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PG4 Wheeling along a different trail



PG7 Northam learns from tree fines



PG12 Healing stories exhibition



Picture: Guanhao Cheng

Funding a success

Parkerville Community Band's \$3000 funding kick-started a recent surge in charitable action to help community members access instruments and get to playing music. **PG 6**

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THE HILLS ARE ALIVE WITH THE SOUND OF MUSIC



PARKERVILLE COMMUNITY BAND'S \$3,000 FUNDING WAS A GREAT SUCCESS RESULTING IN PURCHASES OF SECOND-HAND INSTRUMENTS, REFURBISH OF THE INSTRUMENTS AND BRINGING IN NEW MEMBERS TO PLAY THEM.

ECHO YOUR THOUGHTS

Have your say:
editorial@echo-news.com

Metronet milestone madness

Dear Echo News,
Celebrating a milestone usually means that you have achieved the milestone, except when the milestone is the Cale Street crossing, corner of Railway Parade finished to grade.

The grade that we refer to is the finished height of road and rail being level (hence 'level crossing'), and as such, must have both road and rails at the same level.

We therefore don't understand the need to class the 'opening' of the crossing as a milestone, when in fact both east and west suburban Metronet tracks are not laid.

These tracks will be laid at a later date, causing the temporary closure of the Cale Street crossing.

Another point here is if the freight rail diversion metropolitan 1313/41 (2021) amendments had gone ahead, then it would reduce the rail corridor and train traffic going through Midland.

"The amendment seeks to transfer approximately 18ha from the rural and industrial zones and the public purpose and parks and recreation reservations to the railways and primary regional road reservations."

Grade separation using a bridge or an underpass offers the safest but most expensive treatment at a rail crossing. Justification of the high expenditure involved with grade separation is required before replacing an existing level crossing or constructing a new grade separated crossing.

Meanwhile, back at Metronet, there are preparations for grade separation, that

is bridge or underpass for Morrison Road level crossing "Planning funding has been committed to remove the Morrison Road level crossing in Woodbridge and replace it with a grade separated crossing. Work has commenced to define the project scope."

We have to ask, why was the Midland Metronet plan not held off until the freight rail had been removed down the Roe Highway as is planned?

This would have resulted in the tracks being used solely by Metronet and TransWA, a smaller strip of land being used, shorter grade crossing, less noise with the mega trains, tracks for use between Midland station and Bellevue facilities that will soon take much of the work from Claisebrook, Perth.

**B Steels
Midland**

Council dithers on intersection

Dear Echo News,
About this time last year, because of the number of motor vehicle accidents occurring at the intersection of Elizabeth Street and Railway Road, the City of Kalamunda was dithering about whether to construct a roundabout here or simply close a section of Elizabeth Street.

However, as it turned out, they did neither and accidents continue to occur here, no doubt to the disdain of the owners of the property at this intersection whose perimeter wall is often damaged by such accidents and the latest is a humdinger with the solid block wall being spectacularly caved in.

I do hope the City of Kalamunda intends to cover the cost of its

repair rather than the homeowners having to claim the cost via their insurance as probably happened in the past.

**C Coulthard
Gooseberry Hill**

Thought for the day

Working hard for something we don't care about is called stressed; working hard for something we love is called passion.

- Simon Sinek

CONSUMER PROTECTION

From glam to grim: When beauty becomes pain

With Consumer Protection Commissioner
Trish Blake

NERVE damage, scarring, pain, burns, infections and psychological trauma. No, this isn't about medical negligence, it's about injuries received from beauty and cosmetic treatments.

How would you feel if a simple trip to get your eyelashes looking lush for an event ends with red, infected eyes and a course of antibiotics, or your first session of laser hair or tattoo removal results in painful burns that leave a scar?

Consumer Protection has received 29 complaints already this year. A further 28 people have made enquiries with us about unsatisfactory experiences with operators in the beauty industry. Last year we saw a total of 112 complaints and 111 enquiries. Most problems relate to laser hair and tattoo removal, infections from nail salons, cosmetic tattooing gone wrong, waxing injuries or poor quality lash extensions.

While most operators are experienced and offer a professional service, WA consumers are urged to exercise caution when seeking beauty and cosmetic treatments. Botched procedures can have a significant impact.

If something goes wrong, a refund, credit or other remedy offered by the business would normally resolve consumer complaints, but this may not satisfy in a situation where someone is injured. They could also be seeking damages or compensation, which can only be achieved by taking civil court action.

The Australian Consumer Law (ACL) provides guarantees that operators carry out treatments or procedures with due care and skill.

Where a guarantee is breached, the ACL permits consumers to claim what is called consequential damages, which means the trader is obliged to reimburse the customer's subsequent costs of any remedial care required to treat any injuries and symptoms caused by the original botched treatment.

You should never assume the person delivering a treatment or procedure has a medical qualification as this may not be required but it's still worth asking about their skills.

Be wary of discounted prices that are far less than competitors – it may suggest counterfeit products or unqualified practitioners.

We urge consumers who have had a bad experience to report it to Consumer Protection, or specific regulators of that procedure, so that the circumstances can be investigated.

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

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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.

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Parking in Ellenbrook town centre is already under pressure.

Public comment needed for train station parking

MIKE PEETERS

THE new Ellenbrook train station is now complete and expected to be open and operational in early 2025.

Expecting a significant increase in pressure on parking around the train station, the City of Swan is now seeking public comments on its draft parking management plan.

The plan will provide valuable guidance on how best to manage the parking in the Ellenbrook town centre.

It is intended to help ensure that parking is available to visitors and customers in the town centre, and that commuters utilise the new train station parking in the dedicated parking area.

Located in the heart of Ellenbrook town centre, the new sta-

tion includes a 12-stand bus interchange and 500 parking bays (including disability), as well as a 150-metre-long sheltered island platform.

With a five-star Green Star Design review rating, the station also boasts 200 solar panels and 10 electric vehicle charging bays in the design.

"When our government makes commitments, we deliver on them – and today marks a major milestone in our commitment to deliver a train line to Ellenbrook," said WA Transport Minister Rita Saffioti.

"Communities in our growing north-east corridor have been crying out for better public transport options, and I am proud that our government is making that a reality."

Aveley resident Phil Bennett

said although he was pleased that Ellenbrook was getting a new station, he would have liked to have seen a lot more designated parking around the area.

"The majority of people just don't like walking and even if we factor in the existing parking available at the big shops, I don't think there will be enough when both the train station and bus interchange open up," he said.

"I believe local and state governments should also be considering the additional parking needed when the highly anticipated, revamped Ellenbrook Leisure Centre being built nearby finally opens."

A City of Swan spokesperson said construction of the new leisure centre was due to start in 2025 and was scheduled for completion in 2027.

Swan rates to rise 3.5 per cent

ANITA McINNES

CITY of Swan councillors have voted to increase rates by 3.5 per cent saying the rate rise was needed to align the budget with the priorities identified in the strategic community plan 2021-2031 and the council's direction not to close facilities or cut services.

Five councillors including deputy mayor and Midland Guildford ward councillor Ian Johnson voted against the city's second rate increase in five years at the special council meeting held on June 26.

While presenting the motion to adopt the rate increase Pearce ward Cr Aaron Bowman said the city's big budget could not be determined by homemade spreadsheets and a small change in one part of it could have significant consequences in another part.

"A small reduction of 1 or 2 per cent in a particular service may seem insignificant but what are the impacts – mowing the verges even less frequently, having to wait longer for phones to be answered or not consulting as much with our community – could be just some of the outcomes, which we no doubt would all agree are not acceptable," he said.

"Councillors we all know that any suggestion to cut a budget (ed) amount that is for example funded from reserves or DCP or part grant funded is not a (municipal) saving and we need to be extremely careful if anyone suggests cutting these types of projects as the result is our community misses out."

He said any changes councillors wanted should have been incorporated into the budget over the proceeding four to five months.

"Let's not forget that we all agreed at the start of the budget workshop that the general direction was that there was to be no cuts or any reduction to any of the current services and the budget before us tonight provides for this," he said.

After the meeting Cr Johnson said he had drafted a motion requesting the chief executive officer Stephen Cain prepare a zero percent rate rise using a list of reductions provided, however, the CEO would not allow the motion as in his opinion it was in breach of the Local Government Act (LGA).

In *Most Swan councillors agree to rate increase* (Echo News, May 3) Cr Johnson said he and another councillor were putting together another budget like the 2020 one.

The city has one of the biggest capital works programs in WA, with a budget of \$155.5 million for 2024-25 including major infrastructure projects such as Swan Active Ellenbrook, the extension of Henley Brook Avenue and the construction of the Ballajura intergenerational playspace.

Swan Mayor Tanya Richardson said the city had frozen rates for three consecutive years after the onset of COVID-19 to lessen the financial burden of the pandemic on homes and businesses.

"Council has been working hard to get this budget right in recent months and we're confident we've struck the right balance for our growing community," she said.

"This 3.5 per cent increase will help us deliver the diverse range of services and projects our ratepayers expect, while minimising costs in a challenging economic environment."

New seat is worth considering

ANITA McINNES

CENTRAL Wheatbelt MLA Mia Davies has given the strongest indications so far that she is seriously considering standing for the new federal seat in Western Australia.

Last month on a visit to WA federal Nationals leader David Littleproud said publicly he would be keen to see Ms Davies in federal Parliament.

On Tuesday *Echo News* asked Ms Davies if Mr Littleproud had given her some time to think about whether she wanted to stand for the new seat or had she already given him her decision.

In response Ms Davies said the newly created federal electorate of Bullwinkel was worth serious consideration and confirmed she had had discussions with Mr Littleproud and others since the release of the boundaries.

In her earlier responses Ms Davies, who announced her resignation as opposition leader, Nationals WA leader and her decision not to re-contest the 2025 state election on January 27 last year, did not rule out running for the new seat.

She mainly talked about her current role keeping her busy until March 2025 but at the same time said contesting the new seat was important.

On June 17 Ms Davies told ABC Mornings that there were plenty of things to get angry with the federal government about particularly if you come from regional and Western Australia.

This week she also told *Echo News* there were no shortage of issues impacting the communities in the electorate that would benefit from her party's common sense approach in Canberra.

"Despite the wealth generated here in WA, Labor has failed to address cost of living pressures, housing shortages and the lack of affordable and accessible health services in across these communities," she said.

"And in regional WA, the attack on our farming and small business sector linked to live sheep export has been despicable.

"Labor have traded away the livelihoods of WA



Central Wheatbelt MLA Mia Davies says the new seat of Bullwinkel would benefit from her party's commonsense approach in Canberra. Picture: Angie Roe Photography

families and communities for a preference deal with activists to win suburban seats in Melbourne and Sydney."



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Pearce Base flight activity to increase



City of Swan Mayor Tanya Richardson with a Republic of Singapore Air Force officer. Picture: ABIS Rikki-Lea Phillips

ANITA MCINNES

BULLSBROOK will experience increased fighter aircraft activity for the next few months at the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) Base Pearce.

Over the course of about four months, the base will host training with an extended fighter detachment (EFD) from the Republic of Singapore Air Force.

The EFD will be supported by about 120 personnel for training operations in three sequences over the June to October 2024 period.

Air force members will be using three different types of fighter aircraft from Singapore during the training in addition to aircraft already based at Pearce.

The first sequence started on June 24 and runs to July 15, and will not involve any night flying activity, but nighttime flying is scheduled to start on August 26 and end on October 2.

A Defence spokesperson said while every opportunity to reduce impacts to the local community will be taken, flying is subject to change due to variables such as air traffic control requirements, weather, and other considerations.

"Defence is aware that these operations will increase aircraft noise and may impact local residents in the Bullsbrook, West

Bullsbrook, Ellenbrook, Aveley, The Vines, Lancelin, Gingin and Yanchep communities," they said.

"Defence is open and honest about aircraft noise experienced by residents living near bases and training areas and is committed to reducing noise while balancing operational and training requirements."

As part of the community engagement effort, RAAF Pearce Base Commander Wing Commander Greg Porche attended the last Bullsbrook Residents and Ratepayers Association (BRRA) meeting.

He then hosted a Base Pearce meet and greet between the Singaporean detachment and the Swan community last Friday afternoon where members of BRRA, Bullsbrook Landcare, Bullsbrook and Districts Museum, Bullsbrook Community Men's Shed, Bullseye Youth Centre, City of Swan Mayor Tanya Richardson and councillor Aaron Bowman attended.

BRRA president Anne Janes said the meet and greet was an enjoyable event and the Singaporean pilots were happy to be in WA.

"Greg Porche has made a concerted effort to reassure the Bullsbrook community that the RSAF training will be undertaken with the utmost sensitivity,

and they will endeavour to reduce the amount of noise made by the F15's and F16's as much as they can," she said.

"So, the afterburners will be cut as soon as possible once the planes have gained enough height and once they are in the air, they will head out to the ocean to undertake their training exercises; they will not fly over the land any more than they have to."

Mrs Janes said the community has been updated via the BRRA Facebook page and other platforms and the reaction to the EDF arrival has been welcoming.

"The response from the community so far has really been an overwhelming, 'bring it on,'" she said.

"There may be a change of heart once the RSAF undertakes some night flying which is all part of their training, so we shall see."

"Greg Porche told me that there would be more opportunities for the community to meet and greet the crews when it's possible to do so."

For more information on upcoming flight schedules, visit www.airforce.gov.au/news-events/events/community-engagement-plan-pearce or call 1300 333 362.



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About 25 mixed age group members turned up to plant 200 trees for the project.

Wheeling along a different trail

INSPIRED by a community art project in a South Perth Park, Wheels Seniors decided the Mundaring Sculpture Park needed revitalisation by a new artwork.

While early days yet, the project is underway with the collaboration of the Mundaring Arts Centre (MAC) and an InspireArts grant of \$3,000 from the Shire of Mundaring kicking it along.

An expert talk from Eric McCrum was the first activity for the group, designed to inform the planning process.

Mr McCrum's talk was about the Perth Hills environment and Indigenous connections to the area peppered with stories of his journey as a naturalist.

Conceived as an intergenerational project, the members from Wheels were joined by the Hills Homeschoolers and the Mundaring Primary School.

As part of the restorative efforts, 25 members showed up in the morning on June 10 in a mixed age group to plant about 200 plants provided by the shire's Seedlings for Landcare.

Wheels Seniors president Sally Roberts said the group wanted to get the younger generation involved so the project could belong to everyone.

"We need to get the young people involved so it belongs to them as well as the older people that will move on," she said.

"We want to include the younger generation as well so they can own it, be proud of it and perhaps care for it too."

The West end of Mundaring Sculpture Park has



All smiles during the tree planting event.

been chosen as the site for the work - a statement of place featuring local plants and animals incorporating the Noongar names.

Ms Roberts said the final art piece was still being planned and an artist brief is in the works to be sent out at the beginning of August.

"We actually don't know what it is yet but we want something native in our area to beautify the park so people can come visit and see the plants in that area without having to travel 100km elsewhere," she said.

"We'll have a brief outlining the main idea of showcasing our local plants and wildlife that represent Mundaring."

"Then, the different artists from groups such as the MAC will each submit their ideas and we will pick from the cream of the crop for what will be incorporated into the park."

"We hope to start workshops in November and by next year it will be finished."

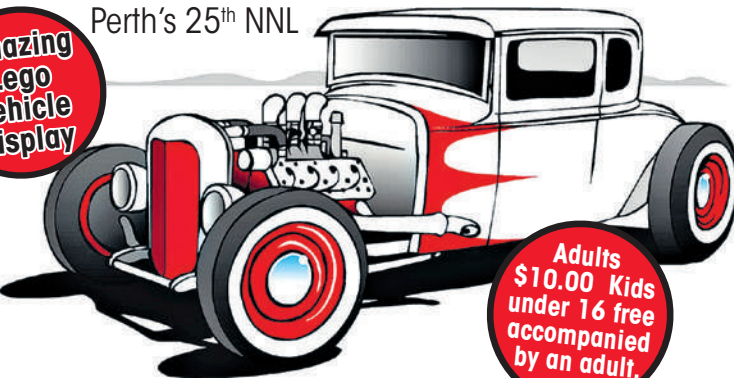
Ms Roberts encourages Mundaring residents to get involved and for seniors to join the group if they are interested.

More information can be found on their website at <http://www.wheelsseniors.com.au> or by contacting Sally Roberts on 0423 178 266.

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North east emergency services \$1.5m appliance funding boost

MORE than \$1.5 million has been invested in new appliances and a flood-rescue vessel to support emergency services in Perth's growing north-eastern corridor with new additions recently delivered to Mundaring, Ellenbrook, Kiara, Swan Valley and Belmont.

Emergency Services Minister Stephen Dawson said funding for the new frontline equipment was through the emergency services levy and the resources would boost career and volunteer personnel's capability to respond to incidents on land and in the water.

Kiara and Ellenbrook Career Fire and Rescue Service and Mundaring Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service were each handed the keys to a new light tanker and East Swan Bush Fire Brigade received a new 3.4 urban tanker, further strengthening emergency response in the region.

Each of the vehicles has been designed with a range of crew protection measures, including turnover blankets, in-cab breathable air units, refrigerators for hydration and automated vehicle location.

Belmont State Emergency Service added a new heavy flood rescue boat to its ranks, with the unit specialised for emergencies, including missing persons searches and retrievals along the Swan River.

The crews receiving appliances today were key to the response effort for several emergency-level blazes in Mariginiup, Parkerville, Chittering, Gidgegannup and Red Hill over the summer and unseasonal storms in the Perth Hills in January.

Emergency Services Minister Stephen Dawson said the new appliances would ensure career and volunteer personnel in the eastern suburbs region have access to the best equipment possible to protect their communities.

"This latest handover is part of an ongoing statewide program, with the state government investing an additional \$140m into providing new equipment and facilities to our frontline emergency services across the state.

"Emergency services personnel in this region have had a very busy



Swan Hills MLA Jessica Shaw with local fire fighters.

period, responding to more than 1,900 incidents so far this year, answering calls for help from not only their communities, but other parts of the metropolitan area and Western Australia.

"I'd like to extend my thanks and appreciation to our career and volunteer personnel for the extraordi-

nary role they perform in protecting WA's local communities."

Swan Hills MLA Jessica Shaw said the demands on local career and volunteer emergency services grow greater each year.

"Whether it's fighting fires over summer, dealing with storm damage each winter or the tireless work

they put in year-round on prevention and preparation programs, our emergency services give so much to our local communities.

"It's vital that we provide them with the facilities and equipment they need, and this handover is another example by our government of what we're doing to support them."

Live sheep export ban devastating for regional families say Nationals



THE Nationals WA have labelled the passage of Labor's live sheep export ban through Federal Parliament this week a devastating decision for families, businesses and communities across regional WA.

Nationals WA leader Shane Love called the decision "a gut punch to regional WA."

"Our livestock industry is the lifeblood of many regional communities, supporting thousands of jobs and injecting millions into our local

economies. Many communities will struggle to survive without this industry," Mr Love said.

"Despite this, the federal Labor Government has stubbornly refused to listen to the pleas of thousands of West Australians and has rammed through an ideological ban that will devastate farming families and communities."

This week, delegates from WA's livestock sector visited Canberra in a last-ditch attempt to convince federal MPs to oppose Labor's ban.

"The 'Keep the Sheep' campaign presented a petition with more than 63,000 signatures opposing the ban, yet the Labor Party turned their back on hardworking WA families in a political decision aimed at winning more votes in Melbourne and Sydney," Mr Love said.

"Every single Labor representative from WA should be ashamed of their actions in Parliament this week. You were elected to represent your electorate and WA, and you have sold us out."

Mr Love also slammed the federal Labor Government for guillotining debate in the Senate this week.

"When you are making a decision that will impact the lives and livelihoods of thousands of people, the least you can do is listen to their concerns and respect process.

"Just like the WA Labor party has done with the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act and the Firearms Act, federal Labor has shown they are drunk on power by gagging debate on this important issue."

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Parkerville Community Band grant a success

GUANHAO CHENG

PARKERVILLE Community Band's \$3000 funding has kick-started a recent surge in charitable action to help community members access instruments and get to playing music.

The band received the funding in November 2023 to buy second-hand instruments to foster more community musicians, as reported in *Parkerville Community Band instrument offerings* (Echo News, February 16).

Parkerville Community Bands manager Yvonne Blyth said the grant had been successful in more ways than they had envisioned.

"Not only were we able to purchase quality instruments, refurbish them, and bring in new members to take them up, but with the success of the *Echo News* story getting the word out, the community also donated instruments to us, which we then donated back," she said.

"In one instance, an electric keyboard was donated to us, and we gifted it to a woman from Swan View considered legally blind and wished to join her local vision impaired music group but had no instrument.

"This was a great result."

Ms Blyth said another lady donated her dad's clarinet that hadn't been used in over 30 years, which they refurbished with grant money.

"Now we have an excellent quality instrument that we can make available if there is someone wanting to take up the clarinet again and join our band," she said.

"The grant was also used to buy necessary equipment, such as music stands and uniforms for our new players."

Parkerville Community Band conductor Peter Hind said the grant had been spent with lots of consideration

which was why they only began enjoying the benefits recently.

"Yvonne's been scouring the marketplace for second-hand instruments at a good price, and we've been fortunate to find lots of really good instruments out there, but it has taken some time," he said.

"We're glad we were able to give these instruments a second life.

"Hopefully we continue this way, and more members join on with the band. More community members are certainly welcome."

Parkerville Community Band trombonist Meghan Oakes said the band has been a fantastic opportunity to access an expensive instrument she had otherwise been saving up for.

"It's only my third or fourth rehearsal but it's been really good playing with the band," she said.

"I stopped playing after high school because I tried to buy my instrument from them, but they didn't let me.

"I had been saving up but then my friend contacted me and let me know that they had gotten hold of a trombone, so I joined on, and it's been great."

Ms Oakes said she was excited to take part in the next performance which will be the band's 'Golden Oldies' concert.

"I'm most excited to play the Beatles from the song list," she said.

The band will be performing their senior citizens focussed repertoire later this year in the Darlington Arts and Rotary Markets, with exact dates to be updated later on.

More information on upcoming events can be found on the Parkerville Community Band Facebook page, and community members interested in joining can contact Yvonne Blyth at 0416 233 277.



Band members gathered at the Parkerville Oval for a rehearsal with the refurbished instruments in preparation for their upcoming concerts.



Heroine's name put forward for new seat

ANITA McINNES

MARJORIE Jean Lyon, who was born in Northam in 1905, is one of the alternative names put forward for the new federal seat in Western Australia.

In May the Australian Electoral Commission's redistribution committee proposed the new federal seat to the east of Perth to be named Bullwinkel in recognition of Lieutenant Colonel Vivian Bullwinkel (1915–2000), a civilian and military nurse who was the sole survivor of the 1942 Bangka Island massacre and a prisoner of war.

Members of the public were invited to submit written objections to the proposed redistribution between May 31 and June 28.

John Lyon was one of the people making a submission objecting to the name Bullwinkel.

While acknowledging the worthiness of naming an electoral division Bullwinkel somewhere in Australia Mr Lyon said there had been no reference to her Western Australian connections.

"I agree with the proposal to honour a female war hero who provided critical health care in and near Sumatra in World War II," he wrote.

But suggested his surgeon aunt – Dr Marjorie Jean Lyon (1905-1975) – a woman with strong connections to the area should be considered.

"She was selected from over 4000 proposed entries by the Australian Bicentennial Authority as one of 200 unsung heroes and heroines.

"In 1946 she had been awarded the OBE by the King for her work."

Mr Lyon said what made his aunt a more appropriate woman to have the electorate named in her honour were the facts that "she was born in Northam, the heart of the proposed subdivision, went to school there and that her family lived there for 60 years or so practicing law."

"Significantly she visited every school in the electorate checking on the health of children for about 20 years," he said.

"In 2017 the middle school of MLC Claremont was named in her honour.

"Marjorie went to school there after her primary schooling at Northam state school...the Northam high school was not built when she was a teenager."

Extracts from her entry in the Australian Dictionary of Biography say on July 30, 1937 his aunt joined the Malayan Medical Service.

"She was stationed at Johore Bahru in January 1942 at the time of the Japanese advance," the Australian Dictionary of Biography entry said.

"Ordered to Singapore, she joined her English friend Dr Elsie Crowe at the general hospital and took charge of the shock ward."

When they were evacuated their vessel was sunk by bombers near Pompong Island and although injured herself Lyon swam 400m to the island, treated Crowe whom she saved from drowning and cared for others who had been wounded.

"Days later she, Crowe and others were rescued



Marjorie Jean Lyon.

by the ship Kafuku Maru (Krait) and taken to Sumatra.

"Although the arrival of the Japanese was imminent Lyon chose to remain as a prisoner of war.

"She assumed medical responsibility for about 50 British and 25000 Dutch women and children, initially located at a Salvation Army hospital, then at a Catholic monastery and later at a gaol."

Eventually they were moved to a jungle camp where due to her care only 160 deaths were recorded.

Although only a small woman she 'gave the Japanese hell...always demanding medicine and getting slapped for asking'.

After the Japanese surrendered Lyon was evacuated to Singapore where she met Lady Mountbatten who described her as 'an outstanding woman doctor'.

Dr Lyon practiced with the Malayan Medical Service until 1950.

Following a brief period as a private specialist she joined the Western Australian Schools Medical Services in 1951.

She retired in 1970 and died in March 1975 at Nedlands.

On July 2 there was still no indication from the Australian Electoral Commission of when the final electoral boundaries will be announced.



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Chinganning Road was cleared in 2017 as part of a road works program.

Northam learns from tree fines

GUANHAO CHENG

SHIRE of Northam President Chris Antonio says being fined thousands wasn't something to walk away and learn nothing from.

"You certainly learn from anything like this," he said.

"We've done quite a number of checks and measures to make sure it doesn't happen again and employed an environmental sustainability officer to make sure all the relevant processes and procedures are in place so we're well aware of what's required going forward."

Last month, Shire of Northam was fined \$10,000 for the removal of 300 mature growth trees along Chinganning Road which were estimated to be more than 25 years old.

The trees were removed in May 2017 as part of a road works program but was done without a permit.

An assessment by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation found the trees were foraging habitat for threatened species Carnaby's cockatoo, Baudin's cockatoo and forest red-tailed black cockatoo, and were likely to be a significant breeding habitat for the endangered black cockatoo.

It was determined the clearing likely caused a loss of flora and fauna species of conservation significance, and the shire was charged under the Environmental Protection Act 1986.

Northam Magistrates Court ordered the shire to pay the fine on June 17, for which the maximum penalty

could be as high as \$500,000.

Mr Antonio said while council voted to remove the trees in a 2015 meeting, preceding his time, the current council was working to remediate damages and not repeat mistakes.

"Nesting boxes have been installed and vegetation has been replanted (on Chinganning Road) as part of the remediation process to replace what was lost during the time," he said.

"The feedback we've gotten is anecdotal, but we've heard that it's worked quite well with the nesting boxes and vegetation even though it's not in a formal process right now.

"It'll continue to be monitored. Whether that's formal or not, we'll continue to do that to make sure the remediation is continuing and appropriate."

Mr Antonio said an example of the shire's commitment to following procedure and being conscious of environmental impacts could be seen in their development of Jennapullin Road, Grass Valley.

"So, everything's done according to the right steps and procedures and policies for the work we're doing on Jennapullin Road at the moment," he said.

"We made sure to get the permits first. We talked about offsets, so we're working with the right government agencies to get offsets that are appropriate.

"We're doing the assessments on any potential flora or fauna at risk of damage and everything to make sure all the steps, procedures, and policies are in place prior to even considering doing any physical work."

New bushfire mitigation funding for councils

MIKE PEETERS

THE state government is investing \$4 million to help local governments across the state, including Mundaring, Swan and Northam, prepare for the bushfire season.

Of this funding, the Shire of Mundaring will receive \$327,500, the Shire of Northam \$123,790 and the City of Swan \$60,075.

Mundaring Shire President Paige McNeil said the latest grant would support 16 mitigation projects across seven priority areas including the Superblock, Railway Reserve Heritage Trail (proposed locations near Old Sawyers Road, Railway Terrace, Stonerville Road, Sexton Road, and Keane Street) and Christmas Tree Creek.

Emergency Services Minister Stephen Dawson said the 2024-25 mitigation activity fund (MAF) program was an important measure to reduce bushfire risk and protect local communities.

"The funding will be used to conduct 635 mitigation activities in high bushfire-risk areas on state-owned land managed by local government," he said.

Mitigation activities include mechanical treatments to reduce fuel levels and the creation of firebreaks and planned burns.

Funding is available to local governments with a bushfire risk management plan endorsed by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services.

Applications for the next round of the MAF grants program are expected to open in August.

Local governments and residents can visit: www.dfes.wa.gov.au for more information.



Mitigation machinery at work.

Join us to celebrate

2024 NAIDOC Week



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7-14 JULY 2024

Event Date	Event Time	Event Details
Sunday 7 July	2:00pm - 4:30pm	Opening of NAIDOC week 2024
Tuesday 9 July	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Cultural walk with Neville Collard BOOKED OUT
Wednesday 10 July	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Cultural walk with Neville Collard
Wednesday 10 July	10:30am - 12:00pm	Dreamtime Stories at High Wycombe Library
Wednesday 10 July	3:00pm - 4:30pm	Sound Meditation with Olman Walley
Thursday 11 July	11:00am - 12:30pm	Sound Meditation with Olman Walley
Friday 12 July	11:00am - 12:30pm	Dreamtime Stories at Kalamunda Library
Friday 12 July	2:00pm - 4:00pm	Basket Weaving Workshop BOOKED OUT
Friday 12 July	2:00pm - 3:30pm	Dreamtime Stories at Forrestfield Library
Saturday 13 July	10:00am - 1:00pm	Bush Tucker Garden
Saturday 13 July	11:00am - 1:00pm	Bush Tucker Tastings with Dale Tilbrook

Visit kalamunda.wa.gov.au/NAIDOC for more information and event details



This is the National
NAIDOC logo.

This National NAIDOC Week Activity is funded by
the National Indigenous Australians Agency.



Swan Active member's heart-stopping story

CITY of Swan resident Allan Duncan has a heart-stopping story with a life-saving message – and he's still alive to tell it because of his training and the training of those who rushed to his aid.

Mr Duncan, 75, was about 250m into his regular 750m swim at Swan Active Ballajura last month when he felt pain in his wrists.

As someone who swims several times a week, he knew that was not normal.

And his extensive training in emergency response told him it was not something to take lightly.

"My training says, 'if something's wrong, get out'," Mr Duncan said.

"I could feel my chest getting tighter as I was getting out of the water."

Mr Duncan's concerns were well-founded – his life was in danger and time was running out.

He took a seat on a nearby bench, inserted his hearing aids and told the nearest Swan Active staff member, Eesha Kalyan, he was having a heart attack.

To his relief, Ms Kalyan wasted no time with questions, instead rushing to get help.

Moments later, three other staff members were on the scene – Kaitlyn Cuevas, David Pengelly and Lauren Goddard.

They were all qualified life-guards with first aid and CPR training.

"Kaitlyn said, 'the ambulance is on its way', nice and loud," Mr Duncan said.

The Swan Active staff members did their best to keep Mr Duncan

calm and focused, while they liaised with St John WA on the phone.

"I don't know what training they had but David was standing by with a defibrillator, Kaitlyn was coordinating and Lauren was chatting to me," Mr Duncan said.

"So I was thinking, 'I'm in good hands'. I mean, I've had all this training and this is what I would tell people to do."

The paramedics arrived within minutes and helped Mr Duncan to the waiting ambulance.

His last memory from the drive to hospital was noticing they were travelling along Beaufort Street.

When he regained consciousness, he was in Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital with a very sore chest from where a paramedic had performed CPR.

It was the second time he had suffered a heart attack and the second time he had been brought back to life in the back of an ambulance.

He said the sense of gratitude he felt for the staff members and the paramedics was "unfathomable".

"You get another chance. It's like a rebirth," Mr Duncan said.

"It's not start again, because you're still 75, you're still deaf and you still have aches and pains, but you go back to your life."

"I've got a two-year-old grandson and another one due in early October. These are the special times, I have discovered."

Mr Duncan said the Swan Active staff members "did everything right" and were the first link in the chain that gave him another



Allan Duncan, second from left, with Swan Active staff Lauren Goddard, Allan Duncan and Kaitlyn Cuevas who rushed to his aid while he was suffering a heart attack.

chance.

Now back swimming laps at Swan Active Ballajura, he has a life-saving message to share with the community.

He said his experiences and the emergency training he received throughout his career had taught him not to take risks when it came

to your heart.

If something felt wrong, the best course of action was to act immediately and boldly.

Don't ignore it, don't wait and see, and don't try to make your own way to hospital.

Call an ambulance.

"What you'll need is a para-

medic with a defibrillator, and you only get that by calling an ambulance, so don't prevaricate," Mr Duncan said.

"They might come along and say, 'it's angina', but if you guess wrong, you're dead."

"You'll only survive if you act now."

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Grand Opening of the Imperial Homestead!

WE are thrilled to announce the grand opening of the newly revamped Imperial Homestead, a cherished landmark established in 1886, now under new ownership and management.

The grand event was honored by the presence of local elder Dennis Kickett from the Ballardong tribe, the Consulate General of India, Mr Amarjit Singh Takhi, and the Honorable Mia Davis on Friday, June 14.

Under the visionary leadership of seasoned hospitality expert Manish Bhalla and his two esteemed partners, they promise to offer an elevated culinary and guest experience at The Imperial Homestead.

For Manish, it has always been a dream to steward a heritage property in the countryside, and today, that dream has become a beautiful reality.

From the Desk of Manish Bhalla

This splendid property has been lovingly preserved by its previous owners, earning an outstanding reputation among both locals and visitors.

While we are new to countryside hospitality, we are fervently dedicated to upholding the high standards and timeless aesthetics that have made this place truly special.

Our mission is to sustain and enhance

this legacy. We aspire to be a cornerstone of the community, fostering mutually beneficial relationships with local businesses and creating a win-win situation for everyone involved.

We are committed to enriching the local community in various ways and plan to host events that will bring people together and create unforgettable memories.

By doing so, we aim to showcase the charm and beauty of York Town and attract more visitors to this enchanting area.

We are profoundly grateful for the warm welcome from the community and our incredible team.

We are honored to take over this heritage property and continue its legacy with a fresh, unique dining experience. Inspired by York's rich heritage and vibrant community, we are committed to supporting local farmers, artisans, and suppliers.

We eagerly look forward to welcoming you to The Imperial Homestead.

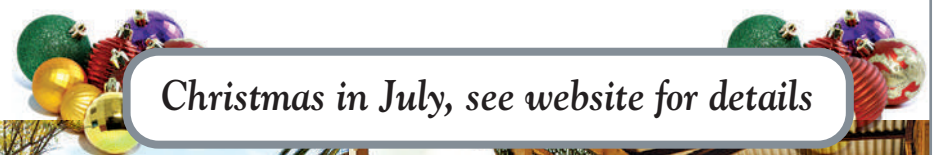
Visit Us:

www.imperialhomestead.com.au

At the official grand opening from left, Manil, Manish, Consulate General of India, Mr Amarjit Singh Takhi, Hon Mia Davis, Karan Joshi, Dr Ashish and Amit.



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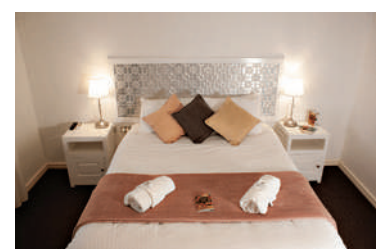
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Mundaring addresses Lake Leschenaultia silt hazard concerns

GUANHAO CHENG

DANGERS of silt in Lake Leschenaultia have been investigated and addressed by the Shire of Mundaring after a Glen Forrest resident raised the alarm.

Glen Forrest resident Stevie Braun wrote to the shire and in *Concern over lake danger* (*Echo News* June 14) as she was worried people could step into 'quicksilt' in the lake: pockets of black silt that act like quicksand.

"Your feet sink into the silt until they reach the ground, but then the silt acts with suction to make it difficult to pull your feet out again," she said.

"Your feet feel like they are glued to the ground and so it is impossible to shift your feet to balance yourself.

"Experiencing this as an elderly person I felt real fear as I struggled to maintain balance to keep upright.

"Let's hope the council acts quickly to resolve the quicksilt danger in Lake Leschenaultia."

Ms Braun then attended the June 11 ordinary council meeting to receive a response about the possible risk the silt posed for swimmers and young children.

During the meeting, strategic and community services director Megan Griffiths confirmed to Ms Braun that shire staff would get advice and look into it the following day.

Shire of Mundaring chief executive officer Jason Whiteaker said Tuesday last week that the recent concerns about silt had been assessed by shire staff.

"Measurements show that while the

silt layer varies in depth, it does not pose a significant risk to the community," he said.

"The silt in front of West Beach, where most visitors enter the water, is shallow, and the water provides enough buoyancy to prevent swimmers becoming stuck.

"However, we recommend increased vigilance and supervision, especially for small children."

Mr Whiteaker said warning signage had been placed to alert visitors of the deeper silt areas and advise on safe practices.

"We are committed to ensuring the safety of all visitors and will continue monitoring and addressing any potential hazards," he said.

"Regular assessments will be conducted to maintain a safe environment for everyone enjoying Lake Leschenaultia."



Concerns were raised at the June 11 meeting that pockets of silt could pose a risk for visitors to the lake.

Eyre Bird Observatory requires Volunteer Caretakers



Eyre Bird Observatory is offering a unique opportunity for a couple to work voluntarily for two to three months in a remote wilderness area, collecting information on birds and wildlife.

Due to late roster cancellations, we are left with a gap onwards from October 2024. We need volunteer couples to caretake the observatory right into 2025. The work includes catering for a few overnight guests, carrying out bird surveys, light maintenance, and weather reporting twice a day. Your accommodation and meals are provided free of charge.

A comprehensive manual is available that outlines all tasks listed above. Support is provided by the management committee as required.

As Eyre Bird Observatory is situated in Nuytsland Nature Reserve. No camping, dogs, or other pets are permitted.

Interested or need more information, contact us by email: eyre@birdlife.org.au or phone 0487641159.



Dumping pets illegal: RSPCA

RSPCA WA is reminding people that it's not only cruel but also illegal to dump their pets after a rabbit with a severe eye injury was left in a box by a rarely used door at the organisation's administration office.

The white and black rabbit, now named Julian, was discovered, cold and frightened, taped inside a small box with a few holes poked in it by an RSPCA WA staff member on Thursday morning.

The box had been placed next to some donation items which had been left by a back entrance door to the building and may have been there for more than 12 hours.

Inspector Manager Kylie Green said there was never a good excuse to dump a pet.

"Julian was left in these cold weather conditions for several hours, suffering from an eye injury that would have been causing him pain, and stuck in a box not much bigger than he is," she said.

"This was a cruel act and one that you can be charged for under the Animal Welfare Act 2002.

"We understand life can throw people curveballs and that situations change which may mean you feel you have no choice but to surrender a pet. "However, there is no need to subject an animal to needless suffering by dumping them.

"Please, if you ever need to surrender a pet, head to our website - we offer a judgement-free service for pet surrender."

Julian is currently undergoing vet care at RSPCA WA.

The RSPCA relies on the community to report incidents of suspected cruelty and neglect.

Report cruelty 24/7 on 1300 CRUELTY (1300 278 358) or at rspcawa.org.au



Julian was discovered taped inside a small box by an RSPCA WA staff member.

Midlas seeking new chief executive

MIDLAS has appointed consultants from Lester Blades to search for a new chief executive officer after the resignation of their current executive leader.

Midlas chief executive officer Gaelle Gouillou has resigned from her role in the leadership position and will be working her final day as chief executive on Friday, July 26.

Ms Gouillou said she was grateful for those she worked with and felt what they had achieved in their time working together was significant.

"I extend my gratitude to the board of directors, the executive leadership team and the staff at Midlas for their support and dedication," she said.

"Together we have achieved significant milestones and established a solid foundation for future successes."

Ms Gouillou said since starting with Midlas, the organisation had seen major changes and the fresh strategic direction set by their new strategic plan for 2024 to 2027 positioned the organisation for continued growth and success.

The new strategic plan outlined social justice and equity through access to rights and opportunity as their vision and driving positive social change through advocacy, education, and legal advice as the organisation's duty.

Midlas' strategic plan also aimed to achieve a place at the table with government to contribute to policies that impact their clients and community in the coming three years.

Ms Gouillou said she was eager to see how the organisation develops and appreciated the positive change she was able to contribute to during her tenure.

"To our stakeholders, partners and the community



Resigning Midlas CEO Gaelle Gouillou.

I've had the pleasure and privilege to work with, I thank you for your support, trust and belief in our vision and commitment to our purpose," she said.

"Your invaluable contributions and shared belief in our purpose has driven positive outcomes across our work, resulting in life-changing, positive impacts for those we support.

"As Midlas embarks on its next strategic phase, I am excited about the future of Midlas and look forward to seeing its continued growth and success progressing a vision for social justice and equity with access to rights and opportunity for all."

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Diabetes no barrier to European bike ride



Mr Boltong preparing for the trip on his mountain bike.

MIKE PEETERS

BASKERVILLE cyclist Herb Boltong (80), who has type-2 diabetes, will embark on a six-week, 1000km bike riding tour of Europe in August to raise funds for Diabetes WA.

He will be riding with his son Adrian and the trip will comprise two separate rides.

"The first ride is a bike barge tour from the Netherlands to Belgium, starting in Amsterdam and concluding in Bruges," Mr Boltong said.

"This will be followed by a train ride to Bordeaux, France from where we will ride from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mediterranean Sea to a small place called Sete.

"We will then travel to Paris by train and onwards to Maastricht in the south of the Netherlands where I was born."

Mr Boltong said having his son

Adrian with him while returning to his birthplace would be an emotional experience, and he hoped to catch up with family and friends in the Netherlands before returning home to Perth.

Mr Boltong is no stranger to bike riding adventures and along with his dog Snotty rode about 14,000km around Australia six years ago on a recumbent trike towing a trailer with Snotty inside.

"The trip took eight months, and I raised a considerable amount of money for Diabetes WA," he said.

"I also made presentations to Aboriginal communities, spoke to mine site workers, appeared on television, and was featured on a number of radio stations around Australia.

"I also appeared in newspapers both locally and internationally, to help make more people aware of diabetes."

More recently, about 18 months

ago, he went on another bike riding trip to the mountains of Nepal where he badly crashed his bike.

"Fortunately, I was rescued by helicopter and flown to Kathmandu where I was admitted to hospital," he said.

"After this, I thought my bike riding days were over and after returning home, let my fitness slip a bit before my son Adrian phoned me from Indonesia where he was working and invited me on this bike riding trip through Europe.

"At first, I thought having type-2 diabetes and being out of condition meant this may not be such a good idea.

"However, after some soul searching, I decided why not?"

Mr Boltong said the key to the trip was his fitness and preparing a detailed training program that would overcome his health obstacles.

Cont page 18

Writers' centre wins milestone arts funding

MIKE PEETERS

THE Katharine Susannah Prichard Writers' Centre in Greenmount has been awarded nearly \$100,000 from Australia's official arts council Creative Australia, to run an inclusive residency pilot program for emerging Australian writers from diverse and marginalised backgrounds.

The grant marks the largest amount KSP has ever received for a literary program, highlighting the importance and potential impact of this initiative.

With a clear focus on inclusivity and diversity, the program is also close to the hearts of co-founders Sofija Stevanovic and Shannon Britza.

Stevanovic, a Serbian-born neurodivergent writer and current coordinator of the writers' centre, and Britza, an autistic writer and operations manager at Writing WA, understand the unique barriers faced by writers within marginalised communities. Conversations between the two women regarding these

challenges led to the design of this pilot program.

"This grant from Creative Australia is not just a financial boost; it is a recognition of the vital need to support and amplify the voices of marginalised writers who face challenges to participation in the literary world," Ms Stevanovic said.

In partnership with Writing WA and Dragonfly Publishing, and with support from the Shire of Mundaring, this program will offer paid residencies, mentoring, and publication in 2025.

"We are excited to see the transformative impact this program will have on the participants and the broader community and look forward to seeing a wide range of applications," Ms Stevanovic said.

The full list of recent organisations that won Creative Australia arts project funding is available on their website.

Further details about the program will be released soon and writers can sign up to an e-newsletter via the KSP website at <https://www.kspwriterscentre.com> or follow the centre on its social media channels.



Lisa Wolstenholme – Dragonfly Publishing, Sofija Stevanovic – KSP Writers' Centre and Shannon Britza – Writing WA. Picture: Emma Hassner



FOGO

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Lesmurdie Library

Tuesday 9 July | 11:00am – 12:00pm

Forrestfield Library

Tuesday 16 July | 11:30am – 12:30pm
Friday 26 July | 4:00pm – 5:00pm
Friday 9 August | 11:30am – 12:30pm

High Wycombe Library

Monday 22 July | 4:30pm – 5:30pm
Monday 5 August | 4:30pm – 5:30pm

Kalamunda Library

Tuesday 23 July | 10:00am – 11:00am
Tuesday 30 July | 10:00am – 11:00am



For more information visit
kalamunda.wa.gov.au/fogo



ENTERTAINMENT & GIG GUIDE

Your local Gig Guide

Friday 5 July

Bassendean Hotel
Trent Williams.
5pm-8pm. Free.
Bob Brisbane
8:30pm-11:30pm. Free.
25 Old Perth Rd
Bassendean

Chidlow Tavern
Resonator.
6.30pm. Free.
4 Thomas St Chidlow

Parkerville Tavern
Ben Graham.
6pm-9pm. Free.
6 Owen Rd Parkerville

Saturday 6 July

Bassendean Hotel
Yannai Goldberg.
2pm-5pm. Free.
25 Old Perth Rd
Bassendean

Bolt Coffee Roasters
Mario Leeder.
10am-12pm. Free
338B Great Eastern
Hwy Midland

Saturday 6 July cont.

Mount Helena Tavern
Bronte & Josh.
6pm. Free.
900 Keane St
Mount Helena

Parkerville Tavern
Table for Two.
6pm-9pm. Free.
6 Owen Rd Parkerville

Sunday 7 July

Bassendean Hotel
Alex Rhys.
8pm-11.30pm. Free.
25 Old Perth Rd
Bassendean

Chidlow Tavern
Jam Session
(all welcome).
12.30pm. Free.
4 Thomas St Chidlow

Parkerville Tavern
Nicki Rose.
3pm-6pm. Free.
6 Owen Rd Parkerville

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ECHO NEWS

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Some of the artwork that will be on display at the NAIDOC Week art exhibition Wangening Bardip (Healing Stories).

Midland artist showcases at Healing Stories

MIDLAND artist and Wongutha Yamitiji woman, Nikkita Passmore will debut her latest works at a new NAIDOC Week art exhibition Wangening Bardip (Healing Stories) launching at Central Park next week on Monday, July 8.

The free exhibition will feature an exclusive showcase of artworks by First Nations artists across Western Australia, and Nikkita will join 10 other artists in expressing a heartfelt and moving narrative through a compelling and captivating exhibition.

Nikkita embarked deeper into her roots, learning and exploring new avenues leading her to establish a clothing brand known as KR Customs by Nikkita's Art.

She has been doing art since she was a teenager, picking it up during high school and learning the importance and significance from her Elders, family members and mentors, and has had a strong push to expand art through her dad's first cousins, Auntie Miranda and Uncle Peter Farmer.

Throughout Nikkita's experience, she has had the privilege to do projects for mining industries, sporting stars, company logos and workshops.

She also had the opportunity to work on a fashion show project with her Auntie and Uncle, which is what made Nikkita want to explore and move into fashion.

Whilst proud of her achievements, giving back to the younger generation through culture is a key priority.

She also loves teaching the non-Indigenous Australians about the First Nations people of Australia.

Each piece of the exhibition aims to express a heartfelt and moving narrative through compelling and captivating illustrations.

Curated by the Waalitj Foundation, a charity designed to support education, employment, and business opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people through its programs, artists displaying their works at the Waalitj Foundation Wangening Bardip exhibition also include Karthi Muir (Tjiwarl / Manta Rirrtinya / Leonora), Melissa Riley (Wadjuk Wardandi Waigi Key / Bunbury) Erika Fernandez (Yamatji / Mapuche / Cockburn) Sherena Bin Hitan (Bardi Jawi Yawuru / Broome), and Carol Martin OAM (Yamatji Naaguja and Noongar / Geraldton).

Waalitj Foundation Waalitj Hub general manager, Gohar Rind (Badimaya Yamatji) said: "We are honoured to unveil Waalitj Foundation Wangening Bardip at Central Park and share healing stories from a talented group of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across our state.

"Through this exhibition and our program of NAIDOC Week activities at Central Park, we aim to connect tenants and visitors with the enduring strength and vitality of First Nations culture that is the tapestry to traditions that define Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people."

Central Park general manager, Tim Ward said: "We are honoured to partner with the Waalitj Foundation to bring Waalitj Foundation Wangening Bardip (Healing Stories), an exhibition that depicts stories of rich culture from the heart, to the heart of Perth CBD at Central Park.

"We acknowledge the important role we play as a workplace hub in Perth's CBD and through our compelling program of cultural activities aim to educate visitors on our country's rich cultural history."

The Waalitj Foundation Wangening Bardip exhibition is part of a program of NAIDOC Week activities at Central Park designed to invite tenants and visitors to engage with a diverse array of artistic expressions and cultural performances paying homage to this year's theme: Keep the fire burning! Blak, loud and proud.

Free interactive art workshops held at Central Park open to the public throughout NAIDOC Week include weaving, canvas creativity, and bespoke 'deadly' sneaker workshops. Additionally, an Indigenous Business Mini-Market will showcase 100% Indigenous-owned businesses, including stalls from local artists including 13k Jewellery & MaOchre, Djinda Djiti merchandise and more.

The Waalitj Foundation Wangening Bardip (Healing Stories) exhibition will be located at Central Park, Ground Floor Lobby, 152/158 St Georges Terrace and is open daily from July 8 until July 19.

For more details on the full NAIDOC Week program at Central Park, visit <https://centralparktower.com.au/news-events>

York a filmmaking mecca with Runt

MIKE PEETERS

THE much-anticipated second instalment of the Binge series *The Twelve* and the movie *Runt* are just two filmmaking success stories to come out of York in the past year.

The second season of the award-winning series *The Twelve* will have its July 11 world premiere on Binge, with new episodes being released weekly.

Set in the rural WA township of Tunkwell (York), the second series is a world away from the urban city landscapes of season one.

When local landowner and respected town matriarch Bernice Price (Kris McQuade), is found dead at the bottom of her farm's pump well, two ex-lovers stand accused of her murder.

To decide the fate of the accused, 12 ordinary citizens from diverse backgrounds are selected from the township and its surrounds.

Was Bernice the victim of a crime of passion, a workplace accident or simply misfortune?

Acclaimed actor Sam Neill returns to reprise his role as Brett Colby SC, and the second season also stars Frances O'Connor, Tasma Walton, Kris McQuade and Amy Mathews.

Runt, based on West Australian author Craig Silvey's best-selling novel and mainly shot in the wheatbelt town, is due



Lily LaTorre as Annie with Runt, aka rescue dog Squid. Picture: Court McAllister.

for national cinema release on September 19, 2024.

A delightful Australian family film that blends heartfelt moments with humour, *Runt* tells the story of eleven-year-old Annie Shearer (Lily LaTorre) and her best friend Runt, an adopted stray.

In the film, Runt competes against pedi-

gree dogs in agility trials and faces the evil intentions of an unscrupulous English dog breeder Fergus Fink (Matt Day).

Directed by multi-award-winning director John Sheedy, *Runt* brings together an all-star Australian cast including Jai Courtney, Celeste Barber, Deborah Mailman, Matt Day and Jack Thompson.

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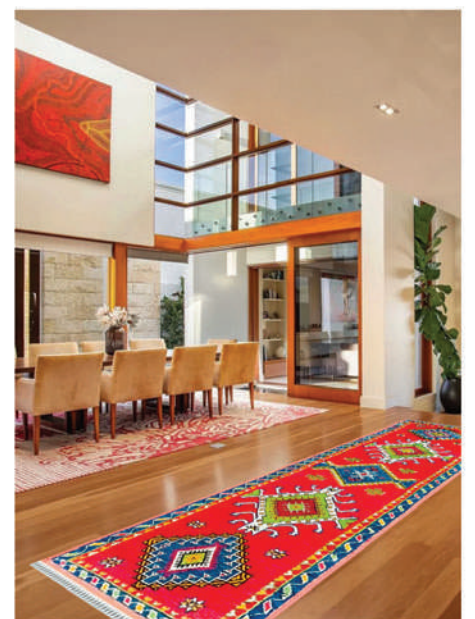


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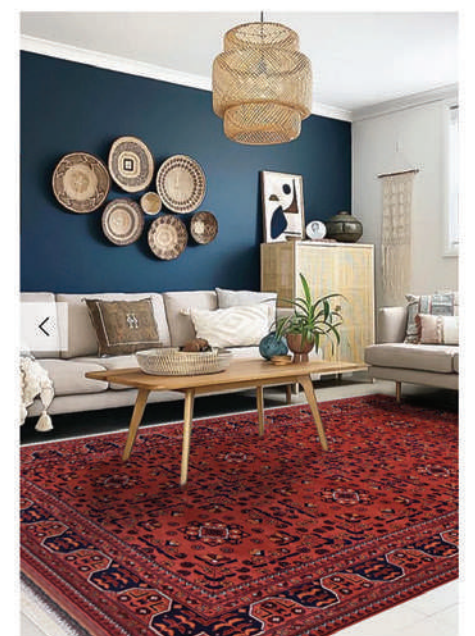
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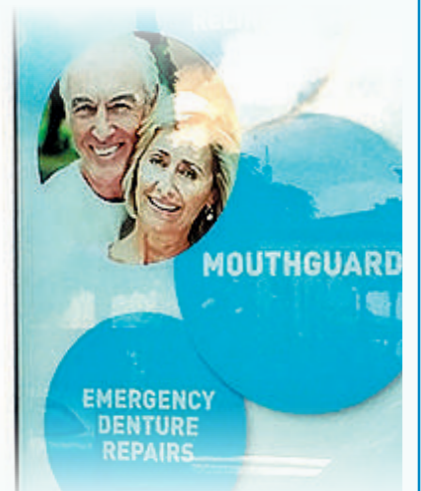
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AT St Brigid's College, our students are at the heart of all we do. Here, they grow with a sense of belonging, confidence and happiness and thrive in a wholistic environment of learning and living.

Our curriculum nurtures the development of the whole person in a Christ-centred environment firmly based on the Catholic tradition.

We know that the biggest impact of a child's learning journey is their teacher and at St Brigid's you can be assured that your child will receive the best opportunities in their education and growth.

Our co-educational Primary School caters for students from Pre-Kindergarten through to Year 6.

Primary students have ready access to educational facilities such as science and computer

laboratories, the Performing Arts Centre, swimming pool, tennis courts, ovals and gymnasium.

Secondary students are encouraged to pursue their personal excellence in a nurturing and supportive environment.

Interpersonal and self-management skills are a focus as our students grow into independent, responsible life learners who are both good at learning and good at life.

Our students, teachers and parents, work in partnership to develop our learning and teaching programmes, ensuring that each of the nine learning areas address essential knowledge and skill.

For further information about College enrolments, join us on a College Tour or contact our Registrar, Patty Majko at majko.patty@st-brigids.wa.edu.au or on 9290 4237.





Mayor’s message

Kaya everyone,

This financial year will be an exciting one marked by significant growth and improvement for our community after Council’s adoption of the Annual Budget 2024/25 on June 26, 2024.

We appreciate the economic environment is challenging, which is why we passed a modest rate increase of 3.5 per cent to help us deliver the diverse range of services and projects you deserve, while minimising costs.

We have been working hard to get this budget right in recent months and we’re confident we’ve struck the right balance for our growing community.

The increase of 3.5 per cent, which is under Australia’s annual inflation, is just our second rate rise in five years.

It allows us to align our budget with the priorities identified in the Strategic Community Plan 2021-2031 and Council’s direction not to close facilities or cut services.

The City’s 2024/25 capital works program includes funding to improve our roads, playspaces, community facilities, sustainability and safety for our community.

We have allocated \$33.6m to improving our road network, \$7.7m to improving and building playspaces, \$5.5m to delivering the Ellenbrook Community Hub, \$3.4m to designing and building Swan Active Ellenbrook, \$2.8m to introducing a new three-bin FOGO system, \$2.4m to improving cycleways and paths, \$100,000 to buying more mobile CCTV towers, and much more.

At our Special Council Meeting on June 26, Council also adopted the Corporate Business Plan 2024/25-2027/28 and endorsed the Long Term Financial Plan 2024/25-2033/34.

To learn more, I encourage you to visit swan.wa.gov.au/corporate-plans-and-strategies.

Tanya Richardson
Mayor, City of Swan



Engage with us



Ellenbrook Town Centre Parking Management Plan

When the new Ellenbrook Train Station becomes operational, there will be increased pressure on parking, which is why we are taking steps now to ensure parking is managed effectively.

We want your comments on the draft Parking Management Plan, which provides guidance on how parking could be managed in the town centre to ensure that parking is available to visitors and customers, and that commuters use the new station parking in the dedicated parking area.

Have your say by July 21, 2024.

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



Payment in Lieu of Parking Plan

We have drafted an Ellenbrook Payment in Lieu of Parking Plan to guide how any money collected in lieu of parking can be spent.

The draft plan outlines what the money can be used for, including existing pedestrian and bike infrastructure upgrades, shade trees provisions, streetscape improvements and more. It will only be applied to new development proposals and

Have your say by July 22, 2024.

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



Business Engagement Framework

The City has developed a Business Engagement Framework to help staff build two-way conversations with these stakeholders at the right time.

This framework identifies business enablers, outlines a roadmap of priorities and includes appropriate engagement methods to ensure everyone knows how they can support business in Swan. Read our framework and let us know your thoughts before the consultation period ends this month.

Have your say by August 5, 2024.

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



What’s happening

Kingfisher Pump Track launch

Come along to the official launch of the Kingfisher Pump Track from 11am-1pm on Friday, July 5, 2024. There will be a range of exciting entertainment and activities including performance by Freestyle Now, DJ, sausage sizzle and more. Bring the family and head to the corner of Kingfisher Avenue and Illawarra Crescent South, Ballajura. Call (08) 9267 9267.

NAIDOC Week

Join us in celebrating and recognising the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by attending a range of activities and events throughout the City of Swan during NAIDOC Week from July 7-14, 2024. There are activities suitable for all ages.

Muso of the month

Join us for a special edition of our free weekly muso meetups at the Old Midland Courthouse with local singer-songwriter Banjo Luci from 3.15-4.30pm on Monday, July 22, 2024. Learn about Luci’s singing method and tips as a singer-songwriter from Fremantle. Call (08) 9267 9020.



Visit our online event calendar for a full list of upcoming events in the City of Swan. Go to www.swan.wa.gov.au/events



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Kalamunda View

News from your City | July 2024



Mayor's MESSAGE

As we transition into the new financial year, there has been much to celebrate in our community.

Thanks to the generous funding of \$31,000 from the Federal Government's NAIDOC 2024 Local Grants Program, the City has an amazing NAIDOC Week program.

NAIDOC is our opportunity to honour and celebrate the rich history, traditions, and achievements of our First Nations people. To celebrate this significant week, we kick off with an opening event at Maamba (Hartfield Park) Federation Gardens, Forrestfield, on Sunday, 7 July from 2pm.

Throughout NAIDOC Week participants will have the unique opportunity to immerse themselves in interactive workshops, art sessions, and communal meals that highlight the depth and beauty of Aboriginal culture and history.

Sustainability is more important than ever, with the City's recent installation of an EV Charging Station at Kalamunda Library. Charging will be free for an introductory period of 3 months, offering a fantastic opportunity for our community to experience the convenience and benefits of electric vehicle ownership.

With our new FOGO (three-bin system) rolling out in the City of Kalamunda in September, the community understandably have many questions and concerns about what the new three-bin system will mean for households.

The City will be holding a number of drop-in sessions at our local libraries. I encourage residents to go along to learn about FOGO and ask any questions.

Finally, I am pleased to share that the 2024-25 Budget has been endorsed. The Budget is both considered and appropriately focused on delivering strategic projects to the community over the next 12 months. This is an exciting time as it allows us to look forward and continue working to deliver the important projects and provide essential services for our residents.

Margaret Thomas JP
Mayor



**KEEP THE FIRE
BURNING!
BLAK, LOUD
AND PROUD**
7-14 JULY 2024

NAIDOC WEEK

at the City of Kalamunda

A week's worth of events reflecting on this year's theme
"Keep the Fire Burning, Blak, Loud and Proud".

This National NAIDOC Week Activity is funded by the National Indigenous Australians Agency.

Scan the QR code
to find out more



INTERGENERATIONAL STORYTELLING

Do you have a life of experience you would like to share with others? Do you have a story to tell?

Lesmurdie SHS, in partnership with the City of Kalamunda, has a project that may interest you. A collaborative project between teens and older members of the City of Kalamunda, providing the opportunity for the sharing and recording of aspects of your life story.

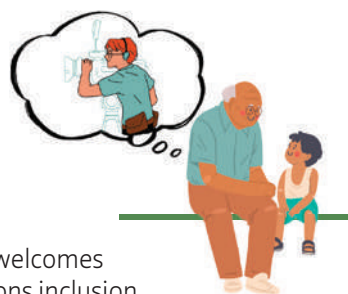
**When: 18 July to
19 September 2024**

**Time: 11:15am, on a
fortnightly basis**

Where: Lesmurdie SHS

The City of Kalamunda welcomes all abilities and champions inclusion, please contact to discuss your individual needs.

Email your interest to participate
socialinclusion@kalamunda.wa.gov.au or
phone 9257 9958.



Funding boost to improve early childhood

Together with the Zig Zag Early Years Partnership, we will work to improve early childhood outcomes in the City of Kalamunda.

The City is proud to be a recipient of the Australian Early Development Census Grants Program, an initiative funded by the Commonwealth Government and in partnership with the Western Australian Government and WALGA.

The Zig Zag AEDC Project will receive a \$57,954 grant to work with local early years' service providers to enhance connections, promote information sharing and delivery of empowerment initiatives.

FOGO

Get to know your FOGO bin by visiting
our drop-in sessions at one of our libraries.

Lesmurdie Library
Tuesday 9 July | 11:00am – 12:00pm

Forrestfield Library
Tuesday 16 July | 11:30am – 12:30pm
Friday 26 July | 4:00pm – 5:00pm
Friday 9 August | 11:30am – 12:30pm

High Wycombe Library
Monday 22 July | 4:30pm – 5:30pm
Monday 5 August | 4:30pm – 5:30pm

Kalamunda Library
Tuesday 23 July | 10:00am – 11:00am
Tuesday 30 July | 10:00am – 11:00am



HAPPY BIRTHDAY FORRESTFIELD LIBRARY

The Forrestfield Library recently celebrated its First Birthday at Hawaiian's Forrestfield!

The milestone coincided with the family friendly activities hosted by Hawaiian's Forrestfield as part of their July school holiday festivities. Library staff celebrated with cake, followed by face painting, fairies, goodie bags and a treasure trail in the library.

Thanks to Hawaiian's for hosting a celebration we will never forget!



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Public Agenda Briefing Forum

6:30pm, Tuesday 9 July
Administration Centre, Council Chambers

Ordinary Council Meeting

6:30pm, Tuesday 23 July
Administration Centre, Council Chambers

Visit kalamunda.wa.gov.au to view the Agenda

Learn more on the City's website: kalamunda.wa.gov.au



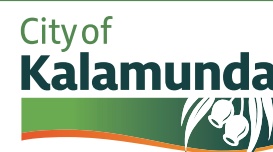
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Public Notices

PUBLIC COMMENT INVITED

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION – LOT 738 WATERTANK WAY, MIDLAND ADAPTIVE RE-USE AND WORKS TO HERITAGE BUILDING

We invite comment on a development application for Adaptive Re-Use of a Heritage Building facilitate a child care centre on the ground floor and office on the upper floor, as well as associated works at Lot 738 Watertank Way, Midland in accordance with Section 64 of the Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority Act 2011 and Clauses 5.15 of the METRONET East Redevelopment Scheme. The site is located within the Helena Precinct of the Midland precinct.

The application seeks to fit out the existing heritage building to facilitate a child care centre for 92 students on the ground floor, and an office land use with consulting rooms on the upper floor. The application seeks approval for the following proposed variations to the Midland Design Guidelines:

- External fencing is proposed to be a 1.8m timber defender picket fence instead of open metal railing fencing style and black in colour.

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 7, 5 Spring Street, Perth, between the hours of 8:30am and 5:00pm Monday to Friday.

Comments on the proposed development should be received by **26 July 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 development application, please contact our Planning Division on **6200 4111**.



Indemnity and Warranty

ECHO NEWSPAPER CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE When an individual or other legal entity ("the Customer") requests Echo Newspaper ("Echo") to place an advertisement in this Newspaper, they agree to be bound by the following terms and conditions:

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Diabetes no barrier to European bike ride

from page 11.

"I was determined to make sure I would take all of my medication on time, eat well, reduce my alcohol consumption, and train and train some more," he said.

The initial three-month program included three days a week of extensive gym work using a qualified fitness instructor, plus three days of extended walks of 3-6km a day for one month.

"I also did one day per week of bike riding for a month, starting off on short sharp rides and gradually increasing the distance."

He said combining this with eating well and reducing alcohol consumption to no more than one drink a day saw his blood sugar level drop from an average of eight or 10 to around seven or eight.

"When I started my weight was about 88kg after one month," he said.

"This dropped to 85.5kg and despite the first month in many ways being sheer hell, good results were achieved, and this gave me the motivation to keep going and push myself even harder."

Mr Boltong said he is still going to the gym three times a week and riding his bike two or three times a week, weather permitting.

"This morning my blood sugar level was 5.8 and my weight has settled at 77.5kg, a total transformation."

"I now feel fit and healthy regardless of my age or diabetes and this proves that regardless of age or if you have diabetes, you can achieve anything with the right mental attitude as long as you are prepared to put in the hard work."

"Finally, I believe anyone can live with diabetes and my experience is all you need is exercise, good food, regular medication and a strong dose of positive attitude."

National Diabetes Week runs from July 14 to 21, 2024.

To follow Mr Boltong on his European adventure in August and September go to: www.herbontour.wordpress.com

Read between the lines

by Ken Duffy



Most of us have days when we feel as though everything is falling apart. Those days when we don't feel wealthy enough, loved enough, or even acknowledged enough. We could 'drop off the perch' and who would notice or even care.

Would you believe? Life is actually like that even for the wealthy and significant people. Life is full of twists and turns, ups and downs, good things and bad things. If only I had a house, clothes and car that made everyone goggle? Or how about an intellect that made everyone around feel stupid?

In the Bible, Job 14:1 reminds us that anyone born, is short-lived and full of trouble. How about that! While current TV personalities are theorising we could live forever!! (But what would be the ideal age etc. ?).

Christians actually believe that regardless of what is going on in our lives; failing health, dwindling finances, strained marriage, family crises or a fragile world situation, there is still an unfailing God Who is in charge and worthy to be praised and trusted. They can choose to rejoice even in the most difficult of days, because there is God who loves us and is ultimately in charge. Romans 8:28 says "All things work together for good to those who love God." The Old Testament tells us of a guy named Job who lost absolutely everything, including his wife and family, yet he still wrote: "The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away, Blessed be the Name of the Lord." Wow!

Problems with drugs or alcohol?



Help IS available. You are never alone. It is never too late – or too early to tackle issues. You do have choices. Thousands of Aussies have successfully beaten problems.

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ECHO Notice Board

A free service for non-profit organisations
9374 6666
editorial@echo-news.com

Upcoming Events

- The Kalamunda Ladies Probus Club** meets at 10am on the second Thursday of each month at the Kalamunda RSL Club, 35 Canning Road, Kalamunda (two doors from Dome) at 9.30am for a 10am start time. The club has a guest speaker at each meeting and a monthly bus outing. They meet for coffee monthly and lunch also monthly. Probus is a social club for retirees who enjoy life. For more information call Trish on 0468 309 823 or Juliette on 9293 4438.
- The Midland Friendly Garden Club** meets every second Thursday of the month at Bruce Douglas Pavilion, Brown Park, Swan View from 9.30am to 11.30am. The next meeting is on July 11 and the speakers are Julie and Gary Richards from Down2Earth Gardening. They are the WA agents for Seed Freaks, heritage and open pollinated seeds from Tasmania.
- National Seniors Kalamunda branch** will meet at 10am on Tuesday, July 9 at the Church of Christ Function Centre, 20 Mileti Road, Lesmurdie. Morning tea provided. The guest speaker is Peter Snow who will talk about From derelict to iconic...and beyond – about the restoration and operation of Australia's last whaling station at Albany into an award-winning tourist attraction. For more information call Maureen on 0427 084 422.
- Mundaring Probus Club's** next speaker meeting is on Monday, July 8 at the Glen For-

rest Sports Club starting at 10am. You may not have heard of Eglantine Jebb but you would know of Save the Children. Toni Crossland will talk about this remarkable English social activist, her life and her many achievements.

- World Vision Mundaring and Hills support group** holds its monthly stalls on the second Saturday of the month in the Woolworths Mall in Mundaring. Call Suzanne on 0452 075 371 or Kryssie on 0431 570 985 for more.

- CWA Kalamunda** meets on the second Friday of each month at 10am on Central Road, Kalamunda behind Aldi, look for the blue tree. Come join in the fun and meet new friends.

- Mundaring Garden Club** meets every second Tuesday in Mundaring. The annual program includes entertaining guest speakers who present on a wide range of topics. Presentations are followed by morning tea in the club café. For more information call the secretary on 0414 303 985.

- Christmas in July Bingo** is on Saturday, July 13 at the Mahogany Creek Hall. BYO nibbles and refreshments. Cash only. Tea and coffee available. Doors open at 5.30pm for eyes down at 6.30pm. RSVP to Camille on 0437 436 417.

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

Trish is a two-year-old bull terrier and staffordshire bull terrier cross. She needs a new home where there are no other animals. She is obsessed with tennis balls and frisbees and this can become a problem if not managed. She is sterilised, vaccinated and microchipped. Costs apply. Contact Bakers Hill Dog Sanctuary on 9574 1438.

Swans win five in a row

CHRIS PIKE

TWO late goals in the first half and then four goals in the first 12 minutes of the second saw Swan Districts set up a fifth straight win for the season and to remain undefeated against the West Coast Eagles with Sunday's 24-point win.

It was the 10th time the two teams have played one another in the WAFL and in the end it was the last two goals of the first half and the first four goals to start the second half that ensured that Swans got the result they were after.

Swan Districts went on to score the 16.8 (104) to 12.8 (80) victory to now have won five straight matches this season and to have won all 10 games against the Eagles dating back to 2019.

Not only did Swan Districts ruckman Nathan Blakely celebrate his 100th WAFL game on Sunday, but he had a significant say in the result too as the best big man on the ground.

He finished with 21 possessions and 18 hit outs while taking on two AFL-listed ruckmen with Harry Barnett only having three touches and 21 hit outs, and Coen Livingstone seven disposals and 15 hit outs.

Tom Edwards continued his stunning form up front for Swans by kicking another four goals to go with 12 kicks and six marks while Luke Kelly added three goals and Jesse Glass-McCasker two.

It was West Coast who managed to kick the first goal of the game after six minutes through Trey Ruscoe but just a minute later Swans were on the board too thanks to Jehb O'Donohue.

Swans soon got on a roll with goals to Luke Kelly, Jesse Glass-McCasker, Jesse Turner and then McCasker again which helped the home team to the 14-point advantage by the end of the first quarter.

There was just a goal apiece in the opening 20 minutes of the second term

and then the Eagles got another at the 21-minute mark to bring it back to a seven-point ball game.

But Swan Districts managed to finish the half strongly with two goals to Tom Edwards which saw the lead back out to 19 points at the main break.

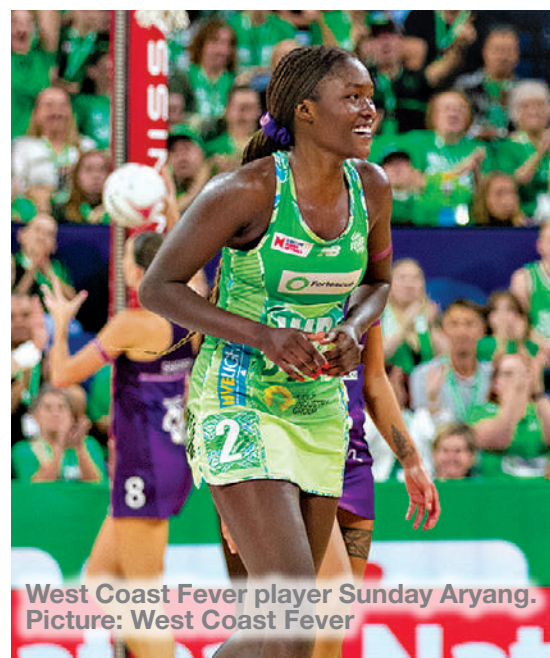
Swan Districts then blew the game open with a blistering start to the second half beginning with a goal to Turner after just a minute. Jye Chalcraft, Jackson McLachlan and Kelly then added goals as well and suddenly Swans had kicked four goals in 12 minutes to be on top by 44 points.

The lead for the black-and-whites was still 45 points by three quarter-time thanks to another late goal from Edwards.

Even though West Coast kicked five goals in the last term, goals for Swans to Kelly and Brad Lynch were enough to secure the eventual 24-point triumph.



Swan Districts' ruckman Nathan Blakely runs out for his 100th WAFL game. Picture: Blake Parry/The Photo Shop



West Coast Fever player Sunday Aryang. Picture: West Coast Fever

Fever's third quarter sets up win

SUNDAY Aryang played goal defence for the first half before moving to wing defence in the second half in West Coast Fever's 68-65 win over the Giants on the weekend.

Giants goal shooter Jo Harten's opening goal set the momentum for the start of the game, with the opposition controlling the first quarter, which they won 21-18.

Jhaniele Fowler-Nembhard didn't let the defensive pressure of Matilda McDonnell bother her, working around the goal keeper to earn herself 16 goals for the quarter.

It was a Sunshine Girls match off between Shanice Beckford in goal attack and Jodi-Ann Ward in goal defence.

The international teammates certainly left their allegiance off the court, Beckford took two goals and nine centre pass receives for the quarter.

The Giants maintained their lead in the second quarter, motivating Fever's defence to work even harder and absolutely shine for the rest of the game.

Kadie Ann-Dehaney was on fire with her defensive pressure in goals, taking four deflections for the quarter, alongside captain Jess Anstiss' two and Sunday Aryang's one.

Alice Teague-Neeld took 13 feeds for the quarter, working her

way around the mid court with partner Jordan Cransberg, both were completely switched on in defence and attack.

Fever trailed by eight goals at half time with the score 41-33 in the Giants' favour.

Coming back from half time, Fever knew what they had to do, with Fowler-Nembhard's goal in the first 10 seconds of the third quarter setting the tone for the second half.

Fran Williams was a powerhouse in defence with two intercept and a rebound, limiting the shooting capabilities of Sophie Dwyer to shorten the margin.

Dehaney's consistency in defence made Harten's job much harder.

Some first-class defence and errors on the ball from the Giants meant that Fever found their momentum to win the quarter 53-50 giving them a three-goal lead at quarter time.

A tight final quarter had 10,015 Green Army fans on the edge of their seats.

Anstiss' intercept and deflection helped control the midcourt, alongside Teague-Neeld's eight feeds, taking her to a total of 47 for the game.

Fever's defence continued to excel.

Local Real Estate

**Residential
Commercial
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Wind down in Wundowie

SITTING on a level two hectares is a family friendly four-bedroom, two-bath-room, hardie board and iron home.

This property is perfect for buyers dreaming of a hills lifestyle relaxing on a veranda and enjoying the company of bird life in nature.

There are spaces along the front of the home for winding down, which flow around to the timber French doors off the main bedroom.

There are paddocks for keeping animals, a big shed for pottering in and a fully fenced back yard area for children or pets.

The house is light and bright with plenty of windows.

The main living area is what visitors are first greeted with when coming through the screened front door.

A slow combustion fireplace keeps the house warm during the cooler months and a reverse cycle air conditioner keeps the heat down when seasons change.

Moving through to the kitchen area,

there is a separate dining room off one side of the kitchen and off the other side is a second smaller living space with screened sliding door access to the timber front deck.

The kitchen window overlooks the fenced yard area and the property's front paddock, where inhabitants can keep an eye on their children while they enjoy the cubby house or run and play in the wide space.

The kitchen includes a double sink with generous bench space and a good amount of storage with drawers and cupboards.

A walk-in pantry tops off the available storage. The stove is electric with a gas cooktop and there is a large fridge space with a shelf for microwaves.

Leading off the dining room is the laundry with a separate toilet. The laundry has a sliding glass door that leads out to the back yard and around to the undercover clothesline.

The main bedroom is spacious with stacks of windows giving a light, bright

and airy feel.

A set of timber French doors lead out to the timber decking, for a place to enjoy a morning cuppa in peace.

The walk-in robe is his and hers with ample hanging and shelf space.

The main draw is the size of the ensuite equipped with a spa bath, a separate shower and toilet with good storage under the vanity, plus a little luxury with heated towel rails. There is so much space in the main bedroom, it allows room for a lounge suite and coffee table for some much-needed quiet time.

The remaining three bedrooms are located at the other end of the home along with the family bathroom.

Top all this off with a 72sqm shed complete with concrete flooring, another garden shed, a veggie and chook yard, an open big paddock, scheme water and a 6.5kws solar system and the hills lifestyle home is ready to be a dream come true.



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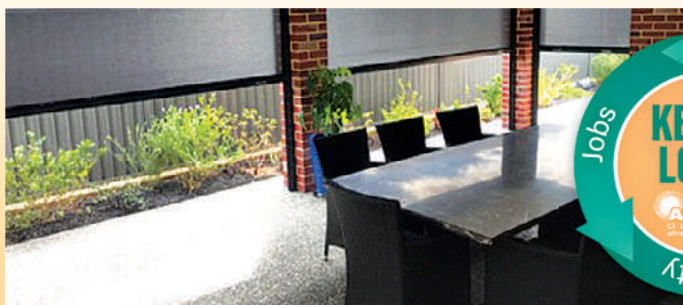
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