



# What's New in the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu?

## SHIRE STAFF SPOTLIGHT

*Each week meet a member of our team!*

Kara Tokarczyk - Customer Service Officer admin)

Kara is the newest member of our team joining us as a Customer Service Officer (admin). Kara moved to Wongan very recently relocating from Perth for a change of scenery. We think she chose a good spot! Kara is a butcher by trade, which she worked as for ten years prior to an injury, which then led to a change in career path. Kara last worked for the Department of Health as the Personal Assistant to the Assistant Director General of Public and Aboriginal Health and we look forward to utilising her skills here at the Shire.

Kara was born in Darwin and moved to WA when she was 8 years old as her Dad was in the Navy and the family was relocated to Rockingham. Kara spent six months travelling after completing her butcher apprenticeship listing the whiskey in Scotland and the Louvre in Paris as her highlights.

Outside of work, Kara shares a passion for live music, muscle cars and loves being outside with her two children, Olivia and Jett. She secretly named her favourite child as her puppy dog Lexie.... we won't tell the kids!



## STARGAZE IN WONGAN

The total solar eclipse is almost upon us! With April, comes planning for not only the Eclipse but the Easter holidays. RSVP now for this FREE stargazing event in Wongan Hills!

Wednesday 12 April

6.30-9.00pm

Wongan Hills Airport

RSVP now at :

[www.eventbrite.com.au/e/wongan-hills-dark-sky-stargazing-night-tickets-546799691597?](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/wongan-hills-dark-sky-stargazing-night-tickets-546799691597?fbclid=IwAR3HAKROKCF8mGELkKezXOA7D-QBdfmc-HZ1EoXaEyvHIWlyHOLtHQXFPU)

[fbclid=IwAR3HAKROKCF8mGELkKezXOA7D-QBdfmc-HZ1EoXaEyvHIWlyHOLtHQXFPU](https://www.facebook.com/events/546799691597/) or by scanning the QR code.



## ROADWORKS



**CONSTRUCTION CREW:** Road Widening Burakin-Wialki Road for 3km. Speed Restrictions and temporary traffic lights in place.



**MAINTENANCE GRADERS:** Area 1 - Cadoux, Area 2 - Lake Hinds



**BACKHOE CREW:** Bowling Green Construction



## COUNCIL MEETING

March Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held:

Wednesday 22 March 2023  
3pm

Wongan Hills Council  
Chambers



# What's New in the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu?

## WHEATBELT MEDICAL STUDENT IMMERSION PROGRAM

This week our Shire hosted 15 medical students from Curtin University to show off our amazing district and what regional living really is! Billet families welcomed students into their homes, whilst a jam-packed itinerary was arranged for the students to get a real feel for what living in the country is truly like and what being a small community means to us.

We had a great few days showing off the best of our Shire. Thanks to Wongan Ballidu & Districts Men's Shed, St Johns Ambulance, Ballidu Contemporary Art Society, Ballidu Heritage Centre (and Wes), Wongan Hills District High School, Whitfield Farm, Wongan Hills Medical Centre and Dr Ajit and Wongan Hills P&C for getting involved and making the trip one to remember for all the students.

Extra thanks to all the billet families who hosted and made this all possible! We are so lucky to have such a wonderful community that really does make the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu a great place to live. Hopefully one day we will see medical students such as these join our community as a doctor.

We can't wait for next year to do it all over again! If you are interested in being a host family next year, stay in touch and we will contact you when the time comes for the 2024 planning.





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## WHEATBELT MEDICAL STUDENT IMMERSION PROGRAM



*Thanks for visiting...*



Shire of Wongan-Ballidu



# What's New in the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu?

A poem by Jack Tonkin of Curtin University about his visit to Wongan Hills. Jack stayed with Georgie & Darren Sadler during the Wheatbelt Medical Student Immersion Program 2023.

Some do say, but I disagree,  
the country life's not their cup of tea,  
in these hills are the joyous and free,  
a loving and hardworking community.

I was lying down in the paddock, surrounded by stubble,  
in a whole new world, not my Perth city bubble.  
the sun did retire, it's performance colourful,  
and my eyes saw the stars like the telescope - Hubble.

After last minute calls and immeasurable kindness,  
saved us from plans that changed and blindsided.  
Your welcoming smiles as inside, we're invited,  
to beautiful homes. We were truly delighted.

To the Wongan Hills community, thank you for your week,  
you've given us experiences, that books could not complete.  
You've showed us the lifestyle - between the barley, canola, wheat.  
We won't forget the lupins for soil fixing and the sheep.

I feel it's safe to say that we've learnt a bit,  
from the Men's Shed, Ambo's and the lovely Ajit,  
from the Whitfield's farm, and the school full of kids,  
but most importantly from you, our amazing billets

So I'll say,

For all of us, including me,  
the country life's our cup of tea.  
In these hills are the joyous and free,  
in ten years time, this is where I'll be.

