

## Matthew & Donna to retire

Both parties will have new candidates representing the eastern suburbs and hills at the next state election, as Kalamunda MLA Matthew Hughes and East Metro MLC Donna Faragher both say they're not running. **PG 5**

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# ECHO In Memoriam

## A tribute to Barry Rhodes – an end of an era

ROGER UNDERWOOD

**THE recent death of 83 year-old Barry Rhodes at his home in Mundaring has brought an end to an era in Western Australian forestry.**

Barry spent his entire working life at Mundaring Weir, working for the Forests Department and then the Conservation and Land Management Department. He was the son of Watty Rhodes (a former woodcutter for the pumps, later the famous and long-serving forestry storeman), and Jessie Rhodes (for more than 40 years the matriarch of the forestry settlement at the Weir).

Barry went to school in the one-teacher school for forestry and PWD kids at Mundaring Weir, left at age 14 and got his first job with the Forests Department as a stable boy. He then did an apprenticeship at the forestry workshops, but did not go on to become a mechanic, as he wanted to work in the bush.

He joined one of the forestry gangs, and then moved to a pine logging crew driving a jib crane. When the daywork pine gangs were replaced by pieceworkers, Barry was one of the first to switch to the new job, and he was a master of the trade. He knew the plantations, the pines, and the log specifications, he could fall trees, and snig, cut and load logs, he could operate a chainsaw, a log truck and a jib crane, and fix them when they needed fixing. It wasn't long before he was single-handedly doing the work of a whole gang.

At the same time, like all the pine logging pieceworkers, Barry was part of the department's fire control system, and was one of the best heavy duty fire truck drivers in the business. He was a firefighter at the time of the 1961 fires, WA's worst-ever bushfire summer. People still talk about the Dwellingup fire, but forget the massive fires out in the Dale and the Canning and later at Gidgegannup in the same summer.

Those were the days when a forestry gang went to a fire, slept under the truck in the bush, ate tinned food, and did not come home for four days. When they did come home they were immediately sent to another fire.

Barry and his wife Betty lived in one of the forestry houses in the settlement at Portagabra for more than 30 years and in all that time he did his weekend standby and night-time call-outs with the rest of them, every summer.

When old Watty retired, Barry applied for and was appointed the department's district storeman, a job he could do with one hand tied behind his back, as he knew the whole business frontwards, backwards and sideways. Under his management the district store was always immaculate, everything exactly in the right place, and every piece of equipment or material clean and dusted. Barry's mother Jessie



Above: Barry standing outside his much loved Mundaring garden.



Left: A young Barry in his Mundaring Rovers Football Club blazer.

had been famous for not allowing anyone into her house, not even the Minister for Forests or the

conservator, unless they took their shoes off – almost the same rule applied in Barry's store.

Barry was a great sportsman, first as a player, later as a fan, and he especially loved cricket and for years he opened both the batting and the bowling for the Forestry team in the Eastern Hills competition. He was a nervous starter, but once he got going he was a tornado at the crease – he was a typically lean bushman, a slight figure with a mop of blond hair, but he had enormous wiry strength. I didn't see him playing football, but I heard he was a fierce little rover, one of those bush footballers who love a stoush as much as a win. In later years he put a huge amount of time into the district's juniors, coaching under-age cricket and football.

Both of Barry's boys, Wayne and Alan, followed him into 'the forestry' as it was once known and became valued members of the departmental family. Through Wayne and Alan, Barry retained a day-to-day interest in the goings-on out at the Weir, and if ever I wanted an update on a bushfire in the area, I only had to ring him. He had hacked the departmental VHF radio network, and would listen to transmissions

cont. page 12.



Above: Barry and Betty Rhodes who were married 64 years.



Left: Barry Rhodes driving a Chevrolet Jib used by the Forestry Department after World War II for logging.

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# Review of JDAP decision sought in Supreme Court

## EXCLUSIVE

ANITA McINNES

A NEW association formed by businesses and residents has applied to the Supreme Court of WA for a judicial review of the decision to approve redevelopment of the old Guildford vaudeville theatre.

Friends of Guildford Historical Precinct was formed after about 60 people attended a meeting at the Midland town hall, including attendees who had made submissions opposing the development application for Lot 2 & 67 (No.163) and Lot 18 (No.159) James Street.

The meeting was attended by newly elected Mayor Tanya Richardson along with Midland Guildford ward councillor Ian Johnson and Swan Valley Gidgegannup councillor Rod Henderson.

Lodged on November 3 last year the application said the grounds for the review included that in granting approval the Metro Outer joint development assessment panel (JDAP) erred by failing to require any onsite parking to be provided, contrary to the requirement of regulations, and failed to consider the adequacy of parking required by regulation.

Also the application said the JDAP erred by failing to consider that the applicant made reasonable effort to comply with minimum on-site parking and also failed to require payment in lieu of parking or shared parking both required by regulation.

Another ground for the application said that the JDAP erred in the exercise of any discretion and failed to have regarded submissions made as required by the City of Swan town planning scheme.

The first respondent named in the application for judicial review is the JDAP presiding member, with Hawthorn Brewing Company the first other respondent party and Castle Towers and Fanucci the second other respondent party.

When JDAP considered the proposal on September 26 last year it included comments from the city's design review panel and State Heritage.

"The proposed design is an exemplary outcome that breathes new life into a heritage building in a restrained and sensitive manner and will help to activate Guildford's historic main street," the city's design review panel said.

"The proposed development will have an overall positive impact on the registered places and on the James Street streetscape," State Heritage said.

But at the JDAP meeting Barbara Dundas from the Guildford Association raised community concerns about the linking of the development application to the Guildford Hotel, with particular reference to parking issues in the area and that resident concerns had largely been ignored in the responsible authority report (RAR) prepared by the city.

In relation to traffic, parking and access the RAR concluded city staff were prepared to consider the appli-



Friends of Guildford Historical Precinct is seeking a review of a JDAP decision on the proposed redevelopment of the old Guildford theatre. Picture: Anita McInnes

cation, which encompassed both the existing hotel and the former vaudeville theatre on the basis it entailed no increase in traffic generation or parking demand subject to imposition of a condition on the planning approval that limited the total number of patrons within both premises at any one time to no more than 729 persons.

A transport impact statement prepared for Urbis said to encourage

other modes of transport and the proponent had previously partnered with rideshare providers to offer discounts to their patrons for adopting rideshare as their means of transport to the venue.

"The parking survey has shown that there is sufficient available off-site parking spaces to accommodate the proposed redevelopment," the statement said.

"The location of the site has also

made it viable for employees and patrons to be encouraged to use alternative modes of transport, such as public transport, walking and cycling.

"The site is currently located within walking distance of the train station and a bus stop located rear of the site.

"The site is also in the vicinity of an excellent pedestrian and cyclist network."

## Update on 'Safer Midland' initiative

PETER W LEWIS

MIDLAND Police officer-in-charge senior sergeant Mark Marriot has invited business and community members to attend a public meeting for an update on the 'Safer Midland' initiative on Wednesday, February 14 commencing at 9am at the Crooked Spire Coffee and Arthouse.

Sgt Marriot will talk about the initiative's progress, focussed on Midland's CBD, and how data is helping the fight against crime.

The initiative was launched last year and as last reported ('Safer Midland; initiative helps fight against crime, Echo News 22/9/2023) more than 100 businesses had already signed up to a WhatsApp group in the fight against crime in the Midland CBD by collating live data on a daily basis which is available to police and security, along with providing vital evidence for criminal prosecution.

The initiative has grown from its initial beginnings at Centrepoint Shopping Centre to stem retail theft to now cover the entire Midland CBD with support from businesses and professionals working in the area.

Coordinated by the Swan Chamber of Com-

merce, chief executive officer Tom Smilovitis said it was an opportunity to connect with WAPOL and neighbouring business owners and professionals.

Recent operations have focussed on anti-social behaviour and retail offences to stem these types of crimes, with police reaching out to retailers for their take on crime, and conducting walk-throughs in the CBD.

Mr Smilovitis said local high school students had also been involved, and the message was clear "if you see something report it and let the police do the policing."

He said over the last couple of years Midland cont. page 12.



## Swan vape seller restrictions on the cards

GERA KAZAKOV

FOLLOWING in the footsteps of the City of Bayswater, the City of Swan is looking to amend its local planning scheme to re-classify businesses which sell vapes as a 'restricted premises.'

City of Swan Mayor Tanya Richardson said the city's current Local Planning Scheme does not differentiate businesses selling vapes, tobacco or other smoking related implements, but it is working towards a new planning scheme which could change this.

"Under the new local planning scheme, any business selling smoking implements would be classified as a 'restricted premises', limited to commercial areas and subject to council approval after public advertising," she said.

Updating planning schemes to restrict stores from selling vapes, tobacco or other smoking related paraphernalia within certain parts of the council is not a new phenomenon, with the City of Bayswater updating its town planning policy to restrict the sellers in 2023.

The move comes after a study by the University of Notre Dame Australia, which was commissioned by the Cancer Council WA, found that almost 90

per cent of e-cigarette or vape stores within the state were within 1km of a school – with the study identifying that lower socio-economic areas were more likely to house the stores.

The study discounted convenience stores and supermarkets which sold vapes, and instead focused on brick-and-mortar stores selling vapes as a main source of business, alongside smoke shops and tobaccoists.

Of the 194 stores the study identified, 88 per cent were located within a short walk to either a primary or high school.

Mandurah topped the study's list, with seven operating in the suburb.

Midland was tied second with Cannington, Perth, and Rockingham, with the study identifying six shops within the suburbs.

Notre Dame research fellow Dr Matthew Tuson, the study's lead author, said there is a lot of concern amongst the community, particularly by parents and teachers, about the current youth vaping epidemic.

"We know from overseas studies that the tobacco industry often sets up shop in disadvantaged areas where they can prey on vulnerable populations, and cont. page 12.

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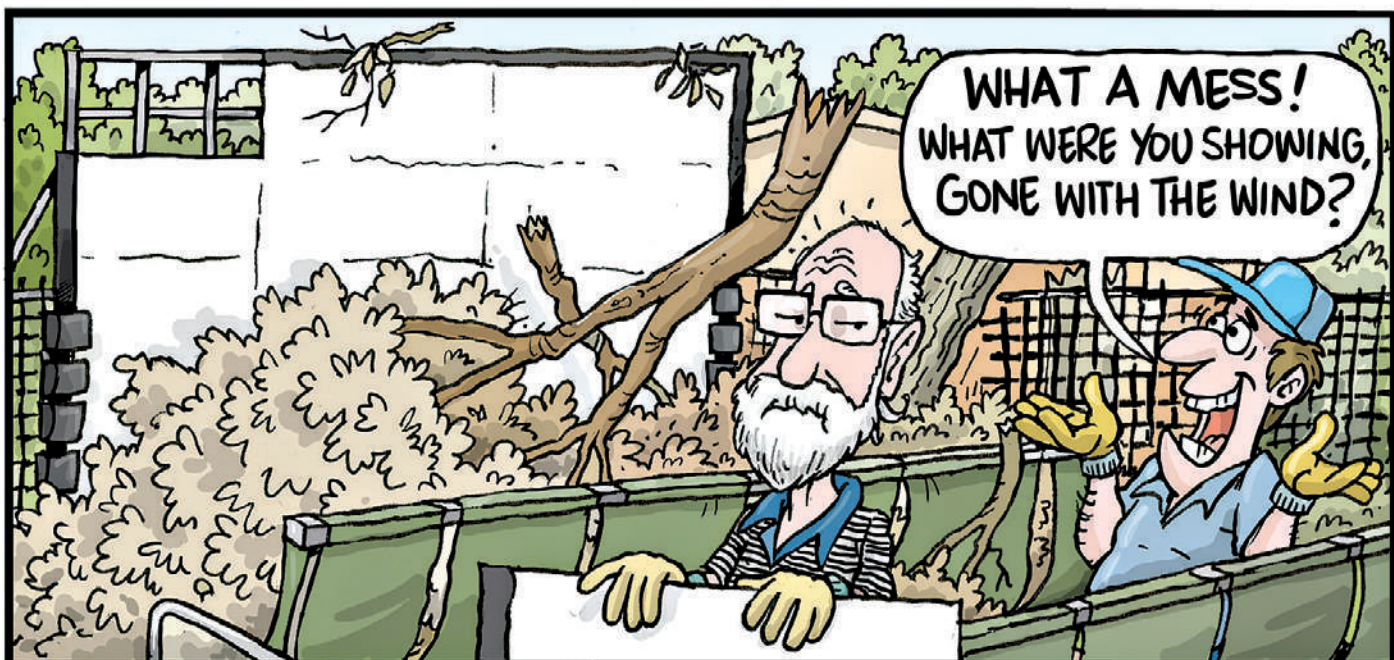


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PETER FOYSTER OWNER OF THE KOOKABURRA OUTDOOR CINEMA, WHICH WAS DAMAGED DURING THE JANUARY 16TH STORM, HAS CALLED OUT TO THE COMMUNITY FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP CLEAN UP AND FIX THE VENUE.

**ECHO**

## YOUR THOUGHTS

Have your say:  
[editorial@echo-news.com](mailto:editorial@echo-news.com)

### Oak tree grief questioned

Dear Echo News,

I write in response to your article *Heritage listed oak tree destroyed* (Echo News, January 26).

While it's sad from a European historical perspective that such a well-known English oak tree has gone, the tree was an exotic, a weed, ecologically sterile and virtually useless except to meet the needs of those Europeans desperate to cling onto one aspect of their local history.

This English oak tree was 154-years-old.

If age is a measure of importance, as the article implies, why is it that so few of our native gum trees (Jarrah, Marri, Wandoo, Yarrri, Moiti) are heritage listed when so many are two, three, and four centuries old?

Even when deemed important and named as habitat trees – because a single water-wise one of these green infrastructural assets can house dozens of birds, mammals, reptiles, tens of thousands of invertebrates, and breathe and offer free air-conditioning for countless humans – why are such trees not given full protection against greed and senselessness?

Why isn't there a community outburst each time one is felled to make way for progress, or to improve community safety?

The oak was 'taken' under natural circumstances.

By contrast, humans have deliberately cut down dozens of ancient gums in the last few years alone.

The iconic Marri fronting Lake Leschenaultia's main beach, felled in early 2023 when aged about 230, is but one example.

I missed the funeral notice for that one.

I urge our community to better triage their grief when it comes to the local environment. Put on some different goggles that help you see the forest and the trees.

**S Cherriman**  
**Mt Helena**

### World's Greatest Shave back

Dear Echo News,

The World's Greatest Shave is arguably Australia's favourite fundraising campaign spanning 26 years – with more than two million Australians taking part by shaving, cutting, and colouring their hair, to raise vital funds

for the Leukaemia Foundation and people living with blood cancer in Australia.

The World's Greatest Shave, however, wasn't immune to the devastating impact of Covid, which created the most formidable challenge the campaign has faced in its 26-year history.

With the event being the single biggest source of income for the Leukaemia Foundation, the organisation took a significant hit and saw fundraising figures drop dramatically.

The World's Greatest Shave had to pivot, and this year we farewell the beloved chins as we launch a new era of the campaign, with a vibrant, bold, contemporary, and more personal approach – to support the growing number of Australians impacted by blood cancer.

The new-look fundraiser celebrates the everyday heroes in our community doing 'bloody beautiful' acts of shaving, cutting, colouring, or donating.

There has never been a more important time for the World's Greatest Shave to be back in force, with more Australians diagnosed with blood cancer now than ever before – underscoring the urgent need for increased support, additional resources, and more funds.

### Thought for the day

"If the only tool you have is a hammer, you tend to see every problem as a nail."

- Abraham Maslow

More than 140,000 Australians are currently living with blood cancer.

Incidence of blood cancer has soared by 47 per cent in the past decade, making it a significant public health issue in Australia.

Funds raised ensure that the Leukaemia Foundation can continue to provide vital support to blood cancer patients and their loved ones, and fund ground-breaking research, in the hopes of one day finding a cure.

We urge the Australian community to sign up to shave, cut, or colour their hair for World's Greatest Shave by visiting [worldsgreatestshave.com](http://worldsgreatestshave.com)

**C Tanti**  
**Leukaemia Foundation**

### Goodbye Woodside

Dear Echo News,

A recent email to stakeholders advised that Woodside will no longer be progressing the proposed carbon to ethanol pilot plant at the Red Hill Waste Management Facility.

Thanks to everyone who helped to discourage this project,

especially *Echo News* for covering the story when no one else cared!

This would have been a disaster for the Perth Hills communities and the East Metropolitan Regional Council's credibility, despite the chief executive officer's willingness to invite such a project.

Turning landfill gas into dirty diesel fuel is no great leap forward in addressing climate change or waste.

The Australian Institute are correct to claim that carbon capture and storage (CCS) is a scam!

We need to stop burning fossil fuels instead of greenwashing this industry's business as usual agenda.

Now to get Woodside out of WA's northwest whale nursery.

**J Bremmer**  
**Bassendean**

*The Echo reserves the right to edit letters for length, legal reasons or clarity. The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Echo. All letters must contain the author's full name, address and phone number for verification purposes.*



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# East Metropolitan champion to hang up her boots



East Metropolitan MLC Donna Faragher tells Echo News one of her proudest moments was advocating for a new Governor Stirling SHS when in Opposition.

## ANITA McINNES

**AN East Metropolitan MLC who has always advocated for the area – she was born at Swan District Hospital – is set to step away from politics in May 2025.**

On a local Donna Faragher counts working successfully with the school community to put the pressure on for a rebuild of Governor Stirling Senior High School as one of her proudest achievements.

She was approached during her first term of Opposition by parents who went to her as a new member.

They told her the school was just not good enough for the students and teachers to learn in.

“I agreed and so with them I worked closely by advocating for them both inside parliament and outside of it until such time as a decision was made for that school to be rebuilt,” she said.

“I’m enormously proud to have played a part in what is now a magnificent school in the heart of our electorate.”

She is also proud to have supported the Woodlupine Family Centre in For-

restfield when they thought that they would close.

“Obviously as a minister you get to do broader issues, you are able to put forward policies and ensure they are implemented.”

When she was younger her plan was to become a teacher and a school psychologist but after working for former WA senator and federal minister Chris Ellison while studying for her masters of education an opportunity arose to put her name forward for preselection.

She was selected when she was 28-years-old and then became a member of Parliament at the age of 29 and was instrumental in establishing the office of Environmental Protection Agency.

“I’ve had the opportunity both to be a local member for a significant period of time, been a minister in government twice, an Environment and Youth minister then Planning and Disability Services minister.

It was a big challenge coming in as Environment minister and Youth in the first term of the Barnett government.

“I had just turned 33 – the youngest female minister in the state’s history and they were really important portfolios.

“The Environment can be a really contentious portfolio but I loved that portfolio – there’s different parts to it – there’s your conservation side and then you’ve got your regulatory environmental approval side and as I say it can be contentious.

“But I relished that and to this day some of the most important areas that I’ve made a contribution in in those couple of years as Environment minister.”

She cited her advocacy for Governor Stirling SHS as an example of her

belief that you can also do really good things in Opposition as well.

“You don’t just need to be a minister or in government to do good and in that first term that I was Disability Services I put forward a very comprehensive policy that was ultimately delivered by our government and I’m enormously proud of that policy I delivered.

“It was a real honour for me in our final term of government to be appointed Disability Services minister and it is an area that I continue to have a really strong interest in and will advocate for and as an example of where I will continue to work particularly in the area of early childhood development through my role as shadow minister for community services and early childhood.

“It’s a particular focus of mine and still on my-to-do list to ensure that we get the proper funding for child development services in this state.

“I will not rest until such time as we do get proper funding for a service that children need in this state and that they are waiting too long to access right now.” After she leaves Parliament she is going to take some time to decide her next move.

“But community is really important so I wouldn’t be surprised if you continue to see me working in the community services and early childhood space because they are areas I am particularly passionate about and where I think we can do good things.”

She said as a member of the Opposition in the past few years she had sought to bring attention to the needs of children in WA in terms of a range of issues but particularly in relation to access to services whether it’s paediatric services, speech pathology or other allied health services.

## See Hugh-later Kalamunda



Matthew Hughes

## GERA KAZAKOV

**AFTER seven years at the helm of the lower house seat of Kalamunda for Labor, Matthew Hughes has announced he is not seeking re-election in 2025.**

Elected to the seat in 2017, Mr Hughes defeated Liberal MLA John Day with 52.5 per cent of the votes to Mr Day’s 47.5 per cent.

In 2021, Mr Hughes was re-elected amongst the Labor landslide with 62 per cent of the vote, attributing his success to his accessibility among constituents.

“I have given it a good go since 2017. I have bought the needs of the district squarely in front of the government with sound outcomes,” he said.

“It has been a privilege to represent the people of the district and to be their voice in the state government.”

Mr Hughes counts among his achievements protecting the Kalamunda Railway Heritage Trail, getting pedestrian crossings for Great Eastern Highway in Mundaring, building replacement buildings at Lesmurdie Primary School, the construction of the Jorgensen Park Community Centre, and major investments in John Forrest National Park improvements.

But it wasn’t a career without controversy, with Mr Hughes making headlines in 2021 over accusations of bullying from his staffers and from when he was principal of John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School.

Controversy also erupted in 2020 when Mr Hughes revealed information on Facebook which detailed two of the four members of the Parliament Joint Standing Committee on the Corruption and Crime Commission did not support the re-appointment of then commissioner John McKechie.

This led to calls that Mr Hughes should resign by former WA Liberal leader Liza Harvey and Liberal south metropolitan region MLC Nick Goiran.

Mr Hughes denied the bullying allegations and said he has no regrets from his time in politics, and that he also has no plans for his retirement either.

“My wife and I have six adult children and 10 grandchildren and I am looking forward to spending more time with them,”

On a potential replacement, Mr Hughes said he did not know who it could be.

“There is a Labor party pre-selection process that will begin shortly,” he said.

“My hope and wish is that a local candidate emerges with a strong and long-standing connection to the hills.”

Premier Roger Cook called Mr Hughes a fantastic advocate for the community.

“Matthew’s been an important part of our Labor team since 2017, and his contribution will be missed – but he can be proud of the legacy he leaves,” he said.

## Charges dropped over Wooroloo fire

**LAST week the man accused of starting the 2021 Wooroloo bushfires had all charges dropped just days before he was due stand trial.**

Daniel Gunter Preuss was set to begin trial this week, but on Thursday, February 1, three years to the day the fire began, prosecutors dropped the charges against him.

Public prosecutor Tracy Tan told the court the charges against the 42-year-old were being discontinued because there were no reasonable prospects of a conviction.

On July 16, 2021, Mr Preuss was arrested and charged with starting the fire with an angle grinder he was using to remove a padlock from a sea con-

tainer on his property.

Since he was charged, Mr Preuss has denied the accusation of failing to reasonably ensure that an ignition source would not cause a fire that could not be controlled.

The Wooroloo bushfire started on February 1, 2021, near Werribee Road, during a total fire ban and a five-day COVID lockdown.

Weather conditions on the day only contributed to the devastation with a daytime temperature of 38 degrees and strong winds causing the fire to spread rapidly.

The fire raged until February 7, destroyed 86 homes, burnt through close to 11,000ha of land, and cost insurers almost \$100 million.



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Birthright cast members Michael Hurst, Maria Angelico, Linda Cropper, Travis Jeffery, with writer-director Zoe Pepper. Picture: Emma Vickery

## Cameras roll in Darlington

PETER W LEWIS

FILMING has commenced in a Darlington home of yet another screen production in the Perth Hills following recent filming in Gidgegannup for *Runt*, largely filmed in York.

The Darlington home is being used for Zoe Pepper's debut feature film, *Birthright*, which kicked off production last week with an impressive ensemble cast.

The dark comedy stars Travis Jeffery (*Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes*, *Unbroken*, *Gallipoli*) and Maria Angelico (*The Newsreader*, *Strife*, *Sisters*) as Cory and Jasmine, a professional couple in their 30s who are eight months pregnant.

When Cory loses his job, they are forced to move back in with his retiree parents played by Linda Cropper (*Offspring*, *Upgrade*) and Michael Hurst (*Hercules*, *Spartacus*), until they get back on their feet. As their stay extends, Cory fixates on his parents' wealth and decides the only way to achieve the success he always imagined, is to do something unimaginable.

Set in a single location, filming will continue over the next four weeks, and will include an all-star lineup of Western Australian crew including director of photography Michael McDermott ACS (*Hounds of Love*), production designer Ocea Sellar (*Mystic Pines*) and costume designer Texx Montana (*He Ain't Heavy*).

Director Zoe Pepper said she was incredibly grateful to have such a talented team backing her vision and working so hard to bring this story to

life.

"The cast and crew are doing an amazing job. It's quite surreal to see this world I've concocted come to life. I'm equal parts terrified and excited to kick off filming."

*Birthright* was the 2022 recipient of Screenwest's highly coveted West Coast Visions initiative, which is designed to uncover, inspire and develop talented and motivated WA filmmakers with distinctive visions to produce their debut feature film in WA.

Through this initiative, *Birthright* secured \$750,000 production funding from Screenwest and went on to secure Screen Australia production funding and Madman Entertainment as ANZ distributor.

Screenwest chief executive officer Rikki Lea Bestall said kicking off 2024 with a West Coast Visions film heading into production was a great start to what is already shaping up to be a bumper year.

"Seeing *Birthright* come to life is very exciting and Screenwest is so pleased to be supporting Zoe in her debut. A quintessentially Australian story about boomers versus millennials – I can't wait."

Filming is scheduled to wrap on March 1, 2024, and is the first major production to begin filming in WA this year, but will soon be joined by a new feature from WA director Zak Hilditch, featuring Daisy Ridley of *Star Wars* fame.

It continues a record period of screen production in the state, which last year included Sam Neill's arrival for Season 2 of *The Twelve*, largely filmed in York, along with *Runt*, and Nicolas Cage's film *The Surfer* shot in the south west.

## Call for Swan boundary changes

ANITA McINNES

A SOUTH Guildford resident has raised the idea of older established suburbs in the City of Swan undergoing a boundary change, which would result in them becoming part of the Town of Bassendean.

Marilena Stimfl has put forward a successful motion asking the city to engage with the town on whether there was any receptiveness for the two local governments to develop a joint proposal at the City of Swan's annual electors meeting on February 5.

On Wednesday she told *Echo News* the motion was put together after talking to residents in older established suburbs such as Guildford, Woodbridge, Midland, Kiara and Lockridge who had different expectations and problems to those residing in new suburbs.

She has also spoken to community groups and the local governments of Bassendean and Mundaring.

In a statement supporting her motion she said the City of Swan had a population of more than 165,000 and 42 suburbs.

"There is no doubt that as the largest met-

ropolitan local government area with some of the fastest growing suburbs in WA, that such high growth poses challenges for this council to meet the needs and expectations of rapidly expanding urban areas, for example Ellenbrook and Brabham, versus established communities such as Guildford and Woodbridge for example," the statement said.

"Extreme diversity in demographics and the variable needs of old versus new suburbs often leads to disparity in revenue distribution."

She said currently the Town of Bassendean had seven elected representatives, which was two less than the maximum permitted under recent local government reforms.

"Augmenting the overall population of the town via ministerial approval of a boundary change would likely be the catalyst to increase the number of elected representatives to nine (at least) for the Town of Bassendean, whilst the City of Swan could retain their existing number of elected representatives."

"This would facilitate broader and more targeted representation for the populations of both these local authorities."

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## New guidelines call for three week benching for concussion

GERA KAZAKOV

**ATHLETES who suffer a concussion are now recommended to spend 21 days away from sport under new concussion guidelines released by the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS).**

Released at the start of February, the AIS 'Australian concussion guidelines for youth and community sport' stress the importance of giving concussed athletes time to recover.

The guidelines state that returning to work or school should take priority over a return to sport, and that contact sport should only be resumed after a minimum period of 21 days.

An athlete should only return to training after 14 days of being symptom free of concussion, according to the guidelines.

"That is not 14 days from the time of concussion. It is 14 days from when the athlete becomes symptom-free," the guidelines state.

Subtle signs and symptoms of a

concussion include nausea, confusion or disorientation, fatigue, memory impairment, light and noise sensitivity, headaches or a feeling of pressure in the head, difficulties in concentrating, paleness, dazed or blank stares and even behaviour or emotional changes.

Severe signs of a concussion include repeated vomiting, loss of consciousness, seizures or convulsions, a deteriorating conscious state, loss of vision, neck pain, visible deformities to the skull and a severe or increasing headache.

If severe signs are present the guidelines state the concussed athlete should be taken to the emergency department immediately.

For suspected concussions, an immediate removal from sport is recommended with no return to play for that day and that the concussed athlete be referred to a healthcare practitioner as soon as possible.

Curtin University health science research fellow Dr Sarah Hellewell said

a common myth around concussion is that you have to be knocked out to get a one.

"The symptoms can be really varied and look different for everyone, so someone who doesn't have the typical symptoms of dizziness, confusion or vomiting may also be concussed," she said.

"You don't necessarily have to hit your head – a strike to the body like a hard tackle may be enough to cause damage to the brain... this is a brain injury that needs to be treated carefully like we would any other bodily injury."

AIS chief medical officer Dr David Hughes said all instances of concussion should be treated with caution – especially for those aged under 19 who still have developing brains.

"The AIS wants everyone involved in sport to remember, when considering an athlete with possible concussion, 'if in doubt, sit them out'," he said.

## North Stoneville decision closer

ANITA MCINNES

**ON February 2 the State Administrative Tribunal granted orders for the amended North Stoneville structure plan 34 to be listed for a directions hearing on March 8.**

The Department of Planning said it was likely on that date that the tribunal would start scheduling the matter towards a final hearing for a decision about the amended structure plan.

In 'Row over North Stoneville not over until Satterley walks' (Echo News, December 15) reported that although the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) had again rejected the amended structure plan at its December 7 meeting the disagreement between Satterley and the WAPC was headed back to SAT in 2024 unless the developer and the landowner walked away from the development.

In a statement on December 22 Shire of Mundaring President Paige McNeil, who is a former Save Perth Hills chair, said the December 7 decision was the latest in a series of refusals for the planning application.

## Swan Valley heat record

**THE Swan Valley last week sweltered through its hottest day on record, with the temperature hitting a searing 45C in the midst of Perth's second severe heatwave for 2024.**

A top of 45.2C was recorded at Pearce air base just after midday on Thursday, February 1 with the Swan Valley being the second hottest area of Perth and surrounds, reaching 44.6C and eclipsing its previous record of 44.5C, recorded in February 2022.

Synergy asked customers to turn off unused appliances and set air-conditioners to 24C while Transperth slowed trains by up to 30km/h to stop heat warping the tracks.

When temperatures hit 41C all Transperth trains are required to reduce their speed by 30km per hour, while a 20km per hour reduction kicks in on the Midland line at 37C.

The heatwave looks set to continue this week, after a respite on the weekend, with temperatures again expected to rise again on Thursday with the UV index remaining extreme.

At this stage forecasts predict 39C on Thursday, and 41C on Friday and Saturday, before dropping to 35C on Monday.



## Extra funding available to boost WA e-waste projects

**THE state government has made up to \$3.5 million of grants available to support Western Australia's electrical and electronic waste collection and recycling network as a ban on e-waste disposal to landfill is set to come into effect later this year.**

E-waste, or waste electrical and electronic equipment, includes items with a plug, battery or cord that are no longer working or wanted.

WA's e-waste ban will be introduced later this year, and includes most electronic consumer goods, such as large household appliances, mobile phones, televisions, and computers.

Grants are available for projects which either support facilities to collect, manage and store e-waste, before reuse or onward reprocessing, or focus on reprocessing and recycling, including assisting busi-

nesses to purchase and install any relevant equipment.

Environment Minister Reece Whitby said e-waste was a rapidly growing stream of waste, and additional funding will create jobs as well as increase reuse and recycling pathways for waste electrical and electronic items.

"This is an important step in moving our State closer to its goal of a circular economy, and I look forward to seeing these projects delivered and in operation ahead of Western Australia's e-waste to landfill ban later this year."

Grants are open to businesses, local governments and regional councils, and registered charities.

Applications, which will close on Friday, March 29, can be made at [www.dwer-env.smartygrants.com.au](http://www.dwer-env.smartygrants.com.au)

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West Swan MLA Rita Saffioti, principal Daniel Bergin, Hasluck MHR Tania Lawrence, Department of Education director general Lisa Rodgers and Education Minister Tony Buti opening Henley Brook Primary School last week.

## Henley Brook Primary School officially opened

**THE new \$31.3 million Henley Brook Primary School, Perth's newest school, welcomed its first cohort of students last week, following its official opening by Education Minister Dr Tony Buti.**

The school will cater for students from kindergarten to Year 6 to meet the needs of local families in the area and provide high-quality education options for students in Perth's growing north-eastern suburbs.

The state-of-the-art school has an administration block, early childhood teaching block, three teaching blocks with general learning areas, an inclusive education room and specialist rooms for art and science.

It is also equipped with a library, covered assembly area, music room, canteen, oval and hard courts. Rooftop solar panels have been installed to harness sustainable energy.

Henley Brook Primary School will provide enrolment relief for nearby Brabham Primary School. Works on Brabham East Primary school, to open in 2025, will begin shortly.

Thousands of students across the State will bene-

fit from a range of new school facilities opening this week, including the Brabham Primary School offsite early childhood education facility.

Education Minister Dr Tony Buti said he wanted to make sure all students and their families – no matter their circumstances – have access to a quality education.

"I want to ensure environments in which our students are learning are of the very best standard, and I want our staff to have the support they need to focus on teaching.

"Schools like Henley Brook Primary make this possible and I am thrilled to officially open it."

West Swan MLA Rita Saffioti said it was exciting to see Henley Brook Primary School officially open its doors, providing state-of-the-art education facilities for our growing community.

"From new primary schools like Henley Brook and Brabham East, to free public transport for school students, we are doing everything we can to make it easier for families in West Swan."

## New early childhood education centre open for Brabham children

**IN another boost to education opportunities in the growing eastern suburbs Brabham Primary School's early childhood education centre (Brabham Bidi) was officially opened last week.**

The \$8 million offsite early childhood education centre will accommodate an additional 160 kindergarten students providing relief on the site of the nearby growing primary school.

Up to 350 kindergarten and pre-primary students will be accommodated in 2025 and beyond.

The centre includes five pre-primary transportable buildings, administration transportable building, toilet block transportable building, car park, playgrounds, bike shelter and landscaping.

It adds to the growing number of modern education facilities servicing families in the rapidly growing area.

Brabham Primary School opened in 2021 and currently has approximately 1,000 students from kindergarten to Year 6. Works will start soon on Brabham East Primary School (planning name) to open for the start of the 2025 school year, providing enrolment relief for Brabham Primary School.

Education Minister Dr Tony Buti said the government was committed to building outstand-

ing facilities to ensure education is being provided to all children in our fastest-growing suburbs and to ease pressure on existing schools.

"A new primary school to service Brabham families will open next year providing enrolment relief to Brabham Primary School and the offsite early childhood education centre will provide additional enrolment relief on the primary school site."

Early Childhood Education Minister Sabine Winton said enabling children and families to access quality early childhood learning within their local communities, supports lifelong developmental gains.

"The name Brabham Bidi Kaatadjiny means Brabham Journey of Knowledge. The significance of a child beginning their formal schooling education journey is highlighted through the name.

"The school's cultural responsive team consulted with multiple Elders, and the primary school site and the offsite kindergarten remain strongly connected."

West Swan MLA Rita Saffioti said this was an exciting time for Brabham families with education opportunities rapidly expanding in the area.

"I'm really pleased to deliver these incredible facilities to cater for our youngest students."



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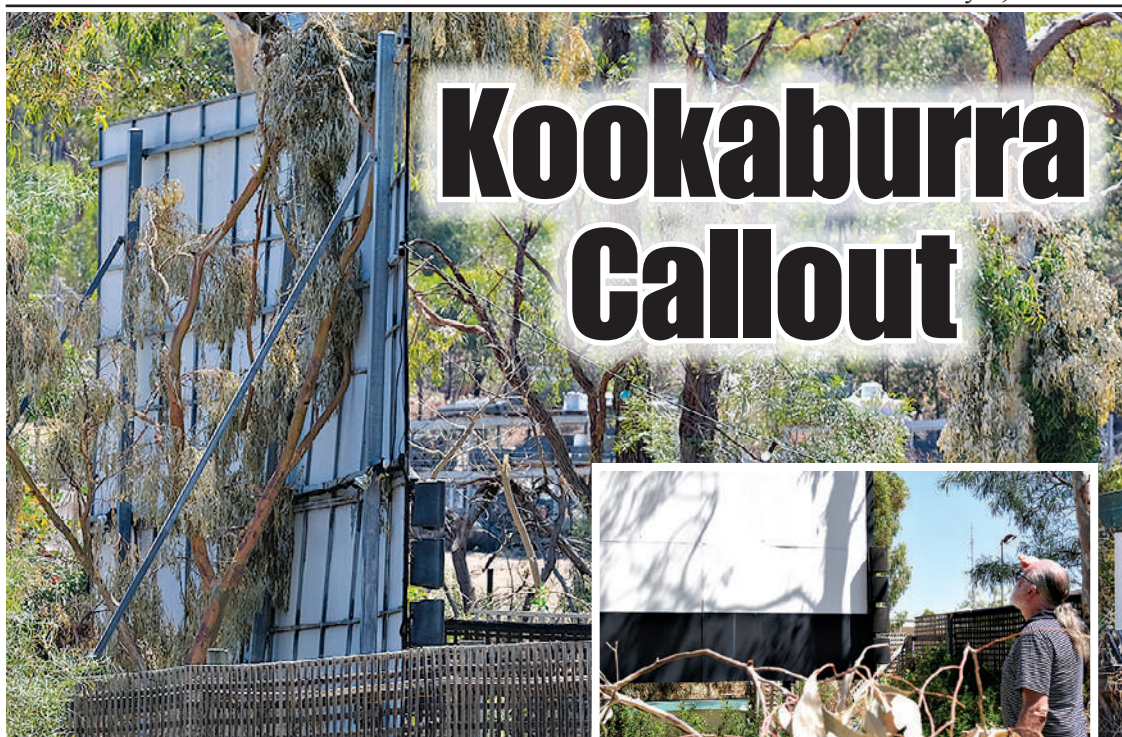


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Mr Foyster wants to leave the cinema in good hands upon retiring. Picture: Andrew Williams

#### ANDREW WILLIAMS

**WHILE the future of the Kookaburra Outdoor Cinema remains up in the air, its owner Peter Foyster says he can't believe the outpouring of support he's received.**

The hills cinema, located on Allen Road in Mundaring, was hit hard by last month's storm, as reported in *Kookaburra Cinema future uncertain after storm* (Echo News, January 26).

Mr Foyster said he began receiving vocal support and offers to help almost immediately after the storm, but had to wait until the damage was fully assessed before he could accept.

On Tuesday, February 6, he posted a callout to the businesses' Facebook page asking for anyone who could volunteer their time or services to reach out.

The provisional insurance assessment had provided a quote for repairs that considerably exceeded the amount the cinema is insured for.

"Just the screen and the scaffolding required for repairs was quoted at around \$36,000. Originally, we'd estimated to repair the screen for \$20,000 and even then, we were hoping to get it done for less," Mr Foyster said.

In less than 24 hours the FaceBook post had accumulated more than 150 reactions, 100 comments, and 120 shares.

Mr Foyster said he was surprised at the overwhelming support the cinema had received in such a short period of time.

"I want them to know that I'm really very touched by their words and their offers, and it certainly has changed my mind because I can see how much it's valued," he said.

"Any thoughts of maybe just walking away have all but disappeared because I owe it to the community to get it back up and running."

But his main concern is safety. The focus is to repair the structural supports of the screen first, as the central weight bearing strut was torn from the back of the screen during the storm, the lack of which increases the risk of danger.

"I need to be clear that I can't have people just coming in because of the safety issues, it could still be dangerous," he said.

Mr Foyster, 75, had originally intended for this to be his last season as the proprietor of the hill's theatre.

"All the hard work and maintenance is just too much for me, I don't really have much choice but to retire from it, but before I do I need to ensure that I find it a good owner."

However, he added, he would like to stay on in some capacity to help with the transition of any new owner.

## Perth Hills climate group call to defer climate change Bill

**PERTH Hills Climate Change Interest Group (PHCCIG) has supported the call by key climate-concerned organisations to urgently refer WA's pending Climate Change Bill 2023 to a Parliamentary committee to allow independent expert advice and informed community debate.**

"The Bill, soon to be tabled in Parliament, is a welcome step in the right direction to secure a safer climate, but insufficient time has been allowed to consult with community or energy experts," PHCCIG chair Lynda Winter said.

Unlike legislation in other states, the WA Climate Change Bill does not include a target for a reduction in emissions by 2030.

"It also does not allow for the establishment of an independent climate advisory body to effectively advise, monitor, and measure the impact of climate action or inaction," she said.

"We are concerned that the Bill as it stands allows carbon pollution in WA to continue to rise and can put at risk Australia's commitment to a 43 per cent emissions reduction by 2030.

"The heatwaves just in the last week, and the damage and loss of power experienced by thousands of Perth Hills households following an extraordinary storm, brings the effects of climate change right to our doorsteps, and we need urgent and effective climate action now."

Hills residents are encouraged to talk or write to their local representatives and ask for a strong and effective climate change Bill that will protect hills people and the environment now and into the future.

## Toll charged over forklift injury

**WORKSAFE has charged Toll Transport after a forklift incident at their Perth Airport premises left a worker with serious and permanent injuries to their legs.**

The incident occurred in January 2021 when a worker was tasked with placing stickers on the floor to delineate bays for deliveries to different mine sites.

Worksafe alleges that while the worker was performing their duties, a forklift reversed into them and drove over their left foot and right leg.

Worksafe contends that Toll did not implement practical measures to keep employees safe, leading to a charge of failing to provide and maintain safe workplace and, by that failure, causing harm to an employee.

Toll was also charged with failing to ensure that movement and speed of vehicles and plant at the



workplace were managed in a way that minimised risk to pedestrians.

If convicted, Toll faces up to \$2 million in fines.

The case's first mention will take place on February 16 at Perth Magistrates Court.

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# Asbestos warning for renovators

WITH many properties changing hands in recent years the national Asbestos Education Committee has issued a warning to people who might risk disturbing asbestos when renovating older homes.

With the annual death toll from asbestos-related diseases exceeding 4000 and predicted to rise, it's vital that every Australian homeowner understands where asbestos might be lurking in their home and what to do to manage it safely.

What most don't know is that asbestos could be anywhere in any home built before 1990 including brick, fibro, weatherboard, clad homes, apartments or sheds because it was used in the manufacture of more than 3000 building and decorator products, not just fibro sheeting.

Asbestos could be lurking under floor coverings including carpets, linoleum and vinyl tiles, behind wall and floor tiles, in cement floors, internal and external walls, ceilings and ceiling space (insulation), eaves, roofs, around hot water pipes, fences, home extensions, garages, outdoor toilets, backyard and farm structures, chook sheds and even dog kennels.

The fear is that with the popularity of renovating continuing to soar, if property owners aren't aware that potentially deadly asbestos lurks within one in three homes, and if asbestos is disturbed during renovation, demolition or maintenance, homeowners could be risking their lives and the lives of their loved ones.

The first rule is, if you think a product may contain asbestos, treat it as if it is asbestos and take all the necessary precautions starting with having the property inspected by an occupational hy-



Cherie Barber National Asbestos Awareness Ambassador.

gienist or a licenced asbestos assessor.

Remember, a regular building inspection does not test for asbestos! And if asbestos is confirmed, property owners should only use licenced asbestos removalists to ensure they protect themselves and their families.

To learn more visit [www.asbestosawareness.com.au](http://www.asbestosawareness.com.au) to learn what to look for and what to do to ensure asbestos is managed safely in line with government regulations.

## Funds for Aboriginal cultural heritage

THE 2023-24 preserve, promote and protect our Aboriginal sites grants program is part of the state government's commitment to empower Aboriginal people in managing their unique cultural heritage.

Grants of up to \$50,000 are available for Aboriginal not-for-profit organisations to undertake on the ground works that protect and preserve Aboriginal sites, promote Aboriginal cultural heritage and provide social and economic benefits to local communities.

Over the past 10 years, the state government has committed more than \$2.5 million through the grants to support Aboriginal organisations and communities in preserving and protecting significant Aboriginal heritage sites across Western Australia.

Past successful projects have included remediation of registered Aboriginal sites, development and installation of interpretive and truth-telling signage, and employment and training opportunities for Aboriginal people in delivering on-the-ground projects.

Aboriginal Affairs Minister Dr Tony Buti said Aboriginal heritage holds significant value to Aboriginal people and pro-

vides an essential connection to their past, present and future.

"As the world's oldest living culture, it is vital that we protect the unique cultural heritage and history of Aboriginal people across our state for future generations.

"The grants help foster economic and social benefits for Aboriginal communities by enhancing tourism, providing employment opportunities for Aboriginal people and building a greater understanding and appreciation of Aboriginal heritage.

"We are proud to offer a record funding pool this year to support more organisations and projects that will deliver significant benefits to Aboriginal communities and ensure their cultural heritage is protected for the benefit of all Western Australians."

The grants program is administered by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage and applications close at 5pm on Friday, March 29.

For more information visit <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/document-collections/grantspreserve-and-protect-aboriginal-sites>, phone 6551 8002 or email [HeritageGrants@dplh.wa.gov.au](mailto:HeritageGrants@dplh.wa.gov.au)

## Vines paver pays for taking money without doing work

A VINES paver who took more than \$2500 from a customer and failed to undertake any work has been ordered to refund the money and pay a further \$5,000 in fines and costs, following a prosecution by Consumer Protection.

Massimo Marcello Mario Douchamps, trading as M Renovations, pleaded guilty in the Perth Magistrates Court to breaching the Australian Consumer Law when he received a \$2,535 deposit from a customer in The Vines in November 2020 and did not deliver the goods and services.

The customer was quoted \$5,070 by Mr Douchamps to supply and install pavers in the back garden and for a side gate to be fitted. But after taking the 50 per cent deposit and agreeing to undertake the work within the next few weeks,

Mr Douchamps stopped responding to the customer's messages and never returned.

Mr Douchamps was ordered by the court to compensate the customer for the deposit, along with a \$4000 fine and costs of \$1000, with Magistrate Heath commenting on the need to enforce provisions of this kind that are designed to protect consumers.

Commissioner for Consumer Protection Tim Banfield said it was unacceptable for tradespeople to take deposits without completing the work.

"Let this be a warning for other tradespeople – you are breaking the law if you take money from customers and don't undertake the work in a reasonable time, or by the completion date listed on the contract, and we will not hesitate to take action," Mr Banfield said.

"It's also a reminder for consumers about the risks that can come with paying large deposits upfront. That's why we recommend only paying a small amount before work begins or negotiating progress payments on bigger jobs.

"Paying by credit card can be a good option, as it offers extra protection by allowing consumers to apply for a charge-back if the goods or services are not provided.

"Consumers who have paid a deposit and experienced unreasonable delays in the delivery of goods or services and have failed to resolve the issue with the business are advised to lodge a complaint with Consumer Protection."

Complaints can be lodged on the Consumer Protection website, by email [sumer@dmirs.wa.gov.au](mailto:sumer@dmirs.wa.gov.au) or calling 1300 30 40 54.

## A tribute to Barry Rhodes - an end of an era

from page 2.

around a fire, plotting the position of the hopovers on an old Mundaring 80 map.

Like many forest workmen of his time, Barry loved and was proud of the local forestry history – he had a magnificent collection of old photographs and even some old departmental files that had been destined for the incinerator, but which he kept for their historical interest and later donated to the Mundaring Historical Society. His memory for people and places was phenomenal; he knew every road or track, nearly every tree, in the Mundaring plantations, the Helena catchment and the Julimar.

He helped make an excellent video about forestry at the weir, and he assisted me (and others) many times with historical research. One interesting snippet is that the legendary forester George Brockway initially stopped Barry's first appointment on the grounds that it was not good policy to have a father and son working together as fire-fighters. Luckily, the wonderful old district forester Frank Mullumby did not share Brockway's concern, he knew a likely lad when he saw one, and quietly gave Barry his first job. Fifty years later Barry was instrumental in the recovery and conversion to DVD of Frank Mullumby's fascinating home-made movies about life at the Weir and in the forestry.

Barry Rhodes was the last I knew who had started in forestry straight from school and worked for his entire lifetime for the department and in the same district, moving through the ranks from stable hand to apprentice mechanic to gang member, including a period as an overseer, to pieceworker and to storeman, all the time being also involved in every aspects of bushfire management.

Like the best of the traditional forest workmen, he was a true all-rounder: he could drive anything on wheels or tracks, and probably on hooves for all I knew – certainly I recall his passionate interest in the trots and the gallops – and he could operate anything with an engine. When he sharpened my chainsaw for me, it would cut through cast iron.

He was utterly loyal to his fellow-forest workmen and would die for them if called to do so, and he nearly did, in a bushfire at Chittering.

He was, for many years, one of my staff. But he was always one of my mates.

It is wonderful that the Rhodes legacy at Mundaring Weir lives on into the third generation through his sons, but in many ways his passing is the end of an era. The forestry life that he lived has also passed, and we will not see it, or men like Barry Rhodes again.

*Roger Underwood is a former DFO at Mundaring Weir and is now a forestry and bushfire historian.*

## Update on 'Safer Midland' initiative

from page 3.

police and the chamber, with assistance from the City of Swan and Eeve Security who have been invaluable in developing the data system, have actively been involved with business owners on a small scale to develop a live data management system to assist police.

The meeting will take place prior to the monthly Swan Chamber of Commerce 'Hour of Power' which commences at 10.30am featuring guest speakers Mike Matich, owner of Crooked Spire and president of the Swan Chamber of Commerce and Tony Williamson, general manager of Bailey Brewing Co.

Register now for this free leadership and personal development workshop at [www.swan-chamber.org.au/event-details/hour-of-power-2024-2024-02-14-10-30](http://www.swan-chamber.org.au/event-details/hour-of-power-2024-2024-02-14-10-30)

For further information please contact chief executive officer Tom Smilovitis on 0407 866 555 or email [ceo@swanchamber.com.au](mailto:ceo@swanchamber.com.au)

## Vape seller restrictions on the cards

from page 3.

we found the same pattern here with vape retailers," he said.

"Previous tobacco research has shown that the proximity of tobacco retailers to schools or homes can influence smoking behaviours, and similar relationships have been reported for e-cigarettes."

On January 1, importing disposable vapes was banned by the federal government, with the importation of all non-therapeutic vapes to be banned from March 1.

"Subject to state or territory law, non-therapeutic vapes imported before March 1, 2024, may still be lawfully sold by retailers generally, including vape stores, provided the vape does not contain nicotine or any other medicine, and does not make therapeutic claims," the new Therapeutic Goods Administration regulations state.

## Problems with drugs or alcohol?

You are not alone.  
Help **IS** available.  
Thousands of Australians have successfully beaten problems.

**Treatment works.**  
Find out more at  
[www.ancd.org.au](http://www.ancd.org.au)





## Protect your smile @ Foothills Denture Clinic

AT Foothills Denture Clinic, denture repairs can be done while you wait, and denture relines are usually a same day service.  
Father and daughter team Malcolm and Raynee McArthur are both dental prosthetists, licensed to make all dentures including part acrylic and metal dentures.

The clinic is a Medibank Private Members Choice Provider and an HBF Members Plus Provider.  
Rebates are available from all other health funds and we also deal with Veterans Affairs and offer pensioner discounts.  
Special arrangements can be made for country

clients to reduce the number of visits.  
The team are happy to discuss any difficulty or query you may have with your denture – free of charge – and offer a professional service at a reasonable price.  
For a free quote call 9250 1733.



## A step in the right direction



Nadine Chambers.

MY name is Nadine Chambers, I'm a local in the Gidgegannup Perth Hills area. I'm extremely passionate about helping people to improve their lives to find ways to live happier & healthier more peaceful, pain free lives.  
I have been a Remedial Therapist, Hypnotherapist & Health & Wellness Therapist for nearly 25 years now.  
Helping people is in my blood. I was introduced to StepFlex Orthotics more than 6 years ago, after they saved my son from invasive surgery. I became a Clinical Consultant and treated all of my Remedial clients to start with, then after seeing such positive feedback and life changing results I realised I had some-

thing I needed to share with everyone that I could. I soon realised how many people desperately needed a solution that didn't involve surgery or pain medications. I can't begin to tell you how many people's lives I have helped change for the better.  
We all know the importance of our feet, but we truly don't consider them until they are in pain. Most people don't even consider them when they suffer ankle, knee, hip, back pain, or neck pain, but they play a huge role.  
Your feet are truly your foundation. Imbalances have a huge impact on the whole body. Let me give you back balance and reduce wear and tear on your joints.



### SMILE

@ Foothills Denture Clinic



FOOTHILLS DENTURE CLINIC

Phone 9250 1733 for an appointment

SHOP 4, 16 THE AVENUE, MIDLAND

[www.foothillsdenture.com.au](http://www.foothillsdenture.com.au)

We also deal with Veterans' Affairs and all health funds through HICAPS |   

- ✓ New full dentures & partial dentures
- ✓ New implant retained over dentures
- ✓ Denture repairs & relines
- ✓ Sports mouthguards

DENTAL PROTHETISTS



MALCOLM J McARTHUR



RAYNEE McARTHUR

## FREE FOOT CONSULTATION

DO YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW SUFFER FROM PAINFUL KNEES, HIPS, BACK OR FEET?

"Your feet are your foundation - any imbalances, collapsed or high arches can cause rolling in or out, and problems to rise up through the body resulting in so many problems.

"Imbalances and collapsed arches can lead to bunions, heel spurs, neuroma's, plantar fasciitis, ankle problems, knee, hip, back or neck tension and wearing down of the joints.

"People spend so much money on trying to find comfortable shoes, and searching for temporary solutions that end up costing thousands of dollars.

"This free foot consultation can end all searching. I will assess the foot assessment and let you know based on the findings, the impact on your body.

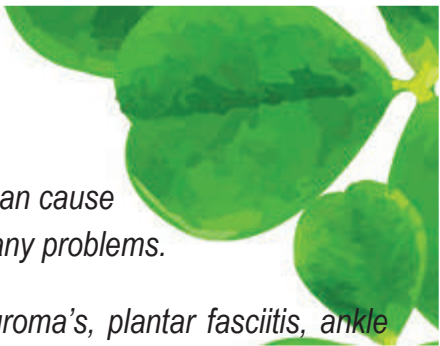
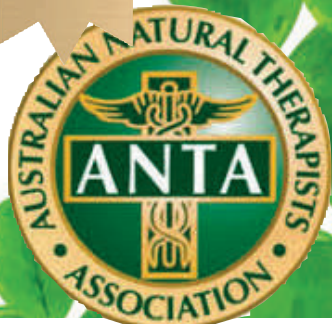
"I custom fit orthotics based on the bone structure of your foot and let your body give feedback straight away. You will feel taller, straighter, balanced, and more importantly notice the relief in the body as pressure is taken off the joints and all arches are fully supported." From Young to Old.

Phone me Now for you and your families FREE foot & postural alignment consultation SAVING YOU \$95.

**"You Simply Can't Beat"**  
**PERTH CORRECTIVE ORTHOTICS**  
**"Just like nature intended"**

[Nadine@perthcorrectiveorthotics.com.au](mailto:Nadine@perthcorrectiveorthotics.com.au)  
Nadine - 0422 414 113

Health fund rebates available\*  
\*policy dependant





# Health & Wellbeing

## Make new friends and try something new



Kalamunda District Bridge Club is your local place to learn or play bridge in a relaxed Hills environment and new members are always welcome!

We will be holding an Open Day on Thursday 22nd February from 12pm until 2pm, so come down, keep your brain sharp and make new friends, beware though it can be addictive.

Bridge is played at our clubhouse in Ledger Road, Gooseberry Hill, 5 days of the week. We are a friendly club with players at all levels of bridge. We usually offer beginner lessons twice a year,

the next one will start on Friday 1st March and conclude Friday 26th April. We have occasional lectures from visiting experts and run a variety of competitions catering to all levels of bridge.

Monday evening supervised sessions are open to anyone wanting to practice their bridge skills. A partner is not necessary. It is a very popular evening where new players can gain experience in a very friendly atmosphere!

Please refer to our website for more information regarding days and times or phone Jenny on 0407 085 229 for information and to register.



**Try your hand at Bridge**  
No experience required  
**Beginner's Lessons**  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March till  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
9.30am–11.30am  
♠ ♥ ♣ ♦  
For further details and to register  
please phone Jenny on  
**0407 085 229**  
www.kalamunda-district.bridge-club.org

**Kalamunda District Bridge Club**  
**OPEN DAY**  
Thursday  
22<sup>nd</sup> February  
12–2pm  
56 Ledger Road,  
GOOSEBERRY HILL  
**Come and check us out!**



## Start 2024 right at Karingal Green's Wellness Centre

As the festive season comes to an end, it's now time to follow through with those new year's resolutions to feel good about your health and fitness.

The Wellness Centre at Karingal Green offers you the opportunity to have a professional assessment by a Physiotherapist who can suggest a plan going forward for your health and wellbeing journey.

There are a variety of classes and sessions available to our community providing all levels of support with guidance and assistance where needed.

The Wellness Centre also supports the residents in the award-winning Karingal Green Health & Aged Care Community.

The beautifully designed Wellness Centre is open to all and offers specialist health and wellness services to the local seniors' community.

Open five days a week, the High Wycombe Centre supports our community in all surrounding suburbs and is focused on an ongoing wellness approach, encouraging visitors to work on

strengthening and maintaining their fitness levels. Professional services provided include:

- Physiotherapy
- Hydrotherapy
- Gymnasium Classes
- Pilates
- Massage Services

The Wellness Centre has a large heated swimming pool with regular hydrotherapy classes for seniors of all abilities, supporting pain management and mobility.

Clients are able to use their Home Care Packages, NDIS funding and Private Health funding to contribute to costs at Karingal Green's Wellness Centre - just ask our friendly staff for assistance and information with booking your assessment.

Come and join the Karingal Green Wellness community and start to enjoy a greater quality of life in 2024.

Call the Wellness Team on 0490 940 371. For more information, visit [karingalgreenwellness.com.au](http://karingalgreenwellness.com.au)



**Saranna Early Childhood Education & Care Centre**

### Vacancies exist for children aged 6 weeks to 5 years.

- We are open 50 weeks of the year from 6.30am to 6.00pm.
- Rated Exceeding the National Quality Standards.
- A nutritional menu provides children with Morning tea, Lunch and Afternoon tea.
- Special dietary needs are catered for.
- Our individualised educational program is based on the Early Years Learning Frameworks.
- The service is situated in a stunning natural environment with wildlife right on our doorstep.
- \$120 per day



Please call to book a tour of the service on 9302 6444

Corina Barrett  
Centre Manager  
Saranna Early Childhood Education & Care Centre  
920 Gngara Rd, Cullacabardee Perth 6067  
p (08) 9302 6444 w [www.cyrenianhouse.com](http://www.cyrenianhouse.com)



## Providing the best care for your children

Saranna Early Childhood Education and Care Centre is a unique service situated on the 32-acre property of the Rick Hammersley Centre Therapeutic Community in Cullacabardee (10 minutes from Ellenbrook).

With a qualified team of educators, SECECC encourages every child to grow, learn and develop at their own pace.

Our educational programs provide supportive, active learning through flexible play with a focus on building the strengths of individual children.

Saranna Early Childhood Education and Care Centre offers a safe and inclusive environment built on a strong ethos. Set in a beautiful natural environment, children

are exposed to a variety of native animals in the Aussie bushland. We have a highly qualified team of educators who are passionate about providing the best care for children.



We provide a nutritious menu catering for all dietary needs. Rated Exceeding the National Quality Standards for the last eight years.

For more information, come for a tour of the service and decide for yourself if we are right for you and your family.

Call Chloe on 9302 6444 or 9303 2133





**Specialist health and wellness services for the Karingal Green community and beyond.**

*Karingal Green*

HEALTH AND AGED CARE COMMUNITY

## Wellness Centre

**The Karingal Green Wellness Centre offers treatments following an allied health consultation, including physiotherapy and massage, exercise classes, gym classes, Pilates and hydrotherapy.**

Join the Karingal Green Wellness Centre today and experience the benefits of a healthy living community right on your doorstep.

**Get in touch with us today.**

**0490 940 371**

Wellness@karingalgreen.com.au

53 Hawkevale Road, High Wycombe WA 6057



[Karingalgreenwellness.com.au](https://karingalgreenwellness.com.au)

Proudly part of the Hall & Prior Aged Care Group



**HALL & PRIOR**  
Health & Aged Care Group





Summer of

# ENTERTAINMENT

LOCAL EVENTS FOR LOCAL PEOPLE



8 March

## Aquafest

Bilgoman Aquatic Centre  
**Family Friendly Outdoor  
Pool Festival**  
Live DJ, Mermaids  
& Inflatables

6pm to 8pm

23 March

## Blues and Folk Live

Sculpture Park Amphitheatre  
**Twilight Tunes  
Live Music Event**  
BYO Picnic  
5pm to 7.30pm

12 April

## Youth Fest

Harry Riseborough Oval  
**Celebrating  
Youth Week WA**  
Live DJ, Skate Clinic,  
Free Amusements & BBQ  
12pm to 3pm



**For more information on these free and inclusive events visit  
[mundaring.wa.gov.au](http://mundaring.wa.gov.au) @shireofmundaring or call 9290 6718**

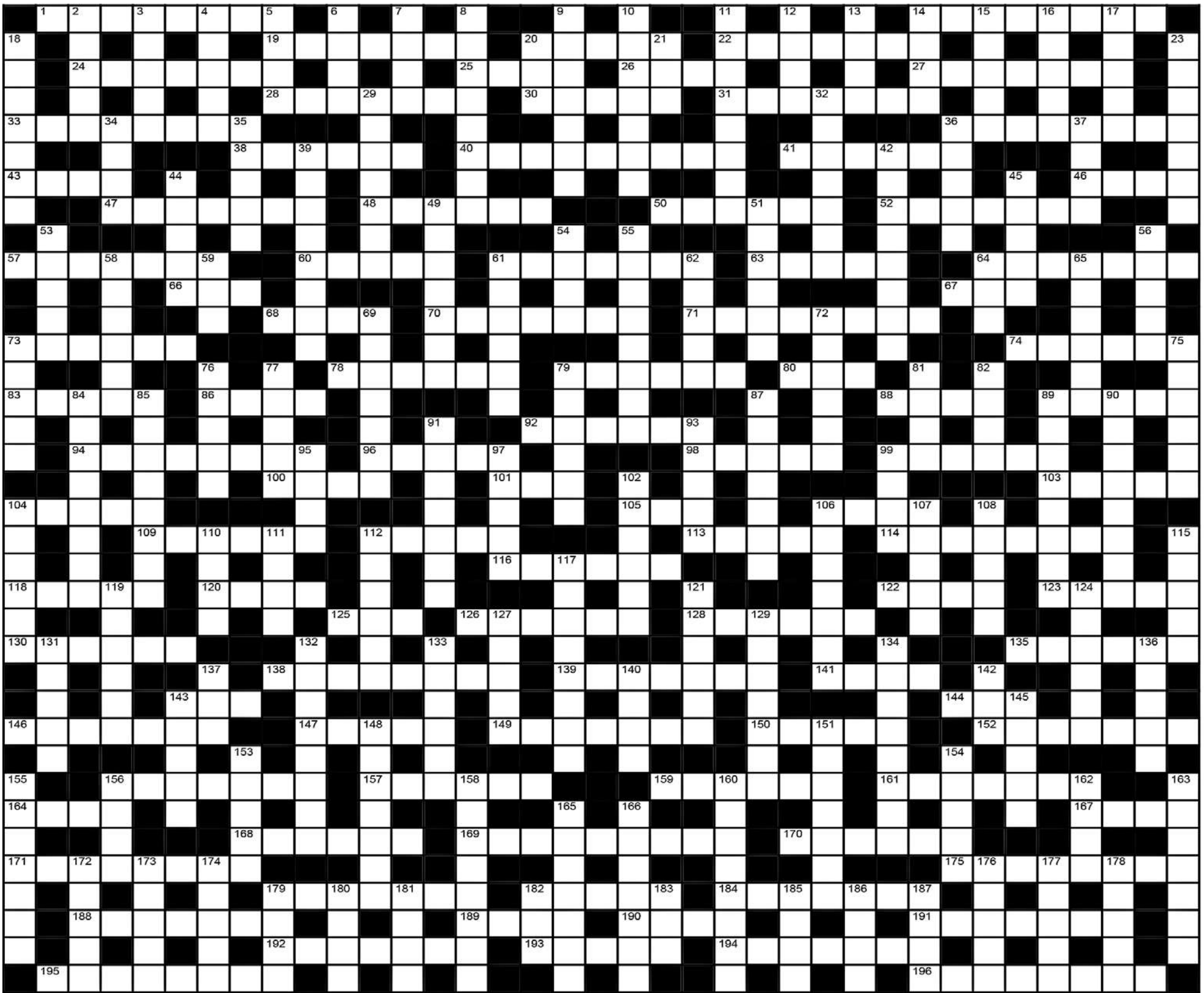






Mind Boggler Crossword

1153



- ACROSS

1 Grow weaker

14 A gemstone

19 US state

20 A gathering

22 Substitute

24 Outdoor (4,3)

25 Scottish hillside

26 Naked

27 Greet

28 High flat area

30 A limb support

31 Branched horns

33 Circus equipment

36 Marine mollusc's home

38 Resounded

40 Swing to and fro

41 Summer pavilion

43 Act crazily

46 Mature

47 A hormone

48 Coddle

50 Famous border collie

52 Black and white horse

57 Paralysed

60 Malay palm

61 Tallying

63 Illegal burning

64 Mathematical point

66 A sauce type

67 One of the Three Stooges

68 Low in pitch

70 Local language

71 Adds onto

73 Strive for high things

74 Longs for

78 Stroke

79 Take measurements

80 Author, ... Fleming

83 Assemble

86 Partly open

88 Walking stick

89 A hymn

92 Gem weights

94 Goes ahead

96 Fishermen's aids

98 Sharpens

99 A division

100 Wise man

101 Top card

103 Woodland deity

104 Clever

105 Female bird

106 Knights

109 Amount left over

112 From Switzerland

113 One from Stockholm

114 Give praise

116 Church passages

118 Strategic boardgame

120 Persian ruler

122 Cook a cake

123 A part of a play

125 Lamb's call

126 Bread rolls

128 Praise, you little ... (coll)

130 A sacred beetle

135 Animals

138 Lose body moisture

139 First settler

141 Taken to court

143 Crow call

144 A small portion of rum

146 In place of

147 A compere

149 Dreamlike

150 Follow straight on

152 Gossips

156 Tyrants

157 Series of prayers

159 Formerly travelling salesman

161 Book users

164 A fever

167 Funeral fire

168 Followed along

169 Comes down again

170 Classical dance

171 Army dirge (4,4)

175 Most pleasant taste

179 Spoken

182 Checked on clock

184 A time space

188 Trucks for cargo

189 A long way off

190 Sea bird

191 Soaks up

192 Everlasting

193 Chairs

194 Fireworks

195 Young hares

196 Car trials (4,4)

DOWN

2 Hawaiian greeting

3 Large domestic birds

4 A copy

5 Stringed instrument

6 List of facts

7 Deadly poison

8 Amazing

9 Frame for vines

10 Underground passages

11 Large waves

12 A tiff

13 Amount of wool

14 Stitches

15 Heartbeat

16 Head covers

17 Bailiff

18 Harsh in manner

20 Aerated matter

21 Flat-nosed pooch

23 A studio

29 Sticky sugar extract

32 Idlers

34 Baked dishes

35 Mexican gentleman

36 Bottoms of feet

37 Mob of cattle

39 Secret place

42 Costs

44 Gives up

45 One accepting payment

49 Bind firmly in cloth

51 Sailor's song

53 Desert haven

54 Be a sign

55 Australian state

56 An emblem

58 Small branches

59 A canine

61 In short supply

62 Sugared gloss

64 Full stop

65 Pieces inserted

69 Body height

72 Lifting machines

73 Backwards

75 Boil gently

76 Biblical tower

77 Foundations

79 Closed

81 Little child

82 Joke

84 Estimate generally

85 Suffers from oppressive heat

87 Takes possession of

89 Root vegetables

90 Lover of beauty

91 Carrying

93 Avoids

95 Droops

97 Lively dance

99 Certain

102 Leaders

104 Light meals

106 Shopkeepers

107 African country

108 Drilled

110 Ready money

111 Strikebreaker

112 Morsels

115 Aids in crime

117 Small earrings

119 Text of a play

121 Hard time

124 A neck scarf

127 States

129 A sunshade

131 A way to sing

132 Drives backwards

133 Two-legged animals

134 An attention director

136 Removed

137 Owned

140 Bovines

142 Decay

143 Be responsible for

145 Stories

148 Train of attendants (Fr)

151 House rubbish

153 Celestial body

154 Acting groups

155 Sheriff's officer

156 Dexterous

158 Breed of terrier

160 Files

162 Expectorate

163 Insects

165 Withdraws

166 Thoroughfares

172 A healing ointment

173 A smooth cream of crushed vegetables

174 French river

176 Small tufts

177 A mistake

178 German city

179 Employs

180 Bound

181 S African money

182 A State (abb)

183 Medical men (abb)

185 Change course at sea

186 Waterside plant

187 Ship's pole

Crossword Solution 1152 from 2 February, 2024

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For more information please contact Joan den Boer on 9290 6731 or email joandenboer@mundaring.wa.gov.au.

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Applications close 19 February 2024.



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### CITY OF SWAN

EXL200-18-1 - PROPOSED Excavation Licence (under the By-Laws) - 10 years

Lots 5 & 6 (No.1728) Great Northern Highway, UPPER SWAN WA 6084

The City of Swan has received a proposal for the above land. Any interested persons are invited to view the documentation at the City of Swan Administration Centre, 2 Midland Square, MIDLAND between the hours of 8:00am and 5:00pm Monday to Friday or on the City's website:

<https://swanengage.swan.wa.gov.au/planningconsultations>

Should you wish to comment on this proposal you may do so via the Online Feedback Form available on the City's website on or before 5pm, 23 February 2024.

Stephen Cain  
Chief Executive Officer  
City of Swan  
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# ECHO Notice Board

## Upcoming Events

• **National Seniors Kalamunda branch** will meet at 10am on Tuesday, February 13 at the Church of Christ Function Centre, 20 Mileti Road, Lesmurdie. Morning tea provided. The guest speaker will be a Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety Consumer Protection community education officer who will talk about scams. For more information call Maureen on 0427 084 422.

• **Mundaring Probus Club's** speaker on Monday, February 12 at 10am will be John Viska from the Australian Garden History Society, who will be speaking on Historic gardens of Perth. Copies of the recent book of the same title will also be available for purchase. Contact 0412 427 533 if you would like to attend. The club meets at the Glen Forrest Sports Club, Glen Forrest.

• **Midland Men's Shed** has cancelled the official opening of its new workshop due to the extreme weather conditions forecast for Saturday, February 10. Secretary-Treasurer Kevin Buckland said the official opening would be rescheduled in the coming months.

• **Midland CWA** meets at the Midland Railway Yards Blacksmith Lane (West) Midland on the third Wednesday of each month at 10am. CWA Flags are displayed on Yelverton Dr, Midland on meeting days. CWA offers a diverse range of interests, and each branch works to meet local community needs. For more information call Maureen on 0456 962 476 or email maureenbarker1@gmail.com

Noticeboard is for non-profits and community groups advertising free/low cost events/programs. Entries must be emailed to [editorial@echo-news.com](mailto:editorial@echo-news.com) two weeks before the event.



## Woofers of the week

Bevan is a two-year-old staffordshire bull terrier cross. Unfortunately his owners lost their rental house and cannot find one where dogs are allowed. He is well behaved and good with children. He is sterilised, vaccinated and micro-chipped. Costs apply. Contact Bakers Hill Dog Sanctuary on 9574 1438.

## Read between the lines

by Pastor Ian Kirk



## "The Lost Robot"

Two months ago, during the Christmas sales, we did an online order for a vacuum cleaning robot. The day came for it to be delivered, but we weren't home. It was sent to a collection point. The next day we went to get it, but someone else had picked it up - two hours earlier.

We contacted the supplier and another one was organised. When it was to be delivered, we weren't home again. This time it wasn't left at a collection point - it became lost in transit.

We again contacted the supplier and they found it in their depot. No more deliveries - we went to the depot and picked it up. The lost robot was found and we gladly brought it home.

A lot of effort went into getting our 'lost' robot vacuum cleaner. There's another story about a massive amount of effort that went into finding something that was lost. This story involves God's Son Jesus. From His own lips He said in Luke 19:10 "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

The 'lost' are us. We are lost spiritually. But Jesus came from heaven and became one of us, and then died for our sins and rose again, in order to bring us lost ones back home to God - if we would believe in Him.

What a huge amount of effort He put into bringing us 'lost ones' back home - because of His awesome love for us.

# ECHO NEWS

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## WAFLW co-captains named for Swans Districts 2024 season



Preseason games for Swan District's WAFLW sides start this weekend.  
Picture: Blake Parry

CHRIS PIKE

**PREPARATIONS** are in full swing for the WAFLW season at Swan Districts with the leadership group voted upon and announced with Demi Liddle and Eliza Gelmi appointed as co-captains for 2024.

The naming comes ahead of the Swans first pre-season WAFLW game against Subiaco on Sunday.

It's a new-look Swan Districts playing group in a lot of ways for the 2024 WAFLW season including a new coaching staff headed up by Ben Bowness.

After captain Jess Cox ruptured her ACL in 2023, two of the players who stepped up in her absence were Liddle and Gelmi, and they have now been appointed co-captains in 2024.

As well as Gelmi and Liddle being co-captains for the 2024 WAFLW season, Jaime Henry, Naomi Baker, Courtney Zappara and Hope Ugle-Hayward join them as part of the leadership team.

The leadership group for the Rogers Cup team has also been announced with Zuzanna Murawska named captain and Adi Griffith vice-captain.

The leadership team also includes Kaylee Myles, Nahala Hall and Gemma Sly.

Liddle gained experience last year having to be more of a leader at Swan Districts following Jess Cox rupturing her ACL and on the back of that she feels ready to step up as co-captain this season and is delighted to share the role with Eliza Gelmi.

"I'm absolutely stoked about it. A big part for me is that after being able to step up into the role last year when Jess unfortunately went down, that gave me the opportunity to prove to myself that I could potentially do it," Liddle said.

Having missed a significant period of time in preparation for the season ahead, Gelmi did find herself a little nervous about what it would be like settling back in and coming in as captain.

"What did alleviate some of that was knowing that I would be co-captain with Demi because she is just a gem," she said.

"She does a lot for the club and it's almost like a second job for her as well as being a player so I want to make sure I can support her as much as possible as well.

"It has settled me a little bit knowing I'm going into it with Demi and the rest of the leadership group is amazing as well."

## Junior boys in semi-finals for Midland-Guildford

JOSHUA MCKENZIE

**WHILE** the Midland-Guildford senior sides were locked in matches, the male U14 and U13 secured their spots in the semi-final stages of the competition.

Entering their match on Sunday, the male U14s were positioned third on the ladder and required a significant victory against Scarborough to move into second position and secure a semi-final berth.

After winning the toss and electing to bowl first, consistent wickets throughout the innings and particularly in the early stages of the match were the key for the side as they limited their opponents to a total of 130 all out.

The team were able to prevent any partnership from exceeding 33 runs, with Leo Jones being the standout bowler as he took the final four wickets of the innings to finish with figures of 4/17 off six overs.

With the target set at 131, captain Mohit Malviya (57 runs off 93 balls) and Cooper Forsyth (42 off 76) were the keys to passing the score with eight wickets remaining as they shared a partnership of 71.

Vice-captain Dylan Wood (53 not out off 61) guided the side to a total of 5/216 off their 50 overs, which proved to be enough to secure the necessary incentive points to jump ahead of Joon-dalup on the ladder and finish in second position – qualifying the side for the semi-finals.

Having already secured a spot

in the semi-finals, the male U13s were looking to remain unbeaten throughout the regular season phase of the competition and solidify their position atop the ladder.

After electing to bat first, an opening partnership of 44 runs between Tanveer Chauvan (25 off 63) and Lachie Flux (26 off 50) proved to be to the most significant partnership of the innings which finished 5/143 after 40 overs.

It was a dominant all-round bowling performance which followed, with Chauvan collecting three wickets for six runs off four overs.

Xavier Parker, Orson Bennett, and Parker Byfield all took two wickets, and helped dismiss Scarborough for a total of just 72 runs from 26 overs, securing a 71-run victory as the team remained unbeaten in first position on the ladder entering the semi-finals.

The match scheduled for the female B grade on Sunday was not played due to a forfeit by Subiaco-Floreat.

The female U17s played Subiaco-Floreat in a 40 over match and would ultimately fall short by six wickets.

The side posted a total of 132 all out with Makayla Hendry top scoring with 34 off 39, but it was not enough as their opponents would chase down the target with 5.5 overs remaining.

The remaining male and female teams will either return to action or complete their ongoing matches this weekend.

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# I Remember When...

Do you remember when my real estate office was in Midland Gate at the food court entrance way back in 1999? This year will be our 25th year of Real Estate Plus servicing and employing people in the local area. I remember our first day full of excitement and energy with nothing but a few ideas I thought were good. Since then we have been able to sell plenty of properties and help lots of landlords and tenants during this time. We were able to expand and at some stages had offices in Mundaring and Bakers Hill as well as Forresterfield. In our network we've added the services of Plus Loans and Plus Your Settlements. We did expand quickly and bought out Sarich Real Estate in 2001 and moved to their premises for twenty years before moving to our new premises at the Catalyst Building on Junction Parade which has been a very successful project for the area. There are many highlights which we hope to share on our Facebook pages in the coming months. Someone asked what are the highlights of the 25 years and for me has been the people we meet and have helped. As you can imagine there have been plenty of challenges with a growing business and the number of transactions. No two days are the same in real estate so it can be quite an adventure at times. As the founder of the company and the group it has been an interesting journey and I am thankful for all who have helped us along the way. A special thanks to Mike Palmer who has been with me since day one and today owns his own office Real Estate Plus Commercial and Industrial with his wife Sam. The other special person I would like to thank is my wife Wendy who has supported myself and our teams through this journey twenty five years plus in the tough and good times. Lastly to every person we've helped and who have supported us, it has enabled us to support and sponsor local charities and sporting clubs as well as employ local people. We have always been proud to have been a local business and will continue hopefully for another twenty five more years. Thank you everyone.



Milton Rendell – CEO  
Real Estate Plus Group

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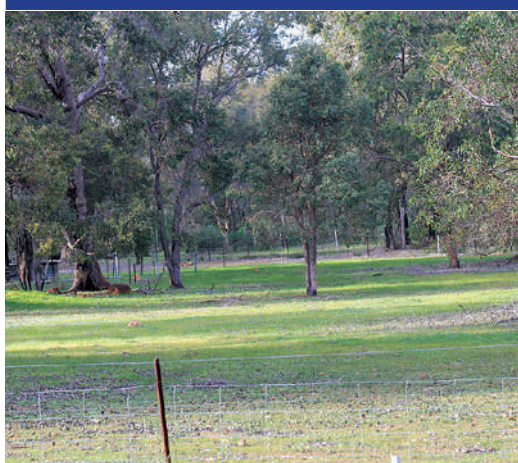
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**Patrick Harper**  
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