

GINGIN **BUZZ**

FREE for all the Community

March 2026



Loose Leaf Lettuce - 10 years of Buy West Eat Best

Details on page 6

Photo provided by Loose Leaf Lettuce Company

March



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 • GUILDERTON COMMUNITY DAY 8AM-8PM GABBADAH PARK • LANCELIN MONSTER FETE 9AM-1PM LANCELIN PRIMARY SCHOOL	2 • LABOUR DAY	3	4	5 • KOORUNGA CWA - CHAT AND COFFEE 10.30AM AT 3 HORAN ST. GINGIN	6	7
8	9 • LIONS CLUB MONTHLY MEET 6.30PM AT 3 HORAN ST GINGIN	10	11	12 • TEA TIME TO DISCUSS DEATH 10:30AM AT GINGIN CRC	13 • RED CROSS MORNING TEA 10AM AT THE LIONS DEN 3 HORAN ST. GINGIN	14
15	16	17 • SHIRE OF GINGIN ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 6-8PM	18	19	20	21 • RED CROSS MASQUERADE DANCE 6PM GRANVILLE CIVIC CENTRE
22	23	24 	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



Carrie Edwards
Manager



Alison McVee
Assistant Manager



Lauren Samata
Community Service
Officer

GINGIN BUZZ

**March 2026
Issue 81**

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APRIL ISSUE CUTOFF
Monday 23rd March



Hello Readers,

You may soon notice a new face at reception as we begin recruiting for our next Trainee. Our wonderful graduate, Mikayla, has kindly agreed to stay on for a week to provide a thorough handover, giving our new recruit a helpful introduction to the day-to-day operations. In reality, it takes around three months for a Trainee to fully experience the breadth of services, facilities, programs and projects we're involved in, there's certainly plenty to learn!

Our much-loved Easter in the Park event is fast approaching; it seems to have come around so quickly this year. We look forward to seeing families gathering at Granville Park on Easter Sunday morning for what is always a joyful community celebration. Please remember to register your child to ensure they don't miss out on the fun.

On 12 March, we will also be hosting a special Morning

Tea where community members are invited to speak openly about death and dying in a safe and supportive environment. Questions are encouraged, and our End of Life Doula, Andrea, will have a wealth of information available for attendees.

Looking ahead to June, we are planning a Workforce Ready Workshop designed to better prepare young people for employment. We've identified a real need for practical skills development, particularly around understanding Tax File Numbers (TFNs), superannuation, and setting up MyGov accounts. This step-by-step workshop for young people aged 13–18 will provide hands-on guidance to help them feel confident and job-ready.

As always, we look forward to seeing you at the Centre soon.

Carrie

Disclaimer:

The information contained in the *Gingin Buzz* is for general information purposes only. The Gingin CRC assumes no responsibility for errors or omissions in the content in the articles published, particularly those provided from various contributors. However we reserve the right to amend contributions to improve clarity for our readers.

Our Staying in Place Team

Ash and Julie are your local contacts for 'Staying in Place' at the Gingin Community Resource Centre Inc..

Please contact us on 08 9575 1253 or email sipcc@gingin.net to arrange a suitable time to speak with Ash or Julie.

Passionate about supporting our community, they are here to guide you through the program, answer your questions, and connect you with the services you need to continue living safely and independently at home.

Friendly, approachable, and committed to making a difference, Ash and Julie are here to help every step of the way.

Have questions about 'Staying in Place'? Ash and Julie are here to help.



Ash Martinez
Staying in Place
Client Coordinator



Julie Riches
Staying in Place
Client Coordinator



STAYING IN PLACE GINGIN

- OUR SERVICE :**
- ✓ Locally coordinated home care packages.
 - ✓ Local workforce
 - ✓ Advocacy by a local team to ensure you receive the maximum from your home care package.



'Staying in Place' is now available in the Shire of Gingin.

Through a partnership between Mable, the Gingin Community Resource Centre Inc. and our homecare service providers, local residents can now access tailored support services designed to help them remain living at home as they age.

First developed in Pingelly, this proven initiative is now successfully operating within our community. 'Staying in Place' is about independence, dignity, and ensuring our residents can continue to call Gingin home.

To learn more, access support, or explore partnership opportunities, please contact sipcc@gingin.net. Supporting our community to live well, right where they belong.



Gingin District
Community Resource Centre
Your local connection



CONTACT US
9575 1253
IF YOU HAVE ANY ENQUIRIES

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Do you have a story you'd like to share with the community?
Perhaps you're celebrating a special milestone, anniversary, or birthday.
If you would like to submit an article, story, or advertisement for the next edition
of The Buzz, please email gcn@gingin.net

Front Page -Loose Leaf Lettuce - 10 years of Buy West Eat Best

Gingin's Loose Leaf Lettuce Company Marks 10 Years with Buy West Eat Best

Based right here in Gingin's fertile Lennard Valley, The Loose Leaf Lettuce Company is celebrating a significant milestone, 10 years as a proud member of Buy West Eat Best.

From early morning harvests in the rich soils just south of town, to deliveries across Western Australia and occasionally interstate, this family-owned business has built a reputation as one of WA's leading growers and processors of premium baby leaf salads and fresh-cut lines.

Right here in our Gingin region, the company produces high-quality gourmet baby leaf varieties all year round. What began as a small sideline, meeting a client's request for tiny lettuce leaves, has grown into a thriving local enterprise providing valuable employment opportunities within the Gingin community.

Beyond the paddock and processing plant, the company is also known for its strong community spirit. The Loose Leaf Lettuce Company consistently supports local fundraising initiatives and community events, quietly contributing to schools, sporting clubs and community groups throughout the district. Their ongoing involvement reflects a genuine commitment to giving back to the town that supports them.

Each day starts before sunrise, when leaves are carefully selected and harvested at peak freshness. The produce is then processed in the company's on-site, state-of-the-art facility to ensure only the best products are dispatched. With a fleet of refrigerated trucks on the road six days a week, customers throughout WA receive crisp, fresh salads direct from Gingin.

Certified in Freshcare Food Safety and Quality as well as HACCP (Hazard Analysis

and Critical Control Points), the company demonstrates its commitment not only to premium produce but also to recycling and environmental care.

As a long-standing member of Buy West Eat Best, The Loose Leaf Lettuce Company continues to champion fresh, local Western Australian produce and remains a proud example of Gingin's strong agricultural and community-minded spirit.

By Lauren Samata



Gingin Uniting Church

Gingin Uniting Church, 9 Weld Street, Gingin. Services held every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month at 10am. All are welcome.

Website: <https://gingin.ucwa.au>

Email: ginginuniting@gmail.com

Phone: Sharon 0428 557 057

Australian Red Cross

Free Welfare Checks for Your Community

Are there people in your community who would value a free welfare checks from the Australian Red Cross?

The TeleRedi service provides phone-based wellbeing checks for eligible people who may be at higher risk of health impacts during a heatwave, no matter where they live.

Registered TeleRedi participants will receive regular check-in calls from trained Australian Red Cross volunteers.

If a call goes unanswered or a person appears unwell or distressed, an escalation process will be activated to help support

their safety and wellbeing.

TeleRedi is for people who live alone, older people, those with a disability or managing chronic health conditions, people recovering from illness or injury, and those experiencing mental health challenges.

Carers of vulnerable people are also encouraged to register, recognising the added pressure and risks extreme heat can place on those providing care. If you have questions any, please contact the team at communityconnect@redcross.org.au, and someone will get in touch with you.

[Teleredi Eligibility and Registration Form FY2025/2026 \(Page 1 of 5\)](#)

Gingin Garden Group

The Gingin Garden Club's first gathering for the year was on February 6 and held at Irene and Steve Neville's House.

As the day was so pleasant, it was on their lawn. The numbers felt quite healthy, since an invitation to partners was offered and accepted. They seemed to enjoy the copious nibbles too.

Thankyou Irene and Steve, as usual your place was presented immaculately and I'm pretty chuffed, my basil is happily growing roots in water just as Irene promised.



Community Grants

Application Forms Available Now

Open to local non profit community groups, sporting clubs, and associations within the Gingin Shire

Grant Applications are open from 1st March - 31st March

*Late Applications will not be accepted

Terms & Conditions

- All Applications will need to pay a non refundable \$50 F Membership fee to apply



APPLY NOW

Email: ggrecgroup@hotmail.com for an application form



World Day of Prayer 2026

Join our local prayer service focused on Nigeria



FRIDAY	6 MARCH '26
Date and time of service	10am.
Venue	ST LUKE'S CHURCH
Address	WELD ST GINGIN
Contact	0458523334

2026 Community Grants Program

APPLY NOW

When you partner with us, good things happen.

Your organisation gets funding, and your banking helps support the community.

Applications close 30th April 2026.

Find out more. Call Elle on 0499 087 990 or search Bendigo Bank Gingin.

bendigobank.com.au



Community Bank Gingin and Lancelin

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Gingin Art & Craft

Creative Sparks Fly at Gingin Art & Craft Resin Workshop

Gingin Art & Craft hosted another highly successful workshop, with local creatives embracing the vibrant and versatile world of resin art. Participants enjoyed a hands-on experience, learning new techniques and producing a stunning array of unique pieces.

The workshop was led by Shauna, Alex and James from U RESIN, who travelled to Gingin to share their expertise and introduce something a little different to the local arts community. Their guidance and enthusiasm helped attendees gain confidence working with resin, experimenting with colour, texture and design.

The session highlighted the growing interest in creative workshops within the Gingin community, and reinforced Gingin Art & Craft's commitment to offering diverse and engaging artistic opportunities. With strong attendance and glowing feedback, the day was another reminder of the value of bringing new skills and fresh inspiration to town.



Help Us Preserve Our History

Gingin Art & Craft is in the process of digitising its history, so it can be preserved for future generations. If you have any old photos, newspaper articles, programs, or memories connected to the Gingin Art & Craft group, we would absolutely love to include them in our collection.

Please email any items or scans to artandcraftgingin@outlook.com

Every piece helps tell our story, and thank you for being part of the creative journey.



Koorunga CWA

On Thursday 5 March, Koorunga CWA will be holding its first "Have a Chat" Social Day. To mark International Women's Day in March, we are pleased to welcome a guest speaker, Roz from Happy Heads, who will present a talk on women's mental health. This will be an informative and supportive day held in a safe and welcoming environment, with resources available. All ladies, Grandmothers, Mothers and Daughters, are warmly invited to attend for the whole day, either for the presentation, or simply to pop in for a coffee during the afternoon.

We look forward to sharing a meaningful and relaxed day together and sharing the spirit of community .

Felicity



Gingin Chittering Lions

Lions Recycle for Sight

Since 1989 Lions International Recycle for Sight has collected around 19 million used prescription glasses. These glasses have helped give sight to those less fortunate in Australia and neighboring countries. If you have old prescription glasses cluttering up a drawer, please consider donating them to the Lions Club. Lion's International tests these glasses and pairs them up with recipients less fortunate in developing countries. Glasses must not be scratched or broken. The Gingin Chittering Lions have a box outside The Den 3 Horan Street where you can drop off any unwanted glasses. We also collect used postage stamps, so if you receive mail, simply cut off the stamp and put it aside for us. Thank you in advance for your support.

It was nice to have guests join us at our first Lions Club meeting this year. We welcome

anyone that wishes to come along for a visit. Roslyn Barnes our District Vice Governor, inducted our two new members to the Pride, Helen and Rob.

The Gingin/Chittering Lions meet on the second Monday of the month for a shared dinner at 630pm. Join in with the community spirit and come along to a meeting.

The Lion's Den is situated at 3 Horan Street Gingin.

Our meeting are quick and enjoyable, find us on Facebook, or call Colin on 0411 231 985 bandito@bigpond.net.au



Gingin Red Cross

The Gingin Red Cross Unit warmly invites the community to take part in several upcoming events designed to bring people together while supporting important local and national programs.

On Saturday 21 March, gather a group of friends and dance the night away at the Free Masquerade Dance. This intergenerational event promises a fantastic evening with a DJ playing great music and a photo booth to capture fun memories. Guests are invited to bring their own nibbles or supper, while free tea, coffee and Milo will be provided. A bar will also be available to purchase drinks. There will be great raffle prizes and prizes on the night, so be sure to bring some cash. Have fun making your own mask and enjoy a wonderful evening out. For further information, please call 0424 172 817.

The unit is also holding a Krispy Kreme Doughnut Fundraiser, with all profits supporting the annual Red Cross Calling Appeal run by the Australian Red Cross. Red Cross Calling is the main annual fundraiser helping provide vital services to people and communities in need across Australia. Doughnuts come in boxes of 12 in five delicious varieties: original, custard, strawberry, chocolate and jam. Assorted boxes are \$34, which works out to \$2.85 per doughnut, and plain original boxes are \$26, equating to \$2.15 per doughnut. They freeze well too. Orders close on 3 March 2026 and collection will take place on 17 March 2026 in Gingin. To place an order, please email Kaye Lowes at kmlowes30@gmail.com. Enquiries can be made on 0427 380 963. Treat yourself, or someone else, while supporting a great cause.

Community members are also invited to come along for morning tea and a chat on the second Friday of each month at 10am at the Lion's Den, 3 Horan Street, Gingin. Enjoy games, guest speakers and outings in a friendly and welcoming environment. All are welcome. For more information, please contact Felicity on 0400 505 656 or email flicka63@bigpond.net.au

The Gingin Red Cross Unit looks forward to welcoming you to these wonderful community events. Come along, bring a friend and support your local Red Cross.



Gingin Brook Catchment Group

Wetland weeds

The previous edition of this column discussed World Wetlands Day, which raises awareness of the need to protect wetlands. One of the threats to wetlands is weed invasion and this edition discusses two of the many weeds impacting wetlands and waterways in the local area. Both are in the Araceae or aroid family of plants which also includes Monstera, Calla and Philodendron, and the tiny duckweeds.

Arum Lily

Arum lily (*Zantedeschia aethiopica*) is also sometimes known as Calla Lily or Funeral Flower. It is a Declared Pest in Western Australia. It is a perennial succulent herb with a tuberous rhizome. The dark green arrowhead shaped leaves generally die down to the rhizome in summer and reshoot in autumn. The white “flowers” consist of a white bract which surrounds a yellow spike of tiny flowers in the centre. Flowering usually occurs in spring to early summer. The seeds are contained in berries, which turn orange when ripe, on the lower parts of the spike.

It is tolerant of a variety of conditions including some frost and short periods of waterlogging. The climate of the Southwest of WA is particularly suitable for it and it grows and spreads vigorously here. It is most troublesome in swampy areas along drainage lines where it obstructs water flow but can also form dense stands in other moist areas and can also occur in bushland. Dense infestations can eliminate pasture species and displace native species in bushland. All parts of the plant are poisonous to livestock, pets and humans and are also skin and eye irritants. Calcium oxalate and an alkaloid called coniine are the toxins involved.

Arum Lily spreads by seeds and by root fragments. Seeds germinate readily but

are not viable for long periods. Seeds and root fragments can be spread by water, animals, in soil and on machinery and by garden waste dumping. Arum Lily originates in South Africa and was introduced for horticultural purposes. It has been widely planted in gardens and for the cut flower trade.



Taro

Taro (*Colocasia esculenta*) is sometimes also called Elephants Ear, which is a general name for similar looking plants in several genera in the Araceae family of plants. It is a serious weed of wetlands. It is fast growing and forms dense stands along watercourses displacing native species. It is a perennial herb up to 2 metres tall growing from tubers or corms. Leaves are large, dark green and velvety held on long fleshy stems. The flowers are greenish white in a spike surrounded by a yellow bract, similar to the white bract of Arum Lily to which it is related. Flowers are produced in autumn and winter. The plants contain calcium oxalate crystals and may cause a sting or severe rash.

However, it rarely flowers or sets seed in the southwest of WA, with the plant spreading in its immediate surrounds by stolons up to one metre long, or by cormels which grow off the side of the main corm. Spread to locations further afield is mostly by deliberate or unintentional movement of vegetative fragments, but fragments

and cormels may also be carried downstream by water.

It prefers moist to wet acidic soils high in organic matter, and partial shade, but will tolerate strong sunlight, dense shade and permanent inundation, making the perennial streams in the Gingin area candidates for infestation. There are known infestations in Gingin Brook within the townsite. Raised nitrogen levels in water will favour strong growth of the plants.

It originates in India and South-east Asia and was introduced as a garden plant. There are edible forms which have also likely been introduced as a food source. It is often used in Asian or Polynesian cooking.

Elephants Ears (*Calocasia brisbanensis*) is a similar plant but with glossy leaves and is native to SE Queensland. It also has the potential to become weedy locally.



Control

Small infestations can be hand removed but care needs to be taken to remove all parts of the plants. Control of large infestations of both weeds is usually best achieved by chemical means. Both have large amounts of biomass in the corms and rhizomes making removal of large infestations by mechanical means difficult. The resultant disturbance will also create conditions for

invasion by other weed species. Further information about chemical control can be obtained for Arum Lily at <https://florabase.dbca.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/1049> and for Taro at <https://florabase.dbca.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/1044>.

Gingin Brook Catchment Group next meeting will be AGM to be held Tuesday 21st April at the Gingin Golf Club. The results of the second year of water quality monitoring of the Gingin Brook catchment will be presented.

In the meantime, you can contact us info@gingincatchment.org.au, see our webpage or follow us on Facebook.

Gingin Brook Catchment Group.

ANZAC DAY PHOTO SUBMISSIONS

As part of this year's commemorations, we are inviting local residents to submit photographs of their family members who served in the Australian Defence Force.

These photographs will be featured in a visual tribute presentation prior to the ANZAC Day march, honouring the service and sacrifice of those connected to our community.

Please email photos to community@gingin.wa.gov.au by 20 April 2026.

For enquiries, contact Ian Griffiths from the Lion's Club on 0430 978 580.



Gingin District High School

Hello, my name is Marisa Burton and I am the Media teacher (along with several other subjects) at Gingin District High School.

This year, our Year 9/10 Media class will be contributing a monthly article to keep our community informed and to celebrate the many wonderful projects, achievements and events happening across our school.

We have had a busy and exciting start to the year. In Week One, our Year 7 students took part in an induction program designed to help them settle into high school life. Through a series of activities and lessons, students had the opportunity to get to know one another, build positive relationships and familiarise themselves with the school environment and expectations. The week concluded with their much-anticipated "Big Day Out" excursion to Swan Valley Adventure Centre. Students participated in team-building challenges, completed a scavenger hunt, and even worked together to construct a giant catapult to launch eggs, a highlight for many!

We are proud to welcome three new Basketball Academy teams. Following strong competition for places, we now have a Year 7 & 8 boys' team, a Year 9 & 10 boys' team, and a mixed girls' team. In addition, we are excited to introduce a new girls' netball team. We look forward to watching these students develop their skills and represent our school at various events throughout the year.

Congratulations to our newly elected Student Councillors for 2026:

Year 6:

Sally Wright, Blair Farr, Anton Mackenzie and William West

Year 7:

Nikola Gavranic and Thea Lawrence

Year 8:

Annabelle McCallum, Noah Fox-Gray and

Maddie Polden

Year 9:

Riley Honour and Jacob Garratt

Year 10:

Koby Connor and Emmett Howard

A special congratulations also goes to our School Leaders, Koby Connor and Annabelle McCallum. We are confident they will represent our student body with pride and integrity.

We would also like to congratulate our 2026 Faction Captains and Vice-Captains:

Apollo (Green)

Secondary Captain: Heidi Gomersall

Secondary Vice-Captain: Jake Brown

Primary Captain: Kendra Guru

Primary Vice Captain: Masi Ngenda

Athena (Yellow)

Captain: Marley Thorpe

Vice-Captain: Ethan Kabelka

Primary Captain: Jacob Sinclair

Primary Vice Captain: Zander Fox-Gray

Poseidon (Blue)

Captain: Jarrah Trew

Vice-Captain: Charlie Fitzpatrick

Primary Captain: Tyler Hinschen

Primary Vice Captain: Emma Crofts

We are proud of the leadership these students are already demonstrating and look forward to seeing them guide their factions throughout the year.

We look forward to sharing more stories with you throughout the year and celebrating the achievements of our students and staff. Watch this space for an upcoming Photographic Competition via our new Wildlife Cadets Course. There will be prizes and give aways!



Country & Coast

Shire of Gingin News & Information

Council Decisions

The following matters were considered by Council at the Shire's **February** Ordinary Council Meeting:

- Review of Council Advisory/Working Groups.
- Shire of Gingin Cats Amendment Local Law 2026.
- Shire of Gingin Parking and Parking Facilities Amendment Local Law 2026.
- Proposed Relocation of 50km/h Speed Zone Sign - Old Mooliabeenee Road.
- Lancelin Coastal Erosion Update.
- Planning Applications - 1 application considered.

For details of additional items resolved by Council and for more information please go to the February Council Meeting minutes which are available at gingin.wa.gov.au/council-meetings, or in person upon request at either the Gingin Administration Centre or Lancelin Office.

Upcoming/Works In Progress Update

Clearing Drainage - Lancelin:

Please be advised, in early March we will be commencing works to clear out the drainage easement located between Philbey Place and Horton Way in Lancelin.

For the duration of these works, temporary site fencing and signage will be installed to ensure public safety.

Gravel Re-sheeting - Bennies Road:

On Tuesday 24 February we commenced gravel re-sheeting on Bennies Road as part of our Capital Works Programs. These works are expected to take 2-3 weeks to complete.

For the duration of these works, traffic management measures are in place to ensure public safety. Motorists are required to observe all signage and directions to ensure the safety of road users and work crews.

Playground Installation - Guilderton:

The installation of the new playground at the Guilderton skate/amusement park (outside the Guilderton Community Hall) is scheduled to commence in early May. The final playground design was chosen by the Guilderton Community Association Committee as well as a number of local families with children.

The installation is expected to be completed within a couple days. During these works, temporary site fencing will be installed to ensure public safety.

Further updates will be provided as these projects progress via our social media and website. We thank the community for your understanding as we deliver these works.

Connecting Youth Expo - Save the Date!

Save the date! In partnership with the Shire of Chittering, planning is underway for our highly anticipated and award nominated 'Connecting Youth Expo'. This years goal? Bigger, better and filled with fun!

Young entrepreneurs, it's go time! If you'd like to hold a stall and gain more exposure for your small business, now is the time to start preparing and we'd love to hear from you!

To out-do last year's event, we are looking for local businesses, services (specifically youth related/focused), agencies, organisations, individuals and community groups to get involved.

Please register your interest by emailing community@gingin.wa.gov.au or give us a ring on **9575 5100**.



Community Funding Program 2026/2027 - Funding Round Open

Our annual Community Funding Program is still open for applications for the 2026/2027 Financial Year.

If you have a new project/event or your project includes any upgrades to Shire owned facilities or construction on Shire owned land, please make sure you have a chat to our Grants Officer as soon as possible to ensure the necessary approvals are in place to allow you to submit your grant application.

Contact our Grants Officer via grants@gingin.wa.gov.au or on **9575 5100**.

Applications close on **Tuesday 31 March**. To find out more, visit www.gingin.wa.gov.au/funding-and-grants

Livestock & Pets - Emergency Plan

During an emergency, you already have a million thoughts running through your head, don't leave 'creating an emergency plan that includes your pets/livestock' until the last minute, have a plan ready to action prior to emergency.

Here are some ways you can prepare yourself and the animals on your property for an emergency: develop an evacuation plan, prepare a Go-Kit, create a plan for a situation where you can't evacuate with your pets/livestock.



gingin.wa.gov.au



Golden Feather Hunt is on at the Gingin & Lancelin Library!

From 3 March to 8 May 2026, if you find a feather hidden in a library book (at either our Gingin or Lancelin Library), here's what to do:

1. Read the book (ask a librarian if you need help checking it out!).
2. Decorate your feather any way you like, get creative!
3. Take a photo of your feather. You can include yourself and/or the book you found it in.
4. With help from an adult, post the photo on Facebook or Instagram.
5. Tag @scribblersfest and share your feather find using #goldenfeatherhunt.

Then keep an eye on Scribblers socials, you might be the lucky winner of a weekly book prize!

Find out more at scribblersfestival.com.au



Total Fire Bans/Harvest, Hot Works & Vehicle Movement Bans

Under the *Bush Fires Act 1954* local governments and DFES have the power to place a fire ban. In the Shire of Gingin there are two types of bans that can be implemented:

Total Fire Bans - which are set by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES).

Harvest, Hot Works & Vehicle Movement Bans - which are set by the Shire of Gingin.

It is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to find out if there is a fire ban in place. Subscribe to the Shire's SMS service to receive free notifications when either ban is placed. To subscribe or for more information visit gingin.wa.gov.au/fire-breaks-bans-information



What's on In the Shire of Gingin?

SPACE Weekly Meetings

Every Monday, 2pm - 5pm, Ocean Farm Community Hall.

Guilderton Community Day

Sun 1 March, 8am - 8pm, Guilderton.

LPS Monster Fete 2026

Sun 1 March, 9am - 1pm, Lancelin Primary School.

Moore River Weight Watchers

Wed 11 March, 10am - 11am, Sovereign Hill Hall.

Ordinary Council Meeting

Tues 17 March, 6pm - 8pm, Shire of Gingin Council Chambers, Gingin.

Masquerade Dance

Sat 21 March, 6pm - 8pm, Granville Hall.

For more information on events in the Shire, please go to the Events Calendar at gingin.wa.gov.au.

Early Rates Incentive Scheme

Sponsor Acknowledgement

Thank you to the **Community Bank Gingin and Lancelin** for your generous sponsorship of the Shire's Early Rates Incentive Scheme. Community Bank Gingin and Lancelin is a locally owned and operated community bank. Customers who bank with Community Bank Gingin and Lancelin automatically support the clubs, projects and organisations at the heart of our community.

Having already given back \$3.8 Million in community contributions across the Shire of Gingin, they're looking to support even more local projects and groups with our 2026 Community Grants Program.

For more information, call their Community Engagement Advisor, Elle Armitage on **0499 087 990**.

 **Bendigo Bank**

Community Bank
Gingin and Lancelin

The Gate of Hell by Alan Gent

Sam really liked Bingo nights. Well, mostly. It sort of depended on the 'baby-sitter'. He hated that name. He wasn't a 'baby'. Still, he could usually get them to do what he wanted. He didn't think he was really 'naughty', he just liked to have a bit of fun. Of course, John and Mary Higgins were aware of this, and always tried to get the agency to send them a baby-sitter that was 'responsible'. After one disastrous booking in which the young girl had wasted no time in getting her 'boyfriend' over, and he brought two others while Sam was shut in his room not really understanding all the carrying on downstairs. When his Grandmother was alive, she was always called on to baby-sit, and she was very strict. When Sam was 'bad' as she called it, she threatened to lock him in the cellar. She almost dragged him down one day, but he was plainly so terrified, she relented. To Sam, though, the darkness and heat emanating from the bottom of the narrow stairs leading to the cellar was truly terrifying. Thereafter, his Grandma used to call it 'The Gate of Hell' and the mere mention of it was enough for Sam to curb his mischievous behaviour. Of course, he wasn't to know that the heat came from the boiler down there....

Now Grandma was no more. To Sam, it was a welcome relief. Despite his tender age of six years, he realised that the old lady had gone for good. There were no more threats from baby-sitters and he was easily able to cope with any form of strictness, within reason.

The baby-sitter, Janine, who turned up to look after him on this Bingo night was quite young, but the agency had assured his parents that she was 'very good' with small boys. As soon as his parents had left, Sam disappeared to his room to play with his game boy, and to think about what he could do to 'test' his new baby-sitter. However, before he had a chance to think of anything really 'good', the phone rang, and he heard Janine say: "Oh, NO! How

bad?" then, "Where?" then, "I'll be right there!"

Sam heard her running up the stairs to his room and she threw open the door, saying breathlessly: "I've got to go. I'll be back soon. Stay in your room or... I'll be really annoyed".

And with that, she slammed the door and rushed down the stairs. A few second later Sam heard the door bang, and her little car starting up and racing off down the road.

Silence.

Sam opened the door and walked slowly down the stairs. 'Oh well,' he thought, 'now I can have some fun...' The only trouble was, he couldn't think just what to do. His 'fun' usually involved being a real pain in the neck, but now there was nobody around to tease. He went to the pantry and pulled out the 'hundreds and thousands', tipping several hundred on the floor while he tasted a 'sample'; he dipped his finger in the honey a few times and licked it until he was sick of the taste, leaving a sticky trail across the floor; then ate all the shortbread biscuits he found on the shelf.

It was at this point, in the process of trying to find out what else he could do, he was aware of the front door lock being tried. Thinking it might be Janine returning, he quickly ran up to his room and quietly pulled the door to.

It wasn't Janine. Whoever it was, obviously thought the house was empty. Sam heard the door open, then softly close. He crept to the landing and cautiously peered over it. A dark figure in a balaclava was standing in the hall, listening. Sam held his breath. After what seemed like an eternity, the person visibly relaxed and pulled off his balaclava. It was a man with a truly ugly face, Sam thought. He had a hooked and broken nose, one eye that seemed to be half closed and sported a growth of beard that made him look as though he hadn't

washed for a week. From his left ear hung a silver earring in the shape of a cross. He moved off into the living room and Sam could hear him rummaging around. 'He must be a burglar' Sam thought. He listened as the man moved from room to room, finally satisfied with his search. He approached the stairs.

Sam crept into his bedroom and hid under the bed. The man searched through first his parent's bedroom, then the spare room and finally pushed Sam's bedroom door open and came in. Sam hardly breathed. He would probably have been unnoticed if it hadn't been for the spider. The creature crawled over his hand and up to his face, regarding him curiously for a few seconds before heading straight for his mouth which was pressed against the floor. It was just too much. Sam blew as hard as he could – the spider skidded out from under the bed – and Sam sneezed!

An ugly countenance appeared at the edge of the bed, wearing a grin that sported three yellow teeth, not one foot away from poor Sam's face. "What 'ave we 'ere?" said the man, grabbing Sam's arm and hauling him out from under the bed. Sam started to cry. "Watcha cryin' for? I ain't gonna hurtcha. You can 'elp me find the stuff."

With that, he dragged Sam down the stairs where Sam saw a pile on the floor on one of the bed sheets the man must have found in the laundry. There was his Grandma's old clock, some silver cutlery and a few bit of jewellery that his Mother used to leave in a box on the mantelpiece.

Sam was pulled from room to room as the man asked him "In 'ere?" each time. And each time, Sam shook his head. The man was getting more annoyed. "There's gotta be more stuff than this. Where's ya Mum keep the good stuff?" Finally they arrived at the cellar door, and the man flipped back the bolt and opened it. Sam tried to pull away. "Not down there!" he screamed. "Ah", said the man, "So that's the place, is it?" And he proceeded to haul a violently

struggling Sam down the stairs.

Sam could feel the heat coming up towards him, and in the gloom, could see a dark section in the floor at the bottom of the stairs, that looked like...a hole! With a last desperate yank, the terrified Sam finally managed to break free and ran fast up the narrow stairs, through the door and swung around to slam it closed, driving the sturdy bolt home just as the man crashed against the inside of the door.

"I'll get ya, ya little swipe. And when I do...!"

Suddenly, Sam heard an increasing roar inside the cellar that blended into an unearthly scream that seemed to go on for an eternity. Then there was deathly silence.

Just then, Sam heard the sound of a car outside, and a few seconds later Janine's voice as she opened the door. "Oh. Thank goodness you're OK." Then she noticed the small pile of things on the floor in the hallway. "What have you been up to?"

It was much later. Sam was safely tucked up in bed, the house was tidy, Janine had long since gone home, after explaining about her father having a car accident and her having to rush off to the hospital. The questions were finally over. When the balaclava had been discovered, and the police had put two and two together, it was obvious the same burglar who'd broken into a number of the houses was the culprit. He would wait until a house was empty after watching it for some time, before he'd make his move. There was no sign of the burglar.

Sam never went into the cellar, but much later, when the cellar door was open, Sam had picked up something shiny on the top step.

It was a small earring in the shape of a cross.

Gingin Bowling Club

Gingin Bowling Club excels hosting the Ladies Northern Zone Inter League

The Gingin Bowling Club was the centre of attention over the three days, proudly hosting the Ladies Northern Bowling Zone, Inter League Fours Round Robin competition.



An outstanding weekend, made possible by the dedication of many club volunteers, saw 80 ladies compete across the three-day event, joined by League Managers, Selectors and Travelling Reserves. The club was widely praised for its organisation and hospitality.

Catering Officer, and organiser Selga, along with her hardworking team of volunteers, ensured there was an abundance of delicious food throughout the weekend. Visitors commented not only on the quality of the catering, but also on the strong support from the club's male members, who assisted in all areas, including the kitchen. In fact, one male pennant player even "Googled", the easiest way to peel boiled eggs, as they were so hard to peel.

The "greens" were presented in excellent condition, drawing compliments from players and officials alike, while the bar kept refreshments flowing. There was even a light-hearted early comment that "we haven't sold one alcoholic drink", though that was before the first game on Friday afternoon. This being a real contrast to the

club's men's pennant days.

Special thanks, goes to our Ladies Captain, Julie, for her organisation, along with assistance from her daughter when it came to finalising programs, score cards and League tags. Thank you to all our Umpires who officiated across the three days. Appreciation also goes to everyone who contributed, from changing boards, preparing sandwiches, to washing up.



Champion Rink Winners



Moore District Bowling League Side



Moore District NBZ Team

The decision by the League, to forgo the men's Saturday pennant fixture, to provide support and volunteer their time shone through and was noted by all players from the different Leagues and clubs.

Sunday morning's final round proved decisive. Batavia claimed victory with seven points, followed closely by Moore District on five points. Central Midlands and Central West Coast each finished on four points, followed by North Midlands.

The competition showcased a fantastic display of bowls, highlighted by the enthusiasm of emerging young players alongside experienced and dedicated seasoned competitors. Beyond the results, the weekend was also a celebration of friendship and sportsmanship, and brought out the competitive side of many players.

Thank you to our Major sponsors, The Gingin Road House for their sponsorship of "Champion Rink" won by Batavia's team,

skipped by Val Exten, Gloria Nelson, Keryy McIlwaine and Cindy New House, and to Country Values Real Estate for printing off our programs and score cards.

Congratulations to the five teams who will travel to Jurien Bay in two weeks to compete at the next level. Special mention goes to Moore representatives Pat Williams, Julie Watson, Michelle Green, Robin Higgins and Jodie Garrett.

The Gingin Bowling Club, driven by its exceptional organisation and dedicated volunteers is certainly the latest news in the world of country bowls.



READY
NET

go



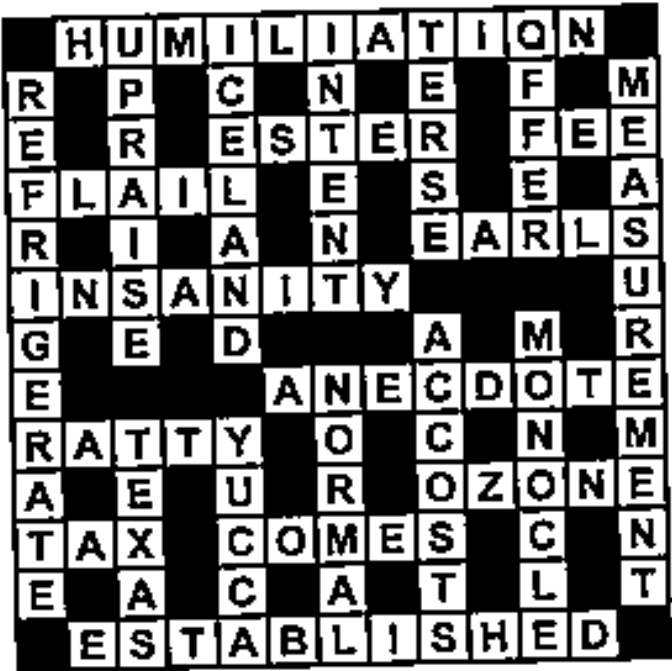
Calling all new community members and returning players – we'd love to see you on the court this season!

Whether you're brand new to netball or a seasoned player, now is the time to register and be part of a fun, supportive, and active community.

- ✦ All skill levels welcome
- ✦ Great way to stay fit and meet new people
- ✦ Saturday games
- ✦ Coaching & paid umpire positions available

Registrations
Tuesday 3rd March
3.30 - 6.30pm
Bendigo Bank Complex
Net - Seniors

If you are unable to attend however would like to register please reach out via email secretarygnc@outlook.com



Celebrating National Youth Week (10 - 16 April 2026)

THE AWARD RECOGNISED EVENT RETURNS

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Register today via community@gingin.wa.gov.au or call 9575 5100.



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Stable Fly - *Stomoxys calcitrans*



**Stable Fly Action Group
Facebook Page**



Stable Fly Reporting Tool
www.stableflyactiongroup.org.au



The Stable Fly Action Group Inc (SFAG) has been active for over 20 years with the aim to reduce the impact of stable flies where rural communities and horticulture coexist.

SFAG's primary objective is to pro-actively advocate for strategies to minimise the stable fly problem in WA through lobbying, publicity, education and collaboration.

SFAG's current focus is:

- Supporting LGA officers to investigate and mitigate stable fly outbreaks
- Supporting affected community members and reporting outbreak data to DPIRD
- Supporting further scientific research and trials to reduce stable fly outbreaks
- Lobbying government for meaningful reforms to current legislation (BAM Act)
- Lobbying for enforceable changes to reticulated horticulture management practices to reduce stable fly breeding sites
- Lobbying for a simple waybill system for all raw manure shipments
- Highlighting current biosecurity risks and helping avert potential future diseases

**SFAG is a volunteer organisation that relies heavily on
community support and membership.**



Please visit the SFAG website to join.
www.stableflyactiongroup.org.au



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then send further information on attending the workshop



Department of
Primary Industries and
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Event

Join us at the park Easter morning for
games, activities and Easter family fun!

APRIL 5TH 2026

10AM -11.30AM

This event is perfect for children aged 2-10.
Scan the QR code to register



Granville
Park, Gingin

Please note that if you have not arrived by 11 AM,
your reserved place will be released to
accommodate other attendees. We appreciate
your prompt arrival to ensure your spot is secured



Department of
Primary Industries and
Regional Development

Announcements

Vale Anthony Charles Monck 09.07.1936-20.02.2026

Sadly Tony passed away 20th February 2026 aged 89.

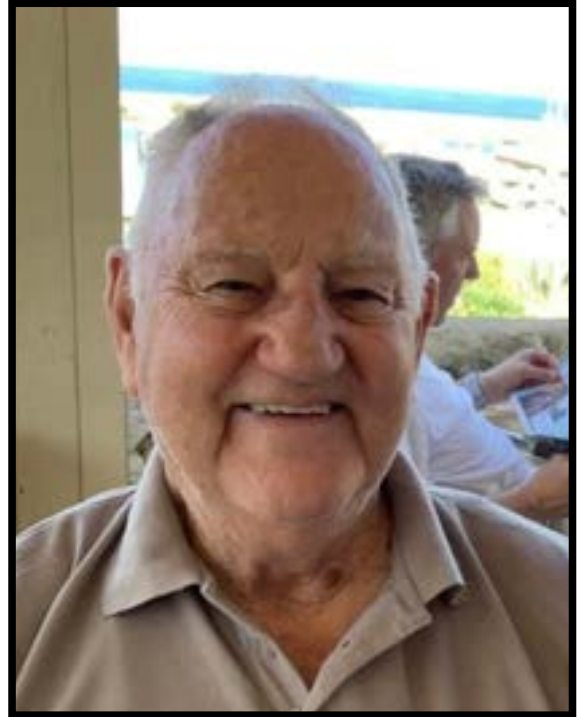
Much loved husband of Carmel. Loving Father to Terri-Helen, Wayne (dec) and Angelina (dec).

Proud Grandad to Luke, Steven, Kyle, Codi, Charlotte, Cory, Jacinta and Shane.

Great Grandad to Hannah, Hayley, Zane, Corbyn, Matilda, Ivy, Eleanor, Aleksei, Jack, Sofia and Ahmelia.

Tony and his wife Carmel, lived for a number of years on a small acreage in Frogmore following his retirement from a position at the Perth Airport. He was an active member in the Gingin Pensioners Club and was on the Management Committee of the CRC. Carmel and Tony left Gingin to live in a lifestyle retirement village.

Deepest sympathy to all the Monck family.



Other Celebrations

Happy Birthday to Lisa Kay, Daniel Okely, Tricia Clifford, Rachel Brown, Catrina Smith, Yasmin Wrathall, Betty Pollard, Maddy Hendry and Ash Simpson

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Many thanks to our community members that share their notices with us.

If you have an announcement to make, please let us know at gcn@gingin.net

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A photograph of a garden path leading through various plants and flowers, with a wooden fence in the background.

The official logo of the Government of Western Australia, featuring a shield with a kangaroo and a swan.

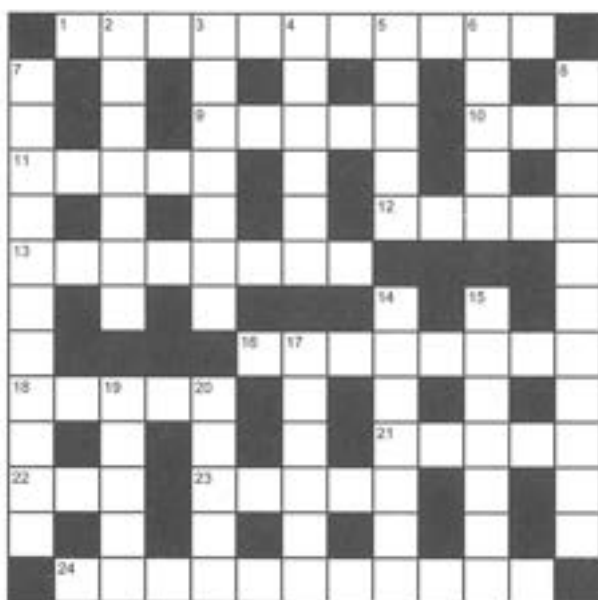
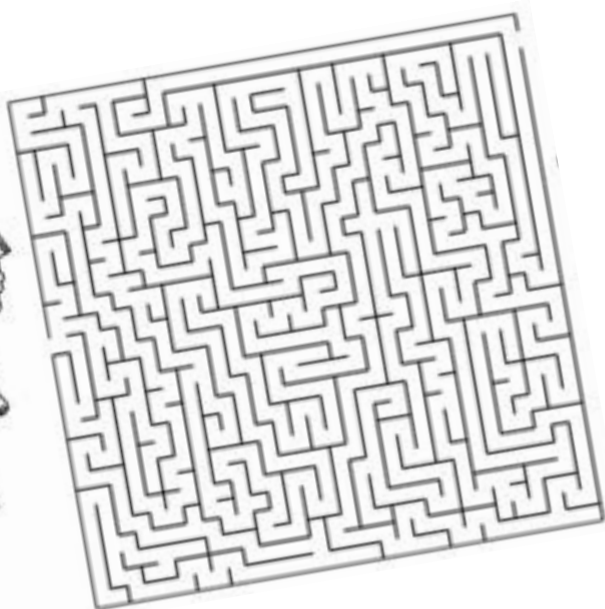
Department of
Primary Industries and
Regional Development

The logo for the Gingin District Community Resource Centre, featuring a stylized rainbow arch.

Gingin District
Community Resource Centre

Your local connection

BRAIN BUZZ



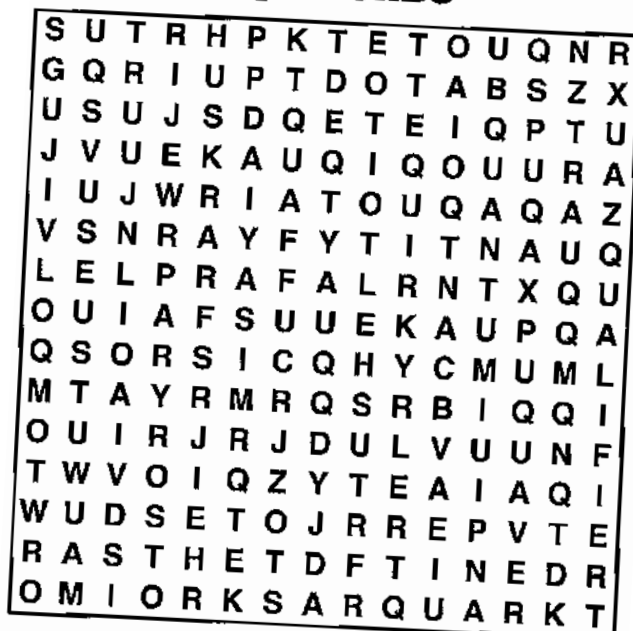
Across

1. Mortification (11)
9. Organic compound (5)
10. Sum charged (3)
11. Threshing tool (5)
12. Peers (5)
13. Madness (8)
16. Short account of an incident (8)
18. Irritable (5)
21. Form of oxygen found in the atmosphere (5)
22. Burdensome charge (3)
23. Arrives (5)
24. Founded (11)

Down

2. Elevate (7)
3. Country whose capital is Reykjavik (7)
4. Purpose (6)
5. Curt (5)
6. Make available for sale (5)
7. Keep cold (11)
8. Quantification (11)
14. Addresses boldly (7)
15. Single eyeglass (7)
17. Standard; usual (6)
19. State of the USA (5)
20. Woody-stemmed plant (5)

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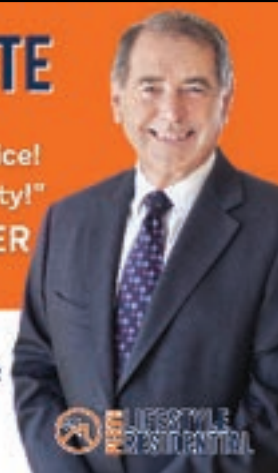
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