

Subject:

FW: NSPNR December 2023 Newsletter

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The NSPNR office is generally open Tues/Wed/Thurs 9am-5pm
Contact Caroline House, Executive Officer on 0437 248 206

Dates for your diary

2023

Monday 25 December 2023 to Friday 5 January 2024 inclusive Annual Office Closure.

2024

February 17 Saturday NSPNR - Yongergnow Feral Animal Tally and Community Breakfast (Gnowangerup and Ongerup)

February 20-21 EvokeAG, Perth

February 29 Thursday GRDC National Grower Network Summer Forum, Borden, 3.00pm

Wanju to North Stirlings Pallinup Natural Resources.

We are proud to live and work on Goreng Country in the Noongar nation. As we go about our purpose to inspire and support the North Stirlings Pallinup community to preserve and improve the region's natural resources, we acknowledge that the traditional custodians have walked these lands for many years before us and carry immeasurable knowledge. We pay our ongoing respects to the Elders of the past, the Elders we work and talk with in the present, and the emerging Elders with whom we begin to forge friendships, collaborations and a culture of mutual respect.

Welcoming Birak 🌸 (December – January)

The Noongar Season 'Birak' is associated with the colour red, symbolising heat, sun, and fire, and it is a significant month in the Noongar calendar,

particularly for farmers. During this season, rainfall diminishes, and warm weather takes a firm grip. Sea breeze from the southwest provides relief in the afternoons. For farmers, this period demands careful planning and resource management as they navigate the challenges of reduced water availability and heightened temperatures.

Birak witnesses the emergence of numerous fledglings, with some, like magpies and parrots, remaining close to their parents. Reptiles undergo skin shedding, and rising temperatures, coupled with reduced rainfall, mark a crucial period for baby frogs as they complete their transformation into adulthood. Traditionally, Birak was the fire season for the Noongar people. Consistent easterly winds in the morning and sea breezes in the afternoon created optimal conditions for controlled burns in mosaic patterns across the landscape. This practice served multiple purposes, including fuel reduction, enhancing grazing pastures, aiding seed germination, and facilitating ease of movement across the country.

[from various sources]

Your 2023-24 Committee

Chair: **Ellen Milne**

Vice Chair: **Peter Callaghan**

Treasurer: **Kevin Wise**

Secretary: **Vanessa Stone**

Exec Committee Member: **Rebecca O'Meehan**

Reference Group: Emily Jaekel, James Culleton, Stacey Moir, Stephen Simpson, Jordanne Medlen, DPIRD Rep John-Paul Collins, South Coast NRM Rep Johanna Tomlinson, Gnowangerup Shire Rep Rebecca Kiddle.

(contact details on our website nspnr.com.au)

A message from the committee

I hope this newsletter finds you finished or close to the finish of harvest if you are farming, and if not, winding up another busy year of school or business. It has been a busy and fulfilling year for the executive management committee, with two semi newbies in Rebecca O'Meehan and myself, and a 'new' newbie in Peter Callaghan joining us as Vice Chair at our recent AGM. We've been getting stuck into the business of natural resource management, sustainable agriculture and all that goes with this very broad environmental brushstroke. Kevin Wise remains as the long-standing guru of all things NRM and Vanessa Stone has just completed a second splendid year!

As you may or may not be aware, much of our core funding comes through our regional organisation, South Coast NRM Inc. South Coast NRM is one of a collective of 54 natural resource management organisations covering the whole of Australia. These organisations are the disseminators of federal government funding allocations in the NRM/Agriculture space across the nation.

NSPNR relies heavily on this funding to be able to facilitate and implement vital projects in our catchment area. There has been a disappointing delay by the federal government in the announcement of the latest phase of Regional Land Partnerships. We, along with all South Coast NRM and other community groups in the South Coast region, are critically affected by this gap in ongoing funds in terms of resources for staffing, administration and on-ground works.

This delay, however, has given us the opportunity to undertake an organisational review. We will analyse our current structure — committee, reference group and staff — and our operating model so that we continue to meet the evolving shape of our community in terms of volunteer capacity to run NSPNR, delivering what our members want and keeping hold of the community

capacity building aspect of NSPNR that is vitally important, but often overlooked.

This review will not just be about assessing where we are now, it will be about clarifying where we want to be. NSPNR has always been committed to working passionately and hard towards achieving healthy, productive, prosperous landscapes and communities, and kudos must be given to all the past volunteer committee members and staff who have committed so much time and effort to this, but the time is ripe to evaluate our performance and identify areas where we can elevate our delivery.

Our end goal is clear: to emerge from this review as a stronger, more efficient and effective organisation that continues to make a difference in the health and sustainability of our landscape, businesses and communities. Our hope is that other community not-for-profit organisations will be encouraged by our desire to “be the change we want to see in the world” and will be inspired to also take a critical look at the way their organisation operates in today’s world... we are all perhaps guilty of sticking with traditional structures and not being mindful that each generation has their own set of values and priorities and committees must be adaptive enough to find the most effective pathway forward. So - watch this space!

We want to hear from you. Your perspectives are invaluable as we assess our future direction and identify opportunities for improvement. NSPNR exists because of and for its members, so we encourage you to actively participate in this process. We would love you to share your thoughts, ideas, and aspirations by emailing Vanessa Stone (Secretary) shgrains@outlook.com or any of the executive.

Happy, festive, Christmas wishes to everyone.

ELLEN MILNE
Chair

Join NSPNR today

NSPNR members' group

We invite our valued members to join our new Whatsapp Group to be the first to hear about new projects, opportunities and group updates. Click the link below to join.

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/FUBYA5CbXHpA7WGGSBa4fG>

Farewell Tegan

The committee would like to say farewell and acknowledge the wonderful work of Tegan Knowles. Tegan and her family have recently relocated to Margaret River for work and school reasons, but I know Tegan loved her time in Borden and the Shire of Gnowangerup - and we certainly loved her being here.

Tegan floated into town on a wave of kindness and generosity, and just happened to have professional skills in natural resource management - what a bonus for NSPNR! It was such a pleasure to have Tegan as part of our team for a short but very productive 1.5 years.

Tegan instigated our "Sharing Local Knowledge to Enrich the Curriculum" project which is up and running beautifully and will be such a great connector between our strategic vision and the future of our communities - our kids. Tegan also has a deep interest in Noongar culture and was very invested in working collaboratively with the Elders of our community to ensure NSPNR was aware and respectful of our environment from an Indigenous perspective.

Tegan's cheerful personality is missed around the office but we wish her and her family all the best on their new chapter of life on the west coast.



Borden Primary School incursion

Our NSPNR staff members Caroline, Georgia and Laura had a great morning on Tuesday 5th December, visiting Borden Primary School to deliver an introduction to students about biodiversity!

Students participated in many activities, including identifying different endemic plants and their special features around the school, an environmental

scavenger hunt and a quiz about native animal habitats. This exciting incursion was part of our “Sharing Local Knowledge to Enrich the Curriculum” project, made possible by the generous support of the Western Australian Government’s State NRM Programme.



Curriculum packages released!

Our three education packages have been finalised and are available to view and use via our website (link below)!!! As part of our project "Sharing Local Knowledge to Enrich the Curriculum", these packages were designed for Pre-Primary to Year 10 harnessing knowledge from local teachers, parents, scientists and Goreng Elders and leaders. We are so excited for these to be used in our local schools, and all throughout WA.

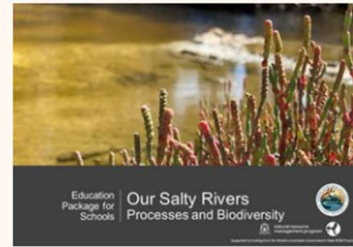
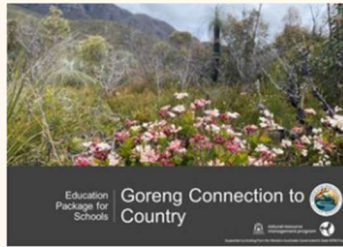
Massive thankyou to Mandy Bamford and Nathan Ducker for bringing these packages to life, thank you to the invaluable input from Steve and Geraldine ‘Janicke Environmental Investigations’, Gnowangerup Aboriginal Corporation and the Teacher/parent working groups with representatives from Ongerup Primary School, Borden Primary School and Gnowangerup DHS.

We look forward to teachers using these packages in 2024 and beyond and

hearing how they go.

This project was made possible by the generous support of the Western Australian Government's State NRM Programme.

View [Education Resources — North Stirlings Pallinup Natural Resources \(nspnr.com.au\)](https://nspnr.com.au)



NSPNR and Yongergnow partner to hold feral event

NSPNR has partnered with Yongergnow Australian Malleefowl Centre to hold a Feral Animal Tally and Community Breakfast on Saturday 17 February 2024. Registered teams may start targeting foxes, feral cats and rabbits on private land in the Shire of Gnowangerup and Gnowellen and Broomehill East from 5pm the night before.

Team members are to arrive with their collection at either of two locations, Ongerup Tip or Gnowangerup Tip, between 5.30am and 6am. Tally starts at 6am. Late entries will not be considered for the tally.

The event is part of NSPNR's project, "Expanded predator control program in the Fitz-Stirling Corridor", that aims to reduce the number of feral cats, foxes

and rabbits in the area between the Stirling Range and Fitzgerald River national parks. This will reduce pressure on native animals including malleefowl, chuditch and Carnaby's black cockatoo. This project is supported by funding from the Western Australian Government's State NRM Program.

Foxes, cats and other invasive fauna have a devastating impact on the numbers and biodiversity of wildlife species in the North Stirlings - Pallinup sub-region and across the country. In Australia, cats and foxes were found to collectively kill more than 1.4 billion mammals, almost 700 million reptiles and around 510 million birds each year.

Foxes are estimated to cost Australian farmers \$35 million dollars annually throughout lambing periods. Toxoplasmosis is a parasite that can be transferred from feral cats to pregnant ewes, potentially causing embryonic fatalities and miscarriages. Rabbits cause an estimated \$600 million worth of damage to Australian agriculture each year.

Teams can register for the NSPNR - Yongergnow Feral Animal Tally and Community Breakfast by signing up at <https://yongergnow.com.au/centre/> by 5pm on Wed 14 February.

Community members are warmly invited to attend the breakfast from 6.30am (Yongergnow Centre or Soul Van opposite Gnowangerup Post Office) to hear the results of the tally. RSVP indicating Ongerup or Gnowangerup and number of people by Wed 14 February to visitor@yongergnow.com.au or call 9828 2325.

The tally and community breakfast would not be possible without the support of our partners: State NRM, South Coast NRM, Shire of Gnowangerup, Yongergnow-Ongerup CRC, FRRR, Bush Heritage Australia, Elders, WAMMCO, Summit Fertilizers, Farmers Centre 1978, Stirling Steelworks, Gnowangerup Hardware, Stirling Range Retreat, Raine & Horne Great Southern, Pinnacle Products Ear Tags, Ongerup Farm Supplies, and Red Card for Rabbits and Foxes.

For more information contact Laura Page, NSPNR Project Officer, on 0401 553 285 or laura@nspnr.com.au or Elisa Santina, Yongergnow Manager/Finance Officer, 9828 2325.



The poster features a dark green header with the event title in large white letters. On the left is the North Stirlings Ranges Natural Resources logo, and on the right is the Yongergnow Australian Wildlife Centre logo. Below the header, the event details are centered: 'Feral Animal Tally & Community Breakfast' followed by 'Saturday 17 February 2024'. Three silhouettes of a rabbit, a fox, and a cat are shown. A speech bubble on the right says 'SAVE THE DATE'. Below the silhouettes, it states '(Teams may begin from 5pm on Friday 16 February 2024)' and 'Gnowangerup - Ongerup'. A dark green bar contains contact information for Laura and Elisa. The bottom section, titled 'OUR PARTNERS', displays a grid of logos for various local businesses and organizations including Raine & Horne, FRRR, Ongerup Farm Supplies, Bush Heritage Australia, Red Card, V.M.M.F.O., Stirling Range Retreat, GNP Hardware, Southcoast, Pinnacle Products Ear Tags, Fine Brand, Natural Resource Management Program, Farmers Centre, Elders, Summit Fertilizers, and Stirling Steelworks.

Interested in free 1080 baits for your farm?

Free Baits

Click the "Free Baits" button and leave your email for us!

NSPNR Garden Project update

Our staff and committee have wanted to create a welcoming garden space to compliment the incredible Borden streetscape and our neighbours at the RSL Hall for some time. With the support of the Borden Group and the Gnowangerup Shire, we applied and were successful in obtaining funding to do just that through the CBH Grass Roots Grants program.

The vision was to create a hardy, water wise garden, displaying attractive plants endemic to our region. The extensive plant list was compiled by Sandy Vaux and garden design by horticulturist and local farmer, Charlotte Peakall. Bronwyn Gaze has assisted hugely throughout all the planning and planting, as well as the ongoing management.

Charlotte sees the garden as an opportunity to bring awareness to locals and visitors about our fragile and unique flora. "I'm happy to help NSPNR to show off the beautiful flora we have in our region and help share my knowledge and skills with the local community to make this garden a display of what our region has to offer."

Planting and other features incorporated in Charlotte's plan are underway and staff and volunteers are very enthusiastic about the future growth of this great initiative. Thanks to Katy Meinburg for her help planting the new plants.

Once the garden has had the final touches, signage and a website will be put together about the different species and their importance to biodiversity in our region.



External opportunities for members

EvokeAG discount rate for farmers

NSPNR Members ONLY discount rate use Code **GGAMEMBER24**

Explore the exceptional edge of agrifood tech innovation.

AgriFutures Australia will once again host the Asia Pacific's premier agrifood innovation event, evokeAG, in Perth, Western Australia.

This unique, cross-sector, international event brings together thought leaders and change makers in agriculture, food manufacturing, research, innovation, investment, and policy to build connections for a more resilient, productive, and profitable agricultural sector and value chain.

The event will take place at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre on 20 – 21 February 2024.

More information: [evokeAG](#).

Free soil carbon sampling *apply now*

Free soil coring and analysis of soil carbon is being offered to 40 farms in WA, as part of the Federal Government's National Soil Carbon Innovation Challenge. This aims at developing technologies that will lower the current costs of accurately baselining a farm's soil carbon. The project will cover the costs of the soil sampling & lab tests – typically costing around \$5000-\$7000. The program is seeking farms that have varied land management practices on the same farm, (for example Cropping Vs Pasture, OR Planted to wheat last season Vs Planted to canola last season).

Details and applications here: [Soil Carbon Sampling](#)



GRDC NGN FORUM
BORDEN

**NATIONAL GROWER NETWORK
SUMMER FORUM**



GRDC welcomes all involved in the grains industry to the:

GRDC NGN Summer Forum in Borden

Location: Borden Pavilion
Stone Street, Borden
Date: 29th February 2024
Time: 3.00 pm to 7.00 pm

Guest Speakers:

Dr Amanuel Bekuma 'Frost & Ice Nucleating Bacteria'
Glenn McDonald 'Soil Amelioration Do's & Don'ts'

The NGN Forum provides an opportunity for anyone involved in the grains industry to bring forward ideas including opportunities and constraints which are relevant to the grains industry.

Ideas raised will be discussed in detail, to assist the GRDC to develop targeted RD&E activities that create enduring profitability for Australian grain growers. The forums are also an opportunity to engage directly with GRDC representatives.

For catering purposes please RSVP [here or via QR code below](#) by Wed 21st February or alternatively contact admin@ruraledge.org.au



grdc.com.au

Book an Eco Party Pack for your next event!



Eco Party Packs are perfect for your end of year celebrations! Get in quick!!



These beautiful new sets are designed to make it easy to go zero-waste, without compromising quality, style or effort. Simply contact one of the host offices below to book ahead of time, then pick up the pack ready to party!

BOOK A KIDS MELAMINE OR ADULTS CERAMIC PACK NOW FROM YOUR NEAREST TOWN. CONTACT THE HOST OFFICES AT NSPNR BORDEN , GNOWANGERUP CRC OR YONGERGNOW-ONGERUP CRC.



The Eco Party Packs are a collaboration between North Stirlings Pallinup Natural Resources, Gnowangerup CRC and Ongerup CRC, with funding provided from the CBH Grassroots Community Grant Program.

Phone to book your party pack

NSPNR Borden: 0437 248 206

Gnowangerup CRC 08 9827 1635

Yongergnow-Ongerup CRC 08 9828 2325

NSPNR staff contact details

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For more information about NSPNR and our activities, see our website

nspnr.com.au, [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#).



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