



# ON DECK

April 2026

bringing you the latest in marine and boating news





## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### SKIPPERS TICKET – RULES CHANGE – BOATERS NEED TO CONSIDER AND WATCH!!

When the concept of a Skippers Ticket was put before us – we at BoatingWA could see a value for Boaters.

- New boaters would need to gain some skills before committing to the water – and would present less of a danger to others as well as themselves.
- Boating numbers were continuing to climb – currently 104 thousand licensed boaters in WA . Plenty unregistered as well – ie small yachts and boards.
- It also meant that Boaters would all learn how to “ interpret the rules “ in the same manner and that we could agree more on right of way and course direction etc. giving us a safer more peaceful on water experience.

Well – it did do that and there were a few minor modifications along the way – but all adding to the end value of the training and to the continual improvement of the end result – better Boaters.

One of “Guarantees” BoatingWA stood up for was “That Skippers Tickets would not be aligned to Drivers Licenses”. The reason being that a cancelled Skippers Ticket would remove your enjoyment for a period as punishment – BUT – if any cancellation carried over to your Driver’s License – then the results impacted on your family, your employment and the health of those dependant on you. That was agreed and still stands. Errant Boaters can be reasoned or dealt with without impact on the lives and wellbeing of families dependant on them.

Essentially , through negotiation – the Skippers Ticket became a “Once Only Accreditation” – and certainly not an annual license.

Unfortunately, there have been some errant Skippers along the way, incurring fines – or in a few circumstances – a cancellation of their Skippers Ticket. That would lead to retraining and resitting the Skippers Ticket, after an agreed punitive period.

Drink Driving Regulations, and “On water Testing “ for Drugs and Alcohol came to Western Australia as a “spill down” from a National Initiative- and certainly had potential to be a nightmare for Boating Enjoyment. Skippers received a long and well informed “Grace Period” and the introduction in Western Australia has been “even handed” with no “Booze Buses On Water” or blitzing of moorings areas. Those on moorings have been left to enjoy their outing – but told “not to drive after. Relax until your levels are acceptable and safe.

As there were not that many Compliance Officers on water – you really had to make quite a spectacle of yourself before you would attract the interest of the Officers. BUT, the Officers have been there all along, and now their numbers will grow – as part of supporting the Drinking Boating Initiative. There does not seem to be a lot to fear – certainly if you play within the rules.

Drinking to excess means :

- Stay on the mooring and let food and friendship accompany you until you can safely and legally start your boat. Make sure that you in a fit state to drive.
- Ensure you have a 2nd Skipper on your Boat if you have to move.

Nothing “TOO” horrifying in that scenario – with Dept of Transport Marine Safety Officers doing their job to ensure the safety of ALL Boaters!

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*Front cover photo courtesy of Paul Nicholls*

NEW CHANGES HAVE ARRIVED – and BoatingWA have not yet had the opportunity to discuss the ramifications of these coming changes with Marine Safety.

### **“DECLARATION OF MEDICAL FITNESS”.**

These are already applied to some classes of Drivers Licenses – and seek information from the Driver on “Health to Drive “. Issues such as :

- Epilepsy – Giddiness Fainting Seizures etc .
- Heart Disease
- High/Low Blood Pressure
- Arthritis
- Diabetes
- any other physical or mental disability that could affect their ability to operate a motor vessel .

Doctors would report whether you are fit/unfit to operate a vessel. It may also suggest conditions on your driving – ie daylight hours only – and of course – signed off by the Doctor.

These Declarations already have an impact on Vehicle License with many having to be renewed annually to retain your license – including annual health checks to carry your license forward.

There is also a mandatory provision on Drivers Licenses that Doctors are required to “report your physical/ mental shortfall which will then trigger the resumption of your license. BoatingWA has strongly resisted the link to licenses and the need for any such measures.

The Annual Health Checks have not yet been discussed – but the Government is currently considering making them part of the “Annual Licensing Event “ for all motorists 70 and over! .

These measures are invasive, and an onerous request of the Public – as it may require tests/x-rays/overnight stays for observation – and a huge cost and impost for those of us reaching retirement years and seeking the quiet life. To be taken annually!

The latest issue to be added is :

- Eyesight Declaration. – and as we all know , that generally means a new pairs of glasses every year – even if the difference between this test and the one you took last year is a barely discernible percentage – but requires you purchasing a new pair of spectacles. .

**HEALTH INSURANCE;** then rears its ugly head, If all of this is in front of you – then perhaps, you need to retain your “Gold Level “ insurance. Retiring and aging quite often adds to costs – rather than gives you the opportunity to lessen them

Boating Western Australia is genuinely concerned that Boaters do not become the target of these costs and imposts simply because they are aging.

Take a look around you – bigger boats are generally owned and Skipped by those who have worked hard and long to pay for them – ie the “the older brigade” – and BoatingWA would like to consider what the evidence is that makes anyone believe that older boaters need to be held accountable on these issues.

We currently receive from Marine Safety, statistics on Vessel Happenings and Skipper infringements . We seek that also broken into vessel type/Size/Port of Launching and area in which the issues occurred .

It certainly appears now that we will be obliged to consider the “Age of the Skipper” – it may well prove that older, more skilled , and sensible Skippers are not the ones to be concerned about.

BoatingWA are also seeking the opportunity to improve on the Recreation Skippers Ticket Training Manual – with particularly focus on Powered Water Craft (Jet Skis and having owners/Skippers comply fully with Skippers and Navigational implications.



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BoatingWA will continue to be concerned about the alignment of Drivers Licenses and Skippers Tickets - and we hold to the Original Agreement - that they should not be linked.

We will seek justification and reasoning on why such a change would be imposed on senior boaters- and the voracity of that evidence.

Watch this space – we will come back to you as we dig deeper into this issue.

It is an important one for all Boaters.

Stay safe and enjoy



Colin Lockley PRESIDENT

Boating Western Australia Inc.



[BECOME A BOATINGWA MEMBER](#) →

## FROM THE LOG

### • Recent changes to the *Navigable Waters Regulations 1958*.

DTMI now has stronger and more comprehensive laws to remove marine hazards and obstructions and to recover costs. The object could be anything from a car to a shipping container, or a vessel that is illegally using a mooring. When it is deemed a threat to safety or the environment, DTMI officers can now remove objects immediately without notice. After taking charge of the object, the new streamlined laws allow DTMI to sell or gift it, and legal action can be taken against the person responsible to recover any outstanding costs.

New penalties apply for:

- failing to remedy a hazard or obstruction (up to \$5,000)
- causing a hazard or obstruction (up to \$15,000)
- accessing or interfering with a hazard or obstruction (up to \$10,000).

If a notice to remedy the situation is ignored a daily penalty of \$200 may be applied until the issue is rectified.

It is hoped that the new laws act as a deterrent and make it significantly easier for DTMI to dispose of abandoned or illegally moored vessels and recover the costs incurred.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What do the hazards/obstructions amendments to the Navigable Waters Regulations cover?**

The provisions enable DTMI to remove objects that are, or are likely become, hazards or obstructions in State waters or on immediately adjacent land.

DTMI may then dispose of those objects and recover any reasonable costs incurred in the process.

It is now an offence for someone to create, ignore, or interfere with a hazard or obstruction in State waters.

Penalties apply for:

- Failing to remedy a hazard or obstruction (up to \$5,000)
- Causing a hazard or obstruction (up to \$15,000)
- Accessing or interfering with a hazard or obstruction (up to \$10,000)

If a notice to remedy the situation is ignored a daily penalty of \$200 applies until the issue is rectified.

### **What do these provisions apply to?**

The regulations apply to any object in State waters or on immediately adjacent land.

While this mostly refers to vessels, it may also include items such as vehicles, shipping containers, crab nets and other materials that pose a risk to safety or the environment.

### **What notice must DTMI give before removal?**

If the object is a vessel and presents an immediate danger to safety or the environment, it may be removed without prior notice. The owner will be notified after its removal.

In other circumstances, DTMI will provide the vessel owner with at least 7 days' notice prior to removal.

For non-vessel objects:

- If the item has no significant value, notice may not be required.
- Otherwise, where an owner can be identified and it is reasonably practicable to do so, notice will be given prior to removal.

### **What can DTMI do with an object that it has removed?**

DTMI has discretion to manage removed objects as appropriate. This may include storing, selling, transferring ownership, or destroying the item where necessary.

### **Can I recover an object that has been removed?**

Owners may apply to reclaim an object prior to disposal. Proof of ownership will be required, and payment of some, or all costs incurred by the DTMI may also be required.

### **Who pays for removal costs?**

Where the sale of a removed object does not cover DTMI's costs, DTMI may sue to recover them from the responsible person, the owner, and/or the registered owner where applicable.

### **What are the restrictions on transferring vessel registration?**

If a vessel has been recorded as a hazard or obstruction, DTMI's approval is required before registration can be transferred. This prevents avoidance of liability through transfer of ownership.

Why is it an offence to access or interfere with a hazard or obstruction?

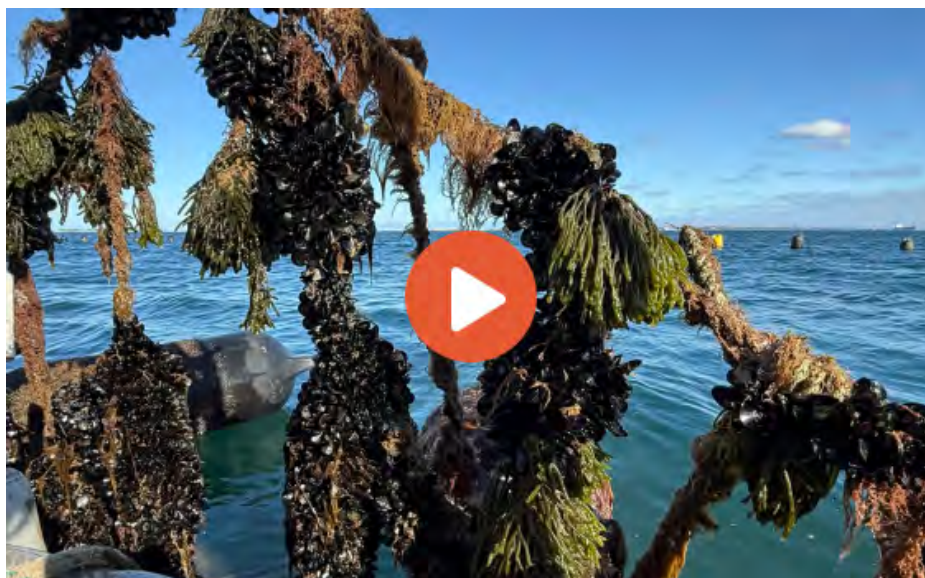
Accessing or interfering with wrecked or hazardous objects can present significant safety risks. The offence provisions help deter unsafe behaviour and prevent removal of fixtures or fittings.

It is not an offence for an owner complying with a notice to remedy or acting with DTMI's permission.

### **Why are the penalties significant?**

Hazards and obstructions can have serious impacts on public safety and the environment. Removal and remediation can also be costly, with even moderate-sized obstructions potentially costing tens of thousands of dollars to manage. The penalties reflect the seriousness of these risks.

- **Recfishwest backs mussel-powered boost for Cockburn Sound fishing**



Recfishwest is backing a new initiative bringing mussels back to Cockburn Sound — boosting habitat, improving water quality and helping deliver more fish and better fishing.

For more than 40 years, mussel farming added significant productivity to the Sound, creating food and habitat for a wide range of species. When those operations ceased, so did those benefits.

Rather than see that lost, Recfishwest supported the development of a new restorative aquaculture concept — now up and running under local venture Byssal.

[Learn more about Byssal here](#)

“Cockburn Sound has long been under pressure – from fish kills to habitat loss and ongoing development. With so much at stake, we couldn’t afford to wait,” said Recfishwest CEO Dr Andrew Rowland.

“The system cannot afford to lose anymore productivity, which is fundamental to supporting local fisheries.

“This is why Recfishwest backed in this concept. By helping reactivate these mussel farms, we’re supporting fish abundance and better fishing.

“Just like our Snapper Guardians stocking program, we are stepping up to have a go at creating something better, rather than standing by while the ecosystem struggles.”

Already, around 30 tonnes of mussels are growing across two sites, with plans to scale up significantly and measure environmental benefits through scientific monitoring.

Mussel lines act like an underwater forest, creating rich habitat and feeding the food chain that supports species like pink snapper, whiting, skippy, squid and blue swimmer crabs, while also naturally filtering the water.

It’s a practical, proactive step to put productivity back into the Sound and help secure its fishing future.

[\*\*CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS EXCITING INITIATIVE\*\*](#)



- **\$2 million for new Quinns Rocks recreational fishing platform**

A new \$2 million fishing platform is set to be built in Quinns Rocks to provide more recreational fishing opportunities for locals and visitors to Perth's northern coastal suburbs.

- \$2 million election commitment for new recreational fishing platform in Quinns Rocks
- Fishing platform will provide a safe and accessible fishing area for families and people of all abilities
- Another example of the Cook Labor Government's ongoing investment in creating vibrant and inclusive communities

A new \$2 million fishing platform is set to be built in Quinns Rocks to provide more recreational fishing opportunities for locals and visitors to Perth's northern coastal suburbs.

The project fulfils a 2025 election commitment, with funding allocated to the City of Wanneroo to deliver it.

The new fishing platform will extend out of the groyne adjacent to the Frederick Stubbs car park in Quinns Rock, a location that was determined following a feasibility study and extensive community and stakeholder consultation by the City of Wanneroo.

Measuring 4 metres wide and 17.3 meters long, the platform will feature solar powered lighting, bench seating, safety ladders, a solar powered seawater pump, and a fish cleaning station.

The design also ensures it is accessible to people of all abilities with a two-metre-wide access pathway from the carpark out to the platform.

Construction is expected to commence in November, with the platform to open to the public in the first half of 2027.

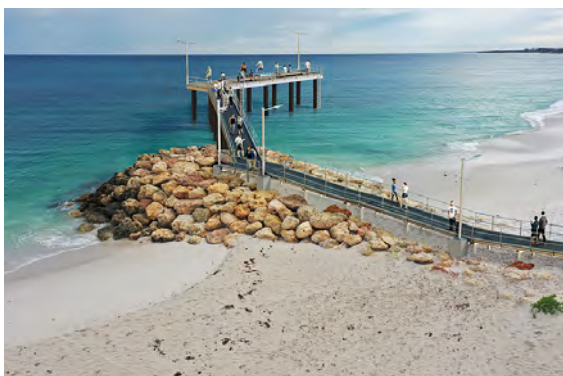
For further information, visit [www.wanneroo.wa.gov.au/quinnsrocksfishingplatform](http://www.wanneroo.wa.gov.au/quinnsrocksfishingplatform)

**Comments attributed to Fisheries Minister Jackie Jarvis:**

"The Cook Labor Government is committed to investing in initiatives that support recreational fishing, including new infrastructure such as fishing platforms and jetties, along with artificial reefs and the fish aggregating devices program.

"The Quinns Rocks area is known as a great spot for catching herring, whiting, mulloway and tailor, however there are currently no designated fishing facilities in the area.

"The construction of this new platform is a great initiative that will bring locals and visitors to the area and support a vibrant and inclusive community."



*Artist Impression - courtesy of City of Wanneroo*

## • Major marine upgrades at Fremantle and Woodman Point

Key marine infrastructure upgrades at Fremantle Fishing Boat Harbour and the Woodman Point Recreational Boating Precinct will deliver modern, safer facilities for the commercial and recreational fleet.

- Cook Government awards \$4.8 million contract to WA-based company for major projects boosting marine infrastructure
- Four-lane boat ramp to be replaced at Woodman Point for safer launching
- New jetty with floating boat pens will replace ageing infrastructure at Fremantle Fishing Boat Harbour
- Cook Government delivering quality infrastructure and services across the State

Key marine infrastructure upgrades at Fremantle Fishing Boat Harbour and the Woodman Point Recreational Boating Precinct will deliver modern, safer facilities for the commercial and recreational fleet.

A \$4.8 million contract has been awarded to WA-based company Jetty and Marine Constructions Pty Ltd for the two design and construction projects.

The 38-year-old fixed section of Jetty 1 at Fremantle Fishing Boat Harbour, which houses up to 16 vessels, will be replaced with a modern floating jetty and pen system - continuing the improvement of facilities at the harbour for penholders and users.

At Woodman Point the oldest of the ramps has been in use for more than 40 years and is beyond its design life. The four-lane western ramp will be rebuilt with new floating holding jetties to make launching easier and safer for users.

Both projects require detailed design work prior to construction commencing later this year. Department of Transport and Major Infrastructure (DTMI) will work with the contractor to ensure disruption at both locations is managed to limit inconvenience to users. The work at both locations is scheduled for completion in 2027.

For more information about the works and to view the designs, visit the Transport WA [website](#).

Boat owners interested in becoming a penholder at Fremantle Fishing Boat Harbour can express their interest [here](#).

### Comments attributed to Minister Assisting the Transport Minister Jessica Stojkovski:

"When combined, the projects represent a significant boost to marine infrastructure in the southern corridor of the metropolitan area.

"The Cook Government is committed to delivering quality infrastructure and services across Western Australia and both projects will benefit from DTMI's highly regarded expertise in delivering quality marine infrastructure."



- **Yacht Grot adds a new level of service for BoatingWA Members!**

Roger and his Team at Yacht Grot have been serving BoatingWA Members (individually) for around 30 years – with every conceivable boating part and accessory.

To formalise our partnership, Roger is offering an individual discount to BoatingWA members on the production of their membership card.

It will not take the form of a set discount, as every item in stock has a different margin on it. It will be up to you to ask Roger and the Yacht Grot team – What is my BoatingWA price?

Discounts will vary on the item – but discounts are discounts, and the store that as given our members the best service and prices for this long – it will certainly be worth producing your BoatingWA Membership card.

Introduce yourself to Roger and the Yacht Grot team - and enjoy the expertise and old world values that Yacht Grot has to offer.

Roger even has an extensive amount of used antique equipment. Might not be useful on your boat, but it sure will look great in your bar!

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## Yacht Grot

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<https://yachtgrot.com.au/>





## **Gascoyne**

### **Warning: Starboard Spar Buoy No.5 in Teggs Channel, Carnarvon is missing**

Mariners are advised that starboard spar buoy number 5 in Teggs Channel, Carnarvon is missing. Please exercise caution when transiting the area.

**Chart reference:** WA982 - Carnarvon

**Location:** -24: 54.4271'S 113: 38.1181'E

**Start date:** 13/4/2026

**Issued:** 13/4/2026

### **Warning: Tantabiddi Boat Ramp Aids to Navigation - Damaged/Missing**

Mariners are advised that Tropical Cyclone Narelle has caused significant damage to several Aids to Navigation within the Tantabiddi channel.

As a result, some Aids to Navigation may be unlit or missing.

Mariners are advised to exercise caution when navigating in the area, particularly during periods of low visibility, at night, or in reduced light conditions. A proper lookout should be maintained at all times.

**Chart reference:** AUS745 - North West Cape to Point Maud

**Location:** -21: 53.84'S 113: 58.36'E

**Start date:** 7/4/2026

**Issued:** 7/4/2026

### **Warning: Exmouth Boat Harbour Aids to Navigation – Damaged/Unlit**

Mariners are advised that Tropical Cyclone Narelle has caused significant damage to several Aids to Navigation within Exmouth Boat Harbour.

As a result, some Aids to Navigation may be unlit or not operating as designed.

Mariners are advised to exercise caution when navigating in the area, particularly during periods of low visibility, at night, or in reduced light conditions. A proper lookout should be maintained at all times

**Chart reference:** AUS744 - Exmouth Gulf and Approaches

**Location:** -21: 57.42'S 114: 8.64'E

**Start date:** 7/4/2026

**Issued:** 7/4/2026

### **Warning: Tropical Cyclone Narelle - Floating Debris - Exmouth**

Mariners are advised that Tropical Cyclone Narelle has caused extensive damage to infrastructure within and around Exmouth. As a consequence, there may be a large amount of floating debris presenting a navigational hazard for some time.

Tantabiddi Boat Ramp remains open for normal operations whilst Bundegi and Exmouth boat ramps remain closed.

Mariners are advised to navigate with caution until the debris and other marine hazards have been cleaned up.

**Chart reference:** AUS745 - North West Cape to Point Maud

**Location:** -21: 57.40'S 114: 8.50'E

**Start date:** 1/4/2026

Issued: 1/4/2026

## Mid West

### **Advice: Temporary Fuel Suspension - Cervantes, Jurien and Port Denison**

Mariners are advised that, in accordance with advice received from Comen Fuel WA on 2 April 2026, fuel supply will be temporarily suspended at Cervantes Maritime Facility, Jurien Boat Harbour, and Port Denison Boat Harbour due to ongoing fuel delivery issues.

Mariners are requested to make alternative fuel arrangements.

Location: -29: 50.805'S 114: 58.6712'E

Start date: 2/4/2026

## Peel

### **Advice: Installation of Subsea telecommunications Cables – Offshore Madora Bay**

Mariners are hereby advised that three submerged telecommunications cables will be installed offshore from Madora Bay, commencing on 16 April 2026 for a period of three weeks. The cables will consist of a double armoured (DA) cable type up to 35.9 mm in diameter and will extend up to 3 nautical miles offshore. The operation will run 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The cables will connect to the existing conduits located at 32 28.3244'S 115 44.4590'E, 32 28.4812'S 115 44.2627'E and 32 28.5663'S 115 44.2452'E and will finish at 32 31.2405'S 115 37.8908'E, 32 31.6249'S 115 37.5893'E and 32 32.1351'S 115 37.1807'E.

Diving operations will form part of the installation, with the International Code Flag "A" displayed at all times during diving activities.

All vessels taking part in these works will exhibit shapes and lights in accordance with the Prevention of collisions in State Waters Regulations 1983, at all times.

Mariners are advised to exercise caution in this area and are reminded not to moor or attach to the flotation buoys.

In addition, a safety zone of up to 1 nautical mile, subject to water depth and where practicable, will be maintained around the operational vessel.

**Chart reference:** WA913 - Cape Peron to Dawesville

**Location:** -32: 32.1351'S 115: 37.1807'E

**Start date:** 16/4/2026

**End date:** 7/5/2026

**Issued:** 14/4/2026

## Perth

### Advice: Marine Geotechnical Investigation - Jervoise Bay, Henderson

Mariners are advised that jack up barge "Sealift 11" and multiple support vessels will be conducting geotechnical drilling, probing and sampling at 7 locations in the vicinity of the Jervois Bay between 9 April to 10 May 2026. Furthermore, divers will be active in the same period from a dive vessel at 10 locations.

- This is a Marine Geotechnical Survey to inform the design of the Westport Project
- Third party vessels are requested to maintain 50m clear of the barges and dive operation during this period
- Barge may be on-location 24hrs a day, 7 days a week
- Vessels will be maintaining a watch on VHF channel 12 and 15
- Larger work vessels including the barge, will be visible on AIS
- For enquiries, please contact the Westport direct line 1800 875 000

#### Drill locations:

##### LATITUDE LONGITUDE

-32.1491	115.7654389
-32.1514	115.7644955
-32.1476	115.7658627
-32.1452	115.7614422
-32.1432	115.7645632
-32.1411	115.7624249
-32.1473	115.7637983

##### Dive Locations:

LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
-32.1409	115.7622081	-32.1455	115.7607364
-32.1414	115.7634182	-32.1461	115.7637132
-32.1422	115.7649006	-32.1485	115.7637122
-32.1437	115.7639979	-32.1499	115.7649869
-32.1449	115.7610828	-32.1504	115.7633371

Chart reference: WA001 - Ocean Reef to Cape Peron

Location: -32: 8.45'S 115: 45.73'E

Start date: 9/4/2026

End date: 10/5/2026

Issued: 14/4/2026

### Warning: Deep Water, Success and Pamela Channels - Westport Marine Geotechnical Investigation

Mariners are advised that jack up barge "Sealift 2" and multiple support vessels will be conducting geotechnical drilling, probing and sampling at 10 locations in the vicinity of the Parmelia Bank Virtual Channel up to the approach of the Deep Water Channel between the 6 January to 30 April 2026.

- This is a Marine Geotechnical Survey to inform the design of the Westport Project
- Third party vessels are requested to maintain 50m clear of the barges and a 100m 'no wash' zone during this period
- Barge will be on the attached locations 24hrs a day, 7 days a week
- Vessels will be maintaining a watch on VHF channel 12 and 16
- Larger work vessels including the barge, will be visible on AIS
- For enquiries, please contact the Westport direct line 1800 875 000

#### Locations:

-31.96498529 115.6862977

-31.96138995 115.6806198

-31.95757322 115.6766751  
-31.95567883 115.6732162  
-32.11235013 115.7113803  
-32.08628126 115.7055218  
-32.06792082 115.7027124  
-31.97764481 115.6903209  
-32.13360356 115.7159755  
-31.98674673 115.6908332  
-31.99457029 115.69086  
-32.01046343 115.6915563

Mariners are advised to navigate with caution when transiting the above area during this time.

**Chart reference:** WA001 - Ocean Reef to Cape Peron

**Location:** -32: 3.2393'S 115: 42.8924'E

**Start date:** 6/1/2026

**End date:** 30/4/2026

7/4/2026

**Advice: Barge Works - navigable channel impacts, Fremantle Traffic Bridge, Swan River**

Mariners are advised that underwater pile removal works will be carried out from a barge as part of the Fremantle Traffic Bridge works. These works will impact navigation under the bridge and will commence in the southern navigational channel which will be closed from 7 April 2026 for approximately 40 days. Works will occur 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Once pile removal in the southern channel is complete, the channel will be reopened and the barge will be relocated to the northern navigable span, which will be closed for a similar duration.

Contraflow vessel management will be implemented during daylight hours supported by spotter vessels positioned at strategic locations to assist in managing vessel traffic and to alert approaching river users. Spotter vessels will communicate through Marine VHF Channel 71 and will monitor VHF Channel 16.

The barge will be illuminated from sunset to sunrise to ensure it remains clearly visible to all vessels.

All vessels involved will display lights and shapes as required by the Prevention of Collisions in State Waters Regulations 1983.

Mariners are advised to maintain a proper lookout at all times, navigate at a slow speed to reduce wake and wash, and adhere to any instructions issued by spotter vessels.

Please see below link for more information on the Fremantle Traffic Bridge project:

[Swan River Crossings | Main Roads Western Australia](#)

Location: -32: 02.4790'S 115: 45.2460'E

Start date: 7/4/2026

End date: 30/6/2026

Issued: 2/4/2026

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**CREWFIT 165<sup>SPORT</sup>**

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**Key Features:**

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- ✓ Crotch strap (optional)
- ✓ Soft loop D-ring for attaching harness (Harness version)

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## NEWS FROM THE CLUBS



FREMANTLE SAILING CLUB

With ongoing changes to demersal fishing along the West Coast, the Game Fishing Section is hosting Recfishwest at the Club on Wednesday 22 April for an update session.

Sam Russell, Senior Operations Officer at Recfishwest, will share insights into the current outlook before opening the floor for questions from members.

A great opportunity to hear directly from one of the leading advocates for recreational fishing in WA.



All members welcome. No registration required.

### Fuel supply update

Dear Members,

We have received an additional fuel delivery and are currently able to supply all fuel types without restrictions.

Please note that unleaded fuel levels remain low, and temporary restrictions may be reintroduced in the coming days depending on demand.

Current fuel availability:

Fuel Type	Quantity
Diesel	Yes
Diesel (high flow)	Yes
Unleaded Petrol 95	Yes
Unleaded Petrol 98	Yes

Fuel prices are available on the Club's website [here](#).

Members are kindly asked to be considerate and take only the minimum fuel required for immediate boating needs.

We are working closely with our supplier to restore normal fuel levels as soon as possible and will continue to keep members informed.



**HELPING  
MEMBERS  
LOVE LIFE ON  
THE RIVER**

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## ANZAC DAY 2026

**SATURDAY 25TH APRIL, 2026**  
**SYC IN CONJUNCTION WITH HMAS PERTH**  
Arrive by 10:45am, 11am prompt Start



### LEST WE FORGET

10:45AM ARRIVAL FOR 11AM START-  
ANZAC DAY SERVICE HELD AT HMAS PERTH MEMORIAL

12PM SERVICE CONCLUDES, SYC OPEN FOR  
ROAST BUFFET LUNCH

RSVP to reception@swanyachtclub.com.au by 20 April 2026

\*\*10% Public Holiday Surcharge applies to all food and beverages purchased on the day.

Your're invited!

# MOTHER'S DAY Lunch

SUNDAY **MAY 10** 12-2 PM

2-COURSE LUNCH: \$55 MEMBERS, \$60 FOR GUESTS

A complimentary glass of sparkling for all mums and grandmothers on arrival!



SCAN TO VIEW THE MENU

A LA CARTE MENU AVAILABLE FROM 2:45PM

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# Bunbury Yacht Club

Find us on 

EMAIL: [byc\\_365@outlook.com](mailto:byc_365@outlook.com)

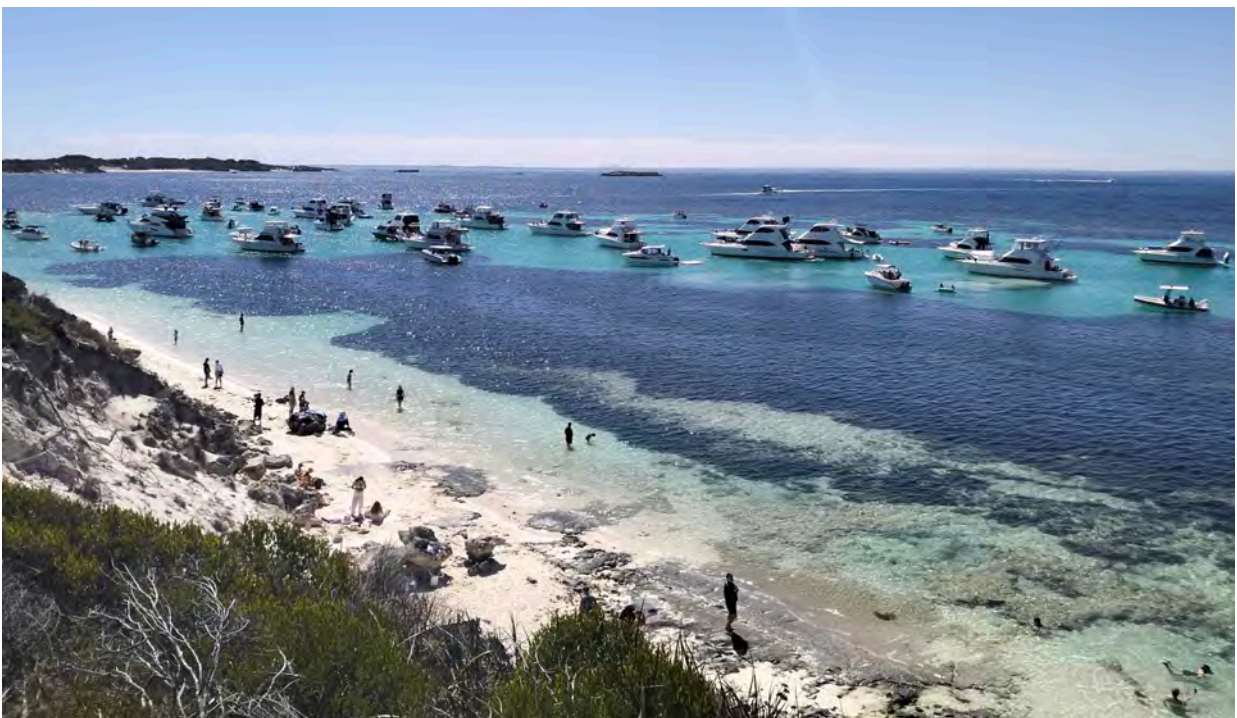
MAIL: Post Office Box 1351 Bunbury 6231



## Who We Are

We are one of the oldest Yacht Clubs in Australia formed in 1882.

## Rottnest News



*Great sunrise at Thomsons Bay Rottnest. A rare morning.  
Photo courtesy Ray Watson*



## ANZAC Services

Thursday 24 and Friday 25 April

Join us to reflect and mark this important day of remembrance with dusk and dawn services on the foreshore of Thomson Bay. Extend your visit and discover more about the island's role during WWI and WWII by joining free tours of the various historical sites scattered across the island.

These services are free, but registrations are required.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

# NEW DUFOUR 41 AVAILABLE NOW

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Just beyond the main settlement, Geordie Bay awaits, offering a unique and serene escape from the hustle and bustle of Thomson Bay.

This special spot is perfect for spending a memorable visit to Wadjemup / Rottneest Island, with its stunning beaches, scenic cycling and hiking trails, options to satisfy your hunger, and accommodation. There's a unique kind of peace here that makes Geordie Bay truly special.

## Your Guide to Geordie Bay

With calm beaches, scenic cycling routes, peaceful walking trails, great dining options and close-by accommodation, it's the perfect place to spend the day exploring everything Geordie Bay has to offer.

[READMORE](#)



### GENERAL NEWS

## • Fishing Boat Harbour added to State Register of Heritage Places

Fishing Boat Harbour in Fremantle has been recognised for its cultural heritage significance with its inclusion on the State Register of Heritage Places.

- Fishing Boat Harbour recognition reflects the harbour's long association with Western Australia's fishing industry and migrant communities
- Listing takes the number of State-registered places to 1,397
- New internationally recognised heritage plaque unveiled at Fishing Boat Harbour, with additional plaques at Fremantle Prison, the Round House and Fremantle Markets, strengthening heritage tourism links across Fremantle
- Cook Government protecting WA's heritage and environment for future generations



Fishing Boat Harbour in Fremantle has been recognised for its cultural heritage significance with its inclusion on the State Register of Heritage Places.

The harbour highlights the growing number of sites protected for their importance to Western Australia's history and identity.

First established in 1924, Fishing Boat Harbour has long been at the centre of the State's fishing industry. It is closely associated with the waves of post-war migration that shaped Fremantle, particularly families from southern Europe who built livelihoods on the water and helped define the harbour's character.

While it remains a working harbour, it has also become a well-known visitor destination, valued not just for its economic role but for its strong connections to community life and shared history.

The State Register of Heritage Places is the official list of 1,397 places recognised for their cultural heritage significance in Western Australia. Maintained by the Heritage Council of Western Australia, the Register includes places that reflect our State's development, communities and stories over time.

Fishing Boat Harbour's inclusion recognises both its physical fabric and its social significance, ensuring its history is acknowledged and considered into the future.

Western Australia's rich and diverse history is also being celebrated with the unveiling of a new heritage plaque design that recognises both the State's ancient Aboriginal heritage and its shared stories of settlement, industry and community.

The distinctive blue heritage plaques align with internationally recognised heritage markers used across Australia and around the world.

The new design has been created specifically to acknowledge Aboriginal cultural heritage, including the naming of the traditional lands on which each place is located.

Designed by highly respected Aboriginal artist Richard Walley, the plaque at Fishing Boat Harbour incorporates Aboriginal motifs that reflect connection to Country, culture and enduring history.

Each plaque includes a QR code, allowing visitors to access historical information, images and stories about the place, and discover related heritage sites nearby.

Three additional plaques have been installed at Fremantle Prison, the Round House and Fremantle Markets and will be rolled out progressively at other heritage sites across Western Australia.

Visit [www.wa.gov.au/fishing-boat-harbour](http://www.wa.gov.au/fishing-boat-harbour) for more information about Fishing Boat Harbour heritage listing and [www.wa.gov.au/heritage-plaques](http://www.wa.gov.au/heritage-plaques) for more information about the plaque program.

**Comments attributed to Heritage Minister Simone McGurk:**

"Our heritage places tell the story of who we are as Western Australians, from the world's oldest continuing culture to the many communities who have shaped our State.

"Fishing Boat Harbour is a place many Western Australians know well, but its deeper history is just as important.



**Have your say on proposed changes to WA's blue swimmer crabs rules**

Crabbers are being invited to have their say on proposed changes to crabbing rules in WA's West Coast Bioregion, with DPIRD's public consultation now open.

Recfishwest is encouraging fishers to take part in this process and help shape the future of this highly popular fishery - [click here to take the survey](#).

The changes being proposed by DPIRD are:

- A standardised boat limit of 10 crabs across the West Coast Bioregion
- Delaying the recreational season opening north of Minninup Beach from 1 December to 1 January

DPIRD's research suggests many crabs are still undersize in December, meaning a later start could improve the chances of catching legal-sized crabs. That certainly echoes what we hear from many crabbers about crabs caught early in the season being undersize or hollow.

While Recfishwest generally supports efforts to keep fishing rules clear and easy to understand, this is a very important WA fishery and decisions about how it is managed affect tens of thousands of West Australians.

"Crabbing is a much-loved summer activity, and the experiences of fishers who spend time on the water are an important part of shaping how the fishery is managed," said Recfishwest CEO Dr Andrew Rowland.

"We support DPIRD exploring options to simplify crabbing rules and encourage crabbers to take part in the consultation and have their say before the survey closes on 16 April."

[READMORE](#)



## Swan and Canning River Parks

### • Recipients of latest Community Rivercare grants announced

The Cook Government has awarded an array of community volunteer groups more than \$655,000 in funding to assist with the improvement of waterway health in the Swan Canning Catchment.

- 14 community groups funded through Round 9 of Community Rivercare Program
- Projects to improve the health of the Swan Canning Catchment
- Cook Government protecting waterways for current and future generations

The Cook Government has awarded an array of community volunteer groups more than \$655,000 in funding to assist with the improvement of waterway health in the Swan Canning Catchment.

The funding will enable the groups to progress projects including weed control, foreshore revegetation, and wetland restoration across key locations.

The grants deliver on the State Government's priority to protect and restore our rivers and waterways for future generations.

The Friends of Maylands Samphires was awarded the largest share of funding, receiving \$96,960 to protect and enhance a threatened ecological community, expand foreshore revegetation, and weed control over the next two years.

Bibbul Ngarma Aboriginal Association Incorporated was also awarded \$96,940 to promote natural regeneration through weed control, aimed at improving the waterway health of the Mandoon Bilya (Helena River).

In its ninth-year, the program continues to deliver positive outcomes by supporting the local knowledge and experience of volunteer groups.

### Comments attributed to the Environment Minister Matthew Swinbourn:

"Safeguarding the Swan and Canning rivers remains a key priority for the Cook Government.

"Each project funded through the Community Rivercare Program contributes to a healthier, more resilient Swan Canning Catchment for current and future generations.

"Congratulations to all successful grant recipients and I look forward to seeing the positive environmental outcomes their projects will deliver."

[READMORE](#)

## News from the South West

### • **New shark monitoring receiver to boost safety for local surfers**

A new shark monitoring receiver is going into the water off Margaret River to expand coverage in the South West and further boost safety for local surfers.

- Margaret River to receive a new shark monitoring receiver to boost safety for local surfers
- Receiver to be installed in time for Margaret River Pro
- Cook Government building safe communities

A new shark monitoring receiver is going into the water off Margaret River to expand coverage in the South West and further boost safety for local surfers.

The receiver will be deployed at Margaret River Main Break off Surfers Point following consultation with the Shire of Augusta Margaret River, Surfing WA and Surf Life Saving WA.

Three other receivers are already in place within the shire including popular surfing spots at Lefthanders and Cowaramup Bay.

The Cook Government's Shark Monitoring Network helps improve safety for water users by providing near real-time alerts of tagged shark detections via the SharkSmart WA app and SharkSmart website.

There are 39 shark monitoring receivers along the Western Australian coastline, including 12 at popular South West beaches.

The new Margaret River Main Break receiver will be installed in time for the Margaret River Pro in April and will remain in place after the event.

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development is also working with the Shire of Augusta Margaret River to link the Margaret River Main Break receiver to the existing Shark Warning System tower at Surfers Point to alert beach users of nearby shark activity.

As part of Western Australia's comprehensive shark hazard mitigation strategy, the shire has also installed 54 beach emergency numbers (BEN) signs at beach locations to help improve response times in the event of an emergency.

#### **Comments attributed to Fisheries Minister Jackie Jarvis:**

"The Shark Monitoring Network is a key initiative of the Cook Government's shark hazard mitigation strategy, and the new Margaret River Main Break receiver will further enhance safety for our local surfing community.

"Receivers are also in place at Cowaramup Bay, Lefthanders, Smiths Beach, Bunker Bay, Meelup, Busselton and Bunbury so locals and visitors can continue to enjoy our beautiful South West beaches with confidence.

### • **New artificial reef for recreational fishers in Albany**

The Cook Government is investing \$1.4 million in an artificial reef off the Albany coast to provide a new recreational fishing hotspot for locals and visitors.

Cook Government invests \$1.4 million in new Albany artificial reef to support recreational fishing

City of Albany to lead tender process for the artificial reef

Increasing recreational fishing opportunities provides direct benefit to the local businesses and fishing tourism

The Cook Government is investing \$1.4 million in an artificial reef off the Albany coast to provide a new recreational fishing hotspot for locals and visitors.

Funded through the State Government's Recreational Fishing Initiatives Fund, the reef project is being led by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, with support from the City of Albany and Recfishwest.

The Albany reef will be located approximately nine kilometres east of Albany in King George Sound, offshore from Ledge Beach and designed to create a safe, accessible, and productive fishing location to support a range of local species including silver trevally, samson fish, harlequin, salmon, whiting, and squid.

Artificial reefs are purpose-built structures that create unique underwater habitats and support a diverse range of fish and other marine species.

The City of Albany will be leading the tender process for the design, fabrication, and deployment of the artificial reef, which is expected to be in place by early 2027.

The Albany artificial reef is one of nine State Government funded along the Western Australian coastline, with reefs already in place off Exmouth, Carnarvon, Ocean Reef, Rottneest Island, Mandurah, Bunbury, Dunsborough, and Esperance.

For a location map of WA's artificial reefs,

visit: [www.dpird.wa.gov.au/individuals/recreational-fishing/recreational-fishing-initiatives/artificial-reefs/](http://www.dpird.wa.gov.au/individuals/recreational-fishing/recreational-fishing-initiatives/artificial-reefs/)

#### **Comments attributed to Fisheries Minister Jackie Jarvis:**

"This new artificial reef project is a great example of how the Cook Government is reinvesting fishing licence fees back into the economy and supporting recreational fishing across Western Australia.

"Artificial reefs provide high quality fishing experiences, while also creating unique tourism opportunities that support local businesses and deliver lasting benefits for regional communities.

"I commend the City of Albany and Recfishwest for supporting the project, which will be the second reef for South Coast fishers, alongside Cooper Reef off Esperance."

#### **• App to protect migrating whales and enhance marine research**

Western Australian boaties and commercial operators are encouraged to report migrating humpback whales and other marine animals through the State Government's revamped Marine Fauna Sightings app.

- Marine Fauna Sightings app to help protect migrating humpback whales and boost marine research
- Timely and automated data collection will help minimise the risk of whale entanglements in fishing gear
- App upgraded to record sightings of turtles, dolphins, dugongs, and sea snakes

Western Australian boaties and commercial operators are encouraged to report migrating humpback whales and other marine animals through the State Government's revamped Marine Fauna Sightings app.

The redeveloped app will provide vital research data to help reduce whale entanglements in fishing gear during their migration along the WA coast.

The easy-to-use app has been expanded to include reporting of other marine life including turtles, dolphins, dugongs, and sea snakes Australia-wide.

The Marine Fauna Sightings app was developed with the support of the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation and Western Rock Lobster, led by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional



Development in partnership with Australian Antarctic Division and the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions.

The initial focus will be on commercial operators in fisheries, eco-tourism, and shipping to use the updated app to report humpback whales and other whale species sighted along the WA coast.

The app automatically adds the GPS location, date, and time from the phone or device being used to pinpoint the location of the sighting and then the species can be selected from the extensive identification list or a photo can be taken and uploaded as part of the report.

The data collected will provide fisheries researchers with a better understanding of the timing of humpback whale migration and how it may change each year.

This information supports the implementation of management strategies by pot-based commercial and recreational fisheries to minimise the risk of whale entanglements.

While the app supports avoiding entanglements, it is still important that any actual whale entanglements are reported to the Wildcare Helpline on 9474 9055 as soon as possible, rather than the Marine Fauna Sightings App.

The app can be downloaded from the Apple or Google Play stores or by visiting the DPIRD [website](#)

## News from the North West

### • Coral regeneration trial starts at Ningaloo and Exmouth

The Cook Labor Government has today launched an \$11 million program, commencing with a coral enhancement trial at Ningaloo Reef.

- Cook Labor Government partners with Western Australian Marine Science Institution and philanthropic sector to deliver a coral regeneration program in WA
- First coral regeneration trial, Ningaloo Reef Coral Larval Enhancement Trial (Ningaloo Reef Trial), now underway in Coral Bay
- Techniques being used in the initial trial have been adapted from work undertaken in the Philippines and the Great Barrier Reef

The Cook Labor Government has today launched an \$11 million program, commencing with a coral enhancement trial at Ningaloo Reef.

This funding includes the \$5 million Cook Labor Government investment through the Healthy Oceans Program, announced in September 2025. Additional philanthropic contributions have been received from partners, including the Angela Wright Bennett Foundation and the Jock Clough Marine Foundation.

This program is a direct response to Western Australia's 2024-2025 marine heatwave, which saw record-breaking ocean temperatures and widespread coral bleaching and mortality across the Pilbara, Kimberley and northern Gascoyne coasts.

The Ningaloo Reef Trial, led by Western Australian Marine Science Institution (WAMSI), will be the first of a series of projects across the next five years. It will bring together leading researchers and institutions across Western Australia including Australian Institute of Marine Science, CSIRO and Southern Cross University, to maximise impact and leverage existing expertise and emerging technologies.

These future projects will be developed as a part of the WA Reef Regen Program roadmap, which will be released later this year.

Over the past several weeks, marine scientists have been collecting thousands of coral spawn samples from reefs in northern Ningaloo Reef and cultivating the larvae in floating pools to maximise survival, before releasing them onto nearby reef areas in Ningaloo that have been damaged by the marine heatwave.

# New Shoprite Member Benefits App

[shoprite.com.au](https://shoprite.com.au)

Our friends at ShopRite have developed a new member benefits mobile app to make it easier for members to access their benefits, save not only money but also time.

**The app will be replacing the cards currently sent out to members.**

You will need to create a ShopRite digital account, using your BWA member number. If you don't know your number, please contact our secretary at [secretary@boatingwa.com.au](mailto:secretary@boatingwa.com.au)

How do I create a ShopRite digital account? Its simple!

1. If you do not have an account, go to "Sign In or Register", found at the top of the page, and enter the required information.
2. Click the "Register" button at the bottom of the form to complete your registration.



## Dear BoatingWA Members ... Explore your endless discounts and benefits!



Are you aware that your BoatingWA membership gets your other great benefits outside of representing your interests and the interests of your fellow recreational boaters?

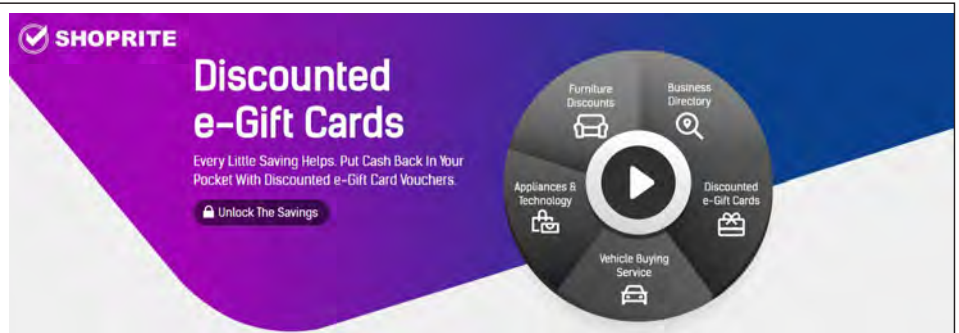
As a member of BoatingWA, you qualify to use Shoprite exclusive Benefits Service. All deals are negotiated on your behalf!

Visit the Shoprite Website to access discounts on a large range of suppliers <https://www.shoprite.com.au/>

The ShopRite team have been working hard and negotiating to secure more benefits and special deals for members. Our most recent additional benefit is Discounted eGift Cards.

Here are some of the brands below:

- Woolworths
- Coles
- JB HiFi
- Retravision
- Harvey Norman
- Good Guys
- Ticketmaster
- Barbecues Galore
- BCF
- David Jones
- Ray's Outdoors
- Red Balloon
- Priceline
- Myer
- Kathmandu
- Flight Centre
- EB Games
- Endota Spa
- BWS
- Dan Murphys
- BigW and **many more.**



The Shoprite team are currently in talks with many new businesses who are most eager to join their network and offer preferential discounts to members. Watch this space!

[www.shoprite.com.au](https://www.shoprite.com.au)

Traditional Owners, scientific institutions, tourism operators and local communities will be engaged throughout the program as key partners, contributing cultural knowledge, regional expertise and support for on-ground and in-water activities.

For more information about the program, visit: [wamsi.org.au/projects/reef-regen](https://wamsi.org.au/projects/reef-regen)

**Comments attributed to the Environment Minister Matthew Swinbourn:**

"The Cook Labor Government is excited to be partnering with leading scientists and philanthropists on this innovative new reef restoration program.

"By trialling innovative regeneration techniques, we are building the knowledge and tools needed to improve how we respond to future heatwaves and bleaching events, and increasing reef resilience in the face of recent cyclone activity in the region.

"We are doing this work in collaboration with researchers, Traditional Owners and local communities, ensuring the program is informed by both science, local expertise and cultural knowledge.

"Together, these efforts will help bring new life to the Ningaloo and Exmouth Gulf region."

• **More of One Mile Jetty to be restored**

Work to restore up to 200 metres of the iconic One Mile Jetty at Carnarvon is underway with the completion of detailed design and heritage approvals in place for the region's most significant marine heritage conservation project.

- Work on up to 200 metres of Carnarvon's One Mile Jetty underway
- \$4.5 million project will provide unique experience at the Carnarvon Heritage Precinct
- Part of Cook Government's broader commitment to strengthening essential infrastructure and services across regional Western Australia

Work to restore up to 200 metres of the iconic One Mile Jetty at Carnarvon is underway with the completion of detailed design and heritage approvals in place for the region's most significant marine heritage conservation project.



The \$4.5 million project will see the jetty restored in a way that reflects its original form, celebrating its unique contribution to the Gascoyne region and providing the centrepiece for the Carnarvon Heritage Precinct.

Up to 200 metres will be restored, 50 metres more than expected, at the original width of 4.8 metres which will enhance the user experience and provide safe two-way universal access for locals and tourists.

New steel piles, also reflecting the design of the original century old jetty, will support the restored part of the structure, which will extend over land.

To highlight the original length of the jetty beyond the restored section and into the ocean, a buoy has been installed where it ended approximately 1,450 metres from the shoreline.

Since One Mile Jetty was damaged during Cyclone Seroja in 2021 and to address a navigation hazard, the State Government has spent \$4.2 million in emergency funding deconstructing the intertidal and waterside portions of the jetty. An assessment of the remaining jetty found it to be mostly in poor condition and recommended some further deconstruction which will also be part of the upcoming work.

To find out more about the project visit [www.transport.wa.gov.au/onemilejetty](https://www.transport.wa.gov.au/onemilejetty)

**USEFUL LINKS**

- **Major Projects Rottnest Island**

Click: <https://ria.wa.gov.au/major-projects>

- **Boating on Rottnest Island**

Click: <http://www.rottnestisland.com/boating>

- **Rottnest – Temporary Notice to Mariners**

<http://www.rottnestisland.com/boating/boating-information/temporary-notice-to-mariners>

- **Rottnest Marine News**

<https://mailchi.mp/rottnestisland/latest-rottnest-island-authority-marine-news?e=0a6b7000a1>

- **Garden Island Fishing and Aquatic Association GIFAA**

Click: <http://www.gifaa.com.au/>

- **TEMPORARY NOTICES TO MARINERS LINK**

*[Click Here](#)*

- **TIDE PREDICTIONS LINKS**

For general tidal predictions around WA: *[Click Here](#)*

Tide Tables for Western Australia: *[Click Here](#)*

For 2021 Fremantle tidal predictions: *[Click Here to Download](#)*

- **FSC DIVERS GROUP**

This is a page to showcase the comings, goings and doings of the Dive Section at Fremantle Sailing Club.  
More info: *[Click Here](#)*

- **BOATING COMMUNITIES NEWSLETTER**

Stay up to date with the latest news relating to recreational boating in Western Australia through the Department of Transport's Boating Communities Newsletter. *[CLICK HERE](#)*

**Other useful links**

ShopRite – <http://www.shoprite.com.au/>

River Guardians – <http://www.riverguardians.com/>

Fremantle Sailing Club News – <http://www.fsc.com.au/home/latest-news-information/>

Swan Yacht Club News – <http://www.swanyachtclub.com.au/news/>

Bunbury Yacht Club: <https://www.facebook.com/p/Bunbury-Yacht-Club-100067325569262/>

Perth Game Fishing Club News – <http://www.pgfc.com.au/news>



**recfishwest**

fish today for tomorrow

**Contact Us**

**Boating Western Australia (Inc.)**

**PO Box 692**

**SOUTH FREMANTLE**

**WA 6162**

[www.boatingwa.com.au](http://www.boatingwa.com.au)

[secretary@boatingwa.com.au](mailto:secretary@boatingwa.com.au)

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