

City Chronicle

THE CITY OF ROCKINGHAM'S SEASONAL NEWSLETTER

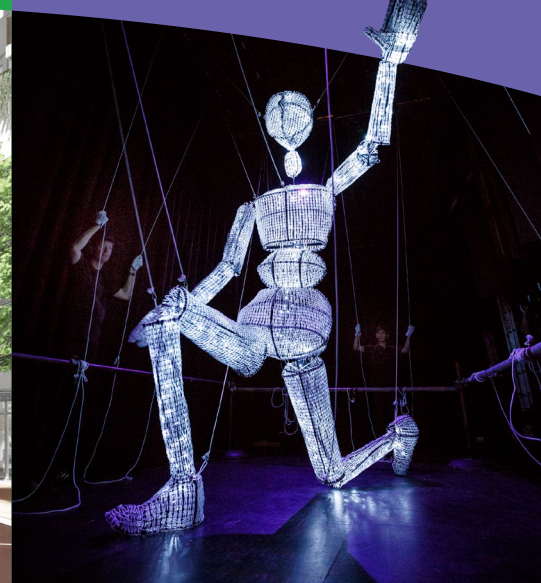


**Community Citizen
of the Year Awards**
Page 6

**Baldivis Sports
Complex Complete**
Page 4

**City Centre
Plan Approved**
Page 3

**Performance
in the Park**
Page 9



Autumn Edition 2026

ISSN 2208-9063



Inside This Issue

Major Projects 3

City Centre Plan Approved	3
Baldivis Sports Complex	4

Advocacy 5

AUKUS Community Taskforce	5
Cape Peron Transport Network	5

Around Our Community 6

Community Citizen of the Year Awards	6
Castaways Sculpture Awards 2026	7
National Volunteer Week	8
Post School Pathways Employment Expo	8
All-Abilities Multi-Sport Program	9
Performance in the Park	9

What's On Calendar 10

Emergency Preparedness 11

Animal Welfare in Emergencies	11
Applying for a Permit to Burn	11
Preparing for Wilder Weather	11
SmartWatch	11

Sustainability and Environment 12

Waste Education	12
Pop-up Events	12
Waste Advice	12
GREEN Newsletter	12
Native Plants Giveaway	13
Urban Forest Strategy	13
Compost at Home	12

Community Safety 14

Neighbour Day Big Breakfast	14
Harmony Week Community Event	14
Asbestos Safety	15
Volunteering Opportunities	15
Subsidy Scheme Help Available	15

Your Council 16

Your Councillors	16
Important Contact Numbers	16

A Word From the Mayor

Welcome to the autumn edition of the City Chronicle.

Late last year the final stage of the Baldivis Sports Complex was officially opened. The project has been quite a journey over many years, and has been an outstanding success, delivering a much-needed and very popular community asset. Congratulations to everyone involved in delivering this world class sporting complex.

Approval for the City Centre Plan (Rockingham Strategic Centre Precinct Structure Plan) was received in mid-January. With this approval we can plan for more housing choice, better connections and improved public spaces, while protecting and enhancing what makes Rockingham so special - its unique coastal lifestyle. The City Centre Plan will guide how the centre grows over time, creating a city heart that works for residents now and into the future. You can find out more on page 3.

It was a pleasure to attend our Australia Day Citizenship ceremony at the Gary Holland Community Centre on 26 January to officially welcome 116 new Australians to our country and our community. Having gone through that process with my family 12 years ago, I know firsthand how exciting it is to become a citizen of this great country, and I extend my warmest welcome to all our new Australians.

If you are looking for a great family outing, come along to Performance in the Park on 28 March at the Baldivis Sports Complex. This giant illuminated and interactive puppet installation invites everyone to be a puppeteer.

If you are a gardener, there's no better time than autumn to get your hands into the soil, so don't forget our annual Native Plants Giveaway is back on Sunday 3 May at Dixon Road Reserve, Rockingham. It's first-in, first-served, so please get there early, and bring a box or a bag to carry your plants home.

Please enjoy this edition of the Chronicle.

City of Rockingham Mayor
Lorna Buchan





City Centre Plan Approved

Rockingham's City Centre is poised for a vibrant and sustainable future following the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage's approval of the Rockingham Strategic Centre Precinct Structure Plan (City Centre Plan).

Covering 534 hectares from the Rockingham train station to the Foreshore, the plan outlines a vision for a vibrant, well connected and sustainable City centre.

In the long term, the plan will support growth and help facilitate:

- Housing for up to 30,000 residents, close to transport, services, jobs and recreation
- Better connections between the Rockingham train station, City Centre and Foreshore
- Greener streets that support walking and cycling
- Improved public spaces through upgraded streetscapes and open space
- A stronger sense of place that celebrates Rockingham's coastal identity and Aboriginal heritage.

The City Centre Plan positions Rockingham to harness future opportunities linked to the Western Trade Coast, defence industry and emerging AUKUS activity.



To learn more or to view the plan visit rockingham.wa.gov.au/rsc





Baldivis Sports Complex

The City of Rockingham's biggest ever capital works project - the Baldivis Sports Complex - is now complete. This award-winning district-level facility will serve our growing community for generations to come.



Stages 1 and 2 (built concurrently)

- two senior ovals, one junior oval and training space
- sports floodlighting
- main pavilion
- change rooms
- Baldivis Indoor Sports Complex
- three car parks
- maintenance shed

Stage 3 (final)

- eight netball (multipurpose) hard courts with floodlighting
- eight tennis courts with floodlighting
- Southern Pavilion
- outdoor recreation space
- skate park
- additional car parking

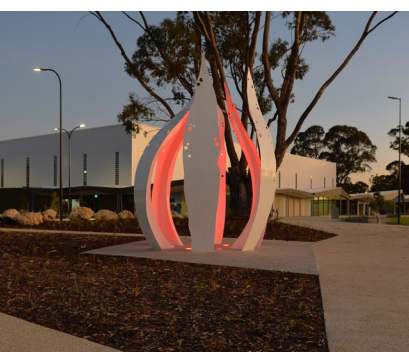
Lotterywest

- \$1 million for Baldivis Outdoor Recreation Space



Awards

- WA Football Commission's 2023 Football Facility of the Year
- Joint National Project of the Year Ken Gannon Community Football Facilities Awards 2023



Funding Assistance from the State Government

- \$1 million for main pavilion with floodlighting
- \$1.5 million for establishment of ovals
- \$10 million for construction of the Baldivis Indoor Sports Complex





Advocacy



AUKUS Community Taskforce

Mayor Lorna Buchan and CEO Michael Parker have been invited to join the WA Government’s AUKUS Community Taskforce which will engage with the Rockingham community and nearby areas. The Taskforce will include representatives from federal, state and local governments, and community organisations. Operating for a six-month period, the Taskforce will listen to community feedback and develop recommendations to government on local priorities and opportunities, including transport infrastructure, housing, education, health services and community assets.

Mayor Lorna Buchan and Acting CEO Michael Holland with Premier Roger Cook and Magenta Marshall MLA



Cape Peron Transport Network

The City is working closely with both the state and federal governments to address traffic impacts to local roads related to activity at HMAS Stirling.

“Our club is so happy with what’s been delivered. We’ve been able to grow our on-field membership; and the off-field membership and social activities have been fantastic. Having somewhere that we can call home and that the players’ partners and children can enjoy has been fantastic.”

Daniel Cole,
President, White Knights Baldvis Cricket Club

“What I like most about this facility is that it finally brings all our members together in one place. We’ve got our seniors all training side by side, and this is the first time we’ve ever been able to do that. It’s going to make a massive difference to how we grow as a club, how we bring our members together, and how we get the community involved.”

Brian Emery,
President, Baldvis Brumbies Football and Netball Club

Milestones

- Jun 2017** 19.41 hectares of land on Eighty Road purchased
- Dec 2018** Baldvis (District) Sports Complex Master Plan endorsed by Council
- Mar 2020** Civil engineering works commence
- Dec 2020** Turf rollout
- Jun 2021** Construction of buildings begins
- Oct 2022** First cricket match played
- Mar 2023** Baldvis Indoor Sports Complex officially opened
- Dec 2025** Final stage officially opened

Around Our Community



Community Citizen of the Year Awards

On Australia Day, Mayor Lorna Buchan proudly presented the 2026 Community Citizen of the Year Awards, celebrating the remarkable individuals and groups whose outstanding contributions continue to enrich and inspire our community.



Young Community Citizen of the Year

Rayne Mansfield was recognised for her outstanding leadership in youth engagement, arts, and community development, contributing through the Rockingham Youth Reference Group, Town Teams, Youth Parliament, and the RAC Ignite Program, where her commitment continues to empower and inspire young people across the community.



Active Citizenship Award (Group or Event)

The Country Women's Association Rockingham Branch received this award for their ongoing commitment to community connection and support. Their Lunchbox Heroes program has delivered thousands of lunches to local students, showcasing their practical, grassroots approach to helping those in need.



Community Citizen of the Year

Patchara Weggars was recognised for her educational leadership as Rockingham Senior High School Board Chair, her advocacy securing over \$60 million for vital school upgrades, and her dedicated community service through the Palm Beach Rotary Club, reflecting her longstanding commitment to local families.



Senior Community Citizen of the Year

Lynette Sellin received this award for her 28 years of devoted service at the Autumn Centre, where her warmth, professionalism, and genuine care have helped create a welcoming, supportive environment that enriches the lives and wellbeing of older residents.

Castaways Sculpture Awards 2026

Entries Open

Artists and schools across WA can now enter the 2026 Castaways Sculpture Awards, Rockingham's signature celebration of creativity and sustainability.

Running from 24 October to 1 November 2026, Castaways invites creators to transform recycled materials into inspiring artworks, with all pieces required to use at least 65% repurposed content.

With a \$27,250 prize pool across the Main Exhibition, Schools Exhibition, and Maquette and Small Sculpture Exhibition, there are opportunities for every skill level.

Entries close 4pm, 23 April 2026

Get inspired. Get creating.
And get your entry in.



Kim Perrier, *De-Vine*,
Castaways Sculpture
Awards 2025.

Around Our Community



National Volunteer Week

National Volunteer Week will run from 18–24 May 2026 with the theme “Your Year to Volunteer.” The celebrations begin a bit earlier this year with our annual Volunteer Recognition Awards on 13 May, acknowledging the dedication volunteers bring to our community.


Looking to volunteer in our community?


The Rockingham Volunteer Centre (RVC), located at Rockingham Library, connects volunteers with local organisations and promotes the benefits of volunteering.

The RVC offers a free referral service for volunteers and support for volunteer-involving organisations. For more information contact Rockingham Volunteer Centre on **9528 8670** or **volunteering@rockingham.wa.gov.au**

We’re also on the lookout for volunteers for our Rockingham Connect Community Transport service. Check page 15 for more details.

Post School Pathways Employment Expo

 Friday 5 June
10am – 1pm

 Gary Holland Community Centre
19 Kent Street, Rockingham

People with disability, families and caregivers are invited to come and connect with inclusive employment providers and local support organisations. Learn about job opportunities, inclusive community activities, and the supports that are available to help you navigate the transition from school.


A sausage sizzle and coffee is available for a gold coin donation.

This event is a collaboration between Rockingham Senior High Education Support Centre, Warnbro Community High School Education Support Centre, Atwell College, Malibu School and the City of Rockingham.

No registration required.



All-Abilities Multi-Sport Program


-  Weekly sessions on Wednesdays
10.30am – 11.30am
-  Mike Barnett Sports Complex, Dixon Road
and Louise Street, Rockingham

The City of Rockingham is collaborating with ReLink to deliver our free All-Abilities Multi-Sport Program, a relaxed and inclusive session focused on having fun, moving your body, and connecting with others. The program is designed for adults with disability, with activities adapted to suit all abilities and support needs. There's no pressure, no competition, and no experience needed - just a welcoming space to be active and enjoy being part of a group.

Support workers are encouraged to join in, making it a shared and supportive experience for everyone.



Performance in the Park

-  Saturday 28 March
4.30pm – 7.30pm
-  Baldivis Sports Complex
Eighty Road, Baldivis

Get ready to explore a realm where puppetry, nature and imagination come alive in a captivating and interactive journey of movement, light and storytelling.

And big puppets. Really big puppets.




What's On Calendar




Scan the QR code to see what's happening in the City.


Rockingham Regional Arts Exhibition

 Wednesday 18 March – Sunday 29 March


 Rockingham Arts Centre


Community Fun Fair

 Friday 20 March
5pm – 7pm


 Bayview Reserve, Rockingham


Harmony Week Community Event

 Saturday 21 March
4pm – 7pm


 Gary Holland Community Centre
19 Kent Street, Rockingham


Suicide Prevention Workshop: LivingWorks safeTALK

 Wednesday 25 March
9am – 1pm


 Gary Holland Community Centre
19 Kent Street, Rockingham

Neighbour Day Big Breakfast

 Saturday 28 March
9am – 11am


 Village Green
Patterson Road, Rockingham


Performance in the Park

 Saturday 28 March
4.30pm – 7.30pm


 Baldivis Sports Complex
Eighty Road, Baldivis


Liminal Time: Bridges by Saskia Lopes and The Edge of Shadows by Val Brooks

 Wednesday 1 April – Sunday 26 April


 Rockingham Arts Centre


Suicide Prevention Workshop: TouchPoints

 Wednesday 22 April
10am – 2.30pm


 Baldivis Indoor Sports Complex
Eighty Road, Baldivis
(Ngoorlak Room A)

Echoes of Home by Sarah Soulay and Friends

 Wednesday 29 April – Sunday 17 May


 Rockingham Arts Centre

Cloth Nappy Workshop

 Thursday 7 May
10am – 11am


 Warnbro Community Library


Spectrum by Bec Thomas

 Wednesday 20 May – Sunday 7 June

 Rockingham Arts Centre

Post School Pathways Employment Expo

 Friday 5 June
10am – 1pm

 Gary Holland Community Centre
19 Kent Street Rockingham

Information is accurate at time of printing.

Emergency Preparedness



Animal Welfare in Emergencies

Animals don't plan ahead so if there are pets or livestock in your life you need to do the planning for them, especially when it comes to emergency preparedness.

We've prepared an easy-read guide about essential considerations for packing your pet emergency kit with the right supplies.

Learn more at rockingham.wa.gov.au/emergencymanagement



Applying for a Permit to Burn

From 1 April to 31 May 2026, the City will enter a restricted burning period. Anyone wishing to burn on their property is required to obtain a permit to burn from rockingham.wa.gov.au/permittoburn

Once a permit has been issued, follow all conditions outlined in the permit. Further guidance can be found in the Burn SMART Checklist on our website.

Applications will be processed within five working days.

For all other enquiries, contact Fire Control on **9528 0333**.

Preparing for Wilder Weather

Autumn is the gateway to storm season, with increasing rainfall, gusty winds, and unpredictable severe weather events. On top of that, more than 70% of the cyclones that have impacted Perth have occurred in March and April. It makes sense to prepare for this potentially wild season before the weather turns, by trimming trees and securing objects that could become airborne.



SmartWatch

SmartWatch is the City's vehicle-based high visibility security patrol service that carries out regular, coordinated patrols across the City to deter criminal and anti-social behaviour.

Contact SmartWatch to report and monitor anti-social behaviour, hooning, neighbourhood disturbances, vandalism and graffiti.

Bushfires remain a major threat to our community, and SmartWatch patrols in our rural areas increase the likelihood of spotting early ignition and any suspicious activity in the vicinity of a bushfire.

Find out more at

rockingham.wa.gov.au/smartwatch



Sustainability and Environment

Waste Education

Shifting the way we think about waste is becoming more important than ever.

So, what can you do? Try setting yourself a goal to swap out one single-use item at a time for something that can be recycled or reused. This could be:

- choosing loose produce instead of packaged fruit and vegies
- visiting shops or refill stations where you can bring your own reusable containers
- swapping to a brand that uses recyclable packaging.

One small change can go a long way, so think about the sustainable swaps you can make today.

In the first six months of FOGO we're already seeing some really great results:

- more waste is being reused, keeping it out of landfill (the recovery rate has increased from 41% to approximately 60%)
- households are correctly sorting 92% of organic waste in their green bins to be processed into compost.



Pop-up Events

Our Environmental Education Officers have loved being out in the community and 'talking trash' with you. In the past six months we've had 19 waste education sessions and pop-up stalls in the community and at City events. Missed out on seeing us? We will be popping up at venues and events across the City this year.



Scan the QR code for details on when and where we will be.

Waste Advice

If you are finding it hard adjusting to the new waste collection system, City officers are available for household or street visits to provide personalised advice to help you sort or reduce your waste. Contact us on **9528 0333** or email customer@rockingham.wa.gov.au for more information or to arrange a visit from our Environmental Education Officers.



**GREEN
Newsletter**

Stay up to date with the latest sustainability and environment news by subscribing to the City's quarterly GREEN Newsletter. Visit the City's website and search "newsletters" to subscribe.



Native Plants Giveaway

Our annual Native Plants Giveaway is back on Sunday 3 May at the Dixon Road Reserve. Collect a bundle of 10 native, waterwise seedlings and help build habitat for local wildlife.

A limited number of five-plant fire-wise packs will also be available, perfect for building a climate-resilient garden.

This is a first-in, first-served event, so get in early to ensure you don't miss out. Bring proof of address (such as a driver's licence) to verify that you live in the City of Rockingham, and a bag or box to help transport the plants.



Scan the QR code for more information.



Urban Forest Strategy

Perth has the lowest tree canopy of any Australian capital city, and a recent survey showed Rockingham's total canopy is now 13.7%, with 23.6% other vegetation. Being a growth local government area where there is an ongoing need for new housing, we face challenges in maintaining our canopy.

In December 2025 Council adopted the Urban Forest Strategy 2025-2030 which builds on the City's Greening Plan to provide a framework for the protection and expansion of our urban forest. Search "Urban Forest Strategy" on the City's website to learn more about how and why we're planting today for a greener tomorrow.



Compost at Home

Discover our new composting workshops running in the first half of 2026. With a range of topics on offer, you'll learn how to get started, and how composting at home can complement your FOGO kerbside service. Ready to get composting? Scan the QR code for more information.



Community Safety



Neighbour Day Big Breakfast



Saturday 28 March 2026
9am - 11am



Village Green
Patterson Road, Rockingham

Everybody needs good neighbours. So, come and help create a more connected and safer community by celebrating Neighbour Day with our Big Breakfast event from 9am - 11am Saturday 28 March 2026 at the Village Green, Rockingham. Enjoy free bacon and egg rolls, coffee and ice cream for the first 200 attendees. There will also be a massive inflatable obstacle course and kids' activities on the day.

Can't make it? The neighbourly celebrations don't have to stop there. Through our Neighbours Unite incentive, you can host your own street activity and get up to \$150 of the receipted costs for food, non-alcoholic drinks and consumables reimbursed. Find out more at rockingham.wa.gov.au/neighboursunite

Harmony Week Community Event



Saturday 21 March 2026
4pm - 7pm



Gary Holland Community Centre
19 Kent Street, Rockingham

Be part of this nationally recognised initiative that celebrates Australia's cultural diversity and promotes social cohesion, inclusion and belonging. Enjoy a range of activities including:

- food trucks
- coffee and ice cream vans
- children's activities – facepainting, temporary tattoos
- multicultural performances
- information stalls including available support services
- cultural stalls showcasing different countries represented in the Rockingham area.



Asbestos Safety

Asbestos cement can be found in most older properties in Perth. Generally, undisturbed asbestos cement products (such as in a fence or on a roof) do not pose a health risk because the fibres are bound together in the cement. However, if the material is disturbed or damaged, through cutting, grinding, sanding, sawing or high pressure water blasting, fibres may get released into the air. Due to the risk to public health these activities must not be carried out. Anyone undertaking these activities can be prosecuted, receive hefty fines, and be required to carry out costly clean up works.

Visit the City's website for comprehensive information about how to maintain and handle asbestos cement products safely.



Volunteering Opportunities

If you are looking for something to do and want to give back to your community, why not give volunteering a go?

The Rockingham Connect Community Transport Service (RCCTS) is looking for Drivers and Transport Assistants to help deliver the service to community members who don't have access to transport. Volunteer opportunities range from a few hours once a fortnight to up to 10 hours a week, Monday to Friday.



To find out more about the RCCTS positions, scan the QR code or visit:

rockingham.wa.gov.au/rockinghamconnect

If you are interested in other volunteering opportunities, contact the Rockingham Volunteer Centre on **9528 8670** or email volunteering@rockingham.wa.gov.au (The centre is closed on Fridays).

Subsidy Scheme Help Available

If you are on a low income you may be eligible to apply for one or more of the four Subsidy Scheme reimbursements up to the value of \$150 offered by the City.

- **Safety Subsidy Scheme**
To assist eligible residents 18+ years to make their homes safer and more secure.
- **Home Cooling Subsidy Scheme**
To assist eligible residents 18+ years to make their homes cooler.
- **Home Modifications and Assistive Equipment**
To assist eligible residents 60+ years to manage everyday tasks and remain longer in their own home.
- **Information Technology Scheme**
To assist eligible residents 60+ years to become more connected with friends, family resources and information.

Find out more at rockingham.wa.gov.au/subsidyscheme

Your Council

Mayor



Mayor Lorna Buchan
0420 596 453
mayor.buchan@rockingham.wa.gov.au

Baldivis Ward



Councillor Mike Crichton
0466 258 253
cr.crichton@rockingham.wa.gov.au



Councillor Dylan Mbanu
0473 057 686
cr.mbanu@rockingham.wa.gov.au



Councillor Kelly Middlecoat
0408 883 188
cr.middlecoat@rockingham.wa.gov.au

Comet Bay Ward



Deputy Mayor Robert Schmidt
0415 420 706
cr.schmidt@rockingham.wa.gov.au



Councillor David Rudman
0452 631 254
cr.rudman@rockingham.wa.gov.au

Rockingham/Safety Bay Ward



Councillor Craig Buchanan
0427 931 745
cr.buchanan@rockingham.wa.gov.au



Councillor Peter Hudson
0493 773 699
cr.hudson@rockingham.wa.gov.au



Councillor Dawn Jecks
0424 598 656
cr.jecks@rockingham.wa.gov.au



Councillor Mark Jones
0410 844 880
cr.jones@rockingham.wa.gov.au



Councillor Leigh Liley
0407 774 204
cr.liley@rockingham.wa.gov.au



Councillor Ryan Robertson
0448 718 090
cr.robertson@rockingham.wa.gov.au



Contact Us

City of Rockingham
Administration Centre
Civic Boulevard, Rockingham

P: 9528 0333

E: customer@rockingham.wa.gov.au

Read the Chronicle Online

Opt in to receive an email when each new edition is available on our website.



Alternative Formats



Important Safety Contacts in an Emergency

In an emergency call **000**
(for hearing impaired) **106**

For non-emergency Police assistance call **131 444**
Crime Stoppers **1800 333 000**
Rockingham SmartWatch **1300 657 123**
State Emergency Service (SES) **132 500**



rockingham.wa.gov.au

