



NEWSLETTER

BIKE IT TO BALLIDU GRAVEL 2026

Ballidu was once again buzzing as riders from across WA descended on the Wheatbelt for Bike it to Ballidu Gravel 2026.

The event delivered a memorable weekend of gravel cycling, with challenging conditions, fast racing and plenty of community spirit. Despite a short but intense storm and some muddy conditions, riders embraced the challenge and enjoyed the unique country atmosphere that has become a hallmark of the event.

The Shire of Wongan-Ballidu was proud to support the event, which has grown into one of the Shire's largest annual events, bringing visitors to Ballidu and showcasing the region as a destination for adventure and cycling.

A special thank you goes to the Ballidu Progress Group, event organisers, volunteers, sponsors and partners who helped make the weekend possible, as well as everyone who travelled to Ballidu to participate or support the event.

Congratulations to all riders and race winners, and we look forward to welcoming Bike it to Ballidu Gravel back to the Shire in 2027.



SWIMMING POOL ATTENDANCE INITIATIVE SUCCESS!

The Shire of Wongan-Ballidu is pleased to support Wongan Hills District High School's attendance rewards initiative.

A total of 137 students have achieved 85% or higher attendance across Terms 1–3 this year. As a reward for their commitment to regular school attendance, eligible students will receive a free pass to the Wongan Hills Memorial Swimming Pool for the upcoming pool season.

Once the Shire announces the pool opening date, students can bring their attendance certificate to the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu & Wongan Hills CRC Customer Service Centre to claim their pass.

Congratulations to all students who have achieved this milestone, with the improvement in attendance this year being a fantastic result. Kindergarten and Country Week students will receive their certificates at the beginning of next term.





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PETER MACNAMARA - HONORARY FREEMAN OF THE SHIRE

The Shire of Wongan-Ballidu Council are delighted to announce that Mr. Peter Macnamara has been awarded the title of Honorary Freeman of the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu.

Peter has provided distinguished and outstanding service to the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu and its community over many years through his leadership, dedication and commitment as both a Councillor and Shire President.

Service to the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu:

Councillor

- 1999–2011
- 2013–2019

Shire President

- 2007–2011
- 2013–2019

Throughout his years of service, Peter played a pivotal role in the growth, development and long-term sustainability of the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu. His vision, leadership and commitment to community outcomes were instrumental in delivering numerous significant projects and initiatives, including:

- Development of the Medical Centre.
- Development of The Station.
- Development of the Danubin Rise Subdivision.
- Improvements to the management and operation of the tip and its opening hours.
- Sealing of the airstrip.
- Delivery of the Wubin–Pithara MRWA projects.
- Installation of the water pipeline from Mocardy Dam to the school and from Railway Dam to connect the sporting ovals.
- Co-location of sporting facilities, including tennis, bowls and the gymnasium.
- Upgrades to the Wongan Hills Pavilion.
- Main Street improvements, including coloured sealing and parking bays.
- Widening works on the Wongan Hills–Cadoux Road corridor.
- Securing the first footpath grants to support expansion of the footpath network in Wongan Hills and Ballidu.
- Construction of the toilet block at the Cadoux Pavilion.
- Paying out all existing loans, resulting in the Shire becoming debt free.
- Expansion and upgrading of plant and equipment to support major works programs.
- Building reserves for future developments, including the swimming pool, special projects, plant and machinery, co-location projects and housing reserves.
- Supporting improved pay and conditions for outdoor staff.



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Beyond these achievements, Peter was a strong advocate for the community through his regional roles and consistently promoted the effective and efficient use of resources while ensuring that service delivery to residents was maintained and enhanced.

The achievements listed represent only a portion of Peter's contribution to the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu. Throughout his years as a Councillor and Shire President, he demonstrated exceptional leadership, integrity and commitment, always placing the interests of the community first.

Peter's dedication and service have left a lasting legacy for the Shire and its residents, and his contribution to the development and prosperity of the district has been both significant and enduring.

Accordingly, it is fitting and appropriate that Peter Macnamara be awarded the honour of Freeman of the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu in recognition of his distinguished and outstanding service to the community.





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HAVE YOUR SAY – SWIMMING POOL CLOSURE DAY

We'd like to hear from the community about which day of the week would be most suitable for the Wongan Hills Swimming Pool to be closed each week.

Your feedback will help us choose a day that has the least impact on pool users and the wider community.

Which day would you prefer the pool to be closed?

Take our quick survey and select the one day that would work best for you before Sunday 11th October. Visit the link below or scan the QR code.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VW7ML8R>

Thank you for helping us plan our pool operations around the needs of our community!



Upcoming Office Closures

- Thursday 15th October - all-day closure for staff training.

CURRENT ROADWORKS



Construction Crew - Dowerin Kalannie Road 5km reconstruction.



Maintenance Graders -

Area 1 - Ballidu Townsite Firebreaks and Meadows Road.

Area 2 - Wongan Hills Townsite Firebreaks.



Pavement Maintenance - Various Locations Sign Maintenance, Guide Post Maintenance, Pavement Repairs and General Town Maintenance.



Contractors - Dowerin Work Camp - Wongan Hills Cemetery Maintenance

All Above Worksites Will Be Under The Direction Of Traffic Management

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Ordinary Council Meeting

Wednesday 28th October - 3.00pm - Council Chambers

STAY IN TOUCH

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