

ECHO NEWS

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Local Business Supporting Local People VOL.42 NO.1859



Mentor of the year award

PG4



Bickley Harvest Festival marks 25yrs

PG8



Pair of wins for Swan Districts

PG17



MIDLAND
THE NEW DALKEITH

Picture: Guanhao Cheng

A business breakfast named Midland the new Dalkeith with Hesperia director Adrian Fini as the keynote speaker will be held on May 3. PG5

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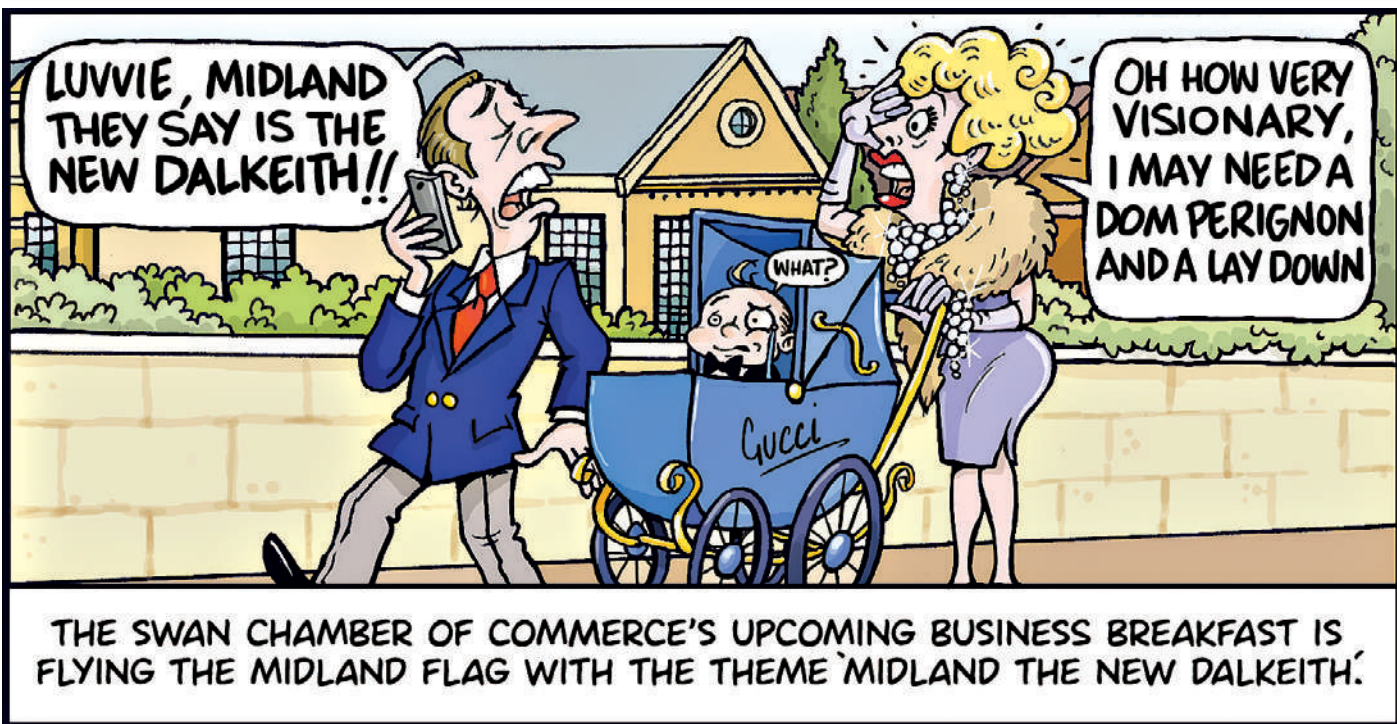
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THE SWAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S UPCOMING BUSINESS BREAKFAST IS FLYING THE MIDLAND FLAG WITH THE THEME 'MIDLAND THE NEW DALKEITH.'

ECHO YOUR THOUGHTS

Have your say: editorial@echo-news.com

Tree retention tension

Dear Echo News,
Kalamunda council's sudden decision to scrap the city's tree retention policy last month has left a lingering sense of deep disquiet, both in the actual outcome and in the conduct of council.

The policy had been in place for only 14 months, after three years of close work between council staff and com-

munity representatives on KESAC (Kalamunda Environment and Sustainability Advisory Committee), which I chaired.

In essence, the policy sensibly required that felled mature trees be replaced by planting new ones.

But it also listed ample instances in which replacement was not required, in the interest of fairness and based on advice from City staff.

Where any problems existed in the policy's execution - and there were very few objections during the 14 months - adjustments could have been made at operational level.

Instead, a group of councillors set out to scrap the policy. Some councillors not within that separate group were genuinely shocked by the sudden tactic, which gave the public just three working days' notice of the intention to scrap it.

The majority of residents who spoke on the night were strongly in favour of retaining the City's tree retention policy.

This was ignored in a council vote that favoured a tiny minority of speakers against the policy, clearly indicating that the majority of councillors had come to the meeting with their views predetermined.

If the reconfigured Kalamunda council decides to conduct matters in this way, it should not be surprised if it suffers further damage to its reputation.

It has broken a fragile relationship of trust with the community.

**V Laurie
Gooseberry Hill**

LPP 33 Revoked

Dear Echo News,
G. England (*Echo News*, March 22) expressed concern over the rescinding of tree retention (LPP 33) and

requests the city's reasons.

Together with many residents, I share the writer's concerns.

In the same edition of *Echo News*, is the City of Kalamunda notice of revocation, from the acting chief executive officer, encouraging residents to discuss their relevant circumstances.

Assuming the City of Kalamunda is bound by the planning and development (local planning schemes) regulations 2015, I fail to see that council's 'revocation' adhered to the regulations at the February 27 council meeting.

A revocation notice has only now appeared in *Echo News*, citing the date of revocation as March 1.

No official notice of revocation appeared prior to the February 27 meeting, other than the agenda item for that meeting.

Presumably the city is happy to have a notice of revocation published after, rather than prior to the event.

A far more enlightened LGA chose to (1) prepare a notice of revocation, (2) carry out community consultation on the proposal, (3) only then, publish the notice of revocation, if no submissions were received during the community consultation period.

I think Kalamunda's loose and selective interpretation of the regulations have deprived residents of an opportunity to comment fully on a vital, if contentious initiative.

Deputations at a council meeting are no substitute for genuine community consultation.

As a long-term resident of the city, I am dismayed at the retrograde actions of the council.

**A Fowler
Kalamunda**

Footy fumble

Dear Echo News,
As an Eagles member who has used the free bus service from Kalamunda to Optus, I can sympathise for Steve Barrett's dilemma regarding the re-routing of the 655 stadium bus.

However, I think a very simple solution is this: the buses leave Kalamunda on a very regular basis. Surely every alternate bus could take the old route along Hale Road.

I would bet my membership that there would not be one person who would complain if that way took an extra seven whole minutes to get to the stadium. Simple!

**I Sanderson
Kalamunda**

FOGO frustration

Dear Echo News,
Maybe, I missed it where rate payers are given the option to have one these 'new' bins for food scraps and garden organics.

Mundaring being a large shire encompassing rural and semi-rural properties.

People have poultry and recycle food and organic garden waste with them or through composting.

How much is all this going to cost with new bins, more trucks, extra staff as if rates aren't high enough already?

Another thing they talk about: greenhouse gases and climate change. How much gas was produced manufacturing these bins and will be produced by the vehicles and equipment required to service the operation?

**M Warnock
Stoneville**

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.

Follow-up on FOGO

Dear Echo News,
The article *EMRC and Mundaring FOGO plan* (*Echo News*, April 5) got me wondering just what is happening with the similar plan that was mooted by the Kalamunda City Council seemingly years ago?

**C Coulthard
Gooseberry Hill**



Due to lack of space, the crossword will not be running in this week's edition.

We apologise for any inconvenience.

Please check our website for the crossword and last week's solution.

ECHO News

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Some modifications for Viveash proposal

ANITA MCINNES

A PROPOSED Viveash structure plan – about which public submissions raised key issues including removal of a bund, the shortfall of public open space and projected aircraft noise – needs some modifications before being resubmitted for approval, according to the statutory planning committee.

The state statutory planning committee (SPC) said it was dealing with the Rivermark area 3 local structure plan as certain aspects of the officer recommendation were not consistent with the recommendation of the City of Swan and as discretion was required in regard to the application of state planning policy 5.1 – land use planning in the vicinity of Perth Airport as it applied to residential density.

In a deputation to the SPC residents concerned about the proposed structure plan said state planning regarding residential design codes for housing development within 20-25 Australian noise exposure forecast contours suggested area 3 should be restricted to a density of R20.

According to the April 16 agenda the SPC is recommending the maximum number of residential lots permitted in the structure plan area should not exceed the average dwelling yield achievable at the R20 residential density code, but that still appears to contain a section of R10 along Cranwood Crescent and pockets of R30 density.

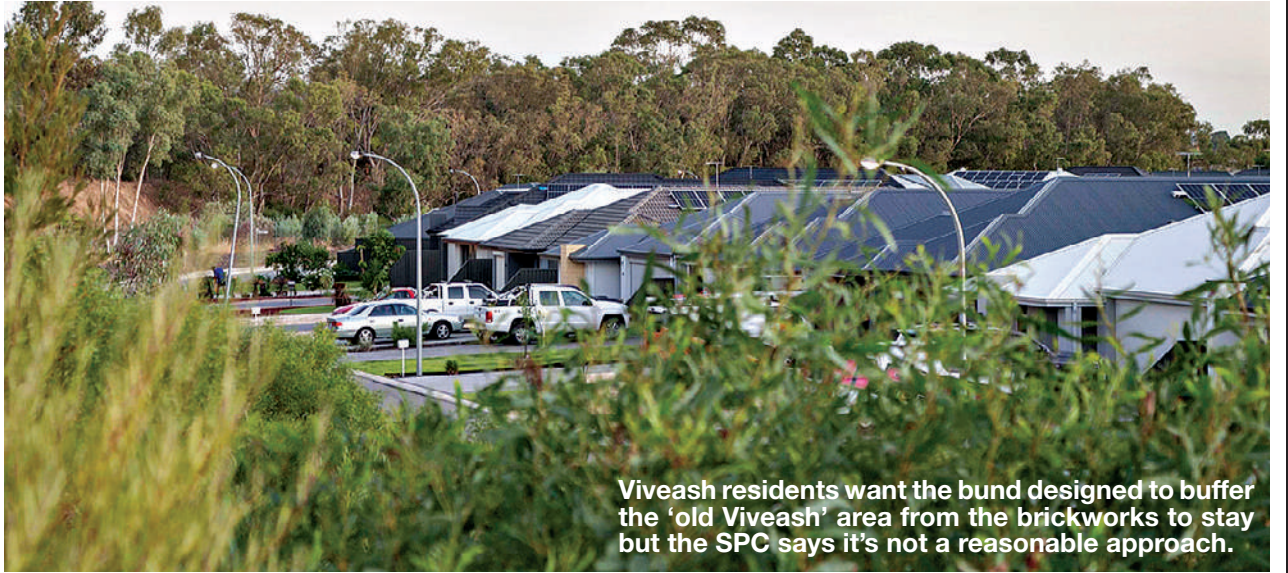
Perth Airport also raised concern with the site being about 140m from the extended centreline of the airport's new runway and advised the site would experience more intensive and frequent aircraft movements than currently experienced.

The SPC has recommended that a notification be placed on the certificates of title of the proposed lots advising the lot is affected, or may in the future be affected by aircraft noise.

"Notice of this notification is to be included on the diagram or plan of survey (deposited plan)," the SPC agenda said.

"The wording of this notification is to be consistent with the wording specified in WAPC model subdivision conditions or state planning policy 5.1."

The structure plan proposes the removal of the existing bund with big R10 landscape lots proposed in the vicinity of the bund with the intention of retaining existing mature



trees where possible.

In a deputation a resident said the developer Hesperia had negotiated R30 density to offset R10 density, which would "allow for some bigger blocks with a dinky row of trees out front".

"This is their commitment to providing trees in the development," they said.

"There is no protection for these trees on private land where bigger blocks are purchased for big sheds, carports, vans and boats."

The SPC is recommending an indicative tree protection plan to identify trees for retention within the R10 landscape lots.

"A landscape plan is to be implemented as a condition of subdivision, detailing how the landscape setback area will be landscaped with a planting schedule confirming the species, numbers and planting size and how the proposal complies with the approved bushfire management plan," the SPC agenda said.

"Where removal is proposed the plan is to consider the location of new trees and a planting schedule confirming the species, planting size and number of trees to be planted at a rate of two new trees to one replaced where pro-

posed (or at a rate of three new trees to one replaced if done retrospectively)."

The community wanted to retain the earth bund and associated vegetation which was initially erected to buffer 'old Viveash' from the brickworks.

"It is a mix of some native vegetation and non-endemic species," they said.

"It has grown over time and provides great amenity to current residents."

But the SPC said while the Swan council resolution to retain the bund was acknowledged its retention within either a road reserve or public open space was not considered reasonable.

"As such, the most reasonable approach should be towards retaining mature trees where practicable adjacent to the bund.

"Therefore, the proposed removal of the existing bund is supported and appropriate modifications are recommended to facilitate mature tree retention adjacent to the bund."

The SPC is also recommending that final approval to a modified version of the Structure Plan not be given until such time as Amendment 209 to the City of Swan local planning scheme No. 17 has been gazetted.

Opposition continues against York landfill

PETER W LEWIS

ALMOST a year after the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) completed its report in May 2023 a determination on whether the York landfill project can proceed is yet to be made.

While the EPA has granted conditional approval for the landfill, the decision has been appealed by 133 appellants, including the Shire of York, and is still under review by an appeals committee.

Shire of York chief executive officer Chris Linnell said the landfill proposal continued to spark strong opposition from the shire and community members.

"We have raised concerns about the safety of the Great Southern Highway, the increase in traffic, and the potential impact on York's identity as a tourism town.

Currently, appeals against the ruling in favour of the landfill, as outlined in the Environmental Protection Agency Report 1738 published on 22 May 2023, are being heard by the appeals committee.

"The shire has safety concerns about the ability of the Great Southern Highway to handle the increased traffic from trucks transporting material to the landfill. The increase in restricted access vehicles (RAV) traffic would have a negative impact on the well-being and social fabric of York, particularly as it is known for its tourism," Mr Linnell said.

Another concern is that the proposed Allawuna Farm site is an Aboriginal heritage site with



Then premier Colin Barnett faces residents in York during another protest held in 2013, more than a decade ago.

a significant watercourse and an acknowledgement of the site as an Aboriginal Heritage Place has been lodged with the Department, Lands and Heritage (DPLH).

"The site also has historical significance as part of the pre-convict era road from Guildford to York runs alongside Allawuna Farm's northern boundary. Mapped in 1847, it was crucial for settling York in 1831. This track, unexplored archaeologically, likely contains evidence of the state's earliest European settlement history," Mr Linnell said.

"The social wellbeing of our community is paramount. The Great Southern Highway is not equipped to handle the increased large vehicle traffic, and the impact on WA's first inland town and its continued growth as a tourism destination, will be adversely affected," Mr Linnell said.

As reported in the special report *United opposition to York landfill proposal* (Echo News, July 12, 2023) the EPA recom-

mended environmental approval for a landfill proposal at Allawuna Farm, adjacent to Perth's water catchment.

Concerns have been raised that leachate could seep out of the landfill causing contamination of surface and groundwater, and while the EPA has acknowledged the potential for contamination they said the landfill's design was consistent with industry practice and was suitable for the proposed location.

At the time a state government spokesperson said at the conclusion of the appeals process, consultation with relevant ministers, including the Planning Minister and the Water Minister, would occur.

"Land use planning as well as social and economic impacts will be considered before a final decision is made," they said.

Shire of York and the Avon Valley Residents Association have both urged anyone concerned about the environmental impacts to urgently contact the Environment Minister Reece Whitby.



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Bill awarded volunteer 'mentor of the year'



EdConnect volunteer Bill Smith with student and mentee Joshua.

MEETING EdConnect 2023 'mentor of the year' award recipient volunteer Bill Smith at his placement school, Kalamunda Senior High School, it is immediately apparent how highly regarded he is – by teaching and administration staff and by students.

In 2023, over three days each week, Mr Smith mentored multiple teenage boys some of who live in foster care; while others just need an alternative and consistent adult in their lives.

His commitment to each of these students is extraordinary. His direct influence now will without doubt shape the future of these young people, building a platform for growth and an altered life trajectory.

"My mentoring is focused primarily on promoting caring, loving and respectful teenage boys on their journey to adulthood. My life as the eldest of seven children of migrant parents, as a proud father of three amazing offspring and grandfather of seven beautiful humans, combined with widely diverse life experiences, has, I believe, served me well in mentoring," Mr Smith said.

On his fourth day of volunteering, he works along students in the school's artificial intelligence and robotics classes, as previously reported in *Passion for mentoring youth* (Echo News, May 12, 2023).

The students speak proudly of their incredible prize-winning achievements, and their respect for Mr Smith is palpable.

And with the time left in his school day, Mr Smith works with the school's 'spectrum group', an LGBTQI+ support group.

Proudly gay, he speaks openly about his experience as a young man.

"I'm privileged to be able to play a small part in supporting the safety and well-being of the students at Kalamunda Senior High School," he said.

The annual EdConnect Australia Volunteer Awards is an event to celebrate the extraordinary volunteer effort which is the lifeblood of EdConnect Australia – with volunteers giving their time to the education and learning of primary and secondary students in Western Australia.

EdConnect chief executive officer Michael Pailthorpe expressed his gratitude towards all EdConnect volunteers, emphasising the vital role they play in supporting students, teachers and schools in Western Australia.

"The annual awards acknowledge and celebrate the dedication and commitment of more than 600 volunteers in 176 schools in Western Australia who provide vital mentoring and learning support to over 10,000 young people," he said.

To view Mr Smith's video go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TtSIYD1u5Vk>

For more information about the EdConnect volunteering opportunities see www.edconnectaustralia.org.au, contact edconnect@edconnect.org.au or call 1800 668 550.



NAK guitarist Keith McDonald and Swan Rotary president David Uhe at the concert held at the Midland Performing Arts Centre.

Concert to help end polio

ANITA McINNES

SWAN Rotary has used a concert at the Midland Performing Arts Centre to raise funds to help eradicate a virus that mainly affects children.

Musical group NAK performed at the fundraiser on March 24, which raised more than \$2000.

Swan Rotary president David Uhe said all proceeds from the concert would support Rotary's end polio now program.

The club formed when the Midland and Swan Valley clubs joined to form one club said it contributed annually to the End Polio campaign.

"Today, polio remains endemic only in Afghanistan and Pakistan," Swan Rotary said.

"But it's crucial to continue working to keep other countries

polio-free.

"If all eradication efforts stopped today, within 10 years, polio could paralyse as many as 200,000 children each year."

A World Health Organization fact sheet said polio mainly affected children under five years of age but that anyone of any age who is unvaccinated can contract the disease.

"There is no cure for polio, it can only be prevented," the fact sheet said.

"Polio vaccine, given multiple times, can protect a child for life.

"There are two vaccines available: oral polio vaccine and inactivated polio vaccine.

According to the fact sheet failure to stop polio in the last remaining areas of the world could result in global resurgence of the disease.

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Free flu jabs in May and June

WESTERN Australians are being urged to get their free influenza vaccine from next month, to help prevent severe illness ahead of winter.

The significant cost-of-living relief measure will help to protect against the highly contagious influenza virus, which can severely affect the respiratory system and cause symptoms ranging from minor to life-threatening.

The most vulnerable community members, including older adults, young children and preg-

nant women, are most at risk of severe complications if they get influenza.

The best protection against influenza is immunisation and last year almost 32 per cent of eligible West Australians received an influenza vaccination.

Free influenza vaccines will be available to all Western Australians aged six-months and older, for the months of May and June.

Some providers may charge a small administration fee. Receiving the vaccine during these

months will optimise protection over the peak period for influenza transmission in Western Australia.

Free vaccinations are available at GPs, Aboriginal Medical Services and participating community pharmacies.

Premier Roger Cook said the flu was not a harmless condition, especially for young people and older adults.

"It can cause serious illness and immunisation is the best way to protect yourself and your loved ones this winter."

Seniors urged to register for rebate

WESTERN Australian Seniors Card members are being encouraged to ensure they are registered to receive the 2024 Cost of Living Rebate.

The annual rebate is a state government initiative offered to WA Seniors Card members to assist with cost-of-living pressures.

WA Seniors Card members must register by 31 May 2024 to receive this year's payment, which will be made in late July.

Previously registered members

do not need to re-register unless their bank details or circumstances have changed.

Last year, singles received a payment of \$104 and couples received \$156.

In addition to the rebate, the WA Seniors Card offers some of the most valuable concessions and rebates in Australia, including free off-peak public transport, concessions on local government rates and water service charges, and the \$400 Safety and Security

rebate.

WA Seniors Card members can apply for the rebate by registering for online access to their account or by downloading an application form on the WA Seniors Card website at <https://www.seniorscard.wa.gov.au/forms-guides/>

Current members can check if they are already registered to receive this year's payment by contacting the WA Seniors Card Centre on 1800 671 233 or info@seniorscard.wa.gov.au

Adrian Fini business breakfast draw card



Swan Chamber of Commerce president Mike Match, Crooked Spire employee Evie Jeffries and chief executive officer Tom Smilovitis fly the Midland flag. Picture: Guanhao Cheng

GUANHAO CHENG

A BUSINESS breakfast named Midland the new Dalkeith with Hesperia director Adrian Fini as the keynote speaker will be held on May 3.

Swan Chamber of Commerce chief executive officer Tom Smilovitis said he recognised Midland's history of antisocial behaviour on the streets but was hoping the event would change the perceptions of Midland for the better and drive positive change.

"What we're saying is that we need to give people significance and at that breakfast, we don't want to talk about it, we want to demonstrate it by sponsoring up to 60, maybe 100 people that have had an unfortunate life," he said.

"When you have a vision that's big enough, everyone in the community, whether they're a not for profit, a manufacturer, a builder; no matter what sector of business or professional you're in, we all then can see that we can contribute to that community dynamic.

"That's what this breakfast is about. We hope to lift people's eyes to the possibilities of this region."

Mr Smilovitis said it's why he chose Adrian Fini to be the keynote speaker due to Mr Fini's influence within the property development industry and his power to draw interest for the event.

"I've been hunting Adrian for at least two years; he's a very busy man," he said.

"I can't think of a better person that can address the

breakfast about lifting people's eyes to having vision. "I've asked Adrian to speak from the heart about what's allowed him and his family to be in their industry for decades and still be very cutting edge.

"We want to hear his heart, because we've already seen the pragmatic side of it."

Adrian Fini's spokeswoman said it would be a casual talk with no presentations but with a Q&A, which he envisaged would focus on property development and his experience, lessons and passions.

Former Midland detective Chris Bown, who runs Thrive Integration, a prisoner reintegration company as reported in *Ex-cop turned prisoner rehabilitator* (*Echo News*, January 11), will also be a guest speaker at the opening of the event.

Mr Smilovitis said he hoped the event would be a coming together of people from all walks of life proposing each other up in business.

"When you come to our events, there's no allocated tables, no hierarchy, no lanyards with your name on it," he said.

"If you come in, you don't know if you're standing next to the CEO of a multimillion-dollar company or a start-up.

"Build lifelong relationships and that's the nature of it. The idea is not about Dalkeith, obviously. It's about 'we can do better'."

The breakfast will be held at the Crooked Spire Coffee & Art House.

Eden Hill man gets suspended sentence for animal cruelty

A 54-year-old Eden Hill man was sentenced to six months imprisonment, suspended for 12 months, for failing to seek medical care for his 18-year-old labrador cross in Midland Magistrates Court on Monday.

He was also prohibited from owning animals for five years.

RSPCA WA inspectors attended the man's Eden Hill property in March 2022 after receiving a report about a dog which looked as if 'all of his insides had come out'.

Inspectors attended the property where

the accused told them he had a 'poor old dog' whose condition was 'terrible'.

The inspectors found the dog unresponsive with a rockmelon-sized growth on his anal region which had open wounds and was emitting an offensive odour and attracting flies and maggots.

The dog was also underweight, with an outline of his ribs, hips and spine visible and had a distended abdomen.

He also had sunken eyes with discharge coming out of them, and a chronic skin condition.

The accused told one of the inspectors that the dog's condition had deteriorated since December 2021 however he hadn't taken him to a vet.

He surrendered the dog to RSPCA WA and the dog was transported to the animal care centre in Malaga for immediate assessment and treatment.

An RSPCA WA vet noted the dog was severely emaciated with a body condition score of 1/9, with 5/9 considered ideal.

He was also suffering from dehydration, severe dental disease, severe osteoarthritis,

and chronic skin disease.

His large perianal mass was ulcerated and had become necrotic, with a very foul odour of rotting flesh and infection, and caused considerable pain when the dog was sitting, standing, moving his tail, or defecating.

The vet observed the dog was suffering from extreme pain and his mass was inoperable, and the dog was humanely euthanised.

In sentencing, Magistrate Gregory Benn said it was an "extreme case of neglect", labelling the offender's action "outrageous" and "disgusting".



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eye on crime

Inappropriate female images arrest

MIDLAND detectives have charged a man as a result of their investigation into allegations he took inappropriate images of women without their permission.

It will be alleged in December 2023, the accused used his mobile phone at a shopping centre in Karrinyup, to record vision under the skirt of a female while inside a store.

It will be further alleged in January 2024, the man used his mobile phone in an attempt to take images of a female teenager as she was changing in an adjoining change room of a clothing store located within a shopping centre in Midland.

On January 17, detectives executed a search warrant at the man's residence and his electronic devices were seized.

A forensic analysis of the electronic equipment identified a number of images of women partially naked or undressed taken while they were in change room stalls.

Further images appear to have been taken in various gyms and shopping centres across the Perth metropolitan area.

The 33-year-old man from Menora has been charged with two counts of indecent acts in public.

He appeared before the Midland Magistrates Court on April 2 where the case was adjourned and will return back to the Midland Court on April 30.

This investigation is ongoing and police urge anyone with information relating to this matter, or any similar incidents, to call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or via www.crimestopperswa.com.au

If you have been a victim of abuse of a sexual nature, or if you have information about someone being abused, please contact police on 131 444, or report the information via the Safe2Say online reporting platform.

Beverley fatal motorcycle crash

OFFICERS from the major crash investigation section are investigating a fatal crash which occurred near Beverley on the weekend Sunday, April 7.

Just before 9am, a black Royal Enfield motorcycle was travelling east on Westdale Road, near Edison Mill Road, when it left the roadway and collided with a tree.

The 57-year-old male rider died at the scene. Major crash investigators are appealing for any

witnesses to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or online at www.crimestopperswa.com.au

Dash-cam or mobile phone vision relating to this crash can be uploaded directly to investigators via this link: <https://wapf.au.evidence.com/axon/communityrequest/public/fatalmotorcyclecrashbeverley>

If you or anyone you know has been affected by a road crash, contact Road Trauma Support WA on 1300 004 814.

Brabham wounding incident charges

MIDLAND detectives have charged a 26-year-old man in relation to an incident that occurred in Brabham on Saturday, March 30.

About 9.15pm, a 19-year-old man and teenage female were outside an address on Partridge Street and involved in a verbal altercation.

The 26-year-old man, who is believed to be related to the 17-year-old female, was also outside the address and it will be alleged he armed himself with a knife before assaulting the 19-year-old man.

The 19-year-old man sustained stab wound injuries to his abdomen and leg and was conveyed by

St John ambulance to Royal Perth Hospital.

The 26-year-old man left the scene and was later stopped by police in his vehicle on Kwinana Freeway in Baldivis.

He was taken into custody and has since been charged with unlawful wounding, unlawful wounding with a circumstance of aggravation, common assault in circumstances of aggravation or racial aggravation and being armed in a way that may cause fear. He appeared before the Perth Magistrates Court on March 31 where he was released on bail and is due to reappear at the Midland Magistrates Court on April 12.

Bullsbrook fatal crash information sought

OFFICERS from the major crash investigation section are appealing for information in relation to a fatal crash that occurred in Bullsbrook on Friday, March 15.

About 7pm, a member of the public alerted police to a crashed off-road motorcycle located on a cycle path off Tonkin Highway near Neaves Road.

A 51-year-old male, believed to be the rider of the motorcycle, sustained critical injuries and died at the scene.

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 the information online at www.crimestopperswa.com.au

Dash-cam or mobile phone vision relating to this crash can be uploaded directly to investigators via this link: <https://wapf.au.evidence.com/axon/communityrequest/public/fatalcrashbullsbrook>

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



WorkSafe's reminder on machinery safety

TWO fatal incidents in WA workplaces last week have prompted a reminder from WorkSafe to review safety procedures associated with mobile plant.

WorkSafe is investigating both incidents to identify whether any breaches of work health and safety laws have occurred and to determine the causes of the incidents.

Acting WorkSafe Commissioner Sally North advised relevant persons in control of a business or undertaking to review their safety procedures.

"The recent incidents in O'Connor and Dalwallinu are a tragic reminder of the risks associated with operating mobile plant in workplaces," Ms North said.

"The incident in O'Connor involved an elevating work platform, while the Dalwallinu incident involved a forklift.



"There's a large amount of guidance on WorkSafe's website about plant safety, and I encourage employers to take a fresh look at their safe work procedures in line with that guidance and in consultation with workers", she said.

APPLY BY
5pm
31 May 2024

2024 COMMEMORATIVE PLANTING DAY

It's happening again! This year the City's annual Commemorative Planting Ceremony will celebrate babies born between May 2023 and April 2024 to parents living in the City. Families are invited to register to take part in the community planting day on Friday, 5 July 2024 at Jacaranda Springs, High Wycombe, Ledger Road Reserve, Gooseberry Hill, and Maamba Reserve, Wattle Grove, where a plaque displaying all babies names will be installed. Families will also receive a personalised certificate for their child/ren and a plant to take home.

"Planting a tree for your child is a wonderful way to celebrate their life - as they grow, so does their tree!"

Applications can be submitted online at:
engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au

For more information or to request a hard copy application form:
p: 9257 9999 e: enquiries@kalamunda.wa.gov.au

Forrestfield police and community collaborate to combat burglaries

IN a unified effort to address a recent surge in burglaries afflicting the Forrestfield policing district, police in collaboration with the community, have taken proactive measures.

Forrestfield officer-in-charge, Senior Sergeant Brad Robinson said the area, encompassing local schools such as Lesmurdie Senior High School and Falls Road Primary School, had been plagued by a spate of break-ins, prompting swift intervention from authorities.

Pooling resources from the Midland detectives office, law enforcement devised and executed an intensive burglary strategy.

Employing intelligence-driven tactics, they aimed to identify, locate and apprehend the alleged perpetrators behind the crimes.

“Through meticulous surveillance and coordinated operations, suspects were targeted, leading to a series of successful raids that saw the recovery of thousands of dollars’ worth of stolen property, ranging from gardening equipment to sporting goods,” Senior Sergeant Robinson said.

As a result of these concerted efforts, seven offenders have been apprehended and charged with various offences, including burglary.

Forrestfield Sergeant Kel Ellis underscored the significance of these arrests, emphasising that combating burglaries remains a top priority for law enforcement.

“Rapid apprehension of high-harm offenders is a top priority for our officers, and these offenders were identified and apprehended very quickly,” she said.

While the City of Kalamunda reports favorable progress in tracking burglaries year-to-date, authorities caution against complacency.

Sergeant Ellis said vigilance and security consciousness were paramount, as was the importance of community involvement in reporting suspicious activities.

In a separate incident, Forrestfield police during routine night shift patrol, intercepted two individuals allegedly in the act of stealing copper wire from a home under construction.

Both individuals, who are local residents, have been apprehended and will face charges in the Midland Magistrates Court later in the month.

Sergeant Ellis urged the community to remain vigilant and promptly report any suspicious activity to authorities by calling 131 444 or 000 in urgent situations.



Lesmurdie Senior High School, where thousands of dollars of equipment was stolen.



Glennis Wilson and her late husband Lindsay.

Chidlow resident honours memory of husband in HBF ‘run for a reason’

GLENNIS Wilson, a 72-year-old Chidlow resident, is lacing up her runners in this year’s HBF Run for a Reason, where she will walk 12kms on Sunday, May 19 in honour of her late husband, Lindsay Wilson.

Mr Wilson who died after battling idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF) and lung cancer 15 months ago.

“Running isn’t really my thing but I do love walking and belong to a few bushwalking groups and I know that 12km will be achievable,” Mrs Wilson said.

“Lindsay always encouraged my walking, even when all he could manage was to sit up and read. I know he will be sitting on my shoulder as I take on this challenge to raise awareness and vital funds for this devastating disease.”

Mr Wilson, a big supporter of research and in helping others, actively participated in leading clinical trials with the Institute for Respiratory Health after being diagnosed.

He also battled three lung cancers, one in the lower left lobe, then the upper right and then the lower right. Life was a whirlwind of appointments, assessments, medication and surgery.

“Lindsay was always determined and resilient. He took what life threw at him. After every medical appointment we would have a lunch date and he would have a pint of Guinness and I would enjoy a glass of wine. We made the most of the time we had together,” Mrs Wilson said.

“The last three months were really tough. It’s such a nasty disease, it’s like slow suffocation – that’s why research is so important, so others don’t go through this suffering.

“The specialist care team were wonderful and were there with Lindsay and I throughout our whole journey, I don’t know what I would have done without them.

“The photo of Lindsay and I was taken in Bali, just six months before Lindsay passed away. It’s my favourite photo of us together and I will always cherish it.”

If you want to support Glennis with her fundraising efforts please visit www.runforareason24.grassrootz.com/institute-for-respiratory-health/glennis-wilson

For more information about the respiratory research that the Institute for Respiratory Health undertakes visit – www.resphhealth.org.au



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

25th anniversary of Bickley Harvest Festival

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

FRIDAY NIGHT, MAY 3

25th Anniversary Opening Night @ Core Cider House - Raise a glass to our 25th anniversary at this exclusive VIP event from 6.00pm to 8.00pm. Mingle with esteemed producers, community leaders, and fellow Festival enthusiasts, with two hours of drinks and canapes with live music and prizes. Tickets: <https://www.kalamundachamber.com/events/bickley-harvest-festival-25th-anniversary-opening-night/>

Harvest Dinner @ The Packing Shed Distilling Co - Start your Harvest Festival weekend on the Friday evening with a ticketed 5 course dinner, bringing you a menu filled with seasonal local produce. Bookings required.

SATURDAY NIGHT, MAY 4

The Bambuseae Rhythm Section @ Chalet Rigi - Come and dance to the truly funky sounds of The Bambuseae Rhythm Section at Chalet Rigi, the hottest new venue in the hills.

ALL WEEKEND:

Brookside Vineyard @ Chalet Rigi Pop-up - Enjoy live and local music across the weekend, European Food with Oma and Opa's food truck and a fully licensed bar.

Plume Estate Vineyard - L'atelier Gourmet Food pop-up downstairs, the best views in the valley upstairs.

The Fair at MyattsField Vineyards - fair-like atmosphere with kids activities, food trucks, picnic rugs, live music and of course tastings.

Hainault Vineyard and Cafe - Live music, wine and food while looking out at the sweeping views over the highest commercial vineyard in WA. Vineyard platters will be available including vegetarian, vegan and gluten free options.

Core Cider House - Two or three course menu in the bistro, live music and casual eats on the lawn. Jump on the Apple Express for a tractor ride through the orchard - perfect for the whole family.

La Fattoria - Sicilian inspired Nonna's Family Table or Pick a Platter lunch experience. For something special, join Eric for a 90 minute trip down memory lane tasting food from his childhood paired with their Italian varietals. Bookings recommended.

The program is available on the festival website now, with the downloadable, self-guiding map. For more information, visit the festival website at www.bickleyharvestfestival.com and follow on social media @bickleyharvestfestival.



THE cool mornings of Autumn signify the return of the Bickley Valley harvest and the region's annual celebration of wine, cider, spirits, produce, food, and culture on May 3, 4 and 5.

A new VIP gala event on Friday, May 3 at Core Cider House kicks off the 25th anniversary in style, followed by a weekend that showcases the region's best across 20 venues set amongst the lush orchards, vineyards, and rolling hills of the picturesque Bickley Valley.

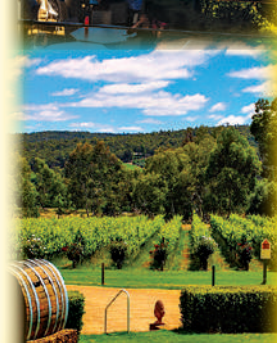
The downloadable festival map will lead visitors throughout their self-guided trail of experiences, tours, workshops, tastings, menus and produce in the Bickley and surrounding regions. Each venue caters for a different audience with well established, award-winning producers alongside generational family businesses, including family-friendly and pet-friendly options.

Also new in 2024 is a complimentary shuttle bus service around the region running on Saturday and Sunday. Perfect for those who want to visit a number of venues, the bus route runs from Kalamunda Town with stops at Chalet Rigi, The Packing Shed Distilling Co, Plume Estate Vineyard, MyattsField Vineyards, Fairbrossen, Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre, Masonmill and Core Cider House.

The 25th anniversary marks the region's emergence into a new era with a mix of innovative, passionate young producers employing new techniques, alongside inherited time-honoured traditions on some of Western Australia's most fertile land.

This community is turning heads in the world of artisanal produce with the region being increasingly recognised on a national and international stage. The future is shining bright.

Bookings are required at some venues, so advance planning is recommended to make the most of your visit.



Pictures: Up Close & Local Tours.

Fri 3, Sat 4 & Sun 5 May 2024

Award winning wine and cider, gin distilleries, restaurants, cafes and gourmet food hampers, open art studios and fresh local produce.

PLAN YOUR FESTIVAL TRAIL NOW!

www.bickleyharvestfestival.com



These Galahs. Inset: Josh and Rachael Davenport.

These Galahs headline Neuromuscular WA fundraiser

JOSH and Rachael Davenport, owners and winemakers at MyattsField Vineyards in the Bickley Valley are not only known for their award-winning wines, but also for their altruism and 18 years of unwavering support for Western Australians living with neuromuscular conditions.

On Saturday, April 13, they are playing host to the third Rhythm & Views fundraising concert for Neuromuscular WA.

Local band These Galahs will provide the music and entertainment and MyattsFields' award-winning wines will be available for purchase with proceeds going to their charity of choice.

In addition to hosting this popular fundraiser, each year the Davenports donate significant amounts of wine as well as a row of Mourvèdre grapes known as 'Row 38' for live auction, which sold for a record-breaking \$23,000 last year and has raised \$146,300 to date. This gives the winning

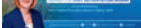
bidder the unique opportunity to play winemaker for the vintage.

Both are honorary life members of Neuromuscular WA and Mr Davenport was elected as board chair last year.

"Neuromuscular WA makes a vital difference to their community and as they receive no ongoing government funding we want to do what we can to support them. Rhythm & Views not only helps this important organisation but celebrates what the Bickley Valley wine region has to offer," Mr Davenport said.

Neuromuscular WA takes a holistic approach to improving the quality of life of those living with neuromuscular conditions through social programs, advocacy, funding for research, counselling, equipment, grants, system navigation and NDIS support.

Find out more and buy tickets to the event here: <https://rhythm-views-2024-tickets.eventbrite.com.au>



Karingal Green

HEALTH AND AGED CARE COMMUNITY

Wellness Centre



Karingal Green Wellness Centre provides health and wellness services for our seniors community.

Our physiotherapists provide services including Hydrotherapy, Physiotherapy Treatments, Gym and Pilates Classes. We also have a Massage Therapist available. You are welcome to use your private health fund, Medicare care plan, DVA, NDIS or Home Care Packages at the Wellness Centre.

Why not get started on your health and wellness journey at Karingal Green.

**For your initial consultation call
0490 940 371**



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ADVERTISING FEATURE



Expanding life skills at Helen O'Grady Drama Academy

THE Helen O'Grady Drama Academy is proud to announce that their self-development drama programme is opening a Brand New Studio for Term 2 in Guildford especially for Homeschool Students!

The prime aim of their International Programme is to give children ongoing confidence and skill in verbal communication, a vital ability in today's fast changing world of technology in which our children now grow up.

Learning to be able to communicate effectively allows children to find their own path through anxiety, school pressures, friendships, family changes and navigating challenges with a positive mindset.

Children love the program and parents love the results says Helen O'Grady Drama Academy principal Merylena Sulak.

"We are very proud of our programme which covers numerous skills that incorporate speech training, crea-

tive movement, improvisation, script work, performance techniques and much more," she said.

"Drama not only gives children and teenagers an opportunity to express themselves in a fun, safe environment but also enables them to practise everyday life skills such as leadership, discussion and negotiation.

There are currently four studios operating in the Eastern Suburbs area: Swan View, Kalamunda, Mundaring and Dianella, with a brand new studio opening at the Guildford Town Hall on Thursday 9th May which has been especially timetabled to run during the day for Homeschool students.

Enrolments are now open for Term 2, 2024, so get in quick before the term begins to secure your place!

Call Merylena on 9378 4332 or 0490 808 206, visit www.helenogrady.net.au or email merylena.sulak@helenogrady.net.au for more information.

Age Well at Karingal Green's Wellness Centre

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 well-being 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 surround-



ing 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 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 karingalgreenwellness.com.au

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INCREASE SELF ESTEEM

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Don't miss out on this opportunity to be a part of our community where comfort, care, and quality living come together seamlessly. Visit us today and discover why Roshana's aged care facility is the ideal choice for you or your loved ones.

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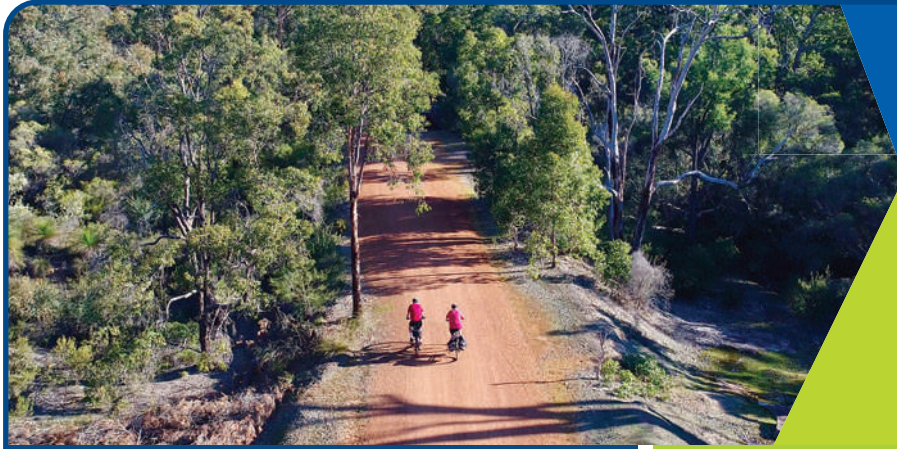
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Shire President's Message

A big thank you to over 3000 community members who provided feedback in the MARKYT Community Scorecard 2024. I'm excited to share that 97% of participants agree that our shire is an outstanding place to live! Of course there are areas for improvement and together with the Shire team, Council are committed to addressing your priorities as we create our Plan for the Future. You are welcome to attend one of the community workshops on **Thursday 18 April** at the following venues:



9am - 11am at the Mundaring Administration Building or
6pm - 8pm at the Swan View Youth Centre.

Please visit bit.ly/MundaringWorkshops to register. The full results of the scorecard will be published following these workshops.

As the sunny, dry weather continues, making it perfect for outdoor school holiday adventures at our parks, trails and Lake Leschenaultia, it also necessitates an extension of the Prohibited Burning Period. Stay informed and sign up for our Shire's Bushfire Information SMS alerts via bit.ly/3PCG6e6 to ensure you are well prepared and up to date.

At its April meeting, Council adopted the 2024 Emissions Reduction Strategy aspiring to a 70% reduction (from 2016/17 emissions) by 2030. This is a collective call to action to shape our sustainable future. Council also recommended to the WA Planning Commission to repeal Local Planning Strategy 4, paving the way for a new and contemporary local planning strategy within our shire.

As ANZAC Day approaches, a day that holds a very special place in my heart, I sincerely hope you will be able to join us as we honour those who sacrificed so much in service to our country. There are several services to attend and we warmly welcome you at the local ANZAC commemorative events supported by the Shire. Details can be found in the 'What's On' section and on our [website](https://www.mundaring.wa.gov.au). As we honour those fallen, Lest We Forget.

Paige McNeil
Shire President

Handy Info

For your convenience, we now have FREE Containers for Change collection bags available at the Shire Administration Centre.



Register for eRates - its quick, easy and helps our environment.
mundaring.wa.gov.au/council/rates/register-for-erates

FOGO Drop-in Sessions

Come along to a drop-in session to learn more about the new Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) waste system.

The Hub of the Hills
Tuesday 21 May - 9.30am to 11am 

Mundaring Village Shopping Centre
Saturday 25 May 11am to 2pm
Saturday 22 June 11am to 2pm

Mundaring Arena
Tuesday 28 May - 6pm to 8pm
Saturday 8 June - 11am to 1pm 

Swan View Shopping Centre
Thursday 13 June - 10am to 1pm

What's On

1 May Ordinary Council Meeting

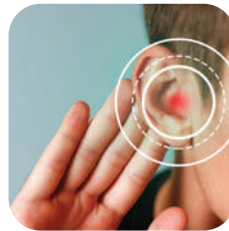
The meeting will be held on **Tuesday 14 May** at 6.30pm at the Shire Administration Centre.



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/council-livestreams-and-recordings

2 FREE Hearing Checks

Our libraries are pleased to host Hearing Australia who are conducting adult hearing tests:



Boya Library

Monday 15 April, 10am to 2pm
Bookings (08) 9290 6755
or email: gills@mundaring.wa.gov.au

Mundaring Library

Friday 19 April, 10am to 2pm
Bookings (08) 9290 6780
or email: mills@mundaring.wa.gov.au

3 An Evening with Dr Alex Boyd

Thursday 18 April
6pm to 7.15pm
Boya Community Centre



Photographer and artist Dr Boyd will discuss his work in the Islands and remote communities of the North Atlantic and his latest book.

Bookings essential via Eventbrite.

4 A Morning Tea with Folker Krueger

Monday 22 April, 10.30am to 11.45am
Boya Community Centre
Folker shares stories from his eventful life as a German immigrant who never stopped exploring what the world presented to him.
Bookings essential via [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com).

5 ANZAC Day Ceremonies

Wednesday 24 April
ANZAC Day Sunset Service - 5.30pm,
Blackboy Hill Commemorative Site
Innamincka Road, Greenmount



Thursday 25 April
ANZAC Day Dawn Service - 6.15am,
Blackboy Hill Commemorative Site,
Innamincka Road, Greenmount

ANZAC Day Service - 7.30am,
Chidlow Village Green

ANZAC Day Service - 11.30am,
Elsie Austin Pavilion, Chidlow Street,
Mt Helena

ANZAC Day Service - 2.45pm,
Memorial Garden, Great Eastern Highway,
Mundaring

6 Member Recruitment Workshop

Tuesday 7 May, 6pm to 8pm
Shire Administration Building
(Civic Reception Room)
Designed for community groups and sporting clubs, learn the strategies for attracting and recruiting new members.

Book via Eventbrite bit.ly/3U1tHCY

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PUBLIC COMMENT INVITED

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION - LOT 15604 ELGEE ROAD, BELLEVUE (BELLEVUE DEPOT) - RADIO COMMUNICATIONS TOWER AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE

We invite comment on a development application for Rail Communications Tower and associated infrastructure at Lot 15604 Elgee Road, Bellevue (Bellevue Depot), in accordance with Section 64 of the Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority Act 2011 and Clauses 5.15 and 6.7 of the METRONET East Redevelopment Scheme. The site is located within the Midland Precinct.

The radio communications infrastructure forms part of broader works to the METRONET Rail Network and will be replacing existing infrastructure which purely service the Public Transport Authority (PTA) network. The works include:

- Antenna Support Structures and foundations;
- Hardstands for maintenance of each hinged monopole; and
- Civil works

The structures do not form part of any commercial telecommunications network.

A copy of the proposed development plans can be viewed online at <https://developmentwa.com.au/planning-and-approvals/current-planning-items>, or at our office, Level 2, 40 The Esplanade, Perth, between the hours of 8:30am and 5:00pm Monday to Friday.

Comments on the proposed development should be received by **3 May 2024** and can be submitted on our website, by email to planning@developmentwa.com.au or by post for the attention of the Manager Statutory Planning, Locked Bag 5, PERTH BUSINESS CENTRE WA 6849.

For further information on the proposed infrastructure, please contact our Planning Division on **6200 4111**.



Read between the lines
by Ken Duffy

Grace isn't just a female name. In Church circles God's grace is usually defined as undeserved favour. Grace cannot be earned; it is something that is freely given. We count on God's grace and the bridge He built in our relationship with Him. Bible verses about grace are plentiful. From the foundation of the Old Testament, we know that grace is a part of God's character. GRACE is often defined in an acronym God's Riches at Christ's Expense. Grace is that which everyone needs and no one deserves.

It is truly God's love in action. Jesus confidently said, "I am the Way the truth and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me. That's what we really celebrate at Easter! Can anyone ever really plumb the depths of Christ's love on the Cross? A totally innocent Jesus, beaten horribly and mocked again and again; yet when a reprobate of a man being crucified alongside Him asks Jesus to "remember me when you come into your Kingdom." Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with Me in paradise." Now that's what I call "grace".

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Upcoming Events

• **Midland Lawn Tennis Club**, Patterson Drive, Middle Swan invites people to social tennis, which is played on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9am onwards. All standards of play and all ages are most welcome. Stay for a cuppa afterwards too and meet club members. For more information visit <https://play.tennis.com.au/midlandlawntennisclub/>

• **The Darling Scarp Artisans** are holding an exhibition and sales of hand crafted gifts on Saturday, April 20 and Sunday, April 21. At the Lesmurdie Club Lawnbrook Road W, Walliston from 10am to 4pm. For more information call 0427 260 252.

• **Midland CWA** meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 10am at the Midland Railway Yards, Blacksmith Lane (West) Midland. 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. Call Maureen on 0456 962 476 or email mau-

reenbarker1@gmail.com

• **Midland Ascension Craft Group** meets in the Parish Hall 17 Spring Park Road, Midland every Tuesday of school term from 1pm to 3pm. Everyone welcome to join for a chat, cuppa, any craft and sometimes a guest speaker. Call 04332 65683.

• **The Orienteering WA Nav Dash** series continues - on Sunday, April 21 from 9am to 10.30am, at Swan Valley Adventure Centre, Middle Swan, off Reid Highway. Courses are suitable for people aged eight to 80, individuals or groups. Register online until 5pm the day prior or at the event from 9am to 10am. Come along and try something new and fun. For more information and detailed directions to orienteering events, visit www.wa.orienteering.asn.au or call Helen on 0409 889 944.

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.

Woofers of the week



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Hills footy starts

THE Hills Football Association kicks off their 79th home and away season at 6.30pm on Saturday, April 13 with Chidlow taking on Gidgegannup.

In the other round one games Bullsbrook plays Mt Helena and Swan View takes on Mundaring while Pickering Brook has a bye.

The HFA is the only senior AFL competition in the hills area covering from Chidlow in the east Pickering Brook in the south and Bullsbrook to the west.

Players looking to join a club can make contact via the HFA Facebook page.

Volunteers are also an integral part of any sporting or social group.

If anyone has a few hours to spare the clubs would be most appreciative.

Directions to a club can be obtained by making contact through the HFA Facebook page, or directly with a club.

Swans move to 4th on WAFLW ladder

CHRIS PIKE

IT was a pair of wins for Swan Districts in the WAFLW and Rogers Cup competition on Sunday against Subiaco and East Perth respectively at Bassendean oval.

Swan Districts' Rogers Cup team was also in action on Sunday at home and ended up beating East Perth 3.8 (26) to 2.5 (17).

The victory improves Swans to a 3-1 record to be sitting in fourth position in the Rogers Cup ladder with the goals kicked by Olivia Rasenberg, Luka Davis and Madison Catley.

The Swans and the Lions went into their match-up with two wins and two losses from their first four games, and it was the black-and-whites who prevailed 8.4 (52) to 4.10 (34) to move a game clear

in fourth position on the WAFLW ladder by the end of round six.

There were plenty of standout performers from Swan Districts once more in the win on Sunday and none better than 17-year-old emerging star Lily Paterson.

She finished with 26 possessions, six marks, four tackles, three inside 50s and two goals.

Taylah Edwards and Courtney Zappara also kicked two goals apiece for Swans with Zappara also amassing 19 disposals and six marks.

Hope Ugle-Hayward also finished the afternoon with 16 possessions and five tackles with Isabella Edgley collecting 14 disposals, Tamzyn Beros 13 (10 hit outs), Carys D'Addario 12 (seven tackles), Emma Humphries 12 and co-captain Demi Liddle 12.

Both teams went to battle over

a spot in the top four at the end of the weekend and it was Subiaco who kicked the opening goal six minutes into the contest courtesy of Olivia Wolmarans.

Swan Districts hit back just two minutes later with a goal thanks to Taylah Edwards before then finishing the first quarter in emphatic fashion with goals to Emma Humphries and Carys D'Addario.

That saw the Swans lead out to 16 points by quarter-time but it took less than a minute of the second term for the Lions to bring the deficit back to 10 points with a goal from Claudia Langley.

The black-and-whites again responded with a second goal from Edwards but Subiaco cut Swans lead to seven points at the half-time break but they put the result beyond doubt with the only two goals of the final quarter.



There were plenty of standout Swan Districts players in the WAFLW on Sunday. Picture: Tom Campbell



Swan Districts had their chances in the third quarter but a string of behinds proved costly. Picture: Blake Parry

String of behinds cost Swans

CHRIS PIKE

SWAN Districts opened the 2024 season beating the West Coast Eagles at Bassendean Oval by 64 points before backing up against East Perth on Saturday.

The Swans were leading by as much as 15 points just before half-time.

The black-and-whites then had their chances to take control again in the third quarter, but a string of behinds proved costly and East Perth ended up winning 18.11 (119) to 11.16 (82).

Jiah Reidy finished the game kicking three goals for Swan Districts with Leigh Kohlmann,

Tom Edwards and Ayden Cartwright all adding two apiece.

Co-captain Jesse Turner was prolific once again on the wing ending up with 43 touches and 18 marks with Jye Chalcraft racking up another 37 disposals, Nik Rokahr 31, Jackson McLachlan 20, Josh Cipro 18 and Aidan Clarke 17.

Tony Notte was a steady influence down back too with 23 possessions and five marks in the 294th game of his career.

Swan Districts scored the first goal inside less than two minutes courtesy of Jackson McLachlan, but the Royals then built some momentum with four quick goals themselves in the space of seven

minutes.

Swans responded with two quick goals thanks to Ayden Cartwright and then a running goal on the left boot of Aidan Clarke.

Leigh Kohlmann scored just before quarter-time, but going into the break and it was East Perth leading by 12 points on the back of both teams combining for 10 goals between them.

Swan Districts dominated the first half of the third quarter as well but couldn't put the score on the board.

Swans managed to kick a goal in the final term but the Royals scored six of the game's last seven goals to win by 37 points.

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