



PCN

Pemberton
Community
News

ISSUE 256

December 2025

\$2



Thank you to **Pemberton Avocado Festival**
for this month's cover photo.

DECEMBER AT A GLANCE

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Looking for Contributions

Do you have an interest, article, advert or information on an event, sporting or community group?

Send all contributions in to

pcn@pembertoncrc.org.au

EDITORIAL

It's been an extraordinarily awesome season for the rose, hasn't it? Even if it's only temporary, the sun is shining and the roses are putting on a spectacular show. Everywhere I look, there are blooms—masses of them—so naturally I've been waylaid and gently reminded to "take time to smell the roses."

This simple act has given me space for insight and reflection.

"A rose by any other name would smell as sweet."

"Every rose has its thorn."

"Beauty without virtue is like a rose without scent."

So many life lessons condensed into one humble flower.

It's true that life wasn't meant to be easy. That has certainly been my recent experience. But what to do with that? Wallow in self-pity? Slip on a pair of rose-coloured glasses and pretend everything is fine? Or perhaps realise that the very essence of the rose can be captured—metaphorically bottled—into a soothing perfume we can reach for on the days we need it most.

Because honestly, if we were joyful, peaceful, love-filled, and relentlessly "happy" all the time, we'd eventually burn out. Even sunshine, in excess, can exhaust us. Sustained perfection simply isn't sustainable.

This balancing act becomes especially challenging at this time of year. We're supposed to be feeling "joy to the world," yet many of us feel anything but. We're busy, overworked, underpaid, and carrying the weight of rising living costs—not to mention the pressure of Christmas presents and end-of-year expectations.

Maybe this is the moment to adopt the good old KISS approach: Keep It Simple, Silly. Who really cares if everything isn't holly-jolly and ho-ho-ho?

The sun may not always be shining, yet a friendly smile or shared laugh can warm a room just as effectively, leaving us feeling a little cosier and a little more connected.

So perhaps the real takeaway is this: enjoy each day as it comes. Look for small opportunities to create your own version of sunshine and roses—even if it means growing mushrooms in the dark for a while, if that's where life has placed you.

Good luck navigating the month of December. Wishing you the very best for the festive season, and an especially safe and restful start to the New Year.

Gaye x

YOU CAN'T PLANT FLOWERS...
...IF YOU HAVEN'T BOTANY!





PYZ PEMBERTON YOUTH ZONE
CHRISTMAS PARTY

From 5:00pm
 Dinner provided

Friday
 12th December

Please bring a \$10 gift for Secret Santa

@ PCSC

PLEASE RSVP BY 8TH OF DECEMBER
 FOR ANY ENQUIRIES OR TO RSVP CONTACT THE PEMBERTON CRC
 9776 1745
 OFFICE@PEMBERTONCRC.ORG.AU



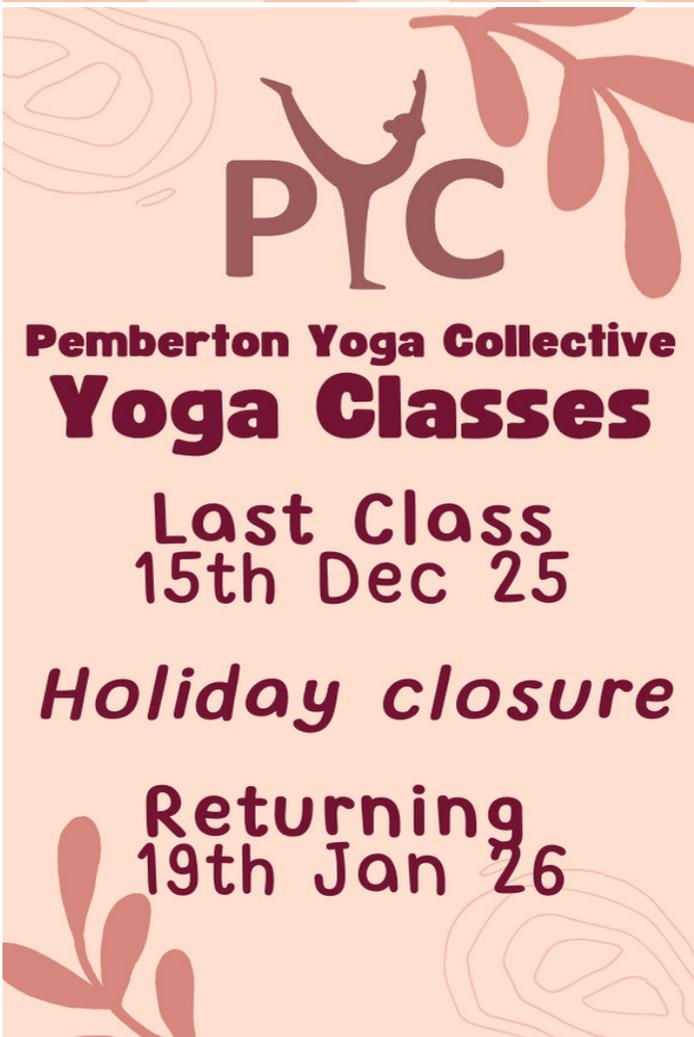
PEMBERTON HOTEL
Happy Hour
 Public Bar: Wed 5-6pm, 7pm Jackpot Draw,
 Happy Hour Friday 6-7pm

PEMBY HOTEL

upcoming events

DEC 05	DYLAN HUTCHINS FRI 6-9PM
DEC 07	SHENAI JOHNSTON SUN 12-3PM
DEC 12	BETH CHIA FRI 6-9 PM
DEC 19	KARAOKE 8 - LATE
DEC 21	ROB V SUN 12-3PM
DEC 23	SQUID TUES 6-9PM
DEC 28	TRIPLE TIME SUN 5-8PM
DEC 31	DJ DAMAGE + AMELIE NYE 5PM - 1AM
JAN 02	DYLAN HUTCHINS FRI 6-9PM

Times are subject to change. See our facebook page Pemberton Hotel



PYC

**Pemberton Yoga Collective
 Yoga Classes**

Last Class
 15th Dec 25

Holiday closure

Returning
 19th Jan 26



Pemberton
 Community
 Resource
 Centre
 Your local connection

that's a
WRAP

WE ARE CLOSED
 FROM THE 19TH OF DECEMBER
 SEE YOU IN THE NEW YEAR ON
 TUESDAY 6TH OF JANUARY.





PEMBERTON ARTS GROUP INC

PAG Autumn exhibition 2026 - Theme 'Reflection'

3rd April – 19th April

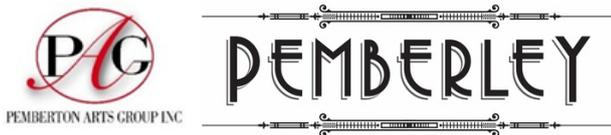
Time to start thinking about creating your masterpiece!



At our AGM we welcomed in new committee:
Chairperson: C Ferguson
Vice Chair: S Tysoe
Treasurer: J Baker
Secretary: J Evill

Together with a working committee of 9
We're all planning an exciting and eventful 2026!

We cannot allow this year to pass without expressing our thanks to our amazing past committee, PAG members, volunteers, donors, artists and friends of PAG without wishing you, your family and dear ones a wonderful Christmas a safe, healthy and exciting New Year. Filled with peace and kindness to one another.



SCULPTURE IN THE VINES

Friday 17th - Sunday 26th April, 2026
11am - 4pm daily

Great prizes include Public Art Acquisition up to \$15,000!

Entries close Saturday 21st March 2026

Artist information and entry form available at:

www.pembertonartsgroup.org.au

Galleries of previous years:

www.pemberleyofpemberton.com/sculpture-in-the-vines

Follow your creative New Year's Resolution and come along to one of Tony's monthly Sunday Art Starter workshops in 2026 and just have a go! Perfect for those new to art, these affordable samplers will let you play with different media from paints to pastels, pencils to printmaking.



The kids in the Merry Very Aussie Christmas project are having a great arty time with paint and fun 'hands on' techniques!



The smiles say it all as Christmas card prints came off the press in the recent drypoint printmaking workshop with Tony Windberg.



**PEMBERTON
HERITAGE AND HISTORY
GROUP INC AGM
THURSDAY 4TH DECEMBER
2025
10AM
MUSEUM WORKSHOP
PEMBERTON COMMUNITY
HUB**

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

CONTACT: ROS PIPER

0439 214393

DEANNE VENTRIS

0428 302782

www.albanysummerschool.com.au
5th – 16th January 2026



Bee and Beekeeping:
From Hive to Honey



Silver in Motion: A Spinner
Ring Workshop



Wildflower Wonders: A
Photography Workshop



Singing Together for
Beginners



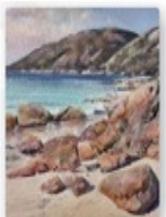
Skins and Rhythms -
Djembe Drumming



DIGITAL ART WITH PROCREATE_Any Dolphin



The Art of Enamelling: A
Beginner 's Hands-On
Workshop 1



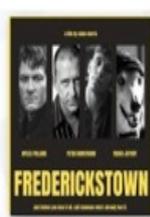
Oils - Coastal Colours



The Art of Editing: Making
Better Poems



Reclaim and Remake



Writing for Film

**YOUNG PLAYERS SHINE AT LOCAL
SOCCER SKILLS CLINIC**

In early November, local junior players gathered for an exciting skills clinic hosted by the Southern Strikers Soccer Club, injecting fresh energy into the area's soccer scene.



Led by Football West and the newly established Football South West, this clinic gave young players a valuable chance to sharpen their skills, boost confidence, and connect with teammates in a fun, supportive environment. From dribbling challenges to fast-paced drills, teamwork activities and confidence-building challenges, the kids threw themselves into every activity, showing huge enthusiasm and promise.

For many local families, having access to such a professionally run session so close to home was uncommon — regional players don't often have access to these opportunities. The positive vibe on the field said it all: our juniors hungry to learn, eager to improve, and absolutely loving the game.

Looking Ahead Together

While the clinic was the main event, the visit from Football West and Football South West also opened the door for valuable conversations. Their time in our region gave us the perfect opportunity to discuss our unique challenges and needs, and future collaborations.



There's optimism that increased support and sharing of resources will let committees focus more on developing junior programs and less on administrative duties.

Strengthening Our Community

Looking forward, there is also an emphasis on growing and supporting our volunteer base—making it both easier and more fulfilling for community members to pitch in. Clubs thrive when responsibilities are shared, and efforts are underway to clarify and diversify volunteer roles, boost support, and create more ways for people to get involved. Volunteering doesn't just benefit the club; it's great for personal wellbeing, confidence, and a sense of belonging. Volunteers pick up valuable skills useful in any career, expand

their social circles, and have a direct impact on the community. Whether you're able to give a little time or a lot, every bit helps both individuals and the



CRC ROAD TRIP

ARTICLE BY GAYE VAN HAZENDONK

PHOTO BY CRC STAFF

CRC team were fortunate enough to jump in the car and go on a road trip to visit other CRC's in the region.

This was not only a good networking opportunity, but also an information collecting session on events, activities, signage and income streams from other CRC's.

We headed off to Manjimup for a coffee in the early morning then to Bridgetown to meet Jane Wittenoom who gave us the grand tour of their awesome facility. With so many rooms, their main income was room hire! They had the world's most awesome volunteer, Kaye McLennan the volunteer coordinator who had created a volunteer wall. We got to visit the Ashbil Community garden in Bridgetown which was spectacular.

Then taking the backroad to Nannup with Tristan as the trusty navigator, we met up with the new Manager, Alison Peacock, and a relatively new team at the Nannup CRC. We discussed the community paper, room hire, events and other activities. Nannup have their own volunteer coordinator and provide a community directory (phone book) each year.

We visited the Noonooda community garden in Nannup tucked away behind the Uniting Church which was very spacious, creative and peaceful.

A quick stop at Karridale for lunch then onto Augusta where there was once again, a brand new Manager at the Augusta CRC. Located in the Shire building, the Augusta CRC also housed the local radio station, several offices and meeting rooms which hosted local yoga classes and music groups with its own piano available for hire!

The last stop was the highlight which was the Augusta Community Garden. Utilising the entire grounds surrounding the Uniting Church, this garden had a sand pit, tree house, community kitchen, shadehouse, reflective garden and space for the weekly community markets.

"Community gardens are cool. The road trip was a good way to get to know my new coworkers." Chloe

"It was an engaging experience and was great to see how other CRC's operate, the Parmi at the Karridale Tav was solid too." Tristan.

"It was a beautiful day and a lovely way to engage with the other members of the Pemberton CRC team. It was nice to meet up with the local CRC's to see how everyone else does things and get some ideas. In future though we would have to go to co-located CRC's as the independent model does not suit our situation" Gaye

"This was helpful for finding out what the other CRC's offer their towns. It was definitely great to find out what



we could be offering people and what we are already doing that some of the other CRCs aren't. I think we should do this again but go further and find more things to talk about for the car rides" - AJ

SOUTHERN FORESTS FOOD COUNCIL

AFTERNOON FOOD & FARM TOUR 13 DEC



Manjimup Cherry Harmony Festival:



Beyond the Farm Gate

Meet the local producers who grow, craft, and care for the region's famed flavours. Hear their stories, explore their farms, and discover the passion that makes Southern Forests produce so uniquely delicious.



SFFC CELEBRATES 13 YEARS OF IMPACT

We recently held our 13th AGM, bringing together members, local representatives, and community leaders to celebrate a successful year and discuss future priorities.

Local MP Bevan Eatts, Manjimup Shire Councillor Andy Burns, former Shire Councillor Cliff Winfield, and four former SFFC Chairs were present, providing a moment of reflection on the SFFC's achievements and the enduring leadership that has shaped the region's progress over more than a decade. We wish to thank all our members and supporters for your continued commitment and support.



TEACHER & CHRISTMAS GIFT HAMPERS

Treat those wonderful teachers or special people in your life to a taste of the Southern Forests with our Genuinely Southern Forests Gift Hampers.

Prices range from \$35 to our Luxe \$200 hamper, packed with premium local produce. Order via our website, visit us at Cherry Festival, or drop by the office.



SOUTHERN FORESTS FOOD COUNCIL INC.

info@southernforestsfood.com | southernforestsfood.com

Johnston Crescent Manjimup | 08 9772 4180

@genuinelysouthernforests

PEMBERTON VISITOR CENTRE – 2025 YEAR IN REVIEW

As we wrap up the year, we would like to share a brief overview of the key developments shaping tourism in Pemberton and the work underway at the Visitor Centre.

Highlights & Achievements

- Strong visitor interest in Pemberton, including visitors arriving after seeing *Mystery Road: Origin* filmed locally, which brought significant income into the region during the filming of the series.
- \$8 million in DBCA-managed trails funding continuing to progress, with the Arboretum trails expected to open early 2026.
- The Gloucester Tree reopening remains on track under DBCA's South West Climbing Trees Project, also opening early 2026.
- Ongoing collaboration with Tourism WA and Floating Sauna on the project proposal at the Pemberton Pool.
- Pemberton Pool precinct revitalisation plans to commence in 2026.
- Pemberton awarded Silver in Western Australian Tiny Tourism Town Awards 2025.
- Represented the region at the Perth 4WD & Adventure Show.
- The Pemberton Visitor Centre board will continue advocating for tourism opportunities and future jobs in our region.

Visitor Centre Improvements

- Website now offers instant bookings for accommodation, tours and experiences. So commissions stay in Pemberton. Staff can also help locals and visitors book holidays across Australia through the BookWA portal.
- Plans are in place for reopening the old library entrance. This will make access simpler and improve the layout of the Visitor Centre for visitors.

Community & Industry Engagement

- The Pemberton Pool fundraiser launched by the Caravan Park has seen strong community support.
- Supported the inaugural Pemberton Avocado Festival — congratulations to the PCCI, Katie and the festival committee.
- Continued collaboration with DBCA, Trails WA, the Shire of Manjimup and local operators.

Events

- Significant events coming next year, including the UCI cycling series bringing hundreds of riders and their families through the Southern Forests region.
- Development of longer cycling and hiking trails continues across the region.

- We look forward to Australia Day 2025 at the Pemberton Pool and donations can be made anytime online through

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/pemberton-pool-fundraising>

Acknowledgements

Thank you to our staff, volunteers, board members and local operators for your continued investment in quality experiences for our visitors. Your efforts make a genuine difference to Pemberton and its future.

The Visitor Centre will be open daily during these school holidays, Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day.

We wish you all a wonderful, safe and prosperous Christmas and holiday period.

PEMBERTON DISCOVERY TOURS – THANK YOU & CHRISTMAS UPDATE



As another year draws to a close, we would like to extend a huge thank you to our wonderful Pemberton community and our fantastic team. Your support, recommendations, and friendly encouragement throughout 2025 have made an enormous difference to our small family business. Whether you joined a tour, sent visitors our way, or simply shared one of our stories, we are genuinely grateful. It has been a busy and rewarding year, with several interstate and statewide opportunities enabling us to share our tour and our region to new audiences from across the world. We have developed fresh experiences with expert guides, implemented upgrades across our camping and Yeagarup hut stays, and enjoyed many memorable days exploring the Yeagarup sand dunes and our stunning forests with our guests from around the globe. We continue to feel incredibly privileged to showcase this beautiful part of the world to visitors from near and far. As we head into Christmas, we encourage everyone to spend local and support local. If you're expecting family or friends over the holidays, please feel free to pass on our "Pemby10" code — it offers a little saving on our tours and camping stays this silly season. And if you're searching for a fuss-free Christmas gift, we have gift vouchers available too.

Thank you again for your ongoing support. Wishing you all a safe, happy Christmas and a wonderful start to 2026. Warm regards,

Toni & Graeme, Pemberton Discovery Tours

Pemberton Aged Accommodation inc. AGM

Tuesday 16th
December from 4pm

@ ST John
Ambulance Hall
Pemberton

Committee vacancies
All welcome

PEMBERTON CCI AGM & CHRISTMAS

ARTICLE BY PCCI

Give someone the chance to win an unforgettable Pemberton holiday experience — and support the town at the same time. For just \$10, the Pemberton MONSTER Christmas Raffle offers a line-up of adventure, wellness, dining and accommodation prizes that showcase the very best of our region.

Every ticket sold helps the Pemberton Chamber of Commerce & Industry continue its work creating events, supporting local business and keeping our town welcoming and vibrant.

Enter here: www.raffletix.com.au/Pembertonmonsterraffle25

Drawn 15 December 2025 at 5:30pm (Sales close 13 December)

Permit No. LS224084925 – WA residents only.

Thank you to our generous sponsors:

Aerial Adventure Pemberton, Ampersand Estates, Brockman Fish & Chips, DBCA Day Pass, Forest Lodge Resort – Chefingo, Gatsby’s Skyline, Hidden River Estate, Jarrah & Jade, Jaspers Whisky, Off the Fringe, Mountford Wines, Pemberley Wines, Pemberton Beauty Wellness, Pemberton Chamber, Pemberton Chocolate Company, Pemberton CWA, Pemberton Discovery Tours, Pemberton Hotel, Pemberton Pedal & Paddle, Pemberton Tramway Co, Pemberton Visitor Centre, Pump Hill Farm, RAC Karri Valley Resort, Serenity House, Secrets to Serenity, Silkwood Estate, V Limousines, Valley & Spa Springs & Veska Sauna Resort.

Christmas Decorations – We Need Your Help!

Pemberton is gearing up for its most festive season yet — and we’d love the community’s help. A Christmas working bee will be held on Saturday 6 December at 9.30am, meeting outside the Visitor Centre. Everyone is welcome to come along, lend a hand, and help bring our town to life for the season.

This year there are great incentives to join in, with a \$500 prize for the best-dressed business, the chance to win another \$500, and five \$100 prizes for the best-dressed homes. New decorations, bunting, lights and a special ANZAC Park centrepiece are all part of making Pemberton shine bright this Christmas.

The Avocado Festival was a fantastic success, and the Pemberton Chamber would like to extend our thanks to Katie and her hardworking committee for delivering such a vibrant community event — make sure you read her report included in this edition of the PCN, we’re already excited for what 2026 will bring.

About the PCCI

The Pemberton Chamber of Commerce & Industry is a volunteer-run organisation dedicated to supporting local businesses, strengthening community events including Christmas decorations and helping Pemberton thrive.

At our AGM on 24 November, all board positions were filled. The Executive Committee for 2025 is:

President: Mitch DeCampo

Vice President: Joanne Drake



Secretaries: Deanne Ventris & Toni Dearle

Treasurer & Co-Treasurer: John Suckling & Cecile Leclere

Committee Members: Paul Omodei, Murray Ventris, Jacqui Moltoni, Sally Scott.

We are looking forward to welcoming members — new and existing — at a Christmas gathering soon.

To join the Chamber or request a membership form, please email pembertoncci@gmail.com.

PEMBERTON AGED FACILITY GROWING

ARTICLE BY PEMBERTON AGED ACCOMMODATION
Image by Pemberton Aged Accommodation

The Pemberton Community recently saw the addition of a new Duplex Transportable building being added to the existing twelve buildings at the Pemberton Retirement Village on Doc Ryan Close.

The Pemberton Aged Accommodation Inc (PAAI) have engaged Transhomes of Forrestfield in the Metropolitan Area to build the house under the careful guidance of Christine and Andrew Trappitt and the PAAI committee.

PAAI Chairman Paul Omodei said the Duplex was of a high standard and will be well sought after by interested people over the age of 55.

The Duplex was delivered to Pemberton in two halves by trucks on the 6th November and attracted quite a bit of interest from both local and visiting public. The Transhomes contractors displayed great skill in manoeuvring the home onto what could be described as a difficult site on Doc Ryan Close.

Chairman Omodei said “The PAAI will now be concentrating efforts on raising funds for more buildings. We have received considerable support from a local Businessman and local volunteers however funding is a major issue” he said.

The PAAI is holding its’ Annual General Meeting on the 16th of December at 3.30pm and is seeking new volunteers to be part of this exciting and important venture.



FUN FACTS: BATS

ARTICLE BY CHLOE FLYNN

Photo by Aliah Campbell



This is my first article so I'm completely winging it.

1. Despite the saying "Blind as a bat", bats are not actually blind. They use a combination of sensitive eyesight and ultra-sonic echolocation to navigate in the dark.
 2. There is over 1,500 different species of bats worldwide. Australia is home to about 90 species, with about 40 in WA. The South West WA region is estimated to have 9 different species of microbats.
 3. Bats hang upside-down with specialized tendons in their feet that allows their body to relax. Their blood doesn't pool in their heads because their heart is able to easily distribute blood around their small body.
 4. Microbats are mainly insectivores, which means they keep insect numbers down and occasionally eat fruit, pollen and nectar. Australia's only carnivorous bat is the Ghost Bat (*Macroderma Gigas*) which is found in Northern Australia, it's our largest microbat. They prey on lizards, frogs, birds, and even other bats.
 5. Bats are vital to a healthy ecosystem as they are pollinators and help disperse seeds in the environment as well as control pest populations.
 6. Bat poop is an excellent nutrient-rich fertilizer known as guano that was once a major commercial export before modern chemical fertilizers. The mining of guano in the Peruvian Islands led to habitat destruction of seabirds that depended on guano for nest-building.
 7. The noongar name for bat is Babitj.
 8. Some bats have a complex fleshy facial structure called a "Nose-leaf". This allows them to focus sound-waves in a certain direction and modify their call while echolocating.
 9. Echolocation is a series of high-frequency calls that reflects back and gives bats a 3D map of their surroundings. They can tell the size, shape, distance and texture of their prey and how fast it is moving. As their prey approaches, the number of calls increases to improve resolution, this is called a "Feeding buzz".
 10. Our bats: White-striped Freetail Bat (*Tadarida australis*), Southern Freetail Bat (*Mormopterus planiceps*), Gould's Wattled Bat (*Chalinolobus gouldii*), Chocolate Wattled Bat (*Chalinolobus morio*), Southern Forest Bat (*Vespadelus regulus*), Western False Pipistrelle (*Falsistrellus mackenziei*), Lesser Long-eared bat (*Nyctophilus geoffroyi*), Gould's Long-eared Bat (*Nyctophilus gouldi*) and the Western Long-eared Bat (*Nyctophilus major*)
- Bat's all, folks.

MILL HALL UPDATE



Our volunteers have been busy doing various catering jobs for our fundraising in November. These events are great social get-togethers and keep the Mill Hall funds healthy to keep the Mill Hall well maintained.

This hall was built for the community and stands strong as testament to the wonderful

hard-working community members who have in the past and continue to maintain this building. You are always welcome to contribute to keep this iconic venue in top condition.

There are many inquiries from near and far for hiring the Mill Hall, even at a National level!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- THURSDAYS 5PM BOOTSCOOTING
- DECEMBER 9TH ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL CONCERT
- DECEMBER 13TH 7.30PM OLD TIME DANCE
- DECEMBER 14TH 7.00PM CHRISTMAS CAROLS

We would love you to become a member for \$20.00.

Mill Hall banking details:

WESTPAC BSB: 036126 ACC: 237796

We have an account with Containers for Change. This is for the collection of the 10c cans and bottles. The account is C10562118. You can drop them off or we can pick them up for you. You are also welcome to leave them at the tip in a woven plastic bag (feed bag) and label them with the number C10562118.

President Deanne Ventris

CWA UPDATE

Hello again from CWA Pemberton Branch Well the year has certainly gone by so quickly. The last month has been very busy with the Avocado Festival and now heading into the end of year. We had 4 of our lovely members attend the CWA South West Christmas lunch which was hosted this year in Capel and it was a wonderful afternoon had by all. We will be hosting a morning tea for a group of PDHS students in early december which is something to look forward to. Our annual Christmas raffle tickets will be set up for the 5th & 6th of December at the Post Office with great prizes to be won. We will not be holding our market day in December and our Community Op Shop will be closed for the day on 27 December. We will be open on all other Saturdays as usual for you to come in and say hello. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all of your support during the year as this enables us to continue our support within our community. Please stay safe and until next time Take care of yourselves and each other.

Kindest regards
Maria Schoen
Secretary
CWA Pemberton Branch



TIME

ARTICLE BY ROZZI IN OZ
 Images found online

Some people suggest if one goes back in time, and live your life, they would not change anything. Perhaps these people are perfect. Personally, I don't believe anyone is perfect. I would assume these same people never made a bad choice that cost them Time, money, health or important relationships. Or maybe they just would not admit to making foolish mistakes.



As I reflect on the downside of my life for almost eight decades, there are many things I would change, could I go back in time. My perspective on what is of importance and what is not, has been somewhat altered. I see the long term results in many of these choices. By doing so (one is never too old to learn) I have grown wiser than when I made these choices.

Having spent a lifetime (plus bonus years), taking into account the threescore years and ten with no guarantee that the bonus would increase. I have a new understanding of the priorities of life. The value and preciousness of time is impressed on my mind more especially since the loss of my long term friend and husband, almost six years ago.

Gaining stuff is one of those things that can seem to be a priority. We desire pleasure and pride can enslave us to working at our career, buying, collecting, maintaining, moving and storing things. There are times when it appeared that we were trying to "keep up with Jones's".

But generally speaking, are the Jones's really happy? Today, in modern society, the Jones's are no longer next door or in our neighbourhood. With prolific print in magazines and more so in social media, the rich and famous of the entire world has become the standard for 'the good and prosperous life'. Yet depression, anxiety and addiction has become rampant amongst some of these celebrities. Time spent seeking fame and fortune for selfish purposes cannot be satisfying to the soul.

I came across this quote from an article in an Abundant Life booklet. Abraham Joshua Herschel, in one of his 1951 publications wrote, "Technical civilization is man's conquest of space (matter). It is a triumph frequently achieved by sacrificing an essential ingredient of existence that is time. In technical civilization, we expend time to gain space (things), to enhance our power in the world of space, is our main objective, yet, to have more, does not mean to be more. The power we attain in a world of space terminates abruptly at the borderline of time, but is time the heart of existence?"

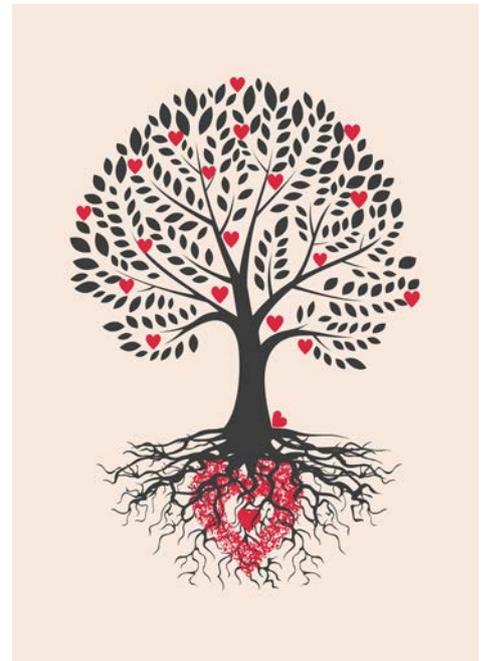
Our lives are lived out in the realm of space, but they ultimately consist of time. Yes, our bodies are made up of stuff and we need stuff to survive and thrive. So therefore, understanding and applying the laws of life are of vital importance. The freedom to do is determined by our age and health, therefore, what we do will determine our freedom in the world of space.

Herschel continues, "To gain control in the world of space, is certainly one of our tasks. The danger

begins, when in gaining power in the realm of space, we forfeit all aspirations in the realm of time. There is a realm of time where the goal is not to have but to be, not to own, but to

give, not to control, but to share, not to subdue, but to be in accord.

Life goes wrong when the control of space, the acquisition of things of space becomes our sole concern."



The last paragraph is a power packed description of the decisions we face when prioritising the use of our time and in incredibly insightful exposition of what these priorities should be if we are to maximise our use of time. It was an epiphany when I read his article.

Let's look at time as an investment. We all have a limited amount of time in this life, so what can we do to get the best returns from that investment? What should our priorities be if we want our spending of time to be for something that will last?

One possible use of our time is to gain pleasure, honour and stuff. That was what a great part of my life was all about. I knew better, but that is what human nature is- selfish desire and pride of life. Time spent on selfish pursuits, overindulgence when we eat and drink, clothing, assets, lounging around reading magazines and novels and so on. In reflection, I spent a huge amount of time and money. Fortunately, I have become aware of my folly and somewhat wiser.

In time I realised that I should prioritise my time and space and take decisions that would be of value to others as well. Investing in caring relationships and sharing my blessings will certainly benefit the soul. My relatively good health allows me to be more useful to those around me, whether it be menial tasks or not. I am willing to share my physical energy with weaker bodies.

Time is precious to all of us who have seen many years. However, I can still share mine by listening attentively to concerns of others, without being opinionated and to offer support and encouragement, without the stuff. Current political events have taken the toll on many families in all societies and cultures. Social, emotional and financial burdens plague more today than ever before. Let us reflect on the words of Wisdom and invest our time wisely. With these things in mind, I trust I have influenced your New Year's resolutions.

ROZZI in OZ - Dec. 2025.

REGIONAL COLUMN

ARTICLE BY ANNETTA BELLINGERI

Senior Regional Officer for the South West



Whether you're planning some home improvements or just need a quick repair, finding the right tradesperson can make all the difference. Most tradies are hardworking, honest professionals who do great work. But every so often, Consumer Protection hears from people who've been left disappointed, out of pocket, or worse by the few who don't play by the rules.

But how do you choose the right tradie for your job? Take the time to do a bit of homework as it will save you headaches later on. Get multiple written quotes to compare price and value, and it's best these are given in-person. There has been a rise in scammers impersonating real tradespeople on online 'find-a-trade' platforms, asking for photos of jobs and sending fake invoices to trick people into paying.

Nothing beats the power of word-of-mouth. Recommendations from neighbours, friends and family can go a long way toward finding someone reliable and trustworthy. Don't be shy about asking for references or to see previous work. A good businessperson should never have a problem with this. If they do, that's a red flag.

When you're looking to hire an electrician, gas fitter, builder, painter or plumber it's important to check they're licensed on [wa.gov.au](https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/building-and-energy/building-and-energy-licence-and-registration-search) (<https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/building-and-energy/building-and-energy-licence-and-registration-search>) One of the most common complaints Consumer Protection receives is about tradies who demand large deposits upfront and then fail to start or complete the job. Paying too much before any work begins puts you at risk, especially if the tradesperson goes broke or

disappears.

While there's nothing wrong with a tradie asking for deposit, it's best to only pay around 10 per cent. For larger jobs try to negotiate progress payments as stages of the work are completed. Doing these things will reduce your risk and give you greater bargaining power if something goes wrong.

It's worth noting, if your job involves home building works valued at more than \$7,500, the law says you can only be asked to pay a deposit of 6.5 per cent or less before work begins. Paying by credit card is another smart move, as it may allow you to get your money back through a chargeback if goods or services aren't delivered. From time-to-time things legitimately do go wrong. If a tradie needs to cancel a job after taking a deposit without providing any goods or services, they are required to return that deposit in full. On the other hand, if they need to increase the quote after they've accepted a deposit you are allowed to back out of the agreement and also get your full deposit back.

Similarly, if part of the job is unsolicited (for example, a tradie is already at your house fixing a tap and then offers to replace your hot water system) the law gives you a 10-business-day cooling-off period. During this time, they can't start work or ask for payment, and you can change your mind without any penalty. Sometimes delays are genuinely out of a business's control, such as bad weather, postal holdups or supply chain issues. In these cases, it's best to give the business the opportunity to offer a solution, like a refund or a replacement. The same applies if the job wasn't completed to the expected standard.

Remember most tradies do the right thing, but the Australian Consumer Law protects consumers from the ones who don't



Welcome to the start of the very busy month of the year. A special time for catching up with family and old connections.

At the museum we are always keen to receive new stories and anecdotes of past times in Pemberton. We regularly have family connections calling in to see us with their story.

Sometimes because the actual correct story has not been written up correctly or the incorrect name may be on a photograph. We truly welcome these corrections, and this often brings more enlightened detail to our content.

Our history is forever evolving.

Our workshop has been closed for renovations over the past month and these are almost complete. There is still air-conditioning to be installed, and we will be grateful for that.

The museum book of Pemberton is selling very well indeed with many copies being posted throughout

Australia. The book together with next year's calendar make for interesting reading and particularly good presents at this time of the year.

Both are available at the Visitor Centre and can also be ordered via email to:

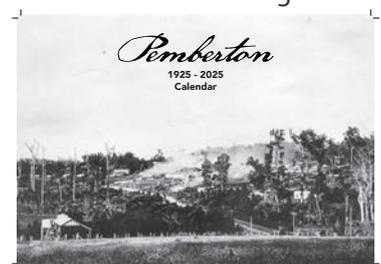
pembertonhistory@gmail.com contact Ros on 0439214393 or Deanne or Renata.

Our AGM will be at 10am on Thursday 4th December at the Museum. All those interested in Pemberton's history are encouraged to attend to come up to date with our new committee and plans for the next year. Thursday mornings remain our main workshop day.

The meeting will be followed by our Christmas party at the pool when members and family are welcome. The Pool turns 100 years in 2029!

In the meantime, we at the Pemberton Heritage & History Group wish you all a happy and safe holiday time and a very Merry Christmas.

Fond Greetings from Pemberton Museum.



REFLECTING ON 2025 AND LOOKING AHEAD FOR PEMBERTON

ARTICLE BY BEVAN EATTS

As we approach the end of 2025, I want to take a moment to thank the people of Pemberton for your warmth, your feedback, and your support during my first year as your local member. It's been a big year—full of learning, listening, and laying the groundwork for long-term advocacy.

Representing the Warren–Blackwood electorate has been a great honour. The learning curve has been steep, but I've built a strong team around me—people with backgrounds in business, industry, and international government, all united by a shared passion for our region and a belief that politics can and should be done differently.

From the beginning, we understood that no two communities in our electorate are the same. The issues facing Pemberton are not always the same as those in Walpole, Boyup Brook, or Augusta. That's why we built a new website and are using digital tools to hear from as many people as possible, wherever they live. Your input helps shape what I raise in Parliament and how I advocate for local priorities.

We're also working to make the parliamentary process clearer and more accessible. It can be difficult to know what your local MP actually does in Parliament. To help bridge that gap, we've been sharing videos of speeches, news articles, and press releases in one place so you can see what I'm doing and how I'm using every tool available to represent our region.

When it comes to dealing with government, our approach is clear and respectful, but also direct where needed. Building strong relationships with ministers and their offices has already paid dividends, and we're continuing to build on this by submitting detailed pre-budget briefings. These briefings are designed to ensure ministers know exactly what's needed in Warren–Blackwood ahead of each State Budget.

As 2025 comes to a close, I wish everyone in Pemberton a safe and joyful Christmas and New Year. Thank you for the conversations, the ideas, and the trust. I look forward to continuing to work for you in 2026.

SOLO ADVENTURES UP NORTH

ARTICLE BY TRISTAN MILLS

Photo by Tristan Mills

A month ago, I had a brilliant idea come to mind, why don't I drive 9 hours north to stay for a week?

Departing on my adventure at 4am and one KFC stop later I was in Geraldton by 1PM, now what do you do after you drive 9 hours, you smash down another energy drink and get straight into helping your best friend move houses to the other side of Geraldton.



With not even 5 minutes to rest after my journey I was loading my already packed Ute with half a bedroom and set off to the north of Geraldton.

After unloading at the new house, I was baited into going for a quick drive to see a family friend, which then turned into dismantling an enormous king size bed and borrowing someone's Ute to move it to the new house. After a few

more hours of jobs, it was already 6PM and the three monsters I drank had worn off.

Thankfully that was the last of my unpaid labour and I could start my holiday, exploring the beaches and foreshore and leisurely walks.

Unsurprisingly, as I had to remind myself, I am in Geraldton, there were just as many strange events and encounters as there were good.

From getting cat called twice while walking the foreshore to meeting the local crackheads roaming the servo at 12am, it was a very different experience to the norm in Pemberton.



Overall I can highly recommend to anyone to take the leap and just go on an adventure and get out of your comfort zone, making valuable memories and new friends in the process.



It can't drive itself!

Become a St John Volunteer

pemberton.subcentre@stjohnwa.com.au



CRC COMMUNIQUÉ

ARTICLE BY GAYE VAN HAZENDONK

Photos by CRC Staff & Volunteers



BUILDING DIGITAL SKILLS

Are you having trouble navigating the internet, your tablet or phone? Problems with My Gov or other apps? Then come on down to the CRC on Thursdays from

Free Digital Skills Sessions
Are you having trouble online? Having trouble with your device?
Come see us at the Pemberton Community Resource Centre so you can learn to take control of your device!

Free password book!

Thursdays 1-3PM
BYO Device

Ages 50+



1-3pm. Thanks to some funding from the **Good Things Foundation**, we are able to offer this support, **FREE** of charge, for community members over 50 years of age. Cuppa included!

YOGA TEACHER TRAINING

On Sunday 9th November we were lucky enough to have Katie Garnett, a Senior Yoga teacher, therapist and trainer from Busselton come to Pemberton to teach some classes.

Katie started with a General class for the public which was well Attended. She then went onto to provide some useful training to the Teachers of the Pemberton Yoga Collective(PYC).



Above: Participants at the Katie Yoga session.

Thanks to the Collaborative efforts and generosity of the teachers at the PYC, the costs were kept to a minimum for all participants.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL TRAINEE!

Congratulations to Tristan Mills for completion of a Cert III in Sport, Aquatics and Recreation.

We were very lucky to have the opportunity to work at the PCSC which allowed the CRC to offer this qualification.

Right: Tristan receiving his certificate



Tristan is still looking into how he would like to utilise the new skills he has gained in his studies.

In the meantime he is still here with us at the CRC working on his customer service skills Wednesday to Friday.

PEMBERTON YOUTH ZONE

Without a designated Youth coordinator, it has been a massive effort for the CRC to continue fortnightly PYZ sessions for the year.

A huge thanks to Courtney Wood who has been the main support for the CRC Manager throughout 2025. Also, to Jess Kain for recently stepping into a Youth support role.

Also thanks to the few regular volunteers we have who assist with food preparation including Louise, Lisa, Julie and Jeremy.

Our last two sessions of the year included a laser tag session where we allowed 9-11 years to join.



Left: Youth enjoying laser tag.



It was heaps of fun and we look forward to our last session for the year on Friday 12th Dec for our PYZ Christmas Party (page 3) before a well earned break. PYZ returns on Friday 6th Feb 2026.

If you have a child turning 12 next year, sign up at:

pembertonyouthzone@gmail.com



PEMBERTON COMBINED CHURCHES CHRISTMAS CAROLS



PEMBERTON MILL HALL

SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2025

7.00 PM

BRING AND SHARE SUPPER AFTERWARDS



FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN



Pemberton 1 December 2025

Community Resource Centre

Staying In Place Worker Info

Would you like to work locally?

Jobs my include:

Driving to appointments or activities

House cleaning

Mowing & Weeding

Nursing assessments

Helping with online banking

Meal Preparation

Perks of working with us:

You can set your own rates & hours of work

You can choose what tasks you would like to do & more!



mable



What is the Staying In Place program?

Staying In Place (SIP) gives seniors (65+) assistance to stay living in their own home for longer.

SIP uses a local workforce, meaning clients spend less money on management fees and travel costs, giving them more money to spend on their services.

If you or someone you know would benefit from this program please get in touch with the Care Coordinator at the Pemberton CRC.

care@pembertoncrc.org.au

9776 1745

Staying in Place Kickstart Program is supported by the State Government through Linkwest, with consultancy support provided by Pingelly CRC.

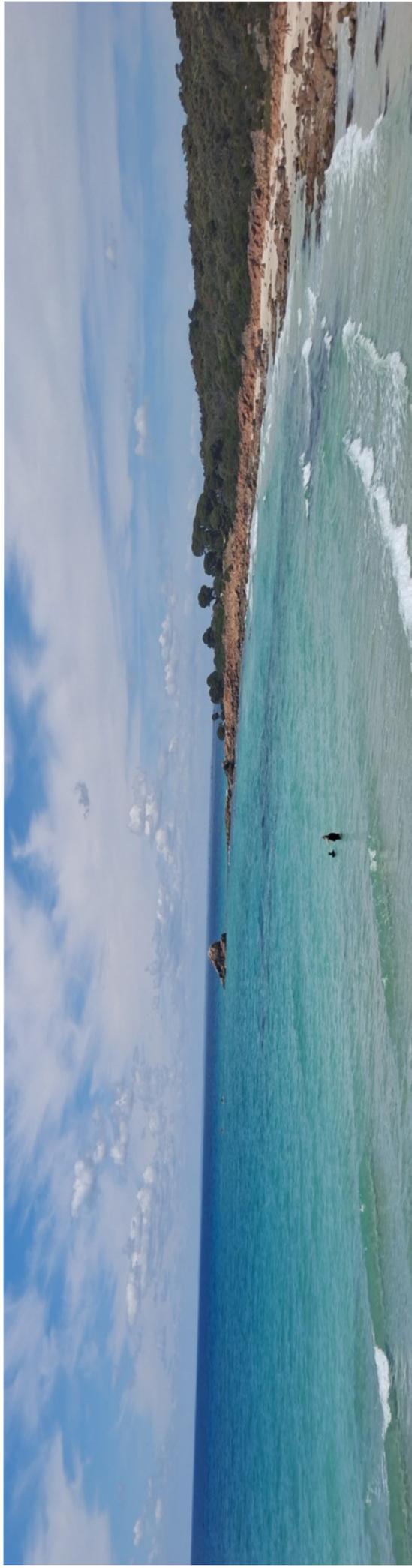


GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Department of
Primary Industries and
Regional Development



LINKWEST



Thank you to AJ Quinton for this months photo
December 2025
 The Community Calendar
 is Proudly supported by:



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 	2 	3 	4 H&H AGM @10 am @ museum workshop 	5 Lunch n learn - using AI to develop your business plan @ Manjij CRC 12pm Christmas printing workshops @ Manjimup Arts Hub 12pm-4pm 	6 Christmas printing workshops @ Manjimup Arts Hub 9.30am-1pm 	7
8 	9 	10 	11 	12 PYZ Christmas party 5-8pm @ PCSC Seniors Christmas lunch 	13 Manjimup Cherry Harmony Festival Psychonaut - Black sabbath/Ozzy tribute night @ Karma Larma record Bridgetown 6pm 	14 Mill Hall christmas carols @ 7pm
15 	16 Pemberton Aged Care AGM @ 4PM 	17 	18 CRC Christmas party @ 5.30pm 	19 PCSC Christmas party see pg 29 	20 Create your own Christmas Wreath 9.30 - 11.30am @ Pemberton Library Call 9776 1311 to reserve a spot 	21
22 	23 	24 	25 	26 	27 	28

School Holidays

		Christmas Day!	Boxing Day	

School Holidays				
29	30	31	1	2
	Domybrook Smashed Avo festival	New Years Party @ Pemberton Hotel	Happy New Year!! 	
				3
				4

Pemberton Yoga Collective
Yoga Classes

Closing dates
22nd Dec-12th Jan

Re- Open
19th January 2026

Coming up in January

Albany Summer School
Australia Day
Paint your own book cover
Make your own slime

Got an event? Let us know - pcn@pembertoncrc.org.au

Monthly Events				
Anglican Church Service 1st Sun 11.30am St Hilda's Church, Ellis St, Pemberton Michelle 9776 0371	Craft Group 1st Tues \$5 St Hilda's church Pat 9776 0388	Mill Hall Dance 2nd Sat 7:30pm BYO. Share Supper - \$5 Pemberton Mill Hall Terrie 0439 840 784	PCA - Womens Ride Second sunday of the month @9am Meeting @ Pemberton Community Hub	Fire and Rescue 1st Sat 2.00pm Pemberton Fire Station Craig 0419 045 362
All-sorts exercise group Mon 9am \$5 each Pemberton Community Sports Club CRC 9776 1745	Art Classes with Tony Windberg Wed @ 7-9pm, Thurs @ 9:30am PAG Art Room - at the HUB Tony 0427 852 032	Badminton (Ladies) Wed @ 9:00am - 11am Pemberton Sports Club Evelyn 9776 0332	Boot scooting Thurs 5pm Pemberton Mill Hall Terrie 0439 340 237	CWA Op-Shop Sat 9.00 am - 1.00pm Pemberton CWA Maria 0488 805 494
Museum Workshop Thursday @10:00 - 12pm Pemberton Heritage & Hirtory Ros 0439 214 393	PAG Arts-In-House Tues & Wed 9.30am PAG Art Room - the HUB Anna 0439 369 702	Pemberton Golf Club Saturdays @ 12pm Golf links road Club 9776 1455	Pemberton Yoga Collective Mondays 5.30pm - 7.00pm Pemberton Community Sports Club - Jarrah room - PCRC 9776 1745	Pemberton Youth Zone Every 2nd Fri @ 5pm - 8pm Pemberton Community Sports Club CRC 9776 1745
Road bike social ride 1st 2nd 3rd Sun @ 7.30am Leaving from the Community Hub Christine 0407 774 128	Sacred Heart Catholic Church Wed 10.00am, 1st 3rd, 5th Sun 8:30, 2nd 4th Sun 10:30am. Cnr Guppy St & Dean St Manjimup Parish 9771 2873	Social Badminton Adults @6pm-7:30pm \$5ea. Pemberton Community Sports Club Emma 0400 518 185	Solitaire Club - \$2 Tues @ 11:00am Pemberton CRC CRC 9776 1745	Bowls Thurs & Sundays Pemberton Community Sports Club Brian 0417 952 427
Snooker Club Wednesdays @ 6.30 pm Pemberton Community Sports Club John 0488 760 426	Basketball Thursdays @ 6pm Pemberton Community Sports Club	Rhyme and Story Time Pemberton Library Wednesday 10.30am Sheril 9776 1311	MTB Social Ride Sat @ 8.00am Leaving from the Community Hub Mark 0429 384 800	Uniting Church Service 4th Sun 10.00am Pemberton Uniting Church Tom 9776 1472

School Holidays				
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VIC CONTE COMMUNITY GARDEN: SECURE AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY SHED PROJECT

ARTICLE BY GAYE VAN HAZENDONK
Photos by CRC Staff & Volunteers



Department of
**Energy and Economic
Diversification**



In September 2024, the Pemberton CRC—on behalf of the Vic Conte Community Garden (VCCG)—was successful in securing funding through the *Native Forestry Transition - Community Small Business Fund* for the **VCCG Secure and Sustainable Community Shed Project**

The project aimed to provide:

- A new, larger shed for secure storage and undercover workshops
- A standalone solar energy system
- Sustainable rainwater (RW) harvesting equipment and reticulation

And we delivered!



Above: the new RW tanks, installed and ready to plumb.

Left: The new, secure shed with undercover area for



workshops.

Right: all new reticulation installed for use from the Rain Water collection

Below: the stand alone solar system for power to run the water pump, reticulation, lights and power for the VCCG.



Thanks to the support of the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation (JTSI), we were granted a project extension and variation which allowed us additional time to get all the works completed.

A special thanks to Dec Schembri, the Principal

Program Officer for Native Forest Transition at the now, **Department of Energy and Economic Diversification** who has been an absolute legend.

Although it was a tight time-line in the final month, all tradespeople were efficient, and helpful and we got the job done!

So a huge thanks to:

- Drew and Tom at Callcup contracting
- Kelly and Co. at Manjimup Building Supplies
- Matt from Electric Cool Geraldton
- Sophie and Tom from Sheds and homes, Manjimup
- Connor from Cowaramup irrigation
- Enrico from Enricos electrics
- As well as Breean, Tristan and Jeremy for all their hard work.

As part of the grant funding, we have also provided internet access for cloud based security and cameras for both the garden and the Church.

People counters at the garden entrance to assist with data collection and an alternative gate for use of trailers and other equipment.

Right: New reticulation in full swing.



Now we are hoping to get some assistance with lining the shed so that the shelving and equipment can be returned for use at the new facility.

There have already been suggestions for afternoon barbecues and gatherings.



Left: the VCCG gazebo now has guttering for RW collection so nothing is wasted!

SO WHAT NEXT?

The Vic Conte Community Garden is a **valuable community space**, and this project is a major step toward creating a sustainable asset that requires minimal financial input. Many local residents have already expressed a desire to see it flourish again—and we welcome **new volunteers and members** to help bring this vision to life.

This is not just a construction project—it's an opportunity to engage with others in the community, learn new skills and create an inclusive, useful and valued community space.

Be part of creating a sustainable, low-maintenance space for future generations!

RETURN OF LEARN IN THE GARDEN

We are already in the planning stages for the return of Monthly garden workshops on the 3rd Sunday of each Month to avoid clashes with church services.



WEAVING WORKSHOP



Learn some basic weaving techniques and take home a woven masterpiece for your garden.

\$15.00 PER PERSON
All materials included.

Plans include future hands-on workshops in:

- Standalone solar systems
- Rainwater harvesting
- Waste management
- Sustainable gardening practices

Any suggestions, participation or assistance in workshop planning is appreciated.

Another requirement for sustainability is to Increase the VCCG Membership. Below is the QR code for online membership payment.



Individual Membership is \$15 and Family Membership is \$25. Sign up now and support the VCCG. This will put you on the mailing list and give discounts on any events held in the Community garden.

Contact office@pembertoncrc.org.au or check out our webpage for membership details

www.pembertoncrc.org.au/vccg

A huge thanks to our Sponsors

THE VOICES OF PEMBERTON

Thanks to a successful grant application funded by the Foundation for Rural, Regional Renewal (FRRR), we are offering a new opportunity for story creation and collection for anyone with connections and memories of Pemberton.



Running from **January to March 2026**, *The Voices of Pemberton* will celebrate our community's stories, memories and creative talents. During this period, the Pemberton CRC will host a series of hands-on workshops in:

- Storytelling through multiple mediums
- Print journalism - helping you write your story
- Visual arts - expression through visual and physical representation
- Audio production - recording your story with help from the NCRC podcast studio

These workshops aim to help community members capture and share the rich history and vibrant culture of Pemberton.

Celebrating Our Community's Stories

Get Involved!

We're looking for locals of all ages who would like to share their stories, childhood memories or unique experiences of life in Pemberton.

If you or your family members are interested in taking part, please contact the Pemberton CRC:

office@pembertoncrc.org.au 9776 1745

We can't wait to hear your voices and celebrate the heart of our community!





NUMERO



PEMBERTON DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

September and October were filled with outstanding achievements and vibrant learning experiences at PDHS.

Our Spellademic teams competed strongly at the interschool competition in September. The Year 3/4 team (Hattie, Owen and Joel) placed third, Year 5/6 Team #1 (Freddie, Robert and John) came sixth, and Year 5/6 Team #2 (Dora, Grace and Hayden) achieved equal first. These results reflect the dedication and effort displayed by all students involved—well done!

At the Numero Competition in Bunbury, our Year 5 team placed in the top five for one category, while our Year 6 team finished fourth overall out of more than 20 teams. Well done Dora, Bodhi, Phoebe, Zabena, Isobel, Zoe and Summer.

Zoe and Phoebe represented PDHS at the Speak Up competition in September. Phoebe captivated the audience with her talk on David Attenborough, while Zoe delivered an entertaining speech about a show titled “Come Alive”. Both students performed beautifully, and we are extremely proud of their achievements.

PDHS teams showcased excellent teamwork at the Mathademic Competition in October. Our Year 3/4 teams placed 3rd and 8th, while our Year 5/6 teams placed 4th and 6th. Congratulations to Joel, Harper, Owen, Hazel, Patrick, Ayla, Avarni, Phoebe, Robert, Hayden, Grace and Isobel for their outstanding efforts.

A particularly memorable experience for our Drama students was the Special FX Makeup Workshop held in November at the Pemberton Library. Students from Year 5/6 and Year 7 learned techniques to create realistic bruises, cuts and abrasions using latex, fake blood and a bruise wheel. The workshop was a hands-on creative highlight, with students enthusiastically crafting stories to accompany their theatrical transformations.

Finally, congratulations to our Year 10 students who successfully completed the Keys4Life program and received their Ls. This valuable pre-driver education initiative helps students develop essential road-safety awareness and prepares them for the Learner’s Permit Theory Test. Well done to Lee, Shayla, Bella, Scarlet and Brock - an exciting milestone as they take their first steps towards becoming responsible drivers.



SPELLADEMIC



SPEAK UP



SPECIAL FX MAKEUP WORKSHOP



Pemberton Cycling Update

Hi everyone,

As we settle into the warmer days of Birak, the Noongar season of first summer, we're rolling toward the end of another big year on the trails. Before everyone heads off for holidays, here are a few updates to wrap up 2025.

First up — our annual **Christmas Lights Night Ride** is happening on **Friday, December 19**, leaving at **7:30pm from the Visitor Centre**. This is always a fun ride as we cruise the Pemberton streets, tackle a few hill climbs, and soak in the festive displays. There'll be prizes for best-dressed bike, rider, and house, so get creative with tinsel, lights and Christmas spirit. All are welcome! Just remember to bring suitable night-riding lights and safety gear.

The results are also in for our 'Name Our Trails' competition, run across PDHS and St Joseph's. Huge congratulations to Hazel, Emma and Xavier, whose creative entries gave us two brilliant new names for the blue trails off the Skills Loop: "Smooth Operator" and "Jump A Roo". Along with bragging rights, the winners will each receive a 2026 PCA membership and a club hoodie. A massive thank you to every student who entered — the ideas were fantastic and we loved seeing the enthusiasm for our local trail network. Keep an eye out for the new signs going in soon, replacing the current "Rollers" and "Jumps."

Meanwhile, Mark and Dale have headed east for some summer adventures, checking out some of Victoria's iconic trails - with Mark even finding time to compete in the Shifty Fifty cross-country race and finishing 6th in his division! Sounds like they've packed in some big, memorable rides and we look forward to hearing the full stories when they're back.

A reminder that the WA Gravity Girls Weekend is happening here in Pemberton on December 13-14. This will include social rides and coaching sessions aimed at supporting and upskilling female riders. More details will be announced soon, and we'll share updates on our social media pages as they come through.

As this is our final update for the year, we want to wish all our riders, volunteers, supporters and local families a safe, happy and relaxing festive season. Thanks for being part of the Pemberton riding community. We've had a huge year together, and we're excited for everything 2026 will bring.

Until next time, keep those wheels spinning and smiles grinning!

The PCA Team



www.pembertoncycling.com.au

pembertoncycling@gmail.com

[@pembertoncycling](https://www.facebook.com/pembertoncycling)

MTB ride - Saturdays 8.00am

Women's MTB ride - Sunday
December 14, 9.00am

Road bike ride - Sundays 7.30am

All rides meet at Pemberton Visitor Centre

Upcoming events:
WA Gravity Girls Weekend
December 13-14



Above: last year's Christmas Light social ride crew brought plenty of twinkle and festive cheer.

Below: All smiles (and mud!) for Mark at the Shifty Fifty race, doing the PCA proud. Well done!



Christmas Light Social Ride **Friday December 19**

Don your festive gear and join us for a ride around town to view the local Christmas lights!

Departing at **7.30pm** from the
Visitors Centre
(approx. 1.5 hour ride)

Please ensure you have suitable night riding lights.





BY THE REGIONAL MEN'S HEALTH INITIATIVE
December 2025

Progression Planning is about retaining family relationships in the progression/succession process by looking at the *people issues* before dealing with the financial and business aspects. It is often the unspoken expectations of family members that can lead to the difficulties experienced. If farming families looked at the relationship aspects and the *people issues*, of their business as part of the progression plan there would be less stress and misunderstanding.

Why Progression? Mixed messages are received and given using the word *succession*. For most it means the *king is dead* who is the next king? Progression is not just a business transaction; it is primarily about *relationships*. One of the greatest risks to a farming family's viability, in the long term, is relationship breakdown that we often don't see coming. Progression shifts the focus to how we move the family-owned business into the next era or generation and how the older generation can successfully make the transition to the next phase of their lives. *Progression* encapsulates these options.



Effective communication allows for awareness, understanding and a basis to reach agreement on issues. Communication must be maintained to both reduce distress and for our positive wellbeing. In fact, many people don't talk about progression until it's too late and/or put it off because it is too difficult.

The following key topics in progression planning need to be canvassed in detail:

- Family communication, it all starts here.
- What is the farm business? Allows understanding of the business the family are involved in.
- Stakeholders, who's involved? It is important to empower all parties to have a role in the progression planning process.
- What do stakeholders want? Questions to ask our spouse/partner and children about progression and/or retirement and business development.
- Transition period. You must establish an agreement that is suitable to your requirements. It's not going to happen overnight.

We need to make Progression Planning discussions part of normal conversation in our business. Only the minority, amongst family-owned businesses, have any documentation around farm and/or business succession. Families must lead the way and own the process, no one can do it for us. Some simple rules that influence good progression planning are:

- Sort the relationships first.
- Debate the issues openly and with those that matter.
- Start planning early, when your kids leave school, the plan should be in place and understood.
- When children come to work on the farm and/or in the business, be clear on where it is going (sell the business not the land or building).
- Seek outside help for more than financial and legal matters (involve more than just the farm consultant, accountant and/or lawyer).
- Have a handover strategy and stick to it.

Remember not all businesses will be able to have a successful progression/succession outcome, for a variety of reasons. Maintain those relationships first, to give it the best shot. A quote from Warren Buffett that fits in well with progression/succession matters... *Don't do what others say, just listen to them, and do what you feel good with.*

✕ @RMHI_4blokes

🎧 Working with Warriors Podcast

🌐 regionalmenshealth.com.au





**SOUTHERN
FORESTS & VALLEYS**
Western Australia

www.wbac.net.au

www.southernforestsandvalleys.com

MEDIA RELEASE: NOVEMBER 2025

Southern Forests & Valleys Heritage Festival Wins Prestigious WA Heritage Award

The Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils (WBAC) is proud to announce that the Southern Forests & Valleys Heritage Festival won the Heritage Tourism category at the 2025 Western Australian Heritage Awards, held on Monday, 17 November 2025, at Government House Ballroom. The Western Australian Heritage Awards celebrate best practice in heritage conservation, adaptive reuse, interpretation, promotion and tourism. Since 1992, the Awards have recognised outstanding contributions to preserving and sharing Western Australia's heritage, and this year's judges celebrated the Southern Forests & Valleys Heritage Festival for setting "a new benchmark for regional heritage tourism."

The 2025 Southern Forests & Valleys Heritage Festival, delivered as part of the National Trust's Australian Heritage Festival and aligning with World Heritage Day, showcased the rich cultural, natural and built heritage of 10 towns across the five local governments that make up the WBAC region. The two-week program brought the region's stories to life through heritage walks, exhibitions, live demonstrations, artisan workshops, ghost tours, Aboriginal storytelling, textile arts, classic car parades, and more.

Delivered by the Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils in collaboration with local governments, visitor centres, community groups, volunteers and heritage

organisations, the festival encouraged exploration across multiple towns, strengthening community pride, dispersing tourism benefits and shining a light on lesser-known heritage places. Judges highlighted the festival's creative interpretation, community-led programming and strong regional promotion, noting its innovative use of digital resources and interpretive signage to enhance visitor engagement and support self-guided discovery.

WBAC Executive Officer Katie McDonnell said the award recognises the passion and collaboration of the entire region.

"This festival was built by our communities. It celebrates our heritage, strengthens connections, and showcases why the Southern Forests & Valleys is such a culturally rich and vibrant destination. Winning this award is a credit to every volunteer, local government, organisation and group who contributed.

2026 Festival Dates Announced

Following the success of the inaugural year, WBAC is pleased to confirm that the Southern Forests & Valleys Heritage Festival will return from Saturday 18 April to Sunday 26 April 2026.

Community groups, artists, heritage organisations, businesses and event organisers who would like to be part of the 2026 program are warmly invited to get involved by emailing tourism@wbac.net.au.



Backyard Buddies

Your monthly guide to pests, weeds and diseases

December 2025

The WA Christmas tree, stealing the show (and water!)



A *Nuytsia floribunda* flowering in Perth bushland, a close view of the characteristic golden yellow blooms.

Christmas is just around the corner, and that means the glorious Western Australian Christmas tree, or moodjar in Noongar (*Nuytsia floribunda*), are in bloom! Not only are they our state's most iconic summer-flowering tree, but they're one of the botanical world's most fascinating survivalists!

A tree like no other

The WA Christmas tree is found exclusively in the south-west corner of Western Australia, from Geraldton to Esperance. Growing up to 10 meters tall, it's a member of the mistletoe family (Loranthaceae) and holds the remarkable distinction of being the world's largest hemiparasitic plant. From late November through January, these trees put on a stunning display, with masses of vibrant orange-yellow flowers that can be spotted from a distance across the landscape.

However, the real show happens underground. The Christmas tree's roots can send out specialised structures called haustoria that seek

out and tap into the roots of neighbouring plants, stealing their water and nutrients. They are indiscriminate in their parasitism, grasses, shrubs, even other trees become unwilling hosts. There are stories of road crews encountering Christmas trees trying to parasitise underground cables, with their root attachments causing significant damage!

Despite this vampiric lifestyle, the Christmas tree produces its own leaves and photosynthesises like any normal tree. Meaning it is a hemiparasite (only partially parasitic). These parasitic adaptations allow it to access water during WA's notoriously dry summers, and extract nutrients, in an environment of nutrient-poor, sandy soils that dominate the region.

So these holidays, why not jump in the car, or go for a bushwalk and see if you can spot some of these incredible plants found nowhere else in the world.

Wishing you a very merry Christmas from the Backyard Buddies team!



Report your observations

MyPestGuide® Reporter via app or online mypestguide.agric.wa.gov.au
 Pest and Disease Information Service (08) 9368 3080 | padis@dpird.wa.gov.au

WHY LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES CAN BE DANGEROUS

ARTICLE BY DFES

Lithium-ion batteries are in a lot of our rechargeable devices – phones, laptops, e-scooters, power tools, and even vacuum cleaners. But when they're damaged, overheated, or charged incorrectly, they can become a serious fire hazard.

- They can catch fire or explode – even when not being charged. More than 30% of Li-ion battery fires happen when the battery is not being charged.
- The smoke is toxic, filling a room quickly with harmful chemicals that are dangerous for our lungs.
- Fires spread fast – up to 10 times faster than regular house fires.
- Explosions can throw hot metal and flames several metres, igniting nearby items.
- Improper disposal (like tossing batteries in household bins) can cause fires in rubbish trucks or landfills.
- Most homes have 20–30 devices with lithium-ion batteries, increasing the risk if safe habits aren't followed.

Common Causes of Lithium-ion Battery Fires
Many incidents are linked to simple, preventable mistakes. Here's what often goes wrong:

- Using cheap or fake chargers that don't meet safety standards.
- Charging immediately after heavy use, when the battery is still hot.
- Keeping the Battery on charge after its full (overcharging).

Physical damage, dropping, crushing, or puncturing the battery.

- Leaving the battery in heat or sunlight, especially in cars, near windows, or under bedding. This traps heat and can make the battery hot.
- Charging in unsupervised areas, like garages or overnight while asleep.
- Using the battery until it's completely empty (0%), which can damage it.

These issues can damage the battery's internal separator, leading to short circuits and a dangerous reaction called thermal runaway – where the battery overheats uncontrollably and may catch fire or explode!

High-Risk Devices

- E-scooters and e-bikes are increasingly involved in fires.
- Power tools stored in sheds or garages can ignite if damaged or charged improperly.
- Battery fires in WA are rising – DFES recorded 94 incidents this year, with 55 structure fires and 19 caused by e-chargeables.

Safety Tips to Prevent Fires

- Let batteries cool down before charging.
 - Charge on hard, flat surfaces – never on beds, couches, or carpets.
 - Avoid charging in direct sunlight or when no one is home.
 - Use only manufacturer-approved chargers.
 - Check batteries for damage or swelling – don't use if they look unsafe.
 - Install smoke alarms in charging areas and thermal alarms in garages.
- Take action this month!
- Review where and how you charge devices at home.
 - Talk with your family about battery safety - especially with kids and teens.
 - Check your smoke alarms and make sure everyone knows what to do in case of a fire.

- Make sure you have a Home fire Escape plan.
 - Find your nearest battery recycling location and safely dispose of any old or damaged batteries.
- Let's work together to keep our homes and community safe from battery fires.

For more information, visit the lithium-ion batteries page on the DFES website.



Never bin your batteries

Binning your batteries is a fire risk and is harmful to people and the planet.

Don't toss them
in general waste or recycling bins

Tape them
using clear sticky tape

Take them
to your nearest B-cycle accredited Drop off point

Burning Bad Behaviours

Bingo

First one to call Bingo has their New Year's resolution sorted.

Charges e-scooter overnight	Leaves devices in direct sunlight	Uses old or swollen batteries	Leaves laptops & other devices on the bed	Uses frayed or damaged chargers
Leaves devices on charge	Charges devices on the bed		Leaves devices in hot cars	Doesn't have a bushfire plan
Modified their e-device	Uses shoddy chargers	Charges e-scooters & power tools in the home	Hasn't checked their smoke alarms	Discards batteries in the household bin



Free Showerhead Swap!

Come to the Pemberton Community Resource Centre to get yourself a new showerhead!

Our Service:

- You could save up to 20,000 liters of water each year by switching to water efficient showerhead.
- Bring your water bill to us, we can swap you a new WELS 4-star rated shower head for free (exchange up to two of your old one)



Posh Solus Mk3 Hand-Shower

Posh Solus Mk3 Hi Rise Shower

CONTACT US!



Phone Number: **9776 1745**



Email **office@pembertoncrc.org.au**

Public Notice

Mains water supply cannot be guaranteed during a bushfire

Water Corporation is prepared for bushfire season. However, we cannot guarantee that water pressure or water supply will be maintained in the event of a bushfire. Extreme demand, fire damage and power cuts can all result in a total loss of water.

If you plan to stay and defend your property during a bushfire, you must have your own independent water supply and pumping capability. You cannot rely on mains water.

Details and resources about how to prepare for bushfire season can be found at mybushfireplan.wa.gov.au. For warnings and advice visit emergency.wa.gov.au.

watercorporation.com.au



SHIRE OF MANJIMUP

Expressions of Interest

District Community Advisory Groups Manjimup | Northcliffe | Pemberton | Walpole

The Shire of Manjimup is seeking expressions of interest (EOI) from community members interested in joining one of the new District Community Advisory Groups for Manjimup, Northcliffe, Pemberton and Walpole.

Each group will comprise five to nine community members and will provide a forum for community participation and advice on strategic issues relevant to their district and the Shire as a whole.

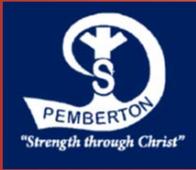
If you are passionate about your community and want to share your perspective with Council, we encourage you to apply.

To express your interest in joining a District Community Advisory Group, please either:

- Complete the EOI form found online at www.manjimup.wa.gov.au/dcag
- Email your EOI to info@manjimup.wa.gov.au
- Post your EOI to the Shire of Manjimup, PO Box 1, Manjimup WA 6258.

Expressions of interest close **5pm, Wednesday 17 December 2025.**

Benjamin (Ben) Rose, Chief Executive Officer



Christmas Lunch

IF YOU ARE A PEMBERTON RESIDENT, 60 YEARS+ AND WOULD LIKE TO ENJOY A DELICIOUS LUNCH AND THE COMPANY OF YOUR FELLOW CITIZENS, PEMBERTON DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL P&C ASSOCIATION AND ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL PEMBERTON P&F ASSOCIATION EXTEND AN INVITATION TO YOU TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

FRIDAY 12TH DECEMBER 2025
COMMENCING AT 12.00 PM
COST: FREE
AT PEMBERTON COMMUNITY SPORTS CLUB

Please RSVP by the 8th December to
Pemberton District High School—Phone 97765800
This event is also proudly supported by the
Pemberton Community Sports Club and The Club Restaurant



Shire of Manjimup Christmas & New Year Operating Hours 2025 / 2026

Manjimup Admin Office closure
25 December - 5 January
Change in opening hours
24 December [closes 3:00pm]

Manjimup Depot Closure
22 December - 2 January

Manjimup Aqua Centre Closure
25 & 26 December
1 January
Change in opening hours
27 - 31 December
[10:00am - 5:00pm]

Manjimup General Waste, Kerbside Rubbish and Recycling Collection closures
Manjimup households with general waste collection on Thursday's will not have a collection on Christmas Day Thursday and should ensure general waste (red / green lid) bins are put out late on Christmas afternoon, ready for an early collection on Boxing Day. (There is no recycle collection in Manjimup during this week. No kerbside recycle [yellow lid] bin collection services will be disrupted / altered during the Christmas period)

Walpole Transfer Station closure
25 December, 1 January

Public Libraries closures
Manjimup: 25 December - 4 January
Change in opening hours
24 December [closes 3:00pm]

Pemberton: 25 December - 6 January
Northcliffe: 25 & 26 December, 1 Jan
Walpole: 25 December - 6 January
Change in opening hours
24 December [closes 3:00pm]

Manjimup Recycling & Refuse Centre closure
25 December, 1 January

A/H Emergency only 6454 4600
Fire Duty Officer A/H 0427 913 252

Shire staff and Councillors wish you a happy festive season!





CHRISTMAS PAST!

My first memory of Christmas was during the war and is lost in the annals of time, but as a five-year-old, I distinctly remember my Mater and my Mum, sterilising sixpenny pieces and one lovely shilling, before stuffing them into the Christmas Pudding. This wonderful ceremony, the tying of the pudding into a calico bag and then the delight of eating this wondrous sweet and finding, hopefully, some money. I particularly remember both Mater and Mum watching with anxious faces to make sure noting that should not be swallowed was swallowed.

I have no recollection of gifts. It was the war, but when my dad came home from Hollywood Hospital, I was about six and while in rehab, the men made toys. I was presented with a wonderful felt doll with a celluloid head and eyes that opened and closed. Oh joy, oh rapture. Along with that was a Dutch Doll, a little bloke with baggy britches, again felted and dressed beautifully and I was able to sing “Little Mister Baggy Britches, I love you” (Look it up on Google) The third item was the most beautiful Gollywog that went to everywhere with me. Best Christmas Ever.

Each Christmas I added to my collection of “Anne of Green Gables” and my Paternal Grandma sent me two pairs of dreadful Bombay bloomers” Less joy and rapture.

My mother was wonderful but could not boil water. Cooking was not her forte, so when the boyfriend came to lunch, it was a cold one. He had never heard of such a thing but took it manfully until the question of ham came up. In those days ham came in a tin and my dad proceeded to wind the lid off with those awful screw things, and being half cut on Christmas Cheer, managed to nearly cut his finger off. The boyfriend, me and Mum spent the afternoon at the hospital in complete silence.

The boyfriend then required me to attend his family Christmas henceforth, turkey, ham, roast veggies, pudding, the whole works diligently cooked by his mum and Nanna. The cooking done we proceeded to the back yard and opened the five-gallon keg. Each year Nanna became more distressed about keeping the food warm, so one Christmas I had the bright idea of putting the clock back 15 minutes. Unfortunately, several others had the same bright idea so when Nanna called us in at 1.30 we were full of cheer and delighted to eat everything, though it was four o'clock and nearly teatime.

And of course, Midnight Mass every year of my life can still make me want to weep for the memory. As little kids we went to bed “marching orders”, which means dressed and ready to go. It was a wonderful night with the mums and dads all gossiping after Mass and I do believe there may have been a little sharing of Port while us little heathens ran riot. As a teenager it was party, party, party, but at 11.30 Christmas Eve, it was hats on ladies, teeth cleaned and into the car. Nearly everyone went, atheists and all and the back rows were always full of the inebriated, many in tears for things remembered or lost.

Christmas presents were always beautifully wrapped, and the paper was carefully folded by the receiver and later ironed for next year. So dear parents, this Christmas let's try to pass this on to our offspring. Don't rip the paper to bits and stuff it into a green garbage bag. Get the little tackers to fold it and hand it on for next year.

Have a lovely Christmas everyone and remember the reason for season. It is someone's birthday after all.

Ann Tiquitty.



Pemberton Community Sports Club

WHATS ON AT THE

CLUB

Edition 7-December2025

GYM
NOW OPEN
24/7
AT THE PCSC



Fridays
Chase the Ace
(members only)



NEW!
MANJI MART MEAT PACK
~ RAFFLE ~

WIN
a fresh Manji Mart Meat Pack!

Every Friday
5pm - 7pm
at the Pemberton Community Sports Club

Tickets only \$2 each

Buy your tickets at the bar between 5pm and 7pm

Winner drawn after 7pm - must be on the premises to claim the prize

- **Monday**- All Sorts Fitness 9am, Yoga 5:30pm
- **Tuesday**- Playgroup 9-11am, Mixed Darts 7:30pm
- **Wednesday**- Badminton 9am, Soccer 3:30pm, Social badminton 6pm, Snooker 6:30pm
- **Thursday**- Ladies Social Bowls 9am, Playgroup 9-11am, Cricket Training 5pm, Corporate Bowls 6pm, Basketball 6pm
- **Saturday** - Karate 8am
- **Sunday**- Mixed Bowls 10am, Social Bowls 1pm



CHRISTMAS PARTY

AT THE PEMBERTON COMMUNITY SPORTS CLUB



STARTS AT 5 PM

FRIDAY, 19TH DECEMBER

Parents, please purchase and wrap a small gift (approx. \$10 value), write your child's name on it, and drop it off at the club. Gifts must be dropped off by 17/12

SPECIAL APPEARANCE FROM SANTA CLAUS - HE WILL HAND OUT GIFTS TO ALL THE CHILDREN!



FOR THE GROWN-UPS: WINE TASTING & LIVE MUSIC WITH DYLAN HUTCHINS

KITCHEN OPEN
WEDNESDAY TO SATURDAY
FROM 5:00 PM - 8:30 PM



Stay up-to-date at PembertonSports.com.au or follow us on Facebook



RESTAURANT - WINE - LOUNGE - CAFÉ

WITH THE LARGEST LOCAL WINE SELECTION
SOURCED WITH LOCAL INGREDIENTS
AND NATIVE SEASONINGS

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

LUNCH: FRI - TUE 12.00 - 2.00PM

DINNER: 7 DAYS 5.00PM - 9.00PM

ALA CARTE
INTERNATIONAL CUISINE / AUSTRALIAN FLAVOUR

BREAKFAST: 7 DAYS 8.30AM - 10.00AM

BIG BUFFET HOT & COLD

GROUP BOOKINGS FOR 15 OR MORE
AVAILABLE 7 DAYS LUNCH & DINNER

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Pemberton WA

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9842 2777 [f](https://www.facebook.com/RickWilsonMP) RickWilsonMP rick.wilson.mp@aph.gov.au



Pemberton Avocado Festival Serves Up a Smash Hit!

The first weekend of November saw Pemberton come alive with all things green and delicious for the inaugural Pemberton Avocado Festival, a celebration of local produce, community spirit, and the region's thriving avocado industry.

A Flavourful Start

The weekend kicked off with a sold-out Meat Smoking Masterclass hosted by Perth BBQ School at the Pemberton Golf Club. Supported by Westpac and Praxis Medical, 60 guests learned the art of low and slow smoking from the experts, mastering techniques, tasting delicious cuts, and soaking up the relaxed country atmosphere.

Festival Fever in Full Swing

Saturday's Main Festival Day drew an impressive crowd of around 4,000 visitors, despite intermittent rain showers. The Pemberton RSL Memorial Park was transformed into a bustling hub of stalls, flavours, and entertainment. More than 50 vendors showcased everything from avocado oil and farm-fresh produce to artisan crafts, local wines, and gourmet treats.

All day, the main stage was buzzing with performances, from dance groups and singers to a piano players, fashion shows, and boot scooters. The Avocado Games, featuring the Avo-Juggling, Avo-Toss and Avo-Spoon Race using Delcado Avocados, were a crowd favourite, drawing plenty of laughs and competition.

Visitors also enjoyed producer interviews throughout the day, hearing firsthand from local farmers including Dean Ryan (avocados, potatoes, kiwifruit & beef), Eugene Henningheim (avocados), Clint De Campo (avocados, maron & beef), and Vic Grozotis (avocados & apples). Families flocked to the Costa Kids Zone, a free area filled with farm animals, rides, and activities, ensuring even the youngest festival goers had a day to remember.

Adding to the local spirit, community groups across town joined in the celebration: the CWA delighted visitors with freshly baked avocado scones; the Pemberton Bushfire Brigade and Pemberton Ambulance Sub Centre both held open days, welcoming the public to explore their stations and meet local volunteers, and the Pemberton Mill Hall served up delicious burgers with an avocado twist, proving there was no shortage of creativity when it came to celebrating the humble green fruit and showcasing the depth of community pride behind the event.

Beyond the Park

Across the weekend, Bendotti Avocados welcomed visitors behind the scenes for guided packing shed tours, offering a rare look at how the region's avocados make their journey from orchard to table.

On Sunday, guests joined the Farm & Forest Tour, visiting local farms to meet producers, learn about sustainable agriculture, and hear how the season is shaping up.

Manjimup Shire Bulletin

December 2025



SHIRE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we come to the end of another year, I want to take a moment to wish everyone a safe and happy festive season. With summer upon us, please make sure you and your family are prepared: ensure your home and property are fire-ready, review or create a bushfire plan, and download both the Emergency WA App and the Shire of Manjimup Antenna App so you can stay aware and informed.

To all parents, students and teachers, congratulations on making it through another school year. An extra-special congratulations to our Year 12s, including my own daughter. You've worked incredibly hard and now the world is yours. Don't hold back - you can do it!

Christmas is a time of celebration and family, but we know it isn't an easy season for everyone. So please, reach out to your neighbours, smile at the people you pass in the street, be kind to our retail workers, and thank our farmers and farm workers who keep our region thriving.

Once again, our combined churches have come together to bring the community Christmas in the Park, a free family afternoon followed by a heart-warming sing-along under the stars in the Manjimup Heritage Park on Sunday, 21 December. Bring a blanket and come join your community.

I also want to acknowledge and sincerely thank Ross from Manji Pantry and Donna from the Soup Kitchen. We all know there are community members doing it tough. The way you and your teams continue to step up with practical, on-the-ground support is inspiring. I am deeply grateful.

Finally, happy festive season to each and every one of you. Thank you to everyone who makes our Shire such a wonderful place to live.

Stay safe,
Chat soon,
Donelle

2026 COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

All meetings will commence at 5:30pm and, unless otherwise indicated below, will be held in the Council Chambers, Manjimup.

Meetings will be held on the following dates:

Shire President

Donelle Buegge: 0409 114 681

Rural Ward Councillors

Cr Julie Bettink: 0427 947 401

Cr Andy Burns: 0467 511 867

Cr Brayden Daniele: 0475 450 141

Cr Jennifer Willcox: 0400 504 095

Pemberton Waste Transfer Station

104 Pemberton Northcliffe Rd, Yeagarup

Wednesday: 11am - 5pm

Saturday/Sunday: 12pm - 5pm

Pemberton Library

61 Brockman Street - 9776 1311

Wednesday 9am - 1.30pm

Thursday 9.30am-12.30pm

Friday 1pm - 5pm, Saturday 9pm - 12pm

- 25 February 2026
- 25 March 2026 (Northcliffe)
- 29 April 2026
- 27 May 2026
- 24 June 2026
- 29 July 2026 (Pemberton)
- 26 August 2026
- 23 September 2026
- 28 October 2026
- 25 November 2026 (Walpole)
- 16 December 2026

SHIRE NOTICES

Are you Bush Fire Ready?

The Shire of Manjimup Firebreak and Fuel Hazard Reduction Notice contains information on your responsibilities in regard to firebreak installation and fire prevention measures. The requirements of the notice must be in place by the following dates:

- 11 December 2025 - Zone 8 (Manjimup / Pemberton / Quinninup)
- 18 December 2025 - Zone 6 (Northcliffe / Walpole)

Regulated Burning Times

The regulated burn times for the 2025 / 26 fire season are as follows. Please note that these dates are subject to change at any time and you should check the Shire website or Facebook page for the most recent updates.

RESTRICTED	PROHIBITED	RESTRICTED
ZONE 8		
9 Nov 2025 - 21 Dec 2025	22 Dec 2025 - 14 Mar 2026	15 Mar 2026 - 26 Apr 2026
ZONE 6		
19 Nov 2025 - 31 Dec 2025	1 Jan 2026 - 28 Feb 2026	1 Mar 2026 - 12 Apr 2026

SHIRE NEWS

Master Pieces Exhibition

Manjimup Art Gallery's final exhibition 'Master Pieces' transports visitors to the Renaissance with luminous, classically inspired works by Florence-trained, Albany-based artists Marjan Bakhtiarikish and Ron Baker. The exhibition is running until 15 December, so get in quick to avoid missing out!

Christmas Wreath Workshops

Manjimup Library: 20/12/2025 (10:00am - 11:30am)

Walpole Library: 20/12/2025 (10:00am - 11:30am)

Pemberton Library: 20/12/2025 (9:30am - 11:30am)

Northcliffe Library: 22/12/2025 (9:30am - 11:00am)

School Holiday Workshops

Manjimup Library

Neon Book Covers: 12/01/2026 (9:30am - 11:30am)

Making Slime: 28/01/2026 (10:00am - 11:30am)

Northcliffe Library

Making Slime: 19/01/2026 (10:00am - 11:30am)

Walpole Library

Making Slime: 21/01/2026 (10:00am - 11:30am)

Library Lego Club: 24/01/2026 (10:00am - 11:30am)

Summer Book Sale

Manjimup Library: 30/01/2026 (10:00am - 4:00pm);

31/01/2026 (9:00am - 12:00pm)

Battery Disposal Reminder - Don't bin batteries!

Batteries disposed in rubbish or recycle bins, or into transfer station drop-off bins, have potential to cause catastrophic fires in collection trucks / landfill if they are damaged, distorted or crushed in the truck or landfill compaction processes. The best way to dispose of unwanted batteries is to take them back to the point-of-purchase: supermarkets and hardware stores have battery recycling receptacles for free, safe collection from where they will be sent for safe processing and recycling. Lead acid batteries can be donated to some community groups such as Men's Sheds or dropped-off free-of-charge at any Shire waste facility.

Reminder to Operators of Tourist Accommodation

The Shire's Planning Services team would like to remind all operators of tourist accommodation and those especially zoned as Tourist Enterprise, that guests are restricted to a short-term occupancy. In this regard, guests should not be staying at the property for more than three months in any 12 month period. If any accommodation operator would like to discuss the terms of their approvals, please contact Planning Services on 9771 7777.

Christmas and New Years Hours

The Shire's administration office and depot will be closed over the Christmas and New Year period. Please see our website for dates and times for all Shire facilities and services.

AquaCentre

Check out the extensive group fitness and swim school programs on the website.

MHCC Activities

Boronia Club :10 am to 2 pm Monday and Thursday

Over 50 Exercise Group: 9 am to 10 am Tuesday and Thursday

Tai Chi: 10.30 am to 11.30 am Wednesday

Bingo: 1 pm to 3pm Thursday



www.manjimup.wa.gov.au

37-39 Rose Street, (PO Box 1)

Manjimup WA 6258

info@manjimup.wa.gov.au

Ph: (08) 9771 7777

A/H Emergencies: 6454 4600

The Shire of Manjimup respectfully acknowledges the Noongar people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands in which we work throughout the region and we pay our respects to their Elders, past and present.