

## Quarterly Newsletter September 2023

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### President's Report



The position of GCA president remains vacant for any community minded person. Please contact Linda Johnson if you have an interest in Guilderton's future and magnifying the viewpoint of the locals.

### Vice-president's Report

Your GCA committee is elected each January at our AGM. All members are welcome to nominate, however this year only the core of our secretary Bruce, treasurer Maggie, Vice chair Linda, Arts co-ordinator and website co-ordinator Kerry, Visitor Centre's Linda and committee man Wil remain.

Katie applied for a Shire grant to run the Carols in the Park and an Easter music event which has been approved and she will co-ordinate, many thanks Katie!

We would welcome more input and ask you to consider what you can do for the town and

maybe talk to us or join the committee next January.

The committee meets 4 times a year, besides the AGM, and is the community's body communicating your issues with the Shire. Some of you will be aware of the Shire Coastal Hazard Risk Management Adaptation Plan (CHRMAP) that is being formulated and is causing consternation in towns that will be worse affected by climate change than we are likely to be. GCA asked for hard copies of these lengthy documents which you can see at the Country Club or borrow by asking Linda (ring 0414 631 273). She went to the public meetings at Lancelin and Seabird too.

The public comment period is now closed and the forthcoming documents will become the Shire template for future decisions.

We don't think they will affect us in Guilderton much or soon, unless the Shire is expected to pay for interventions in other towns.

What does affect us is the Shire's determination to charge our visitors to park at the foreshore. See our June newsletter for more details.

After our appeals, the Shire decided to suspend charging for July and August and still ask visitors to get a free ticket. They call this a 'trial' but we ask what it can possibly show?? We have no idea and none has been explicated stated thus far. Are they measuring the number of tickets taken or counting cars or asking the shop if they're busier?? What will these numbers be compared with and why?

GCA has asked that parking ticket hours be reduced in summer and that parking be free from May to September.

At least this 'trial' may be a start to reducing the enormous burden that many visitors feel in coming here. We hope to be consulted on future plans.

Linda Johnson  
Vice president  
0414 631 273

### **Moore Arts Report**

#### **LOCAL HANDMADE ART AND CRAFT MARKETS**

The art craft markets proved to be very successful with many stallholders attending to give a wide range of items for visitors and locals.

The Moore Arts will again host several market days in Gabbadah Park Guilderton in the coming months.

We need local artists and crafts people to come down and sell their works between 9 am and 1 pm. Of course we also need visitors and locals to come and purchase. If you have a holiday house that you lease out, please advertise this event on the fridge.

Stall holder cost will be \$20 which will include Insurance if you don't already have it. The stipulation is that you sell homemade items, not used or store-bought items.

#### **PROPOSED DATES**

Sunday 24th September 2023

Sunday 17th December 2023

Saturday 27th January 2024

Sunday 3rd March 2024 (Labour Day Long Weekend)

Monday 1st April 2024 (Easter Monday) TBC

Please contact Kerry Jones 0437903138 or

Julie Polette 0410582817 for more

information

or [guildymarkets@gmail.com](mailto:guildymarkets@gmail.com) to have an entry form emailed out to you.

We also have a FACEBOOK page Guilderton Art & Craft Market which will have the latest information and updates as we organise these events.

Kerry Jones

Moore Arts Coordinator

### **GUILDERTON ISSUES ARTICLE**

#### **The current issues**

GCA looks to the present and the future of our town. At our AGM next January, we will be explaining and recommending some changes. Here is an outline of what we and some of you have told us are the issues. Our solutions will follow in future editions. As always, we welcome your input on these issues and your ideas of some solutions.

Guilderton is a lovely coastal town on the estuary of the Moore River, where 'the river meets the sea'.

It is in a wonderfully natural state with healthy water, bush and surrounds that support healthy populations of fish, birds and other animals and plants. We hardly ever have an insect problem because the balance is so good! Locals love it like this and many of our visitors comment on how rare it is to find these things these days, especially so close to a capital city. We are not looking for 'development' but simply a more effective use of the already developed areas of the town.

The past two summers have been especially difficult for Guilderton which seem to be the consequence of several ongoing issues. With 160 residents and thousands of visitors daily over summer, there are about 120 days a year where we can no longer meet visitor expectations of being able to use a lovely estuary for recreation.

The other 245 days are between 'relatively' and 'absolutely' quiet and the town stays as it always has been.

In 2023 Guilderton needs to better cater for the busy times, especially over summer.

The 'busy time' problems

- **Congestion on the foreshore.** For many years there has been a huge and competing demand for parking, picnicking, boating, swimming, fishing, caravanning and camping

with facilities we believe have never been met by anything like 'modern standards'.

A single road down to the foreshore carpark has to cope with traffic both ways, including caravans, trailers and trucks.

The caravan park has a 'one way in and out' road and little parking for waiting vehicles. Long vehicles often struggle to negotiate the traffic, especially at busy times.

- **Paid Parking** was instigated nearly 5 years ago and has had a very negative influence on the town's visitors.

7am - 7pm fees every day has seen use of the paid areas become very low for many, many hours, days and months.

Though the shire promised 'all revenue would be spent on foreshore upgrades', the money is nowhere to be seen yet.

It's use needs to be very carefully, and quickly considered if we are not to wait much longer for solutions that meet the many needs of our locals and visitors.

- **Existing facilities, including ablutions and picnic shelters** were built many decades ago and a 'lick of paint' periodically does not disguise their inadequacies and unfitness for purpose.

The cleaners and maintenance crew do their best but the facilities are old and awful now – probably beyond redemption through a makeover.

There are only two cold outdoor showers on the foreshore. When travellers stop by and go for a shower and change, they are sadly disappointed. As are the Japanese (etc) tourists who get out of the buses and come out of the facilities scowling and dismayed.

The Shire insists that we are 'RV friendly', but with no dump point, water point, 24 hour stopping or easy parking access, those without caravan park bookings have to retreat to the Indian Ocean Drive river crossing area to be allowed to stay overnight. Well that is closed now too!

- Administration of the Shire-owned **caravan park and cafe/shop** has been the source of many and varied complaints for a long time

but never more so than over the last 2 summers. Locals are pleased with the IGA shop as it is, but all remain sorry that there is no cafe facility in town, (except for a very limited one at the Roadhouse). After more than two years we are still hopeful for progress soon.

As climate change and raised sea levels inevitably affect the town, the current foreshore is the most vulnerable area.

### **Possible solutions**

**A** Continue to spend money to tinker with the old, outdated current arrangement, or

**B** Stretch the town back up the hill.

More to follow but please tell us what you think. Email [guildertongca@gmail.com](mailto:guildertongca@gmail.com)

### **Guilderton Visitor's Centre**

Spring has Sprung - and with it lots of lovely wattle coming out everywhere. We have had a very mixed 3 months at the Visitors Centre, some very busy days but few... and some very quiet days lots.... We're hoping with the Cafe reopening, busyness should improve along with less of the same question every week - where can we get a coffee? and something to eat?

Despite such a wonderful outlook from the foreshore Guilderton has really suffered from the lack of services. We have also had a few volunteers away on holidays & have been really short-staffed. If you have a few hours to spare we would love to have you join us. Enjoy Spring.

Linda Buxton

**Caravan Park Relocation** – time to make start thinking about the look of Guilderton's future foreshore

With increasing pressure on visitor amenities in Guilderton, the limited available foreshore to cater for visitors is unsustainable as evidenced by the need for paid parking. Foreshore land is scarce and demand for space has exceeded supply, hence the opportunity

for Council to benefit financially through paid parking – the only such in the Shire!

GCA believes that the relocation of the Guilderton caravan park would attract and cater for more visitors by:

Expanding the usable foreshore to more than double its current size for much enhanced public enjoyment,

Increasing the green open area along the entire foreshore,

Repurposing the vacated land as public parkland for recreation,

Increasing available parking (caravan park users' cars have been seen to take up parking space) and reducing parking pressure along the foreshore,

Removing excessive/hazardous congestion of large rigs at the caravan park entry

Avoiding further capital works for sewerage treatment,

Allowing removal of the existing outdated ablution facilities along the foreshore by using the remaining caravan park ablution building for public use, and

Avoiding the current caravan park size limiting the number of campers and the size of modern rigs able to visit Guilderton

Should the caravan park ever be moved, the Visitor Centre and Guilderton Community Library could be moved into the Caravan park office building. It would be proposed that the chalets can remain and a low-rise motel/apartment building overlooking the foreshore could be developed.

Building a bigger and better caravan park will increase capacity and accommodation options for holidaymakers, hence benefitting the town businesses which we have seen struggle.

GCA has presented the above ideas to the Guilderton Foreshore Working Party and Councillors, with the idea of moving the caravan park to the larger and vacant land south and east of the Guilderton Roadhouse. We believe it will take a lot of rate payer impetus to achieve any Council movement on the relocation idea, so if you think the above is a good thing, please let your Shire Counsellors know your feelings. The future benefits to Guilderton appear obvious to us.

## Dunes forever

On Sunday 18th June, we had a lovely sunny morning down on the Guilderton dunes planting native seedlings with the 30 volunteers who came along to help - including an iridescent tutu-wearing toddler 😊 We intensively planted the final section of the degraded dunes we've been fixing up for the past 4 years before moving on to a second area.

Some of the planters amid some of the plants.



We planted and guarded over 800 seedlings and then did a rain dance before enjoying a roast lunch at the Club. Huge thanks to Rachel and Helen from Moore Catchment Council for arranging the grants and growing the seedlings, everyone who helped out and to the State Natural Resource Management Programme WA for funding the seedlings 🌱 😊

## FOMRE Report

Friends of Moore River Estuary are doing our next water quality monitoring boat trip on Thursday Sept 7th - 9am to noon approx. We go in Cooky's boat, with DWER staff to five sites on the estuary where we test for several qualities. If you'd like to join us then please ring Linda.

Last month we had a very windy storm blow through town and do some damage but all winter (so far) we haven't had any storms from the sea as we usually do. This is demonstrated by how much sand is still on the beach (normally at least a couple of meters height is washed away in winter and the storms erode

right up to the dune line on high tides), and the sandbar is still much thicker than we expect in winter.

The usual frequent winter bar breaks occur because of a combination of a weaker sandbar and stronger river water flow from rain inland. We have only had 307mm of rain in Guilderton this year so far. This has meant that most of the estuary filling with water is still happening from the springs along the banks of the estuary and there has been little inflow from Moore River upstream or Ginging Brook (they both join at Neergabby).

The estuary has been quite full but there hasn't been enough flow for it to break naturally. Despite this, vandals have decided to cut the sandbar, mostly on Saturdays, so the estuary has been draining each weekend for the last couple of months at least. Despite a lot of estuary water flowing out (and the fun this gives surfers and visitors) this means that no proper estuarine flushing happens. It's a sad fact that it is people who wreck nature!! So far, our beautiful estuary appears to remain healthy despite these insults. We hope you are enjoying the natural delights of this special place.

Linda Johnson  
FOMRE Chairperson  
Mob 0414631273

## Community Library Report

Wow, it's hard to believe that we celebrated seventeen years of the Community Library on the 6 July.



Although those years have flown since our humble beginnings, we can all be proud of the achievements.

With the help of our wonderful volunteers we can maintain this wonderful resource. This quarter we have welcomed four new members and hope they enjoy the diversity of novels available.

We were fortunate to receive a massive selection of new books and DVDs with many being 2023 releases. As we have a lot of duplication copies we will be holding a book stall on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> of September outside the library from 8.30 am until 12 noon.

Also a library stall will be held at the Moore Men's Shed Open Day on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> of November. Keep these dates free please.

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who continue to allow us to provide this fabulous facility.

Madeleine Henshaw  
Community Library Coordinator

## Secret Chef

### Nonya Lime Chicken

#### Ingredients

750g skinless chicken thighs  
1 medium red onion, diced  
\*Sambal oelek 1 -2 tablespoons  
2 cloves of garlic, roughly chopped  
2 stems of lemongrass (white part only)  
4 kaffir lime leaves, roughly chopped  
1 and a half cans of coconut milk  
Salt and pepper  
1/3 cup of lime juice  
Long red mild chili sliced for garnish

*\*Sambal oelek is an Indonesian chili paste available in almost all supermarkets.*

#### Method

Heat the oil in your wok and sauté the onion. Add a paste made in your blender with garlic, lemongrass, sambal oelek and the lime leaves.

Whilst simmering, cut chicken thighs into large chunks and add them to the work until the chicken is browned.

Add the coconut milk and simmer until the meat is tender (about 15 minutes) and the liquid is mostly dried up.



Season and add lime juice just before serving with rice, shredded lime leaves and some chili for colour. This dish is lovely with cubed aubergines if you want vegetarian or just to add more veges such as baby bok choy to the dish.

## **Champagne poached pears**

### **Ingredients**

5 pears  
1 cup sugar  
1 bottle champagne  
2 cups water  
1 cinnamon stick, halved  
1 lemon, zested  
1 orange, zested  
Cream or ice-cream to serve

### **Method**

Peel the pears, keeping the stems intact if possible. Squeeze a little lemon juice over them to stop them from browning. Place the sugar, champagne, water, cinnamon, lemon and orange zest in a large saucepan over medium heat. Stir until sugar has fully

dissolved then increase heat and bring to the boil.



Once the poaching liquid has come to the boil, reduce the heat again and add the pears. Cover the pears completely with a piece of baking paper. Cook for 20 minutes or until tender.

Allow to cool completely or serve warm with cream or ice-cream and a drizzle of poaching liquid.

## **Guildie Gallery**



**Moore Arts Council presents  
Local Art & Craft Market  
September 24th**

**at Gabbadah Park  
From 9am—1 pm .**

**Plenty of stalls of locally made  
art and craft products for sale.**

**Fundraising food stall onsite  
for purchase.**

**Stalls only \$20 each  
to book email  
[guildmarkets@gmail.com](mailto:guildmarkets@gmail.com)**

**For more info call  
Kerry 0437903138**

**Next Market December 17th**





**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND RENEWAL FORM 2022**

**\$15 Single Membership \$30 Double Membership.**

- Member Name(s)\*

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- Postal Address\*

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- Street Address

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

- Email\*

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- Phone\*

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- Please return this form to the GCA ([guildertongca@gmail.com](mailto:guildertongca@gmail.com)) and remit by:
  - Cash to the Visitor Centre or Community Library, OR
  - Cheque posted to GCA, PO Box 1101 Guilderton WA 6041, OR
  - Bank Deposit to GCA at the Bendigo Bank:  
BSB: 633000  
Account: 145418018  
Reference: Please use your surname as the reference
  - \* Indicates mandatory information required