

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Attention: News Editor

### **Pub makes way for hub**

Demolition of the former Nyabing Inn has made way for a start in March on the final stage of the Nyabing Community Hub project.

The last hurrah held at the inn, a New Year's Eve event, was a fitting way to farewell the Nyabing icon before demolition started in early January.

Construction is due to start soon on the new complex, which will house a conference room, meeting room, reception, offices, commercial kitchen, dining and licensed area.

The community hub is a project of the Nyabing Progress Association (NPA) and is also supported by \$350,000 of State Government funding through the Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC).

A significant portion of the \$1.47 million second stage of the project was funded through a five-year community cropping program.

GSDC Chair Ross Thornton said it was inspiring to see what a regional town could achieve when locals set their minds to it.

"Rather than sit back and watch their town become a victim of circumstance, the residents of Nyabing showed great foresight and initiative to protect and grow their town," Mr Thornton said.

Previous stages of the project included a six-unit accommodation complex and a manager's residence.

The accommodation units, situated next to the hub, have had a high rate of occupancy since opening in December 2016, with predominantly seasonal or short-term workers using the units. Once the precinct is completed, it is hoped that the increased standard of facilities will attract tourists to the region.

NPA secretary Christie Smith said the project had brought the town's residents together with renewed community spirit.



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Albany Pyrmont House, 110 Serpentine Road, PO Box 280, Albany WA 6331. Phone: (08) 9842 4888 Fax: (08) 9842 4828 Email: [gsdc@gsdc.wa.gov.au](mailto:gsdc@gsdc.wa.gov.au)

Katanning 10 Dore Street, PO Box 729, Katanning WA 6317. Phone: (08) 9821 3210 Fax: (08) 9821 3334 Email: [katanning@gsdc.wa.gov.au](mailto:katanning@gsdc.wa.gov.au)

Web: [www.gsdc.wa.gov.au](http://www.gsdc.wa.gov.au)



“We are very excited to see the progress of the new community hub, a place for the locals to congregate, socialise and enjoy the benefits of their hard work which will benefit our small town in many ways,” Ms Smith said.

It is expected the hub will be completed by the end of October, 2018.

**Media contact: Bruce Manning, phone 9842 4888**



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Albany Pyrmont House, 110 Serpentine Road, PO Box 280, Albany WA 6331. Phone: (08) 9842 4888 Fax: (08) 9842 4828 Email: [gfdc@gfdc.wa.gov.au](mailto:gfdc@gfdc.wa.gov.au)

Katanning 10 Dore Street, PO Box 729, Katanning WA 6317. Phone: (08) 9821 3210 Fax: (08) 9821 3334 Email: [katanning@gfdc.wa.gov.au](mailto:katanning@gfdc.wa.gov.au)

Web: [www.gfdc.wa.gov.au](http://www.gfdc.wa.gov.au)