

Tower St Times April/May '26



Can anyone identify these members of the 1932 Leonora Rifle Club?

We would love to know who they are! ———

As part of the new Eastern Precinct, there will be some exciting upgrades coming for Leonora's Rifle Range and Gun Club.

There is a lot of historical significance held by these organisations, and the Shire of Leonora and members of Leonora Extended Shooter's Club are working together to ensure that the future firing range is fit for purpose.

Once the Bypass Road alignment has been finalised then work can commence on planning the next steps. Watch this space!

Saturday Library 9 May 10am - 1pm



Once a month the library will be open on a Saturday morning in order to be available for those that cannot make it during the week.

We look forward to sharing our great range of books, DVDs and audio with new and existing members!



The 2026 Leonora Golden Gift Community Auction

The Leonora Golden Gift Auction Night is set for **29 May at the Whitehouse Hotel**, and everyone's invited to come along and be part of it.

This event helps raise funds for the annual Golden Gift, and over the years the auction night has contributed more than **\$125,000**.

It's a great example of what the community can do when people get involved.

Hosted by **Terry Demason**, the night is always fun and enjoyable, with a range of items donated by the community up for auction and plenty of chances to have a bid or just catch up with others.

Come down, make a bid, score a bargain, and support the Golden Gift. Bring a few friends and get involved in a great local cause.



ANZAC Day 2026 Lest we forget

There was a good turnout at both the Dawn Service and the 11am Main Service and march for ANZAC Day again this year.

Georgia Reeve played The Last Post which was a beautiful and personal tribute.

Thank you goes to Terry and Mick Demason for hosting, Colin Molloy (RSL President), Boyd Sprigg for the Lord's Prayer, and everyone else who helped on the day.

The Gunfire Breakfast at The Whitehouse Hotel was delicious and well attended.

ANZAC Day - LDHS

On Friday April 24, the Leonora District High School held their ANZAC Day Commemoration.

Students attended to pay their respects and local returned serviceman Terry Demason made a speech that highlighted the importance of kindness and working together as a team.

Past student Maddy Taylor played drums while Georgia Reeve played the trumpet for The Last Post.

It was a moving service with speeches also read by students of the school.





Senior's Morning Tea 12 May 10am

All local Seniors are invited to come along to our monthly Morning Tea at the library.

Come along to catch up with other locals over a coffee and a delicious morning tea.

If you have any dietary requirements please let Vanessa at the library know so that we can cater for you.

Call us on 9037 7016 if you have any questions



Leonora Safe House Opens to Support Women and Families

A new Safe House has officially opened in Leonora, providing crisis accommodation for women and their children experiencing family and domestic violence. The service offers culturally safe, trauma-informed, short-term accommodation, along with practical support to help women navigate crisis situations. Staff work closely with residents to develop safety plans that support their health and wellbeing.

In addition to accommodation, the service will deliver educational programs aimed at empowering women to make positive changes in their lives. Topics include power and control dynamics, gender inequality, coercive control, healing, and confidence building. Ongoing wellbeing groups and outreach support will also be available for those transitioning out of the Safe House.

The opening marks the culmination of more than 20 years of advocacy by the Shire of Leonora, local police, stakeholders and community members, who have long called for improved support services in the region. The Western Australian Government contributed \$1.6 million to renovate and establish the facility, with the Shire of Leonora overseeing the renovation process.

Operations of the Safe House have been awarded to One Tree, an organisation experienced in delivering similar services across remote communities in Western Australia and the Northern Territory. Approximately 100 people attended the official opening, including Jessica Stojkovski, Ali Kent, Leonora Shire Vice President Ross Norrie, Carolyn Tucker and Nicola Chambers.

Many individuals have contributed to bringing the Safe House to life over the years. Particular acknowledgement was given to the Shire of Leonora and Genesis Mining for their practical support in the lead-up to opening, as well as guidance from Elder Cheryl Cotterill and a Welcome to Country delivered by Tanaye Adams.

The strong attendance and community involvement on the day reflected widespread support for the initiative, which represents an important step forward in providing safety and support for women and families in Leonora.



GAMES NIGHT!

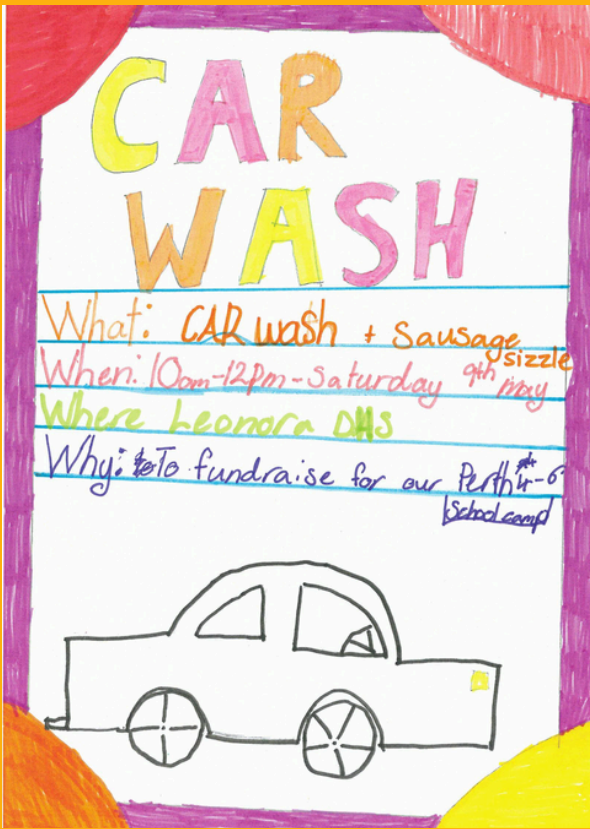
Thursday May 14
Leonora Library

6pm





Shire of Leonora



Shire of Leonora

GOLDEN GIFT MARKETS 2026

Saturday 30 May
11am to 3pm
Gwalia Townsite

Sunday 31 May
9am to 1pm
Tower St, Leonora

To register your stall email
events@leonora.wa.gov.au

Registrations close Friday 22 May 2026

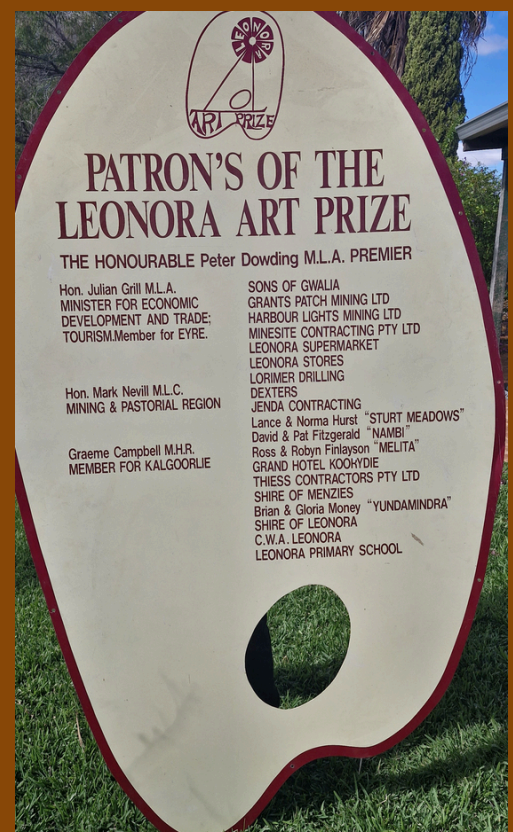


Tower Street, Leonora 1905

Turning back the clock - Kaye Denslow

Leonora Art Prize Inc. was inaugurated in 1989. The landscape and culture of Leonora have changed since, and that is clearly defined by the first Sponsorship Board to be hung at the Leonora Recreation Centre, in honor of the occasion and those that made it such a successful event. It was the brainchild of Mr. Phil Wall, who was the Manager of the Recreation Centre at the time, but it was certainly only made possible with the involvement of local business, the pastoralist families and the local mining companies of the day. Not only in monetary value, but also an active hands on contribution, which led to the ongoing future of the Leonora Art Prize.

There is a lot of history and nostalgia emanating from the dedications on the board in 1989. The logo was a windmill, and then in 1990 it became a headframe. The politicians of the day, the thriving station life, local mining lifestyle, and small businesses gave Leonora a strong social fabric which is remembered fondly in 2026.



PATRON'S OF THE LEONORA ART PRIZE

THE HONOURABLE Peter Dowding M.L.A. PREMIER

Hon. Julian Grill M.L.A.
MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE;
TOURISM. Member for EYRE.

Hon. Mark Nevill M.L.C.
MINING & PASTORIAL REGION

Graeme Campbell M.H.R.
MEMBER FOR KALGOORLIE

SONS OF GWALIA
GRANTS PATCH MINING LTD
HARBOUR LIGHTS MINING LTD
MINESITE CONTRACTING PTY LTD
LEONORA SUPERMARKET
LEONORA STORES
LORIMER DRILLING
DEXTERS
JENDA CONTRACTING
Lance & Norma Hurst "STURT MEADOWS"
David & Pat Fitzgerald "NAMBI"
Ross & Robyn Finlayson "MELITA"
GRAND HOTEL KOOHYDIE
THIESS CONTRACTORS PTY LTD
SHIRE OF MENZIES
Brian & Gloria Money "YUNDAMINDRA"
SHIRE OF LEONORA
C.W.A. LEONORA
LEONORA PRIMARY SCHOOL



Leonora Recreation Centre Closure

The Rec Centre is currently closed for painting. It was intended to only close the Centre in phases however this has not proved feasible.

Painting is expected to be completed by late June.

The gym will be closed from Thursday 7 May at 12pm and is expected to reopen from Wednesday 13 May, however with no access to the courts or bathrooms.

Leonora Bowls Club Update

Over the **Easter Long Weekend**, the **Leonora Bowls Club** held their **annual Easter Bowls Tournament**.

This carnival is a prelude to the Golden Gift Tournament and is a **mixed fours competition**.

The tournament is open to all Western Australian teams whereas the Golden Gift is open only to regional clubs.

The **Easter Tournament is set at 14 teams**, and the Golden Gift is 28.

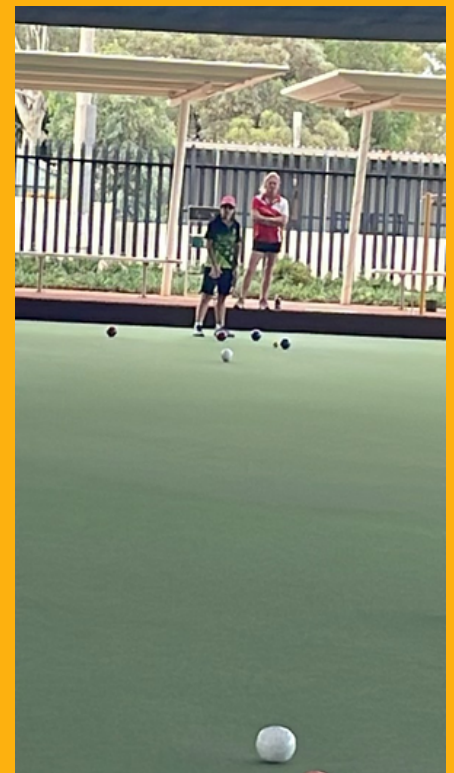
The competition is made up of 7 qualifying games, and the top 4 teams play off in the finals for 1st vs. 2nd and 3rd vs. 4th.

Leonora had two teams playing, with the first team made up of **Cheryl, Doug, Jim and Loa**. The second team being **Reg, Mark, Kylie and Kurt**.

Saturday's fourth game was suspended due to a thunderstorm that flooded the green and lightning strikes that sent everyone running for cover. Play resumed sometime later but was eventually called off due to more rain.

The team of Cheryl, Doug, Jim and Loa missed out narrowly by percentage to make the finals and finished in 5th place. The other team of Reg, Mark, Kurt and Kylie finished lower in the order but **performed well against some seriously good opposition**.

Words by Leonora Bowls Club.





Kado Muir launches Ninti

A new AI-powered tool developed in Leonora is helping preserve and share the critically endangered **Ngalia language**.

Created by **local Ngalia man Kado Muir**—one of just three remaining speakers—the Ngalia Ninti platform was launched on April 23, making it **possible for people anywhere to learn the language**. The free, interactive tool uses speech recognition to build listening and speaking skills.

The Ninti launch was held at **Hoover House** and was attended by **Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Don Punch** as well as numerous other dignitaries.

Mr Muir said the project is deeply rooted in place, reflecting the landscapes and knowledge of the eastern Goldfields. While the technology was developed relatively quickly, it draws on more than 30 years of language work by Mr Muir and his family. The platform offers a new way for people to connect with Ngalia culture and support its preservation for future generations. See:

<https://ninti.diljilabs.com.au/>

The Blazers Basketball Team has wrapped up a standout season, marking an exciting first year competing in the Goldfields Basketball Association.

Established in 1991, the Blazers continue to be a strong part of the Leonora community, with an impressive 78 players this season—48 of them local kids. From October through to March, 18 teams travelled to Kalgoorlie every fortnight, with Friday night men's and women's games followed by junior matches on Saturdays. Finals season meant even more commitment, with regular travel and stays at Fairbridge Camp School.

Despite the demanding schedule, the Blazers achieved incredible success, bringing home three championships in their debut GBA season—under 12 boys, under 12 girls, and under 14 boys.

A fantastic achievement and a proud moment for the club.

The team's success is built on dedication, with training held year-round twice a week, plus Sunday matches against Genesis. Behind the scenes, the program relies on strong community support, from volunteer scorers to transport and logistics.

A huge thank you goes to Rene and Shelley, who lead the program, along with Denzel, families, and supporters who make it all possible. Congratulations to the Blazers on a huge season.



Next Council Meeting

May 19

10am Council Chambers

Shire of Leonora





Race to Leonora...

30 - 31 May 2026



LEONORA
GOLDEN • GIFT

SHIRE OF LEONORA



- Art
- Bands
- Kidzone
- Bowls Comp
- ERT Comp
- Market Stalls
- Running Races with amazing prizes!
- **LIVE MUSIC** featuring *Troy Cassar-Daley*, & support bands *Renegade & Forgotten Years* + so much more!

Come for a great weekend of fun for all the family.

Australia's Richest Outback Race



www.leonoragoldengift.com