

Swan Scoop

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2025 'Get Amongst It' photography competition

Be part of the 2025 calendar
and win a \$400 gift card!



Entries close
September 29, 2024
See page 6 for more details.



Spring 2024
Midland/Guildford Ward

 City of **Swan**

A new look and feel for our Community Care services

City of Swan

Community Care has a new look and feel.

Our Community Care staff and volunteers are passionate about helping people live with choice and independence.

Whether you want a hand getting from A to B, some extra support at home or a social network, they are here for you.



In July, we celebrated a refresh of Community Care, signifying our commitment to creating inclusive and connected communities that have a sense of belonging in Swan.

The new identity is warm, welcoming and inclusive – reflecting the values at the core of our Community Care services and people.

Some of the changes you may notice are:

- A refurbished building, creating a home away from home for members of our dementia specialised service
- New uniforms and signage
- A fresh approach to service delivery
- Acknowledgment of Aboriginal heritage

If you are interested in accessing our Community Care services or helping out as a volunteer, please visit our website.



[www.swan.wa.gov.au/
community-care](http://www.swan.wa.gov.au/community-care)



It's easy to be a great pet owner

City of Swan

An important part of responsible pet ownership is renewing your pet's registration, so if the worst happens and they go missing, you have the best chance of being reunited.

If yours is due this year, you will soon receive a notification to renew your pet's registration.

You can renew the registration between October 10-31, 2024.

The easiest way to do it is online.

You can also pay in person at any of our libraries, our administration building in Midland or at an Australia Post office in Swan.

If you want to reduce the hassle of annual renewals, you can choose to register your pet for their lifetime.



[www.swan.wa.gov.au/pets-and-
animals](http://www.swan.wa.gov.au/pets-and-animals)



A love of poetry at home in the heart of Midland

Midland/Guildford Ward

Creativity can bring together and enrich communities – and that’s part of the appeal of the Swan Writer-in-Residence program for Lakshmi Kanchi.

The program gives talented WA writers like Ms Kanchi the space to unleash their creativity while activating a community venue and inspiring residents.

Six authors were shortlisted in 2023 to develop their creative works in Midland’s historic Courtyard Studio.

They were Bec Bowman (January-February), Bianca Breen (March-April), Nina Dakin (May-June), Lisa Collyer (July-August), Lakshmi Kanchi (September-October) and Rafeif Ismail (November-December). Each author gets two months to run workshops and develop a creative work inspired by their experience in Midland.

Ms Kanchi is a poet who writes under the pen name, SoulReserve.

Her thought-provoking poems explore love, nature and the human condition.

She plans to use the Swan Writer-in-Residence opportunity to develop a poetry collection which focuses on nature’s lesser-known critters, such as insects, macro-invertebrates and other tiny native fauna.

The natural beauty of the Swan region will provide the “perfect backdrop” for the project.

“This work is not just a creative pursuit but a response to the concerning loss of 150 biodiversity species around the world each day,” Ms Lakshmi said.

One of her overarching goals as a writer is to make poetry more accessible for more people.

That’s what makes the writer-in-residence concept, and the community engagement inherent in it, so attractive to her.

“My experience conducting workshops has shown me the power of poetry in bringing people together and fostering a sense of shared experience,” she said

 www.cityofswan.social/library-events

A policy to protect Swan’s precious urban canopy

City of Swan

We adopted an Urban Forest Plan in July 2022 as part of our commitment to improving our urban canopy.

One of the actions in this plan is to adopt a local planning policy (LPP) to guide the protection and retention of vegetation through all stages of planning and development.

The policy will support the retention of existing trees that meet certain criteria, including:

- Being at least 4m tall
- Having a trunk diameter of at least 160mm when measured 1m from the ground
- Or, having a canopy width of at least 4m.

The LPP, which applies to all land except rural-zoned land, will also encourage developers to plant new trees as early as possible in the planning and development process.

The draft policy was presented to Council on July 10, 2024 for approval to advertise, pending the collection of some additional data about protected trees.

Once this information has been gathered in the coming months, the LPP will be made available for the community to provide comments.

 www.swanengage.swan.wa.gov.au



A responsible budget for a brighter future in Swan

City of Swan

Our Annual Budget 2024/25 has laid the foundation for an exciting year of growth for Swan.

Council adopted the budget at a Special Council Meeting on June 26, 2024, when they also passed a rate increase of 3.5 per cent.

The modest increase – lower than Australia's annual rate of inflation – marked only the second rate rise for the City in five years.

"We froze rates for three consecutive years after the onset of COVID-19 to lessen the financial burden of the pandemic on homes and businesses," Tanya Richardson, City of Swan Mayor, said.

"Council has been working hard to get this budget right in recent months and we're confident we've struck the right balance for our growing community."

The rate rise aligns the budget with the priorities in our Strategic Community Plan 2021-2031 (SCP) and Council's direction not to close facilities or cut services.

The SCP is the City's key strategic document, capturing the community's priorities for the next 10 years and breaking them down into five key result areas – Natural Environment, Economic, Social, Built Environment and Governance.

Our annual budget is the economic tool that allocates resources to put our SCP onto action.

"As Council Members, we set the City's strategic



direction, and that's a role we take very seriously," Mayor Richardson said.

"We spend a lot of time reviewing and refining these plans because it's critical to have an effective planning process, especially for a local government like ours which is growing rapidly."

The 2024/25 budget includes one of the biggest capital works programs in WA, featuring major infrastructure projects such as Swan Active Ellenbrook, the extension of Henley Brook Avenue and the construction of Ballajura Intergenerational Playspace.

Highlights from our \$155.5m capital works program:

- **\$33.6m** to improve our road network through road construction, upgrades, safety and parking projects
- **\$7.7m** to get kids playing outdoors with playspace construction and improvements
- **\$5.5m** to give local community groups a place to call home by building the Ellenbrook Community Hub

- **\$3m** to preserve our heritage with works on buildings such as the Midland Junction Arts Centre
- **\$2.8m** to boost sustainability by introducing a new three-bin FOGO system
- **\$2.4m** to improve access and safety on cycleways, footpaths and shared paths
- **\$2m** to continue the revitalisation of Midland with stage one construction of Trackside Entrance and Grandstand Way in the New Junction precinct
- **\$1.6m** to make Swan greener, including planting more than 1,200 street trees in line with the City's Urban Forest Plan
- **\$900,000** to increase female participation in sport with changeroom upgrades in Beechboro and Ballajura
- **\$100,000** to boost safety with the introduction of more mobile CCTV towers
- **\$30,000** to increase accessibility by installing universal access ramps and pedestrian crossings in Ballajura



www.swan.wa.gov.au/annual-budget-2024-25

Charter launch celebrates WA's oldest grape vines

City of Swan

The Swan Valley wine community gathered to toast the official launch of the Swan Valley Old Vine Charter in July.

The charter has been developed to recognise the importance of old vines in the Swan Valley, validate their value in winemaking and preserve these precious vineyards for future generations.

Home to WA's oldest vineyards, the Swan Valley has a proud history of producing high-quality wines made from the fruit of old vines – wines that show great depth of flavour with beautiful softness and harmony.

The charter criteria and classifications are based on the Barossa Old Vine Charter:

- Old Vine: Equal or greater than 35 years of age

- Survivor Vine: Equal or greater than 70 years of age
- Centenarian Vine: Equal or greater than 100 years of age
- Ancestor Vine: Equal or greater than 125 years of age.

Within a decade, most vineyards in the Swan Valley will be classified as Old Vine at more than 35 years of age.

Years in the making, the charter represents the careful

planning of local generational winemakers who have been supported by Tourism WA, our City, the Swan Valley Winemakers Association, the Swan Valley Tourism Alliance and winery charter members.

We are proud to support this project and our local winemakers



www.swanvalley.com.au/oldvine



Entwined in the Swan Valley is just around the corner

City of Swan

Attracting visitors and locals alike, it's almost time to roll out the welcome mat for another edition of Entwined in the Swan Valley.

Every spring, as the days grow longer and the promise of the new wine vintage is in the air, our growers and creators open their doors to welcome visitors to their unique and delicious experiences.

This year, Entwined in the Swan Valley has been extended thanks to popular demand and community feedback.

It will run for almost a month from October 4-28.

From hands-on masterclasses to long, lazy lunches, there's something for everyone.

Tanya Richardson, City of Swan Mayor, said she was looking forward to visiting Swan Valley businesses and support local for Entwined.

"Each year our Entwined in the Swan Valley campaign draws in more and more people from across Perth and beyond," she said.

"Not only is it a great opportunity to showcase the Swan Valley, but it also helps our local farmers, growers and artisans by encouraging the community to shop local.

"We're proud to offer an extended event this season with the campaign running for nearly a month – making it easier to attend multiple events and sample the best of the valley."

Many Swan Valley businesses have signed up to put on special events and experiences for Entwined throughout October.

So, get ready to sip and savour the fruits of their labour as they showcase the best the region has to offer.



www.swanvalley.com.au/entwined

Our calendar competition is closing soon. Get amongst it!

City of Swan

Calling all shutterbugs – from the seasoned snappers of Swan to anyone with a phone and a flair for photography.

This is your golden opportunity to capture the essence of the City of Swan on camera, get your photography featured in the highly anticipated 2025 Community Calendar and win a \$400 gift voucher.

They say a picture is worth a thousand words.

For this year's calendar, the City wants to tell the story of Swan through your eyes – or more specifically, your lens.

The theme for 2025 is **“Get Amongst It,”** focusing on the vibrancy, energy and diversity of life in Perth's biggest local government area.

The calendar will showcase the beauty of the environment and the spirit of the community, with images of people getting amongst it across Swan.

Tanya Richardson, City of Swan Mayor, said it was a rare opportunity for anyone with a creative streak to get their photography in homes across the City.

“If you are passionate about our stunning landscapes or the everyday moments that make Swan special to you,

I encourage you to snap and submit,” she said.

“It might be an image of your children laughing at a park, athletes in action at a local sports event or the warmth of community connections at the markets – it's all part of our story.”

Entries are open until September 29, 2024.

For terms and conditions, FAQs and to submit a photo, see our website.



www.swan.wa.gov.au/2025-calendar-comp



How safe is your place?

City of Swan

This is a great time to take stock of your home security measures to make sure you are keeping yourself and your family as safe as possible.

Using devices such as CCTV cameras, getting to know your neighbours and staying connected to your community are great ways to help you feel safer.

Sneak theft – where burglars sneak into easy-target homes and steal keys, often while homeowners are there – is a common crime that can be easily prevented with these measures.

You can visit the Neighbourhood Watch website to assess your security measures and learn new crime prevention strategies.



www.cityofswan.social/home-security

Get bushfire ready

City of Swan

Swan will enter the restricted burning period in October.

This means you cannot burn without a permit unless you meet strict requirements in certain cases.

Leading into summer, all property owners have a legal responsibility to conduct fire hazard reduction works such as maintaining an asset protection zone and keeping grass height below 10cm.

The Department of Fire and Emergency Services recently released the first Firewise Gardening in WA guide, which you can find on the DFES website.

The City has a Fire Hazard Inspection Officer, who can help you develop a plan to manage your fire risk. Visit our website to book an inspection.



www.swan.wa.gov.au/bushfire

Sculptors to draw inspiration from a 'trip to the tip'

City of Swan

A unique sculpture competition inspired by the resilience of the Perth Hills community has returned for 2024, with entries now open in the Australian Rustic Farm Art Awards.

The awards, presented at the Gidgegannup Agricultural Show in October, are a partnership between the Gidgegannup Agricultural Society and the City of Swan.

They were established in 2022 to give residents a creative outlet in the wake of the Wooroloo bushfire that destroyed 86 homes.

The theme of that inaugural competition was "Out of the Ashes", and the overall winning entry belonged to Heather Barrett, pictured, who made a sculpture of a horse from the ashes of her home.

Last year's Australian Rustic Farm Art Awards (ARFAA) attracted even more entries.

The overall winner was Scott McDonald for his farmer's "throne" and side table, made from old garden tools, natural wood and other bits and pieces.

Ms McDonald's quirky tribute to the resourcefulness and sustainability of rural Australians was a hit with the judges.

Entries for this year's awards close on Sunday, September 29, with finalists to be notified on Friday, October 4.

As usual, the sculpture genre is farm art or junk art – artwork made from recycled scrap

metal, broken-up machinery, timber and other materials you might find on a farm.

This year's theme, "Trip to the Tip", asks entrants to reflect the character of rural life in Australia in an imaginative way.

Judging will be held during the exhibition at the Gidgegannup Agricultural Show on Saturday, October 26.

At least four prizes will be presented, with categories for adults, youth, children and a local artist award.



www.cityofswan.social/art-awards



How we can help you make Swan a better place

City of Swan

Do you have a community-focused idea that you think would interest others in your area?

Our Swan Proactive Grants encourage the delivery of innovative community-led projects, activities and initiatives targeting community-identified strategic focus areas.

We want to give financial support to ideas that can enhance the lives of residents, visitors, and the wider Swan community.

We are particularly interested in reducing homelessness and enhancing community wellbeing, safety and environmental sustainability.

Proactive grant opportunities offer up to \$25,000 in funding, with the understanding that capital items are included through contributions under this stream.

Funding rounds close quarterly at the end of January, April, July and October.

Please plan and submit your application in ahead of project starting.

If you are interested in applying, visit www.cityofswan.social/proactive-grants, email communitygrants@swan.wa.gov.au or call **(08) 9207 8693**.

Our Swan Community Grants team will be happy to help you with feedback, information or advice to make sure you put forward your very best submission possible.



www.swan.wa.gov.au/grants



Baby Expo 2024

- Child and Parent Centre
Swan, 211 Clayton Street,
Koongamia
- 10am-12.30pm,
Tuesday, September 10
- www.childandparentcentres.wa.edu.au/swan

Hosted by the Child and Parent Centre Swan, this free event will showcase local services available for families, including baby massage classes, paediatric dental, a child health nurse and much more.

There will be face painting, a cuddly animal farm, baby photography and other attractions to keep the whole family entertained.



Re-loved Railway Markets

- Railway Square, Foundry Road, Midland
- 10am-3pm,
Saturday, September 21
- www.swan.wa.gov.au/explore-and-do/events/re-loved-railway-markets

The Re-loved Railway Markets are free community markets held at Midland's historic Railway Square.

The markets will feature sustainable fashion workshops, significant local historical organisations and the best planet-friendly vendors Perth has to offer.

Shoppers can browse a wide range of preloved, vintage, retro, handmade and upcycled wares.



Sugar Gum Fayre

- Stirling Square, Guildford
- 2pm,
Saturday, October 12
- www.facebook.com/guildfordassociation

Get ready to celebrate Guildford's historic sugar gums with a day of community fun.

This event will mark the 25th anniversary of the Guildford community's agreement with the City to preserve the sugar gums, which date back to 1897.

There will be arts and crafts, poetry, stories, music, face painting, a historical display and more.



entwined

IN THE SWAN VALLEY

OCTOBER 2024

Experience Swan Valley's finest this spring with masterclasses, high teas, long lunches, and dinners from top artisans and chefs.

entwinedinthevalley.com.au

SWAN VALLEY | City of Swan

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City of **Swan**



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