

WINTER NEWS

Brought to you by the
PCA | PORONGURUP
Community Assoc.

ISSUE: JULY 2024

A great time to enjoy bush walks, wine tasting and art ...

We wish to welcome both the visitors to our region as well as the new residents who are joining our small but active community. Beyond the beauty and the history of the Porongurup, there is a thriving community who welcome your involvement, whether as a volunteer on one of our many and varied committees, as a volunteer firefighter, or perhaps as a participant or attendee at one of the many events and activities that occur each year.

If you need to know the local tip days, where to find the Silver Shed for the monthly Social Sunday (on the first Sunday of every month), how to get to Castle Rock, where to find the famous Field of Dreams to see the local cricket team, the Woodburners, or even information on the local trades, simply call in to the Tearooms and ask for further information. You can even set up a regular Saturday's West Newspaper order in your name, just ask Scott.

A reminder to residents that the local Snow Ball tickets are now available, suggest you get in quick, as you know it will be a sell out once again. As many would be aware, the fire bans have lifted and many are taking advantage to finally burn those stockpiles. If you are a new resident we recommend touching base with the local fire chief who can guide you on the do's and don't's to ensure a responsible and safe community. We did observe some newbies with open fires prior to the ban being lifted in June! We have had some terrible fires impact our community in the past, please be aware of fire regulations.

With Karribank being a popular destination for visitors from far and wide, after 27 years, we bid farewell to Chris and John Blythe. Having commenced their journey here in 1997, they now move on to their next adventure (rumour has it to Albany after a well deserved holiday). And we look forward to welcoming Karribank's new owners. We note from their website the venue is closed until the Spring.

As those that visited the 2024 Art in the Porongurup are aware, with thanks to the Shire of Plantagenet, the new leach drains for the future replacement toilets for the Porongurup Hall have been installed on the rear tennis court. The longer term plans for the new toilet upgrade are ongoing and we appreciate the Shire and Councilors support for this project, which is indicated to span several years. In addition, in July the Shire is in the process of installing external solar light poles at the hall, which will make evening activities much safer. With thanks to the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR), we are in the process of implementing last year's \$10,000 grant to assist hall lighting and upgrade the switchboard.

It is with a saddened heart that we, as a community, extend to Scott, Sayah, Talhi, Sean and the Drummond Family, our sincere condolences on the passing of Di. Words can not express how much she meant to the community, please see over for more details.

On a brighter note, we wish to congratulate Clayton Walton and Kaysanne Knuckey, on the birth of your new son, Marri. We just hope he enjoys cricket as much as his Dad! And you are both on notice, as we will hold you to the promise of bringing your bundle of joy to a Social Sunday one day soon! We have also heard whispers of more love in the air, with the engagement of our well known Castle Rock Estate winemaker, Rob Diletti and his now fiancé, Emma, we wish you both all the best for your future! To our readers, we hope you enjoy this update!

21st Snow Ball

This month's hot ticket item.

When: 7.30 pm, Saturday, 3rd August 2024

Where: Porongurup Hall.

BYO: drinks & nibbles

Cost: \$40 pp, includes band & light supper

Contact the Porongurup Tearooms
and Shop for tickets. P: 9853 1110

Dress to impress!

Great prizes for "Belle" & "Beau" of the Ball!

Great Scott!



Photo credit: Bo Jahmaat

**SEE OVER FOR DETAILS OF OUR
VERY OWN OAM RECIPIENT**

**THE ALBANY INTERNATIONAL
FOLK 'N' SHANTY FESTIVAL
2024**

**FRI 5TH to
SUN 7TH JULY**

Part of the
MARITIME FESTIVAL

NZ WELLINGTON SEA SHANTY SOCIETY
QLD THE INADEQUATES
WA GINA WILLIAMS & GUY GHOUSE
QLD THE SALTY SIRENS
VIC QUEEN OF HEARTS

PLUS MANY MANY MANY MANY MORE

Check out this year's programme
<https://albanyfolkshantyfest.com/programme/>

Spinners & Weavers

Usually meet every Thursday in the Porongurup Hall from 10 am until 2 pm.

For more information check out the Porongurup Craft Group Facebook page or contact fionajglen@gmail.com.

Check out www.poronguruphall.asn.au or follow the Porongurup Community Association on Facebook

Congratulations

HEAR YE, HEAR YE - SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT - 9 June 2024

King's Birthday 2024 Honours List

MR SCOTT DRUMMOND

awarded Medal (OAM) of the Order of Australia in the General Division

In recognition of their exceptional service or achievement in our community, the King's Birthday 2024 Honours List featured 65 Western Australian award recipients. Our Scott was one of them.

The Governor-General and Chancellor of the Order of Australia, His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd), has announced a total of 737 awards in the King's Birthday 2023 Honours List. This is the final Honours List to be announced by Governor-General Hurley in his term.

His Excellency the Honourable Chris Dawson AC APM, Governor of Western Australia will formally confer Honours to Western Australian recipients with the insignia of their appointments and awards at an Investiture Ceremony in September.

Scott is noted for his service to the communities of Porongurup and Mount Barker.

- President, Porongurup Community Association, since 2000
 - Co-Owner, Porongurup Village Inn, Shop, & Tearooms, since 1990.
 - Treasurer, Porongurup Promotions Association, current.
 - Committee Member, Mount Barker Tourist Bureau, since 1995.
 - Member, Porongurup Bush Fire Brigade, current.
 - 25-year Volunteer Service Award, Western Australian Department of Local Government and Communities, 2017
 - Friends of the Porongurup Range • Treasurer, since 1992. • Former President
 - Former Member, Arts in the Park Committee
 - Plantagenet Scout Group, Scouts Western Australia • Former Scout Leader and Group Leader. • Foundation Member, 2010.
- Awards and Recognition include:
- 10 Year Service Award, Scouts Western Australia, 2019
 - Certificate of Merit, Scouts Western Australia, 2013



Scott in his well known West Coast Eagles dressing gown, presented with Garry Mulder's version of the OAM on a very heavy chain!

On behalf of the PCA committee, Members and the broader Porongurup Community, we wish to congratulate and thank Scott for his amazing community achievements. As humble as ever, he told us, OAM really simply stands for Ordinary Australian Male.

We obviously dispute this, as, we think you would agree, there is nothing ordinary about you Mr Drummond. Maybe you would consider EAM, Extraordinary Australian Male!

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE PORONGURUP RANGE NATIONAL PARK

The Porongurup National Park lies within the traditional lands of the Minang group of the Nyungar people (Green 1984; South Australian Museum 2006). They feature in Nyungar cosmological accounts of the beginning of the world. It was here that different forms of life emerged from the earth and began to grow and move about (Colbung & Montrose 1994). Borongah, local Nyungar peoples' totem beings first-walked the earth during the 'Dreamtime', sometimes in the shape of human beings but not always. As Borongah walked the earth, they left marks of their travels resulting in the contours of the earth. Borongah and Waugal, the Rainbow Snake, made the shape of the earth and all its natural features (Colbung & Montrose 1994).

Traditionally, Minang Nyungar people followed a pattern of seasonal movement between the coast and the interior around the area of what is now the Porongurup National Park. While on the coast during the warmer months they built temporary-homes from available material, including grass trees, bark, and branches. During April and September, groups travelled inland to each group's respective territory to avoid the heavy coastal rains and damp conditions and exploit winter resources such as roots, tubers, kangaroos, and possums (Hallam 1975; Meagher 1974; Anderson 1984).

First contact between Europeans and the Minang Nyungar people was in 1801 when Matthew Flinders visited what is now King George Sound. Friendly relations were established as was the case when Captain Nicolas Baudin visited the area in 1803 and when Admiral Phillip Parker King stopped at King George Sound in 1818 and 1821 (Green 1984).

In December 1826, Major Edmund Lockyer arrived at King George Sound aboard the Amity, and established a military garrison for the British colony. Lockyer established good relations with Nyungar, which were maintained over the next ten years. However, the development of the Albany settlement led to conflict over land and access to resources and these harmonious relations began to deteriorate (Green 1984). In June 1828, Captain Joseph Wakefield led an expedition inland to map the Kalgan River and explore the mountains called Purrengorup. Wakefield's party, led by Aboriginal guides, Mokare and Nankina ascended the hill on the eastern side of the range, and enjoyed clear views to Corjennurruf (Stirling Ranges) (Mulvaney & Green 1992; Herford & Burchell 1996).

The Porongurup Range attracted the attention of early European settlers at King George Sound because of the richer green foliage of the karri contrasting with the surrounding country. The first pastoral lease to include the Range was taken out by John McKail in 1859. Logging of karri and jarrah commenced in the early 1900s and the Porongurup area once supported several timber mills. The Bolganup Homestead and Karribank were opened as guest houses in the 1920s.

The Porongurup Range was gazetted as a national park in 1925. By the 1930s it was a leading tourist destination. Historical sites within the Park include The Old Farm, Waddy's Hut, and the ruins of the old Mira Flores homestead (CALM 1999).

Source: <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/porongurup.pdf>

SOUTH WEST NATIVE TITLE SETTLEMENT

On Thursday 20 June 2024, Peter Twigg presented an update on this Settlement to the Friends of the Porongurup.

The Settlement: 250 years after England assumed sovereignty a voluntary agreement was struck between native title parties and other people/bodies regarding use and management of Australia's unoccupied Crown Lands in Southwest WA. The Settlement is made up of six (6) individual Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs). <http://www.nntt.gov.au/ILUAs/Pages/default.aspx>

- Yued People (Jurien, Moora, Lancelin, Gingin).
- Gnaala Karla Boodja (Mandurah, Bunbury, Donnybrook).
- South West Boojarah (Busselton, Dunsborough, Margaret River, Pemberton, Nannup).
- Ballardong People (York, Northam, Hyden, Kondinin).
- Whadjuk People (Perth Metropolitan area).
- Wagyl Kaip and Southern Noongar (Katanning, Gnowangerup, Albany).

The Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar agreement region refers to Ganeang, Goreng and Menang dialectal groups from the Great Southern area of Western Australia. The region includes the towns of Boyup Brook, Gnowangerup, Bridgetown, Walpole, Denmark, Mt Barker, Cranbrook, Tambellup, Katanning, Kojonup, Nyabing, Jerramungup, Ravensthorpe, Hopetoun, Bremer Bay and Albany. The approximate size of the Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar region is 52,246 sq kms. There are many cultural and significant sites within the region including the Stirling Ranges.

The Noongar Land Estate (NLE), a part of the South West Native Title Settlement, will initially include up to 300,000 ha of land to be allocated as reserve or leasehold and up to 20,000 ha of land allocated as freehold for cultural or economic development use. This land will be sourced from unallocated Crown land, unmanaged reserves and Aboriginal Lands Trust properties (\$46.8m). The first land transfers occurred on 14 July 2021. For more information on the Noongar Land Estate visit Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage: <https://www.noongar.org.au/noongar-land-estate> <https://www.noongar.org.au/noongar-land-estate>

WA Government contributions to (NBT):

- South west native title settlement yearly cash payments:
- \$50 million to the Noongar Future Fund;
- \$10 million for operational funding for the Noongar Corporations over 12 years. (First payment was made 22/4/21)
- The Department of Communities will transfer 121 housing properties (\$10 million) and provide funding for maintenance and upgrades to these properties.

Office Accommodation and Land:

- 2a) Funding and up to two hectares of land for the development of a Noongar Cultural Centre in the Perth metropolitan area (\$5.3 million);
- 2b) Funding for the Noongar Corporations' office accommodation.

Joint management of Stirling Range National Park: Agreement between DBCA with Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar Aboriginal Corporation.

Conservation estate fact sheet: Noongar Co-operative & Joint Management of the Conservation Estate. [Conservation+Estate+Factsheet.pdf](https://www.noongar.org.au/Conservation+Estate+Factsheet.pdf)

Prepare for delays on Chester Pass Road and Menang Drive as road works commence soon for the fly over ramp to take trucks heading south up and over Menang Drive.

Bolganup Car Park works are nearing completion. The path has been bitumenised (refer to our last issue for the saving of the trap door spiders before the bitumen) and facilities upgraded and Nancy's Peak trail has been rejuvenated. Rumour, reopening within a few weeks.

ART IN THE PORONGURUP

17-26 APRIL 2025

With thanks to the Bendigo Bank, we are off and racing for organizing the 23rd sculpture nature trail for next years family friendly community event held from Easter Friday.

The Bendigo Bank's recent round of community grants has kicked off our event funding. If you are interested in supporting this event, which attracted approximately 1,700 local, intrastate, interstate and international visitors this year, please contact us via artintheponngurup6324@gmail.com.

To our established and emerging sculptural artists across the Great Southern and beyond, be on notice to start planning for the 2025 ART IN THE PORONGURUP!

Community Bank
Mount Barker

 **Bendigo Bank**

Supporting
your
community

NEW OPERATING HOURS FOR PORONGURUP TEAROOMS

Monday to Friday 8 am to 4 pm,

Saturday 9.30 am to 5pm,

Sunday 8 am to 5 pm.

HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE SCRUBBY CREEK BUSH CAMP?

We hear from Jack the camp is now 'officially' registered. Congratulations to Mr Shiner. Your opening is getting closer, watch this space.

For further information contact
Jack Shiner on 0427 985 322.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF DIANE SUSAN DRUMMOND

(1964-2024)

Daughter, sister, lover, wife, mother, friend, environmentalist, conservationist, world traveler, Scott translator, cook extraordinaire, artist, problem solver, pacifier, bush walker, dearly missed.

Diane Drummond, is a beloved member of our community, who left us on April 27, 2024. Diane was a lifelong resident of Plantagenet with her childhood home being farmland in Kendenup before returning from traveling aboard to settle in the Porongurups. Here, while running the Porongurup shop with her husband of 28 years, Scott Drummond, Diane helped raise three children: Sayah, Tahli, and Sean.

Diane was a vibrant woman who was the backbone of the Porongurup for decades; supporting many different organisations including Friends of the Porongurup Range, Porongurup Community Association, Mount Barker Girl Guides, Porongurup Promotions Association, and more. Even as she lost her energy through her battle with numerous cancers over the last decade she stayed passionate about servicing the community and the environment. She had friends throughout the world due to her adventurous spirit and giving personality.

In her memory, the Drummond family has collated an exhibition of Diane's life that will be open at the Porongurup Shop for all to see all that she had accomplished and say goodbye in their own time. This exhibition will close on the 27 of July, when Diane would have turned 60.

Keep track of events
in our region

Check out: www.poronguruphall.asn.au
www.mountbarkerwa.com.au
www.porongurup.asn.au
www.porongurupinn.com.au

A Friends of Porongurup update by Lucia Quearry

HONOURING A FELLOW CONSERVATIONIST, CYRIL BROWN

The June Social Sunday at Twin Creeks was a special day with guests, Jessica Rae Wolff and Karen Tyson, attending on behalf of the Perth Walking Club. Our guests came to see the furniture the Friends have purchased as part of a bequest in honour of the Walking Club's long time dedicated member Cyril Brown. Cyril passed in 1983, however, his will stipulated a range of key conservation areas to which he wished to contribute. His estate has grown over time, which has led to the recent bequest at Twin Creeks. Mr Brown had visited Twin Creeks several times with the Club and had always enjoyed the views and the walks. The Club has representation for his estate and determined an appropriate donation to the Friends to buy a bench or table to be installed at a salubrious location for the enjoyment of future visitors and walkers.

With funds from both Cyril Brown and Tjeerd Poutsma (long time dedicated member of the Friends) two picnic tables and 5 benches were purchased and labelled with appropriate plaques to honour the contribution from both men. The furniture was positioned with Jessica-Rae's and Karen's approval. Jessica-Rae gave us a brief history of Mr Brown and his lifetime contribution to conservation and appreciation of the Australian bush. A sincere thank you was given to both ladies for being there for the dedication.




Above: Jessica Rae Wolfe, left, facing Karen Tyson on the right, gave an emotional overview of Cyril Brown's contribution to conservation.

Below: some well known identities, Peter Luscombe left, Bo Jhmaat on the right, assist to position the new chairs.



Memories
by Dave Foster



I knew 'Old 'Cyril well. I say 'Old' Cyril because that's how folk called him. I suspect from when he was about 16 years old. It was with a mixture of respect and affection. He was a passionate man, Australian literature, Stirling Ranges and his religion were his great loves. I believe he had at one time studied to be a Catholic priest but did not take up this profession.

He had a great affection for his dog, Peter. Whereas he had other dogs when I knew him, Peter Guide was Number 1. Before I walked with him regularly I kept finding little notes on the top of mountains saying 'Cyril and Peter Guide were here' (It was legal to then take your dog).

He was well educated having studied at Cambridge (UK) and Spain (Spanish history); the later being interrupted by the Spanish Civil War. He was well travelled and a keen member of the Y.H.A.

He was briefly associated with the 'Australia First' political party. This made him a suspect when W.W.2 started. He volunteered for the army but, he told me, that although he was officially a machine gunner, a large part of the time he was cleaning latrines.

I met Cyril through the W.W.C. My regular walking partner had emigrated to South Africa to care for a sick relative, then staying there when he inherited the relative's business on his death.

I was keen on mountain walking and had to go down to the Stirlings on my own. My wife was not happy at this and when Cyril suggested I go down with him as he was writing a walker's guide, I gratefully accepted. We went down numerous times but never for more than a few days at a time as I had work and family constraints. He had no such restrictions, being rich enough not to worry about employment.

He did not like driving so I would put my tent and gear into his VW Combie and drive down, or sometimes meeting him down there (my transport at this time was 'Mini Moke' cheap!). His Combie was permanently packed ready to go. We camped at various places which would not be legal now.

He had already been responsible for the nomenclature of the first decent map suitable for walking in the Stirlings. I believe Geoff Dean and Geoff Schaffer (of Bibbulmun Track fame) were largely responsible for the cartography. Before this map was available the only maps available were army maps, the features on which were largely the result of cartographer's imagination. Cyril used to say the Japanese had more accurate maps.

Cyril was a knowledgeable botanist and knew most of the names of the plants in Latin in which he was fluent.

He lived in a beautiful house in South Perth within a lion's roar of the zoo. One room was set aside for prayer and meditation, another was a beautiful library lined with glass fronted book-shelves and works of art. Whereas he was married it was no secret that it was an unhappy union, His wife lived interstate. Whereas Cyril was a devout Christian and I have no religion we discussed religion, fate, morals and the meaning of life with the possibility of a here-after and remained friends.

My 4 'kids' remember him with affection. It's a great pity he was childless. What a great father he would have been.

NB- The finished manuscript for his guide book went missing on his death.

Jessica read from Cyril's obituary which was sourced from the 1983 club magazine page 3 by Bob Frayne.

The below is a summary from the article.

Cyril Brown died on 18 September 1983, originally from Adelaide, he joined the Western Walk Club in 1953. At the time he was described as a talkative lad, a reputation which was to remain with him.

Due to his literacy ability he undertook editorship of the club magazine. His contributions were many and varied, witty and wise, verse and prose. In 1974 he was elected an honorary life member of the club. A keen environmentalist, Cyril was active in the Tree Society, The Wildflower Association, and the Naturalist's Club. In addition, he was a keen youth hosteller and travelled widely overseas, staying at Y.H.A. hostels. He undertook numerous climbing trips to the Stirling Range which held a great fascination for him. Few who have climbed with him will ever forget his spare frame clad in shorts bounding up steep places with unbelievable energy, talking the while without cease, whilst others lesser mortals had not breathed enough to comment.

He was a scholarly man, kind and gentle. He had a great love of classical music, particularly opera, and of the theatre. A devout Catholic, he was active in his local church, and derived great comfort in his faith during his illness. His last literary work, published just before his death, was a biography of his own father, a prominent South Australian judge. A definite guide to the Stirling Range remains unfinished and was to be completed by a close friend and fellow enthusiast. Alas, the manuscript went missing after his death. Born in 1906, Cyril was 76 years old when he died. He was survived by his widow.

The Friends were approached by Cyril's estate for a suitable project to acknowledge his interest in conservation. The new furniture bequested by both Cyril's and Tjeerd's estates will provide spaces for contemplation for visitors to the Twin Creeks Reserve.

PCA

Explore, enjoy, revive...

The Porongurup Community Association Inc. is a 100% volunteer group who's objective is to foster community spirit and fellowship in the Porongurup. The Porongurup Hall is managed by The (PCA). Events at the hall include art exhibitions, balls, craft groups and music performances. For your free membership and further information please go to www.poronguruphall.asn.au or email info@poronguruphall.asn.au

Your PCA Team

President:	Scott Drummond	Committee:	Allen Kennedy
Treasurer:	Fiona Glen		Leanne Cluett
Secretary:	Helen Purves		Lucia Quearry
			Sayah Drummond
			Strawb Healy
			Susie Woytaszek

The Barker Art Scene

There are some great local artists displaying in a range of media. For who is open when check out this website...
www.thebarkerartscene.com

Please support our local businesses:

Castle Rock Estate

Wine tastings, cheese platters. 7 days, 10 am to 4.30 pm

2660 Porongurup Rd, Porongurup PH: 9853 1035

Duke's Vineyard

Wine tastings and art gallery. Friday to Monday, 11 am to 4.30 pm (Closed from 2pm on 12.07.24 reopen on 15.07.24)

1328 Porongurup Rd, Porongurup PH: 9853 1107

Ironwood Estate

Wine tastings, morning & afternoon tea and lunch. Wednesday to Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm

2191 Porongurup Rd, Porongurup PH: 9853 1126

Karri On Bar

Please note, Karribank is under new management and will reopen in the spring. please check their website or Facebook

1983 Porongurup Rd, Porongurup PH: 98 531022

Maleeya's Thai Cafe

If you want to try this popular café you had better book ahead. Usually open for dinner Friday and Saturday night, and lunch on Saturday and Sunday. Closed from 15 June to 30 August for their winter break, please check their website maleeya.com.au

1416 Mount Barker, Porongurup Rd, Porongurup PH: 9853 1123

Porongurup Range Tourist Park

Powered and non powered camp sites. Located opposite the main entrance of the Porongurup Range National Park.

7 Boxhill Rd, Porongurup PH: 0404 062 943

Porongurup Tearooms

Enjoy breakfast, lunch, morning or afternoon tea, gifts, art and fuel. Open 7 days
Monday to Friday 8 am to 4 pm, Saturday 9.30 am to 5pm, and Sunday 8 am to 5 pm.

1972 Porongurup Rd, Porongurup PH: 9853 1110

Woodlands Distillery

Whiskey, spirits and light meals. Friday to Tuesday, 11 am to 4 pm, track them on Facebook

1455 O'Neill Rd, Porongurup

New to the area, why not meet the locals at our monthly Social Sunday



Check out the Friends of the Porongurup's "Social Sundays" All welcome

When: the first Sunday every month
Where: Midday at the Silver Shed, Twin Creeks, 326 Knight Road, Porongurup

You do not need to be a member of the Friends to join this social lunch!!

Please bring a plate to share or something for the barbie and we'll catch up on what is happening within the Porongurup area

Occasionally the date changes, check with Susie on 0428 854 110 www.porongurup.org.au