



# The Tower St Times, October 2025



Shire of  
Leonora



## Gold Smashes Records as Investors Flock to Safe Haven

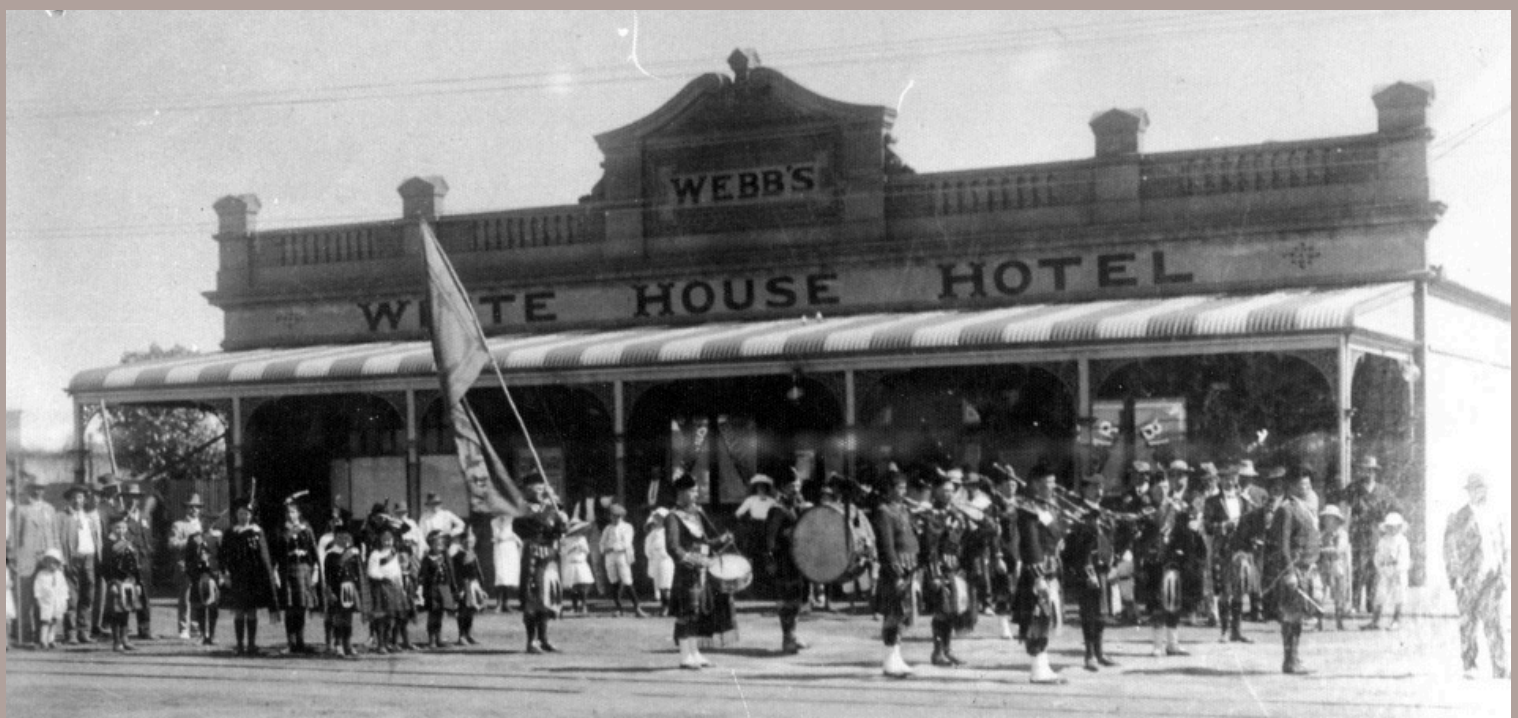
Gold has surged to unprecedented heights in Australia, with the precious metal breaking the A\$6,000 per ounce barrier for the first time in history. The record price marks a new peak for Australia's gold market, fuelled by global uncertainty, inflation pressures, and strong demand from both local and international buyers.

Gold is trading at around **\$6,300 per ounce** in Australia and has seen a rise of nearly 50% in value in just one year.

With gold reaching these historic levels, we are poised to see gold overtake some traditional exports in terms of value contribution and gold-rich areas like Leonora are seeing renewed exploration and production activity.

The surge reflects a powerful combination of global uncertainty, inflation fears, and sustained investor demand for safe-haven assets.

It is an exciting time in the goldfields, and miners and investors are optimistic about gold's future. For those wanting to try their hand at prospecting there are local companies that will set you up with the skills and knowledge to get out there and find your own treasure!



## GENESIS LEONORA CUP 2025

Congratulations to **Robbie and Jeremy Johnson**, winners of this year's Leonora Cup with **Boab Boy** on October 11. The excitement on the track was matched by the elegance of it—well done to all the Fashions on the Field entrants for bringing colour and spirit to the day. Heartfelt thanks to the committee for their incredible effort in delivering another outstanding event.



## REMEMBRANCE DAY

# 2025

### TUESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

### MEMORIAL PARK



## Important Dates

- November - whole month
- Seniors Morning Tea 4 Nov
- Melbourne Cup 4 Nov
- National Recycling Week 10-16 Nov
- Remembrance Day 11 Nov
- Curtin Uni Vet - 11 & 12 Nov
- Council meeting 18 Nov
- International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women 25 Nov



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## Council approved \$50,000 in funding for five community groups under the 2025 Community Grants Round:

- Regional Early Education and Development Inc – \$10,000
- Otitis Media Group (Inc.) – \$10,000
- Leinster Sport Recreation Association – \$10,000
- Leinster Primary School P&C – \$10,000
- Leinster Community Playgroup – \$10,000

The remaining \$10,000 from the grant pool will be reallocated to the CEO Support Grants, supporting more local initiatives throughout the year.

**Community groups are encouraged to start planning for next year's round!**



**National Recycling Week is from 10<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> of November** but that doesn't mean we should only make the effort to recycle during those dates!

Eligible cans and bottles can be exchanged for cold hard cash as part of the Containers for Change program on **Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings at the Shire Depot.**

## Murdoch University Sterilisation Program is back!

**Tuesday 11/11 and  
Wednesday 12/11  
Oval Sports Complex**

Pet Checks, Microchips and Sterilisations free of charge to Leonora residents. Pets must be registered before or on the day.

Vaccinations free for pets being sterilised or \$50 (concessions may apply).

**Book now 9037 6044**

Limited appointments available



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## Lawn Bowls Update

On September 29, the Leonora Bowls Club competed in the Boulder Bowls Club 4 Day Open. Leonora was well presented with Gonzo (Skipper), Kenny (3<sup>rd</sup>), Dougie (2<sup>nd</sup>), and Reggie (lead).

The grass surface at Boulder was very different to the Leonora synthetic surface. After a slow start and some much-needed readjusting, the lads found their rhythm.

I heard on the grapevine that some cool beverages may have helped with the readjusting process! Along the way to the final game of the tournament, the boys won all four games of split pairs, winning quite convincingly and beating the highly fancied Merredin team that includes the current state country singles champion.

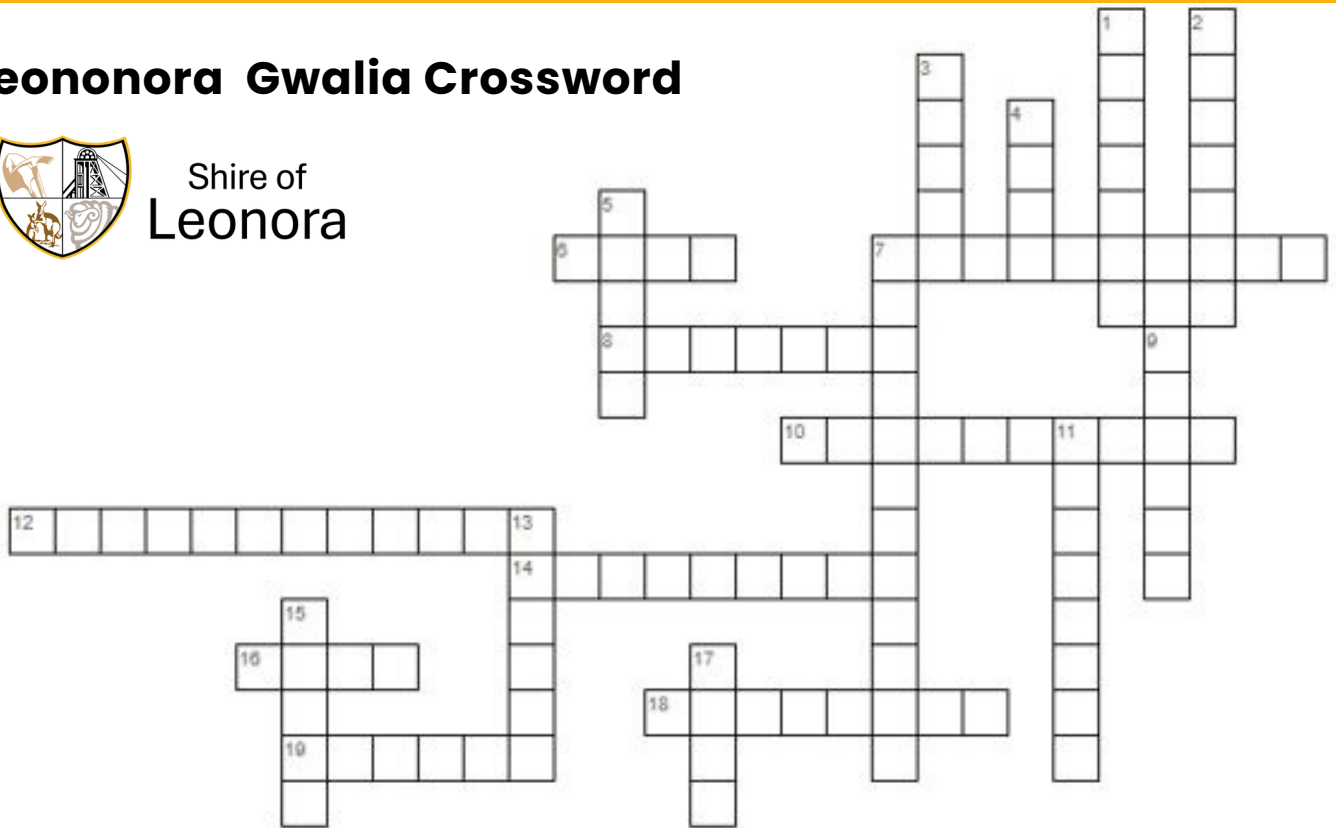
Coming into the last day of the tournament, the boys were sitting third. Losing their first team game narrowly, they blitzed the pairs winning 31-10 and were up against one of the experienced Perth Penance teams in the last game. The game went down to the wire, and unfortunately the boys went down by two shots. Had the lads won that game, they would have taken out third spot. They ended up seventh, which was quite respectable out of 20 top quality teams.

So well done to the Leonora Bowls Club, who have come from a fledgling club to being a force in regional tournaments, having finished third in the last Golden Gift out of 28 teams.

# Leonora Gwalia Crossword



Shire of  
Leonora



## Across

6. The original purpose of the building that is now the local library
7. A highly sought after native bush that is used for its fragrance
8. Another name for Bush Turkey
10. Local watering hole known as the "Cenny"
12. The name of the property where many of us learnt to ride horses
14. One of the street names shared by both Gwalia and Leonora
16. The painted rock creature loved by generations on the way to Kalgoorlie
18. An historic townsite with a surviving single pub South of Leonora
19. An early Chairman of the Shire of Leonora who was also a famous photographer

## Down

1. A delightful creature with the scientific name *Calliphoridae*
2. Family name of the Whitehouse Hotel owners
3. The local Acacia tree
4. Leonora is famous for being rich in this precious metal
5. A name shared by a village, a road, and a station to the North East of town
7. The first Aboriginal Matron at Leonora Hospital
9. Common white rock sometimes found with gold in it
11. The local rock formation also known locally as the Breakaways
13. The early mining engineer at Gwalia who went on to become a US president
15. Another US president with a name shared by one of our streets (we had it first!)
17. One of the LDHS Sports Factions

## Tjilka-ilpilpi

Introducing the flashiest bird in our bush, a mimicry songmaker, low key but elegant, dappled gold and brown with a very bright tuft of pink feathers hidden on the nape of his neck, only to be revealed for the special lady... The Western Bowerbird, or as known by his local name Tjilka-ilpilpi.

This magnificent little bird is responsible for one of the most remarkable features you find in our bush – a special nest. The “nest” is actually a bower built by the male to attract a mate – the female builds the true nest elsewhere. The Western Bowerbird decorates its bower with white and green items like stones, bones, and snail shells. Remarkably, it arranges these objects in a size gradient to create an optical illusion, making the bower appear smaller and the treasure seem huge to the female!

Photos and article courtesy of **Kado Muir**



## "Bin Chickens" in Leonora!

Whether you call them tip turkeys, bin chickens or the exquisite Australian White Ibis – the beloved birds have made an appearance at the Leonora tip. A familiar sight rummaging through rubbish bins in cities along the coast, these birds have now seemingly ventured into the goldfields. They look right at home poking through the rubbish along with our glorious resident crows. White Ibis are migrating birds and due to declines in their natural habitat they have sadly had to adapt to supplementing their diet which traditionally included small crustaceans and crickets. These birds are resilient and have had to adapt to a rapidly changing environment.

# Shire of Leonora Ordinary Council Meeting Highlights

## 21 October 2025

### **Council Committee Appointments**

Following the recent local government elections, Council appointed representatives to various committees and working groups:

- Cr Peter Craig has been appointed President with Cr Ross Norrie appointed as Deputy.
- Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee – All Councillors appointed
- Safer Leonora Working Group – Two Councillors appointed
- Local Emergency Management Committee – Two Councillors appointed
- Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils – Two Councillors appointed
- Regional Road Group – Two Councillors appointed
- Golden Quest Discovery Trail – One Councillor appointed

### **Development Assessment Panel Nominations**

Council nominated two local members and two deputy members to the Local Development Assessment Panel (DAP). Nominations will be forwarded to the Minister for Planning for final approval.

### **Appointment of Zone Delegates**

Representatives were appointed to the Goldfields Country Zone of WALGA:

- One Councillor appointed as WALGA Zone Delegate
- One Councillor and the CEO appointed as Deputy Zone Delegates

### **2025 Community Grants Round**

Council approved \$50,000 in funding for five local community groups through the 2025 Community Grants Round, with each receiving \$10,000 to support local projects and activities. The remaining \$10,000 from the grant pool will be reallocated to the CEO Support Grants to assist other community initiatives throughout the year.

### **Appointment of Acting CEO**

Council approved the appointment of Mr. Alex Baxter as Acting Chief Executive Officer from 22 October to 2 November 2025 during the CEO's leave.

### **Return of Commonwealth Contract Funds**

Council approved the return of \$470,743.47 in unspent funds as directed to the Commonwealth Government's Cashless Debit Card program, following the program's closure.

### **Financial Reports**

Council accepted the Monthly Financial Statements for September 2025

**The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 18 November 2025.**

