

Town Attractions

Driving through the Town one can view fine examples of buildings dating from the early 1900s. Among these are National Trust and Heritage listed buildings such as the Methodist and Catholic churches, Masonic Lodge, Lady Novar Hostel, Railway Station, Museum House and the Agricultural Museum.



Pioneer Memorial Park, take time to stop and smell the roses.



Community Resource Centre



The historic Railway Station



Wyalkatchem Town Hall



Original CWA Building

Wells

There are numerous wells in the Shire dating back to the early days of grazing leases. Of particular interest are those located on the once named "Goldfields Road". Prior to this the route had been referred to as the Yarragin Track and later as the Yilgarn Track.

After discovery of gold at Eenuin in 1887, it was for a time an important route for those seeking their fortune.



An early map shows that names of the localities through the central part of the Shire were all derived from the aboriginal names for these water sites:

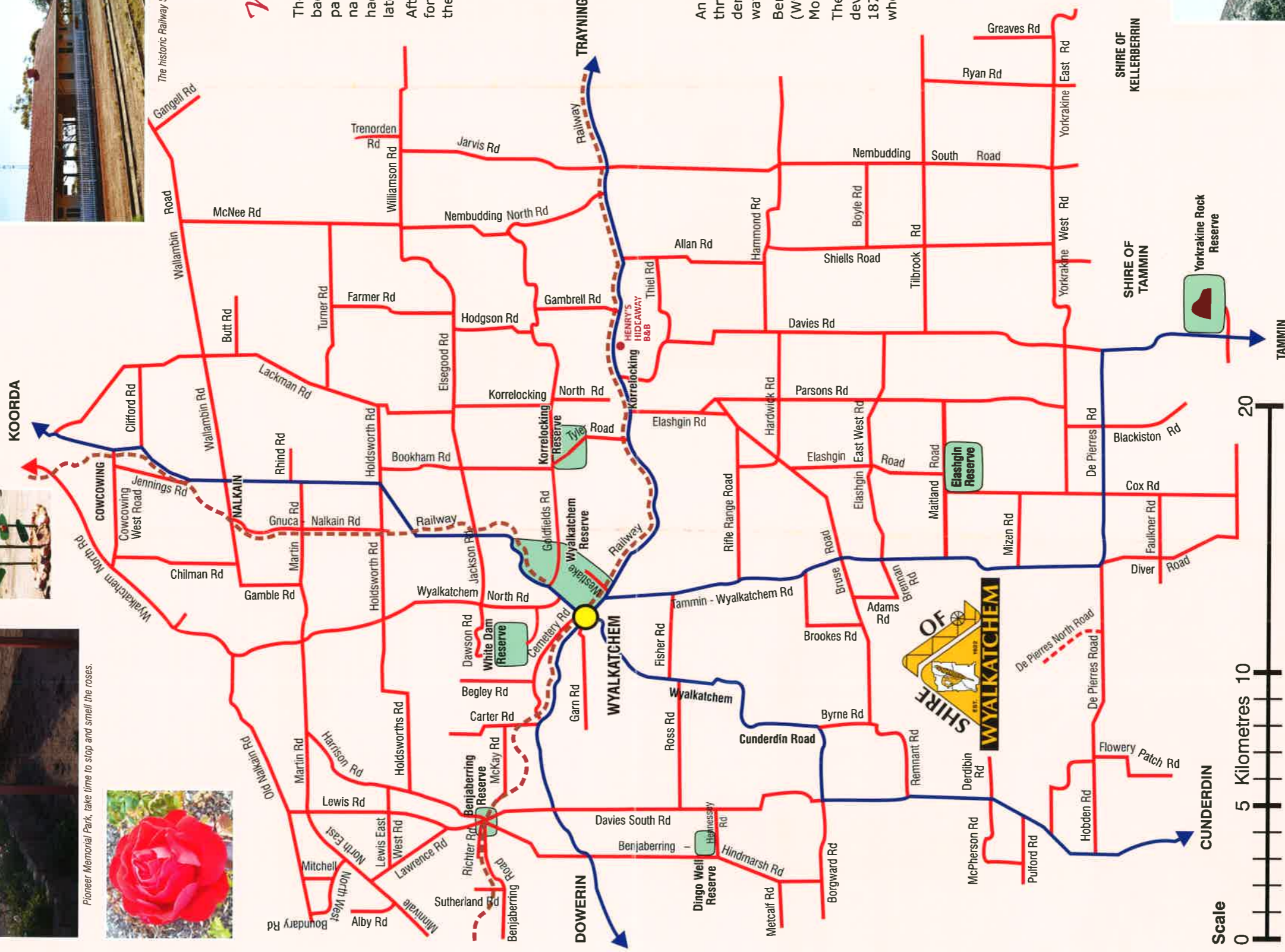
Bengyberring (Benjaberring), Wyalkatchem (Wyalkatchem), Corrologing (Korrelocking), Moonabudding (Nembudding).

The water points along this route were mainly developed by the Toodyay Road Board in the 1870s and 1880s for the benefit of their settlers who had sheep runs to the east.

Yorkrakine Rock

Located within the Tammin Shire the large granite tor is a popular picnic spot for visitors and locals alike. Natural Resource Management have set up an area for day use with tables and seating.

The outcrop features a blind gorge from which extends a unique grove of Christmas trees, a species not common to this area. The spring wildflowers are many and varied.



Tidy Towns

Wyalkatchem has been involved in Tidy Towns since 1984. Highlights of these years are:

- 1998, Category B Winner
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- 2000, Category B Winner
- 2001, National Winner — Australian Tidy Towns Community Spirit Award
- 2002, Category B Winner
- 2003, National Winner — Australia's Tidiest Town
- 2004, Inducted to Tidy Towns Hall of Fame



Unique Wildflowers

Wyalkatchem is renowned for its unique wildflowers which are in abundance during the months of August through to October. These spring wildflowers are particularly attractive viewed close up and will interest those who admire the beauty of Western Australia's wildflowers. For those interested in bushwalking, the newly established Korrelocking Walk offers many varieties of flora and fauna.



A Brief History

The first recorded exploration of the district in 1849 was made possible with the assistance of Aboriginal information and guidance to the area, when A.C. Gregory passed south of Lake Cowcowing, which is located north of Wyalkatchem.

Sandalwood was a valuable commodity after the mid 1840s and it is likely that cutters were active in the area prior to the taking up of grazing leases in the 1870s. Most pastoral leases were relinquished after short terms.

The first settlers took up land in the area in 1904, wheat was under crop in 1907 and the township was declared in 1908.

In 1910 the Wyalkatchem Progress Association was formed and between then and 1920 the town developed along with the establishment of the railway and Wyalkatchem Roads Board, a school, police station, bakery and post office.

The first ever collection of bulk wheat for sale in Australia happened at Korrelocking on 9th November 1931.

Although the second world war took a toll, and a time for recovery, returned service men and women contributed greatly to the building of a vibrant farming community, which primarily produced grain and sheep for market.

Wyalkatchem enjoyed much growth and many long time locals today fondly refer to the time from the 50's through to the 80's as the "boom time".

Farming practices have changed a lot over the years, with fewer farmers today and larger farms (400 farms during the 70's compared to approx 40 now in 2015) and more emphasis into environmental management.

In 2008 Pioneer Park was developed to include the Memorial Rose Garden.

Today's community proudly honours the Traditional Custodians and Pioneers who contributed to our understanding and quality of life here in Wyalkatchem.

Locality Profile

Wyalkatchem is located 194 kilometres from Perth on the "Pioneer Pathways" route Goomalling-Merredin Road, a less travelled alternative route for traffic to and from the Goldfields and the Eastern States. Major access roads are all weather sealed roads including those from Tammin and Cunderdin on the Great Eastern Highway.

For the more adventurous traveller, the "Wildflower Route" which is the road north through Koorda, can be used to reach Paynes Find. However the northern end is not sealed and can be closed following rain. Check with Main Roads Dept. or Mt Marshall Shire. The district has numerous reserves of bushland, diverse in nature, offering ample scope for activities such as walking and bird watching. The spring wildflowers are particularly attractive for those willing to leave their cars.

Fair sized reserves are within easy walking distance of the town. These are the "White Elephant Dam" catchment to the north-west, the CALM reserve to the north and the adjoining Railway Dam catchment to the east which contains the golf course.



Visitor Centre & Wyalkatchem Visitor Centre

At entry to Wyalkatchem Community Resource Centre

Railway Terrace, Wyalkatchem

Phone: (08) 9681 1500
Email: wyalkatchem@crc.net.au

Accommodation

Wyalkatchem Travellers Park

Phone for bookings: 0427 814 042

Or Email: swellsy1@yahoo.com.au

Wyalkatchem Hotel/Motel
Railway Terrace, Wyalkatchem

Phone: (08) 9681 1210

Railway Barracks

Accommodation
Ring Wyalkatchem Shire on (08) 9681 1166 for contact details

Health Services

Doctor
Phone: (08) 9681 1140

Hospital
Phone: (08) 9692 1222

Events

Go to website
www.wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au

Attractions

Agricultural Museum

This museum is housed in one of the few 1936 type wheat bins that have been preserved. The Museum was opened in 1981 with a collection of Agricultural, Transport and Railway Exhibits. There are over 400 items in the collection, some housed in the wheat bin and others in a purpose built shed. A further building is underway and this will house additional items that have been donated.

Many items in the collection have been restored and are in working order. Rare tractors such as a Waterloo Boy (pictured below) and Marshall MP6 are on display along with many other implements. The Museum is Open Monday to Friday 10.00am to 2.00pm. Tours and other open times by prior arrangement.

Phone Kevin Jones 9681 1036 or Wyalkatchem Shire 9681 1166.



Elevators

These entrance statements symbolise both the Wyalkatchem area's claim to be "The Cradle of Bulk Handling" and the dominant role of the local grain industry. The formal commencement of the bulk receipt of grain in Western Australia began in the Wyalkatchem area in 1931 with the construction of 5 horizontal bins. The handling authority CBH has since developed to such a stage that it is now regarded as possibly the world leader in grain storage handling. Wyalkatchem is a strategic grain receipt point with a capacity of approximately 120,000 tonnes.



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