City of Stirling
City of Choice

Stirling Scene

Summer 2026-27 | Birak



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Mayor's message



Welcome to the summer 2026-27 edition of Stirling Scene.

Summer is the time of year when our City comes into its own, as our beaches fill up and public spaces burst into life with community events. For many, the summer holidays are about making the most of our free time and spending it with the people we care about. For parents of young children, there's also the matter of keeping the kids entertained. As you flick through these pages, I hope you'll find some inspiration for a summer to remember.

The festive season is just around the corner and there's nowhere I'd rather be than here in Stirling. The Carols at Scarborough are always a personal highlight, from the idyllic backdrop to the joy on children's faces as the magic of Christmas takes hold. The City will be spreading festive cheer throughout our suburbs this year, with lights and decorations going up in key neighbourhood centres.

For those of you who are heading off on a holiday this summer, don't forget about our free Holiday Watch service. Our Community Safety officers can keep an eye on your home for up to eight weeks, conducting patrols to give you peace of mind. Visit our website or call the City on 9205 8555 to learn more. And please, stay safe on the roads. This has been the deadliest year on WA roads in over a decade, so take your time and get home safely.

Mark Irwin AM
Mayor

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Your City of Stirling Councillors

Hamersley Ward



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Councillor
Chris Hatton
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Balga Ward



Councillor
Andrea Creado
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Councillor
Michael Dudek
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Coastal Ward



Councillor
Rob Paparde
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Councillor
Tony Krsticevic
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Doubleview Ward



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Lawley Ward



Councillor
Joe Ferrante
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Councillor
Suzanne Migdale
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Osborne Ward



Councillor
Lisa Thornton
m: 0490 237 604



Councillor
Teresa Olow
m: 0402 232 210

New era of fitness at Scarborough Beach

A new outdoor gym at Scarborough Beach is making waves in the local fitness scene.

Featuring a mix of bars, rings and other static equipment at a range of heights, the new Beachfit Zone is Scarborough's version of Muscle Beach in Santa Monica or the street workout park at Bondi Beach.

Unique along Perth's coastline for its size and scale, the installation has already been embraced by the community. Local calisthenics training group Perth SW has started running free open training sessions in the space on Saturday mornings, at the northern end of Scarborough Beach Reserve.

Tash Sergi, a Scarborough personal trainer and Australian Emus touch rugby representative, said she loved the new addition to the beachfront.

"You can't beat training outside next to the ocean and the space has so many options for a full body workout," Tash said. The exercise stations feature instructions and QR codes linking to demonstration videos, so it's easy for people to give the equipment a try, no matter where they are on their fitness journey.



What it means to be a local

Every suburb has its own character. The places we meet, the people we know and the things we value all shape what it means to be "a local".

That's why the City is taking a Locally-led Stirling approach, recognising that local people know what matters and what works in their neighbourhoods. It's about listening, connecting and responding with a local focus.

Through our Local Convos initiative in 2024, we walked every suburb and heard what locals value, the challenges they experience and the opportunities they see. Those conversations have helped inform City planning and priorities.

This year, Living Locally and Coffee Convos have continued that two-way conversation, helping us deepen our understanding of the strengths, challenges and focus areas of our 30 diverse suburbs. Throughout September and October, our Planning team visited all 30 suburbs for a series of Coffee Convos to chat about the local area and the future growth of our City.

But living locally is about more than sharing your perspective. It's about feeling connected to where you live, knowing what's happening around the corner and finding ways to be part of your local community.

Our 30 local suburb pages bring this together, with local news, events, plans, priorities, history, places to connect and an interactive map showing projects in your area.

To discover more about your local suburb, visit www.stirling.wa.gov.au/suburbs



Repair Cafés ditching throwaway culture

Every successful repair at a Repair Café keeps one more item out of landfill. It's a simple equation at the heart of a grassroots movement, but it doesn't tell the whole story. From social connection in a time of increased isolation to affordability as cost-of-living pressures rise, there are good reasons the movement has boomed from a single café in Amsterdam in 2009 to more than 4,000 registered Repair Cafés globally.

Of the 10 Repair Cafés in Perth, Repair Café Doubleview is one of the oldest. Established in 2018 by Transition Town Stirling, the team celebrated their eighth anniversary in September with a big birthday cake and plenty of repairs.

They have 25 to 30 volunteer repairers at each event, fixing toys, clothing, furniture, bicycles, electrical appliances and more. Repairing items rather than replacing them is not only good for the planet, but it is also easier on the wallet. One thing that has stood out to the organisers over the years is the café's role as a meeting place, where intergenerational connections and lasting friendships are formed.

"We've developed the community side of the café because we realised we had people who either didn't have a repair or they were bringing something along because they wanted to have a chat and be part of the community," volunteer sewing repairer Helen Axton said.

"We started our Chatter and Natter table around four years ago and just recently we started a Knit and Knatter table, where you can learn to knit at the same time. We've had quite a few kids have a go at that."

In June 2026, Repair Café Inglewood became Perth's newest Repair Café, launching with the support of Transition Town Stirling, Repair Café Doubleview and the City's Community Grants Program. Repair Café Inglewood co-founder Anneliese McNeil said the impacts volunteers made on waste were multiplied by the skills they passed on to others.

"A lot of the knowledge about repairing items has dissipated through the generations. We have volunteers of all different ages, but it's definitely a way to share some of those skills and pass on knowledge that might otherwise be lost," Anneliese said.

- **Repair Café Doubleview:** Second Saturday of every month except December and January 10.00am to 12.00 noon | Guide Hall, 228 Hancock Street, Doubleview
- **Repair Café Inglewood:** Last Saturday of every month | 9.30am to 11.30am | Inglewood Bowling and Sports Club, 1 Stancliffe Street, Mount Lawley.

The City's Community Grants Program supports local projects that make a difference.

Want to learn more?
Visit www.stirling.wa.gov.au/grants



Flavours of Stirling



Behind every favourite restaurant, café, bar or bakery is a story worth discovering. Through hard work and passion, these are the people creating the flavours of Stirling.

Sugar & Nice, Inglewood

Twelve years ago, a leap of faith and a love of baking brought Sugar & Nice to Beaufort Street. Inspired by New York's iconic Magnolia Bakery, owner Marnee Rinaldi dreamed of creating the kind of neighbourhood bakery that would become part of people's everyday routines as well as their biggest celebrations.

Today, Sugar & Nice is woven into thousands of stories. Wedding cakes, baby showers, first birthdays and countless morning coffee runs have helped turn Sugar & Nice into a neighbourhood institution.

"Sugar & Nice might be my business, but after all these years I think a little piece of it belongs to Inglewood too," Marnee said.

Little Wave, Scarborough



A taste of the Mediterranean has found a home in Scarborough thanks to Ali Karcher and Federico Vitelli, whose southern French and Tuscan roots inspired the creation of Little Wave. Drawing on the café and bar culture they grew up with, the pair set out to create a place where people could slow down, connect and enjoy life's simple pleasures.

"What started as an idea for a Mediterranean café and wine bar has become a place where coffee, food, wine and the local community all come together," Ali said.

On any given day, you'll find locals and visitors alike settling in over seasonal dishes and a front-row seat to one of Perth's best sunsets.



Lalibela Ethiopian Restaurant and Cafe, Westminster

Step inside Lalibela and you'll quickly discover why this Westminster restaurant is such a local favourite. Diners gather around colourful platters layered with slow-cooked meats, vegetables and injera, Ethiopia's traditional flatbread. Designed to be shared, the meals are just as much about connection as they are about flavour.

After spending more than 20 years running their own restaurant in Ethiopia, husband-and-wife team Shimelis and Fasika brought that same spirit of hospitality to Perth, opening Lalibela after nearly a decade of rebuilding their lives in Australia.

"We wanted people to experience more than just Ethiopian food. We wanted them to experience Ethiopian culture, hospitality and the feeling of being welcomed like family," Shimelis said.

Connection at the heart of our markets

There are few things that can create a sense of community like a local market – and the City is proud to support them. When the weather heats up, so does our local market scene.



The Summer X Salt Markets at Clarko Reserve in Trigg have gone from strength to strength since they were launched a decade ago by Event Directors Mei Wan Sidhu and Sophie Keate. The new season is underway with a focus on coastal culture and fostering the next wave of creative talent.

In 2024, the Summer X Salt Markets launched their Mini Makers program, giving young people aged six to 16 their first taste of promoting and selling their products. They also support emerging musical talent, giving aspiring musicians the chance to gain experience performing in front of large audiences.

The markets are single-use plastic-free, with the commitment to sustainability extending to regular beach clean-ups and a partnership with Regenerate Australia to offset emissions. Each market day features a range of free wellness activities, including sunrise ocean dips, pilates, yoga and meditation/sound healing.

While there are elements of the Summer X Salt Markets that differentiate them from other community markets, they all share a common purpose at their core – connection.

“It’s all about people and wanting communities to stay connected, healthy and happy while doing what’s best for the planet,” Mei Wan said.

“Our mission is to get people out from their silos, get kids off their screens and get everyone out in nature, connecting through conversation and supporting small local businesses. We believe human face-to-face interaction is so important in making sure communities stay connected and kids are brought up with a sense of belonging and purpose. That’s what really drives us.”



A couple of kilometres along the coast is another of the City's biggest and best-known markets, the Scarborough Sunset Markets.

Presented by the Scarborough Beach Association and KINN & Co, the markets have become a favourite destination for locals and tourists alike. They attract thousands of people of all ages every week, transforming the Scarborough Beach precinct into a hive of activity, with an array of stallholders, food trucks and live entertainment.



On the other side of the City, the Mirrabooka Friday Market has been going strong for almost 50 years.

It boasts a broad mix of stalls and wares, from new stock to a variety of second-hand items. You can find clothes, plants, tools, toys and more. Notably, the volunteer-run market puts every dollar of profit back into the community, supporting local clubs, schools, community groups and Telethon.



In Osborne Park, the Down to Earth Markets have returned for their fourth season in the Main Street Piazza.

The upcycle markets aim to reduce textile waste, support small businesses and build social connection. While clothing is the focus, the markets also offer arts and crafts, books, food, music and more. Organised by community group Love our Main Street, all proceeds go back into the markets and other local initiatives.



Stirling Street Food has returned for its 2026-27 season, bringing a rotating line-up of food trucks to parks across the City.

This year's locations include Millett Park in Innaloo, Yokine Reserve in Yokine, Aintree Eglinton Reserve in Hamersley, Carine Regional Open Space in Carine, Copley Park in Mount Lawley, Lake Gwelup Regional Open Space in Gwelup, Abbett Park Reserve in Scarborough and Jackadder Lake in Woodlands.



The Stirling Farmers Market is a classic community farmers market, full of fresh produce and products directly from local growers and makers.

A project of the Rotary Club of Karrinyup, the market has become a much-loved weekly tradition since its launch in late 2011. Every Sunday morning, you can find 50 or more stalls and plenty of community spirit in the carpark of the City's Administration Centre.

Markets supported by the City of Stirling

- **Summer X Salt Markets**
  First and third Saturday of the month from October to March, plus special pop-ups | 8.00am-1.00pm (wellness from 6.00am) | Clarko Reserve, Trigg
- **Scarborough Sunset Markets**
  Thursdays weekly from November to April | 5.00pm-9.00pm | Scarborough Beach precinct, Scarborough
- **Mirrabooka Friday Market**
  Fridays weekly | 7.00am-12.00 noon Mirrabooka Regional Open Space, Mirrabooka
- **Down to Earth Markets**
  Last Sunday of the month from October to May | 9.00am-1.00pm Main Street Piazza, Osborne Park
- **Stirling Farmers Market**
  Sundays weekly | 7.30am-11.30am City of Stirling Administration Centre carpark, Stirling
- **Stirling Street Food**
  Various dates from October to May 5.00pm-8.30pm | Various locations

Summer rituals with notable locals

With another Perth summer almost upon us, we asked leaders from different sectors of our community what they love doing when the hot weather rolls around.



Caption: Lynzie Bremner and family at Scarborough Beach. Credit: Dronecean



Preston Culbong, Balcatta, emerging Nyoongar/Yamatji leader

As we head into Kambarang and Birak, the kids become restless and I'm asked one question: "Preston, can we go to the park?" Living in Balcatta, we are spoilt with green spaces. So as the warmer weather hits Boorloo, we start to explore. We explore the fish traps at Trigg Beach, we explore the water tank at Mount Flora and we explore the birds and orchids at Star Swamp. The thing we love to do the most in this amazing weather is get the footy and basketball, get some food and play some games and have a picnic dinner.



Stuart Aubrey MLA, Scarborough, politician

Most days start with a swim around the cans at Scarboro SLSC alongside the club codgers, followed by a coffee. It's one of those simple summer rituals that I really look forward to – getting in a swim early, catching up with mates and starting the day properly. Summer also means the return of Ocean Heroes free events at Trigg Beach, where I love to get in the water and help young people with autism experience the joy of surfing. For me, that's what summer is all about – the ocean, staying active, volunteering and being part of a community that looks out for one another.



Lynzie Bremner, Carine, artist

Experiencing summer in Stirling made it so easy for me to commit to living in Perth. Christmas for me is a particularly novel time. Prior to 2023, as a Canadian, all I had ever known was a white Christmas. Spending Christmas at the beach? That seemed so unusual, but now it's a must for my family. Each year since moving here, we don ridiculous holiday-themed outfits and build a "Sand Man" instead of a snowman. We use seagrass, shells and found stones to decorate him. Feels like a perfect blend of our family heritage.



Vince Garreffa, Mount Lawley, butcher

Waking up every day to see what my garden offers me to eat. It could be figs, peaches, nectarines, apricots or my rocket, freshly picked for a salad. In February, I wait every day for the mangoes that I share with my next-door neighbours. Summer is also the time that Anne and I join the Inglewood pool and gym because at our age, muscle movement is so important for our wellbeing and summer is very pleasing in the pool.



Nadia Mitsopoulos, Inglewood, journalist

When things slow down a bit in summer and the holidays kick in, I savour the opportunity to spend more time meandering along the Beaufort Street strip in Inglewood. I have spent most of my life in Inglewood, having grown up on the same street that I moved back into more than 20 years ago. I have loved watching the Beaufort Street strip grow and evolve into a vibrant hub of family run businesses, cafés, restaurants, and shops offering everything you need – and all just a walk away.



Mik Western, Wembley Downs, AFLW player

Summer rituals for me include spending as much time in the sun and by the beach as possible. You'll find me walking along the coast or completing my off-season runs around the beautiful Herdsman Lake. I had a specific summer ritual this year in January which was to get into the ocean every single day – and I spent most of those days with my border collie, Elsie, at Peasholm Dog Beach!

Rhinos lead charge for Mirrabooka's summer of basketball



An informal gathering of basketball-loving locals more than a decade ago continues to pay dividends as Mirrabooka gears up for another summer of basketball.

Growing up, Stirling Leisure – Mirrabooka was where Perth Rhinos founder Solomon Dech would play pickup basketball and connect with the local South Sudanese community. Some of the area's biggest basketball talents like NBA veterans Duop Reath and Thon Maker have ties to those sessions.

After almost a decade living interstate, Solomon moved to Mirrabooka and is paying it forward through the Perth Rhinos, a basketball program offering development pathways on and off the court.

"When I came back from Melbourne, there was a gap of these kids not having a sense of direction or somewhere where they feel like they belong," Solomon recalls.

That has shifted since Stirling Leisure – Mirrabooka became the Rhinos' permanent home in 2022.

"When they come here, there's a sense of pride. This is our home," he said.

The Summer Jam streetball festival returns for its 15th season on 23 January 2027, in no small part due to Solomon's relationship with organisers. Summer Jam caps a busy season of basketball events hosted in Mirrabooka, including the Red Bull Half Court and Josh Giddey Basketball Camp.

This growth reflects a broader push to make the sport more accessible across the City with five public courts delivered since 2024 and a full court in the works at Lake Gwelup Regional Open Space.

Explore and learn these summer holidays

Are you looking for some budget-friendly family fun this summer? Look no further! Here are some options that offer entertainment and education.





State-of-the-art driving range a stroke of genius

Set among lush tuart trees, Stirling Leisure – Hamersley Public Golf Course features a two-level driving range with 30 automated, interactive bays.

The array of interactive games and virtual courses will keep the whole family entertained, from a young one having their first swing of a golf club to a seasoned expert. Junior clubs are available for hire.

When it's time to recharge, you can have food and drink delivered straight to your bay from the on-site bar and kiosk, Caddy's.

Screen time we can all get behind

Turn a simple walk into something more engaging with the City's Play Trails. Designed for families and curious explorers, these interactive outdoor experiences combine nature, discovery and a sense of fun.

There are play trails at four of the City's most scenic reserves in Herdsman Lake, Lake Gwelup, Star Swamp and Trigg Bushland, as well as Scarborough Beach.

Each trail invites you to explore at your own pace while tackling challenges and uncovering stories about local landscapes, wildlife and ecosystems along the way. Download Nature Play WA's Play Trails app to choose your adventure.



Premium play at a destination playground

Take a break from the familiarity of your local park this summer and visit one of the City's destination playgrounds.

Bina Parkland in Balga offers a skate plaza facility, a junior and advanced BMX track, multi-courts, playground and an impressive parkour area suitable for older children.

Jackadder Lake Playground in Woodlands combines a stunning lakeside location with an enclosed space and separate playgrounds for children at different developmental stages.

The Whale Playground at Scarborough Beach is a must-visit for younger children, while bigger kids can explore the skate and BMX plaza, bouldering wall and 3x3 basketball court.

The brand-new Carine Community Parkland has toddler and sensory play areas, a netball and basketball court, climbing frame, tree canopy rope tunnel and much more.

On the trail of culture, history and nature

The City's Trigg Bushland and Lake Gwelup Story Trails provide a portal to another time and place. Discover the stories that make each place so special through a network of interpretive signs, created in collaboration with community groups and the Ngalang Maya Wangkiny (Our Place Talking) Nyoongar knowledge holders' group.

Running through ancient dunes, the Trigg Bushland Story Trail gives fascinating insights into Nyoongar culture, post-European settlement history and the area's significant biodiversity.

The Lake Gwelup Story Trail explores local stories, landscapes and wildlife through the people, places and traditions that have shaped the area over time.



Building the skills to stay safe at the beach

Navigating open water safely is a critical part of living near the WA coastline, but not everyone knows the ins and outs of beach safety.

Taught at Stirling Leisure – Scarborough Beach Pool, the City's Pool to Beach Program helps young swimmers of all backgrounds make the leap from confidence in the pool to safety in the ocean. The sessions involve a comprehensive safety brief, surf negotiation, safety drills, rescues and survival skills.

Open to students who have passed or enrolled in Royal Life Saving Society WA Swim and Survive Stage 9, the program runs on Saturdays from January to March. To find out more or express your interest, please contact learntoswim@stirling.wa.gov.au



Top cop's career change a win for Stirling

After 32 years in policing, Haydn Farrow is tackling community safety at the grassroots level with the City of Stirling.

In recent years, Haydn served as the officer-in-charge at Scarborough Police Station and Acting Inspector of the Mirrabooka Police District, building intimate knowledge of the area and local crime trends.

He formed strong partnerships with the City over that time before joining the organisation in August in what felt like a "natural progression".

It is hard to think of a better fit for the role of Community Safety Operations Manager at the City, where he is leading our frontline community safety teams and strategies.

"While law enforcement provided me with a rewarding and diverse career, I'm attracted to the opportunity to contribute to the community through a proactive, partnership-focused approach in local government," Haydn said.

One project Haydn is already taking a lead on is the Mirrabooka Town Centre Working Group, a group of local stakeholders, community representatives and government partners formed to address key safety concerns in the heart of Mirrabooka.

In addition to tackling crime and anti-social behaviour, two of the working group's aims are to support the homeless community and encourage events that can bring life to the town centre.

It is an example of the more proactive, layered and long-term approach to community safety that drew him to the role.

What's on



Osborne Park Show

It may be the oldest annual event in the City of Stirling, but the Osborne Park Show is still finding new ways to connect our community.

The show is returning to Robinson Reserve in Tuart Hill for another year of food, fun and fireworks on Friday 27 and Saturday 28 November 2026. Supported by the City, it blends the classic community show atmosphere with more modern experiences.

Tasked with keeping 111 years of tradition alive, Osborne Park Agricultural Society president Andrew Frean is confident about the show's longevity.

"People are looking for the new all the time, but tradition has a future and future also has a tradition," Andrew said.

Bringing those nostalgic vibes are staples like two nights of fireworks, the fun of sideshow alley, a convoy of food trucks and live entertainment from local schools, community groups, West End Music Academy and the Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra.

Alongside returning attractions such as the Friday skydiving, Saturday car show and ninja obstacle course, showgoers can get hands-on with new activations like the marine touch pool, mural paint wall and plastics repurposing workshop.

But for Andrew, the enduring appeal of the show isn't the attractions.

"It's about being able to show up knowing that your friends and your neighbours are all going to be in the same place at the same time," he said.



Carine Community Parkland launch

Sunday 22 November | 8.00am-11.00am
Carine Regional Open Space

Celebrate the transformation of Carine Community Parkland into a vibrant and welcoming community space with a morning of free family-friendly entertainment.

Scarborough Beach Weekender 2026 – Chapter Two

Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 November
3.00pm-10.00pm and 2.00pm-9.00pm
Scarborough Beach precinct

An unforgettable weekend of music, featuring Six60, The Black Seeds, Christine Anu and more. Visit www.scarboroughbeachweekender.com for tickets.

Stirling Christmas Lights

Friday 27 November to Sunday 27 December
7.00pm-10.00pm | Various locations

The City is spreading the Christmas cheer, with decorations in Stirling, Mirrabooka, Inglewood, Mount Lawley, Tuart Hill and Scarborough. To learn more, visit www.stirling.wa.gov.au/christmas

Carols at Scarborough

Sunday 13 December | 6.00pm-8.30pm
Scarborough Beach Amphitheatre

The magic of Christmas returns to Scarborough Beach for a night of free festive fun for Neuromuscular WA.

See more at www.stirling.wa.gov.au/events



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City of Choice

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