

Soundings

Whadjuk Nyungar Boodjar



04

Coogee
Live 2026,
page 4

08

Cockburn
Libraries
Turns 50, page 8

13

Keep it reel
Fishing responsibly in
Cockburn, page 13

The City of Cockburn
acknowledges we are on
the Boodjar (country) of the
Wadjuk Nyungar people.

Contents

04 Birds Of Tokyo to headline
Cockburn Sun Sets, page 4

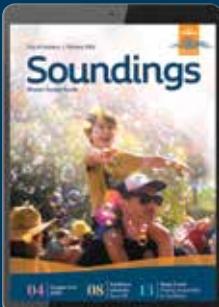
07 Froggy's is 15, page 7

11 Help keep our beaches
beautiful, page 11

14 What's On in Cockburn,
page 14



04



On the cover
The Bubble
Canteen show.



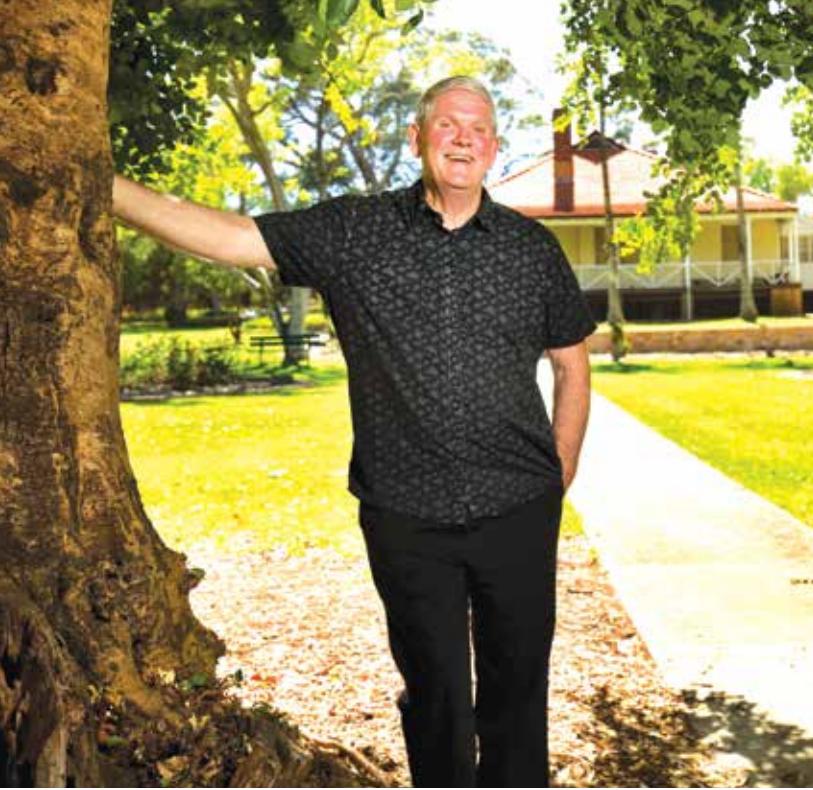
14

City of Cockburn, Wadjuk Boodjar
Administration Building, 9 Coleville Crescent, Spearwood
8.30am-4.30pm Monday to Friday
Postal Address: PO Box 1215, Bibra Lake DC, WA 6965
Telephone: 08 9411 3444 (8.30am-5pm)
Email: customer@cockburn.wa.gov.au
www.cockburn.wa.gov.au

Stay Connected



The distribution of this edition is 2-6 February 2026.
Dates may change due to State and Federal Government
regulations or for reasons unknown at the time.



Elected Members

**Logan K. Howlett, JP**

His Worship the Mayor
08 9411 3577
EMoffice@cockburn.wa.gov.au

**Deputy Mayor Phoebe Corke**
West Ward
0407 606 696
pcorke@cockburn.wa.gov.au**Cr Tarun Dewan**
East Ward
0433 875 350
tdewan@cockburn.wa.gov.au**Cr Carol Reeve-Fowkes**
East Ward
0435 900 236
creevefowkes@cockburn.wa.gov.au**Cr Carol Zhang**
East Ward
0411 738 554
czhang@cockburn.wa.gov.au**Cr Kevin Allen**
West Ward
0419 901 735
kallen@cockburn.wa.gov.au**Cr Hilda Srhoy**
West Ward
0429 100 525
hsrhoy@cockburn.wa.gov.au**Cr Philip Eva JP**
Central Ward
0410 274 000
peva@cockburn.wa.gov.au**Cr Chontelle Stone**
Central Ward
0411 612 382
cstone@cockburn.wa.gov.au**Cr Tom Widenbar**
Central Ward
0437 002 021
twidenbar@cockburn.wa.gov.au

Message from the Mayor

The new year is well and truly under way, with schools returning this week. Keeping our children safe is a priority for us all, so please drive and park carefully around our schools. Any parking restrictions are there to protect our children.

With the new year, we are celebrating 50 years of Cockburn Libraries in March. Look inside this issue for a range of celebratory events at all three libraries. As the heart of our community, libraries offer a wealth of knowledge, a hub for lifelong learning, and a welcoming space where everyone can connect, grow and thrive together.

We recently celebrated 15 years of Froggy's on the Green. Froggy's is a free, outdoor play program for children under five. It is a fantastic way for parents, grandparents and carers to connect with others, access information and get support.

The fun doesn't end just because the school holidays are over. We have our Cockburn Sun Sets concert on Saturday 21 February and a feast of music, arts, food and adventure on the weekend of 7-8 March at Coogee Live. I hope to see you there.

On behalf of the Elected Members and staff, I wish you a happy and healthy 2026.

His Worship the Mayor Logan K. Howlett, JP

Telephone: 08 9411 3577

Email: EMoffice@cockburn.wa.gov.au

Read more about your Elected Members:
www cockburn.wa.gov.au/ElectedMembers

Coogee Live 2026: Your favourite festival reimagined

This year, expect everything you love about Coogee Live, turned up a notch. Our iconic two-day festival will deliver more memorable moments, big ticket acts, and a seamless coastal experience that is easier to explore. Best of all, it's still free!

The event will unfold across three distinct zones: The Cove and Kids Cove, Ocean Kitchen Garden, and Sunset Stage at Coogee Beach Reserve. No more long walks or choosing between must-see acts. Just perfect pacing, effortless navigation, and all the beachside buzz within easy reach.

Accessibility is built into every part of the event – from beach matting and connected pathways to Auslan interpreters, sensory bags, chill-out zones and food concierge services. Everyone's invited to join in the fun.

And the lineup? Simply remarkable. EARTH's Dinosaur Zoo will bring prehistoric giants to the shore. DJs will turn the sand into a soulful sunset dance floor. The Big Top will dazzle with circus and cabaret, while the Ocean Kitchen Garden will serve up award-winning chefs and flavours that capture the coast. Add the Family Rave Day, the Bubble Canteen, and the Kite Festival filling the sky with colour and you've got one unforgettable weekend by the water.

Mark your calendar for 7 and 8 March 2026. Find all the details at coogeealive.com



Birds Of Tokyo to headline Cockburn Sun Sets

Get ready to rock, Cockburn! Birds Of Tokyo are bringing their ARIA award-winning hits to Cockburn Sun Sets on Saturday 21 February from 5pm to 10pm at Success Regional Sport and Community Facility, Success.

Enjoy an unforgettable night of live music under the stars and sing along to hits such as 'Lanterns' and 'Good Lord'.

Supporting the band's epic night of rock 'n' roll is an impressive lineup of Australian talent, including the vibrant, high-energy sounds of Caravāna Sun, Melbourne-based singer-songwriter Steph Strings, indie favourite Charlie Collins and rising local artist Ricky Neil Jr.

Grab your friends and family, pack a picnic and get ready for a night of fun, music and maybe some dancing!

Get all the latest information at www.cockburn.wa.gov.au/CockburnLive



Service survey shows Cockburn is the best place to be

Every two years, we survey the community to measure your satisfaction with Council services.

The Service survey, conducted by Place Score and completed in September last year, showed overall satisfaction with the City is at 89 per cent. This is higher than the average in Australia and Western Australia (both at 85 per cent).

The Service survey also revealed your top 10 priorities across the City.

Rank	Service area
1.	Providing value for money from rates
2.	Community safety and crime prevention
3.	Provision and maintenance of parks and public spaces
4.	Safe public spaces
5.	Council making decisions in the best interest of the community
6.	Planning for future community needs
7.	Protection and management of the natural environment
8.	Road maintenance and condition
9.	Community wellbeing
10.	Beach and/or waterways



Survey respondents also rated certain services as very good and good, making them top performers of the City. Those services are the Cockburn Libraries, rubbish collection and waste management, beaches, sport and recreation, and parks and public spaces.

In addition to the Service survey, we conduct a Liveability survey every two years to measure the 'liveability' of Cockburn. The insights help ensure our neighbourhoods grow in ways that reflect community values and priorities. The results of this survey were used to develop our Strategic Community Plan 2025-2035.

We pay close attention to the results of both surveys, as they tell us exactly what is important to you and identify areas of focus for planning.



Parking safely at our schools

School's back – please drive, park and walk with care.

Children are small, unpredictable and still learning road rules. Their safety is in your hands.

Beat the traffic! Walking or cycling to school is safer, healthier and helps children build independence.

5 ways to keep children safe

1. **Slow down:** stick to 40km/h in school zones
2. **Park legally:** never on footpaths, driveways or no stopping zones
3. **Use the footpath side** when dropping off or picking up
4. **Hold hands:** children under eight should hold an adult's hand
5. **Set the example:** children copy what you do.



Bright ideas lighting up Cockburn

Each year, the City of Cockburn invests more than \$1.5 million in local projects through the Cockburn Community Fund, supporting initiatives that make our City more connected, creative and sustainable.



Funding is available across community and cultural grants, donations, group sponsorships and youth art scholarships, with several programs open all year round, including small events sponsorship, individual sponsorship and sustainability grants.

Local community organisation Spectrum Space used a City of Cockburn community grant to expand its Telethon Holiday Makers Program for autistic children aged 5-18.

The funding also helped launch three new social programs at the Treeby Community and Sports Centre, helping young people build skills, confidence and friendships.

Stories like this show how local funding can spark real change – and your idea could be next. If you want to apply for a grant, the next round opens Monday 9 February and closes Friday 20 March. To apply visit: www.cockburn.wa.gov.au/Grants

Froggy's is 15!

Our much-loved free outdoor playgroup, Froggy's Fun on the Green, has been bringing laughter, creativity and community connection to local families for 15 fun-filled years.

To mark the occasion, we hosted a Frog Festival at Manning Park in early December last year. More than 100 families joined the festivities, enjoying frog displays, frog noises, frog crafts, a frog raffle, and plenty of muddy, messy, sensory play.

Froggy's runs around 40 sessions each year during school terms. Over the past few years, Froggy's popularity has skyrocketed, with attendance at its Monday session increasing by more than 150 per cent.

Long-time play leader Vesna Milanovic, who has been with the program since day one, is the driving force and friendly face behind Froggy's.



"I wanted to send my biggest compliments to Vesna, who [does] an outstanding job with Froggy's Fun on the Green. It's the first group I've genuinely enjoyed and look forward to each week."



With her play assistant, Molly, Vesna creates an inclusive, relaxed, and joyful environment where children can explore and play, and parents, grandparents, and carers can connect with others in the community. We even welcomed back a former parent – this time with her grandchildren!

Experience why thousands of local families have discovered the joy of Froggy's Fun on the Green, where community, creativity and messy fun come together!



Cockburn Libraries celebrates golden jubilee

Spearwood Library has always been ahead of its time.

The library first opened its doors on 23 March 1976 as one of Western Australia's first public libraries to use computerised lending, replacing the manual ticket system.

What started as a single branch has grown into a vibrant three-library service that supports and connects the community. Coolbellup Library opened in 1990, followed by Success Library in 2000, which moved into a purpose-built space at the Cockburn Health and Community Facility in 2014.

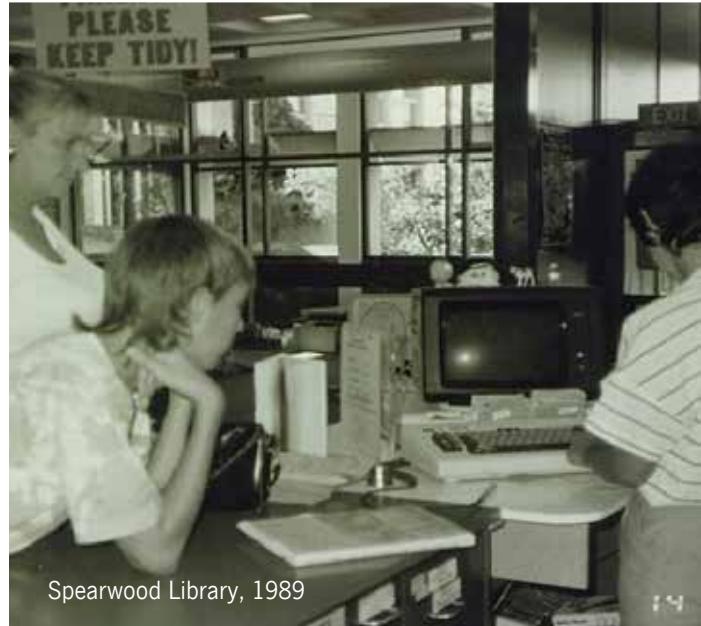
For many long-serving staff members, this anniversary is a moment of reflection.

City of Cockburn former Library Manager Linda Seymour first joined Spearwood Library as a work experience student in 1989 and has witnessed enormous change since, particularly in how technology has expanded access to library services.

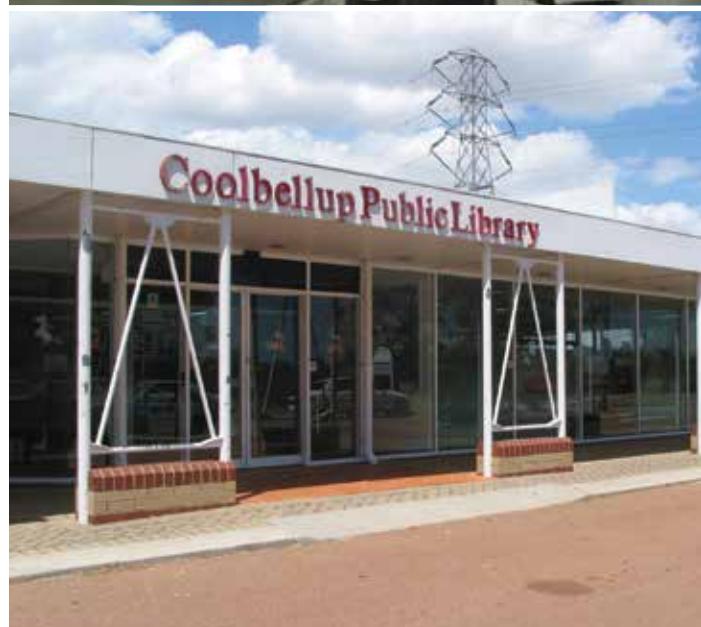
"Technology has enabled residents to access the library from home – from eMagazines to eBooks," Linda said.

"There was a fear at one stage that the printed book would disappear, but that has proven to be so wrong. Most people still love a physical book, and many read both."

Linda said that despite automation and digital transformation, the heart of the library has stayed the same.



Spearwood Library, 1989



Spearwood Library, 1976





“Our role as a place of connection is so important. Groups come in to play mahjong or to knit, and those social connections really support community wellbeing.”

Julie Mann, who has worked with Cockburn Libraries since 1979, agrees and said she has seen generations come through.

“Children who once came in with their parents are now bringing in their own kids.

“A lot of people come because it’s a safe, friendly place. They know they can talk to us.”

As Cockburn Libraries looks ahead to the next 50 years, both Linda and Julie agree that while technology will continue to evolve, libraries will remain a welcoming and inclusive place for community connection, lifelong learning and belonging.

“As we become more digitally engrossed in what we do at home and at work, human connection is going to be very important, and libraries will have a major role to play,” Linda said.

To celebrate half a century of learning and connection, the community is invited to join a week of activities at our libraries from 23-28 March 2026, culminating in a free Birthday Fair at Spearwood Library on Saturday 28 March from 9.30am to 4pm.

To find out more visit
www.cockburnlibraries.com.au

Spearwood Library, 1989

Our Sustainable Home Rebate can help you go green

Our Sustainable Home Rebate offers up to \$500 for home upgrades that lower utility bills and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

We know energy and water costs are a challenge for many residents. This program helps ease that burden, while making our community more sustainable.

Eligible upgrades include insulation, solar health checks, hot water systems, EV chargers and pool pumps.

To apply, a free Sustainable Home Consult (formerly Home Eco Audit) is required. Our consultants provide expert advice to ensure you make the most effective upgrades.

Funds are limited and are allocated on a first come, first served, one per household basis. Don't miss your chance to enhance the comfort of your home, save on bills and help protect the environment.

Apply now and join us in building a more sustainable Cockburn: www.cockburn.wa.gov.au/SHR



Comment on Cockburn

Several projects are currently live for feedback on Comment on Cockburn, our community engagement website. Have your say on what matters to you and help us deliver outcomes that reflect the values and needs of our community.



Community events

We want to hear what you enjoy about our events program, and what we could improve. What makes an event feel fun, welcoming and uniquely Cockburn? Are they in the right spot? Let us know.



Local laws

When residents engage in the process of developing or amending local laws, it helps us identify any gaps, unintended consequences or practical challenges in the draft local laws. Your input counts.



Talk to us in person

Our Community Engagement team is bringing the show on the road, visiting local shopping centres and community events to chat about the exciting projects on the horizon and hear what you have to say.



Scan QR code to Comment on Cockburn.

<https://bit.ly/commentoncockburn-FebSoundings>

Help keep our beaches beautiful

We all love our stunning coastline in Cockburn, which is why we share the responsibility of keeping it pristine.

Please use the bins provided for any rubbish you generate while visiting the beach. If a bin is full, take your waste home with you rather than leaving it beside the bin or on the beach.

Larger items, such as broken beach shelters, chairs, umbrellas or boogie boards, should be taken home for proper disposal. These bulky items quickly overfill public bins, create trip hazards, and often end up blowing back onto the beach or into the ocean.

Every piece of litter left on the sand or in the dunes harms our marine life, spoils the natural environment and diminishes other people's experience.

Thank you for doing your part to keep our beaches clean, safe and beautiful for everyone.



Reuse Shop is open Fridays 8am-4pm and Saturdays 8am-1pm. Located at Henderson Waste Recovery Park, 920 Rockingham Road, Henderson.

Furnish your home for less at the Reuse Shop

On the hunt for quality furniture without breaking the bank?

Cockburn's Reuse Shop at Henderson Waste Recovery Park is the place to find pre-loved chairs, tables, and more.

All items at the Reuse Shop have been rescued from landfill and are carefully inspected by staff to ensure they are safe and ready for a second life.

The shop is a treasure trove for all sorts of things, from bikes and hand tools to children's toys.

Time to exercise

Going to the gym is never a chore for people in our Prime Time fitness class at Cockburn ARC. Instead, it's the highlight of their week – a way to stay active and connect with people.

The class is designed for adults over 50 who want to maintain strength, mobility and independence as they age. The class focuses on functional strength, balance and flexibility, but just as important are the friendships that form along the way.

Since launching in July, the class has been a huge hit. Most participants didn't know each other beforehand but now train together every Tuesday and Thursday at 11am and, more often than not, end up grabbing a well-deserved coffee at Plunge+Co Café together afterwards.

Participants say the benefits go beyond the workout, with many feeling stronger and noticing a real improvement in their balance.

The social side is a big part of what keeps the group coming back.

"Having all your friends doing the exercises together, everyone is always happy and laughing while we're training."

- Cockburn ARC member



Led by ARC fitness coach Juan, that sense of belonging is exactly what makes Prime Time special.

"This class is about community. Once people come along and see how supportive the group is, they never look back," Juan said.

If you've been thinking about becoming more active but aren't sure where to begin, Prime Time is an easy, welcoming place to start. You can move at your own pace, learn the basics, and the group is always happy to show newcomers the ropes.

To get started, come and talk to the ARC team about a membership or visit www.cockburnarc.com.au/Memberships

Cr Kevin Allen named Freeman of the City

Long-standing City of Cockburn Councillor Kevin Allen received the highest civic honour the City can bestow upon an individual at our annual Civic Dinner in December last year.



The title of Honorary Freeman of the City recognises individuals who have made an extraordinary and lasting contribution to our community.

A Cockburn resident for more than 40 years, Cr Allen has served on Council since 2000 and championed local progress through decades of community involvement. His leadership at the Coogee Beach Progress Association, dedication to the RSL, and sporting triumphs – including international sailing titles – exemplify his commitment to Cockburn.

Left photo: Cr Kevin Allen pictured with his wife Debbie Allen at the City's Annual Civic Dinner in 2024.

Keep it reel: Fishing responsibly in Cockburn

The City of Cockburn offers beautiful coastal fishing opportunities, from the Port Coogee accessible fishing jetty to various breakwaters and groynes along Woodman Point and C.Y. O'Connor Beach.

Enjoying Cockburn's coastline means doing our part to protect it – by fishing only where permitted and helping keep marine habitats healthy.

No-fishing zones

- The **Coogee Maritime Trail and Omeo Shipwreck area** is declared a no-fishing zone under state law. Fishing, spearfishing and powered boats are prohibited there to protect marine life and the safety of swimmers and divers
- The **Port Coogee Marina** and waterways are also off limits for fishing, crabbing or spearfishing under Local Law. The only allowed spot in the waterways is the accessible fishing jetty at the end of Chelydra Point
- A proposed no-fishing buffer (50m) is being considered around the **C.Y. O'Connor engineered fringing reef**, given increased recreational use and safety concerns
- Under City local laws, using set or buoyed lines, or blood or lures intended to attract sharks, is prohibited.

5 ways to fish responsibly

1. **Check before you cast**
Use the City's fishing map (available on our website) and localised signage to confirm allowed fishing zones
2. **Dispose of tackle properly**
Use "Reel It In" bins to avoid harming wildlife with discarded line or hooks
3. **Respect closures and seasonal limits**
Closures apply for species like pink snapper and southern garfish
4. **Follow safety and courtesy rules**
Avoid dangerous practices, give way to swimmers/divers, and stay away from marked dive flagged zones as well as boats
5. **Learn to fish responsibly**
Workshops for kids aged 10-17 years are available at Cockburn Youth Centre.

By staying informed, fishing in permitted zones and protecting marine life, you help ensure our stunning coastline remains a rich and safe place for all recreational users. For more information about fishing in Cockburn visit: www.cockburn.wa.gov.au/Fishing



Above map: Suggested fishing locations: Catherine Point, Port Coogee, Woodman Point Ammunition Jetty, Woodman Point. Fishing prohibited areas: Port Coogee waterways (Except in the immediate vicinity of the fishing jetty), Coogee Maritime Trail, Coogee Beach shark barrier, Woodman Point boat ramps

What's On in Cockburn

Summer is heating up in Cockburn, and there's no better way to celebrate than by joining our lineup of exciting community events across the City.

Mark your diaries or visit our website for more information at www.cockburn.wa.gov.au/Events



Free



Ticketed



Free

Term 1 After School Youth Program

February to April,
Cockburn Youth Centre,
Ages 10-17. Free.

Seniors Dine and Dance

Saturday 7 February, 6-10pm
Harmony Oval, Atwell.
Over 55s event. Ticketed.

Cockburn Sun Sets

Saturday 21 February, 5-10pm
Success Regional Sports Facility,
Success. Free.



Ticketed



Free



Free

Balance the Scales: Celebrate International Women's Day in Cockburn

Thursday 5 March, 9am-2pm
Cockburn Bowling and
Recreational Club, Yangebup
For local businesses. Ticketed.

Coogee Live

7-8 March, Various times
Coogee Beach Reserve,
Coogee. Free.

Show Off Art Exhibition – 21st Anniversary

21-29 March, various times
Memorial Hall, Hamilton Hill.
Free.

Councillor Corner

We asked Cr Hilda Srhoy to tell us her three favourite places in Cockburn.

Naval Base Shacks

Since I was a child I have spent most of my summers swimming in the Cockburn Sound. Watching dolphins swim by or pelicans fly over. I love listening to the waves at night. It's my happy place.

Spearwood Dalmatinac Club

The Club is my second home. It's a good feeling to volunteer and be part of a community. A Croatian community that is always there for you. The friends that I have met at the Club share a lifetime of laughter, memories and experiences.

Market Garden Swamp

When I walk around the swamp, with our dogs, Lexi and Alice, I smile when I see a snake-necked turtle walking along the footpath, a kookaburra sitting in a tree or checking if Bruce the lone goose is looking after his patch. I know I am close to home – Spearwood.



Cockburn Libraries 50 Year Anniversary Week

23-28 March, various times
Spearwood, Success and Coolbellup Libraries. Free.



Easter Fair

Saturday 4 April, 3-7pm
Aubin Grove Reserve,
Aubin Grove. Free.



Anzac Day

Saturday 25 April, 5am-midday
Memorial Hall, Hamilton Hill. Free.



Anzac Day Youth Parade

Tuesday 28 April, 9-11am
Beale Park, Spearwood. Free.

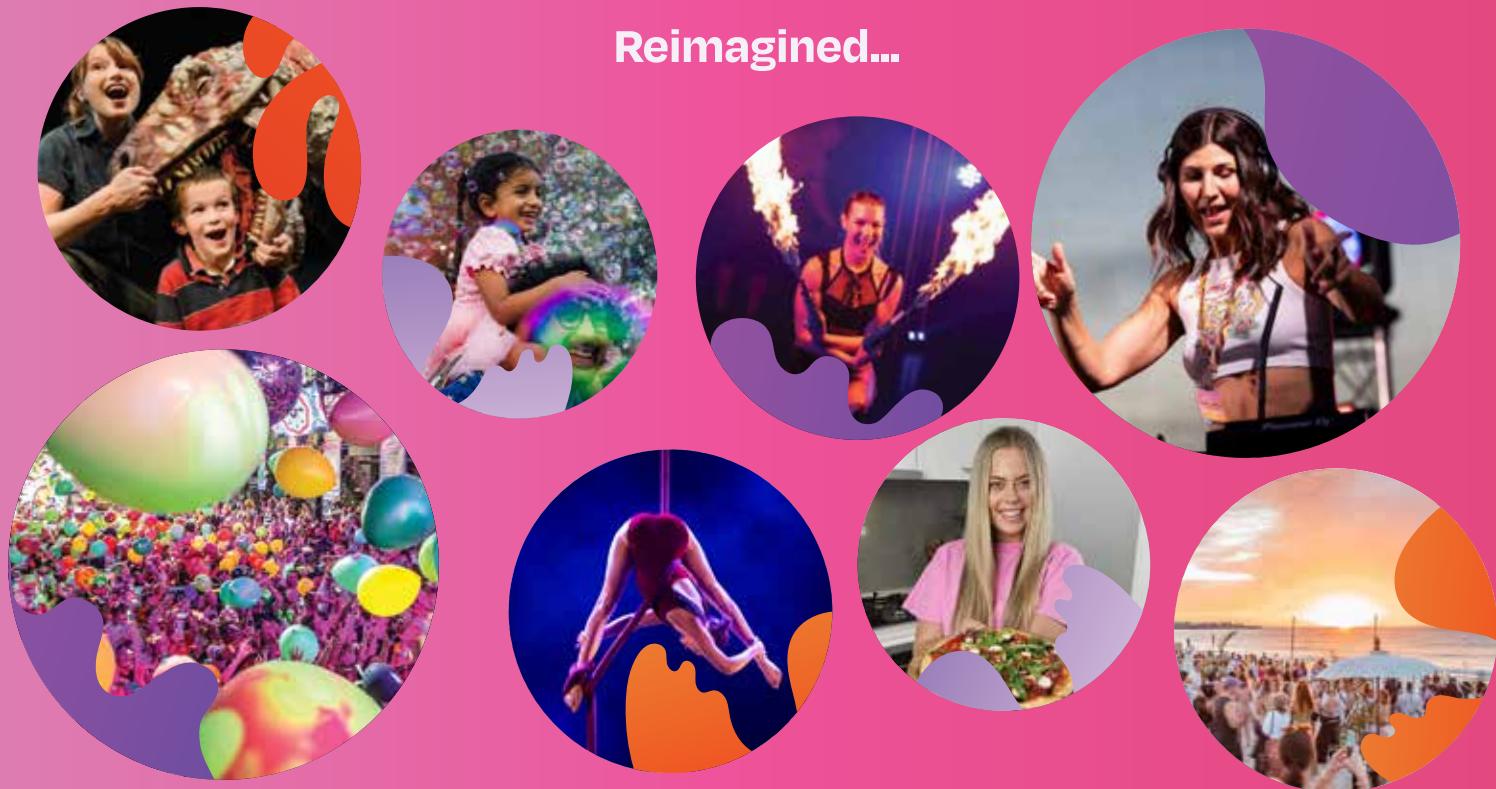


Free
Event

COOGEE LIVE '26

Your favourite beachside festival.

Reimagined...



World class festival acts with a coastal twist.

Circus and cabaret, dinosaurs, bubble spectacular and a family-friendly rave. Enjoy DJ sets on the beach at sunset, masterclasses with top WA chefs, and the Coogee Cove Garden to relax in between shows.

7-8 March 2026

Coogee Beach Reserve

coogeelive.com

