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1. PART ONE – CUE, THE PLACE

1.1. Overview

Cue is approximately 660kms north east of Perth on the Great Northern Highway. It is a small town with a strong sense of history and community; it is also home to approximately 330 people.

Prior to European settlement Indigenous societies lived in the Murchison Basin. In fact the area on which Cue Township is located was a very important meeting place for large scale ceremonies and gatherings between different Indigenous nations. The aboriginal paintings or rock art in this area has been dated at 10,000 years old and the site upon which these paintings are located is a spiritual site for the Indigenous people.

Today descendants of the Wajarri, Badimia, Wutha and Tjupan people still live in Cue and are very much part of the Community.

The town of Cue was established in 1893 and remnants from the gold rush of the early 1890's still remain as proud tributes to the people and their way of life.

Known as the Queen of the Murchison, Cue was once the centre of the Murchison Goldfields that boasted a population of around 10,000. Cue's past splendour is made evident by the grand buildings which were constructed over a century ago and still add to the charm today. The National Trust declared Cue the ninth historical town in the state in November 2006.

The locally elected people comprise the Local Government of the Shire of Cue. For the purposes of State and Federal political representation Cue Shire is in the State Electorate of Murchison-Eyre and the Federal Electorate of Kalgoorlie.

The area of Cue is described as rangelands with a desert-like climate of hot dry summers and cold winters. Cue is also located in a low rainfall area.

Like in the yesteryear Cue continues to support both gold and iron ore mining as well as pastoral industries, today it also boasts a unique tourism market. The Murchison region is still one of the main pastoral and mining areas in Western Australia. The Shire of Cue is one of the four major population centres within the Murchison.



1.2. History

Cue's history begins with a gold find from prospector Mick Fitzgerald who discovered gold in what is now Cue's town centre on New Year's Day in 1892.

The story goes that while prospecting in an area today known as Cuddingwarra, Mick Fitzgerald spotted an Aboriginal fellow called Governor sporting a large gold nugget of around 10 ounces in weight. Fitzgerald asked the man where he'd found the gold and was led to a white quartz hill bearing gold. The reef was later called Kintore and the quartz hill stands next to the Fire Station today.

When Fitzgerald's mate and fellow prospector Tom Cue returned from his travels, he joined Fitzgerald in prospecting the gold and later set out to the nearest mining warden at Nannine, 80kms away, to report the find.

Word of Cue and Fitzgerald's success spread and the warden placed a notice outside his door, within days 400 hopefuls had flocked to Cue in the hope of finding gold and had set up camp along the creek bed near Kintore, which later became the town's main street. As it happens, although Fitzgerald was the first to find gold, Tom Cue registered the claim and hence the town was named after him.

Cue's soaring population put severe pressure on the region's limited water supplies so a decision was made to sink a well in the creek bed that is Austin Street today. In 1892 the hardy men of the region gathered around to sink the well that would change their lives for the better. Despite there being no water for many metres as they toiled away the men persevered and finally at 30 metres they struck water. The well was later sunk a further nine metres due to lack of water at the current depth. Things were moving so rapidly that in 1893 Cue was declared a town. 1893 was also the year that the first edition of the Murchison Times and Day Dawn Gazette were printed on August 15.

Despite the success, troubles soon began when effluent from the camps positioned uphill contaminated the water source. So bad were conditions that the population was struck by typhoid fever outbreak.

A young journalist by the name of Tom Hardy was the first to succumb to the disease, perishing at Milly Soak in 1894. His lonely grave stands with three others at Milly Soak today. Others soon met the same fate and tents around the Milly Soak ghost gums began to echo with the delirious cries of these disease stricken men.



Realising the extent of the problem residents soon banded together to form a hospital committee responsible for collecting funds and organising a day and night nurse. The first to contribute to the fund, Alf Jackson, died of the fever three days after making his donation. A hospital committee supporter, Tom Lawrence, met with the same fate. Soon people were perishing by the day. However, with the onset of better medical help and a better water source, the dreaded fever soon passed.

Cue was continuing to develop to such an extent that in 1894 a municipality was established. On the 25th of October 1894 the contract for the construction of the Government Buildings was let at the cost of \$16,255.88. These buildings were made from locally quarried limestone slabs and were magnificent structures compared to the tents and bough sheds around them at the time. The buildings were mostly completed in 1896 with substantial additions made in 1897. These buildings housed the Wardens Court, Post Office and Police Station and to this day are used for the same purposes except the Wardens Court which is now used as the Courthouse.



In 1895 the old canvas and bough shed hospital erected in 1892 to deal with the typhoid outbreak, was replaced with a structure made from local stone. Originally Dr Monteath worked from the canvas hospital assisted only by his wife, with the erection of the stone hospital the staff grew and consisted of a Matron, three nurses and an orderly.



The then 'Murchison Chambers' was also built in 1895 and was built by the London and Western Australian Investment Company. The building was two storey's high with 18 offices and two shops.

The offices housed, among others, Messrs Fox, Weekes and May, licensed and authorised surveyors of WA, VIC and SA, and Bewick & Moreing Co.

Herbert Hoover was employed by Bewick & Moreing Co. as a mining consultant, was later appointed to General Manager of the Sons of Gwallia mine near Leonora in May 1898 and went on to become the President of the USA. Hoover usually stayed at the Murchison Chambers when work commitments occasionally brought him to Cue

In January of 1902 the Murchison Club, a high ranking social institute of Cue, moved from their club rooms in Darlot Street to the upper storey of the Murchison Chambers where it stayed for many years. As a result the building eventually became known as the Gentleman's Club. The building was restored and refurbished in 1985-86 and is now the Shire Administration Office and is occupied by the Cue Shire Council.

The town of Cue continued its fast tracked growth and in 1896 several more buildings were established. It was the year that the first and only school in Cue was built, which consisted of a single classroom with a 14 foot high iron roof for good ventilation. A second classroom was added in 1898 and another built of brick and stone in 1904. Those three buildings are still in use as a part of the Cue Primary School today.

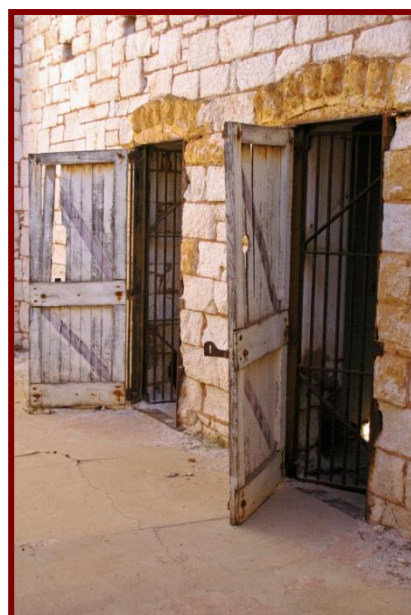
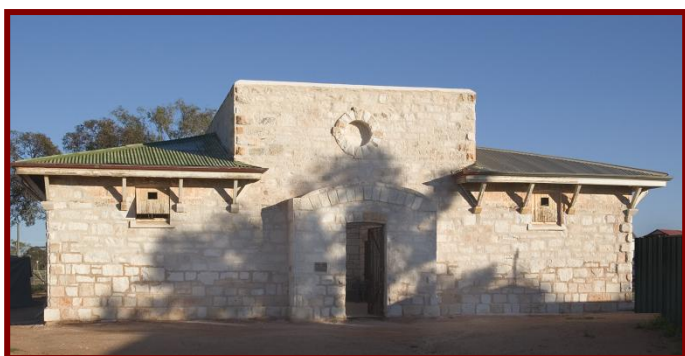
September of 1896 saw the official opening of the Old Municipal Chambers by the Mayor of Cue, Mr O.K. Jaques. Prior to this Council held meetings in the Warden's Court tent.

The first meeting in these chambers was without furniture, but by the next meeting there were ten luxury chairs and two office chairs. These are kept today in Council Chambers at the old Gentleman's Club.



Between 1896 and 1897 the old Gaol was built by James Dawson. It was official gazetted as a gaol in May of 1902 and at the time of building the Police force consisted of 25 men including several Indigenous trackers.

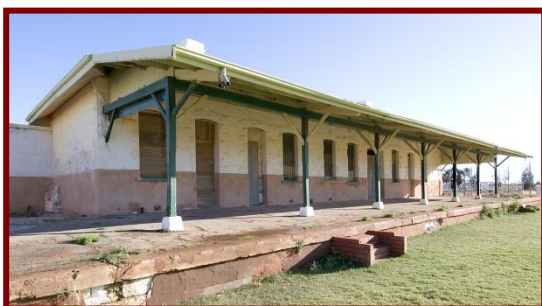
It closed in 1914 but was used as a lock-up for prisoners travelling south right up until the early 1930's. It is now a tourist attraction located at the Cue Caravan Park



The very fabric of the region changed in 1897 with the arrival of the much anticipated railway line. A railway had been promised to Cue in 1894 by WA's first Premier Sir John Forrest.

The promise was fulfilled in April 1897 when a special train departed from Perth carrying 100 guests arriving in Cue the next day. A crowd of 1500 welcomed the train including the mayor and Tom Cue.

1897 was also the year that an application was made to Council for a reserve for the Fire Station plus a loan of ten 400 gallon water tanks to be placed on top of the well near the Police Station.



The Cue Railway Station was not built until 1898; a year after the railway line was opened.

Although the railway line was closed in 1978 and there are no remnants of the line within the Cue townsite, the Cue Railway Station and its platform still stands today and is now the location of the town oval.

Cue had such a large population that it wasn't long before clubs and organisation were formed.

The year of 1899 saw the Masonic Lodge being built of timber and galvanised iron, with a pressed iron interior. The lodge was consecrated on 21st of April 1897.

Regular meetings were held in the building from 1899 and attendance was high until the early 1970's when very few members were attending. In 1979 the doors were closed for the last time.



The building still stands today and is one of very few of its type to remain in Australia. The lodge has sadly fallen into major disrepair but has recently been bought by the National Trust and is on the list for restoration.

The Great Fingall Mine Office was built in 1902 by Italian stonemasons on the Great Fingall Mining Company's lease at Day Dawn. The Great Fingall Consolidated Gold Mining Company began operations at the Great Fingall Mine in 1898.

The beautiful building still stands today but due to extensive mining the open cut pit has expanded leaving the Great Fingall Mine Office sitting dangerously close to the edge of the pit. The Great Fingall Mine closed in 1918, the building is important as it is representative of the gold boom in Western Australia at this time, and the cycle of growth and decline experienced by Australian mining towns.



The Cue Volunteer Fire Brigade was founded by James Patterson Campbell in 1894 and still serves the town today. The actual Fire Station was not built until 1936 and still stands today behind the current Fire Station.

Cue's population waxed and waned with the changing fortunes of the gold industry. Pastoralism boomed and busted along with wool prices and rains. Cue has survived since its beginning with changeable periods of economic extremes and such is the case, even today.

1.3. Environment

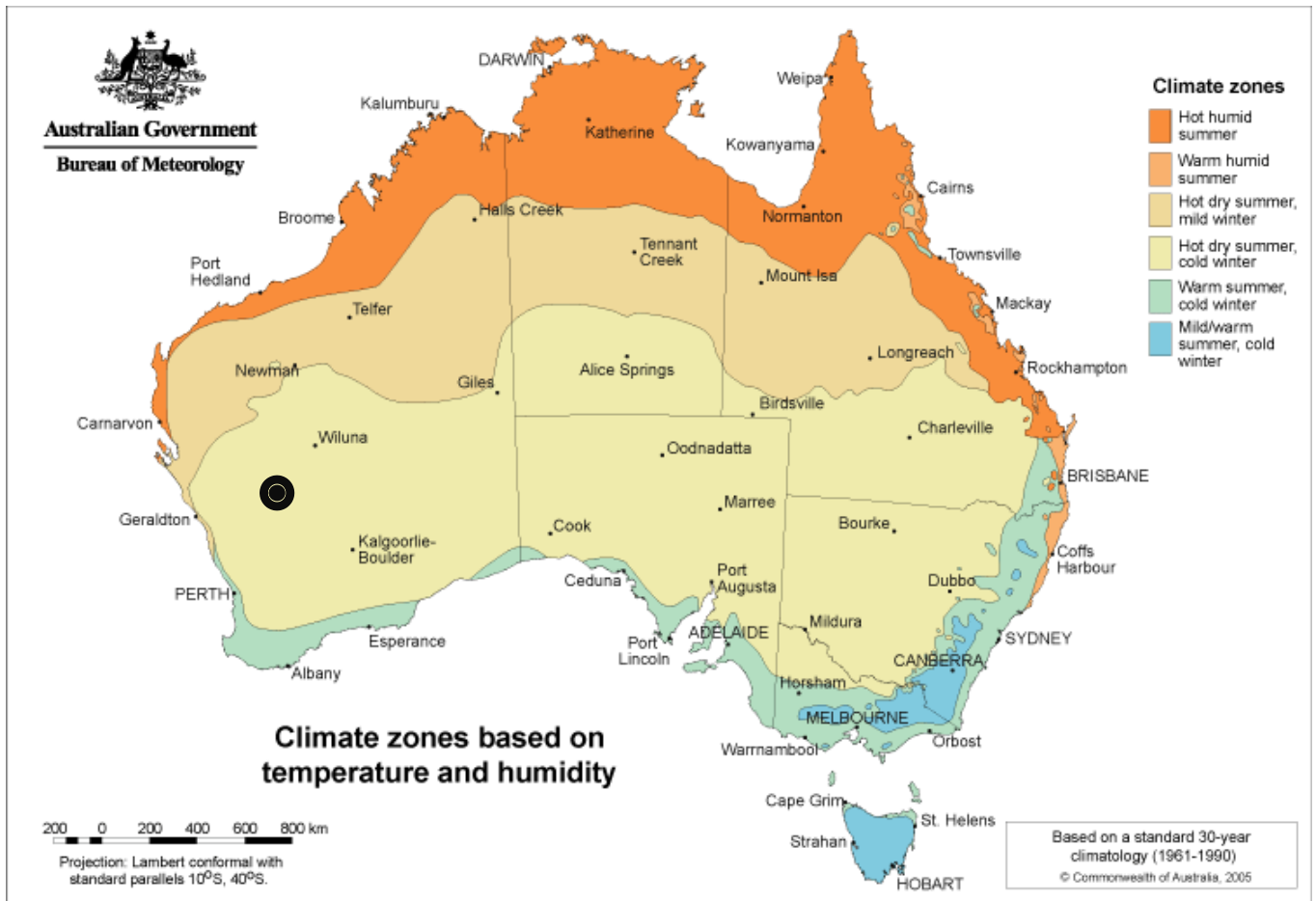
Cue is a small historical town located in the Midwest-Gascoyne Area of Western Australia; it is located approximately 660kms north of WA’s capital city, Perth.

The area is generally classified as semi-arid rangelands. Over 75% of Australia is broadly described as rangelands that extend across low rainfall and variable climates, including arid, semi-arid, and north of the Tropic of Capricorn, some seasonally high rainfall areas. To be more specific Cue is located in the rangelands known as the Mulga Region of Western Australia and consists of low hills and mesas separated by flat colluvium and alluvial plains.

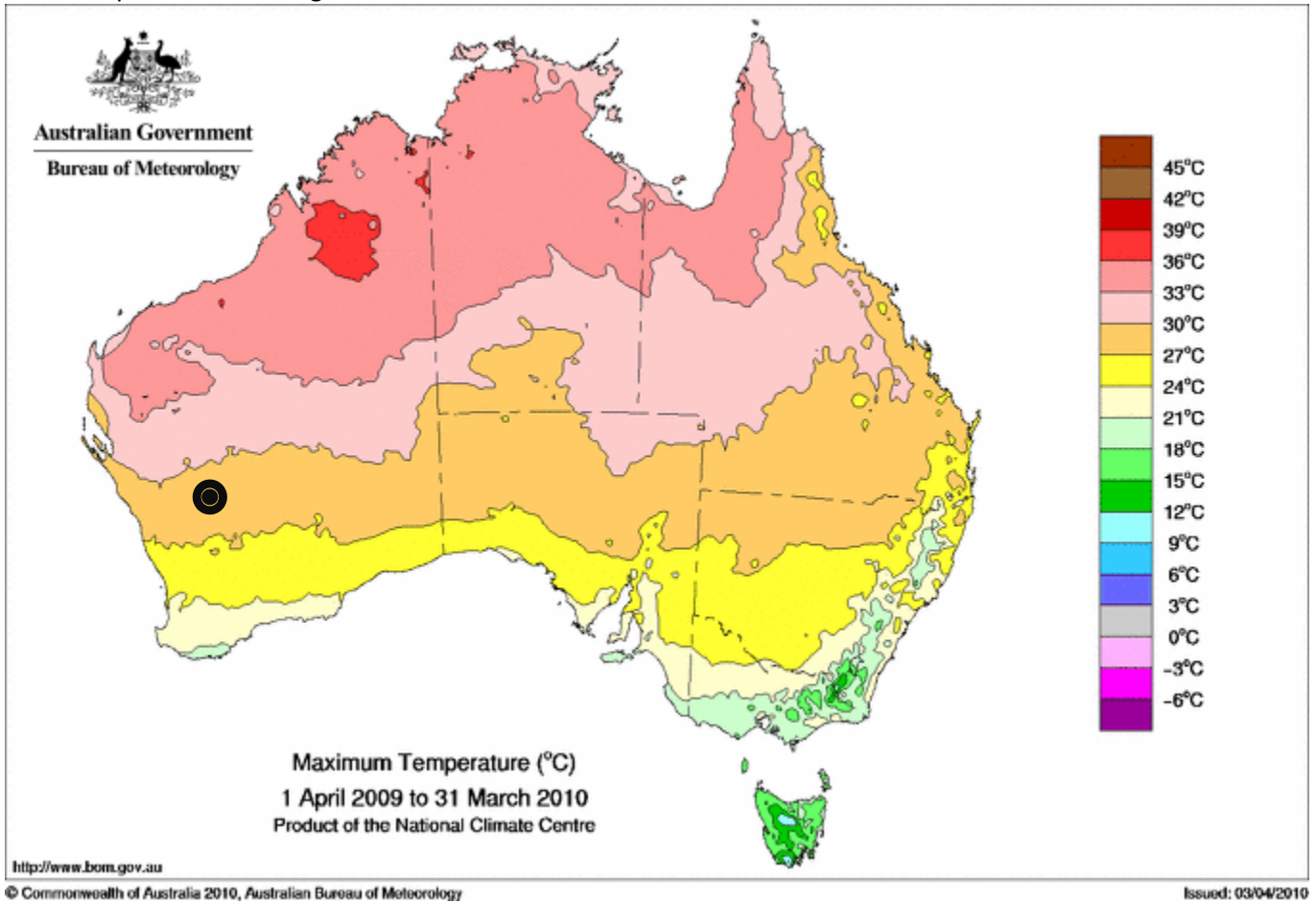
There are some environmental issues within the Shire of Cue. The main cause of land degradation in the region is overgrazing; soil erosion is widespread and is the result of loss of perennial vegetation. Mining activities between 1890s and 1970s have resulted in localised environmental impacts from abandoned pits, waste material and vegetation loss.

The main pest species around Cue are goats, wild dogs (including dingoes), foxes, cats, and rabbits.

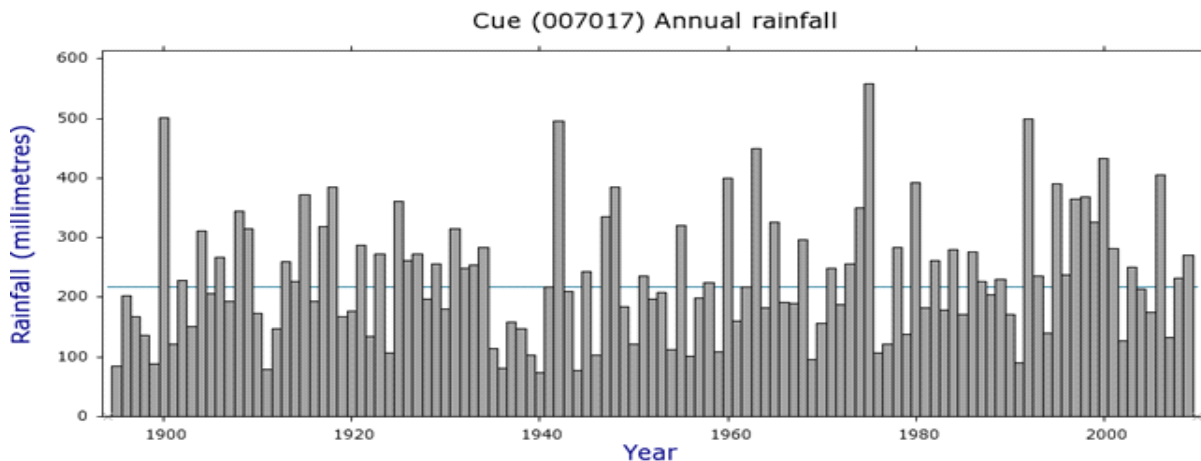
As illustrated in the map below, sourced from the Bureau of Meteorology, Cue has a desert-like climate with hot dry summers and cold winters, Cue is marked on the map by a black target.



In the below map it is shown by a black target that the mean maximum annual temperature for Cue is between 30 and 33 degrees Celsius, however during the summer months the temperature has been recorded to reach as high as the low 50's and in the January month alone the average maximum temperature is 38 degrees Celsius.



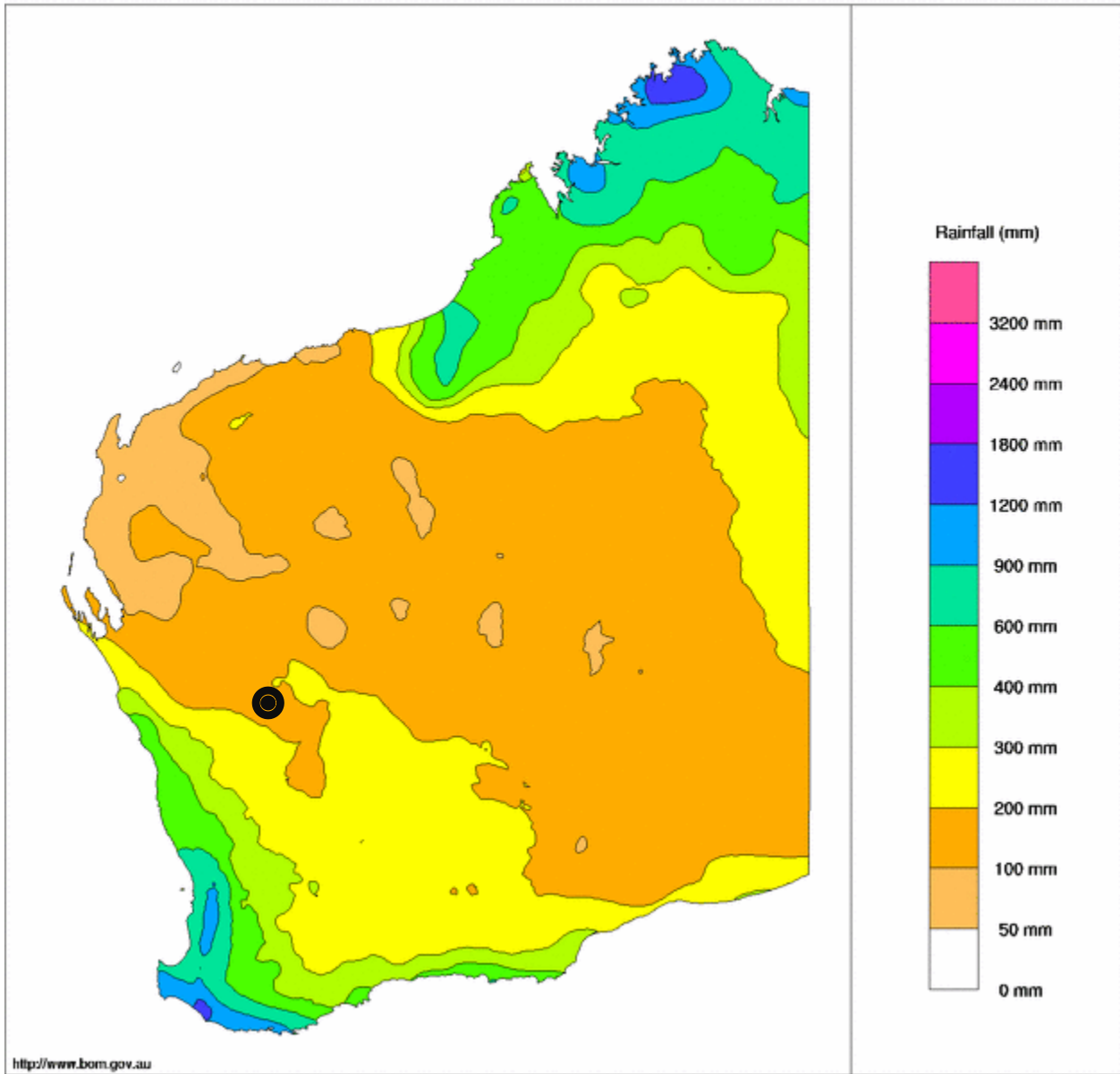
Cue and its surrounds has been a low rainfall area for many years, with some exceptional years. In the Rainfall Graph below it is shown that between the first recordings in 1894 through to today the average rainfall for the year was usually in the low 200 millimetres.



On the following map it is shown that in the past year, from April 2009 to March 2010, there has been little rain. In fact the total amount of rain for the whole of the Murchison Region in the past year has been between 100mm and 300mm. Cue falls into the section of the Murchison in which there was less than 150mm of rain from the period of April 2009 to March 2010; still below past averages.

Western Australian Rainfall Totals (mm) 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010

Product of the National Climate Centre



2. PART TWO – CUE, THE PEOPLE

The Shire of Cue is one of the major population centres within the Murchison and contains a diverse culture of people that live and work harmoniously together. There is but one aim for the residents and that is for the betterment of the community as a whole. The people of Cue value the community's natural heritage and strive to retain its architectural history.

2.1. Population Trends

2006 - Cue

Person Characteristics - (Place of usual Residence)				
Person Characteristics	Cue	% of total persons in Region	Australia	% of total persons in Australia
Total Persons (excluding overseas visitors)	328	-	19,855,288	-
Indigenous Persons (comprises Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander)	110	33.5%	455,031	2.3%

In the 2006 Census (held on 8th August 2006), there were 328 persons usually residing in Cue: Of the total population in Cue 33.5% were Indigenous persons, compared with 2.3% Indigenous persons in Australia. Compared with the last Census (dated 7th August 2001) the total number of persons in Cue has decreased with the number of Indigenous persons increasing slightly, therefore the overall percentage of Indigenous persons has risen 15.5%.

2.2. Age and Sex

2006 - Cue

Person Characteristics - (Place of usual Residence)				
Age	Cue	% of total persons in Region	Australia	% of total persons in Australia
0-4 years	15	4.6%	1,260,405	6.3%
5-14 years	51	15.5%	2,676,807	13.5%
15-24 years	34	10.4%	2,704,276	13.6%
25-54 years	139	42.4%	8,376,751	42.2%
55-64 years	53	16.2%	2,192,675	11.0%
65 years and over	34	10.4%	2,644,374	13.3%
Median Age of Persons	38	-	37	-

In the 2006 Census 20.1% of the population usually resident in Cue were children aged between 0-14 years, and 26.5% were persons aged 55 years and over. The median age of persons in Cue was 38 years,

compared with 37 years for persons in Australia. There has been little or no change in the median age of persons in Cue when comparing the 2001 Census information with the 2006 information.

2006 – Cue

Person Characteristics - (Place of usual Residence)				
Sex	Cue	% of total persons in Region	Australia	% of total persons in Australia
Males	177	54.0%	9,799,252	49.4%
Females	151	46.0%	10,050,036	50.6%

In the 2006 Census (held on 8th August 2006), there were 328 persons usually resident in Cue: 54.0% were males and 46.0% were females. Compare those statistics to the 2001 Census details where there was more than double the amount of males compared to females within the region. It is now found that the sex ratio has become balanced with the percentage of males in Cue in 2006 being only slightly higher than that of females.

2.3. Ethnicity

2006 – Cue

Person Characteristics - (Place of usual Residence)				
Country of Birth Main Responses in Selected Region	Cue	% of total persons in Region	Australia	% of total persons in Australia
Australia	237	72.3%	14,072,944	70.9%
New Zealand	15	4.6%	389,463	2.0%
England	11	3.4%	856,939	4.3%
Philippines	5	1.5%	120,539	0.6%
Latvia	5	1.5%	5,610	0.0%
Laos	4	1.2%	9,372	0.0%

In the 2006 Census, 72.3% of persons usually resident in Cue stated they were born in Australia. Other common responses within Cue were: New Zealand 4.6%, England 3.4%, Philippines 1.5%, Latvia 1.5% and Laos 1.2%. In the 2001 Census, majority of persons stated they were born in Australia and other countries of birth listed were England and New Zealand which were both listed in the 2006 Census. However the other three places of birth listed for 2001 were different to those listed in 2006, those countries being Scotland, Papua New Guinea and Germany.

2.4. Family Structure

2006 – Cue

Family Characteristics				
Family Characteristics	Selected Region	% of total families in Region	Australia	% of total families in Australia
Total Families	69	-	5,219,165	-
Couple Families with Children	27	39.1%	2,362,582	45.3%
Couple Families without Children	39	56.5%	1,943,643	37.2%
One Parent Families	3	4.3%	823,254	15.8%
Other Families	0	0.0%	89,686	1.7%

In the 2006 Census, there were 69 families in Cue: 39.1% were couple families with children, 56.5% were couple families without children and 4.3% were one parent families. The number of couple families with children has decreased, as has the total number of families whilst the number of couple families without children has increased since the 2001 Census.

2.5. Housing

2006 – Cue

Dwelling Characteristics				
Tenure Type – Occupied Private Dwellings	Cue	% of total occupied private dwellings in Region	Australia	% of total occupied private dwellings in Australia
Fully Owned	62	42.5%	2,478,264	32.6%
Being Purchased	15	10.3%	2,448,205	32.2%
Rented (includes rent-free)	47	32.2%	2,063,947	27.2%
Other Tenure Type	0	0.0%	65,715	0.9%
Not Stated	22	15.1%	540,050	7.1%

In Cue, 42.5% of occupied private dwellings were fully owned, 10.3% were being purchased and 32.2% were rented. The above dwelling statistics have changed very little since the 2001 Census was undertaken.

3. PART THREE – CUE INFRASTRUCTURE

3.1. SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

3.1.1. Community Organisations

There are a range of Community groups, organisations and committees run and / or attended by many different members of the Community. Most of these groups or organisations are run by volunteers and each and every group has a positive effect on or within the Community in some way.

Community Groups, Organisations and Committees			
Name	Purpose	General Information	Contact Details
St John Ambulance Western Australia	To provide immediate medical assistance to the Community	This group is fully run by volunteers and is also self – funded, funds are sourced by the volunteers.	Chairperson: Vicki Blackmore PO Box 109 Cue WA 6640 For Emergencies dial 000
Cue Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service	To provide advice on Fire Prevention and Safety as well as responding to fire and accident emergencies	Although the brigade is funded by FESA it is a volunteer organisation and hence is run by volunteers.	Captain: Stephen Manning PO Box 3 Cue WA 6640 For Emergencies dial 000
Bush Fire Brigade	To develop strategies for bush fire prevention as well as responding to bush fire emergencies	There are two Bush Fire Officers on each station within the Shire of Cue. The officers are volunteers and the Brigade is funded by the Shire of Cue.	Chief Bush Fire Officer: Peter Money PO Box 84 Cue WA 6640 For Emergencies dial 000
Catholic Church	To provide spiritual enlightenment to any member of the Community that wishes to attend the Church	Sister Gerri and / or a priest congregate twice a month at the local church.	Contact: Sister Gerri C/- Post Office Mt Magnet WA 6638 Ph: 08 9963 4179
Senior Citizens	To support and unite Senior Citizens within the Shire of Cue	The group is run by volunteers and are currently funded by donations or fundraising.	President: Kerry Seivwright PO Box 14 Cue WA 6640 Ph: 08 9981 5897

3.1.2. Government Services



There are seven Councillors on the Shire of Cue, including the Shire President and the Deputy President both elected by the Council.

The Council is responsible for providing good government for the people of Cue. Council plays a leading role in setting the strategic and policy direction for the shire and is ultimately responsible for all matters relating to the governance of the shire, ensuring the Shire is functioning efficiently and oversees the allocation of finances and resources.

The shires services range from rubbish collection and general town and road maintenance to approving building plans and supporting the community in various other ways as it decides from time to time.

The Shire of Cue handles all administrative functions and has a friendly team of staff who are happy to help in any way that they can. If the staff are not able to help they will always do their best to point people in the right direction.

Website: www.cue.wa.gov.au

Postal Address:

Shire of Cue
PO Box 84
Cue WA 6640
Ph: 08 9963 8600
Fax: 08 9963 1085
Email: shire@cue.wa.gov.au

Residential Address:

Shire of Cue
Lot 2 Austin Street
Cue WA 6640



The Council consists of:

Shire President:	Cr Stephen Manning	08 9963 1175	Cr Warren Harrington	08 99631062
Deputy President:	Cr Michael Clinch	08 9963 1054	Cr Morrie Seivwright	08 9981 5897
Councillors	Cr Clifton Dongara	N/A	Cr Ron Pawson	0448 778 801
	Cr Daniel Pickering	9963 1936		

The Administration Staff consists of:

Chief Executive Officer:	Mr Peter Money	
Works Supervisor:	Mr James Pitman	Mob: 0427 074 201
Finance Officer:	Ms Linda Pitman	
Administration Officer:	Ms Christie-Lee Blackmore	
Customer Services Officer:	Ms Amanda Gibson	

3.1.3. Professional Services

The number of professional services within Cue is minimal as the majority of these services are visiting professionals who come to Cue when called upon. The information for these services can usually be found on one of the community notice boards.

The town of Cue does however, have a Police Station. There are generally a total of four officers that reside in Cue for a set period of time before moving on to other towns or communities. The Police offer the community a range of services from licensing and registration to policing the community and can go far and beyond the call of duty when necessary. With a friendly and eager team help is never far away.

The contact details for the Police Station are as follows:

OIC / Sergeant: Greg Kemp

Postal Address:

Cue Police Station
PO Box 47
Cue WA 6640

Residential Address:

Cue Police Station
Austin Street
Cue WA 6640



For general enquiries phone 08 9963 1050

For Emergencies or Police Assistance dial 000

3.1.4. Education

As a small town the Shire of Cue has only one formal centre for education to offer to the Community, that being the Cue Primary School.

Cue Primary School is situated on a rise overlooking the township of Cue. It is set in picturesque gardens and is a heritage listed site. Cue Primary School has a long, varied and proud history as part of the Queen of the Murchison community. This tradition continues in 2010, as staff members seek to secure a strong future for the school through innovative and engaging strategies.

Cue school has students from Kindy to Year 12. The school has predominately Aboriginal students however there is a diverse mix of public service children, station children and students who have parents from non-English speaking backgrounds. The school has a strong early intervention program and is breaking new ground supporting children in their first years of schooling. Currently, Cue school is working towards an exciting VET program.

Cue Primary School has an inclusive environment and activities are encouraged in order to support social / emotional development as well as academic learning. An emphasis within the school is creating a safe and welcoming atmosphere.

The staff members are from a variety of backgrounds and, they have an array of specialist skills. Cue school prides itself on supporting students and the community to experience a wide range of activities when pursuing academic goals.

Cue Primary School also aims for excellence for everyone. Individual needs are identified and individual contributions valued. There are school wide programs in place to support accelerated outcomes in literacy and numeracy for students facing challenges with their schooling.

The details for Cue Primary School are as follows:

Principle: Mr Martin
 Registrar: Ms Vicki Blackmore



Postal Address:
 Cue Primary School
 PO Box 58
 Cue WA 6640

Residential Address:
 Cue Primary School
 Simpson Street
 Cue WA 6640

Phone: 08 9963 1010
 Fax: 08 9963 1264
 Email: cueps@det.wa.edu.au



3.1.5. Community Health and Welfare Services

Being a small Community the town of Cue does not have a hospital, however there is a nursing post / health centre run by nurses that are based in Cue. The health centre offers a wide range of services from visiting doctors and other health providers such as a podiatrist. The nurses at the health centre are trained to provide a variety of medical services to those in need between visits from the other health providers.

The nearest hospital is located at our neighbouring town of Meekatharra which is located 118kms north of Cue.

Cue Nursing Post / Health Service	
Service Provider	Service Offered / General Information
Midwest Aero Medical	General Practitioner Service – a doctor visits the Community once a fortnight and appointments can be made at the health centre with any member of the staff.
Geraldton Regional Aboriginal Medical Service	The team comes once a month and deal with any major health issues for Indigenous people. The team are also able to assist non-Indigenous people if there are problems and a doctor is not available.
Geraldton Regional Hospital	Dietician service - referral from a GP is required, the dietician visits once every quarter.

Meekatharra Hospital	The Mental Health Team provides services to Cue with a Mental Health Nurse coming once a week and a Psychiatrist visiting once every quarter from Perth.
Meekatharra Hospital	A nurse from the hospital visits the Cue Health Centre once a month and deals with a range of issues from immunizations and pregnancy tests to women's health.
Geraldton Regional Hospital	A podiatrist visits Cue and offers his services to the Community once every two or three months.
Perth	Optometrist – visiting specialist comes to Cue quarterly to service the Community.
Perth	An Ears, Nose and Throat Specialist visits Cue quarterly to offer the services to the Community.
Geraldton Family Advocacy Service	Yamatji Family Violence Prevention Legal Unit supplies a lawyer to Cue and the team help in any way that they can once a month when visiting.
Barbara Jackson Occupational Therapist and Speech Therapist	As an Occupational Therapist and Speech Therapist, Barbara Jackson comes into town from Austin Downs Station once a week to offer her services to the Community; she is also available on call and visits neighbouring towns and communities to offer services there.

All of the above services are available at the Cue Nursing Post / Health Centre where a friendly team are happy to help.

To make an appointment or for any queries that one may have the contact details are as follows:

Postal Address:

Cue Health Centre
PO Box 7
Cue WA 6640

Residential Address:

Cue Health Centre
Victoria Street
Cue WA 6640

Phone: 08 9963 0100

Fax: 08 9963 1210

3.2. PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

3.2.1. Land Use and Tenure

The main land tenure in the region is crown leasehold. Less than 1% of the region comprises conservation reserves. The major land use within the region and more importantly within the Shire of Cue is mining, sheep and cattle grazing.

The town sites of Day Dawn, Big Bell, Tuckanarra, Reedy, Austin, Cuddingwarra, Mainland and Pinnacles are abandoned but retain their status within the Shire.

3.2.2. Residential Development

Over the past year there has been a growth in the need for housing with several developers considering Cue as a place for investment properties. There has also been a rise in the number of requests for land and building applications.

With the current Mining boom in Western Australia and the current mining activities within and surrounding the Shire of Cue there has been a rise in population and therefore there is a need for further housing.

3.2.3. Reserves

At this point in time there are 210 reserves within the Shire of Cue. Of those reserves there are 38 listed for the purposes of water; 29 for the purpose of public utility; 8 listed for the purpose of church; 7 listed for the purpose of common; 6 for the purpose of cemetery; and 5 as Aboriginal Sites.

The Reserve List is available for viewing at the shire during office hours.

3.2.4. Community Buildings

The Shire of Cue community buildings reflect the valued historic culture of the town in that most community resources are housed in historic buildings. The Post Office and Police Station are located in the Government Buildings situated at the north end of Austin Street.

The Shire of Cue is located in the former Gentleman's Club diagonally opposite the Post Office. The town hall was officially opened in 1957 and is located in Dowley Street adjoining the children's playground. The Cue Resource Centre is also located in Dowley Street, a few lots south of the former Masonic Lodge.

3.2.5. Electricity and Gas

Cue has its own power station which is owned and operated by Horizon Power.

Reticulated gas is not available – gas for specific appliances is purchased from Murchison traders as agents for Kleenheat Gas.

The details for Murchison Traders are as follows:

Murchison Traders
Contact: Warren & Anne Harrington
Austin Street
Cue WA 6640

Ph: 08 9963 1062
Fax: 08 9963 1233
Email: mtraders@westnet.com.au

3.2.6. Transport

Cue has an airfield but this is mainly used by the Royal Flying Doctors Service, visiting doctors and mining companies using light aircraft and is not available to the public at this time. The main form of transport within the Shire of Cue is the use of private vehicles.

There are also two bus companies that service the town on a weekly basis, with the agents for each company based here in Cue the service is easily accessible.

The details for the agents of both bus companies are as follows:



Company: Transwa
 For bookings online: www.transwa.wa.gov.au
 Agent: Bell & Co
 Austin Street
 Cue WA 6640
 Ph: 08 9963 1012
 Fax: 08 9963 1370

Company: Integrity Coach Lines
 Agent: Cue Post Office
 Austin Street
 Cue WA 6640
 Ph / Fax: 08 9963 1031

3.2.7. CAMPING AND PARKING AREAS

For a small town the Shire of Cue has ample street parking along the main street, Austin Street.

There is parking available along Robinson Street, where a truck rest area is also located.

The Shire of Cue Tourist Park is the only area where camping is currently available within the Shire of Cue. A parking or rest area is also located at the Tourist Park.

With an upgrade pending the Cue Tourist Park is set to change, with further powered and non-powered sites available.

For any enquires the Cue Tourist Park details are listed below.

Cue Tourist Park Ph / Fax: 08 9963 1107

Postal Address:
 C/- Shire of Cue
 PO Box 84
 Cue WA 6640

Residential Address:
 Cue Tourist Park
 Austin Street
 Cue WA 6640

3.2.8. COMMUNICATIONS

Land Line Telephones

The Town of Cue is serviced by a Telstra fibre optic cable from Perth. This allows for high speed internet connection and a normal telephone service. Most Pastoral Stations and some mine sites are serviced by radio phone services and as a result there can be voice delay problems.

Mobile Telephones

The Town of Cue is currently serviced by the Telstra Next G service. This service was launched in January 2008 and replaced the CDMA service. Coverage is mainly restricted to an area close to town and areas of surrounding high ground although with some handsets it is possible.

Satellite Telephones

There have been no reported 'dead zones' within the Shire of Cue.

CB Radio Communication

CB radios play an important role in communication within the Shire.

The following is a list of current users:

CB1	Mitchell road trains (Jack Hills Mine to Cuddingwarra only)
CB6	Repeater – Shire of Cue (also reserved emergency channel)
CB15	Most Pastoral Stations
CB20	Some Pastoral Stations
CB39	Alternative truck channel
CB40	Road train / heavy haulage / truck channel

3.2.9. ROADS

The Great Northern Highway runs North / South through the Shire of Cue. It is a modern highway and is well maintained. Road users should be aware of road trains and over width loads.

The Cue / Jack Hills Mine road runs North / West from Cue. Whilst it is sealed it is not of the same standard as the highway. Road users should be aware of road trains to and from the mine site.

The majority of roads within the Shire of Cue are of a gravel construction. Whilst the Shire of Cue maintains them in good condition rain and storms can alter the road surface and thus driving conditions. Care should always be taken when driving on an unsealed road.

The Shire has control over these roads and has the authority to close them in times of danger (floods or bushfire, traffic accidents). Travelling on a closed road without a permit from the Shire is not only hazardous and dangerous but may also result in prosecution.

3.3. ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT

3.3.1. Mining

The mining industry was quickly established during the gold rush of the 1890's here in Cue. The first registered mine in the region was Cue One, with Light of Asia, Golden Stream, Hidden Treasure and a number of other small mines soon to follow. The largest operations of the time were Great Fingall being established in 1898 and Big Bell opened officially in 1913.



Cue's mining history is full of bust and boom and an example of this is the Great Fingall which shut down operations in 1918 as it was just not profitable to continue mining with the infrastructure of the day being unable to cope with the depth of the pit. Over time different methods and new technology have seen mines and pits re-mined and new operations established within the area and the industry continues to grow.

Current activities have seen Cue thriving of late, with Crosslands Resources working a high grade iron ore mine at Jack Hills. Although this mine is not within the Shire of Cue, the transport route from the mine to Geraldton travels through the Shire as seen on the map below.

The Jack Hills Project was previously explored in the 1970's which identified the potential for a number of deposits of high grade hematite ore. Previous explorers at Jack Hills estimated potential mineralization of 380million tonnes at 62% Fe.

The project was not previously developed due to prevailing low iron ore prices and the ready availability of iron ore from the Pilbara.

Although the Jack Hills mine is not located within the Shire of Cue a large amount of the haulage occurs within the Shire. This has led to Crosslands Resources helping maintain roads within the Shire. The company has also based a camp within the town for its contracted road train drivers, all leading to an economic boost for Cue.

Sinosteel also have another iron ore holding at Weld Range which is located within the Shire, there are current mining activities at the site and a camp is also based at Weld Range.



2009 / 2010 has seen a significant rise in mining interests in the shire, Silverlake Resources and Aragon Resources have both begun drilling programs with positive results. The current price of gold makes both companies holdings at Tuckabianna and Big Bell / Cuddingwarra respectively, viable for mining once again.

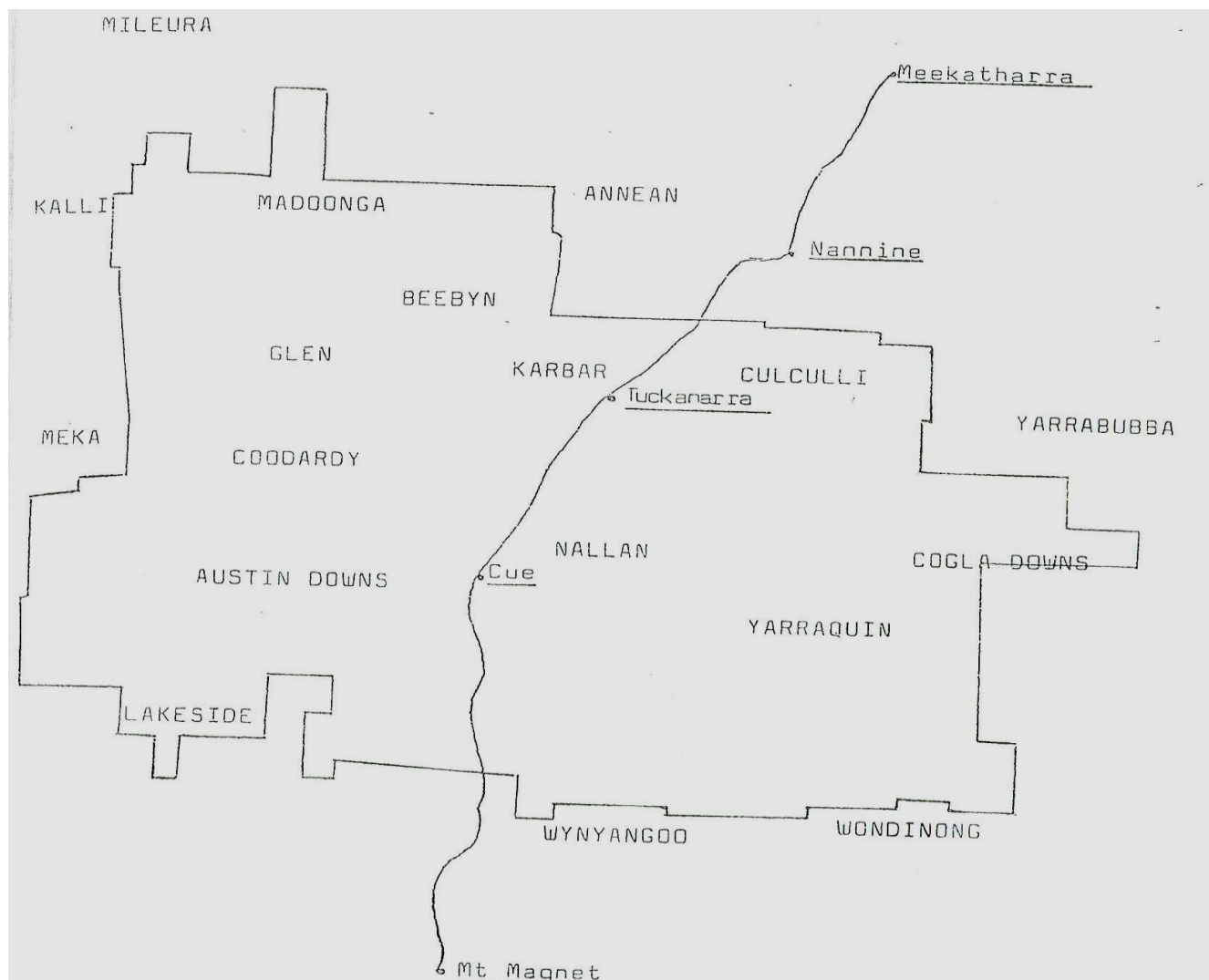
There are a number of smaller holdings and leases within the Shire of Cue that have seen activities rise over the past few years and applications for exploration leases have risen with Cue looking set to head towards another boom.



3.3.2. Pastoral

The pastoral industry developed over time, predating the establishment of Cue as a Shire. There are several pastoral stations within and crossing boundaries with the Shire.

The below map shows the majority of stations near or within the Shire of Cue, there are some stations not shown that have a small amount of their land within the Shire of Cue.



The two main livestock activities in the Murchison region including the Shire of Cue are cattle and sheep. In recent years the type of breeds on stations within the region are beginning to change. A recent run of dry seasons in the Gascoyne and Murchison have forced many businesses to de-stock.

However, the slight increase in numbers of recent times is most likely attributable to increases in heavier meat breeds of sheep such as the Damara. There has been a gradual decline since the mid 1990s of the national sheep flock due to pastoralists reacting to downward movements of wool price and

diversifying into cattle. There were two types of cattle found in the rangelands, British breeds (*Bos taurus*) such as Herefords and shorthorns predominate. However, there are increasing numbers of Brahman type cattle (*Bos indicus*). Historically in the region most cattle were shorthorns but Brahman type cattle are tolerant to heat, tropical pastures and ticks. These *Bos indicus* type cattle form the main type of feeder cattle exported live to various markets in Asia and the Middle East.

Western Australia has an estimated 700,000 goats within the Gascoyne, Murchison and Goldfields areas. Goat meat exports earn about \$12 million revenue for Western Australia, with record volumes achieved in past years. Most goats are unmanaged and pastoralists earn reasonable incomes by opportunistic harvesting operations throughout the year.

With rainfall in recent times far below the yearly average being just one of the problems, station owners have learnt to diversify and adapt quickly to the changing environment in order to survive. Land degradation is a major problem within the region and erosion from years of overgrazing in past times evident on several stations. The pastoral industry relies on the sustainable grazing of native shrubs and grasses. The growth and health of these plants in pastoral areas relies on the rainfall and also careful grazing of them. Without healthy vegetation cover, the fragile soils of the rangelands are exposed to severe climatic extremes and degradation.

These days the future is looking brighter with station owners working side by side with several government bodies including the Department of Agriculture and the Pastoral Lands Board for the sustainable management of pastoral lands.

3.3.3. Other

At its peak Cue was a town booming with businesses such as a blacksmith, a cart store, general store, bicycle store and a bank. These enterprises, like the town, relied on the gold industry for their existence.

As the gold industry declined and mechanisation became necessary the population dwindled to its current figure of 360 and gradually businesses closed. Currently Cue is reasonably well served by business and generally local businesses act as service agents for larger centralised organisations where there is some market demand.

Cue Businesses			
Company Name	Company Details	Agents For	General Information
Cue Roadhouse	Shell Roadhouse Austin Street Cue WA 6640 Ph: 08 9963 1218 Fax: 08 9963 1230	<i>Courier Australia</i>	Owned and operated by Jeff and Mary Radovanovic the Roadhouse offers Shell and other card services. Hot or cold meals, takeaways, salads, drinks, ice-creams and ice.
Ray Turner	Ray Turner Ph: 08 9963 1215 Fax: 08 9963 1515	<i>McMahon Burnett</i>	

Queen of the Murchison	Queen of the Murchison Bed and Breakfast Austin Street Cue WA 6640 Ph: 08 9963 1625 Fax: 08 9963 1206	Not Applicable	The Queen of the Murchison offers bed & breakfast accommodation Chas and Carla Nillson own and operate the business.
Murchison Club Hotel	Murchison Club Hotel Austin Street Cue WA 6640 Ph: 08 9963 1020 Fax: 08 9963 1277	TAB	Murchison Club Hotel offers hotel and separate motel accommodation together with meals each night. The hotel is also the local pub and TAB agent. The hotel owners are Pam Sealey and Kevin Johnson.
Cue Tourist Park	Cue Tourist Park Austin Street Cue WA 6640 Ph / Fax: 08 9963 1107	Not Applicable	The Tourist Park is owned by the Shire of Cue and has powered and non-powered sites available, as well as tent sites. There are overnight accommodation huts available for a small fee together with ablution and laundry facilities available.
Nallan Station Stay	Nallan Station Stay Great Northern Hwy Cue WA 6640 Ph / Fax: 08 9963 1054	Not Applicable	Michael & Sandy Clinch own and operate the station and the station stay. With a cottage, shearers quarters and powered or non-powered sites you cannot go wrong with this outback experience. Michael & Sandy are always happy to help in any way that they can. Warmly welcoming you to experience the station, taking with you many happy memories.
Cue Resource Centre	Cue Resource Centre Austin Street Cue WA 6640 Ph: 08 9963 1198 Fax: 08 9963 1197	Centrelink	Cue Resource Centre offers the following services: photocopying, computer services, fax / phone services, internet access, secretarial services, laminating, laptop hire, room hire, video conferencing, webcam and photo printing.
Cue Post Office	Cue Post Office Austin Street Cue WA 6640 Ph / Fax: 08 9963 1031	Most banks including Commonwealth Bank Transwa Licensing Services Insurance Services	The Cue Post Office is run by the friendly Neil and Maggie Lawton. Australia Post offers many services and Neil and Maggie only to happy to accommodate any requests if possible.
Ernie Campbell	Ernie Campbell Ph: 08 9963 1384 Fax: 08 9963 1168 Mob: 0427 979 942 Email: erniec@westnet.com.au	Not Applicable	Ernie Campbell offers Bob-cat, excavator hire and shut-down work. If you have a job to do call Ernie for help.

<p>Bell & Co.</p>	<p>Bell & Co. Austin Street Cue WA 6640 Ph: 08 9963 1012 Fax: 08 9963 1370</p>	<p><i>Toll Ipec Integrity Coach Lines Mitchell & Brown Rick Hart Retravision Rapid Plastics Chemist Prescriptions</i></p>	<p>Bell & Co. is owned and operated by Ross and Pixie Pigdon. The store is a liquor and general store, hardware is also available. Pixie is the town's Avon agent.</p>
<p>Murchison Traders</p>	<p>Murchison Traders Austin Street Cue WA 6640 Ph: 08 9963 1062 Fax: 08 9963 1233 Email: mtraders@westnet.com.au</p>	<p><i>Neverfail Water Nexus Transport Kleenheat Gas T.N.T Transport Murchison Mail & Freight</i></p>	<p>Murchison Traders is owned and operated by Warren and Anne Harrington. There is always friendly service from the Harrington's and their staff. It is the general store offering groceries and general merchandise. It is also the newsagency and lotto agency. Warren can also offer his JP Services when required.</p>
<p>Golden Art Shop</p>	<p>Golden Art Shop Austin Street Cue WA 6640 Ph / Fax: 08 9963 1936 Email: angartica@bigpond.com</p>	<p><i>Shire of Cue – Tourist Agent</i></p>	<p>The shop is owned and operated by Angela and Dan Pickering. It is not only local arts & crafts that the store has to offer, but there is also a wealth of local knowledge. The Shire of Cue has endorsed the Golden Art Shop as the agent for the Tourist Centre where brochures and other information are available.</p>