



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN  
COLLEGE of AGRICULTURE  
Narrogin



# COLLEGE CHRONICLE

**FRIDAY 17 JUNE 2022**

**EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION IN  
AGRICULTURE EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

*An Independent Public School*



Dear parents/carers

### Men's Health Week

On Monday, we welcomed Jo Drayton from Holyoake, who presented an information session to the boys. The focus was on Men, Mates & Mental Health & Wellbeing. A selection of our male staff also joined the students and found the information and statistics interesting. To finish off the week, the Tomorrow Man/ Tomorrow Woman presenters ran their termly sessions with all students. They commented on the positivity and support that students gave each other when sharing their stories and experiences. This program runs in a 3 year cycle with all students completing modules in Years 10, 11 and 12. Photos of some of the activities are highlighted in this edition of the Chronicle, although you will have to wait for the Term 4 Year Book to see the mascots each dorm designed!

### Addressing Vaping in Schools

There has been growing concern about the harmful effects of e-cigarettes and vaping. Research has found that in WA, 13.5% of secondary students have tried an e-cigarette. Schools play an important role to help prevent students from using e-cigarettes by making sure they know the facts about vaping.

Schools must be a smoke-free environment. This includes an environment free from tobacco and e-cigarettes. Research has found that some e-liquids sold as "nicotine-free" contain nicotine. Nicotine is a highly addictive and poisonous drug. E-liquids also pose a poisoning risk.

The Department of Education has recently developed a suite of materials to assist schools in managing this issue. These materials will influence our response at a school level but at this stage,

given the illegality of vapes (without medical authority), our response is likely to be suspension for those students vaping on site.

Reports of combustion events and burns have been reported to Worksafe WA. You can read more about this in the [Safety bulletin - 01/2021 - Hazards associated with the use of e-cigarette devices](#)

(<https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/publications/safety-bulletin-012021-hazards-associated-use-e-cigarette-devices>)

The College encourages students to report incidents of vaping through the STYMIE platform.





### GRIP Student Leadership

At the start of the month, the Year 10 and 11 Student Leadership group (including some emerging leaders) went across to Bunbury to take part in the GRIP Student Leadership Conference. The students combined with the leaders of another 12 south-west schools to take part in a range of talks around

effective teamwork, how to raise the standard of your public speaking and steps to higher standards. These talks were coupled with a range of fun boisterous activities where our students excelled. It was pleasing to see the students begin to talk about how what they learnt could be put into place back at school.

### Semester Reports

Semester 1 reports will be emailed out to parents at the end of next week. As already mentioned via Compass, these reports will provide parents with a progress grade, ABE ratings and in some cases, a request for an interview. The Parent/Teacher Interviews will be conducted with information explaining the process to come out early next term.

### Staff Development Day

Just a reminder that Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July is a Staff Development Day and that students are able to come back into residence after 3:00pm ready to start classes on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July.



## Parents and Community (P&C) Committee

### Term 2 P&C Meeting (General)

The next P&C Meeting will be held on  
**Wednesday, 22 June at 7:30pm**

All parents are invited and members of the community.

Please join us via the Webex link below or in person at the College (meeting room).

Link:

[Join Webex meeting - P&C Meeting](https://educationwa.webex.com/educationwa/j.php?MTID=mea3f5b9601c5897720fb4db235c7808e)

(<https://educationwa.webex.com/educationwa/j.php?MTID=mea3f5b9601c5897720fb4db235c7808e>)

## Parents and Community (P&C) Committee

Don't let your P&C be the missing piece of the bigger puzzle, get the creative juices flowing among yourselves and feel the support in the Western Australian P&C Associations Facebook Group that's waiting FOR YOU

Don't wait for the WACSSO conference - form these friendships now.

You might be the inspiration another P&C is looking for.

Who else is missing??

**P&Cs WA**  
Connecting School Communities

Join today [www.facebook.com/groups/1605125916537041/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1605125916537041/)

# Men's Health Week - Cookie Bake Off



# Men's Health Week



# Men's Health Week



## HEAD OF RESIDENCE - Heather Rae



Hello everyone. Well, we are almost at the end of another term, *"how time flies."*

Over the term, staff and students have been involved in various weekend activities and excursions. Now with the cooler weather, the students can enjoy using the fire pit where they have enjoyed; sausage sizzles, roasting marshmallows, making damper, enjoying a good yarn

round the fire, had a couple of make your own pizza nights, trip to the movies in Armadale, shopping at the Carousel Shopping Centre, bus trip to Maccas in Collie, baked cup cakes and creative cupcake icing competition, and our weekly Sunday BBQ breakfast.

During the week, the students have been heading off to hockey on Thursdays and other sports training. It is good to see so many students out playing sports.

Over the last few weeks, Mrs Haydock has been cooking with our Year 12s. They enjoyed making themselves a delicious chicken stir-fry. Next term, they will be given a budget and to set a menu, and with the aid of Mrs Haydock, buy their ingredients, prepare, cook, and enjoy their meal. A great skill set to learn.



### LEAVE

- When emailing in weekend leave, can you please ensure you include the return day and time.
- Due to organising weekend activities and the catering, I would prefer that weekend leave is in by Thursday 12pm noon.
- Whom ever is collecting your child, needs to come to the Duty Room and sign them out.
- If your child is leaving with or taking another student, we require permission from both students' parents for this to happen.
- When dropping your student off, please make sure that they come up to the Duty Room and sign in before returning to their dorm.
- Any re-occurring leave that will be happening each week can all be entered into Reach as a Recursion Pattern. This will save staff having to follow up leave each week with students.

### MEDICAL AND APPOINTMENTS

As the weather is starting cool and the flu season is well on its way, it is important that you keep your child home if they are unwell. We would also ask that if your child is injured in anyway whilst out on leave that they are not returned to college until said injury has been assessed by a medical practitioner.

We are happy to take them to any local follow-up appointments. When booking appointments for your child, it is preferred that they are booked after 4pm.

### MEDICATION

To protect our students and staff, it is required that any prescribed medication is signed in at the Duty Room where it will be given to the student at the required time and signed off by both the staff and student.

Any over-the-counter medication i.e. Panadol, Ibuprofen, cold & flu medications, etc., should also be handed in to the Duty Room so staff can monitor the administration of the medication.

Herbal/vitamins may be kept in their dorm rooms but please notify staff that they are taking this medication.

Parents are also required to have all long-term prescribed medication Webster-paks packed by their pharmacist. The College long or short-term medication forms also need to be completed by parents. The forms can be found on our website under Current Students→ 2022 Student Information, at the Duty Room or Main Office.

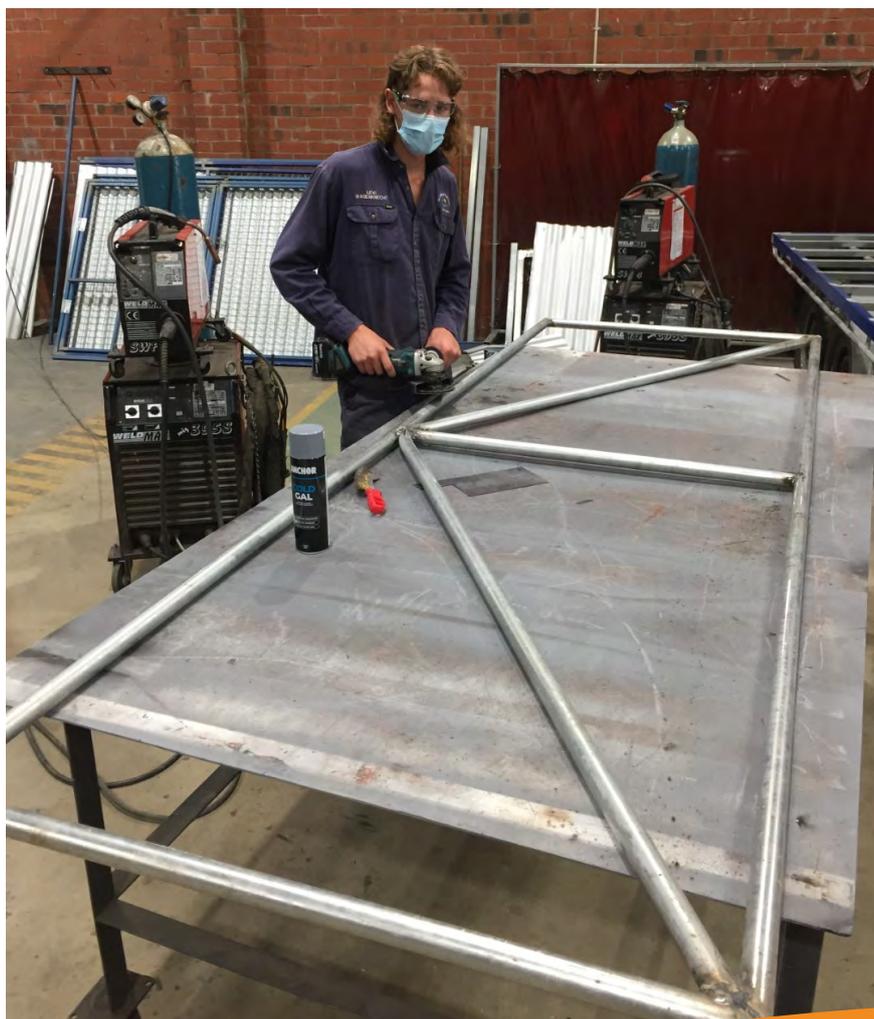
If you are unsure which category your child's medication falls into, please do not hesitate to contact the College.



## TRADES TRAINING CENTRE



*Levi Wagenknecht made a gate for the local hockey association which our students play in.*



## HEAD OF TEACHING & LEARNING - Leanne Sjollema



It has been a big couple of weeks and staff are now busy marking and reporting for Semester One.

As a group, the class staff were really impressed with how the Year 11 ATAR cohort approached their first round of exams here at the College. Most students took a serious and mature approach to their study, accessing after school support and trying a range of study techniques such as flash cards, mind maps, summary notes and practice exam questions. Our Year 12 ATAR group also need commending for juggling the pressures of their exams, alongside COVID disruptions, Workplace Learning and short weeks — and still working hard to achieve their best.

It is an exciting and unsettling time for Year 12 students who are at the point in the year when they realise that they only have a short amount of time left here at the College, it can be difficult to remain focused on study. With only one term left to go, please encourage your child to make the most of that time and focus on completing class work, assessments, competencies and so on, so that they achieve the results that best reflect the skills and knowledge gained over this last term.

Our college has been fortunate to have two Pre-service Teachers completing their Practicum here over the past three weeks. Mr Patrick Swallow has been working with Year 11 and 12 Animal Production classes, sharing his knowledge of animal nutrition and health. The Year 11 ATARs were fortunate enough to be able to complete some practical activities with Mr Swallow, learning how to conduct a Faecal Worm Egg Count to monitor pest populations. Mr Rory Spittle was working with the Year 11 and 12 Plant Production classes and was able to get out into the paddock to observe crop growth. The students thoroughly enjoyed working with these two young teachers and we look forward to collaborating with them again in the future.

Our staff are working hard to create a positive learning environment to help our students do the best they can, which can even include having the opportunity to enjoy some rare winter sunshine during practical Plant lessons or enjoying Wellbeing activities such as the Year 11 Cookie Bake Off and dorm based activities such as building Mascots.



**HASS**

The West Australian's newspaper initiative is for budding photographers to celebrate WA's amazing biodiversity through the camera lens.

Fortunately, for the year 10s this coincides with our term study on habitats and ecosystems. Both classes have had several outings armed with cameras scouting fields and laneways in search of bugs and other unique species.



Two bees on a grevillea flower, spotted by Zaine Cuthbert

# Want to return to work or change careers?

# Want to work in a school?

There has never been a better time with unemployment under 3%

**Schools and other organisations are desperately hiring people for the following roles:**

- Gardener, cleaner, administration, management, canteen, education assistants and many other roles.

Starting in July 2022, North Metropolitan TAFE are running a one-semester course on the skills required to be a successful candidate for employment in a school or elsewhere. The course aids in preparation for entry into gardening, cleaning, administration, management, education assistant and any other types of work.

We have had huge success supporting people to find work and the chances of gaining employment are strong. This course is suitable for people new to the workforce and people looking to change career or looking for a return to work.

**The course includes:**

- Training in skills specific to the role you are interested in e.g. IT skills
- Work experience in a school or other organisation
- Help and support to find work
- Help accessing further training as required e.g. Certificate III in Education Support
- Development of your job application cover letter, resume and help with selection criteria

**Entry requirements:**

- 18+
- Strong work ethic
- Good oral and written communication
- Must be able to read procedures, safety sheets and chemical bottles
- Must be able to send and receive emails
- Successful completion of an entry interview
- Working With Children Check and a Department of Education Clearance

**Course details:**

- Dates - Starts week 1 of term 3 and runs for up to 20 weeks
- Many students finish the course early because they find work
- Days - 3 days per week, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9:15 until 2:45
- Cost - Approximately \$170 (subject to change) total course fee for full 20 weeks
- Location - North Metro TAFE Leederville and on work experience
- Qualification - GATE (Gaining Access to Training and Employment) Certificate I

If you would be interested in this course, then please email:

**Chris Hodson**

[chris.hodson@nmtafe.wa.edu.au](mailto:chris.hodson@nmtafe.wa.edu.au)

*Disclaimer: North Metropolitan TAFE does not guarantee work after completing this course. This course supports you to find work. The course is run by North Metropolitan TAFE (RTO code: 52786) and is not endorsed by any authority or government department other than North Metropolitan TAFE.*



**MIFWA**



**MENTAL  
HEALTH  
FIRST AID**  
Australia

# BLENDDED ONLINE MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID REGIONAL COURSE

**LEARN SKILLS AND GAIN CONFIDENCE  
TO ASSIST PEOPLE EXPERIENCING  
MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS.**

The Blended Online Mental Health First Aid Course for adults living in regional grain growing communities across WA teaches people how to assist a friend, family member, or other members of the community who may be developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis.

Tailored for the online learning environment, this course involves 5 to 7 hours of self-paced pre-course work and 2 X 2.5-hour online training:

## COURSE INFORMATION

### SESSION DATES & TIMES

Stage 1 - Complete eLearning (5 to 7 hours self-paced)  
Stage 2 - 20 October 2022, 9:30am to 12:00pm via ZOOM  
Stage 3 - 27 October 2022, 9:30am to 12:00pm via ZOOM  
Stage 4 - Short online assessment

**Register here:** [www.eventbrite.com.au/e/251694975447](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/251694975447)

Contact the team at MIFWA for more information on 9237 8900 or [training@mifwa.org.au](mailto:training@mifwa.org.au).

**Note:**

All components must be completed to qualify as an accredited Mental Health First Aider for three years.

To successfully complete this course, you need to attend the two online ZOOM sessions and complete all components on the dates specified above.

You must live in a regional grain-growing region across WA to attend this course.

**This free training for regional grain growing communities across WA is proudly supported by CBH Group and MIFWA with thanks to the CBH Regional Mental Health Program.**



## Understanding organics – ‘Garden as ecosystem’ and ‘Working with weeds’

The **Gnarojin Community Garden** is very excited to be hosting a workshop on Understanding Organics on Saturday 9th July with Claire Coleman.

Claire has a lifetime of experience in organic agriculture firstly as a professional gardener in the UK and since the 1990s as a certifying inspector of organic farms for NASAA (The National Association for Sustainable Agriculture, Australia). Along the way, she has lectured in horticulture at TAFE and runs workshops in permaculture design, feral food, coordinates a school gardening program in Esperance and is a leading proponent of therapeutic horticulture.

The program is as follows:

Sign in from 9am	Payment received at the door.
9.30am Understanding organics ‘Garden as ecosystem’	Claire explains the elements of an organic approach to gardening and growing your own food to maximise the biological diversity of your garden and sustain a productive and rich ecosystem. In this session, you will learn about plant and soil interactions and a range of techniques and tips to employ to help you create ‘living soil’ and produce more healthy food.
12.30pm Lunch (provided for free)	
1.30pm ‘Working with weeds’	What is the role of weeds in an organic system? How can you manage them organically? Are they really weeds? Claire gives us another slant on weeds; their function in soil-plant interactions, their management and their uses as foods and for health care. Make some chickweed ointment and take a jar home!

This all-day event is in two sessions. Participants may register for one or both by replying here; [Gnarojincommunitygarden@gmail.com](mailto:Gnarojincommunitygarden@gmail.com)

**Gnarojin Community Garden members \$5 per session.**  
**Non-members \$10 per session.**

**Payment will be received at the door.**

**Paper copies of handouts available – or bring a USB flash drive.**



## Agribusiness Australia Scholarship

*Encouraging young Australians to choose a career in agribusiness ...*



**Prime Super**

Each year, Agribusiness Australia awards a scholarship to encourage young Australians to undertake tertiary education in agriculture.

**This year's scholarship is now open to receive applications from eligible students**

**Application Submission Deadline: 5pm Thursday 28 July 2022, by email**

Students who are studying to enter university in 2023 to study an ag degree or a degree where they intend to establish a career in ag, are welcome to apply.

Our silver member, [Prime Super](#), is sponsoring the scholarship again this year and will announce the winner.

This \$3,000 scholarship is part of Agribusiness Australia's key priority of encouraging students into the sector to ensure that agribusiness continues to be a major contributor to the Australian economy.

Further details about the terms and conditions of the scholarship can be found in the online application form.



[Download 2022 Scholarship Application Form](#)

Please contact [Leonie Welsh](#) to register your interest in applying.

Source:

<https://www.agribusiness.asn.au/agri-information/agribusiness-australia-scholarship>

**SCHOOL SYSTEM SUPPORT OFFICER / FINANCE - Jill Norwell**

Statements will be send home next week.

## EMPLOYMENT - Student Job Opportunities

### FARM HAND QUAIRADING WA

EW RICHARDS & Sons are offering a full time permanent Farm Hand role for the right applicant. We are a family owned mixed cropping and sheep enterprise, located 15km south west of Quairading WA.

Main duties will include: Seeding, Harvest, Spraying, Spreading, Excavator work, Sheep work and General farm duties.

Contact:  
**Jack Richards**  
**0429 466 208**

For more information, email your resume to;  
[jack-richards@live.com.au](mailto:jack-richards@live.com.au)

### GENERAL FARM HAND FULL-TIME POSITION KUKERIN WA

We are a mixed crop and sheep farm based in Kukerin WA and we are currently seeking a General Farm Hand to join our small team. This would be suited to a recent graduate who has some hands-on experience (either via working on their family farm or through work placements).

Contact Cheryl Cavanagh  
Email to: [jakjoyce41@gmail.com](mailto:jakjoyce41@gmail.com)

### FARM ADMINISTRATION OFFICER

Merredin Farms, a large farming business in the Eastern Wheatbelt, has an exciting opportunity available for someone who is highly organised and a great team player.

If you're interested in applying or have any questions, please send your CV through to [hr@merredinfarms.com.au](mailto:hr@merredinfarms.com.au)

### AUTO ELECTRICIAN

Apprenticeship available for Year 12 students who are interested in pursuing an Auto Electrical Apprenticeship at the end of the year in Dalwallinu.

For information, contact Teisha Bradford  
Email to: [accounts@rnrauto.com.au](mailto:accounts@rnrauto.com.au)

### FULL TIME FARM HAND

Durant Farming is a family run enterprise looking for a full-time farm hand to join us in late 2022 or early 2023. Our farm is in Gnowellen (1 hour East of Albany).

Durant Farming operates a cropping enterprise in addition to a spray contracting business. We provide a supportive work environment with plenty of opportunities for learning.

#### Tasks will include:

Assistance with broadacre spray contracting business  
Machinery operation associated with cropping enterprise  
Maintenance/General Farmhand Duties

Machinery experience desirable but on the job training can be provided for someone with a desire to learn.

A competitive pay rate and work vehicle will be provided. The applicant can be based in Albany although temporary accommodation is available on farm.

Interested applicants please send an email with your experience and details to  
[emnmick@bigpond.com](mailto:emnmick@bigpond.com)

### NARROGIN COUNTRY FRESH MEATS

Seeking an apprentice to join the team.

Contact Geoff & Sue  
**08 9881 1243**

[geoffsue96@westnet.com.au](mailto:geoffsue96@westnet.com.au)

### FULL-TIME FARM HAND RAVENSWOOD WA

#### Drivers licence required

We are seeking a junior farmhand worker for a small family-owned beef cattle business situated in Ravenswood.

This position requires you to work directly with our farm manager and owner. The successful applicant must show initiative, be able to work both independently and as team.

Please send resumes outlining your skills and experience to [admin@ggcorp.com.au](mailto:admin@ggcorp.com.au) including the details of 2 workplace referees.

More details for the jobs listed above can be found on the College website and more.

They can be found [here](#);

On the main menu bar, click on [Current Students] and then [Student Job Opportunities].

## EVENTS



## Term 2 - 3

Date	Event	Venue
Thursday, 30 June	Monday Timetable	
Friday, 1 July	Narrogin Carnival NSHS vs NAC	
Friday, 1 July	End of Term 2	
Tuesday, 18 July	Students return after 3pm	
Tuesday, 19 July	Term 3 classes commence	
Friday, 22 July	Monday Timetable	
Wednesday, 3 August	MSP Photography	WACoA Narrogin Amphitheatre and Duty Room Lobby
Wednesday, 24 August	Dowerin Field Days	Memorial Ave, Dowerin
Friday, 26 August	Wear It Purple	
Friday, September 9	Open Day	

*The whole College term planner is regularly updated and can be found on our website homepage.*

### EGGS FOR SALE

\$4 per dozen at the main office.  
For large orders please contact the farm office  
08 9881 9726



Due to eggs shortages, please call the main office in advance to check  
if any are available for purchase on 08 9881 9700

### Western Australian College of Agriculture Narrogin

216 Cooramining Road, Narrogin WA 6312

Phone: 08 9881 9700

College email: [narrogin.wacoa@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:narrogin.wacoa@education.wa.edu.au)

Residential email: [narrogin.wacoa.residential@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:narrogin.wacoa.residential@education.wa.edu.au)

Administration email: [Narrogin.wacoa.admin@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Narrogin.wacoa.admin@education.wa.edu.au)

Website: [www.narroginag.wa.edu.au](http://www.narroginag.wa.edu.au)

Facebook: @WACOANarrogin

Instagram: narroginagcollege



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