

PRESS RELEASE

SIGNING OF MOU BETWEEN YONGERGNOW AUSTRALIAN MALLEEFOWL CENTRE AND ONGERUP COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE

Members of the Ongerup community came together on Sunday 20th Feb to celebrate the official signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Yongergnow Australian Malleefowl Centre and the Yongergnow – Ongerup Community Resource Centre (CRC).

The CRC (formerly the Ongerup Telecentre) relocated from its previous home in the Town Hall building to Yongergnow Malleefowl Centre in a bid to ensure the sustainability and future viability of both centres. It has enabled both organisations to optimise use of their resources and the centre has now become a focal hub of the Ongerup community.



Yongergnow-Ongerup CRC President Jan Savage and Yongergnow Malleefowl Centre Chairman Ken Pech signing the MOU with Hon Wendy Duncan MLC as witness

The official signing was attended by Hon Wendy Duncan MLC, Parliamentary secretary to the Minister for Regional Development and Lands, by Bruce Manning, CEO of the Great Southern Development Commission, Simon Lyas, Executive Officer of Regional Development Australia in Albany, Cr Fiona Gaze, Deputy Shire President of the Shire of Gnowangerup and Noongar Elder Eugene Eades.

Eugene gave a Welcome to Country and acknowledged the Noongar people.

Jan Savage, Chairperson of the CRC, welcomed all those present and gave an overview of the MOU's history from the CRC perspective. She emphasised that in the diverse CRC network, Ongerup's point of difference was its environmental approach. She recognised the contribution from the Royalties for Regions program which has enabled CRCs to become vibrant centres of community leadership.

Ken Pech, Chairman of the Yongergnow Board, explained that prior to the relocation of the CRC, Yongergnow had struggled financially and had welcomed the contribution from the CRC. Both organisations benefited from the co-location and the signing of the agreement formalised the arrangement.

Ken hoped that both organisations would continue to co-exist in a harmonious way. He also acknowledged the ongoing support from the Shire of Gnowangerup.

The official signing was witnessed by Wendy Duncan who after a short talk proposed a toast to Yongergnow Malleefowl Centre, the CRC and Royalties for Regions. This toast was enthusiastically endorsed by all guests.



from left Eugene Eades, Ken Pech, Wendy Duncan, Jan Savage and Bruce Manning toasting to Royalties for Regions

A BBQ lunch followed the official proceedings, and guests were offered the opportunity to explore the world-class Yongergnow Centre, visit its Malleefowl aviary and to acquaint themselves with Yongergnow's captive Malleefowl raising program.

Contact details

Yongergnow Centre phone 9828 2325, visitor@yongergnow.com.au