

What's Happening December to February 2024

Mayor's Message

Welcome to the summer 2023 edition of What's Happening.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to vote in the Local Government elections held in October. I extend a warm welcome to newly elected Councillors:

North Ward - Cr Alex Figg

North-East Ward - Cr Glynis Parker

Central-West Ward - Cr Phil Bedworth

Central East-Ward - Cr Marizane Moore

Central Ward - Cr Jacqui Huntley

South-West Ward - Cr Vinh Nguyen

South Ward - Cr Eman Seif

I also welcome new Deputy Mayor James Rowe.

As a Council, we have an important responsibility to work toward improving the everyday lives of our residents and I'm excited to continue to work with Council to make a positive difference across the City.

Council and I are pleased to introduce the City's new CEO Mr Bill Parker who joined the City this month. Mr Parker has 20 years of experience at both metropolitan and regional Western Australian local governments. On behalf of Council, we look forward to working with Mr Parker and Administration to continue delivering on our community's aspirations.

This edition is packed with a range of community programs, events and activities close to home. Find out how you can see the epic Brickman Cities exhibition at Wanneroo Regional Gallery and discover how some local legends are helping protect snake-necked turtles.

Keep the kids busy this school holidays with a fantastic line-up of free events at our libraries, museum, youth centres and recreation centres.

On behalf of Council and City staff, I wish all residents a safe festive season and a happy 2024.

Mayor Linda Aitken.

Collect your free Community Calendar

Visit your local library or the City's Civic Centre to pick up your free Community Calendar.

The 2024 calendar contains essential information such as waste collection dates, animal registration details, school and public holidays and free community events.

Have your say

Tell us how you like to receive news, updates and general information from the City of Wanneroo for a chance to win a \$50 voucher.

Complete a short survey to let us know your communications preferences and help us with sharing the news and updates our community needs.

Visit wanneroo.wa.gov.au/yoursay

Clarkson Youth Hub reopens... feat. guest youth photographer Zone

Clarkson Youth Hub is back in business after a significant upgrade, offering valuable services and programs for young people living in Perth's northern suburbs.

The \$1.6 million project includes a new games and activity area, function room, meeting rooms, a kitchen, accessible toilet facilities and office spaces.

Youth organisations and service providers are able to hire these spaces to deliver regular programs and services, as well as for one-off events and workshops.

The Hub's main entrance has been relocated to better connect with Clarkson's popular pump track and skate park.

The community flocked to the Hub's open day recent, with 16-year-old Clarkson photographer Zone capturing some great action shots.

Attendees were able to check out the newly refurbished youth hub, enjoy plenty of live entertainment, and join in the skate jam!

The project was funded with \$1 million from the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, \$500,000 through Lotterywest and a City contribution.

Check out more of Zone's shots on Instagram @inthezone_photographer

Five minutes with... Youth Program Officer Ash

What's involved in the day-to-day of a Youth Program Officer?

Every day can look a little different, but we run safe and inclusive spaces for young people to hang out after school.

We run cooking, art, sport and recreation programs, pool and video game competitions and celebrate awareness days such as Reconciliation Week, Go Purple Day and Mental Health Week.

As youth workers, we not only get to provide a safe space for young people in the City, but also support them through their day-to-day life challenges, as well as celebrating their achievements.

As young people are all so different and have different needs, we have to be flexible and adaptable in our approach to support them on their own individual journeys. It's a real privilege and a very rewarding role!

What does the revamp of Clarkson Youth Hub mean for local young people?

We are very excited to have the Clarkson Youth Hub back up and running, as are our young people!

The redevelopment will mean more youth service providers will be able to work out of the Hub, providing even more specialised youth support closer to home.

We have a youth-led leadership project in the pipeline to give local young people more say on what they want from our programs, as well as providing a way for them to discuss things that are important to them.

Working with and consulting young people will help us identify how we can best support them to achieve their goals.

Local library LEGO® masters make clever creations

Back by popular demand, LEGO® Clubs have returned to the City's four libraries.

Putting their creativity and problem solving to the test, local children are making brick masterpieces in a series of weekly challenges.

With challenge themes ranging from animals and aliens to movies and Halloween, the builds then proudly sit on display in the library for a week. Girrawheen resident Chris, who attends the Girrawheen Library LEGO Club with son Chris Jr, said the program was "fantastic".

"We've been coming for two terms now and it's been good for Chris, who has cerebral palsy – good for his fine motor skills," he said. "At home, the kids play with mini figs, (miniature figurines) but this program allows them to be more creative."

For term session times, head to wanneroolibraries.eventbrite.com

Wanneroo scores blockbuster LEGO® exhibition

The world-famous Brickman is bringing his Cities exhibition to Wanneroo Regional Gallery next month, giving you the chance to explore some of the world's greatest cities through LEGO® brick creations.

Explore the history of iconic cities from around the world that have been built with more than 900,000 LEGO pieces or become the LEGO master of your household and build your very own future City.

The exhibition was created by one of the world's leading LEGO brick artists and the only LEGO Certified Professional in the southern hemisphere, Ryan 'Brickman' McNaught, who stars on Channel Nine's hit TV show LEGO Masters Australia.

Ryan said he hoped the interactive experience would encourage visitors to learn and play while also enjoying large scale sculptures.

"Brickman Cities brings to life the rich histories of the world's greatest cities like never before and I hope visitors will find it both informative and fun," he said. "I can't wait to see young LEGO enthusiasts take what they have learnt and use their imagination to create their own LEGO CITY of tomorrow."

City of Wanneroo Cultural Services Coordinator Elizabeth Kruger said it was exciting to welcome Brickman Cities to the Wanneroo Regional Gallery.

"LEGO's appeal spans generations and geographical boundaries. We can't wait to welcome people from across WA to check out incredible skyscraper creations of London, Tokyo and Dubai, displayed right here in Wanneroo," she said.

"To ensure big kids and little kids can enjoy the spectacular, we're offering tickets at a discounted rate with free entry for kids under 4, \$16.50 for general entry and \$47.50 for a family pass for two adults and two kids.

"From LEGO hobbyists to families, adults who enjoy the nostalgic experience of assembling LEGO creations to architectural buffs, we look forward to welcoming people to the City to experience this world-class exhibition."

Brickman Cities will be held at Wanneroo Regional Gallery showing now until Sunday 18 February. Head to Ticketek to secure your tickets today at

ticketek.com.au/BMCitiesWanneroo

Highlight your school holidays

From epic playgrounds and tourist attractions to quality restaurants and world-class exhibitions, there is so much for families to see and do in and around Wanneroo this school holidays! Visit our website for more great things to do, day trip ideas and places to eat and drink. discoverwanneroo.com.au

Warradale Park, Landsdale

The construction of new unisex changerooms, a first aid room, umpire's room, storerooms and upgraded toilets at Warradale Community Centre is now complete.

The upgraded facilities complement other improvements at Warradale Park, including the upgraded skate park, new jetty and lake viewing platform.

Koondoola and Butterworth Avenue

Waddington Primary School students have a safer and more connected commute to school after the Koondoola Avenue and Butterworth Avenue shared paths were upgraded.

The red asphalt paths link Marangaroo Drive and Beach Road, improving community access to Koondoola Park, Butterworth Park, Koondoola Plaza Shopping Centre, Koondoola Primary School, Waddington Primary School and the Koondoola Community Centre.

Aquamotion upgrades, Wanneroo

Get ready to sweat on one of Aquamation's 25 sparkling new cardio training machines!

Try the new machines at the family-friendly fitness and leisure centre – you can even access a virtual reality function and imagine you are running through forests or world famous cities!

Aquamotion also boasts a fully equipped gym, swimming pools, group fitness classes and personal training. Also, watch this space – we have an exciting announcement coming soon.

Floodlighting at Splendid Park, Yanchep

Night games and training will soon be on the cards for sporting clubs based at Splendid Park in Yanchep. Floodlighting construction is underway at both the AFL and the soccer ovals, allowing local clubs to host night games, as well as fundraisers such as family nights.

The upgrade will free up more match and training slots and help keep up with the significant increase in grassroots participation from junior players. It will also create more opportunities for female and male teams to play night games.

Ridgewood Park, Ridgewood

Ridgewood Park is kicking goals after the City installed an electronic scoreboard and carried out a kitchen revamp.

The kiosk now allows Quinns Districts Football Club to offer healthy food and drink options to athletes and spectators, providing the club with a valuable income source.

The electronic scoreboard features instant updates made through a mobile tablet and can display graphics and videos to celebrate goals and showcase club milestones.

Scout community facility, Tapping

A new Scouts WA facility is on track to be completed by the end of the year after the City leased the group vacant land on Ashley Road in Tapping.

The Carramar Scout Group has been operating out of St Stephen's School and have been on the search for permanent premises.

Scouts WA secured Department of Communities funding to build the new facility, which will be available for local community groups to hire.

Riverlinks Park, Clarkson

The Riverlinks all abilities playground in Clarkson is a step closer to completion, with detailed design underway. The play space will be accessible to everyone, including children with mobility issues and those with cognitive, sensory or social-emotional challenges.

City's event season back by popular demand

The City of Wanneroo's jam-packed 2023/24 events season has kicked off and you're invited! Boasting lively concerts, Christmas carnivals and festive markets, there's something for everyone to enjoy this events season, including the return of community favourites, the Christmas Fiesta and Symphony Under the Stars.

This is our biggest and best free events series ever, running all the way through to our Beach to Bush Arts Festival next May. From Girrawheen to Two Rocks, there's a fun, family-friendly event coming to a suburb near you.

All events are free to attend. wanneroo.wa.gov.au/featureevents

Lighten up and be a good neighbour

During this festive season, many roads within the City receive large amounts of traffic due to residents' festive light displays.

The congestion usually occurs for a short period in the evenings just before Christmas.

The City encourages residents to inform neighbours of light display plans and be mindful of the times of operation. Lights should not impact pedestrians using the verge.

Visitors are also asked to be careful not to block or restrict access to driveways and footpaths.

Fireworks at Mindarie

New Year's Eve fireworks are returning to The Marina, Mindarie.

From 5pm, head down to check out boardwalk food stalls, entertainment and live music.

Fireworks start at 8.30pm. The City is proud to sponsor this family-friendly event.

Grassroots groundswell to save cute critters

Some 80 dedicated local volunteers have trained to become Turtle Trackers, working hard to keep snake-necked turtles and their eggs safe this nesting season.

The City joined forces with Murdoch University and the South West Metropolitan Alliance to participate in the Saving our Snake-necked Turtle Project, and providing specialised training alongside the City of Joondalup and the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.

Turtles live in wetlands across Yellagonga Regional Park and are under threat from other animals, lack of suitable nesting habitat and road strikes.

The Turtle Trackers have been monitoring their allocated sites for turtle activity during the nesting season, where they will protect the critters and their nests during this vulnerable life stage. Friends of Yellagonga Acting Chairperson Guy Austin-Crowe put his hand up to be a Turtle Tracker.

"The volunteers are all local residents and we're working together to help the turtles survive," he said. "If you can't be a tracker, you can also help out by recording turtle observations near wetlands by downloading the TurtleSAT app or using the website.

"By recording your observations, you are adding to the knowledge we have of the turtles which will help their conservation into the future."

Please remember to drive slowly around wetland areas, keep your dog on a leash, and report sick or injured turtles to the Wildcare Helpline on 9474 9055.

Creative ways to reduce, reuse and recycle

For Wanneroo resident Peter, Tamala Park Reuse Shop is a treasure trove full of potential. He has given many pieces found at the shop a new lease on life, repairing broken tools and equipment, refurbishing old desks and drawers, even tinkering with a bowling ball to create a wall feature.

"It's good to reuse as it's great for the environment, reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill – it's also more affordable than buying brand new," he said.

"You can also fix things up to gift to friends and family or sell and make a couple of bucks."

With Christmas coming up, we encourage you to get creative and refurbish pieces for homemade gifts! You can also drop off unwanted items at Tamala Park, where these objects could become someone else's treasure.

Tamala Park Reuse Shop is open every day, 9am to 4pm. Second hand items can also be found at charity stores and as part of Buy Nothing programs.

Dordaak Kepap reaches exciting milestone

Detailed design on the Dordaak Kepap Library and Youth Innovation Hub is now complete, with the tender for construction underway.

The Landsdale facility will feature a library, function and meeting rooms, and youth innovation spaces including a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) room, gaming room, demonstration kitchen, podcasting room, a recording booth and studio.

City of Wanneroo Mayor Linda Aitken said the development would offer a fantastic service for the community.

“Dordaak Kepap is on track to offer a range of services, programs and activities for the community, including classic library elements and youth innovation and early childhood offerings,” she said.

“We have received very positive feedback from local families and young people and are grateful to everyone who has taken the time to have their say on the project to make sure it meets our community’s needs.”

The City will receive a \$3 million funding contribution under the State Government’s WA Recovery Plan to enable the delivery of the Youth Innovation Hub.

State Member for Landsdale Margaret Quirk said she was pleased the State Government could contribute to the “wonderful” project. “The recognition by the City of Wanneroo for the need for improved community facilities in Landsdale is welcome,” she said.

The library and youth innovation hub’s name Dordaak Kepap, meaning place of living waters, was chosen through consultation with Noongar elders and community members to reflect the site overlooking Broadview Park.

Halesworth Pavilion starting to take shape

Work continues on the construction of a new sporting pavilion and a storage facility at Halesworth Park in Butler.

The \$9.3 million construction project is set to provide local sporting clubs with new change rooms, multi-purpose rooms, universal access toilet facilities, first aid rooms, bathrooms, kitchens, kiosks and improved storage.

The state-of-the-art Halesworth Park complex is home to a wide range of sporting codes, from rugby, football and soccer to netball, baseball, cricket and athletics.

Stage one of the Halesworth Park project included the construction of the 11.9 hectare sporting and recreation precinct, which boasts two multi-sport ovals, 16 multi-use hardcourts, cricket nets, a dual-use path, children’s play area and picnic facilities.

Completion is scheduled for mid-2024.

The City thanks the Federal Government, State Government, LWP Property Group and WA Department of Education for their contributions to this project.

Participation grants help community kick goals

We were honoured to support Year 8 student Arybella Nelson to compete in the 15 Years and Under AFL Girls Championships in Victoria this July with a Participation Fund grant.

The proud Noongar/Yamatji girl is based at Wanneroo Junior Football Club and represented Western Australia at the Championships, where they took out seventh place.

Congratulations Arybella and the Western Australian team!

From little athletics and para-sports to Irish dancing and tenpin bowling, the City is proud to support our residents in reaching their goals.

Organisations, clubs or groups can apply on behalf of individuals who are participating in state, national or international events in the areas of sport, arts and culture.

Participants are eligible for funding if they are City of Wanneroo residents and either aged 25 years and under, aged 60 and over, or living with a disability at any age.

Find out more about our community funding program at wanneroo.wa.gov.au/participation

City reveals site of Alkimos aquatic and recreation centre

The City has acquired a 3.5 hectare site in the Alkimos Town Centre for the Alkimos aquatic and recreation centre.

The City signed land acquisition documents with Development WA for the site, which is located just 50 metres from the future METRONET Alkimos train and bus stations.

Mayor Linda Aitken said the procurement of the site was a fantastic step forward for the project.

"It's great to have successfully secured a site that will ensure this facility integrates well with the surrounding environment and provides convenient access and connections to public transport," she said.

"The detailed design has recently started, and over the next 12 months we'll be able to share a comprehensive plan for the facility, which is being designed to be flexible, adaptable, and to accommodate the diverse needs of our growing community."

Once completed, the detailed design will provide a more accurate picture of project costs and timelines, with construction currently scheduled to start in late-2024.

"We are grateful to have received \$30 million from the Federal Government, \$10 million from the State Government and \$12.6 million through the Alkimos-Eglinton Developer Contribution Plan to help us deliver this facility for our growing community," Mayor Aitken said.

For more information, visit wanneroo.wa.gov.au/AARC

City sponsorship at CORE of innovation

The City of Wanneroo has signed a sponsorship agreement with CORE Innovation Hub, putting Neerabup Industrial Area at the forefront of technological innovation in the State.

The partnership will support the activation of the Australian Automation and Robotics Precinct (AARP), a purpose-built facility for testing, research, development and training in automation, robotics systems and equipment, remote operations and net zero technologies.

Managed by the State Government through DevelopmentWA and operated by CORE Innovation Hub, the 51 hectare precinct now provides local, national, and global companies with access to one of the biggest testing and development facilities in the world.

City Economic Development Advisor Sarah Carracher said the City was committed to fostering the growth of future industries and ensuring a vibrant job market for its residents.

"It's exciting for our City to be home to this world-leading facility," she said. "The development of this precinct will support businesses of all sizes in the northern corridor and provide quality employment opportunities in a range of industries for residents of our City and wider Perth."

Construction is underway on a \$7.3 million shared use facility, which will act as the AARP headquarters and include co-working areas, research and development spaces, laboratories, workshop facilities and showcase areas, slated for completion in 2024.

The state-of-the-art building will run on emission-free solar power connected to a battery and microgrid network. "This isn't just a local or national achievement; it's a global milestone for our City and its businesses," Ms Carracher said. "We're stepping onto an international stage, where we can showcase our innovation and expertise to the world."

Schools create community action projects

Sixty-nine students from seven local schools completed the City of Wanneroo's 2023 School Leadership Program.

The program provides a unique opportunity for young leaders to build confidence and learn about teamwork, resilience, problem solving, innovative project management and leadership skills by working on a community action project to address a need or issue in their community.

The City was proud to welcome students from Spring Hill, Landsdale, Alkimos, Our Lady of Mercy and Mindarie primary schools, as well as students from Atlantis Beach Baptist College and Wanneroo Secondary College.

The program culminated in a special showcase evening in September, an opportunity for students to share what they had learned and highlight their community action projects.

This year, conservation and the environment were popular themes and projects included the creation of a sensory garden, making food hampers from a vegetable garden, as well as donating money raised through collecting containers to charity.

Congratulations to all participating students – our future leaders.

Stay safe this summer

As the weather heats up, it's important to keep safe at your local beach, pool and at home. Water safety should be a priority for everyone visiting one of our beautiful local beaches or using pools this summer.

The City has recently reinstalled the Quinns Beach Swimming Enclosure, to provide peace of mind to beachgoers.

The City's dedicated Swimming Pool Inspectors conduct inspections of private properties with pools to ensure compliant and effective safety barriers are in place.

Unsafe and unsupervised backyard swimming pools and spas are the most common location for children drowning in Australia.

Poorly maintained fencing, propped-open gates and lack of self-latching gates all jeopardise pool safety and the City advises residents to be vigilant and check pool barriers regularly.

Water safety tips:

- Supervise children in pools and spas at all times
- Learn swimming and lifesaving skills
- Wear a life jacket when boating, rock fishing or paddling
- Swim at patrolled beaches between the red and yellow flags
- Always read safety signs
- If you need help, stay calm and attract attention
- Avoid alcohol and drugs around water

Beach wheelchair free to hire

A beach wheelchair is free to hire at Quinns Beach, available now until April!

The City is proud to support beach accessibility through its Beach Wheelchair Program which enables people with mobility difficulties to access our beautiful coastline.

To hire, head to wanneroo.wa.gov.au/beachwheelchairs or call 9405 5600.

The program is supported by Surf Life Saving WA and Quinns Mindarie Surf Life Saving Club.

Blast off to outer space with our Summer Reading Quest

Be a story explorer this summer and take a journey of the imagination by reading what you love. Earn prizes and join us at all libraries for an assortment of super experiences that are out of this world.

Explore planets and constellations with the Perth Observatory, learn about your star power with award-winning author Josh Langley and discover ways to keep our planet healthy with the Eco Faeries.

Pop into any library and pick up your Summer Reading Quest pack from 1 December to be in the draw to win a family pass to Brickman: Cities exhibition.

Head to library.wanneroo.wa.gov.au to register today.

Celebrate Christmas at our libraries

Join us at your local library for a jam-packed program of Christmas activities!

Get in the spirit of Christmas with choir performances, craft, dance and children's activities throughout December.

The program runs across our four libraries – Clarkson, Wanneroo, Yanchep/Two Rocks and Girrawheen. Head to wanneroolibraries.eventbrite.com to check out the program!

The City also proudly sponsors a range of free community festive events including the Wanneroo Christmas Day Lunch. The lunch provides an opportunity for those who are alone, in need of company, or doing it tough to celebrate this Christmas.

LinkedIn Learning available to members

We offer education resource LinkedIn Learning as part of your City of Wanneroo library membership. More than 16,000 professional courses are available online, devised by industry experts in fields such as business technology, career development, leadership and communication. You can also log on to courses in personal finance, photography and songwriting. Many of the courses are available in different languages.

Continue to learn over the holidays by visiting library.wanneroo.wa.gov.au and navigate to the Online Learning space via the Resources tile.

Action across the summer holidays

Get ready for a fun-filled summer with our school holiday activities. With excursions, sports, arts and crafts and workshops held across the City, we have something for everyone to enjoy. Our school holiday program runs from the end of December to Thursday 25 January 2024.

To check out the full line-up of activities and book in, head to wanneroo.wa.gov.au/schoolholidayactivities

Noongar seasons

Birak (December to January).

Birak season sees less rain and hot, dry weather. Watch for the blossoming of paperbark and orange Christmas or Moodjar trees. We then move into Bunuru in February – the hottest part of the year and known as the second summer.

Time travel at the Wanneroo Regional Museum

Visit the Wanneroo Regional Museum this school holidays! Step out of the summer sun and into the cool air conditioning and delve into the fascinating history of the City of Wanneroo.

Wanneroo Regional Museum has fast become a school holiday staple for many families who love to drop-in and take part in fun, diverse and interactive children's activities.

Visit us to discover our awesome school holiday program.

Wanneroo Regional Museum, 3 Rocca Way, Wanneroo

Monday to Friday 10am-4pm and Saturday 12pm-4pm

wanneroo.wa.gov.au/wannerooregionalmuseum