibrant hub for recreation, sport, and community activities.

This redevelopment will not only enhance the facilities but will also provide expanded green spaces, playgrounds, and community gathering areas—creating a space where people of all ages can come together to enjoy.

In addition to this, we are thrilled to be moving forward with the Norm Sadler Pavilion upgrades, an essential project to improve facilities for our local sporting clubs, community groups, and residents. These improvements will provide greater functionality and enhance the overall experience for those who use this important community venue.

Alongside these significant developments, we are also progressing our environmental program, which continues to grow in importance as we work towards making Kalamunda a more sustainable and environmentally conscious City. This includes initiatives to improve our local biodiversity, enhance our waste management systems, and increase green spaces throughout the area. It's all part of our broader commitment to building a more sustainable, liveable, and future-ready community.

I'd like to express my gratitude to all those involved in these projects—staff, contractors, and community members—for their hard work and dedication. These efforts are vital to ensuring Kalamunda continues to thrive and meet the needs of both current and future generations.

I'm excited to see these initiatives unfold and look forward to sharing more updates as we continue to improve our City.

Warm regards,

Mayor Margaret Thomas JP

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kalamunda.wa.gov.au/newsletters

Stay connected through socials.

@cityofkalamunda



What's on in the City?



Scan the QR code and see the latest events.

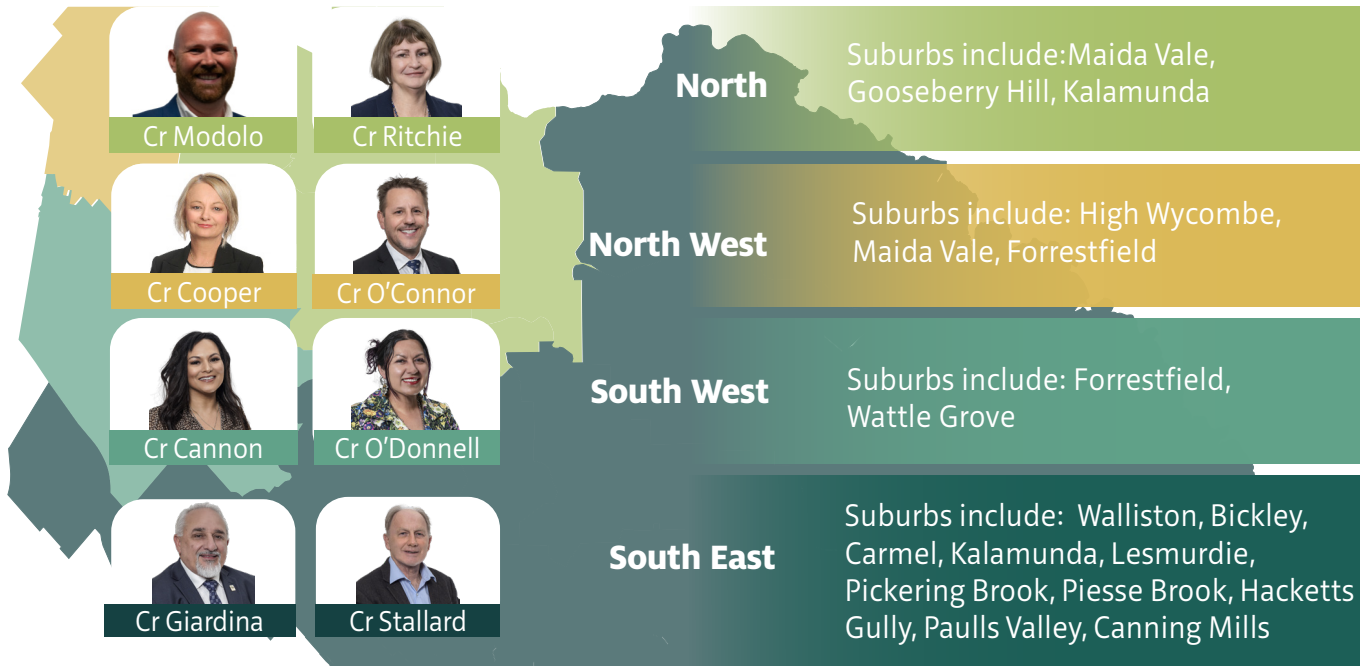
kalamunda.wa.gov.au/whats-on

MEET YOUR COUNCILLORS



Mayor

Margaret Thomas JP



Award Winning Destination

Perth Hills Tourism Alliance triumphs with Gold at 2024 Perth Airport Tourism Awards.



EXPERIENCE
**PERTH
HILLS**



Weekdays | 9am-4pm
Weekends | 10am-4pm

50 Railway Road, Kalamunda | 9257 9998
visitorcentre@kalamunda.wa.gov.au



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[experienceperthhills.com.au](https://www.experienceperthhills.com.au)

NORTH WARD

Kalamunda Water Park celebrates 60 years

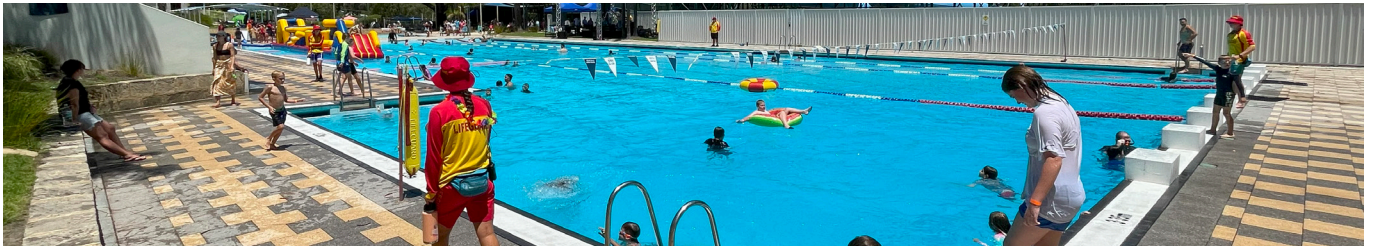
Kalamunda Water Park reopened in November 2024, marking 60 years since it first welcomed the community.

Over the decades, the park has evolved, with the addition of water slides and a toddler pool, making it a much-loved local attraction.

As part of the milestone celebrations, the annual Australia Day event was combined with the park's 60th anniversary, drawing an impressive crowd of visitors.

Families and friends enjoyed a day of fun in the sun, reminiscing about fond memories while creating new ones.

The park continued to operate seasonally, with the final swim of the season taking place on Monday, 31 March 2025.



Haynes Street revival project

The City of Kalamunda, RAC, and the Kalamunda Town Team teamed up in February 2025 to give Haynes Street a vibrant makeover! Led by the City's Youth Advisory Council, Youth Action Kalamunda, the project has brought new life and energy to the strip. The revitalised street is now a lively hub for the community, offering a fresh and inviting atmosphere.



NORTH WARD

Environmental education initiatives flourish across local schools

The City of Kalamunda continues to build a strong environmental stewardship culture in our community, with local students actively participating in environmental education programs. Through the Adopt-A-Patch initiative and various educational excursions, students have had the opportunity to engage with nature, learning firsthand about biodiversity conservation and sustainability.

KSESC: Birds and weed control

The Adopt-A-Patch class at KSESC recently learned about the diverse birdlife of the Perth Hills from local author Talitha Huston. Students used field guides and binoculars to identify species during a bird walk at Andrew Street Reserve. Later in the year, they tackled weed control at the Kalamunda Heritage Trail Reserve, removing invasive species and creating a safe habitat for local bandicoots by refreshing their bungalows.

Simon Cherriman: Nest-box workshop

Local ecologist Simon Cherriman shared his expertise with students at Mary's Mount Primary School through a workshop on nest boxes for hollow-dependent wildlife. The students built their own boxes and learned about the challenges facing species that rely on tree hollows. Simon also installed a donated possum box at the school, helping enhance their Adopt-A-Patch site.

Huntley Street Reserve: Improving bushland

Students from KSESC visited Huntley Street Reserve, where they assessed the health of local bushland and identified

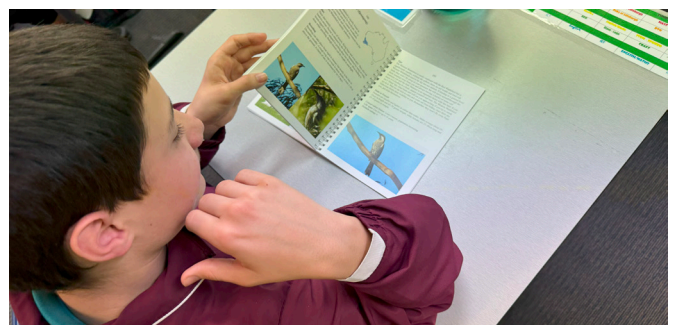


areas for improvement. They created a plant wishlist focused on native species to support local wildlife, including the Threatened Black Cockatoo. This project is part of ongoing efforts to improve the reserve's biodiversity.

Mary's Mount Primary: Earthcare expo

The City's Natural Areas team joined the Earthcare Expo at Mary's Mount Primary, leading an activity focused on riparian plantings along the Currawong Drive Reserve creek. Students planted native species, learning about plant growth, seasonal changes, and water management within natural areas.

The City of Kalamunda is proud to work alongside our schools to empower the next generation with the tools and knowledge needed to protect our unique natural heritage. These educational initiatives are just the beginning of a long-term commitment to environmental sustainability and conservation within our community.



NORTH WEST WARD

Norm Sadler Pavilion redevelopment underway at Maida Vale Reserve

Construction is now underway on the major redevelopment of the Norm Sadler Pavilion at Maida Vale Reserve, marking a significant milestone for the City of Kalamunda. Work began in early 2025, with completion expected by mid-to-late 2026.

This project is supported by \$2.4 million in funding from the WA Government. In December 2024, Council awarded the construction tender to AE Hoskins, paving the way for modern, accessible, and inclusive facilities for the community.

Once completed, the upgraded pavilion will provide enhanced amenities for local sporting clubs, supporting a range of sports, including cricket, diamond sports, and football (soccer).

The redevelopment aims to encourage participation, improve safety, and foster community engagement, ensuring Maida Vale Reserve remains a vibrant hub for local sport and recreation.

This investment underscores the City's commitment to supporting grassroots sport and delivering high-quality community infrastructure for years to come.



Maida Vale Primary School: Native planting day

As part of the Adopt-A-Patch program, Maida Vale Primary School students worked together to plant native species, enhancing the habitat for local wildlife.

The school's 'Eco Warriors,' a dedicated group of Year Seven students, guided their peers through proper planting techniques, emphasizing the importance of native plants. This project helps support the Banksia Woodland, a nationally protected ecological area, improving biodiversity while creating a healthier environment for local fauna.



Now complete

New unisex changerooms at Ray Owen Reserve

The City of Kalamunda has completed the construction of new unisex changerooms at Ray Owen Reserve, providing modern, inclusive facilities to support the growing number of female athletes in the community.

Funded through a \$1.1 million grant from the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, WA Football, Western Australian Cricket Association and Clubs, this project delivers two unisex changerooms, first aid/medical rooms, accessible public toilets, and additional storage. These upgrades directly benefit local AFL and Cricket clubs, both of which have expanding women's programs.

Designed to meet the needs of players and the wider sporting community, the new facilities ensure Ray Owen Reserve remains a welcoming and accessible sporting hub for all.



Pickering Brook sports floodlighting

The Pickering Brook Football Club, with support from the State Government's Club Night Light Program, the City, and the Club itself, is set to install new LED floodlighting at George Spriggs Reserve.

The upgraded 150-lux lighting will benefit not only the football club but also the local drone club and community events hosted at the reserve.

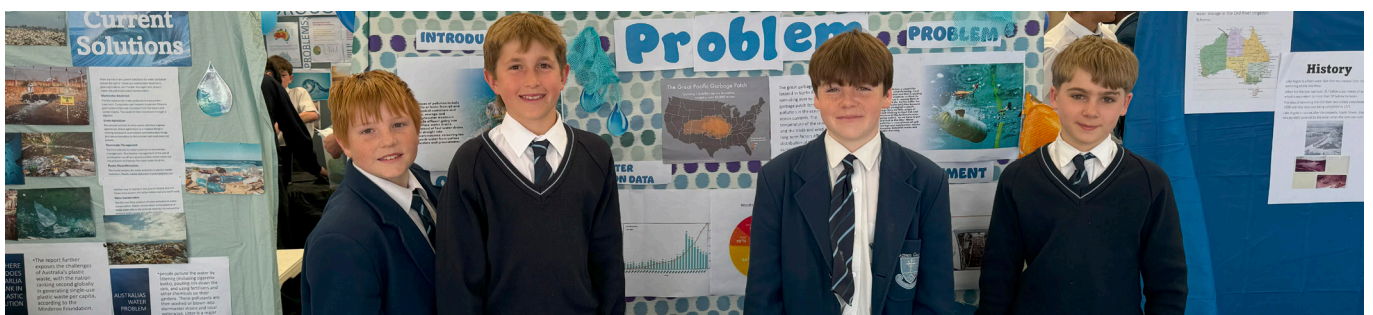
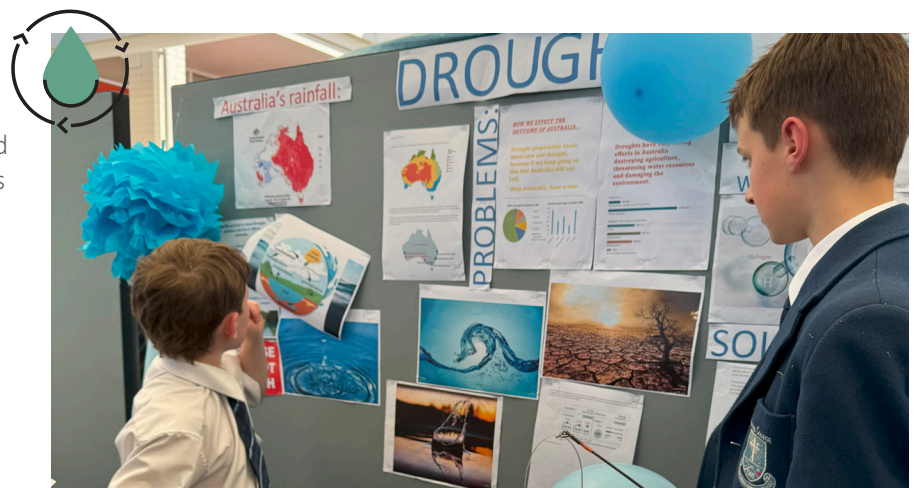
Construction is scheduled to begin in early 2025, with the club hoping to have the lights on in time for the 2025 football season.

Mazenod College Water conservation expo

As part of the Water Issues Expo at Mazenod College, Year 7 students presented solutions for water conservation challenges.

City staff judged the displays and selected winners based on their research and engagement.

The event promoted water-wise practices and strengthened community involvement in environmental awareness.



SOUTH WEST WARD



Brightening the game New sports floodlighting at Hartfield Park

The City of Kalamunda has successfully completed the installation of new LED sports floodlighting at Hartfield Park Hockey/Teeball Reserve, enhancing opportunities for evening training and competition.

This project was made possible through a \$91,000 grant from the State Government's Club Night Light Program, alongside contributions from the Kalamunda Districts Hockey Club, Bendigo Bank, and City municipal funds.

Throughout the 2023/2024 financial year, the City progressed the lighting design, awarded the construction tender, and oversaw installation, ensuring the project met Australian standards for hockey. The upgraded 300-lux floodlighting significantly improves visibility, making it safer and more accessible for players to train and compete under lights.

This investment in local sports infrastructure reflects the City's commitment to supporting clubs and ensuring that Hartfield Park remains a premier sporting destination for the community.

Hartfield Park stage 2A projects

Final designs for the Hartfield Park Stage 2A Projects were completed and put out for tender in December 2024. Over the next two years, the following upgrades will be delivered:

- A new AFL/Little Athletics Pavilion at Reid Oval
- New changerooms and upgrades to the Rugby League Pavilion
- Co-location of Tennis and Bowls, with a modernised Bowls facility and a new Tennis facility featuring shared changerooms and additional courts with lighting
- Two new modular unisex changerooms for soccer
- A new Foothills Men's Shed

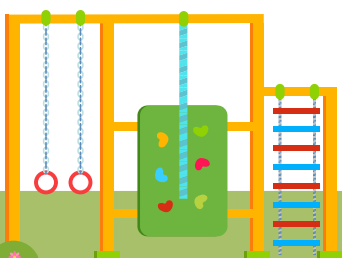
This transformative project is made possible through the generous support of the Federal Government's Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts through the Priority Community Infrastructure Program (PCIP), Lotterywest, and the City of Kalamunda.



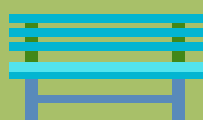
Magnolia Way Reserve All Abilities Playground

In September 2024, the City proudly celebrated the official opening of the Magnolia Way Reserve All Abilities Playground with an afternoon of fun-filled activities. Attendees had the chance to explore the new amenities, enjoy recreational play, and take part in a treasure hunt organized by the City's Youth Action Kalamunda's primary school team.

This inclusive playground, designed to be accessible to children of all abilities, was made possible with funding from the State Government through the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, following an election commitment from Stephen Price MLA, Member for Forrestfield.



The playground features a range of interactive elements that encourage physical, social, and imaginative play, including a Sensory Dome, Climbing Cubes, and an accessible Hammock. With additional amenities such as a shelter, BBQ facilities, a drinking fountain, picnic areas, and plenty of seating, it's the perfect spot for a family outing. Accessible parking, toilets, and footpath access ensure that everyone can enjoy the space comfortably.



This project was funded by the State Government through the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries via a \$1m election commitment from Stephen Price MLA, Member for Forrestfield.



STAY ACTIVE RECREATION

Stay active at Hartfield Park Recreation Centre

Live Active – fun fitness for over 50s

Looking to stay active, social, and healthy? Live Active is a fun and engaging fitness program designed for over 50s of all fitness levels. These sessions combine cardio, strength, flexibility, balance, and coordination to help you stay in great shape while enjoying the company of others.

Class times & locations:

- » High Wycombe Community & Recreation Centre
Monday | 9:15am–10:15am & 10:30am–11:30am
- » Lesmurdie Hall
Thursdays | 9:15am–10:15am & 10:30am–11:30am
- » Limit: 20 participants per session

Strength for life – build strength and confidence -

Improve your fitness and overall well-being with Strength for Life, a structured gym-based strength training program designed to enhance mobility, strength, and quality of life.

Class Schedule:

- » Monday–Wednesday
10:30am–11:30am and 11:30am–12:30pm
- » Thursday–Saturday
10:30am–11:30am

Location: Hartfield Park Recreation Centre

Please Note: A doctor's referral and gym appraisal are required before participating.



For more information or to explore other Active Seniors programs, call 9359 1700 or visit kalamunda.wa.gov.au/recreation

Junior programs Keep kids active & engaged!

The City of Kalamunda's Junior Programs offer a range of fun and exciting sports, including:

- » Indoor Soccer
- » Badminton & Pickleball
- » Kindy Gym
- » Volleyball & Squash
- » Jump Start Sessions

Our programs provide a safe, supportive, and social environment where kids can learn new skills, stay active, and make new friends.

For more information call 9359 1700 or visit kalamunda.wa.gov.au/recreation



KEEP IT CLEAN

WASTE

Teaching kids to sort waste the fun way

This summer, young children across the City of Kalamunda got hands-on with waste sorting through Let's All FOGO!—a fun, interactive program designed to teach kids about recycling and the Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) system.

Throughout January, each of the City's four libraries hosted a Let's All FOGO! show, welcoming 50 enthusiastic children and their caregivers. The star of the show? Milli the lively chicken puppet, joined by her sidekick Mike from Adventure Kids Entertainment. With their help, kids eagerly sorted waste into mini red, lime-green, and yellow-lidded bins, learning valuable lessons about recycling along the way.



Beyond the libraries, over 200 children at daycare and out-of-school care centres also took part. Educators praised the program, highlighting how its songs and interactive performances kept kids engaged while reinforcing good recycling habits.

And the fun doesn't stop there! More performances are planned for early childhood students in local primary schools, helping to build lifelong habits for a cleaner, greener future.

This initiative is proudly supported by the Government of Western Australia and the Waste Authority.



Turning waste into opportunity: Containers for Change

Did you know that 14% of rubbish collected during Clean Up Australia Day is made up of plastic bottles and cans?

Instead of ending up in landfill, these items could be turned into cash through Containers for Change!

To make recycling easier, the City of Kalamunda has partnered with Containers for Change and social enterprise Dismantle to install convenient collection cages across the area. With 36 exchange points throughout the City, it's never been easier to make a difference.

Here's how it works:

Collect eligible 10c containers

Drop them into a
Containers for Change cage

Anyone can take them to a Containers
for Change Depot or Self-serve Kiosk
and redeem the refund

This initiative isn't just about sustainability—it's also about creating social impact. Dismantle's ReNew Property Maintenance program provides valuable entry-level job opportunities for at-risk young people, equipping them with hands-on skills to build a brighter future.

By choosing Containers for Change, you're not only helping to reduce landfill and keep our neighbourhoods clean—you're also supporting young people in gaining employment and breaking cycles of disadvantage.

Together, we can turn everyday actions into lasting change. So, next time you finish a 10c container, skip the bin and drop it into a Container Exchange Point instead!

For more information, visit the City of Kalamunda's website or find your nearest Containers for Change exchange point.





SEED: Young entrepreneurs competition 2025

The City of Kalamunda, in partnership with Hawaiian's Forrestfield, is excited to bring back the annual SEED Young Entrepreneurs Competition for 2025!

This initiative offers aspiring young business minds the opportunity to compete for tailored prize packages to the value of \$2,500, which include funding, one-on-one business mentoring.

Participants will also benefit from a series of skill-building workshops led by industry experts, a networking event with local business leaders, and a special Awards Night to celebrate our youngest entrepreneurs and access to a network of the program's alumni young entrepreneurs!

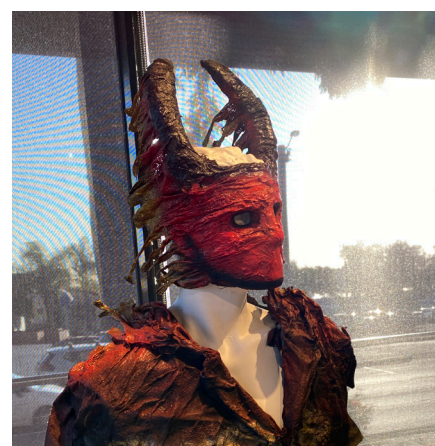
Expressions of interest are open through engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au until Friday 23 May 2025.

Young Artist Awards

The Young Artist Awards are back for 2025 with an exciting new theme: MYTHS. We invite aspiring artists under the age of 25 to let their imagination run wild and create a piece inspired by folklore stories, myths, or legends. This theme offers local youth the opportunity to connect with their own history and cultural stories through their art.

The total prize pool is \$2,200, with the main prize, the Emerging Young Artist Award, valued at \$1,000 to support the winner's future artistic journey. This year will also feature a series of exhibition workshops to help participants prepare their entries.

Submissions open in June 2025, so start creating and get ready to share your myth-inspired masterpiece! Full program details will be shared upon review of submissions. School incursions for the program are also available upon request.



New ACROD decals

Did you know that a simple parking space can make a big difference?

The City has installed new decals on ACROD bays throughout Kalamunda, as part of a campaign led by the National Disability Service, Department of Communities, and the ACROD Parking Program.

This initiative raises awareness about the impact that accessible parking can have for individuals living with disabilities.

Compassionate Communities

Legacy Lanterns 10 May 2025 | 4:30pm

Kalamunda Compassionate Communities and the City of Kalamunda invite you back to Stirk Park for the second annual Legacy Lanterns memorial. Light a lantern in honour of loved ones and join a brief ceremony before floating them on the lake.

To help us share this experience widely, we ask each immediate family to reserve one lantern. Extra lanterns may be available on the night. Bring a chair or picnic rug and a light for safe departure after dark.

Open to residents, City of Kalamunda staff and volunteers. Parking is limited—consider nearby options in the Kalamunda shopping precinct.

Bookings essential: trybooking.com/CZIGA

Kalamunda Compassionate Communities connects neighbours and supports those facing illness, grief, or loss.

COMMUNITY

HEALTH & SAFETY

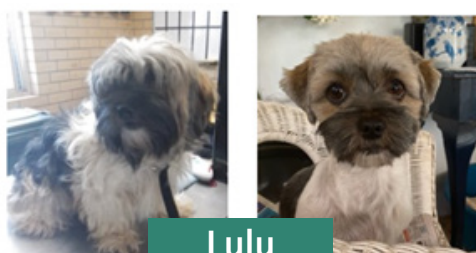


Community Bushfire Day

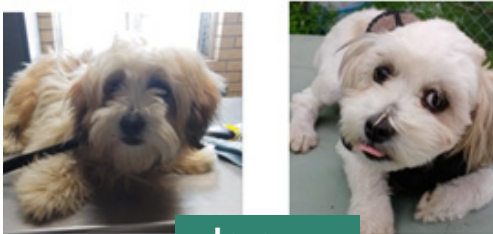
The City of Kalamunda, in partnership with the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES), successfully hosted the 2024 Community Bushfire Day at the Kalamunda Community Centre in Jorgensen Park. **This popular event attracted over 2,500 attendees, making it a key gathering for the local community.**

The day featured interactive displays, information booths, and provided residents with a valuable opportunity to learn about bushfire preparedness and risk awareness. Visit the City's website for more information on how to get prepared ahead of the 2025 bushfire season.

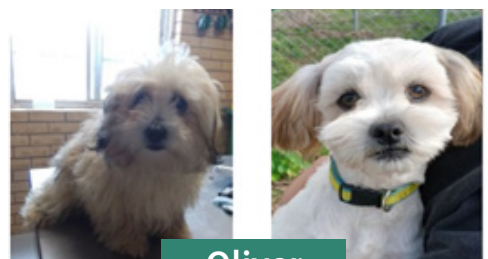
Not all heroes wear capes A day in the life of our Rangers



Lulu
(Mum)



Jeremy



Oliver

Did you know our City Rangers respond daily to urgent, often heartbreaking situations—always with quick action, empathy, and unwavering dedication? Not all heroes wear capes; sometimes, they wear a uniform and badge, stepping in when it matters most to protect and care for our community's most vulnerable.

In July 2024, our Rangers rescued five neglected, hungry, and scared dogs from a dire situation. A concerned landlord contacted the City, worried that pets were being kept on their property without permission. When our Rangers arrived, they uncovered a heartbreaking reality—five dogs, abandoned weeks earlier by a former housemate. The remaining occupants had tried their best to care for them but lacked the resources to meet their needs.

At the pound, it became clear just how much these dogs had endured. They hid food, unsure when their next meal would come. Among them were two tiny pups, Jeremy and Oliver, still nursing from their exhausted mother, Lulu, despite being four months old. The strain on Lulu's health was severe, and without intervention, their future was uncertain.

With no permission for the dogs to remain and no response from the original owner, the City took custody and transferred them to a trusted rehoming agency. There, they received the urgent care they so desperately needed, including proper nutrition, grooming, sterilisation, microchipping, and vaccinations—essential steps in preparing them for a fresh start.

We're thrilled to share that all five dogs have now found their forever homes, thriving in safe and loving families. Their journey is a testament to the dedication of our Rangers and the power of compassion, reminding us that with the right help, every animal deserves a second chance at a happy, healthy life.

NUTURING NATURE ENVIRONMENT

A fresh look at conservation

The City of Kalamunda is thrilled to announce the release of the newly updated Friends Group and Bushcare Volunteer Program Manual for 2025—your ultimate guide to environmental volunteering and conservation. Whether you're a long-time volunteer or just getting started, this updated manual is packed with all the tools and knowledge you need to make a real difference in protecting our local natural areas.

What's New in the Updated Manual?

- » **Streamlined Volunteer Pathways:** We've made it easier than ever to get involved! The updated manual outlines clear steps for joining as a Bushcare Volunteer, Friends Group Member, or Coordinator, no matter your level of commitment.
- » **Enhanced Safety Measures:** The new manual includes updated health and safety protocols, covering everything from managing extreme weather to using tools safely and working in sensitive environments.
- » **Action Plans in Focus:** We've improved templates and processes for creating and executing site-specific action plans that protect biodiversity and address environmental challenges head-on.

In addition to supporting conservation efforts, the manual highlights the many mental and physical health benefits of volunteering in natural areas. Spending time outdoors reduces stress, boosts mood, and gives you a fulfilling sense of purpose, all while staying active and connecting with like-minded individuals.

As Jeanette Conacher, Coordinator of the Friends of Over Avenue, shares: *"The pleasure of being outdoors together, of doing something useful, of learning something new, and having a sense of achievement at the end of a job well done"* are some of the key rewards of volunteering.

This update reflects over 25 years of community-driven conservation success, built on the knowledge and dedication of hundreds of volunteers. With your feedback in mind, the 2025 version is designed to empower volunteers, giving you the clarity and confidence to thrive in your role.

Mayor Margaret Thomas JP expresses her gratitude: *"Our volunteers are the heart of Kalamunda's conservation efforts. This updated manual ensures every volunteer—new or experienced—feels supported, safe, and ready to make a real impact."*



Ready to dive into the updated manual and start your conservation journey? Visit kalamunda.wa.gov.au to download your copy today.

Together, let's continue to protect and enhance the natural beauty of Kalamunda for generations to come!



NUTURING NATURE

ENVIRONMENT

Engaging the community in conservation

The City of Kalamunda's environmental efforts over the past six months have not only showcased the beauty and biodiversity of our region but also engaged the community in meaningful, hands-on experiences that encourage a deeper connection with nature. Through a series of workshops, field days, and educational talks, the City has empowered residents of all ages to take part in preserving and enhancing the environment around them



Understanding our forests

One of the key highlights of the year was the Forest Die-Off talk held in July at the Kalamunda Hotel. Local researchers Dr. Katinka Ruthrof and Dr. Joe Fontaine presented their findings on the forest die-off events observed in 2011 and 2024.

With climate change leading to more extreme droughts, these talks gave the community a critical understanding of how our forests are responding to environmental stresses and the urgent need for action. This discussion was just one example of the many educational opportunities provided to residents to understand the challenges facing our natural world.



Scan for more information on our Environmental programs.



Nest Boxes for Native Wildlife

For those looking to get more involved, the City has offered a variety of hands-on workshops aimed at teaching sustainable practices.

In August, local ecologist Simon Cherriman led a session at Kalamunda Library on how to build nest boxes for native wildlife.

These workshops are crucial in encouraging residents to contribute directly to the wellbeing of local species, providing homes for wildlife like cockatoos, parrots, and possums that rely on tree hollows for shelter.



Learning from the land

The City's collaboration with Perth NRM brought an additional layer of learning through the Six Season Walks series, where Uncle Neville Collard shared his extensive traditional ecological knowledge.

These walks, starting in Lesmurdie Falls and spanning multiple local governments, provided an opportunity for participants to learn about the Djilba season and the ways native plants and animals were used by Aboriginal people.

These walks have allowed locals to engage with the land in a culturally rich and environmentally conscious way, deepening their understanding of the connections between people and the natural world.



Getting up close with native animals

The City's ongoing relationship with Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre brought an interactive educational experience for families throughout September and October. The Wildlife Wonders sessions gave children and adults the opportunity to meet native animals up close, learn about their habitats, and understand how we can protect these creatures. The program captured the imagination of residents, fostering a sense of responsibility for our local wildlife and creating a generation of eco-conscious individuals eager to make a difference.

Discovering Kalamunda's birdlife

For those with a keen interest in birdwatching, the City's Discover Lesmurdie's Birds events provided an opportunity to explore the birdlife of the region.

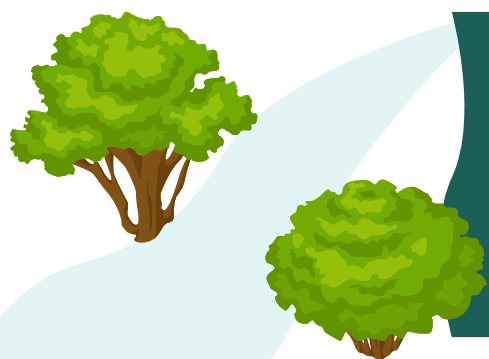
Led by local experts Mike and Rachel Green, the events combined informative talks and guided walks through Korung National Park where participants could identify local species and contribute to national bird counts. These events not only fostered a love of birding but also helped gather valuable data for local conservation efforts.



Preserving our Waterways

One of the standout events was a field day at Kadina Brook Reserve, which explored the power of water management in preserving local habitats.

Residents heard from sustainability experts about how effective water retention can improve the quality of local ecosystems, enhance biodiversity, and even combat the impacts of drought.





KALAMUNDA
PERFORMING
ARTS CENTRE

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in the Perth Hills.**

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kalamundapac.com.au

