

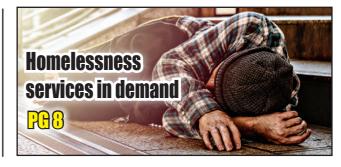


Local Business Supporting Local People

VOL.42 NO.1854









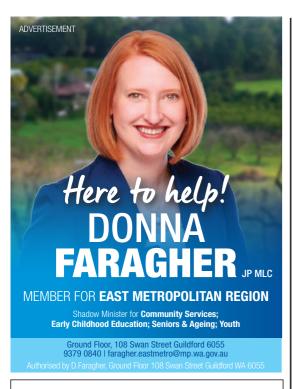






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THANKS TO A GRANT FROM THE SHIRE OF MUNDARING A 15-YEAR-OLD WELSH COB NAMED 'EMERICK' HAS JOINED THE HIPPOTHERAPY PROGRAM AT HORSEPOWER HILLS

ECHO YOUR THOUGHTS

Have your say: editorial@echo-news.com

Concerns for the trees

Dear Echo News,

At a recent City of Kalamunda Council meeting, a decision was made to revoke the tree retention policy (local planning policy 33), to me demonstrates a blatant neglect for due process, community input, and the scientific consensus on the importance of environmental preservation.

The council's six to three vote to repeal this policy came after minimal notice, severely limiting public discourse and transparency.

The push to revoke, led by Councillor David Modolo, I believe was remarkably unfounded, ignoring required legal and financial assessments and overlooking the policy's environmental achievements, such as significant tree planting and canopy expansion. This is critical for our community's ecological health and climate resilience.

I think this hasty decision not only flouts established procedures but flies in the face of scientific understanding and the global imperative for conservation.

It threatens to pave the way for unchecked removal, with potentially devastating environmental and societal consequences, echoing the destruction seen at places like the Roe Logistics Park.

C Dornan **Wattle Grove**

Container furphies Dear Echo News,

Containers for change do an excellent job by providing convenient collection centres which pay out 10 cents

for every acceptable

container delivered to them and no doubt the new residential collection service will also be a success, as mentioned in Containers for Change launches new residential collection service (Echo News, March 1).

However, the claim that since the service was launched in October 2020, more than three billion containers have been diverted from landfill is somewhat of a furphy since a large percentage of them would have previously been recycled anyway via our yellow-lidded recycle bins.

C Coulthard **Gooseberry Hill**

Vacant tax screaming match

Dear Echo News,

I've been reading a lot of the blow from those in the know about the City of Swan rate increase on undeveloped land.

A couple of our former mayors argue that Swan's vacant land tax, which is consistent with nearby local government areas' policies, will place an undue burden upon owners (or maybe speculators?) of vacant blocks.

I'd just like to add a bit of context to try to help quieten this screaming match.

Councillor Knight estimates that this change will affect about 4000 plots and return \$1.5m annually to the city.

This is an astonishing \$375 a year on average per parcel.

While this is not a paltry sum to some, I suspect that the vast majority of those holding off on development will not notice a change to their net worth due to payments of this small tax increase.

And given that unde-

veloped land is selling for record prices, this should give all those who own undeveloped land a slight additional incentive to build or sell.

Both options will help alleviate the current housing shortfall.

Dr R. P. Ilchik **South Guildford**

Council horrors

Dear Echo News,

I read and listen in horror to the latest City of Swan council drama about the proposed 30 per cent rate hike for vacant land.

As to how this ever

Thought for the day

"The best way to predict the future is to create

- Abraham Lincoln

was allowed to be tabled in the first place beggars belief.

Once again, we as ratepayers are to sit back and watch more wasted hours squabbling over something that will now go back and forth, dividing the community.

The City of Swan is a council that is currently not providing an environment where people would feel confident to develop their land -Midland oval redevelopment masterplan is a good example of this, still tied up in red tape and constant stalling tactics from some on the council.

A sound business environment is created when confidence in city leaders is demonstrated the current situation that reigns within the City of Swan is not a good indicator for investors.

The Echo reserves the

right to edit letters for

length, legal reasons or

clarity. The opinions ex-

pressed do not necessarily

reflect those of the Echo.

All letters must contain

the author's full name, ad-

H Quaife Guildford

CONSUMER PROTECTION

It's not easy being green

With Commissioner for Consumer **Protection Trish Blake**

Labels such as 'eco-friendly' and 'sustainable' can be attractive for shoppers wanting to do their bit for the environment, but it's not always easy to sort what's fact from fic-

That's why a recent internet sweep by consumer agencies throughout the world, including Consumer Protection in WA, focused on identifying misleading environmental claims for the first time.

Globally, 1095 websites promoting products and services like clothes, cosmetics and food were analysed in the International Consumer Protection Enforcement Network (ICPEN) sweep, with 40 per cent found to be making claims or using brand-names or language that weren't supported by evidence.

Of the 74 Australian retail websites targeted, concerns were raised about one-third of them for a number of reasons.

Some traders used terms like 'eco' or 'sustainable' in reference to 'natural products', but failed to provide adequate explanation or evi-

Others used their own brand eco logos and labels not associated with an accredited organisation, while a number even hid or omitted certain information, such as a product's pollution

At this stage, regulators haven't decided whether consumer protection laws have been broken, but the traders identified will now come under greater scrutiny and action taken if evidence of misleading consumers is found.

A fact-sheet is available on the Australian Consumer and Competition Commission website to help consumers understand and evaluate terms such as 'green', 'environmentally friendly', 'eco-friendly' or 'environmentally safe'.

dress and phone number for verification purposes.

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Residents petition against funeral parlour

GERA KAZAKOV

THE company behind a funeral parlour proposal for Wattle Grove says it has been working diligently with the council while residents are now petitioning against

The proposal has been put forward by Seasons Funerals and is set to be located on 326 Hale Road – right next to the Wattle Grove and Hale Village shopping centres.

The planning report for the parlour, prepared by Edge Planning and Property, states that the development will be both a mix of single and double storey buildings with no crematorium onsite, but there will be "interim storage of bodies in a refrigerated facility."

'This includes the collection of bodies from the place of death, transfer of bodies to the facility in a purpose-built vehicle, storage of the body whilst the required death documentation is processed and transfer to an offsite cremation facility of the family's choosing," the planning report

The parlour is expected to run from 8.30am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday – with limited services on Saturday – from a 100-seat chapel, with a maximum of two services per day, according to the planning report.

The report said that "significant mature trees" will be

kept, with a loading area at the back of premises to ensure

that the loading and unloading of bodies cannot be seen by the public.

But Wattle Grove resident Andrew Mullane said that residents within Wattle Grove would prefer that Season's Funerals put their funeral parlour in the industrial area, not right in the heart of the Wattle Grove community.

'We think it's well beyond reasonable to expect us to put up with the scale of activities and the scale of the building right in the middle of our community," he said.

Fellow resident Raj Pandian was also concerned about the site's visibility to school children, and questioned how a funeral parlour could benefit the community.

We want something which can support the community, help the community, and prosper the community," he said.

So far, Mr Pandian said his fellow residents have collected more than 700 signatures for their petition, which they plan to present to council as soon as they can.

Season's Funerals general manager Vanessa Wilson said they found the Hale Road site 12 months ago and have been working diligently with the City of Kalamunda to ensure it meets traffic impact and noise requirements, as well as area suitability alongside the parlour being visually appealing.

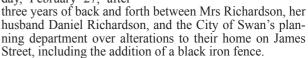
We appreciate the concerns the local community has raised and we understand their emotional response, but we are like any other business," she said.

SAT rejects mayor's reno

ANDREW WILLIAMS

THE State Administrative Tribunal has ruled against City of Swan Mayor Tanya Richardson's husband's applications to renovate their Guildford heritage listed home.

The decision handed down on Tuesday, February 27, after



In 2018 the Richardson's were granted development approval for renovations, and in 2021 the City of Swan granted conditional approval for amendments made to the 2018 approved plans.

The amended renovation elements that were approved included the addition of seven sky lights and 22 solar panels to the property's roof, the return of the existing painted face bricks of the house to a natural brick colour, the installation of a Victorian fan gable infill, a double carport, and a pool gazebo.

However, what was not approved, and what escalated the matter to the SAT, was the installation of a new black iron spear fence and a balcony with French appurtenant doors.

The SAT documents stated the style and form of fencing didn't match the federation period style of the house or surrounding Guildford heritage area.

The City of Swan's planning departments argument was the black iron spear fencing along Hubert St would have a 'discordant visual impact'.

The prevailing character, style and amenity of the street is defined in part by the use of timber picket fences and the use of black iron spear infill within the fence will not only not enhance the character of the streetscape, but it will have a 'discordant visual impact," the SAT document stated. The Tribunal agreed.

Likewise, the issue of the balcony and the French appurtenant doors was found by the Tribunal to be "not consistent with the style of the simple Federation Queen Anne contributory dwelling... and should therefore not be

Move to overturn vacant land tax increase motion

ANITA McINNES

CITY of Swan council will get to again debate the option of increasing vacant land tax rates by 30 per cent after five councillors signed a revocation motion following the original motion passing due to the mayor's casting vote.

Councillor Rashelle Predovnik is trying to have the motion revoked with councillors Charlie Zaninno, Rod Henderson, Evia Aringo and Jagdip Singh agreeing to help make up the five signatures she needed to get the revocation motion presented to the council in April.

When putting up the original motion, Whiteman ward councillor Dave Knight said the reason behind it was the housing crisis and the need to increase urban infill by encouraging vacant landholders to develop their land, and that it would bring the city into line with other local government areas and generate an estimated \$1.5 million extra per annum.

In his newsletter deputy mayor Ian Johnson said he was happy to support Cr Knight's motion at the February 14 council meeting as the proposal would discourage land banking, particularly at a time of a housing crisis, and would support the city's tree can-

Čr Johnson said vacant blocks in residential areas were associated with illegal dumping and antisocial behaviour so with the early development of vacant blocks the council could improve the amenity of the area.

"This will not impact the vast majority of ratepayers but it will impact investors who have been sitting on vacant blocks for years, with no plans to develop," he said.

"It need not apply to people buy-

ing a block in a residential estate and waiting to build."

He said if the revocation motion was not successful, the vacant land rate would go into the modelling for the city's 2024-25 budget.

"The budget will go out for public submissions before it is adopted.

"There will be the opportunity to ensure this does not affect people who are sitting on vacant land for reasons beyond their control, such as significant delays on their home builds due to an overheated construction market."

He said the March 8, 2023 report to the council said impacts of an increased land tax could be mitigated by the rate not applying once a building license was lodged.

"It need not apply to people buy-ing a block in a residential estate and waiting to build.'

Cr Predovnik said there was no guarantee exceptions would be given to people with a building licence or circumstances beyond their control

"What council actually supported was a 30 per cent rate rise for residential and commercial vacant blocks, with no exemptions given to anyone," she said.

"This means, the owners of these blocks will be hit by a 30 per cent rate hike, regardless of their personal circumstances."

She said if the motion was not revoked, thousands of affected people would be blindsided by a massive rate rise they didn't even know was

"There's been no proper research, investigation or information gathered about these vacant blocks from property owners for council to consider in a briefing before this proposal went to council again," she said.



The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions is seeking members for a new Management Planning Reform Aboriginal Reference Group.

We are looking for people who:

- are experienced in planning for land and sea management
- are interested in improving the way management planning is done
- · come from a variety of locations across WA
- are willing to attend quarterly meetings for the next two years.

Aboriginality is essential for these positions, and remuneration is provided.

Express your interest by 5pm on Friday 22 March 2024.

Learn more at dbca.wa.gov.au/MPRARG



A busy year ahead for tortoise friends



FRIENDS of the Western Swamp Tortoise has formed a youth team, whose first official meeting will be on Sunday, March 24.

Chair Jan Bant said the young members – aged between eight and 16-years-old – were keen to encourage the participation of other youngsters and were devising some innovative methods to attract new volunteers.

The group has many activities planned for 2024, including a celebration of World Turtle Day on Thursday, May 23 and their own 20th anniversary in July

"We have already assisted a very stretched team from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), who have been so busy fighting fires this summer, they have needed a hand with some reserve maintenance." she said.

"Although it was extremely hot, we managed to temporarily fix a leaning section of the feral proof fence – slated for replacement later in the year – and pick up the litter along a stretch of the Great Northern Highway (getting a head start on Clean Up Australia Day).

"We have booked in some talks to adult groups and are looking forward to giving our exciting free presentations to lots of local schools during the year."

For more information contact Jan on 0408 024 800 or email her at westernswamptortoise@yahoo.com.au





ANDREW WILLIAMS

HIGH Wycombe library will be hosting an event this Monday, March 11, aimed at encouraging fledgling bird watchers in the Perth Hills.

The event, which runs from 5.30pm to 7pm, is the first of two bird-watching seminars to be hosted at the High Wycombe library in collaboration with the City of Kalamunda.

Monday night's seminar will be hosted by avid and experienced bird watcher Mike Green, while the second event, on April 18, will be run by habitat gardener, wildlife photographer, and Mike's wife, Rachel Green.

Mr Green will share practical tips, bird calls, and imitation of bird behaviours in order to deliver information in an entertaining way.

The seminar will provide a handout which will include 22 different species of birds found throughout the Perth Hills and

will go into detail about how bird calls, plumage, beaks and colouration can be used to differentiate them from each other.

Mr Green said the 22 species he will discuss were chosen because they are the species most often misidentified by amateur bird watchers, but he confirmed he will also be talking about many more species at the seminar.

"The 22 are the most likely species people will encounter, and also the most easily confused. Because trust me there are some very similar and confusing birds in the hills," he said.

Mrs Green said one of the main reasons they are hosting these seminars, apart from their shared love of birds, is to encourage people to experience nature.

age people to experience nature.
"We just love the birds here in the local area, and people just don't know much about them.

"It's well known that one's connection to nature is very good for mental health, and in this day and age you can't have enough of that," Mr Green said.

The couple refer to the 2020 German study entitled 'biological diversity invokes happiness' from the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Reseach.

The study found individual enjoyment of life correlates with the number of surrounding bird species, as birds, due to their identifiable calls, are clear markers of an area's level of biodiversity.

The study used data collected from 26,000 adults from 26 European countries.

"According to our findings, the happiest Europeans are those who can experience numerous different bird species in their daily life, or who live in near-natural surroundings that are home to many species," the study's lead author Joel Methorst said.

Tickets for the seminar can be found here https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1175520?

Call for St John Midland volunteers

THE team at St John of God Midland Public and Private Hospitals have always been proud of their terrific volunteers, and is looking for a few more to join their volunteering team.

The hospital currently has about 65 volunteers who give generously of their time to greet and escort patients, their families and visitors as well as provide companionship and support.

Many of the volunteers have been with the hospital for many years and each person has different reasons for volunteering including meeting new people and making new friends, giving something back to the community, improving confidence, gaining new skills and improving mental and physical health and wellbeing.

St John of God Midland Public and Private Hospitals chief executive officer Paul Dyer said from the get-go, volunteers have been an integral part of the hospital community and are valued enormously.

"They help us ensure that we provide the best possible patient and visitor experience," he said.

"At present, we need new volunteers for the Forget Me Not program in particular. Volunteers for this program form part of the care team of nurses and allied health staff in supporting people with dementia and or delirium, or those who are at risk of delirium in the hospital.

"The program uses trained volunteers to provide person-centred emotional support and practical assistance to vulnerable patients in hospital. Duties include sitting with patients, chatting one on one and supporting patients with activities they enjoy, such as reading, playing cards and so forth. It is a rewarding volunteer experience and I'd encourage people to apply."

Those wishing to volunteer for the Forget Me Not program or for general volunteering at the hospital must be over 18 years of age, will be required to undergo a National Volunteer Police Check and



Hospital volunteers Gwendoline, Athena, Debra and Murray.

may be required to undertake a Working with Children Check.

Any training, if required, is provided by the hospital. To enquire about volunteering, contact the hospital on (08) 9462 5409 or send an email to midland.volunteer@sjog.org.au

ANITA McINNES

DENISE Trobe of Hovea, who loves racing and getting dressed up, is one of four women who had races named after them at Ascot on Wednesday leading up to International Women's Day on Friday.

During her time as a member Ms Trobe has bred and raced thoroughbreds as well as pacers most of the time.

"I still have one racing at the moment – Zac Luvs to Fly – trained by Chris Stelmach at Bunbury," she said.

She has had a long association with Robbie and Jody Gray the owners of Rangeview Stud, which used to be based at Bullsbrook

"I've agisted - both harness and thoroughbreds - with Robbie and Jody for all of those years as well.

"From the races point of view there is probably nowhere else you can go where women can actually get really dressed up so that's really nice.

"I actually always do (dress up) but I just love

She said she didn't like tokenism when it came to women whether it was in administration, work or things like International Women's Day.

"I've worked all my life apart from the last two years. I had to actually resign due to cancer treatment and I've been an executive in the federal public service and there wasn't obvious discrimination there, but basically there always has been and I did try to be a role model throughout all my promotions and positions.

'So International Women's week is important I didn't understand it until a few years into my career and doing well in it, that people actually do need role models.

"For me International Women's week, really I guess represents role models without it hopefully being a token thing, because there's so many different weeks and different days celebrating something it's almost every day is a day for

When Ms Trobe spoke to Echo News before the races she said she was really looking forward

Perth Racing said the International Women's Day lunch recognised their four longest serving, female members.

"Perth Racing encourages inclusion for all, in enjoyment of a sport in which jockeys experience equal pay and gender equality," a statement



Walker/Western Racepix

Ellenbrook Station

Ellenbrook train station now complete

The new Metronet Ellenbrook station is now complete, marking the first station finished as part of the new Morley-Ellenbrook line.

Comprised of more than 346 tonnes of steel and 1160 tonnes of concrete, this new station marks a major milestone in the state government's commitment to build a 21km rail-line to Ellenbrook.

The new station, one of five being delivered as part of the project, is located in the heart of Ellenbrook town centre, and will offer more transport options for the more than 46,000 residents living in

Ellenbrook station was the first Morley-Ellenbrook line station to commence construction in 2022.

With convenient and modern facilities, the station

includes a 12-stand bus interchange and 500 parking bays (including ACROD).

The station has achieved a five-star green star design review rating, boasting 200 solar panels and 10 electric vehicle charging bays in the design

Being the only at-grade station on the Morley-Ellenbrook line, Éllenbrook station features a 150m long sheltered island platform with seating and accessible passenger information and facilities.

Once operational, travel from the station to Perth will take approximately 30-minutes on a two-zone fare, shaving off half the time for residents currently using public transport and costing as little as \$4.08.

Around 400 workers were employed on the Ellenbrook project, delivering a significant job boost.

Metronet moves onto the Swan?

GERA KAZAKOV

THE State government has outlined its vision of upgrades to the ferry service while the City of Swan says it is interested in any proposal which can make it easier for visitors to experience the Swan Valley and Guildford.

State transport minister Rita Saffioti and Premier Roger Cook have dubbed their vision 'Metronet on the Swan' and said that it is still undertaking a detailed business case analysis on the proposal.

Mr Cook said that the past January was the busiest month ever in relation for ferry use in Perth, with 110,000 boardings in January for the Elizabeth Quay and Mends Street route, and noted that this was an exciting opportunity to explore expansion of the service.

"Imagine having a pint at the Raffles (hotel) and catching the ferry to the footy," he said.

Ms Saffioti said the state govern-

ment will be looking to build more ferries locally and also will be working closely with local governments to determine where the potential new stops could be.

City of Swan Mayor Tanya Richardson said she understands that the latest concept focused more on areas closer to the Perth CBD - such as Optus Stadium and Applecross – but still believes it could be beneficial.

"There's no doubt it could have many benefits for communities along the Swan and Canning rivers, and Perth as a whole," she said.

"From our point of view, we would be interested in any proposal that could make it easier for visitors to experience our world-class Swan Valley and historic Guildford.











Golden Pipeline mountain bike challenge

A DROP of water leaving Mundaring Weir, the source of supply for the parched gold-fields, can take one to two weeks to reach its destination along the Golden Pipeline, but cyclists will aim to do it in five days.

Registrations are now open for the eighth annual Pipeline Challenge, an epic mountain bike adventure which aims to bring riders together in support of young mums facing homelessness.

Over five unforgettable days, riders make their way from the red dirt of Kalgoorlie to the iconic Parkerville Tavern, tracing the golden pipeline which has been delivering water to the Goldfields for 120 years.

"The Pipeline Challenge is a unique way to test your limits, enjoy the great Aussie outdoors and spend some quality time with mates," Youth Futures chief executive officer Mark Waite said.

"It also gives riders the chance to explore many tracks that can't be ridden outside of this event."

Scheduled for May 4-8, the ride raises much needed funds for WA charity Youth Futures, and their Nest program which supports young mums at risk of losing custody of their baby due to homelessness or domestic violence.

Established in 2015, the event was created to help Youth Futures support as many young people as possible. Most Pipeliners participate as part of a relay-style team, taking turns to pedal it out

But some participants want to go that bit further and tackle the whole distance solo, over 600km - no easy feat.

Perth Hills residents and Pipeline soloists Jason Wells and Martin Van Voorthuizen are encouraging others to give it go.

"Riding next to one of the most iconic features in our WA landscape and celebrating what is unique to WA is what sets this ride apart," Mr Wells said.

"Doing this with others with a shared passion for 'reward with effort' on the journey makes it unique, including the young people from Youth Futures education programs who are willing to get out of their comfort zone and give it a crack."

Mr Wells and Mr Van Voorthuizen are participating in the ride for the fourth and fifth time respectively.

"Being able to have a real impact in a

young person's life is what brings me back to the Pipeline Challenge," Mr Wells said.

"I come back because Youth Futures is a great organisation to ride for. The team is very passionate about the cause and friendly making the ride challenging and fun."

Youth Futures has been empowering disadvantaged young people for more than 30 years and delivers a range of accommodation, education, and support programs.

Sadly, more than 1100 young people were turned away from the charity's seven homelessness services last year, as they were operating at capacity and could not meet the demand.

Registrations close March 15 and anyone keen to find out more can visit: www.pipel inechallenge.com.au





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Pageant finalist seeks national crown SWAN View resident Amy Basnett is a national Australia in

SWAN View resident Amy Basnett is a national finalist in the Mrs division for Australia Galaxy Pageant to be held in Sydney from May 1-4.

The mother of two works for a state department and has a contemporary art business on the side.

Mrs Basnett credits Galaxy for challenging and supporting her 12 months after she suffered a spinal injury.

The Australia Galaxy Pageant vision of empowering women to "be the best version of you" appeals to her.

"They provide a platform for delegates to become role models to their peers, family, and communities, be that through charity work, community involvement, volunteering, overcoming fear or gaining more confidence," Mrs Basnett said.

She also refused to accept that her life and future was limited by her injury and anxiety.

"I had the choice to spiral or to step forward in fear towards hope and rebuild but how?"

She started her Galaxy journey in 2022.

"I went from limitation to achieving best in swimwear, best in fashion wear, 2nd runner-up overall in 2022 and 1st runner-up in 2023.

"I have grown so much and plan to bring home the national crown to WA, and go on to represent Australia in Orlando at the International Galaxy Pageant in August."

She is a volunteer with Share the Dignity an organisation which gets community members involved to donate period products



and self-care products to those experiencing period poverty, homelessness or domestic violence, and also volunteers with Worthy Australia, which supports women and children fleeing domestic violence through fully furnished safe haven accommodation.

She is holding a fundraiser at Oakover Estate on Saturday, March 23 to raise money for batyr, which aims to smash the stigma surrounding mental health and empower young people to reach out for support.

and empower young people to reach out for Tickets are available through Eventbrite.

Mundaring gets \$10,000 to reduce disaster risk

ANDREW WILLIAMS

THE Shire of Mundaring is set to receive \$10,000 in funding as part of the federal government's natural disaster risk reduction (NDRR) grant program.

On Thursday, February 29, the state Emergency Services Minister Stephen Dawson announced WA has been allocated \$2.5 million of funding from the NDRR, for a range of projects aimed at reducing the risk and impact of natural disasters.

The \$2.5m will be spread amongst 15 separate initiatives across the state and will include protection from heat, cyclone shelters, aircraft infrastructure in remote areas, and artificial intelligence to detect bushfires early

The Shire of Mundaring's initiative received the smallest funding amount out of the 15, while the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) received the largest - \$681,578, for an improved flood intelligence system.

The shire's initiative called ProPerPrep, stands for

property and personal preparedness. It's smaller in scope and is focused on commissioning 10 short videos, between two and three minutes each, which will share "property and personal preparedness messaging, encompassing bushfire mitigation, environmental consideration and personal wellbeing".

A shire spokesperson said the videos would include messaging from the shire, DFES, and Red Cross but may also include new information identified through consultation with local brigades and key community members

They said the idea behind the project was to localise the preparedness message so it's relevant to the community.

"New information will only be formulated if it is identified as locally required. We as a shire are continually listening to identify gaps in available information in order to provide what is needed in the community," the spokesperson said.

According to the spokesperson, the production of the 10 videos will most likely begin in May or June.



DFES extends tanker's stint due to fire risk

THE Department of Fire and Emergency Services has secured an extension for the WA Large Air Tanker (LAT) after extending the southern bushfire season into autumn because of an increased risk of fires.

The Autumn Seasonal Bushfire Outlook released last week by the Australasian Fire Authorities Council, indicates hot, dry and windy conditions will continue over the next three months.

The south west land division experienced its second hottest year on record in 2023, meaning a large part of the state will enter autumn with its landscape drier than usual.

While the risk remains normal for central and northern WA, part of the West Kimberley is also drier than usual which may reduce the opportunity for prescribed burns.

The LAT will remain in WA until 27

March while Helitaks and Black Hawk helicopters will be available until April.

Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner Darren Klemm urged the community to stay vigilant and have a bushfire plan ready.

"The most severe heat may be gone, but the bushfire risk hasn't. We have also extended our 'Got 15 minutes to burn?' advertising campaign into autumn because we want to see every Western Australian household well prepared with a plan so they can stay safe in an emergency," he said.

"It is critical that every household has their bushfire plan ready that outlines key decisions for your family including when you will leave, where you will go and what to take," he said.

'There are still only 1.5 per cent of households with a recorded bushfire plan compared to 93 per cent of the State that is bushfire prone. It only takes 15 minutes to make those lifesaving decisions using the My Bushfire Plan app or website.

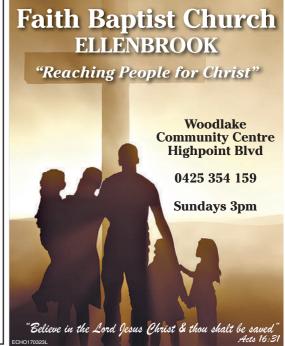
Commissioner Klemm paid tribute to the dedicated work of the thousands of career firefighters and volunteers who have helped keep West Australians safe this summer after DFES activated the aerial fleet earlier than usual because of an increased threat of fires due to hot and dry conditions during spring.

"It has been a long, challenging season with firefighters responding to 3757 bushfires since October," he said.
"DFES' aerial fleet has flown more

than 1640 hours across 152 incidents, dropping 12,262,946 litres of water and retardant on firegrounds.

"Recent fires in Kwinana, Gwelup and Bibra Lake have been a timely reminder that bushfires do occur in suburban area.'





Microbat boxes to fight mozzies

RESIDENTS within the City of Kalamunda are being encouraged to take part in the city's microbat box initiative, a program designed to create habitats for local micro bats with the bonus of also trying to reduce mosquito numbers.

The microbat boxes are made by volunteers at the Foothills Men's Shed in Forrestfield, and the city plans to collect data on mosquito populations once the boxes are active.

City of Kalamunda Mayor Margaret Thomas said the microbat box initiative has had an incredible impact over the past four years.

"With the collaborative efforts of our residents, the skilled hands of the Foothill's Men's Shed, and the dedication of our city officers, we've been able to provide cosy homes for our tiny, yet mighty, mi-

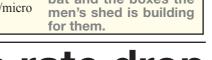
crobat population," she said.
"These helpful creatures play a vital role in curbing local mosquito populations, contributing to a healthier ecosystem for us all.

Residents who want to get involved can order their box through the city's website, but must pay a fee to the men's shed for their box to be constructed.

As the boxes are made by volunteers, the city said that the boxes themselves can take up to four weeks to be made.

visit https://engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/micro register, bat-boxes

A white striped mastif bat and the boxes the for them.



Forrestfield crime rate drop

THE officer in charge of the Forrestfield subdistrict and police station, Senior Sergeant Brad Robinson has reported improvements in the subdistrict's crime statistics in what he called a promising update.

Key figures reveal positive trends across various categories, showcasing effective community safety

Year-to-date analysis demonstrates a substantial reduction in reported burglary offences. In 2023, there were 73 cases, whereas in the same period of 2024, the number decreased to 42.

This decline coincides with the successful implementation of crime prevention measures, heightened security, and effective law enforcement strategies within the community.

Senior Sergeant Robinson said there has been a notable decrease in motor vehicle stealing incidents.

In 2023, there were 22 reported cases, which decreased to 17 in the equivalent period of 2024.

According to Senior Sergeant Robinson, this reduc-

tion is attributed to improved security measures for vehicles, focused law enforcement efforts, and public awareness initiatives contributing to a safer commu-

There has also been a significant decrease in stealing incidents which is evident in the year-to-date analysis. In 2023, there were 211 reported cases, decreasing to 129 in 2024.

Senior Sergeant Robinson said contributing factors to this decline include law enforcement strategies, active community engagement, and heightened security measures implemented by businesses and individuals.

He expressed satisfaction with the consistent decrease in reported burglary offences, stealing of motor vehicles, and stealing incidents between 2023 and

He said these positive trends underscore the success of ongoing crime prevention measures, emphasising the importance of continuous monitoring, analysis, and community engagement to ensure sustained improvements in community safety.





Surging demand for WA homelessness services

veals demand for homelessness services is soaring as the housing crisis impacts people across the state.

The analysis of newly released Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data finds 5100 people every day are being helped by specialist homelessness services in WA.

The figure has increased by 1100, or 27.5 per cent in the five years since the 2017-18 financial year.

The study also found, in the 2022-23 financial year 1100 people reported sleeping rough in the month before seeking help, almost doubling from 553 five years ago, and every day 75 requests for help could not be met, up 32 per cent from 57 five years ago.

The state government's \$24.4 million rent relief program and \$47.6m funding for 15 homelessness services were important initiatives and very welcomed by the sector.

"But to build on the momentum and significant investment into homelessness and social housing by the state government we need to ensure our services can meet demand. To meet demand all services urgently

NEW analysis by Shelter WA re- need an average funding boost of 25 per cent," Shelter WA chief executive officer Kath Snell said.

"Homelessness services from Bunbury to Broome and beyond are struggling to cope with surging demand.

"Right now, we have a perfect storm of soaring rents, rock bottom vacancy rates and a cost-of-living crisis which is plunging more and more people into distress.

"People who have never asked for help in their lives are experiencing homelessness for the first time.

Without a significant funding boost that actually meets demand. services will have to continue turning desperate people away, including women and children fleeing domestic

Shelter WA is also calling on the government to fund interim, rapid accommodation solutions while more social housing is built.

These include the conversion of vacant or underutilised properties, prefabricated or tiny homes on vacant government land and granny flats for social housing tenants to accommodate extended family.

eye on crime

Evade police incident through the suburbs

OFFICERS from the rapid apprehension squad have charged a 28-year-old man after an evade police incident that occurred on Tuesday, February 27.

About 10.20am, a woman driving a green Mazda hatchback stopped on the side of Gnangara Road to use her mobile phone.

Upon stopping the vehicle, it will be alleged the accused approached the Mazda and threatened the woman with an axe, demanding she exit the ve-

A short time later, the man was sighted driving the stolen green Mazda by police on Roe Highway in Forrestfield.

It will be further alleged the driver failed to stop and continued driving. Following communications with officers on the ground, police air wing tracked the green hatchback as it travelled through surrounding suburbs including, Lexia, Ellenbrook, Forrestfield, Lockridge and Beechboro

The vehicle came to a halt on Amazon Drive in Beechboro after crashing into a fence. The accused attempted to flee on foot but was quickly apprehended by police.

A 28-year-old man from Lockridge has been charged with several offences including three counts of stealing, two counts of driver fail to stop, property damage, armed robbery, aggravated assault occasioning bodily harm, common assault in circumstances of aggravation or racial aggravation, attempted armed robbery, breach of protective bail conditions, trespass, steal motor vehicle and drive recklessly, no authority to drive (never held), driver failing to comply with direction to stop, reckless driving to escape pursuit by police, attempted escape from lawful custody and obstructing public officers.

He appeared before the Midland Magistrates Court on Wednesday, February 28 where he was remanded in custody to reappear on April 2.

Noranda scrub fire investigation

STRIKE Force Vulcan officers are investigating a series of five scrub fires that occurred in the Noranda area over the weekend on Sunday,

The first fire is believed to have started about 5am in the area along the north bound lanes of Tonkin Highway near Benara Road, with the other fires following in a northerly direction.

Department of Fire and Emergency Services attended and extinguished the fires.

Anyone with any information relating to these fires is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or via www.crimestopperswa.com.au.

Rewards of up to \$25,000 are available for information that leads to the identification and conviction of an arsonist.

Bullsbrook serious crash info sought

OFFICERS from the major crash investigation section are appealing for information in relation to a serious crash that occurred in Bullsbrook on Wednesday, February 28.

About 4.05pm, a silver Suzuki Baleno hatchback travelling west on Neaves Road, left the road and collided with a tree.

A seven-year-old male passenger received serious injuries and was airlifted to Perth Children's Hospital. The 36-year-old female driver received minor injuries.

Major crash investigators are conducting an examination of the scene and are appealing for any witnesses to call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or report online at www.crime stopperswa.com.au

Police want anyone with information regarding the below incidents to call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or you can can make a report online at www.crimestopperswa.com.au





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Register Online @ www.mazenod.wa.edu.au

Gladys Road, Lesmurdie • registrar@mazenod.wa.edu.au • 9291 1500

Bassendean to Busselton LifeCycle ride

THE annual LifeCycle on road three-day charity ride is back this weekend, March 9-11, and will see 150 riders raise funds as they cycle from Bassendean to Busselton.

The riders will depart from Ashfield Reserve in Bassendean at 7am on Saturday, March 9, and are estimated to arrive at Churchill Park in Busselton between 12.30 and 1.30pm on Monday, March 11.

1.30pm on Monday, March 11.
Riders will be split into five groups based on their abilities with overnight stays in Pinjarra and Brunswick Junction, with a starting distance of 290km, and a maximum distance of 408km for the faster groups.

The faster groups will ride an extra distance that will detour towards Mandurah, to Dwellingup and through Donnybrook.

LifeCycle is a registered charity which runs events for on road and off-road cyclists in WA.

The LifeCycle on-road cycling event started in 1998 and is always held on the weekend following the long weekend in March.

The proceeds from the event will be given to Canteen, an organisation that provides tailored support for young people aged between 12-25 who are affected by cancer.

Life Cycle is the biggest community fundraiser for Canteen in the country and since 1998 has donated more than \$2.7 million to the organisation.

Canteen members, volunteers and staff participate during the three-day ride to give riders the opportunity to meet and hear from the people they are supporting.

Through Canteen, these young

Through Canteen, these young people learn to explore and deal with their feelings about cancer, connect with other young people in the same boat and, if they've been diagnosed themselves, Canteen provides specialist, youth-specific treatment teams.

The goal of charitable donations to Canteen WA is to support young people through providing connections with other young people in similar situations through events and programs; free counselling and individual support; 24/7 online

support communities and specialist treatment and a range of support

in hospitals.

LifeCycle also hosts an off-road cycling event, which started in 2012, that takes place in October each year.

services for young cancer patients

Almost \$3m has been donated to the youth charity Canteen from LifeCycle events since 1998.

S3m has nated to th charisen from e events 198.

Welsh cob horse boosts hills hippotherapy program



Volunteer Alison, Emerick with rider Summer (aged 4), horse handler Alwyne with volunteer Bernadette.

A 15-year-old Welsh cob has joined the Hippotherapy program at HorsePower Hills thanks to a grant from Shire of Mundaring.

"After months of training while on loan to HorsePower, Emerick has proven worthy of joining the equine team," said head coach Willie Warnock.

"Shire of Mundaring has frequently supported the terrific community service our charity provides. This new grant of \$2000 has part funded the purchase of Emerick and he will play a major role in our Hippotherapy program in 2024 and hopefully for another 10 or more years.

"Horses of this calibre are difficult to find and are always very expensive because they are so versatile."

Hippotherapy is the medical application of the horse in therapy and hippotherapy programs are run by specialist physiotherapists, occupa-

tional therapists and speech patholo-

"Horses used in Hippotherapy must have a gentle nature. They need to be patient and cope with the demands of having several people walking alongside," physiotherapist Nicky Bushell said.

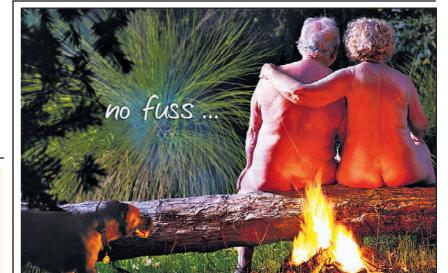
said.
"The young riders may be quite noisy at times and so the horse needs to be able to cope with unexpected sounds.

ole to cope with unexpected sounds. "Emerick fits all the required criteria

regarding temperament. He is a good height and able to carry larger children, but not so tall that he puts the side -walkers at risk of shoulder injury.

"There must be no signs of stiffness or lameness and the horse needs to be willing to learn and be very responsive to the directions of the horse handler and therapist."

HorsePower has a few vacancies in the Thursday morning program. Contact Janet, on 0432 811 699.



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I'm going the same way I lived it No Frills, No Fuss" - Jack



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Late broadcaster honoured

GERA KAZAKOV

MIDLAND Guildford Cricket Club was one of eight premier cricket clubs to go 'blue for blood cancer' over the weekend in honour of late Sport FM founder Colin Minson.

A beloved figure within Western Australian sports broadcasting, Mr Minson passed away in March 2022 after being diagnosed with acute myeloid leukaemia.

Midland Guildford Cricket Club president John Gartrell said both the club and senior members were very keen to honour Mr Minson's memory.

"Supporting the 'blue for blood cancer' fundraiser was something we were very happy to do with round 15 of the male premier cricket competition committed to the cause," he said.

"Colin was always a happy committed supporter of WACA premier cricket and we would see him at Lilac Hill for his Sport FM commitments."

Mr Gartrell said the club's barbecue held in Mr Minson's honour was attended by many of his old friends, with most donning as much blue as they could.

"It was a great day and went well all afternoon where Midland Guildford Cricket Club won in the last over after rain and a few lightning delays," Mr Gartrell said.

The 'blue for blood cancer' round is supported by the Leukaemia Foundation and seeks to support their annual fundraiser, the World's Greatest Shave. Sport FM chair Irene Minson, Mr Minson's wife,

said blood cancer affected the whole family.
"This March is particularly poignant for our family, as it marks two years since Colin passed away,"

she said.
"Colin's story is a heartbreaking example of



Committee member Tony Mucciarone serving a burger to life member Alan Griffiths.

what many Australians are going through, each and every day

"It is not only the person with blood cancer that is affected by the diagnosis, but also the whole family unit"

Leukaemia Foundation chief executive officer Chris Tanti said with blood cancer numbers expected to rise, it was never a better time to join the fight against it and get involved with the World's Greatest Shave.

"Blood cancer is Australia's hidden crisis. There are 140,000 Australians living with blood cancer right now, and sadly it takes the lives of 16 Australians every day," he said.

"Shockingly, these numbers are set to double by 2035, unless we do something about it."

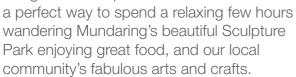




Shire President's Message

With the changing of the season let's hope some cooler weather is on the way!

This Saturday 9 March from 4-8pm, the Rotary Twilight Markets provide



You can even meet me and your local Councillors. Come and have a chat at our Council stall. There's a lot to talk about with the next Council meeting on Tuesday 12 March, featuring the Mundaring Town Centre Revitalisation plan, a Rural Residential development at North Parkerville, and the Signage Strategy and Style Guide.

Last week I had a productive meeting with Sergeant Tania Mackenzie from the Mundaring Police Station, to discuss how we could collaborate on some wide spread community concerns. We spoke about speeding, hooning, and off-road motorbikes using our local roads and the Heritage Trail. Sgt Mackenzie told me that reporting incidents is critical if we want action to be taken. Mundaring Station on Great Eastern Highway is open 8am to 4pm, Monday to Friday. So drop in, call (08) 9290 1902, or email Mundaring.Police.Station@police. wa.gov.au to help keep our community safer.

Council also welcomes you to the Annual Electors Meeting on Wednesday 13 March at 6.30pm which, for the first time, will be held at the Boya Community Centre in Scott Street. This is your opportunity to actively participate by asking a question or proposing a motion for Council to consider. Visit our website mundaring.wa.gov.au/councilmeetings (select the Annual Electors Meeting tab) for further information and the form for questions, or simply call the Shire on (08) 9290 6666. Staff will be happy to help.

I look forward to seeing you there, because community participation is exactly what your Electors' meeting is all about! Until next time, stay safe.

Paige McNeil **Shire President**

Get Crafty

Join our weekly social groups for knitting, crocheting, embroidery and jigsaw activities. No booking required. Ages 18+. Light refreshments will be served.

Boya Library

Knit & Crochet - Monday 10am to 12pm Embroidery – Monday 1pm to 3pm

Mundaring Library

Knit & Crochet - Wednesday 10am to 12pm mundaring.wa.gov.au/ Jigsaw Club - Wednesday 1pm to 3pm

Know more about FOGO

Do you have any questions about the new FOGO (Food Organics, Garden Organics) system coming in July?

Visit our website to learn more.



environment-waste/ waste-disposal-recycling/fogo

What's On

1 Ordinary Council Meeting

The meeting will be held on Tuesday 12 March at

6.30pm at the Shire Administration Centre.

The Agenda is available on the website, Administration Centre or at our libraries. Meetings will be live streamed via the Shire's website mundaring.wa.gov.au/councillivestreams-and-recordings

3 Parenting/Carers Workshops

Presented by Midvale Hub Parenting Service and Shire of Mundaring Libraries.



Building your Child's Resilience (for parents of ages 4-12) Online Session Wednesday 13 March, 7pm to 9pm bit.ly/midhub1303

"Lets talk toilet learning" (for parents of ages 18mo - 4) Online Session Wednesday 20 March, 7pm to 8.30pm bit.ly/mhub2003

Promoting Positive Behaviours (for parents of ages 3-10) Boya Library Thursday 21 March, 10am to 12pm bit.ly/mhub2103

Building Resilience in your Adolescent (for parents of ages 11-18) Online Session Thursday 21 March, 7pm to 9pm bit.ly/mhub21032

Book Cafe Tuesday 19 March,

9.30am to 11am Free tea and coffee with

What's on at

The Hub of the Hills

home made morning tea for \$2. All book sale and raffle proceeds for Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre. Join guest speaker Christine Bazen from Kanyana.

*Estate Planning Workshop

Wednesday 20 March, 9.30am to 12pm Learn the simple things to prepare for your estate. Morning tea 9.30am. Workshop starts at 10am.

*Move your Body Presentation

Tuesday 26 March, 10am

Learn the importance of balance and leg strength at a free presentation and morning tea. Presented by Stay on Your Feet WA.

*Call (08) 9290 6678 to book your spot.

4 Summer of Entertainment **Blues and Folk Live at Sculpture Park Ampitheatre**

Saturday 23 March, 5pm to 7.30pm

Sculpture Park, Jacoby Street, Mundaring. Back by popular demand, the Spirit of Alba will headline the concert. This **free** family event features musicians

from the Mundaring Folk and Blues Club, in the tradition of Twilight Tunes. BYO food and drink.





7000 Great Eastern Highway, Mundaring WA 6073





mundaring.wa.gov.au engage.mundaring.wa.gov.au





instagram.com/shireofmundaring

TERTAINMENT



Creating Connections raising funds for OCD

TWO Perth Hills artists, Silvana Ferrario from Mt Helena and Kalamunda's Sally Edmunds, will feature in an exhibition of 11 artists to raise funds and awareness of OCD WA.

The Creating Connections event, curated by OCD WA founder Susan Sheppard, will be held at the Atwell Gallery, Alfred Cove on March 15-25 from 10am to 4pm.

Silvana is passionate about glass, making kiln formed glass inspired from her childhood memories, experiences as a subsea engineer and scuba diver, and her surroundings in the Perth Hills.

"I use a range of techniques that I've learnt and developed, often making use of the fluidity of the glass when it is hot to give my work a painterly feel," she said.

"I find great joy in making glass pieces. I can lose myself in designing and assmbling the glass to go into the kiln. Then the excitement of opening it when the firing is finshed, to see how the heat has transformed the glass - often beyond expectations, and sometimes catastrophic – but always fueling more inspiration.

Silvana has worked in glass since 1997, initially with lead light, and progressing to fused glass in 2009, which she creates from her workshop in the Perth Hills.

She has won several awards, in particular the Gordon Award at Glass+, emerging artist award from MAGE, and a finalist in Tom Malone and Mandorla exhibitions, and is represented throughout Western Australia.

Sally, who works from her Kalamunda studio has been a professional, full time artist since 2014.

Previously she had a career in design and reprographics in the print industry in London and then in Perth.

"My work reflects my passion for birds. Using pastel, colour pencil and acrylic as my varied mediums, I lean towards realism but deliberately stay away from the more traditional style of portraying wildlife preferring to use a bolder style with visible marks,

large size, dramatic light and exaggerated colour," Sally said.
"I aim to reveal the individual character that all birds have and have won multiple awards for my work so far and have exhibited extensively.

In 2022 she was featured in a book by Penny Olsen called 'Feather and Brush: Three Centuries of Australian Bird Art' - a revised edition of the book which was first written 20 years ago.

"I'm very happy to be able to support Kaarakin Black Cockatoo Conservation Centre and Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre through donations of profits from the sales made through my website of prints of my artworks depicting their resident birds.

'I intend to keep building my large catalogue of fine art limited edition prints which currently numbers at around 70.

Founded by Leigh Sheppard, OCD WA is a not-for-profit organisation, with a team who work together to provide a psychologically safe space, working towards providing advocacy and significantly improving, awareness, education, funding, research, access to evidence-based treatment and community support for people living with OCD in Australia.

"It is the mission and purpose of OCD WA to optimise recovery and maximise quality of life for people living with OCD and their families, by establishing a hub that provides holistic, evidence-based, gold-standard care and guided peer support," she

NAK to play in Midland

ENJOY a soulful session of songs from when lyrics and music captured your heart with musical group NAK, who will perform at the Midland Performing Arts Centre on Sunday, March 24.

NAK - Nick Melidonis, Anne Rowe and Keith McDonald - will perform best loved songs from the 60s to today.

This includes compositions by Leonard Cohen, Paul Simon, Gordon Lightfoot, Kris Kristofferson, Mamas and Papas, Peter, Paul and Mary, Etta James, Richard Thompson and

Nick, Anne and Keith have been making music for more than five decades and performing numerous fund-raising concerts for organisations such as the Royal Flying Doctor Service, St John WA and Fremantle Street Doctors.

Anne has lived with polio so NAK invite you to get along and help them and Swan Rotary to raise money for the battle against polio.

Rotary International has raised millions of dollars with its End Polio campaign to help eradicate polio for ever.

against polio.

For tickets go to Eventbrite and search for 'chords to eradicate polio'.



Anne Rowe vocalist for NAK.

Notice Board

A free service for non-profit organisations

9374 6666 editorial@echo-news.com

Upcoming Events

- Tai Chi Internal Arts, a not-for-profit community organisation will hold an information session at Kalamunda Town Square Hall on Wednesday, March 13 at 9.30am for people interested in learning tai chi. Instruction videos are provided to help you to learn. Call Banyin Lee on 9337 3852 or visit taichiinternalarts.com
- Midland Men's Shed Social Tuesday is held every Tuesday from 9.30am to 11.30am in the Baptist Church Hall Bellevue. Call Kevin on 0417 961 971 or email kevinsv@tpg.com.au For workshop inquiries contact Brian on 0411 833 055
- Mundaring and Hills Historical Society is hosting a talk about C Y O'Connor and the Golden Pipeline, presented by Bill Cutler who hopes to debunk some of the myths surrounding him and the enduring legacies that he left behind. The talk will be held on Saturday, March 16 at the Boya Community Centre starting at 2.45pm. Afternoon tea will be served for a gold coin donation. For more information call Trish on 9295 0540 or email mhhs@mundaringhistory.org
- Talkie Tea Time takes place at Midland Ascension Hall on Saturday, March 9 from 2.30pm to 4.30pm. Author, retired marriage celebrant and funeral di-

rector, Carol Astbury has recently published a novel Remembrance of Love and War. Enjoy friendly company and afternoon tea at this NFP fundraiser. To RSVP call 0414 386 398 or email france scairwin2@iinet.com.au

• The 54th Darlington Half Marathon and 8km Fun Run will be held on Sunday, March 17 from 7am to 11am. Runners will start at Darlington Oval, following the Heritage Trail. Half marathon runners will turn at Sculpture Park in Mundaring. The turn for the 8km is at the Train Park, Glen Forrest. All runners will be rewarded with a finisher's medal and a light breakfast back at the Darlington Hall. Drivers need to be aware of runners at road/trail crossings and cyclists need to be aware of runners along the trail. To register, volunteer or have any questions visit www.wamc.org.au

A Bayswater City VIEW Club meeting will take place at Bayswater Tennis Club, Murray Street, Bayswater on Tuesday, March 12 at 10am for a 10.30am start. Morning tea will be provided. VIEW, which stands for voice, interests and education of women provides a place for women to connect in the community, enjoy social activities and develop lasting friendships while supporting the work of children's education charity, The Smith Family. Anyone interested in becoming a member can call Linda on 0417 960 027 or visit www.view. org.au for more information.

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

Woofer of the week



english sheep dog cross. The twoyear-old needs a home with secure fences as she is an escape artist. She is a good family dog but has to be the only pet. She is used travelling. She is sterilised. vaccinated and microchipped. Costs apply. Contact Bakers Hill Dog Sanctuary on 9574 1438.

Scruffy is an old

Read between the lines



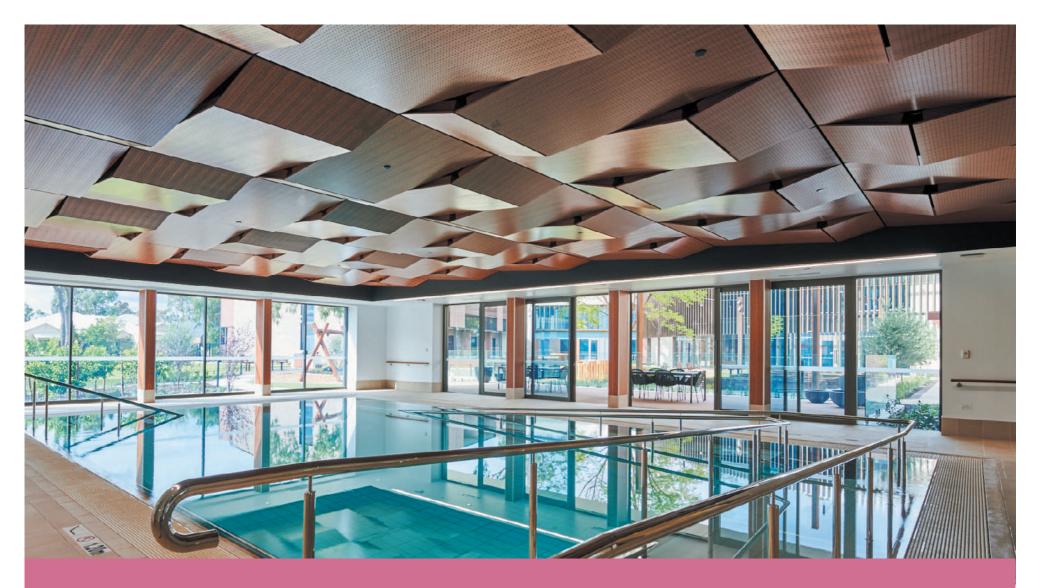


The Flavour One afternoon I fired up our Webber to cook up a roast. I put some fuel beads in and lit them up. After a while I checked on the beads and they weren't burning well. But there were a few dry leaves nearby on the ground, and so I put them in and lit them up, and that finally caused the fuel beads to ignite properly and produce a good amount of heat for the roast.

That night I served up the roast – it looked amazing. But as we ate, we realised that the roast had a unique taste. It didn't seem to come from the herbs I had put in. Then I realised what it was. We were tasting something that had come from the leaves. I had put in eucalyptus leaves and the oil from them had flavoured the roast. That was the end of the roast – no one could eat it after that.

What an unwelcome 'flavour' that came from those 'heated up' eucalyptus leaves! We can bring an unwelcome 'flavour' to those about us; especially when we are 'heated up' from challenging trials.

But there was one person, Jesus, who oozed a most beautiful and sweet 'flavour' when He faced an horrific trial. Crucified to a cross, bearing the punishment of our sins, He said "Father, forgive them for they don't know what they are doing". To the repentant thief crucified next to Him He said "Today you will be with Me in Paradise"



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

Laringal Green

HEALTH AND AGED CARE COMMUNITY

Wellness Centre

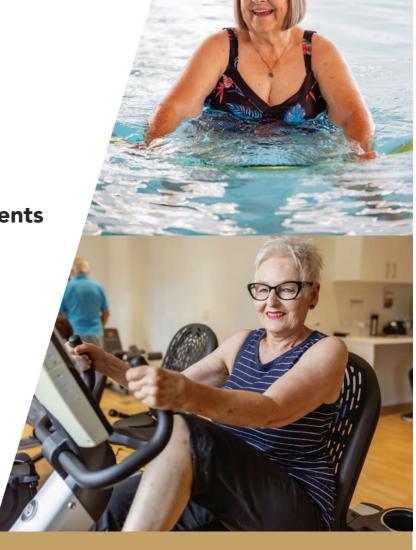
The Karingal Green Wellness Centre offers treatments following an allied health consultation, including physiotherapy and massage, exercise classes, gym classes, Pilates and hydrotherapy.

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

Get in touch with us today.

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Wellness@karingalgreen.com.au 53 Hawkevale Road, High Wycombe WA 6057



Karingalgreenwellness.com.au



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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

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.

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EVERYBODY'S ageing journey is different and physical abilities can vary from person to person.

However, ageing well is possible for all when approached from a 'whole body' point of view. By taking part in gentle exercise and treatments with professionals assisting with your aims, your ageing journey can be improved in terms of mind, body and soul.

The Wellness Centre at Karingal Green offers you the opportunity to have a professional assessment by a Physiotherapist who can suggest a personal plan for your ongoing 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
- HydrotherapyGymnasium 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 can 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 this autumn.

Call the Wellness Team on 0490 940 371.

For more information, visit karingalgreenwell ness.com.au



WAR on Arthritis – Mead Physio Group now using the best evidence-based first treatment choice for hip and knee osteoarthritis.

Osteoarthritis (OA) is the most common lifestyle disease in individuals 65 year of age and older. GLA:D® is an education and exercise program developed by researchers in Denmark for people with hip and knee OA symptoms and brought to Australia in 2016.

Mead Physio, now registered to run GLA:D® in Australia, is for all individuals who experience this disease.

It involves educational and targeted exercise. Participants will learn real-world strategies that can be applied to everyday activities.

In Australia, treatment usually focuses on medications and surgery.

The GLA:D® Australia program offers a safe alternative that may reduce your need for medications, avoid the need for surgery, and improve your ability to participate more actively in work and recreational activities.

By strengthening and improving confidence with exercise, participants develop better capacity to become or stay active, prevent symptom progression, and reduce pain. GLA:D® is a six-week supervised course with a free education session held every Wednesday.

To join us call 08 9293 1800 or email kalamunda @meadphysiogroup.com.au



BE PART OF THE WORLD-RECOGNISED **GLA:D PROGRAM.**

We also deal with Veterans' Affairs

and all health funds through HICAPS

TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR ARTHRITIS



Learn practical strategies to self-manage your osteoarthritis and improve capacity to become or stay active, prevent symptom progression, and reduce pain

Suitable for all individuals who experience any hip and/or knee pain or symptoms of osteoarthritis, regardless of severity.

INFO SESSIONS

Wednesday Evening's | 5-6pm Exercise Right & Rehab Studio, Kalamunda **ALL WELCOME!**

Find out more: errs@meadphysiogroup.com.au







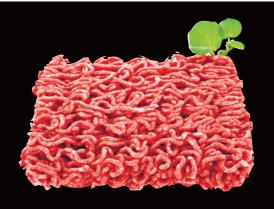
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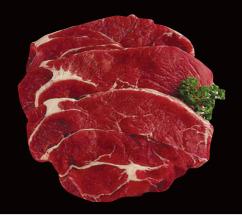
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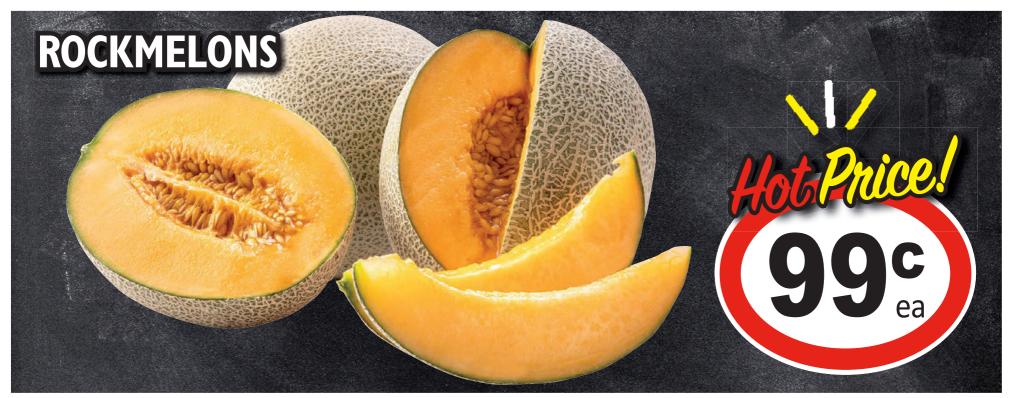


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City of Swan news update



Mayor's message

Kaya everyone,

I am excited to tell you that registrations are now open for our very popular Free Trees and Plants Giveaway.

This year we have 45,000 free native and waterwise seedlings

available for residents, which is all part of our plan to conserve our natural environment and increase our urban tree canopy together.

Get in quick and register at www.swan.wa.gov.au/freetrees.

In more great news, the City has joined the Small Business Friendly Local Governments (SBFLG) initiative, sending a clear message of commitment to our local businesses.

The SBFLG charter covers areas such as red tape, customer service, dispute resolution, consultation and other activities to improve the operating environment for businesses.

We are determined to deliver on these commitments on an ongoing basis to ensure our local economy continues to thrive.

Finally, I want to thank all our residents, ratepayers and business owners who completed the Community and Business Perceptions Survey last month.

The survey is now closed and we are collating all the submissions, which will take some time to complete.

We will release the results when they become available.

We appreciate the feedback you have provided and I can assure you that we will use it to plan for the future, and improve our facilities and services.

Please keep an eye our communication channels for updates.

Tanya Richardson Mayor, City of Swan



Engage with us



Shared use of Brabham Oval

Do you use Brabham Oval? We are asking the community for their support on a shared use agreement with Brabham Primary School. The school would like to use the oval for activities during school hours, which will provide positive community benefits including improved health, social and educational outcomes for all residents. If the proposal goes ahead, the school will have exclusive use of the oval during the agreed period of 8am-4pm on school days. Have your say by Sunday, March 17, 2024.

Go to swanengage.swan.wa.gov.au/brabhamoval



Proposed pedestrian island

If you live, walk or drive on The Parkway, Ellenbrook, we want your views on a proposed pedestrian island. The island would connect with the crossing into Ellenbrook Central Shopping Centre to provide pedestrians a safe passage to cross the road in two stages via a refuge island. As this would change traffic and pedestrian movement along the road, we want to know if this project is supported by local users. Please refer to the concept design and complete a short survey before March 28, 2024.

Go to swanengage.com/parkway-pedestian-island



What's happening

Altone Comes Alive

Enjoy a family-friendly day celebrating culture and community at Altone Comes Alive from 11am-4pm on Saturday, March 16 at Altone Park Oval. This free event will have live entertainment, stalls, food trucks, face painting, festival rides and more. Say hello to our FOGO and Resource Recovery Education team at the waste education tent, and learn more about our FOGO rollout, which starts this year.

Outdoor movie night

Come along for a pedal-powered movie night under the stars from 6pm on Saturday, March 16 at Spring Reserve in Guildford. Watch Australian scientist and conservationist Tim Flannery, who discusses the question "Do we have what it takes to get out of this mess?" as he searches for leadership to fight climate change. Attendees are advised to take public transport, walk or cycle to the event, and bring something to sit on like a rug, chair or bean bag. The film will begin at 7pm.

Hyper, WA's longest running and largest alcohol-free, all-ages music festival, returns to Midland on Saturday, March 23 at Weeip Park with another stacked line-up of Australian talent. This year's headliners include Pacific Avenue, Sly Withers, Sycco, Teen Jesus and The Jean Teasers, and Ūla. In addition to the music, you can also enjoy gourmet food vans, free 18-hole adventure golf, games, merchandise and a signing tent for all your favourite artists.





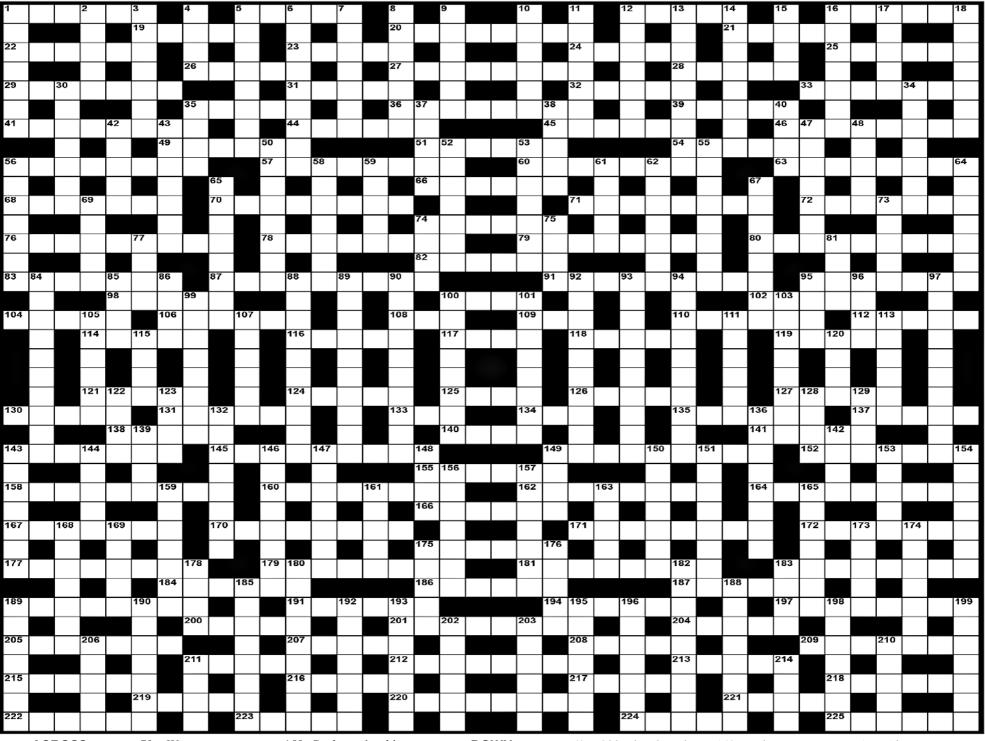








Mind Boggler Crossword



ACROSS Foamy soap

- Musical instrument
- Desert animal 16 Descend vertically
- 19 A fruit 20 Keep in order Farewell (Fr) 21
- Lowest points 23 Chocolate substitute
- A blackbird 25 Logic puzzle
- 26 A drain Stirrer 28 Portents
- Unwraps flags etc 31 The heavens
- 32 Work dough 33 Easy time
- 35 A word picture Horrible
- 39 Is carried on Cause to explode
- Walk cautiously US state 45
- Studios 46 49 Mend Non-church 51
- doctrine Type of stone
- A railway (US) 56
- 57 Motherly 3D light image 60
- Praises given 63 66 Alms seeker Be inattentive
- Aerials 70
- Of the chest 71 Put in order 72
- Resting, type of 74 electricity
- Listen secretly 78 Choke

- 79 Wages
- 80 A citrus fruit 82 Milk bags 83 Perfumed bags
- 87 Boundary 91 Make worse
- 95 Killers As single unit
- (2,3)100 Afresh 102 In front
- 104 Illegal schemes 106 Bands
- 108 A fastener 109 A long period
- 110 Haphazard 112 Admired stereotypes
- 114 Writer of fables 116 A girl's name
- 117 Scorch 118 Doors out 119 It follows the
- eighth 121 Give a speech
- 124 Deserve 125 Nevada city 126 Fish while moving
- 127 First appearance 130 Nutty pasta sauce
- 131 Spin around
- 133 Decorate a cake 134 A garland 135 Lay in wait
- 137 Chairs 138 Plain cake
- 140 Unable to hear 141 Jugs 143 Something
- unknown 145 Not drinking
- alcohol 149 A pen
- 152 Children's room 155 Inciting

- 158 Cattleman's whip
- 160 To the purpose 162 Container of egg 164 A foolish person
- 166 Catches sight of 167 A moment
- 170 Female monsters 171 Small axe
- 172 A frog larva 175 Chelonian 177 Vision
- 179 A detergent 181 Eternally 183 Competitors 184 Triumphant
- exclamation 186 Rubbish 187 Cling on
- 189 Race track officials 191 Heaps
- 194 With nitrogen 197 Keep in mind 200 A uniform colour
- 201 Gives ground 204 Leers 205 Search for small
- items 207 An explosive (coll)
- 208 Ancient tongue 209 Flower
- 211 Immature 212 A climbing shrub 213 Bridge taxes
- 215 Light up 216 Italian city 217 Ingenuous
- 218 A riddle 219 Region 220 Did better than
- 221 A slope 222 Live coals 223 Sea eagles 224 Moves on waves

225 A type of ring

- **DOWN** Lacking energy
- Japanese verse form Handsome
- parakeet Untamed Part of backbone
- Group of musicians Older aeroplane
- 8 A legal restriction One's environment 10 Outdoor military
- pageant Breathing aid 12 Nuts
- 13 A dramatic work A fragrant shrub 14 Fail to hit
- Harsh in manner 16 17 Lateral parts Trees, Camphor ... 18 30 Apt
- 34 Not consumed Part of wind instrument 37 Therapeutic help (coll)
- City dignitary Preservative 42 From Scandinavia 43 National criminal
- 47 Countryside Australian political party
- 50 One who mimics 52 Chosen 53 More tinted
- 55 Food for gods Forestry workers 56 58 Angry spell
- 59 Baked meat 61 Large expanse of water

- Olden bandstand Australian folk
- group 65 Scottish instruments
- Type of fish 69 Bloodsucker
- 73 Deck out 74 Nasty remark
- 75 Spanish domicile 77 Full stops
- Celebration 84 Freely from error 85 Comfort
- 86 Tolerable Set task
- 89 Horse rider A long journey 92 Age group
- 93 Mutual 94 French city 95 Prefix - half Mine entrance
- 97 Circus boss Former French emperor
- 100 Moored 101 Fabled animal 103 Type of melon 105 Club favourite
- Inner body tear 111 A delicious drink
- 113 Undefiled 115 A seat 120 Deprived of
- feeling 122 A flower 123 Ancient city
- 128 Biblical garden 129 Former Soviet
- Union (init) 132 Small kitchen utensil
- 136 A memento 139 Body of workers

- 142 Back part
- 143 Projectile 144 Unspoken 146 Irish national
- emblem A dead-end
- 148 Head (Fr) 149 Ova
- 150 A herb 151 Removed cargo
- 153 Racing gamble
 - 154 NY baseball team 156 A body signal
 - 157 Irritates 159 Contrived
 - 161 Large beer mug (Ger)
 - 163 Clean thoroughly 165 Afternoon performance
 - 168 Meat pins
 - 169 The soul 173 Funeral air
 - 174 A volume of reprints

- 175 Abrupt 176 A contingency 178 Long protruding
- tooth A cake delicacy
- 182 Keen story teller
- 183 Goes wrong 185 Remove to safety
- Without succour 189 Be enough
- 190 Illegal practices 192 Rises in
- production Died in water
- 195 Isolated lands 196 Keeps
- 198 Hammers 199 A piece left over
- 202 Wrestle with
- 203 Hold in custody 206 Set of rooms
- 210 Clandestine raid (coll) Twelve months

214 Thailand's former name

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Public Notices



The City of Swan hereby gives Local Public Notice under section 1.7 of the Local Government Act 1995 of its intention to specify Ellenbrook District Open Space - Artificial Turf Area as a place where dogs are prohibited at all times as defined in section 31 of the Dog Act 1976.

The City invites the public to complete the online submission form via the City's Engagement website www.swanengage.com/dogofflead

Alternatively, you can provide a written submission to:

Chief Executive Officer, City of Swan, PO Box 196, Midland DC WA 6936

Or via email to swan@swan.wa.aov.au on or before 4:30pm April 7, 2024.

Stephen Cain

Chief Executive Officer



Tai Chi

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classifieds@echo-news.com

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Youth withdrawal and respite service help

THE Drug and Alcohol Youth Service (DAYS) youth withdrawal and respite service (YWRS) provides a safe and supported short stay residential environment for young people who wish to manage their withdrawal from alcohol and other drugs or take time out from environmental influences and pressures.

The Mission Australia-run service is the only youth specific withdrawal unit in Western Australia, accommodating up to eight young people in a residential setting for up to 21 days, with an average stay of 14 days.

DAYS youth residential rehabilitation is a 10bed residential rehabilitation program that assists young people from across WA who identify as wanting longer term residential treatment for their substance use

Both DAYS residential services provide a 24 hour, seven days a week program and offer intensive support through case management, counseling, and educational groups in areas such as substance abuse, legal issues and health.

Group sessions on confidence, self-esteem, anger management and conflict resolution are also provided.

There is also access to a range of recreational activities. Physical and mental health issues are supported and monitored throughout the young person's stay through support of the DAYS clinical team of doctors, nurses and psychiatrists.

Young people also develop the skills necessary for independent living - including budgeting, cooking, cleaning, washing and all other related skills.

DAYS residential rehabilitation is currently open for referrals and you can call 08 9222 6300 to talk to a DAYS staff member or go to their website to access a referral form.

For referral forms or enquiries email reception. DAYS@mhc.wa.gov.au

Spring to bring FOGO to City of Kalamunda

THE City of Kalamunda says that it will introduce a food organics garden organics (FOGO) bin system within the city in September or October this year.

The FOGO bin system will be delivered to all households within the city



with an existing domestic rubbish and recycling bin service, with residents set to receive a smaller red-lidded 140 litre general waste bin. The new three bin system will see the 240-li-

tre yellow recycling bin stay the same, while the 240-litre green lidded bin will be specifically for food scraps and garden clippings, which can also be turned into compost.

Both the yellow and red-lidded bins will be collected fortnightly on alternating weeks, while the green bin will be collected weekly, according to the City of Kalamunda.

"If you find your household is struggling with capacity issues after you start using the new bins, contact us to see if a solution can be provided for you," the city's website states.

The move to FOGO comes as the city ended its 25-year-long partnership with the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council and instead sought tenders on companies to convert FOGO waste into compost in line with the state and city's waste plans.

"We have reached a point in the journey where the city needs to directly manage its waste, for the benefit of all," Mayor Margaret Thomas said.

The FOGO bin system is run by the state government and the Waste Authority through the better bins program and the better bins: go FOGO program.

Midland Guildford males wrap up Austin Thomas in action with the bat.

JOSHUA McKENZIE

BOTH the senior male and junior male teams for Midland Guildford Cricket Club concluded their seasons last weekend while the female A grade continue to progress towards the latter stages of their respective campaign with a win.

The final matches for the male sides this season saw one-day and T20 games played against Rockingham Mandurah.

The male 1st grade played a rain affected contest in which Matt Harben proved to be the star in the match.

After the side lost the toss and were asked to bowl first, Harben proceeded to take five wickets in his 1st grade debut as he finished with figures of 5-46 off 10 overs, while Josh Nicholas also took three wickets in his spell.

Brayden Brehaut (55 runs off 71 balls) and Austin Thomas (49 not out off 46) were the main contributors with the bat as the side chased down a reduced target with five wickets to spare.

In their match against the same opposition, the male 2nd grade elected to bowl first and with notable performances from Josh Chitty (4-35 off 10 overs) and Jake Manolini (3-46 off 10) they were able to restrict their opponents to a total of 162 all out.

The side chased down the target with 14.5 overs to spare with Calan Hill (59 off 40) and Kelly Jones (53 not out off 66) being the catalysts for the run chase.

The male 3rd grade saw their match abandoned due to the weather, while the male 4th grade won by five wickets in a chase led by Brodie Finlay who finished unbeaten on 62 off 80.

The male U17 and male U15 played their final matches of the season as they both faced Rockingham Mandurah in T20 fixtures.

Harry Giancono led the male U17 to a six-wicket victory with an unbeaten score of 54 off 34, while Max Chitty was the standout for the male U15 as he took 3-16 off four overs in an 11-run win

The female sides all faced South Perth in their latest round of fixtures with the female A grade playing out a thrilling contest in which they won by just one run in a remarkable finish.

Sheldyn Cooper took the last of her three wickets to secure the victory, with Shay Manolini also taking three wickets in the match with figures of 3-19 off 10 overs, as the side managed to defend their total of just 140 all out.



Swan Districts fall short to Claremont in WALFW opener

CHRIS PIKE

A NEW era for the Swan Districts WAFLW team got underway on Saturday against Claremont at Revo Fitness Stadium with a new coach, Ben Bowness, at the helm with a host of debutants and new faces on show.

Millie Edgar, Tayla Thorn, Keira Kennedy, Hannah Plummer and Emma Humphries all made their WAFLW debuts with Swan Districts on Saturday, where Claremont prevailed 7.5

The goals for Swan Districts throughout the game were kicked by Courtney Zappara, Indiana West, Hope Ugle-Hayward and Emily McGuire.

Exciting young gun Carys D'Addario had an impressive opening to the new season for Swans finishing with 18 possessions to go with seven tackles, four inside-50 entries and three

New recruit Emma Humphries showed her quality too with 16 disposals while Naomi Baker finished with 14 touches and six marks.

Ugle-Hayward also had 13 disposals, Lily Paterson 13, Megan Carron 12 and Isabella Edgley 12. Lauren Quaife battled hard in the ruck as well for 30 hit outs.

Swan Districts made the perfect start to the new season away from home with Courtney Zappara managing to kick a goal in less than a minute after the opening siren.

Claremont was able to steady after that hot start from Swans and kicked the last two goals of the opening term to head into the quarter-time

break leading by seven points.

Emily Bonser then kicked the only two goals for either side in the second quarter for Claremont to give the Tigers a 21-point edge heading into the main break.

Swan Districts again started the second half strongly and this time after a couple of behinds from Emily McGuire and then a significant delay, Indiana West kicked her team's second goal of the afternoon and soon after the margin was back to just 11 points.

However, Claremont finished the extended third quarter strongly with goals from Charlotte Tompkin and Taylah Orzel to be back on top by 23 points at three quarter-time.

Swan Districts weren't going down without a fight, though, and two goals in the opening 10 minutes of the final term suddenly made it an 11-point ball game.

Claremont, though, did respond with the last goal of the contest from Bec Anderson to end up securing the 16-point win.

In the Rogers Cup match up it was victory for Swan Districts who defeated Claremont 7.12 (54) to 6.8 (44).

Swans made a terrific start kicking the only three goals of the first quarter and then it was two goals apiece in the second term with Swan Districts going into half-time leading by 15

Claremont might have outscored Swans four goals to two in the second half, but the blackand-whites still prevailed by 10 points on the back of an amazing six-goal performance from Madison Fisher.

Local Real Estate

Residential Commercial **Rural & Country**

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The main hedroom vate dressing room, and a walk-in wardrobe.

The floor of the cozy kitchen and adjoining dining room is terracotta tile, while the kitchen itself has an efficient use of space when it comes to storage with both under bench and overhead cabinets.

It has a dishwasher, a five-burner stovetop oven, and a dual basin sink with window views of the surrounding forest.

The shared bathroom has both a shower and a bath and is decorated in a tasteful black and white modern style.

Two sets of double doors lead into the large living room, featuring panoramic views of the backyard through several windows, each equipped with louvre shutters, perfect for adjusting the amount of natural light let in.

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A third set of double doors lead outside to the backyard's brick paved alfresco entertaining area. A raised manicured lawn continues around the side of the property and boasts an impressive cubbyhouse, perfect for young children.

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Address: 11 Owen Road, Darlington Price: From \$1.55m **Agency: The Agency** For more information contact Patrick Harper 0413 440 107



Join us for a Chat in Midland

Join us next week, starting on the 11th of March 2024, at Midland Gate Shopping Centre for an exciting promotional event. This is an annual tradition for us, where we set up a pop-up stand at Midland Gate and connect with our community. This year, we are thrilled to announce that we will be giving away multiple gift vouchers of varying values to six lucky winners who participate in the competition.

Our main objective this year is to engage with our customers and neighbors on a personal level. What better way to do that than by meeting everyone in our local area? This promotion provides a perfect opportunity for you to meet our dedicated staff and sales agents. Feel free to approach us with any real estate needs or inquiries you may have, whether you are looking to buy a property, sell your home, or simply have some general questions. We are here to assist you in any way we can!

Additionally, we will have staff from our Settlements and Loans department available on certain days during the event. This means you can also get expert advice on any financial matters related to real estate. So mark your calendars and come say hello to us next week! We will be at Midland Gate from the 11th of March 2024 until the 16th of March 2024.



Milton Rendell - CEO Real Estate Plus Group

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