



# The Westonian



A Free Joint Publication by Westonia CRC & Shire of Westonia

Established 1910

VOL. 24/25-9

WESTONIA, OCTOBER 30TH, 2024

westonia.wa.gov.au

## WARRIOR AMBASSADOR AWARDS WESTONIA CARAVAN PARK

On Friday the 25th of October, Cr Ainslie Faithfull, Cr Denver Simmonds, Mikayla De Mol, Bob and Joyce Hood-Penn attended the warrior ambassadors awards representing the Shire of Westonia.

The Shire of Westonia was awarded a Warrior Ambassador Award for their contribution to men's health and wellbeing under the fundraising category. This category acknowledges "individuals, groups of individuals and/or organisations that make a financial contribution to Wheatbelt Men's Health Inc. (WMH), delivering the Regional Men's Health Initiative (RMHI), with no expectation of personal or commercial gain or return".

***The Shire of Westonia has been acknowledged in the above category for their donation through the '40th Warralakin to Westonia Challenge'.***

The Warrior Ambassador Awards acknowledge individuals, groups of individuals and/or organisations who have supported WMH as an organisation. health and wellbeing in regional, rural and remote WA.



A big thank you to Bob and Joyce Hood-Penn who donated 4 bikes to the Caravan Park which will be freely available to ride around town by our visitors! They are already loving it.



## WARM WATER POOL FUNDRAISING

The Warm Water Pool ladies and Ray were busy again during the recent Wessy Xmas Markets When Zeta, Carol, Sandra, Priscilla, Liz, Blanche, Judy, Ainslie, Roslyn had their efforts of the past weeks available for sale. There was a wonderful array of cakes for sale along with Indian chutney, kitchen hand towels, pot plants and some crafted wooden items.

Special mention to Pam White who donated some magnificent cross stitched pieces and some really beautiful hand made earrings. Thank you everyone for your magnificent efforts which allowed us to collect \$1655.

Zeta and Liz collected the tin from the Co Op which had \$202 and the tin from the front desk at the Shire which had \$246 giving us a total of \$2103.

Thank you everyone for your donations and for purchasing our wares. The group has now raised a total of \$23,953.00!!

# Happy Birthday

- 2nd November: Kate Crees
- 5th November: Jocelyn Antonio
- 7th November: Chantelle Pedrotti
- 10th November: Clinton Townrow (stix)
- 11th November: Ross Della Bosca, Margaret Crees, Christine Geier, Peter Lilly
- 18th November: Ernie Douglas
- 20th November: Priscilla Stephens
- 21st November: Mitch Crews
- 24th November: Chloe Corsini
- 25th November: Joan Huxtable
- 28th November: Jackson Kelly (Hale)
- 31st November: Robert Morales



## CHURCH SERVICE

Join us at the Old Miners Hall on Sunday the 3rd of November for a Church Service, commencing at 10AM.



## WESTONIA SWIMMING POOL

Unfortunately, the public swimming pool won't be open until mid December (we hope!) due to the current renovations of the kiosk and issues with the power.

We are sorry for any inconvenience.

### MELBOURNE CUP LUNCH MENU

Westonia Tavern  
Tuesday 5th November, 11AM

**Starters:**  
Classic Prawn Cocktail OR  
Bruschetta with fresh tomatoes and basil.

**Main Course:**  
Elegant Barramundi with mango salsa OR  
Succulent Rack of lamb with mustard sauce.

**Dessert:**  
Assorted bite-sized cakes and a medley of fresh fruits

Experience a culinary journey addressing the Melbourne Cup

Opening @ 11AM, Lunch will be after the race \$50 per person with complimentary bubbles or beer on arrival



# westonia craft group

Our first Christmas sewing day is scheduled on **Monday 4th Of November** from 9:00AM onwards.

I plan to run another day towards the end of November/ Early December, allowing plenty of time to complete your gifts ready for giving.

I have some sample ideas of easy place mats, table runners etc. if you have your own fabric, bring it along! There is a limited supply of Christmas fabric available at the Craft Room.

Maybe you have your own Christmas gift project happening, come along and join the group.

Look forward to seeing you all :)

Kay



## Local businesses, how can your CRC help you?

- Advertising/Promotion (including Design)
- Staff training assistance (First aid, MC licenses, White card and more)
- Printing, Laminating, Binding
- Computer hire and individual support
- Training room and facility hire

CONTACT WESTONIA CRC ON 90467063 TO PERSONALISE YOUR REQUIREMENTS

community@westonia.wa.gov.au



## NEED YOUR HOUSE SPRAYED?

Local Pest Control will be in Westonia from the 16th of November. If you would like your house done, contact Dion

0428 412 018



## Working Group Meeting

Wednesday 20th November @ 2:00pm Old School



Regular meetings to help with the planning of future events in Westonia



# WESTONIA BOWLING CLUB

## Westonia Bowling Club

Our Club days are going well with a few potential new members attending. The games are played in a friendly competitive manner every Sunday at 2 pm for a 2.30 start. The Club can provide bowls for anyone who may be interested in joining in.

A big thank you to Zeta, Arthur, Carol, Greg and Pat and Phil for organizing afternoon tea and a roll up for our guests on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October. You all make this town proud.



## Pennants

Our ladies Pennant players did us proud on their first official pennant game for the 2024 – 2025 season beating Corrigin Gold 62 shots to 20 shots. Westonia gained all the four points. They then travelled to Corrigin on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October to have the tables turned, going down to Corrigin Blue by 42 shots. Corrigin Blue coming away with all 4 points. Never the less the girls had a noisy trip home to celebrate Helan Barnetts birthday. 21 again Helen. Happy Birthday! It was lovely to see Jocelyn Antonio joining us in her first pennant game. Hopefully there will be a lot more Joc. The next pennant game will be on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> when Westonia plays host to Bruce Rock.



The Wessy Men’s Pennant team continued on with their winning streak at Bruce Rock on the 19<sup>th</sup> October. Westonia 71 shots, 6 points to Bruce Rock 69 shots, 2 points. Narembeen Division one team came to Westonia on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> and gave a clinical display of how to play, defeating the Wessy boys 111 shots, 7 points, to 59 shots 1 point. Well done to the team of Brad Penny, Arthur Mather, Pat Alvaro and Bob Lockyer who fought back in the dying stages of their game to be the only winning team for Westonia. The men are off to Merredin Club on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.



## On the Road Again

Our ladies have once again been hitting the road to travel to League Open Days. We had a team travel to Tammin on the 19<sup>th</sup> and come away with the Afternoon winners cheque and four raffle prizes. On Sunday the 27<sup>th</sup> the Club sent two teams to Merredin Civic’s open Day. The team of Heather Lockyer, Liz Richter, Diane Jones and Ainslie Faithfull came back with the third place prize and another raffle win. Thank you to our ever reliable bus driver Kay Geier for getting us safely home again. Thank you also to Marie and Marg for stepping in at the last moment to make up the teams.





## ***Wessy Xmas Markets 2024***

Back on Wolfram Street, this year our annual Christmas Markets were held on Saturday the 26/10/24. The weather was perfect not too hot or cold and the sun was shining. The shire garden and maintenance crew (Jonsey, Bob, Mick, Scott and Deb) had worked their magic on the streets and set up for the day and the town looked amazing. No matter what we throw at the crew



they just get the job done and make it look effortless we couldn't be more appreciative of all of their help. The CRC were able to use for the first time our 6 3x3 commercial grade gazebos and accessories thanks to the successful "Westonian's Working Together Towards Community Resilience" project, supported by Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR), through funding from the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund. Market stalls were setup inside and wrapped around the Old Miners Hall under shade on the corner of Wolfram and Cement street.

Our amazing stall holders never let us down and created a colour explosion on our street, the visual display of all stalls were so fantastic there was so much to see and so many treasures to find "Christmas Shopping 2024 done!".

The Westonia Christmas markets team are so grateful to the local business who did not disappoint and opened their doors for our annual market day. Cindy, Ian, Jim, Erin and Amy from Westonia Tavern not only offered to be open at midday for food and drinks but they allowed us to set up the very popular food court under the verandah's and in their beer garden. The Westonia Co-op Glenda, Claire and Jess did not let us down and were open from 8:30am until 2pm for food, drinks and groceries. Thank you to Pauline & Dennis @ the Westonia Gallery Café who opened at 8am until 2pm for their regular trading hours and Brad Anderson brought out from Merredin his Wheatbelt coffee and Icecream Time van which always draws a crowd. Westonia Bowls Club's Heather, Ainslie and Di for creating the most delicious meat and slaw sliders and the Westonia Golf Club's Bro, Slippery, made perfect Pizza's cooked to order thank you to everyone who helped with the food prep on Friday and setup of the food stalls Saturday morning.

A huge thank you to our favorite musicians for entertaining us all day Rohan Day, Ez Pope, Liz Richter and Sophie Jane

Thank you to Ian and Jess Mahoney for keeping our Museum open from 10am until the end of the markets giving visitors the chance to see our wonderful Hood-Penn museum display.

To Bill & Joan Huxtable, Karin & Rohan Day our ever faithful raffle sales team, Lani Hale, Chan Pedrotti, Colleen & Vaughan Wallis thank you for keeping the entry/info and raffle tent open this makes the whole event possible every year.

Best Dressed Parade: We were thrilled to see the effort put in by all of our contestants for this parade it was an extremely difficult task for the Judges Zoe and Colleen and we all wished we could give everyone a prize however there were a few clear front runners and 1st Prize Koby Scarett, 2nd jointly won By Bill and Joan Hux, 3rd Prize won by Louis Parker in his truck towing his very precious new baby sister Grace.



Santa on his big red 4W sleigh, this year brought with him a reindeer two naughty elves, goodies and a photo op for the kids & Elf on the shelf even made an appearance hitching a ride on the sleigh for the children to find. Thank you to team Ross”n”Poss “n” Co love your work!



Fashion Parade brought to us by The Dust Merchant’s Mel Downsborough, thank you so much to her models, Makayla Geier, Clare Fourie, Zoe Ashby– Deering, Nicola Beck, Katelyn Crees’s mum? for giving up their time to make the parade a success and showcase The Dust Merchant’s (62 BARRACK STREET - next door to The Commie) Current Collection.

Raffles galore our stall holders did not disappoint with some amazing takeaways for participants. The warm water leisure pool fundraiser had a pick how many jelly beans in the jar comp, a large hamper raffle & a \$100 Scratchy Board raffle

Stall Holder Prize Draw DC Designs (Damian Claridge after 8years with Lorraine lea sadly had to give it up due to the franchise having to close down) and Miss Polly - Paula Bowden one of our newest stall holders both receiving a \$50 gift voucher.

Sophie Jane amazing as ever brought the whole event together as the MC, Photographer and crowd entertainer. A huge amount of her time volunteering in preparation of the day, Insta campaign manager@wessyxmasmarkets.

Our behind the scenes Volunteers and our Westonia Events Working group put in countless hours to make this event a success every year. From planning to decorating and so much more this event showcases how fantastic our little community is and what amazing things we can achieve when we all pull together. I know everyone who helped on Saturday had many other commitments over the weekend and we just wanted to say a huge thank you to all those involved.

We hope your 2024 hunt for Christmas goodies was successful.



**See you all back in Wessy in 2025!**




















# November 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> Hydro Pool- Bus leaves Med Centre at 8:45AM	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> Church Service @ Old Miners Hall 10 AM	<b>4</b> Sewing with Kay at the Sewing room Old School 9AM Westonia Tavern Melbourne Cup Lunch	<b>5</b>  Laura Away	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 	<b>8</b> Hydro Pool- Bus leaves Med Centre at 8:45AM	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>  	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 	<b>15</b> Hydro Pool- Bus leaves Med Centre at 8:45AM	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  	<b>20</b> Robyn's Beauty Salon Work Group Meeting 2PM @ Old School	<b>21</b>  <b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>22</b> Hydro Pool- Bus leaves Med Centre at 8:45AM	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>  	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 	<b>29</b> Hydro Pool- Bus leaves Med Centre at 8:45AM	<b>30</b>





# NUNGARIN

**Wheatbelt Markets**  
**Sunday 3rd November 2024**  
 8am to 12noon

Lots of stalls in the main street & the hall.  
 Lurl's Train will be running to entertain the children.

Markets Ice Cream Van on site.

Sausage Sizzle - bacon & egg burger or sausage in a bun.

Light lunches in the hall.

Call 90465174 or ring Cass 0428764911 for direct bookings  
 or email

[nungarinwheatbeltmarkets@gmail.com](mailto:nungarinwheatbeltmarkets@gmail.com) to book a stall.

Come along and browse for that something special -  
 start your Christmas shopping early.

You never know what you will find!

*Like us on facebook.*

**Something for everyone at the Nungarin Wheatbelt Markets!!!**



## WESTONIA COMMUNITY CO-OP OPENING HOURS

MONDAY	8.30 AM - 5.00 PM
TUESDAY	8.30 AM - 5.00 PM
WEDNESDAY	8.30 AM - 5.00 PM
THURSDAY	8.30 AM - 5.00 PM
FRIDAY	8.30 AM - 5.00 PM
SATURDAY	8.30 AM - 12.00 PM
SUNDAY	CLOSED



## WESTONIA COMMUNITY CO-OP CAFÉ OPENING HOURS

MONDAY	9.30 AM - 2.00 PM
TUESDAY	9.30 AM - 2.00 PM
WEDNESDAY	9.30 AM - 2.00 PM
THURSDAY	9.30 AM - 2.00 PM
FRIDAY	9.30 AM - 2.00 PM
SATURDAY	CLOSED
SUNDAY	CLOSED



# BUY LOCAL - SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY

Westonia Community Members

Isn't it fantastic that all we hear from visitors coming to town is that Westonia is a wonderful place with amazing facilities for such a small population!!

We all love hearing it and should be very proud of our achievements and community spirit! We all are enjoying the concessions and the spoils that the town offers!

You would have heard just recently that the Toyota Dealership, Grace & Grain Store and Vet business in Merredin will be closing by Christmas. Well, we could be facing the same dilemma with the local store, unless we can gather wholesale community support for the business with a buy local commitment.

Would attitudes be the same if we no longer had a community store/post office as part of our town? Imagine that for every single shopping item you require will need to be purchased out of town, imagine driving to Merredin for access to a post office. We are convinced that visitors will not be so enamored with the place if they cannot get any supplies locally.

The Board are not trying to be overdramatic, but this is the reality of the future of the Cooperative unless some wholesale changes are made to ensure the long term sustainability of the business. This issue is also being exacerbated by the imminent closure of the mine, which will further decrease our annual turnover and profit margins. The Cooperative has been operating since the year 2000 and though it's had its ups and downs over the years it has been a mainstay for the community. The business model for the Cooperative is not to profiteer, instead it's to create local employment opportunities and provide an invaluable sustainable service to the community.

Reality though is as it stands is that the current sale of goods at an average @ \$60k a month does not enable enough of a profit margin to employ 4-5 staff to keep the doors open 8.30am – 5pm 5 days a week and 5 hours every Saturday.

One avenue that the Board will be exploring is reducing opening hours, which will ultimately reduce staff hours worked resulting in a reduction in wages paid. The downside to this decision is that customers will have a smaller window in which to access the store/post office, meaning less satisfaction and incentive to support the store. Also, a reduction in staff hours

makes the position less appealing in attracting and retaining suitable staff.

The Board firstly want to acknowledge the many customers who are very loyal to the business and commit a large percentage of their weekly shopping needs at the store. But in saying that we are very aware that there is still a large majority of locals who choose to buy their groceries elsewhere. Whilst every individual has the right to shop and spend their funds where and how they wish, it should be remembered though that unless there is a greater investment in a buy local mentality, then we will have no option but to buy regionally. Community support for our Co-Operative is vital to its existence, the old adage of "Use It or Lose It" is applicable here.

The knock-on effect that this will have on our 'magnificent' little community will be nothing short of catastrophic.

Please ponder this when making a conscience decision moving forward

1. Have a think about the small communities within our wheatbelt area many of which do not have a local store. How lucky are we to live in a progressive community with outstanding facilities. Imagine the impact on all of us if no shop or post office.

2. People have moved to Westonia because of the beauty of our town and the fantastic facilities it provides. This community thrives because of our Shire and people who are committed participants in the community. Are you one of them? If not, how can **you** assist **your** community? By buying local as much as you can!

The ABC program "Back Roads" which showcase's small outback communities that are generally progressive, tend to have a common theme regarding the survival of small communities being directly related to a strong community spirit.

The community will be kept informed on the changes proposed for the store in the near future but in the meantime the Board implore those that are committed to the Westonia community to also commit to a buy local policy.

The Board of Directors

Westonia Community Cooperative

## Westonia Community Cooperative Inc.

### Notice of Annual General Meeting (Shareholders & Community Members welcome)

It is hereby notified that the Westonia Community Cooperative will be conducting its Annual General Meeting for Shareholders for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024, on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at the Old Miners Hall commencing at 7.00pm.

The order of business will include

1. Opening Comments & Announcements
2. Apologies
3. Confirmation Minutes – 2023.
4. Board of Directors Report
5. Annual Financial Report for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024.
6. Auditors Report
7. Election of Board of Directors
  - Three Vacancies (2 Year term)
  - B Price,
  - G Jones
  - G Bright
  - P Antonio, C Lindley & S Bright (expire 2026)
8. Appointment of Auditors
9. General Business
10. Meeting Closure

Peter Antonio  
Chairman

#### Westonia Community Cooperative - Board Vacancies

**Three** of the six members of the Westonia Community Cooperative Board are currently vacant so there are currently three vacancies that need to be filled for the Westonia Community Cooperative Inc.

To enable your Shop to continue to operate, we need your assistance to become board members.

Interested persons are asked to send their nominations in writing to the Cooperative, C/- Post Office Westonia by Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Bill Price on 90 467 063 or fill out board nomination below (*you must be a Coop Shareholder to nominate*).

.....  
Westonia Community Cooperative Inc  
Post Office  
WESTONIA

Dear Board Members

Please accept my nomination for a board position with the Westonia Community Cooperative.

I am looking forward to working with the local community in that capacity together with the opportunities of working with the Community Cooperative.

Signed