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Community Learning Centre (Inc.)

## GLYDE-IN NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2026

### A message from the Chair

Dear Glyde-In members

I am delighted to welcome everyone to the first term of the year. We are proud to offer such a diverse range of courses and activities and I hope you have found something in the programme that sparks your interest. The art classes, in particular, have caught my eye this term. It's always inspiring to see the creativity within our community. I am also especially looking forward to taking part in the "Taste of the Valley" Wine River Cruise and Coach trip. It promises to be a wonderful experience. There are still places available, so if it sounds like something you would enjoy, please enquire with the office.

Our summer school programme in January went well - thank you to everyone who attended. I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who attended the recent focus group meeting and shared their feedback on Glyde-In's current activities and future direction. Your input was incredibly valuable. As we begin our strategic planning process this month, your thoughts and suggestions will play an important role in shaping the next stage of our journey. We are excited about the opportunities ahead and look forward to continuing to grow and develop together through the Glyde-In.

Wishing you all an enjoyable and rewarding Term 1.

Jane Vallance, Chair, Glyde-In Community Learning Centre

### Enrolment Day

Our Term 1 Enrolment Day was a great success, with around 100 people coming through the doors across the morning. It was wonderful to see such interest in the term ahead. As always, our volunteers did a terrific job ensuring enrolments ran smoothly. Their efficiency, patience and cheerful approach were greatly appreciated and contributed to making Enrolment Day such a friendly and enjoyable event. The atmosphere was warm, welcoming and full of friendly conversation. A big thank you to all the volunteers involved for making it such a great morning. We truly appreciate your time and commitment to the Glyde-In and its members.

A reminder that some classes, outings and talks can book out quickly - sometimes even on Enrolment Day - so it's strongly recommended to save the date in your calendar, and either come along to Glyde-In or be ready to book online early if there's something you particularly want to get into.

While some talks and outings filled up during enrolment week **we still have spaces available in the activities below.**

| Code                             | Name  | Date      | Time             |
|----------------------------------|---|-----------|------------------|
| <b>SPEAKERS UNLIMITED</b>        |   |           |                  |
| AS1                              | Protecting Wildlife in a Renewable Future               | 16-Feb-26 | 10 - 11 am       |
| AS2                              | Caring for Collections: Curatorial Insights             | 19-Feb-26 | 2 - 3pm          |
| AS5                              | Rethinking Harm   | 26-Feb-26 | 10 - 11 am       |
| AS6                              | Bloom Longevity: Thriving Beyond Menopause              | 27-Feb-26 | 1 - 2pm          |
| AS8                              | Cultural Change in Aboriginal Maternal Health           | 6-Mar-26  | 10 - 11 am       |
| AS11                             | Flying Saucers in the News                              | 14-Mar-26 | 2 - 3pm          |
| AS12                             | Know your Bins  | 16-Mar-26 | 10 - 11 am       |
| AS13                             | Building Resilient Families                             | 23-Mar-26 | 10 - 11 am       |
| AS14                             | Nature Positive and Critical Minerals                   | 26-Mar-26 | 10 - 11 am       |
| AS15                             | Living Well with Traditional Chinese Medicine           | 26-Mar-26 | 1 - 2pm          |
| AS16                             | Perspectives on Lithium Production                      | 30-Mar-26 | 10 - 11 am       |
| <b>NOT SO TRIVIAL</b>            |   |           |                  |
| BN4                              | Nature Writing  | 3-Mar-26  | 9.30am - 12.30pm |
| BN5                              | Easter: Symbols & Significance (4 Mondays)              | 9-Mar-26  | 1.30 - 3.30pm    |
| BN6                              | Advanced Care Planning - documentation support workshop | 19-Mar-26 | 9.30am - 12pm    |
| <b>MIND &amp; BODY</b>           |   |           |                  |
| CM7                              | Sound Healing & Meditation                              | 15-Mar-26 | 2 - 4pm          |
| CM8                              | Alexander Technique (4 Wednesdays)                      | 11-Mar-26 | 2 - 3.30pm       |
| <b>OUT 'N ABOUT</b>              |   |           |                  |
| DO4                              | 'Taste of the Valley' by River and Coach                | 7-Mar-26  | 8.45am           |
| DO5                              | Pinnacles Sunset Dinner and Star Gazing                 | 10-Mar-26 | 1.15pm           |
| DO6                              | Benedictine Monastery, New Norcia                       | 18-Mar-26 | 7.45am           |
| DO7                              | Perth Bell Tower  | 25-Mar-26 | 9.00am           |
| <b>CULTURE CLUB</b>              |   |           |                  |
| FB1                              | Intro to Cyanotype                                      | 10-Mar-26 | 1 - 3.30pm       |
| FB3                              | Screenprinting with Stencils (3 Fridays)                | 13-Mar-26 | 9 - 12pm         |
| FB5                              | Personalised Landscapes in Mixed Media (3 Saturdays)    | 21-Feb-26 | 10.30am - 1.30pm |
| <b>COMPUTER &amp; TECHNOLOGY</b> |   |           |                  |
| HC2                              | Welcome to Apple (iPhone /iPad)                         | 16-Feb-26 | 11.15am - 1.15pm |
| HC3                              | Researching and Booking Travel Online                   | 23-Feb-26 | 9 - 11am         |
| HC6                              | Transferring Photos (Apple devices)                     | 9-Mar-26  | 11.15am - 1.15pm |
| HC11                             | Digital Afterlife                                       | 30-Mar-26 | 9 - 11am         |

To book you can call the office on 9339 3964 or enroll on our website [www.glydein.org.au](http://www.glydein.org.au)



**Parking reminder**

Please be mindful when you park to not block anyone's driveway – some may look like they are not used but they are!

Thank you

## WAAPA Outing, October 2025

### *Thanks to Julie Robertson for this report*

After an early 7.15/7.30am start, we arrived at WAAPA about 8.15am to be greeted by the wonderful Peter Cowan, who is now retired but has been hosting tour groups for close to 30 years, even when working as a set designer and jack of all trades at WAAPA.

Peter took us on a tour of backstage WAAPA, showing us lighting, set and costume design areas and the various performance stages in this institution. A visit to the Edith Spiegel tent erected in the grounds of WAAPA and about to go to a new home, was a highlight of the tour.

He also took us to watch the Ballet group who were doing a rehearsal for an upcoming performance, a Contemporary Dance group who were in the throes of working out their next production, a First Year Acting Group who were rehearsing their end of year play and finally a wonderful Jazz Band performance.

Add to this our fabulous Morning Tea, provided by the "Friends of WAAPA", and the companionable conversations between our group and with our WAAPA hosts. All Glyde participants decided that a most enjoyable day was had.

This outing will sadly not be repeated for a few years due to WAAPA's imminent relocation to Perth City and the anticipated disarray of this move.



## Mundaring Weir and the Patsy Durack Rose Garden, October 2025

### ***Thanks to Julie Robertson for this report***

Departing East Fremantle at 8.30am, we drove up to Gooseberry Hill to the Patsy Durack rose garden where we partook of a lovely Devon Tea prepared by Patsy and friends, followed by a walk around the rose gardens and an informative talk by Patsy on rose growing and the garden's history.

From there we drove to the Mundaring Weir Learning Centre where we dispelled some of the myths surrounding C Y O'Connor's time in the late 1800's as Engineer-In-Chief of Western Australia, constructing Fremantle Harbour and the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme (the fabulous pipeline connecting the arid goldfields to a water supply).

We then walked across to the number 1 Pump Station for the Goldfields Scheme and learnt about the difficulties and intricacies involved in its construction. We were awestruck by the vision and tenacity of C Y O'Connor to attempt such a project and the fact that unlike projects today he remained within the budget.

The day was completed by a delicious lunch at the nearby Mundaring Weir Hotel and a pleasant drive home.

Thanks to Terry Scudder for planning and organising this successful, interesting trip.

## A day on the Rock

### **By Jono Farmer**

Willem de Vlamingh called it Rottenest because, when He called to replenish his fuel and water supplies in 1690, he observed all these "hopping rats" living on a heavily wooded island. Gosh, how things have changed! The hopping rats are still there but now they are called Quokkas. The Out and About committee reckoned that "A day out on Rottnest" should be included in Term four's line up of tours so we put together what was, I think, a very successful day starting with a very calm journey to "The Rock" on the Rottnest Express' "Starflyte" followed by coffee at the Dome where we got to know each other.

I was only permitted to book a maximum of ten tickets for the hop on/hop off bus which limited the number of people we could invite on this tour, however after coffee , we were able to board the bus to Parker Point where we really appreciated the day that my guardian Angel had turned on for us: a slight south-east breeze and not too hot so we were able to manage the short stroll via Jeannie's lookout down to Salmon Bay with, of course, some interesting snippets of history delivered by our guide en route.

The next bus took us to the Wild West End which was not at all wild on our tour day. Everyone coped with the 500 metres walk up the limestone path to Cathedral Rocks where we were rewarded by four Fur Seals basking in the water just below the viewing platform. These amazing creatures had been out fishing all night and were lazing around with their fins in the air attempting to cool down after an exhausting night of fishing.

Some of us walked out to the boardwalk on West End which surrounds Fish Hook Bay where we saw someone at home on a seventy year old Osprey stack (nest)

One of these majestic birds was circling the nest to keep an eye on the kids in the nest. We also saw some Shearwater nests burrowed into the sand alongside the boardwalk and lots of various birds. The next bus returned us to the settlement where eleven ravenous Glyde-Inners descended on the Sunset Bar at the newly renovated Rottnest lodge for lunch overlooking Garden Lake. It wasn't a bad meal but, next time I would go to 'Isola' where the food is better value....for future reference!

Instead of a rest after lunch, we eventually got together on Vincent Way where our guide presented a brief history of the Rock's formation as an island, followed by the early Dutch, French and English visitors culminating in James Stirling's founding of the Swan River Colony. Our guide described the formation of the prison colony, inhabited by mainly aboriginal prisoners, the labourers who constructed most of the older buildings in the settlement. A highlight of this tour was a visit to the Pilot's boat house which houses a magnificent replica of the original pilot boat built by an old friend of mine, the late Graham Lahiff.

All good things need to come to an end though, so we straggled down to the main wharf to embark on Rottnest Express' "Starflyte" for a very calm crossing back to Australia. Sincere thanks must go to Lochie Flanders-Farmer for arranging our extraordinarily 'good value' ferry fares.

Thanks for coming everyone.

Cheers jono

### **King Tut's Curse and The 'Truth' about Ancient Egypt Jasmine Day, Egyptologist**

#### ***Thanks to Ken Farmer for this report***

OMG. That was complicated.

Firstly, may I say thank you to Jasmine for such an incredible amount of research and effort that she put in to this presentation.

I don't know where to start, which part was fantasy and, indeed, was there any truth in what I have just listened to. This was not a history of King Tut, but more the story of putting to an end the fantasy that existed before the eighteenth century archaeologist, Howard Carter, discovered the 18th Dynasty Pharaoh Tutankhamun in November 1922, the best-preserved pharaonic tomb ever found in the Valley of the Kings. This talk about the clash of science and pseudoscience, and the fast talking presenter, was too far over my poor head. Perhaps I was not alone in that. Questions anyone? Comments anyone? The response was silence. Check it out on Wikipedia by searching for the two names mentioned here.

However, like all the talks at Glyde-In this was a talk that made me reflect on our everyday life. Watch the news at night and read the daily paper; think about AI, and then try to discern between truth and lie. It is a little comforting to know that this has been a way of the world for hundreds (thousands?) of years. Jasmine showed us the letters written by Margit Labouchere and Howard Carter. Poor Margit was convinced that with her pseudoscience, without a shred of evidence, she knew more than the scientist. Who knows what to believe any more?

May I take this opportunity to thank Celine Brun for submitting this review to the Swedish Academy. The Nobel Prize in Literature is something I have always dreamed of.

## **The World's Longest Almost Undefended Border Robert Mitchell**

**By Ken Farmer**

What a fantastic presentation. Great clarity. Great slides. Logical. Elucidating.

You may guess from the above that I was impressed. Of course we all know a little about Canada but I now feel that I should have made myself aware of the long and complicated history of this vast country that we look upon as part of our Commonwealth family.

The underlying message from Robert was that Canada will never become a 51<sup>st</sup> state of the USA. 9000kms of border is a lot but I have never given any thought to more than that which it has with the USA. A total of nine adjacent jurisdictions that Canada has to deal with makes it so complicated. How lucky are we Australians?

Significant points that stick with me and the reason that they will never become a USA state:

- A. The Bad Guys are always to the South.
- B. Canada has a "We" perspective on life and country.  
eg National animal is the friendly North American Beaver.
- C. USA has a "Me" perspective.  
eg National animal is the aggressive Bald Eagle.

If you missed this talk I am so sorry. Maybe next time.

## **Summer school WA wildlife night stalk, February 2026**

***Thank you to Eileen Burns, Glyde Out 'n About Committee***

Summer School @ Glyde visited WA Wildlife (formerly Native ARC), a nonprofit organisation that rescues, treats and rehabilitates sick, injured and orphaned wildlife in Bibra Lake. The wildlife tour offered Glyde members the opportunity to get up close and personal with some of Western Australia's unique wildlife. We experienced a behind-the-scenes look at the WA Wildlife Hospital, the busiest wildlife rehabilitation facility in the State. The hospital admits more than 6500 animals each year, across 280 different species. The tour was expertly guided by two very knowledgeable volunteers, who shared fascinating insights into the animals and their behaviours. We learnt about the important work being done to care for injured and orphaned animals.

When we visited, hospital patients included magpies, butcher birds, goannas, shingle-back lizards, quendas, frogs, and amazingly a green sea turtle. Green sea turtles are found in the Shark Bay Area. This turtle had become caught and dragged along in the Leeuwin Current down to Esperance due to disability. It was being rehabilitated at the Wildlife Hospital before release at the Ningaloo coast, later in the year.

We also had the opportunity to meet some of the resident animals that call WA Wildlife home, including Vinnie the Wombat (a solid 27 kilograms and a burrowing muscle machine) and Raffy the very chatty Red Tailed Black Cockatoo. There were also Banjo and Bindi the Alpine Dingoes to see, the very busy Woylies (who had to be separated to keep their numbers manageable), wonderfully camouflaged Tawny Frogmouths, sleepy Koalas and both ring-tailed and brush-tailed possums that had made themselves a cozy home. I'll never forget being up close to an adorable Western Brush Wallaby joey that had been handed in after becoming sadly orphaned in Jarrahdale. It was a bundle of the cutest energy.

One fact I didn't know: shingleback lizards can get the flu, a highly contagious, severe respiratory disease that is colloquially known as "bobtail flu". It's caused by a specific lizard virus (Shingleback nidovirus-1) that mimics flu symptoms like sneezing and lethargy, but it's not the human influenza virus. Hospital treatment for each shingleback is \$50!

The dedicated and passionate 400 volunteers and staff must be absolutely commended on the compassionate approach taken to protect and preserve WA wildlife for the future. The tour was definitely an unforgettable, inspiring experience and is a must-do activity for anyone interested in wildlife conservation and animal welfare. If you missed this tour, look out for future tours in our up & coming Glyde programs.



## Volunteering at Glyde-In



Our fabulous Out 'n About volunteer team is looking for extra support to continue providing wonderful outings every term. The office would love to hear from you if you think you could help 😊



**🍓 Fruit Donations Wanted! 🍊**  
**Help us make jam, chutney & pickles**

*If you have excess fruit in your garden, we'd love your donation!*

📺 Receive 1 jar of your choice for every 1-2kg of fruit donated.

Your fruit helps support our centre, reduces waste, and turns into something delicious for everyone.  
📍 Drop to: Glyde-In

**Thank you for supporting the Glyde-In 🍷**



## 🌿 Volunteer Gardeners Wanted 🌿

Glyde-In is looking for volunteer support to help keep our gardens beautiful and thriving.

Tasks include watering, light maintenance, planting, and propagating plants for fundraising.

**Help us grow something special for our community 🌻**

**Contact the Glyde-In to get involved.**

## Cycling with Stuart

The Glyde-In Monday cycling groups's last ride before Christmas 2025 took place on 15 December with a forecast of a partially cloudy day with temperature in the low thirties. The Monday group has a varied itinerary and a rotating leadership and this week Stuart was leading us from Ashfield station back along the north bank of the Swan River.

It was an unusually small group who boarded the train at Fremantle although we were met at Ashfield by two stalwarts, Dennis and John, who had ridden directly there.

Stuart took us straight down to the river bank where we followed a rough track through some bushes and then partially through the Bayswater BMX track, a different but interesting start to our ride.

We now followed a conventional bike path and I noticed that there seemed to be a lot of twigs, branches and leaf litter on the track but didn't think much more about it until we started to come across trees with large branches ripped off and then a couple of uprooted trees which necessitated getting off our bikes and walking around them. We were, at this time, in a big grassy area so it wasn't difficult to negotiate our way onward.



We continued through a carpark showing many signs of what we now realised was yesterday's big storm, under the Garratt Road bridge and into the Balgup Wetlands where the cycle track goes through a beautiful avenue of paperbarks and other wetland species.

However about halfway through we came across multiple large branches down across the path blocking our way. Not to be thwarted embarked on a mixture of lifting and sitting on the branches and managed to get our bikes under or over this obstacle, not easy as, while some of the bikes were lightweight sporty numbers, a few of us has pretty heavy electric ones.

Praising ourselves for overcoming this obstacle we were not to realise that we were, in fact stuck between two such blockages as we shortly found out.

Having extricated ourselves from from this situation we were to find several more examples of trees blocking our way and we resorted to pushing our bikes up hills and round obstacles, taking alternative and busy pathways, all the way round Tranby, Maylands and Mount Lawley until we got to the old East Perth Power station where we found what was to be our final obstacle in the form of a very large tree completely uprooted across the track. This one necessitated a ride uphill and then carefully wheeling our bikes down three flights of steps until we were finally able to ride to our destination, Toast café, at Claisebrook Cove some 60 minutes after we had planned.

Definitely a ride to remember - thank you Stuart!



*The survivors  
Plus Liam and Jono*

### Term 1 Mega Gourmet Raffle – drawn 4 March

Make sure to get your ticket if you haven't yet! Thank you to Susan Herbert for the conception and creation of this raffle 😊



### A few more photos from Summer School



Mixed media collage with Kate Hannah



## Summer School Bowling and Croquet nights



## Catching up after the break ☺



## Focus group meeting



## Summer music with Marmalade Junction



Check out our new bins ☺



If interested you can purchase these bin stickers through Hilton Precinct or via this link

[Bin Stickers | Hilton Precinct](#)