

Talk About Subi

Issue No. 240 | Winter 2026

Keeping the community connected

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hits Lords

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taking root in Subi



**Subiaco streets
burst into bloom**



HYROX training launches at Lords

Lords Recreation Centre is now the first local government community recreation centre in WA to become an accredited HYROX Training Club.

The global indoor fitness race combines running with functional workout stations, including sled push, burpees, and wall balls. Accreditation means Lords members can now take part in specialised classes that combine running and fitness stations, helping them build strength, endurance, and confidence ahead of HYROX events held across Australia. Visit www.lords.com.au for more information.

“HYROX is a global phenomenon, and here in our state, Lords is at the forefront – the very first local government recreation centre to offer it. Complementing Lords’ existing offerings, the addition of HYROX positions Lords as an ongoing leader in community recreation.”

~ Mayor David McMullen

New murals add colour to the City

Two new murals are bringing fresh colour and creativity to laneways just off Rokeby Road.

At the rear of 173 to 175 Rokeby Road, artist Leanne Bray has created a vibrant work inspired by local jacaranda and poinciana blooms, with playful spaghetti-like forms nodding to neighbouring Delisio Italian restaurant. Nearby, Graeme Miles Richards has painted miniature scenes designed to be discovered up close, extending the imaginary world of his much-loved Whimsey on Walmsley.



“These new artworks join our ever-evolving public art scene, providing yet another reason to slow down, take a wander, and explore the streets and laneways of Subiaco.”

~ Mayor David McMullen



City awarded for sustainability, heritage, and events

Recent recognition highlights the breadth of quality work being delivered across the City – from greener streets and treasured community spaces to events that attract thousands of visitors.

Subiaco has been re-endorsed as a Water Corporation Gold Waterwise Council, reflecting its long-running commitment to water-sensitive design and urban greening. The Evelyn H Parker Library restoration also received state-level recognition for excellence in asset management, while Subi Blooms x Gather received silver at the 2025 Qantas Australian Tourism Awards.

“We are focused on creating greener, more sustainable places, protecting local heritage, and supporting events that bring people together and strengthen the City’s vibrancy. These types of awards and recognition affirm Council’s vision, and the hard work of City staff in making it happen.”

~ Mayor David McMullen

Civic building and gardens update

Community feedback is helping shape the next stage of the civic building and gardens project.

At its April meeting, Council acknowledged the valuable community input received during engagement, with key themes including trees and green space, cost, amenities, heritage, and design. Council asked staff to work with the appointed design team and cost planners to develop options that respond to these themes. A future Council report will include a detailed business case, updated design brief, and project management plan.

“Council has resolved a way forward that makes clear to all stakeholders what the City will do: we are responding to feedback, exploring various scenarios and design options, and pursuing a business case and financial modelling to support Council decision-making – one careful decision at a time. Whatever its final form, this is an important project. Thank you for continuing to work with us as we progress and shape the right generational investment for our community.”

~ Mayor David McMullen

Big stories from young voices

Entries open on Friday 17 July for the WA Young Writers Award, with best-selling author and past winner Kate Emery joining the 2026 program to help inspire the next generation of storytellers.

Now in its 34th year, the City's long-running youth writing award returns in 2026 as the WA Young Writers Award, recognising creativity, originality, and imagination from students across the state.

Young writers from years one to 12 can submit original short stories of up to 2000 words, with multiple age categories and a special award for the overall standout story.

More than 5500 stories have been entered over the past five years, from as far north as Kununurra and as far south as Esperance. Young writers can also take part in special workshops with Kate Emery as part of this year's program.

Visit subiaco.wa.gov.au/awards for more information.



NAIDOC Week kicks off at Lake Jualbup

Lake Jualbup will host this year's NAIDOC Week Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony as the City marks 30 years since the Aboriginal name Jualbup was restored to the lake in 1996.

NAIDOC Week runs from Sunday 5 July to Sunday 12 July, with this year's national theme, '50 Years of Deadly', marking five decades of celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, cultures, and achievements.

The City is proud to collaborate with Yirra Yaakin to deliver the highly acclaimed children's show *Djinda Kaatijin* at Subiaco Arts Centre and the annual Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony, this year at Lake Jualbup. Additionally, Noongar Elder Denice Kickett will host a cultural walking tour of the lake, with bookings essential.

Visit subiaco.wa.gov.au/events for more information.



NAIDOC Week 2026 program

Yirra Yaakin performance *Djinda Kaatijin*

11am, Monday 6 July
Subiaco Arts Centre

Aboriginal dance workshop

10am, Tuesday 7 July
Subiaco Library | 5-12 years

Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony

9am, Wednesday 8 July
Lake Jualbup

Cultural walk of Lake Jualbup

10.30am, Wednesday 8 July
Lake Jualbup | Bookings essential

Bush Pharmacy Workshop

10am, Thursday 9 July
Subiaco Library | 5-12 years

Noongar Storytime

10.30am, Friday 10 July
Subiaco Library



Fresh eyes on the Photographic Awards

The City of Subiaco's Photographic Awards are back for 2026, with award-winning photographer Garry Sarre joining the judging panel. Garry brings more than 40 years of experience across advertising, fashion, commercial, and portrait photography, and will judge alongside Subiaco-based photographers Robert Frith and Stef King.

Submissions are open until 4pm Sunday 7 June, with entries invited across People and Portraits, Nature, Open, and AI categories.

Last year's awards attracted a record 1250 entries, and this year's prize pool includes more than \$5000 in cash and prizes. Finalists will be exhibited at Subiaco Library from Monday 17 August to Sunday 27 September.

Visit subiaco.wa.gov.au/awards for more information.

What's on in Subi?



Homelessness Week 2026: 3-9 August

This Homelessness Week, the City is hosting events and initiatives to raise awareness and support vulnerable community members.

Free community talk | 6pm, Monday 3 August

Join Ruah Community Services at Subiaco Library for a free community talk exploring the challenges of homelessness in our community and the opportunities to be part of the solution. Hear powerful insights from people with lived experience and learn how individuals and communities can make a meaningful difference.

Morning tea, Nando's lunch, and movie screening 10am, Wednesday 5 August

The City will host a morning tea followed by a Nando's lunch and movie screening at The Third Place for vulnerable people and those experiencing homelessness.

These events complement ongoing support at The Third Place, including the weekly homelessness support walk-in centre and the Salvation Army's Subiaco Engagement and Assessment Team's weekly roving assertive outreach service across the City.

Visit subiaco.wa.gov.au/events for more information.

Seated ballet steps up the tempo

The City's popular seated ballet classes have increased from fortnightly to weekly, providing more opportunities to enjoy gentle movement, music, and connection.

Facilitated by Ballet4Wellbeing co-founders Aurelien Scannella and Sandy Delasalle, the classes are safe, inclusive, and supportive of a range of physical abilities.

Classes run Thursdays from 11.30am to 12.15pm at Shenton Park Community Centre. Entry is \$10, with no bookings required.



Little scientists, big discoveries

Subiaco Library is celebrating Science Week 2026 with two hands-on activities inspired by this year's theme, 'Seeds of Science: Nurturing Knowledge for All'.

Einstein's Australia will lead an interactive session on Monday 10 August, inviting children aged six and over to explore science through experiments, discovery, and play. Ocean Discovery Education will follow on Monday 17 August with an engaging session about the marine world.

Both sessions run from 3.30pm to 4.30pm.

Visit subiaco.wa.gov.au/events for more information.



Stay fit this winter at Lords

From swim to gym, to fitness classes and sport – Lords Recreation Centre is more than just a gym.

Swim Our 25-metre heated pool is perfect for aqua fitness and rehabilitation.

Fitness classes Offering a full timetable each week, there's a class for everyone to enjoy.

Gym A full suite of cardio and strength equipment is available in our spacious gym.

Sport Play your favourite sport socially or book a court for casual or regular use.

For more details, visit www.lords.com.au.





Upcoming green and hard waste collections

The City's next bulk hard waste collection will begin on Monday 27 July, giving residents an opportunity to dispose of large household items that cannot be reused or repaired.

Items must be placed on the verge by 7am on collection day. Mattresses and e-waste are collected separately, so residents are asked to keep these items separate from general bulk waste. Residents in multi-unit dwellings should contact their strata or property manager to confirm where bulk waste should be placed.

The City's bulk green waste service is now delivered as a pre-booked collection through the Western Metropolitan Regional Council. This means the green waste collection previously scheduled for Monday 15 June will not take place. Visit subiaco.wa.gov.au/waste for more information.

Connected, confident, and supported



Ahead of Elder Abuse Awareness Day on Monday 15 June, the City spoke with Older People's Rights Service advocates Sherryl Potts and Judy Joukador about the importance of staying active, connected, and informed as we age.

Sherryl said social connection plays an important role in wellbeing and safety. "If a person is isolated from friends or acquaintances, it's harder for abuse to be identified," she said.

She said older people should be supported to stay informed, make decisions, have their concerns taken seriously, and remain active members of community life. "Our rights don't diminish as we get older," she said.

Judy said one of the most important things people can do is, "look at the person, not at the number", and avoid stereotypes that can leave older people feeling dismissed or invisible.

Through its Positive Ageing Program, the City supports older residents to stay active, connected, and informed through regular activities, over-55 exercise classes, social events, education sessions, and connections to local support.

A hard copy of the Positive Ageing program is available at Subiaco Library. Visit subiaco.wa.gov.au or contact the City on **9237 9222** for more information.

Subi Blooms brightens new beginnings

Hundreds of flowers from this year's Subi Blooms x Gather festival have been repurposed into bouquets for new mothers and hospital staff at King Edward Memorial Hospital and St John of God Subiaco Hospital.

The arrangements were created with support from Recycled Blooms volunteers and delivered by City staff alongside students from Subiaco Primary School, who hand-painted the bouquet wrapping.

The gesture extended the colour and warmth of the festival beyond the streets, carrying the spirit of Mother's Day into moments of care, gratitude, and new life.

This year's festival, themed 'Flora Aurora', brought a new after-dark experience to Mother's Day weekend and attracted tens of thousands of visitors to enjoy floral displays and community celebrations across Subiaco.

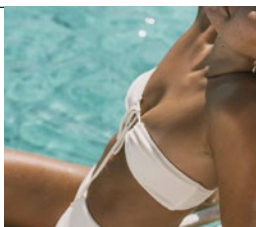


New businesses

La Sol Tan Subiaco

3/165 Hay Street, Subiaco

Perth's first luxury 24/7 automated spray tanning studio has arrived in Subiaco, offering a private and convenient way to maintain a year-round glow.



Henri Living

357 Rokeby Road, Subiaco

Henri Living brings design-led contemporary furniture to Rokeby Road, with a carefully curated collection of indoor and outdoor pieces from established and emerging brands.

Vinnies Subiaco

2/44 Station Street, Subiaco

Vinnies Subiaco offers quality, affordable shopping, with money from every purchase helping support Australians in need.



From bright idea to business plan

The City will again partner with Curtin University's Business School to sponsor a delegate for the 2026 Ignition program.

The five-and-a-half-day intensive program helps entrepreneurs and business owners develop their ideas through practical training, expert clinics, and mentorship opportunities.

The program is designed for people ready to test, shape, or grow a business idea, with support from experienced mentors and connections to other emerging business owners.

In 2024, City-sponsored participant Olga Abbott used the program to refine the business plan for Studio Thimbles, her creative sewing and textile studio on Hay Street.

Applications for the 2026 program are now open and close at 5pm on Tuesday 9 June. Visit www.subiaco.wa.gov.au for more information.



Plays made in a day

In May, the City again supported Western Australian Youth Theatre Co's (WAYTCO) 24 Hour Play Generator, giving young writers and performers the chance to create new theatre at speed.

The fast-paced program challenged young writers aged 15 to 26 to create short plays from scratch during a 12-hour writing day at King Street Arts Centre, supported by dramaturgs and WAYTCO's Artistic Director, Amelia Burke.

Only six works were selected, before actors and directors took on their own 12-hour sprint on 30 May to learn, rehearse, and perform the scripts for an audience at Subiaco Arts Centre.

This year's performing casts included successful auditionees from Perth Modern and Bob Hawke College.



In the know

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City re-endorsed as a Water Corporation Gold Waterwise Council

The City has again been recognised as a Gold Waterwise Council, reflecting its long-running commitment to water-sensitive design, urban greening, and responsible water management. A Waterwise Council since 2011, the City was one of the first local governments to achieve gold recognition in 2016.

Water Corporation commended the City's work in Water Sensitive Urban Design, including soak wells, raingardens, greening projects, and initiatives that support waterway health and water quality. Other waterwise initiatives include eco-zoned gardens in City parks, regular community planting events, irrigation system improvements including the use of more water-efficient sprinklers, and the return of the Native Plant Subsidy Scheme.

A safer, greener Rowland Street precinct

The City has delivered a coordinated upgrade to the Rowland Street precinct, improving the carpark, laneways, and public spaces to create a safer, greener, and more welcoming place.

The project included carpark renewal, improved pedestrian access, upgraded drainage, new public art murals, additional planting, and ongoing improvements to laneways (including Kannis Lane) as key connections between Rokeby Road and the Rowland Street carpark.

Existing trees were protected throughout construction, with improved drainage and soil conditions helping to support long-term tree health and preserve the shade and greenery that contribute to Subiaco's character.



Seventy years of Wandana

Wandana Community Association has celebrated 70 years with a major community event, including a pop-up museum, live entertainment, and a jukebox party featuring music from the 1950s.

The City is a proud partner of Wandana, the oldest and largest public housing complex in Western Australia.

Since 2019, the partnership has supported activities and initiatives that strengthen connection and support vulnerable residents at the Wandana Social Housing Complex.

This includes the Wandana Community Garden, fortnightly morning teas, offsite excursions for residents, and a new mural at the Wandana site.



More trees taking root in the City

Fifty trees will be planted across City parks and reserves thanks to the WA Tree Recovery Grant, helping restore canopy impacted by polyphagous shot-hole borer (PSHB) and supporting the City's goal to plant approximately 400 trees each year.

The grant supports a three-for-one replacement approach – three new trees for every tree lost to PSHB. This will help the City recover tree canopy in key public places and continue protecting the shade, greenery, and character of the City's parks.

Residents who have removed trees impacted by PSHB can also apply for rebates of up to \$150 per tree through the ServiceWA app.



Get social in Subi!

The weather might be cooling down, but Subi is warming up to entertain you this winter. Here are a few of our must-dos.

SEE SUBIACO



WA Comedy Week

4 – 9 August | Various venues

WA Comedy Week is back bigger than ever, taking over Subiaco this August. Celebrate the best of local WA comedy talent with a packed program of guaranteed laughs across multiple nights at some of Subi's favourite venues. Find out more at wacomedy.com.



Winter Jazz Trail

15 – 16 August | Various venues

Perth International Jazz Festival transforms Subiaco into a vibrant Winter Jazz Trail, featuring free pop-up performances across some of the best local venues and spaces. Immerse yourself in the energy of live jazz with an exploration of sound throughout Subiaco. Stay tuned for more announcements at perthjazzfest.com.



Balls Up Bingo

24 June, 22 July, 26 August | 7pm | Fenway Subiaco

Hosted by WA drag queen Dean Misdale, this high-energy bingo night promises endless laughs and plenty of fun. Get there early, grab dinner, and settle in for a hilarious evening of entertainment. Bookings are essential. Find out more at fenwaysubiaco.com/whatson.



Subi Farmers Market

Every Saturday | 8am – 12pm | Subiaco Primary School

Discover the buzz of Subi Farmers Market every Saturday from 8am to 12pm. Enjoy fresh local produce, gourmet treats, artisan goods, and live music in a vibrant community atmosphere. It's the perfect weekend outing for foodies, families, and market lovers alike – right in the heart of Subiaco. Find out more at subifarmersmarket.com.au.

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