

City Chronicle

THE CITY OF ROCKINGHAM'S SEASONAL NEWSLETTER



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Summer Edition 2025

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A Word From the Mayor

Welcome to the summer edition of the City Chronicle.

It's a privilege to write to you as your newly elected Mayor of the City of Rockingham. I'm looking forward to working collaboratively with Councillors, staff and community members to deliver positive outcomes for the City. I'd like to begin by acknowledging outgoing Mayor Deb Hamblin for two decades of service to our community as a Councillor, Deputy Mayor and our first ever female Mayor. I also want to thank outgoing Councillors Caroline Hume and Brett Wormald for their contribution to the City.

I'm delighted to welcome our newly elected Councillors Dylan Mbano, David Rudman and Ryan Robertson, and to congratulate returning Councillors Leigh Liley and Dawn Jecks, and Deputy Mayor Robert Schmidt. I know I speak for all Council Members when I say we are focused on building a thriving and forward-thinking City.

There's been plenty happening across the City lately. The Stan Twight Reserve Clubroom Redevelopment is now complete, and detailed designs for the Anniversary Park Clubroom Redevelopment are finalised. The final stage of Baldivis Sports Complex is almost complete, and there will be more about that project in the next edition.

The Summer Series commenced in late October with our annual Castaways exhibition at the Rockingham Foreshore. See some of the winning sculptures on page 7 – 8. Looking ahead, our New Year's Eve celebration at the Foreshore is set to be another great night, with fireworks at 9pm and midnight, and a headline performance from Sheppard. Then on Australia Day, 26 January, we'll be back at the Foreshore from 5pm to 8.30pm with entertainment, fireworks and free kids' activities. For the latest updates on events and City news, visit our website or follow us on Facebook.

On behalf of everyone at the City I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

City of Rockingham Mayor
Lorna Buchan





Back row (L-R): Cr Craig Buchanan, Cr Dylan Mbano, Cr Kelly Middlecoat, Cr Mike Crichton, Deputy Mayor Robert Schmidt.
Front row (L-R): Cr David Rudman, Cr Dawn Jecks, Cr Mark Jones, Mayor Lorna Buchan, Cr Ryan Robertson, Cr Leigh Liley, Cr Peter Hudson.

Meet Our New Council

On 18 October more than 26,000 people in the City of Rockingham cast their vote in the local government elections.

Former Deputy Mayor Lorna Buchan was elected as Mayor, and six candidates were elected to represent the community across the City's three wards.

On Tuesday 21 October, the new Council was sworn in at a Swearing In Ceremony. At a Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 28 October, Councillor Robert Schmidt was elected to serve as Deputy Mayor for a two-year term, and all Councillor positions on committees were also filled.

Mayor

Lorna Buchan

Rockingham/ Safety Bay Ward

Cr Craig Buchanan
 Cr Peter Hudson
 Cr Dawn Jecks
 Cr Mark Jones
 Cr Leigh Liley
 Cr Ryan Robertson

Baldivis Ward

Cr Mike Crichton
 Cr Dylan Mbano
 Cr Kelly Middlecoat

Comet Bay Ward

Cr David Rudman
 (two-year term)
 Deputy Mayor
 Robert Schmidt



Major Projects



Stan Twight Reserve Redevelopment Complete

This project was proudly supported by the WA Government, WA Cricket, Cricket Australia, WA Football and AFL.

The redevelopment of the Stan Twight Reserve and clubroom is now complete. After a welcome to country by First Nations Elder Mick Indich the new pavilion was declared open by Mayor Lorna Buchan and Magenta Marshall MLA (on behalf of Hon Rita Saffioti MLA) on 11 November 2025.

The new clubroom features:

- a spacious social area and kitchen for gatherings and events
- administration room
- accessible toilets
- ample internal and external storage.

The changeroom facility includes:

- four modern changerooms
- gender-inclusive toilets and showers
- a dedicated first aid room
- umpire facilities
- a cleaners' store.



Autumn Centre Redevelopment

The Autumn Centre is getting a major upgrade to meet the evolving needs of the community. Key features of the redevelopment include the amalgamation of the IT room and library, enclosure of the alfresco seating area, expanded foyer and gallery space, improved accessibility with upgraded toilets and universal access toilets, and enhanced café and dining facilities.

Baldivis Sports Complex

The final stage of the Baldivis Sports Complex is almost complete. The finishing touches are being added before the official opening takes place.



Design of New Facilities at Anniversary Park Complete

Detailed designs for the new clubroom and changeroom facilities at Anniversary Park are now complete. The project will support local sporting clubs, and promote community wellbeing by delivering modern, accessible amenities for the Rockingham Football and Sporting Club and users of the park's active spaces. Construction is planned to commence in 2026.



Summer-ready at the Foreshore

The City has been hard at work enhancing the Rockingham Foreshore to ensure it's ready for the various summer activities and events on offer.

Here's what's new and improved:

- Accessible footpaths making it easier for everyone to move around the park
- Relocated beach showers
- A new nature play area
- Two new play areas with soft rubber surfacing and shade structures
- Brand-new accessible barbecues
- New reserve shelters and picnic furniture

These improvements are part of our ongoing commitment to creating a vibrant, inclusive, and welcoming space for all to enjoy.



Major Events



Summer Series

From now until March our Summer Series presents a vibrant calendar of free, family-friendly events that celebrate our community and showcase the beauty of our City.

Bring a picnic, explore local vendors, and be sure to plan your journey.



New Year's Eve

Ring in the New Year at Rockingham Foreshore.

From 5pm – 12am enjoy live music, fireworks, kids' activities, rides, food, and headline act Sheppard after the 9pm fireworks.



Celebrate Australia Day

Celebrate Australia Day at Rockingham Foreshore.

From 5pm enjoy stage performances, roving entertainment, kids' activities, First Nations activities and performance, food vendors, and fireworks at 8.30pm.



Symphony on the Green

Experience Symphony on the Green with West Australian Symphony Orchestra on Saturday 21 February. Enjoy a magical evening of film and TV favourites under the stars. Pre-show starts at 5.30pm, with the orchestra on stage at 7pm. Don't forget blankets or low chairs for a comfy night out.

Event details subject to change. Find out more at rockingham.wa.gov.au/summerseries

Rockingham Beach Cup

The Channel Seven Rockingham Beach Cup made a successful comeback last month, drawing thousands for beachside horse racing and the Rotary Community Festival. The event was hosted by the Rotary Club of Palm Beach and supported by the City with a \$230,000 sponsorship.





castaways sculpture awards



This year's Castaways Sculpture Awards showcased around 60 artworks by WA artists and schools, celebrating sustainability and creativity. The City thanks sponsor Fremantle Ports for their support.

Congratulations to the winners



\$10,000 Major Award
Kim Perrier, *De-Vine*



\$5,000 Sustainability Award
Richard Aitken, *No Junk Mail*



\$5,000 Innovation Award
Damien Gavillet, *Orbital*



\$2,500 Maquette and
Small Sculpture Award
Janice O'Meara, *Frag-mented*



\$2,000 City of Rockingham
Local Resident Award
Ben Veljacich, *The little penguin*



\$500 Secondary School Award
SMYL Community College - Tesla Campus,
Bottled Up: When I Couldn't Speak, You Stayed



\$500 Primary School Award
Settlers Primary School, *Prickly's Playground*

Fremantle Ports People's Choice Award



\$1,000 Main Exhibition
Joy Francis, *Big Dog*



\$500 Maquette and
Small Sculpture Exhibition
Courtney Smith, *Reflections of
the Sea*



\$250 Schools Exhibition
Safety Bay Primary School,
The 114

Around Our Community

artprize | 2026 Entries open

Entries are now open for the 2026 City of Rockingham Art Prize. Emerging and professional WA artists can submit their works for selection, in any two or three-dimensional medium for a share of the \$20,000 prize pool.

Entries close at 4pm on Thursday 29 January. Visit rockingham.wa.gov.au/artprize for details.



Last year's First Prize Winner Wade Taylor's painting *Carnival*.

Seniors Community Events

Explore ways to stay independent and informed as you age. Join us for two free events covering local services, support options, and Advance Care Planning.

Planning to Age Well – Information Events

📅 Thursday 12 March 2026, 10am – 12pm

📍 Gary Holland Community Centre

My Future Care Planning Workshop

📅 Monday 16 March, 10am – 12.30pm

📍 Mary Davies Library and Community Centre

To book visit rockingham.wa.gov.au/whats-on

Tertiary Scholarship Scheme

If you're looking to kickstart or continue your studies with financial support, the City of Rockingham's Tertiary Scholarship Scheme could help you achieve your goals. Offered twice a year, these scholarships support eligible students with their university or TAFE/VET studies.

For eligibility criteria and more information, visit rockingham.wa.gov.au/grants



Outdoor Fitness

Did you know we have outdoor fitness equipment available at multiple parks across the City? Whether you're a beginner or a regular, our exercise guide videos will help you get the most out of your workout.

These easy-to-follow guides show you how to:

- use the equipment safely and confidently
- warm up and cool down the right way
- tailor your workout to your fitness level and goals
- track your progress and plan future sessions.



Scan the QR code or visit the City's website to find an outdoor gym near you.



Help Shape the Future of Our Community

The City is inviting community members to participate in consultation in early 2026 to help inform two Community Plan Strategies:

- **Reconciliation Action Strategy**
- **Disability Access and Inclusion Plan**

We particularly value the voices and lived experiences of First Nations community members and people with disability. If you're interested in getting involved or would like to learn more, please contact the City on **9528 0333** or email customer@rockingham.wa.gov.au



Become an Age-Friendly Consultant



The City is inviting passionate community members to become Age-Friendly Consultants. Share your insights on the issues and opportunities that matter most in later life, and help shape projects that make a difference.

To get involved, contact the City on **9528 0333** or email customer@rockingham.wa.gov.au with your preferred contact details. We'll be in touch with more information.

Waste Sorted



Waste sorting, a simple step with big benefits.

You're already a great sort, reducing the amount of waste you send to landfill, helping to protect our natural environment.

The FOGO bin (Food Organics and Garden Organics) is designed for all food scraps, including items that cannot be composted at home such as meat and bones, bread, dairy products, and seafood.

To produce high-quality compost, it is essential to keep plastics, aluminium, glass, and anything labelled biodegradable out of the FOGO bin.

If you are unsure where an item belongs, refer to the waste guide below. Every correctly sorted item contributes to a more sustainable future for our City.



How to Sort Your Waste

FOGO bin Food organics and garden organics	Recycling bin Recycle these five*	General waste bin General waste (non-hazardous)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Fruit and vegetables  Meat and seafood (including bones)  Compostable liners  Tea leaves and coffee grounds  Garden organics  Bread and dairy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Paper  Cardboard  Cans  Plastic bottles and containers  Glass bottles and jars 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Nappies  Hygiene and sanitary products  Damaged clothing  Polystyrene  Soft plastics  Animal droppings 

*Loose, rinsed, free from food residue, and without lids.



Tip Passes

If you have tip passes you can drop off items at the Millar Road Landfill Facility (quantity limits apply). City of Rockingham ratepayers receive four tip passes each year on their rates notice.

Each tip pass can be used for up to 1.5m³ of either general or green waste. If you're a tenant, check with your landlord.



Beyond the Kerbside

Some items can't go in your kerbside bins but can still be recovered. These include batteries, light bulbs, e-waste (like computers, TVs, phones), and household hazardous waste (chemicals, paint, boat flares, gas canisters).

Dispose of them for free at the Millar Road Landfill Facility (quantity limits apply).

While recycling and composting are important, the most impactful step is to avoid and reduce waste. Swap disposables for reusable alternatives to make a genuine difference.

Low Waste Workshops

Look out for our Low Waste Workshops in 2026, where you'll learn practical tips and creative tricks to reduce waste during celebrations. Discover how small changes can make a big impact, from gift wrapping alternatives to low-waste party planning. In these workshops you will learn how to turn recycled wrapping paper into gift tags, turn tins into planter pots, and more.



What's On Calendar



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

Tai Chi Class

 Tuesdays 9 December – 24 March
6.30am – 7.30am
No classes 23 and 30 December

 Churchill Park,
Rockingham Foreshore



Jungle Body Class

 Wednesdays 10 December – 25 March
6pm – 7pm
No classes 24 and 31 December

 The Lookout,
Rockingham Foreshore

Youth Beach Party

 Friday 16 January
12pm – 3pm

 Churchill Park,
Rockingham Foreshore

Yoga Class

 Thursdays 11 December – 26 March
6pm – 7pm
No classes 25 December and 1 January

 The Lookout,
Rockingham Foreshore

Celebrate Australia Day

 Monday 26 January
5pm – 8.45pm

 Churchill Park and Bell Park,
Rockingham Foreshore



Story Time in the Park

 Tuesday 27 January
9.30am – 10.30am

 Bell Park, Rockingham

New Year's Eve

 Wednesday 31 December
5pm – 12am

 Churchill Park and Bell Park,
Rockingham Foreshore



Story Time in the Park

 Friday 16 January
9.30am – 10.30am

 The Harbour Playground
(Octopus Park), Secret Harbour

Symphony on the Green

 Saturday 21 February
5.30pm – 9pm

 Village Green, Rockingham



Road Safety Improvements

Recent road safety improvements around the City include major upgrades to high-risk intersections and roads, such as Stakehill Road, Read Street/Malibu Road, The Avenue, and Mundijong Road. A new shared path on Rae Road has also enhanced pedestrian safety. Following successful advocacy efforts, \$7 million has been secured to upgrade the Baldivis Road/Kulija Road intersection with traffic signals and an extra lane.

We've also launched the Heavy Vehicle Network Plan 2025 – 2030, resurfaced 43 roads (13.5 km), renewed 3.7 km of footpaths, and invested over \$2 million in drainage and footpath maintenance. In addition, we've launched education campaigns to help raise awareness around safer road use.



Summer Safety Starts With You

Enjoy Rockingham's summer safely by securing your home and vehicle. Don't leave valuables visible in your car - thieves are watching. The City's Community Safety team will be at beach car parks with free sunshades and anti-theft plate screws. At home, lock doors and windows, keep keys out of sight, and secure parcel deliveries.

Heading away? Register for SmartWatch Holiday Watch and receive free patrols of your home while you're gone. Visit rockingham.wa.gov.au/holidaywatch to find out more.

Community Voices – Engagement Survey

Help shape inclusive programs and spaces by sharing your experience. Complete our short survey by Friday 31 December 2025 to support a more connected and welcoming community. Access the survey at yourthoughts.rockingham.wa.gov.au or scan the QR code.



Emergency Preparedness

Prepare for Heatwaves this Summer

Heatwaves are becoming more frequent across WA, with Perth experiencing multiple days over 40°C last summer. Some people are more vulnerable to heat-related illness and should take extra care.

Stay informed by downloading:

- **Emergency WA app** - for heatwave alerts and safety advice.
- **BOM Weather app** - for forecasts and heat notifications across up to three locations.



Plan Ahead

Visit the HealthyWA website for access to a suite of community resources, translated information, fact sheets and checklists to help you prepare for a heatwave.



Cool Spaces

Escape the heat and visit a City library this summer. Our libraries offer activities for all ages including social groups, podcasting, gaming, crafts and more. Learn more at rockingham.wa.gov.au/libraries

Is transport a barrier to accessing one of our cool libraries during periods of extreme heat? If so, we would like to hear from you. Please register your interest for a dedicated bus service to the Mary Davies Library and Community Centre by calling **9527 0732**.

Other cool places to checkout include:

- Rockingham Arts Centre
- Rockingham Youth Centre
- Our aquatic centres
- Autumn Centre

For more heatwave preparedness advice, visit rockingham.wa.gov.au/heatwave



Fire Prevention

Firebreak inspections on all properties began on 17 November 2025. Properties are required to be in compliance with the Fire Control Notice until 31 May 2026.

The City of Rockingham is now in a prohibited burning period until 31 March 2026. During this period, no burning is allowed on any property in Rockingham, and this includes all beaches within the City.



Cat Prohibited Areas

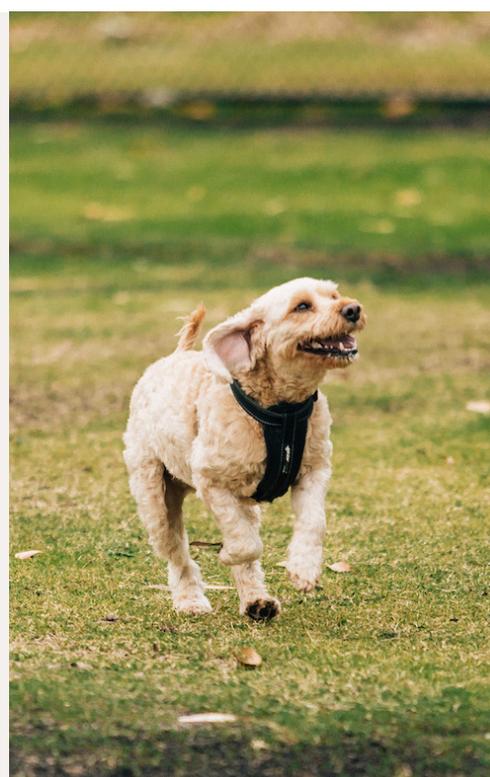
Cat Prohibited Areas are now in effect across many parks and reserves in the City. Under the *City of Rockingham Cat Amendment Local Law 2024*, domestic cats are not permitted in these areas. Owners may face fines of up to \$200 if their cat is found in a prohibited zone. Cage trapping is regularly undertaken as part of our pest animal management program. Responsible pet ownership helps protect local wildlife. Please take steps to prevent cats from roaming in these areas. For more information about Cat Prohibited Areas, visit rockingham.wa.gov.au/cats

Dog Park Etiquette

Not all dogs are suited to dog parks. Make sure yours is social, non-reactive, and has reliable recall.

-  It is advisable your dog is kept up to date with vaccinations, check in with your vet about this and keep your dog safe.
-  Dog parks offer lots of stimulation, so ensure your dog is social and not reactive during play.
-  Recall for all – consistency is key with recall and being able to call your dog back is equally important in enclosed and open areas.
-  Respect others wishes – avoid risk by communicating with others before, during and after you enter the park.

For information about our dog parks visit the City's website.



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
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Councillor Peter Hudson
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Councillor Dawn Jecks
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Councillor Mark Jones
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Councillor Leigh Liley
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Councillor Ryan Robertson
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Contact Us

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Administration Centre
Civic Boulevard, Rockingham

P: 9528 0333

E: customer@rockingham.wa.gov.au

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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

