LOCAL COLOUR: JOHN PAULEY'S GALAH MURAL BRIGHTENS WONGAN HILLS

If you've driven past the Wongan Hills Community Park lately, you may have noticed a splash of pink and grey brightening up the street. The vibrant Galah mural painted across the side of John Pauley's shed has quickly become a cheerful feature of the area, a colourful nod to one of Australia's most iconic feathered residents.

When asked why he decided to have the mural painted, John smiled and said simply, "I had the space, so why not?" He added that he hopes the mural brings a bit of joy to the kids who play in the park across the road, something bright and fun for them to enjoy.

A sign writer by trade, John began his apprenticeship in 1971, back when the craft relied entirely on brushwork, paint, and a steady hand. He reflected on how much the trade has changed over the years with the rise of digital design and printing.

The mural was painted by Rod Power, an artist and long-time colleague of John's. The two worked together over the years in the sign-writing industry, and John spoke fondly of Rod's talent and speed with a brush, perhaps a skill sharpened by Rod's other passion for martial arts.

As a long-term resident of Wongan Hills, John has seen the town evolve and its landscapes change. He reminisced about how local wildlife has shifted over the years, with new bird species gradually moving into the region. For John, though, Galahs remain the quintessential Wongan bird, bright and full of character, just like the mural that now decorates his shed.

Thank you, John, for brightening up our community with this creative project. Your willingness to add colour and character to your property not only enhances the streetscape but also reflects the pride and community spirit that make Wongan Hills such a special place to live.





LANEWAY NAMING UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who submitted a nomination and shared their ideas for naming the laneway. We received a fantastic response with strong community support for several suggestions including names with important historical ties to the laneway specifically.

Due to Landgate's Geographical Naming Committee guidelines, one of the most supported names was unable to be approved. Therefore, after careful consideration and much discussion, Council has decided not to proceed with formally naming the laneway.

To acknowledge the laneway's history and its connection to the community, Council will install a sign acknowledging the contributions linked to the laneway and its story.

We truly appreciate everyone's involvement and enthusiasm in celebrating our local heritage and stories.





COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS – NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN!

Do you know someone who goes above and beyond for our community?

Nominations are now open for the 2026 Shire of Wongan-Ballidu Community Service Awards, recognising outstanding contributions in the following categories:

Citizen of the Year Young Citizen of the Year (under 36) Community Event of the Year Community Group of the Year

Help us celebrate the people and groups who make our Shire such a great place to live!

Nominations close 4:00pm, Monday 1 December 2025.

Winners announced on Australia Day 2026!

Visit our website for all the information you need, nomination form and guidelines:

www.wongan.wa.gov.au/council/governance/communityserviceawards.aspx





NEWSLETTER

Wongan-Ballidu

WONGAN HILLS MEMORIAL SWIMMING POOL 2025/26 SEASON OPENING

The Wongan Hills Memorial Swimming Pool officially opens for the season on **Saturday, 25 October at 12pm!**

Come down and enjoy a splash to celebrate the start of another great summer season.

Pool opening hours remain the same as last year, with a small change to Sunday's closing time, now 5pm instead of 6pm.

Opening Hours:

Monday: 6am-10am, 2pm-6pm Tuesday: 6am-10am, 2pm-6pm Wednesday: 6am-10am, 2pm-6pm

Thursday: Closed

Friday: 6am–10am, 2pm–6pm

Saturday: 12pm-6pm Sunday: 12pm-5pm

We can't wait to see you poolside!



CURRENT ROADWORKS





MAINTENANCE GRADERS – Beilby Road and White Wells Road

MAINTENANCE CREW – Ballidu Bindi Bindi Road Verge Mulching.

TOWN MAINTENANCE – Various Locations Street/Footpath Maintenance.

CONTRACTORS – Ballidu Bindi Bindi Road Verge Mulching.

All Above Worksites Will Be Under The Direction Of Traffic Management

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Ordinary Council Meeting

Wednesday 22nd October - 3pm - Wongan Hills Shire Chambers

Strategic Community Plan

Community Engagement Workshops

Tuesday 4th November - 5pm - Ballidu Herritage Centre

Wednesday 5th November - 5pm - CRC Function Room Thursday 6th November - 10am - CRC Function Room

Thursday 6th November - 5pm - Cadoux Rec Centre

Disability Access and Inclusion Plan Community Engagement Workshop

Wednesday 5th November - 10am - Seniors Rec Centre

STAY IN TOUCH

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Shire of Wongan-Ballidu & Wongan Hills CRC Customer Service Centre

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