

Local Business Supporting Local People

Wheatbelt project boosts Carnaby's protection **PGG**







VOL.42 NO.1889

HH H Picture: Guanhao Cheng Swan Lullabies lau B

The hopes, love and dreams of Midland's Moorditj Maaman men's group rang out across Mandoon Estate's gardens, carried through the songs they composed in Noongar language.

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Dr Becky Castle Executive Director, Pastor Educator, Author Houston USA

Do you need a miracle? Healing? **Restoration?** Reconciliation?

Come to a free **Healing Service** Saturday 16th November 5pm Jack Healey Centre, Kalamunda.

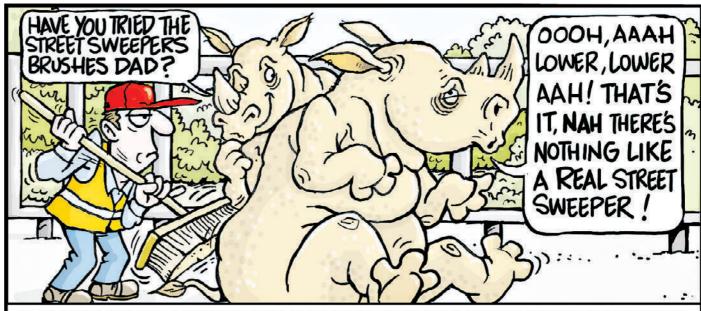
> **Special Guest Speaker Dr Becky Castle** from Houston USA

Healing prayer available at the end of the service. Free meal provided in the hall following the service.

LFCC _ #wheretheimpossiblebecomespossible

Find us on Facebook LFCC Kalamunda Like and Share Please send us your prayer requests via FB messenger





THE CITY OF KALAMUNDA HAS DONATED TWO PRE-WORN STREET SWEEPERS BRUSHES TO PERTH ZOO TO BE USED AS SCRATCHING POSTS FOR THEIR RHINOS SAVING THE BRUSHES FROM BECOMING LANDFILL.

ECHO YOUR THOUGHTS

Have your say: editorial@echo-news.com

Dogs on the loose a problem Dear Echo News,

So as a responsible dog owner I take my two dogs for a regular walk each night.

Anyway, I'm walking along Chidlow Street on the footpath and along comes a juvenile on a motorbike.

I had to quickly move the dogs on their leads aside to avoid a collision, the bike rider did not slow down at all.

Kids on motor bikes currently have free rein in Mount Helena streets at 5pm daily.

I decided to walk the dogs up Kingswood Street only to have a large aggressive dog rush out and grab my gentle giant by the neck, so I went mental and kicked the dog off and retreated home. A trip to the vet turned out to be a costly exercise.

So, I changed tack and decided to walk the dogs one at a time up Magee Street only to have a loose Rottweiler come barrelling towards us. Luckily it turned out to be female and because my dog was male no attack ensued

The owner was out the front with two dogs loose and was of the impression that she had total control over her

dogs So, time passed, and I felt safe and decided to risk taking both dogs and that night the same loose rottweiler came charging at the female dog. I managed to fend it off by yelling and kicking the dog in the head. Luckily it took off. So, as you can see, I am totally sick of irresponsible people and their loose dogs and motor bike riding children. Am I alone in this? Resident **Mount Helena**

Voices for Bullwinkel concerns Dear Echo News,

As another horrific, almost weekly, accident at the corner of Scott Street and Great Eastern Highway happened at the Darlington Arts Festival, Voices of Bullwinkel asked voters, "What matters to you?'

High on priorities was Great Eastern Highway with comments like:

"What has happened to the Orange route to get large trucks off Great Eastern Highway that was promised 20 years ago?

"Why can't oversized mining vehicles be limited to 6pm to 6am daily and stop blocking hundreds on their way to schools and work?"

"Why can't speed limits drop to 60km/h before Old York Rd coming down the hill?"

Despite many residents along Great Eastern Highway asking the shire, oMidland MLA Michelle Roberts and Main Roads for urgent changes they seem to waste taxpayer dollars on building kilometres of barriers from Darlington to Glen Forrest.

These are not saving lives and have resulted in three deaths since were installed. they Changing speed limits cost taxpayers nothing and saves lives and accidents. Changes like extending the 70km/h speed limit going up the hill until after Old York Road would still allow trucks to maintain speed to get up the hill. While lowering the speed to 60km/h coming down the hill from before Old York Road would have little effect on trucks efficiency, but help reduce over 95 per cent of accidents at the Scott Street intersection caused by vehicles speeding down the hill. Greenmount has been

classified as suitable for aged care and over 55 units and many much older residents risk their lives every day trying to enter or cross GEH.

There is a bus pull off lane coming down the hill just before Scott Street

Residents have asked for this to be extended a mere 15m to the entrance to Greenmount Rise to avoid the many tailenders residents have experienced. No wonder your insurance premiums are rising.

Voices of Bullwinkel has been established to give voters a real say in what matters to them rather than being told by politicians in Perth or Canberra.

It is not a political party but seeks to engage the community to stand up for what is important to them and to put pressure on local politicians to offer real and better representation and consultation.

They can be contacted via Facebook Voices of Bullwinkel. C Hughes Midland

Salvos Red Shield anniversary

Dear Echo News,

We have heard time and time again peo-ple tell their children: Wever walk past The Salvos without giving donation, because they helped us (or your grandparents) during chat in a safe space. the war." It is a sentiment that of the strong bond we has been around for have created with our generations and still service men and womexists today. A long legen across the nation, acy that The Salvation and around the world. Army has had during In these times of devdevastating times of astating violence, hardwar and conflict, where ship and injustice, The they have provided a Salvos look to bring a safe space of rest and glimmer of hope and support. support to those who re-This year marks the ally need it. 125-year anniversary of The Salvation Army's portant work to this day. Red Shield Defence Ser-Major Gallagher vices (RSDS) support-Salvation Army

Thought for the day

"A year from now you may wish you had start-- Karen Lamb ed today.

ing those during these difficult times. And on behalf of The Salvos, it has been an honour to have served defence members, shoulder to shoulder, during times of war over the past 125 years.

We cast our minds back to the second Boer War in November 1899, when Salvation Army founder William Booth said: "Investigate what can be done for our soldiers in the field of battle." Since then, The Salvos have been looking to find ways to support Australia's service men and women wherever they find themselves.

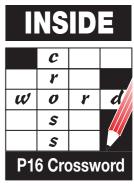
Indeed, there hasn't been a major conflict or peace-keeping effort since the Boer War where The Salvos haven't been there to bring support and hope. From the two World Wars to conflicts in Malaya, Korea, Vietnam, Cambodia, Somalia, East Timor, the Middle East, and more, The Salvos have been there.

During major conflicts, the RSDS, affectionately known as the Sallyman or Sallyma'an, were on the ground with soldiers to provide a warm drink or refreshments, a bite

We continue this im-

What's your view?

Email editorial @echo-news.com and let us know.



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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to eat, and most impor-EDITORIAL tantly a place to have a editorial@echo-news.com Anita McInnes The Salvos are proud

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Monday-Thursday: 9.00am - 5pm Closed Friday Closed: Weekends & Public Holidays



The Guildford Association organised a rally on October 18 to discuss with residents their concerns a proposed childcare centre could see mature sugar gums removed.

Guildford childcare proposal raises tree removal concerns

GUANHAO CHENG

A PROPOSAL for a new childcare centre on Guildford's Fauntleroy Street has raised community concerns regarding the required removal of mature gums on the property as part of its development.

The newest proposal has been lodged to the joint development assessment panel (JDAP) following an earlier proposal which was rejected by City of Swan council.

The newest proposal was able to bypass council and go directly to JDAP due to the project's cost being over \$2 million and under \$10m.

An earlier proposal for a childcare centre there put forward in 2021 was refused by the council due to a five-bay parking shortfall.

In 2022, developers then put to council an application to build two single houses that retained the six mature flooded gums on the site, which was approved.

The decision led to the demolition of the site's historic worker's cottage in December 2022 in preparation for the development of the approved single dwellings.

Since the demolition of the cottage, developers have not built the single dwellings but instead have applied for a new childcare centre to be built on the cleared site.

Guildford recently celebrated the 25th anniversary of successfully preserving its gum trees on October 12 as reported in *Guildford's gums in the magical spotlight (Echo News*, October 11).

The Guildford Association organised a snap rally on October 18 to discuss the issue with residents.

Guildford Association president Claire Scanlan

said the council should submit a recommendation to JDAP to reject the newest proposal as it still left concerns unaddressed.

"In our view, the currently approved plans for two single dwellings should proceed and the proposal for childcare premises in this location should be rejected," she said.

"The plans for a 67-place childcare facility will see the trees destroyed and the new proposal still shows a (two-bay) parking shortfall, which will lead to traffic banking up on narrow Fauntleroy Street during peak drop-off time, impairing the function of the road and impacting residents of the street.

"The road is not wide enough to allow the flow of two-way traffic, if cars are queuing or parking on the street.

"Anyone who has tried turning onto James Street from Fauntleroy during peak hour will also know immediately the traffic implications this development will bring."

City of Swan Mayor Tanya Richardson said the city heard the concerns and was considering making a formal recommendation to JDAP regarding the development.

"The City of Swan is meeting with the proponent of the proposed childcare centre on Fauntleroy Street in Guildford to discuss community concerns about native tree removal," she said.

"The development application has been advertised for public comment and will be presented to council at the next ordinary council meeting on December 11.

"Council may make a formal recommendation on the application to the joint development assessment panel."

Greens push Plibersek to reject Nth Stoneville

WA Greens have called on federal Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek to reverse a decision to approve clearing at Nigel Satterley's North Stoneville site, a significant habitat for threatened native species including the chuditch, phascogale and all three species of black cockatoo.

WA Greens MLC Brad Pettitt this week wrote to Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek urging her to reverse the decision, following a similar move by the Shire of Mundaring last week as reported in *Shire of Mundaring acts to stop North Stoneville's destruction (Echo News*, November 1).

"The North Stoneville site was inappropriate in 1991 when it was first proposed; threats to biodiversity and bushfire risk have only added to concerns in the decades since," Dr Pettitt said.

"To build here would put future residents at serious risk of climate-related impacts, especially bushfires, not to mention the destruction of hundreds of hectares of endangered black cockatoo and chuditch habitat.

"In 2014 there was a catastrophic bushfire in the area that destroyed 57 homes, and in 2020 the proposal was rejected for failing to properly mitigate future bushfire risk.

gate future bushfire risk. "The Greens have always supported the grassroots community campaign to protect biodiversity and lives in the Perth Hills, and we will continue to do so with Janelle – a hills' local and former Kalamunda councillor who has been a part of the campaign against Stoneville from the beginning – as our candidate for Kalamunda."

WA Greens Kalamunda candidate Janelle Sewell said she was immense-

ly disappointed in the decision, given the community had been fighting to stop the development from going ahead for more than 30 years.

"I've rallied with Save Perth Hills against the Satterley hills development from the beginning of the campaign and will continue to fight to protect our environmentally vulnerable region," Ms Sewell said.

"As a City of Kalamunda councillor, I worked with the local community to declare a climate emergency and have been a strong advocate for biodiversity policies and protection of mature trees.

"The impacts of one of the driest summers on record remains for all to see throughout the seat of Kalamunda, from Pickering Brook to Worooloo and across to Darlington.

"Our endangered black cockatoos are already starving, the offsets proposed will do nothing to protect this species. "As the Greens WA candidate for

"As the Greens WA candidate for Kalamunda, I want to take the hills' concern about the decision to Tanya Plibersek.

"While a federal approval has occurred, this by no means will result in approval at a state level," she said.

"My electorate, too, is not immune to housing pressures – but we must make sure that any future development safeguards people and environment in our increasingly bushfire vulnerable region."

Kalamunda includes the biodiverse and bushfire prone Perth Hills region between Kalamunda and Mundaring.

Hasluck MHR Tania Lawrence and Liberal Senator Linda Reynolds have both previously voiced their opposition to the project.



4-WEEK PROGRAM Saturdays

Program starts Saturday 23rd November 2024

9.30AM TO 10.30AM

WEEK ONE – FULL SWING Saturday 23rd November

WAPC allows residential mix

ANITA McINNES

AN amendment to include some residential along with some commercial development on a lot in Ellenbrook has been endorsed by the Western Australian Planning Commission.

The proposed amendment to Malvern Springs development plan 6 for Lot 9295 Elmridge Parkway went before the City of Swan on March 13 which also endorsed the proposal despite 167 objections to the modification.

According to the officer's report in March the amendment sought to retain 957sqm of the 6285sqm site for commercial use and retain the existing constructed parking area with the balance of the land being redesignated for residential development at a residential density coding of R30.

This would nominally provide for eight lots with



Swan Hills MLA Jessica Shaw presented petitions to state Parliament.

for a commercial centre on this site is addressed by this proposal – 957sqm is retained for commercial use and this amount is broadly consistent with the amount that the existing structure plan acknowledged might be realistically delivered in this location," the officer's report said. "The park envisaged under the development

the balance of the land forming a future road between Elmridge Parkway and Wyara Link.

"The applicant is hoping that providing for a smaller commercial area will render development of the land commercially viable," the officer's report said.

"The current commercial site has proven unviable for development for more than 18 years."

The city said while some submissions objected to anything less than provision of a commercial centre as set out in the development plan others objected to any change whatsoever to the existing site.

Some submitters objected to any more residential development on the site raising concerns about it being high density along with concerns regarding increased traffic, parking issues, anti-social behaviour and strain on services.

Other submitters stated a desire for either a fullscale commercial facility or for the site to stay as it is.

"Public desire to ensure retention of provision

"The park envisaged under the development plan in this location has already been delivered as Wyara Park next door to this site – the subject site was never planned to be a park."

The report said public desire to ensure retention of the existing parking area was addressed by the proposal and the desire to avoid high density residential development of the site was also addressed as residential lots at an R30 density coding were low density.

"Public concern with increased traffic is addressed by this proposal – the eight residential lots will generate less traffic movements than what would be generated if the site was fully developed for commercial use."

In June 2020 the city refused an earlier application to develop the land into 21 residential lots which was followed by the WAPC refusing to grant approval for that proposal in February 2021. WEEK TWO – FULL SWING Saturday 30th November WEEK THREE – CHIPPING Saturday 7th December WEEK FOUR – PUTTING Saturday 14th December

Cost \$25 per session or total \$100. Morning tea will be served after each clinic.



Bookings are essential via the Pro Shop. Please Call 9453 9194 to reserve your spot.

Club Professional Rob Nuttall will oversee all clinics.

90 HARTFIELD ROAD, FORRESTFIELD WA 6058

Q&A session **The Modern Cloth Nappy**



As part of National Recycling Week and in conjunction with the City's rollout of FOGO, join us to learn about the sustainable benefits of modern cloth nappies.

Modern cloth nappies are; Shaped and fitted, washable and a sustainable alternative to single-use nappies.

Where: Kalamunda Library, 7 Williams St, Kalamunda When: Wednesday 13 November Time: 10am-11am

Where: Forrestfield Library, Hawaiian's Shopping Centre When: Thursday 14 November Time: 10am-11am

This Q&A session includes a limited number of free cloth nappy giveaways. No bookings required.

kalamunda.wa.gov.au/libraries

SENIORS COMMUNITY CONNECTION



Are you looking for something to do?

Celebrate Seniors Week at this one-stop showcase of FREE activities for people aged 55+ in the local community. Seniors Community Connection will provide opportunities

Cityof

Kalamunda

Aerial firefighting fleet to protect grain crops

A SPECIALISED aerial firefighting fleet has been activated early to protect WA's multibillion-dollar grain crops during the most fireprone period of harvest.

Emergency Services Minister Stephen Dawson said two aerial strike teams would be strategically based in the main grain growing regions of WA one in Geraldton and the other in Narrogin - on standby for a quick response to fast-moving crop fires

Crop fires usually start by either machinery or lightning.

The aerial fleet is managed by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) and each strike team comprises two fixed wing waterbombers, an air attack supervision aircraft and a fuel truck.

The aircraft can cruise at a speed of 280kmh, drop up to 3150 litres of water, foam or retardant and require just minutes to refuel and reload.

As fire danger ratings begin to escalate, the strike teams have already commenced in Geraldton and Narrogin to help safeguard crops in the regions.

Strike teams can be pre-deployed to other airbases as required in response to the latest intelligence reports.

Waterbombers will move south as the harvest stretches into December, protecting busy farming communities near Esperance.

Now entering its fourth year, the grain harvest aerial fleet program aims to quickly suppress crop Aerial firefighting plane. Picture: DFES

fires before they destroy a farmer's livelihood and threaten nearby properties.

During the 2023-24 harvest, strike teams completed 216 drops across 33 incidents, dropping 680,400 litres on firegrounds from Geraldton to Esperance.

The program is funded by DFES with support from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions and the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.

Mr Dawson said grain was one of the state's most valuable export commodities and by all reports the grain growers were in for a bumper year.

But the onset of grain harvest increases the risk of fires, so we're getting ahead of the game by activating specialised aerial strike teams that can be deployed to high-priority incidents at short notice,' he said.

"It's about taking the pressure off our farmers, who are usually first responders themselves, by providing extra resourcing when it is needed most.

"The waterbombers can reach an incident very quickly and reload and go again within minutes to help suppress a fire that is a threat to the community.

Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner Darren Klemm said DFES would closely monitor fire conditions across the Mid West, Wheatbelt and Great Southern regions during the harvest period and could redirect the aircraft based on risk assessments.

Water Corp warns to not rely on scheme water during bushfires

WATER Corporation is reminding residents who stay and defend property against a bushfire to have an independent water supply, as damaged infrastructure and power outage can quickly lead to a loss of scheme water supply.

In addition, high demand can cause a drop in water pressure and water supply tanks can quickly empty, even some distance from an active fire.

Water Corporation Operations Manager Barry Ford said while leaving early is always the safest option, residents planning to stay and defend their property must have an independent water supply.

Our water supply network is designed to provide drinking water to the community, not fight bushfires, and staying to defend against a bushfire requires more equipment and planning than many people realise," Mr Ford said.

"That includes having an independent water supply of at least 20,000 litres and a generator with enough fuel to power a water pump.

According to AFAC's Seasonal Bushfire Outlook

prepare their properties throughout this period.

Higher fuel loads following above average winter rainfall in southern WA has also increased the fire risk, according to the Bureau of Meteorology.

As part of its bushfire preparedness program, Water Corporation undertakes a number of activities throughout the year to reduce the risk to critical water infrastructure.

This includes clearing land and access tracks within and around pump stations, storage areas and catchments, and having generators and emergency water carters on standby. During a bushfire it may not be safe for crews to manage or repair damage to the network

WA experienced a very long and hot, dry summer in 2023-24 and with the warmer weather already upon us, the threat of bushfire could be here before we know it.

"Take the time now to think about your bushfire survival plan and if you think you would stay to defend, make sure you have an independent supply



8 Craig Street

Mundaring

The Hub of the Hills

10am to

12.30pm

for you to discover local services as well as participate in activities.

Locally sourced light refreshments provided.

No need to register, we will see you on the day!

For more information, please contact Jorim on (08) 9290 6678 or Rachael on (08) 9290 6683.



7000 Great Eastern Highway, Mundaring WA 6073 @shireofmundaring www.mundaring.wa.gov.au

for Spring 2024, a warmer than average forecast for readv For information visit watercorporation.com.au spring means communities should remain alert and

Private land temporary homes welcomed

WALGA has welcomed the recent changes to caravan and camping regulations which will allow local governments to approve camping, including 'tiny homes on wheels', on private land for up to 24 months.

Councils will be able to develop a local policy to ensure that the length and type of approved camping is appropriate to their area.

WALGA President Karen Chappel said she was pleased the changes will provide local governments with additional flexibility to address acute housing shortages.

WALGA and local governments have been calling for a change to the regulations as anoth-

er way to address the current housing crisis. The lack of housing in country WA is one of the biggest issues we hear from our member councils.

"These changes are another tool in the toolbox to help alleviate housing stress, including for local workforces or during recovery from a natural disaster.

We welcome that councils will be able to develop a local policy to guide approvals and provide for circumstances where longer term occupation of caravans may be appropriate.

She said WALGA would continue to work with the state government in implementing the changes.

Midland theft rates drop

GUANHAO CHENG

MIDLAND property theft rates have dropped in recent months, but steps can be taken by residents to lower it further, according to the Midland district's top cop.

Midland Senior Sergeant Mark Marriott said crime rates had fallen in the district and wed to increased presence and targeted policing.

"Stealing has decreased around the Midland area over the last two months which is pleasing to see," he said.

"Midland Police Station conduct high visibility patrols of high crime areas and further target known offenders within the area.

"Utilising legislation to effectively manage offenders' behaviour has also helped us see gains in this area."

Snr Sgt Marriott said Midland had a high prevalence of thieves who steal opportunistically by checking for unlocked car doors.

They are known as sneaks, but he said residents can take measures to protect themselves and their valuables from sneak theft.

"Always park in a safe place, such as a parking garage, somewhere close to where you are going, or a busy place where you can be seen, with lots of light," he said.

"Never leave valuable items in your vehicle like your wallet, documents, passport, money, handbag, phone, laptop or tablet.

"(The) most commonly targeted items are wallets and credit or debit cards left in vehicles.

"Lock up and keep your keys safe in your bag or pocket and use anti-theft screws to make it more difficult for someone to remove your number plates."

According to WA Police's crime statistics there were 24,413 incidents of theft from vehicles in the state recorded from June last year to June this year.

This is despite WA having almost half the population of Queensland, where 31,155 incidents were recorded over the same period.

Snr Sgt Marriott said heading into the holi-



Midland Senior Sergeant Mark Marriott is pleased to see theft rates have been dropping in recent months. Picture: Guanhao Cheng

day season, the police would increase activity in specific areas and the retail areas to combat theft rates.

"Over the summer period we will be increasing our efforts in this area specifically targeting high crime areas and the Midland CBD," he said.

"This will see extra resources deployed during identified times to target this specific area."

If you believe you have been the victim of crime, contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or make a report online at www.crimesto pperswa.com.au.

All reports to Crime Stoppers can be made anonymously.

Swan View man faces animal cruelty charge

A 22-year-old Swan View man has been charged with animal cruelty for allegedly beating his one-year-old bull arab mastiff cross.

It is alleged that at the family home in June, the accused became angry with the dog for chewing a child's teddy bear.

He is said to have forcefully punched the dog several times with a closed fist while holding him by the throat, punching him several more times while holding him by the scruff of the neck (during which the dog urinated), and kicking the dog while wearing steel capped boots.

Onlookers describe the dog as fearful and trying to run away. They attempted

to intervene, and police were called.

An RSPCA WA inspector attended the accused's property after receiving a cruelty complaint from WAPOL.

The accused denied the incident, stating he only softly tapped the dog on the nose with the chewed toy.

The inspector seized the dog, who continues to be cared for by the RSP-CA who allege the accused was cruel to the dog in that he maliciously beat him.

The alleged offender appeared in the Midland Magistrates Court on Monday, November 4 where he sought an adjournment for legal advice which was granted, and the matter is now listed for mention at the same court on December 2.

No support for sheep farmers until after the federal election

LIVE sheep export farmers being forced to shut down their crucial trade will not be given even one cent of support until after the next election.

Labor has told Senate Estimates its transition package for farmers won't roll out until July, 2025, despite farmers starting to change production cycles now and significant reduction in sheep prices from Labor's decision.

Of the \$139.7 million package, just \$900,000 had been spent, but that amount had gone towards administration costs.

"Labor's transition package for farmers won't see the light of day until the next financial year and well after the next federal election," federal Nationals leader David Littleproud said.

"This funding will come years after Labor initially announced it will end the trade. It is another delay in support for our farmers, who are having their livelihoods taken away.

"The Nationals fully support our live sheep export farmers and as our first action will reinstate the trade.

"We know our farmers want to keep their industry, not lose it with an insulting and delayed transition package.

"Labor has turned its back on the farming industry and has treated our live sheep farmers with nothing but contempt."



*First 5 people to show this voucher at Wang's Body Care from 9am Fri 08.11.24 until COB Thurs 14.11.24 will receive the Freebie Friday offer.

> Full T&Cs are available on our website: www.centrepointshoppingcentre.com.au

Nerry Christman Dec 13 Lota fun, San

Centrepoint Christmas Party

Friday, December 13, 2024 10:00am - 1.00pm

Lots of FREE Christmas fun, including a visit by Santa himself!

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Enterprise Awards winners

THE Kalamunda Chamber of Commerce recently hosted their prestigious Outstanding Enterprise Awards at the stunning Chalet Rigi, celebrating the achievements of exceptional local businesses, innovators, and community leaders.

Supported by major sponsor CD Dodd and gold sponsor Community Bank Forrestfield, the evening honoured the best in business and community service in the Kalamunda region, which encompasses the foothills of High Wycombe and Forrestfield, all the way out to the Bickley Valley and Pickering Brook.

The event saw CD Dodd, a pioneer in sustainability, bring WA's first Volvo FM battery heavy electric vehicle to park right at the venue entrance, with the MC Tod Johnston playfully commenting on the enviable "best parking spot in the house.

Rollerrama, a crowd favourite, claimed the People's Choice Award with record-breaking votes, as attendees reminisced over the iconic hills venue's nostalgic resurgence.

Among the individual honours, Jasmin Harley of Foothills Beauty was named Business Person of the Year, recognised for her leadership and dedication to her customers.

In the enterprise category, Quantum Electrical Services WA, a family-run business, took home the top honour as Chairperson's Enterprise of the Year, reflecting the spirit of local entrepreneurship and family-driven success stories.

With awards spanning industries from creative arts to community activation, the Chamber's annual event highlighted not only the re-

gion's business achievements but also the camaraderie and passion of the community that sustains them.

Outstanding Enterprise 2024 Award Winners: Excellence in Tourism, Hospitality & Events (Hospitality) - Plume Estate Vine-yard, Excellence in Tourism, Hospitality & Events (Events) -Rollerrama, Excellence in Retail - Zanthorrea Nursery, Outstanding Not For Profit - Friends of Upper Lesmurdie Falls, Outstanding Personal Services - Foothills Beauty, Outstanding Professional Services Desborough Accountants, Outstanding Trade Specialist - The Doggy Lady, Mayor's Award for Community Activation - Kala-munda Garden Festival Vision & Strategy Award - Replenish, Outstanding Creative Enterprise - Collective Design Agency, Outstand-ing Local Product - HHH Spirits, Single Malt Whiskey, Business Person of the Year - Jasmin Harley, Foothills Beauty People's Choice Award - Rollerrama, Business Station Emerging Enterprise Award -Hogg Culture Brewing Co. Chairperson's Enterprise of the Year - Quantum Electrical Services WA.

The Kalamunda Chamber of Commerce congratulates all nominees and winners, and extend special thanks to major sponsor CD Dodd and Community Bank Forrestfield, as well as Bronze sponsors Matthew Hughes, Desborough Accountants, Zanthorrea Nursery, Hawaiian Pty Ltd, Donna Faragher and Senator Linda Reynolds, and Business Station for their invaluable support in making this year's awards a memorable success.



PETER W LEWIS

THE iconic Carnaby's black cockatoo, a well-loved resident of the Wheatbelt, has received a million dollar funding boost to further enhance and protect their Wheatbelt habitat into the future.

The Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management team project is building on the achievements of their previous black cockatoo project and continuing to partner with Wheatbelt landholders to secure critical Carnaby's habitat across their breeding range.

Activities will focus on both breeding and feeding habitat and include things like installing artificial nests, controlling pest animals, protecting remnant vegetation through fencing, and revegetating with cockatoo specific species.

A vital aspect of the project relies on knowing where Carnaby's are spending their time when they're here and how they're behaving.

This is where we rely on our community to let us know what they're seeing to help target our conservation efforts," Healthy Environments project manager Alex Griffiths said.

'People can help us protect these birds and their habitat into the future by reporting any sightings they may have.³

We work across 12 million hectares of the Avon River Basin, so the work will occur within our region, within suitable Carnaby's black cockatoo habitat where we know they are persisting and using the area for forage and breeding.

Mrs Griffins said due to the size and tenure holdings within the region, the organisation relies on the community to let them know where they're seeing Carnaby's and what behaviours they're exhibiting to assist them to do their work.

The project is funded by the federal Natural Heritage Trust and delivered by Wheatbelt Resource Management, a member of the Regional Delivery Partners panel.

The total funding for the project is \$1 million from August 2024 to the end of June 2028.

If you'd like to register your interest in this project you can get in contact with Kate Nicol by emailing knicol@wheatbeltnrm.org.au





Midland hall Op shop fundraiser

JACKI ELEZOVICH

MIDLAND Meals, a community initiative serving free meals to people in need in the Midland, Ellenbrook and Bassendean communities, is holding their op shop for a day fundraiser for a second year this weekend.

On Sunday, November 10 the Midland town hall will transform into the Midland Meals op shop, selling second-hand clothes, toys and accessories pulled from Midland Meals donation boxes, with all proceeds from the day going back into the running of Midland Meals.

Coordinator Dianne Pullman said last year's event was so successful, the City of Swan requested they run it again.

"It's an amazing event," she said.

"It raises awareness of the homelessness problem in the wider community, raises money for supplies and equipment for us to use and it's an opportunity for people to feel like they are mak-ing a difference."



Ms Pullman said attitudes around homelessness had changed even since she started volunteering with Midland Meals.

"By making people more aware we're opening their eyes to homelessness beyond the stereotypes and stigmas," she said.

Part of a 150-person team, Ms Pullman said each of Midland Meals' three locations fed around 80 people per day, with the Midland location being open 24 hours per day, every day of the year. The organisation is entirely volunteer-run, and she said the volunteers at Midland Meals reflected both the empathy and diversity of the surrounding communities.

"We have everyone from retired people to high school kids volunteer with us," she said.

"If I ask why they want to do it, the answer is nearly always the same: because you see how you're impacting someone's life and making a

The Op Shop for a day fundraiser operating in the Midland town hall.

difference for them.

"I say it's like a tonic for mental health too; even on those days when it's a struggle to get here, once you've seen the gratitude and the joy that comes from being able to help people doing it tough, it's always worth it.'

The op shop will be open for one day only and Ms Pullman said it would include some great Christmas bargains for those wanting to get on top of their shopping while also contributing to a good cause.

The shop will be cash-only and open from 10am to 3.30pm.

New Waterwise target plan

LAST week, Water Minister Simone McGurk launched the third waterwise action plan for Perth and Peel, which includes projects in the Shire of Mundaring and City of Swan.

The plan is part of the state government's strategy to deal with the impacts of climate change and build a more water-secure WA

Under the program so far, Ms McGurk said Western Australians were using 24 billion litres less water than before the project was implemented.

Named Kep Katitjin – Gabi Kaadadjan after Noongar words for water knowledge, the waterwise action plan includes projects around the state to conserve water and lower water usage in both residential and commercial settings.

The third plan builds on the two preceding plans with eight new initiatives and 35 ongoing projects, including the Swan Valley north-east corridor groundwater investigation to locate and define the groundwater capacity of the Swan Valley area.

Ongoing projects also include the Gnangara waterwise councils' grants scheme, which provides up to \$4 million over four years until 2025 to support local government projects that improve water efficiency and urban cooling.

The aim is to help councils meet the target set in the 2022 Gnangara groundwater allocation plan for a 10 per cent reduction in groundwater use by 2028.

Using this funding, Town of Bassendean applied eco-zoning to cut down on areas of irrigated turf at Success Hill and Mary Crescent reserves, installing mulch and planting trees, and the City of Swan applied hydro-zoning and renewed all irrigation at Lilac Hill's northern oval, as well as Ron Jose and Ballajura ovals. They aim to reduce groundwater use at these sites by 15 to 20 per cent, about 7000 to 10,000kL per oval.

City of Swan Mayor Tanya Richardson said hydro zoning involved adjusting irrigation systems to suit the plants and usage of the space.

'This involves identifying and adjusting irrigation systems to create new watering zones based on vegetation type and use, replacing old sprinklers with modern water-efficient sprinklers and removing irrigation in natural bushland areas," she said.

"We consider hydro zoning principles when we develop or renew landscaping assets, including the annual residential tree planting project, where preference is given to planting native, drought-resistant species that only need to be watered during the establishment period."

Mrs Richardson said audits on irrigation systems have also been completed as part of the city's water conservation plan to replace and retrofit inefficient water systems in actively used reserves.

The splash of colour program has also been in action since 2017 and has included artworks in Mundaring and Wattle Grove. The program aims to strengthen community connection to water and water stories by commissioning local artists to paint murals on Water Corporation infrastructure like electrical boxes and pump stations.

Ms McGurk said new initiatives demonstrated the state government's commitment to increasing WA's climate adaptation and resilience.

"Our award-winning waterwise program has been embraced by Western Australians, and the launch of the third waterwise action plan will continue and strengthen important work underway to transform Perth and Peel into leading waterwise communities,' she said.

"Waterwise action plan three forms part of the state government's response to tackle the impacts of climate change with many of the plan's actions seeking to improve biodiversity, urban greening and tree canopy - supporting urban cooling across our Perth and Peel regions.



Water Corporation chief executive Pat Donovan, Water Minister Simone McGurk and Department of Water and Environmental Regulation deputy director general Emily Briggs.



While the brushes will eventually reach the end of their usable life, this upcycling project extends their use, reducing waste and supporting Kalamunda's sustainability goals.

Kalamunda donates their street sweepers to rhinos

TWO pre-worn street sweeper brushes donated by the City of Kalamunda to Perth Zoo – saving them from landfill – are now being used as scratching posts for rhinos.

City of Kalamunda Mayor Margaret Thomas said the upcycling initiative was a benefit to the city's sustainability and a credit to waste service's ingenuity in finding new ways to use old items.

"This innovative idea not only supports the city's sustainability efforts but also contributes to the well-being of the animals at the Zoo," she said.

"This is a fantastic example of our waste services team thinking outside the box to support waste reduction through reuse to deliver great outcomes.

City of Kalamunda officers contacted Perth Zoo after a team member recognised the brushes' potential for repurposing as scratching posts for rhinos

Once it was confirmed that the

brushes would benefit the rhinos, they were delivered on October 18, where rhinos Memphis, and his son Bakari, quickly got their first experience with their new scratching posts. Rhinos have small hairs all over

their bodies, and when they find the right spot to scratch, they can react with as much enthusiasm as a house pet, kicking out their legs and raising their tails.

The street sweeper brushes, once tied securely to the enclosure fence, will provide a durable and safe way for Memphis and Bakari to scratch and rub, replicating natural behaviours.

The City of Kalamunda confirmed they will look to upcycle more used street-sweepers and extend their use by sending them to Perth Zoo.

For more information on the City's waste services or to participate in upcoming waste reduction events, visit kalamunda.wa.gov.au or contact the city's waste services team on 9257 9999.

Kokoda trek update: Y WA group gets ready to set off

FOR 22 young people from across Western Australia, this year's Y WA Kokoda leadership program trek is now less than a month awav.

They recently completed their second training camp at the Manjedal activity centre in Karrakup, their final group preparation for the nine-day trek at the end of this month

Fifteen-year-old Guildford resident Lilli Taylor said she was feeling excited and grateful as the group's fly-out day gets closer.

"It's such a unique experience and all the leaders keep telling me about how it's so beautiful around there, even though it might be hot and humid and difficult, I'm still looking forward to it," she said.

"My personal reason for going on Kokoda this year is to know that I can succeed when faced with such a difficult challenge.

"I really want to prove it to myself; the conditions are probably going to be difficult for me to push through as I don't like humidity, but I know when I reach the end, it's going to be amazing.

She said she was also excited about seeing a beautiful new landscape, history and culture on the trek

"It's such a good opportunity for young adults like me and others to get out there and experience a hard challenge," she said.

'I feel like it's going to prepare most of us for the future, what life is going to bring us."

The training camp physically and mentally challenged each participant, ensuring everyone is ready to tackle the infamously challenging trail through the heart of Papua New Guinea's ancient rainforest, following in the steps of the Anzac heroes for 96 gruelling kilometres.

On camp, the group tackled the 15km Kitty Gorge trail, a distance comparable to one of their longer days on the Kokoda trail, as well as team building and fitness exercises.

The Y WA chief executive Dr Tim McDonald will trek with the group again this year, and said the training camps give the young group a great insight into how they will be pushed on the real track.

"I was blown away by how far many of them have come, particularly on such a long hike,' he said.

"I would say camp two was a success: the young people are at a good fitness level, and we are all feeling great about the trek.

This program is aimed at developing aspiring leaders for the future, promoting resilience, teamwork and a sense of community, and I can see all those qualities shining through already." Lilli on the Kitty Gorge training trek.











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Swan Lullabies launch at Mandoon Estate

GUANHAO CHENG

THE hopes, love and dreams of Midland's Moorditj Maaman men's group rang out across Mandoon estate's gardens last Saturday, carried through the songs they composed in Noongar language.

Midland's Moorditj Maaman are a group of Indigenous men who have been working for months to create an album of lullabies that preserves Noongar language.

The theme of the album, Maaman Weitj, revolved around the nurturing side of male guardianship, as symbolised by the father emu from which the album takes its name, as reported in Lullaby legacy for Noongar men (Echo News, July 26).

Under the overcast sky, the men's group members looked out at the crowds of families gathered on the lawns with picnic rugs, ready to watch their album launch performance.

For the youngest Moorditj Maaman member Michael Cross, his personal song for the album was a chance to show his nephews and nieces how much he loved them.

When the members were asked who wanted to go on stage to perform their individual songs, Mr Cross was the first to put his hand

up. "My leg was shaking like hell," he said. "Getting on stage was really (nerve-wracking) for me, so I kept looking down at the songbook, but I got through the nervous part.

"I did my own song because I love my nephews and nieces.

I love them to pieces, and I just thought about them when I sang the song

The Midland community were first given a preview of the album's songs during Midland's NAIDOC celebration, as reported in Swan Lullabies celebrate language (Echo News, October 4).

Mr Cross performed his song Djoorabiny, meaning happy, to the accompaniment of Community Arts Network language facilitator Kobi Arthur Morrison's guitar playing.

The lyrics spoke of happiness found in

simple pleasures like eating with the children in his family and the joy of conversation.

Mr Cross said learning Noongar language, which was a recent pursuit for him, and then putting the words into his own lullaby was an accomplishment he valued.

"I didn't really speak in Noongar myself," he said

"I got taught by the men's group which was pretty good, and we got taught through the (Noongar Boodjar Language Cultural Aboriginal Corporation) in Cannington.

"We got taught through the lullabies and it was an achievement to be able to speak Noongar through the songs.

"It's really important that we got out there and sang in Noongar — it's an opportunity for us to help our culture in our situation and I can't wait to celebrate everybody with a lullaby.'

Moorditj Maaman member Darren Tyson also sang his lullaby Koorlal Ngany which was an anthem of leadership and bravery.

"My song is called Follow Me," he said.

"It's about walking alongside the Elders when you walk, you never walk alone.

"I've always been a bit of a natural born leader and walk everywhere I go.

"I did a big loop around to Geraldton and just a big, long walk trying to find myself.

"I even walked all the way to my hometown of Meekatharra, walking out of Perth, past one town and then another getting blisters on my feet.

"My cousin is Clinton Pryor who did the walk of justice from Perth to Canberra and all my family walk, so it's an important thing that connects us.

Mr Tyson said he hoped Noongar language would be kept alive, and he still finds joy when he surprises people with seldom-used Noongar words.

"I spoke it pretty fluently when I was younger but stopped using it for a while, but I still like speaking it and using uncommon words or phrases and hearing people say, 'I haven't heard that in years'," he said.



Midland men's group Moorditj Maaman launched their album of lullabies Maaman Weitj at Mandoon Estate on November 2. Picture: Guanhao Cheng

"It's our own way of communication for me and my kids, and I teach them small phrases here and there.

"(My song) is for the children and keeping language alive.'

As at Midland's NAIDOC performance, the group honoured the memory of Yagan's role as a father, brother, son and leader through performing the lullaby they collaboratively composed: Booraka Yagan.

The sun began breaking through the rain clouds as the Moorditj Maaman members gathered on stage to perform the piece.

"Brave Yagan, strong leader," the men sang in Noongar.

"Brave man, shout, spirit of Yagan."

Children ran across the grass, some waving straw boomerangs they weaved at the totem making stall, while others sat with their parents, listening to them read the lyrics from the Maaman Weitj songbook.

The group finished up the album launch

with an invitation for attendants to reflect on what they were grateful for, before performing their final song: Yeyi Yokai, meaning now celebrate.

"I'm grateful for that patch of blue sky," Mr Morrison said.

"And I'm definitely grateful for these Moorditi Maaman.

"What are you guys grateful for?"

After a moment's contemplation, people in the crowd began shouting back. "I woke up today," an attendant said.

"To be here with family and friends." Mr Morrison's mother's answer cut through

the gap between the other offerings. "Having a moorditj son," she said.

The Maaman Weitj Noongar Lullabies from Swan album is now available on all major platforms.

The full album and songbook may be accessed by visiting www.can.org.au/maamanweiti



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Social capital focus for Hour of Power



CITY of Swan councillor Cate McCullough and Swan Christian College head of mathematics Alex Smilovitis will be presenting on the power of social capital in 2024's final Hour of Power.

Ms McCullough said she'll be drawing on her experience as a councillor for the City of Swan and as a community volunteer in an organisation running the largest community events each year.

"Obviously, on the topic of social capital, we'll be talking about connecting people and harnessing the power of relationships and partnership," she said.

"As a small business contractor from years ago and a not-for-profit community organisation over the past 10-12 years, I'll share aspects from both roles and from a local government perspective as a councillor as well.

"I was the chair and co-founder of Ellenbrook community collective in 2015 which is a not-for-profit community group, which runs the largest events in the City of Swan from a wholly volunteer basis.

"I'll be sharing some thoughts and human-interest stories and strategies and opening the conversation on how social capital can be embraced by not just community but also the commerce crowd.

"(Social capital) is the byproduct of

relationship investment in individuals and the trust they then place in you.

"I bring to the table how to grow that social capital across community and into businesses as well.

"Businesses need to be aware of how to grow that social capital that expands opportunities, builds partnerships, and in turn grows their businesses."

Mr Smilovitis will be sharing anecdotes from his life that prompt attendees to think about the legacy they leave behind as they build relationships in business and life.

"First of all, capital is a financial term, but we'll use it in terms of how we create that capital when it comes to people and connection," he said.

"In the same way capital drives building infrastructure and progresses the growth of outward structures, underlying that is the connections that aren't measured by money but by relationships.

"I came to the revelation that it comes by moments that connect and unite people's lives and those are some of the thoughts I'll be sharing during the talk.

"If you don't base a company around people, then what have you built? "I've spent my years as head of de-

"I've spent my years as head of departments and I look back and realised I've worked so hard while raising my daughters, that I've missed their teenage years. "It's about what's the next phase,

"It's about what's the next phase, and when you retire you only have so much time afterwards, so you have to make it count.

"You've got to make it worthwhile and that's what I'm excited to share and invite others to reflect on."

The year's final Hour of Power will be held at 10.30am on November 13, and registrations can be made at www. swanchamber.org.au



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Left: Rider Danielle Loizou Lake and her horse Jack Sparrow. Right: Fleur Lisiter competing and below explaining some of the adaptive equipment used by para equestrians.

All-abilities equestrian showcase is a success

JACKI ELEZOVICH

LAST Friday night, Para-Equestrian WA held a showcase of Western Australian riders in honour of International Day of People with a Disability.

The event, called Partners in the dance as a reflection of the partnership between athletes and their horses, was a hit with the community.

There was barely an empty seat left in the indoor arena at the State Equestrian Centre, with more than 100 people heading down to Brigadoon to spend their Friday night watching Para-Equestrian Western Australia's freestyle dressage showcase.

Sixteen talented riders including para-athletes, pony club members and riders from Equestrian WA's open divisions showed off their skills and partnerships with their horses.

Each rider choreographed a six-to-eight-minute dressage routine which was scored for its difficulty, flow and execution.

Para-Equestrian Working Group WA chair Lisa Baker said it was more important than ever to showcase the breadth and diversity of equestrian sport in WA.

"We are one of the fastest growing sectors of the equestrian world, and more and more people are recognising the benefits of working with animals and horses in particular," she said.

"Many of our riders start at Riding for the disabled, which is the therapeutic end of the program, and para-equestrian riding is the next level, and the pathway for athletes to become competitive and even get to the Paralympics.

"There were many people in the audience who weren't part of the equestrian community, who had seen our advertising and just wanted to come down and investigate.

"Everyone I talked to had a great night, it was really special to see people being entertained by

our talented riders, and learning about the paraequestrian sort at the same time."

Para-Equestrian WA recently received a state government grant to help them run the event, which was organised to coincide with early celebrations for the International Day of People with a Disability, which is recognised around the country on December 3.

More than a 100 organisations received additional funding from

the state government this year of up to \$1000 to assist with running inclusive events to mark the internationally recognised occasion.

Ms Baker said the extra funding helped make the event extra special for both riders and spectators.

"We were delighted to receive the grant; it has helped us bring this event to life and make it as fun and inclusive as possible," she said.

The theme for this year's international day is confident, capable and creative: come with me and Ms Baker said this could not relate more to Western Australia's para-equestrian athletes.

"Para means parallel to able-bodied athletes," she said.

"We have athletes competing of every shape and size, with an array of disabilities, and they are all just as capable and connected to their sport as their able-bodied counterparts.

"For people to be able to come to the showcase and see riders of every ability riding together is really great."

Man charged over Midland fire

DETECTIVES from the serious and organised crime division have charged a 46-year-old man with several offences in relation to a commercial business fire that occurred in Midland on Friday, October 25.

The fire gutted multiple businesses near Tuohy Lane early on the Friday morning and arson detectives continued to appeal for public assistance in the investigation, as reported in *Midland smoke shop fire investigation continues* (*Echo News*, November 1) Initial CCTV released by police showed the white Nissan Navara crashing into the shopfront of A-Deal





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Tobacconist before the man fled the scene.

More footage was released later on October 30 depicting the accused walking on a footpath, in dark clothing as well as an alternate angle of the ram-raid and arson attack on the tobacconist.

The perpetrator could be seen fleeing with his clothes on fire as he ran across the street.

He was arrested in Mirrabooka yesterday following an extensive investigation by detectives.

He was subsequently charged with burglary and commit on a place, criminal damage by fire, steal motor vehicle, no authority to drive (disqualified from holding or obtaining), and failing to obey order given by an officer. The fire on Friday, October 25 left Midland businesses along Great Eastern Highway with about half a million dollars in damages.

He appeared in Midland Magistrates Court on Wednesday, November 6 where it was alleged he deliberately drove the vehicle at the tobacconist store before dousing the premises with a flammable liquid and setting it alight.

Further inquiries revealed the vehicle was reported stolen from an address in Aveley on October 6.

The accused was remanded in custody to appear back in court on December 3.

Inquiries remain ongoing and investigators urge anyone with information to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or via www.crimestopperswa.com. au.

All reports can be made anonymously.



www.echonewspaper.com.au November 8, 2024 11

Mundaring Disc Golf committee members Ken and Sue Summers with MAC'S artistic program manager, Jessica Knight at the opening night. Picture: Rebecca De Vries

bining disc golf with art

IN celebration of the World Flying Disc Federation World Team Disc Golf Championships, Mundaring Arts Centre has teamed up with the Mundaring Sporting Club to deliver a collective exhibition, On Par.

This landmark event is set to bring an international audience to the Perth Hills with more than twenty teams from around the world hitting the course for the championships in Mundaring from November 6-9.

On Par explores the intersection between sport and art in a showcase of spectacular disc art by established disc artists 'on par' with invited Shire of Mundaring artists.

"We believe this partnership typifies the community landscape of our shire; art, sport, and team spirit, all set to the backdrop of our unique natural environment," a spokesperson said. Held in Mundaring Art Centre's

(MAC) Gallery 2, this collective installation presents a showcase of diverse arts practice from within the Perth Hills and beyond.

Featuring signature works by established Golf Disc artists, this exhibition spotlights a bourgeoning artform, colliding sport and art.

The disc art community has been

steadily growing within the world of disc golf for some time now. Beginning as a way for players to set themselves apart on the course with personalised flare, it has evolved into a celebrated arts practice with a dedicated following.

Employing various dyeing tech-niques, that don't alter aerodynamics or effect on play, artists create striking, bold and eye-catching patterns and designs.

Hailing from the Shire of Mundaring and nearby communities, more than 15 invited artists create artistic responses from a single disc golf.

Featuring a mixed lineup, from painting and ceramics to woodwork and sculptures, these diverse outcomes exemplify the artistic range of the local community.

Expect bold, dynamic discs that leap off the wall, considered contemplative works that utilise local materials, and imaginative interpretations that weave narrative and whimsy into the space.

On Par will run at the Mundaring Arts Centre until December 22.

For further information and program details, visit the website, www. mundaringartscentre.com.au

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Senator O'Sullivan, centre, with Y WA's Tim McDonald and teaching staff.

School Ready program in action at Guildford's Yappara House

SENATOR Matt O'Sullivan and Y WA chief executive Tim McDonald visited Yappara House in Guildford early last week to see the School ReadY program in action.

The program was developed by Y WA to support children aged from three to five-years-old in developing early language and literacy skills they will need to start school.

The program has been active in all 14 of Y WA's early learning centres since it was launched in August this year.

Yappara House program director Leeanne Coombes said the program has sparked the interest of the young kids at the centre.

"Since introducing this program, I have noticed that the children in our service have a higher level of confidence with their language skills. This in turn has helped them to improve their social skills and their use of imagination, which is evident during their interactions and play throughout the day," she said

Ms Coombes believed the program encouraged families to engage with their children's learning journey, and staff were benefitting from additional training

"The School ReadY program has promoted more meaningful engagement from our families and parents. They are accessing resources and information provided and want to know about what the children are learning and how they can reinforce this learn-ing at home," she said.

"Our staff have had the valuable opportunities to engage in professional learning which means we are upskilling and building capacity of our educators. The program materials are provided, which means that staff need to spend less time on planning, and they know what to focus on with the children."

Y WA literacy specialist Renee Chakaodza has been working closely with Yappara House staff to set up and deliver the program, and said the process has been inspiring.

"Children are displaying increased confidence as they discuss stories, learn target vocabulary words and begin to identify sounds they can hear in words. It has been wonderful to see that families and members of the community have engaged in opportunities to learn about the program and how to support their children at home," she said.

Senator O'Sullivan has maintained a strong relationship with Y WA and said early learning programs laid the foundations for a child's successful journey through education.

"Seeing a session in action brought the program's impact to life - watching young children engage, learn and develop early literacy skills was truly inspiring," he said.

"It's clear initiatives like this offer real benefits, setting a strong foundation for future learning and confidence.

Y WA chief executive Dr Tim McDonald said giving children access to early learning was crucial to avoiding the long-term impacts of starting formal school developmentally behind.

"We are already seeing the impacts of this valuable program as we observe our educators engaging with children. At Y WA we believe if all children have access to a great start in the areas of literacy and language, numeracy and social and emotional wellbeing, the roll-on effect when they become adults is quite impactful," he said.

Together, we are building the foundation for a lifelong love of learning, ensuring our children are ready for school and ready for life. The journey continues, and we can't wait to see the exciting developments that lie ahead.'

Shakespeare comes to Forrestfield

FORRESTFIELD's Hillside Church amphithea-

He said the decision to change the play's time setting stemmed from finding a way to deal with its more controversial elements, which could have been problematic to modern audiences had the play been set in today's world.

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tre will play nost to the Koleystone I neatre Company's production of All's Well that ends Well on Saturday, November 9.

Kalamunda Senior High School alumnus Sarah Boyle will star as the widow in the Shakespearean comedy, which has been given a 1980s spin for this production.

Former Marloo Theatre performer Paul Treasure is set to direct, and said performing one of the Bard's lesser-known plays was a challenge.

"After directing the last four Shakespeare in the Park productions, I was given the challenge by one of our frequent actors to tackle a Shakespeare play I wasn't familiar with," he said.

"While we could have gone for something really obscure, we decided All's Well That Ends Well is a play that most people have heard of, but few people have ever seen, so thought it was a great choice.

"While the title of the play is well-known, the play itself isn't, so exploring a script few people know is an exciting challenge.

"After some discussion, we decided the only way to make those problematic parts work really well was by setting it in the 1980s.

"We've really tried to embrace an 80s teen flick vibe, including a stereotypical 'hot girl transformation' in the third act.

The play follows Helena, who is in love with the Duke of Rousillon, and marries him with help from the King. However, the Duke thinks Helena is beneath him in status and refuses to accept her as his wife unless she fulfils two seemingly impossible conditions

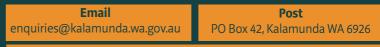
The production will play at the Hillside Church Amphitheatre in Forrestfield from 4pm on November 9

Tickets are \$27 for an adult, and can be purchased at tinyurl.com/hillside2024

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Father and daughter team Malcolm and Raynee McArthur are both dental prosthetists', licensed to make all dentures including part acrylic and metal dentures

The clinic is a Medibank Private Members Choice Provider and an HBF Members Plus Provider.

Rebates are available from all other health funds and we also deal with Veterans Affairs and offer pensioner discounts.

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Special arrangements can be made for country clients to reduce the number of visits.

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

Sun Smart Gardening @ Zanthorrea

As the days get longer and warmer it is great to spend valuable time helping the garden get ready for summer.

This time of year there will be extra watering, mulching, pruning as well as feeding flowering plants, herbs and veggies. Also cleaning and filling birdbaths and water bowls for our native animals.

While we undertake these important tasks we need to be mindful of a sun-smart approach to gardening.

To stay sun-smart we recommend gardening in the early morning or late afternoon.

Wear a wide brimmed hat, sunscreen and long sleeved shirts or like many of the team at Zanthorrea the UPF 50+ SParms to protect our arms

Staying hydrated is essential too, so keep water nearby and take regular breaks in the shade. Garden gloves and kneeling mats also add comfort and protect from sun-heated surfaces. A sun-smart approach not only keeps you

safe but ensures you can keep up with important gardening tasks in the preparation for summer

The Team at Zanthorrea.





Supported Living in the Wheatbelt



- 👚 Supported Independent Living
- Specialist Disability Accommodation
- Short-term Accommodation





1800 875 432 essentialpersonnel.org.au



Accessible Accommodation in the Wheatbelt

Essential Personnel is a not-for-profit, registered NDIS provider. Established in Northam in 1986 to create employment opportunities for locals with disability, they now provide more services, including disability accommodation and living options.

"There is a lack of suitable long and short-term accommodation in the Wheatbelt for people living with disabilities," said Teeny Lane, Essential Personnel CEO. "Our goal is to meet these needs, because we know how valuable it is to receive support in a place you feel at home in."

Living in familiar surroundings has a positive ef-

fect on people's mental wellbeing and overall health. It provides comfort and reassurance for families and creates a strong sense of belonging in their community

Koodjal Cottage in Northam is Essential Personnel's purpose-built respite facility for STA and SIL. They have recently expanded their NDIS services to include SIL in multiple locations across the south and east metro area.

Ability Housing now offer Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) in Northam with Robust and High Physical Support designs, and partner with Essential Personnel to provide 24-hour onsite support.

Healthy Living



Roshana Carmel's Symphony of Wellness

Roshana Carmel Aged Care redefines senior living with a holistic approach that prioritises physical, mental, and social well-being.

Our philosophy goes beyond traditional care, embracing each resident's individu-

ality and promoting a balanced lifestyle.

Our programs include gentle yoga, garden walks, and tailored exercises to enhance mobility and strength. Nutritious meals prepared by in-house chefs ensure residents enjoy flavour and health benefits.

We offer diverse activities to stimulate cognitive health, such as book clubs, board games, and art workshops. These activities foster intellectual growth and creativity.

Roshana Carmel thrives on community spirit. Music therapy and group singalongs fill our spaces with joy, while art workshops encourage self-expression and bonding among residents. With aged care facilities across Western Australia, Queensland, Victoria, and New South Wales, Roshana Care Group extends its commitment to exceptional care beyond aged care to include mental health home care and NDIS

services.

We create an environment where life flourishes in all dimensions, offering residents the opportunity to embrace *their life, their way, every minute, every day.*

ADVERTISING FEATURE





Are you seeking premium care for yourself or your loved ones?



Nestled amidst the tranquil leafy embrace of the beautiful Perth Hills



ROSHANA

Roshana Care is a leading provider of Aged Care, Home Care, Mental Health Care, NDIS, and Retirement Living in Australia, with over 14 facilities spanning across WA, NSW, QLD, and VIC, and over twenty years of combined experience in healthcare. At Roshana, it's your life, your way -- and that's our promise everyday. **Healthy Living**





HILLS NATURAL HEALTH CENTRE

Eddie Enever

Senior Naturopath **Functional Medicine Specialist Psychotherapist** Mens Health Coach

- Integrative Metabolic Oncology Care
- Functional Medicine Specialist
- Chronic Complex Disease Coaching
- Stress Management and Support
- General Psychotherapy (Men and Women)
- Men's Testosterone Optimisation
- Men's Psychotherapy and Support
- Men's Stress and Wellness Coaching

Bookings: 08 9298 8332 | Fax: 08 9298 8210 3/7 Railway Parade Glen Forrest 6071 | www.hillsnaturalhealth.com.au



MASON

Mason & Bird now a part of Kalamunda

Local eat and drinks venue Mason & Bird have been part of the Kalamunda community for the past eight years.

Initially a brunch, lunch and coffee spot, at the start of the year the popular venue made a successful application for a liquor licence.

As a result, Mason & Bird now offers dinner from Wednesday to Saturday and a full brunch menu on Saturdays and Sundays.

One of the attractions of the purveyors of fine food is that everything is made in-house.

Owner Jaclyn Noel said they were proud to be able to offer a high standard of casual dining.

'We want people to feel like if they get home from work and don't feel like cooking they can pop in and enjoy a casual menu along with an affordable, yet premium wine list to accompany their dining experience," she said.



ADVERTISING FEATURE

The venue is fully licenced, and also offers a range of cocktails, with the kitchen open until 8pm Wednesday to Saturday.

They also have a little sister café in South Perth called Little Mason that does brunch and lunch seven days a week

Mason & Bird is located at 7 Williams Street, Kalamunda, and for bookings call 0456 664 349.

Eddie joins the team at Hills Natural Health

HILLS Natural Health Centre is pleased to announce that Eddie Enever has joined their talented team.

Eddie has more than 16 years of clinical experience, and is a trusted Integrative health specialist and psychotherapist, providing personalised, holistic care to men and women facing a variety of health challenges with a focus on functional medicine and integrative health.

His personal journey overcoming significant health challenges, including advanced cancer, has shaped his deep empathy for his clients and his dedication to holistic health care.

Eddie combines evidence-based treatments with functional and integrative approaches, always working to understand the whole person mind, body, and spirit.

Whether you're dealing with chronic illness or mental health struggles or simply want to optimise your overall well-being, Eddie is here to support you on your health journey.

His compassionate care and comprehensive expertise make him a leader in his field and a trusted partner for those seeking lasting wellness.







BIRD ekend Brunch Menu 8am-2pm Saturday & Sunday garlic & herb sourdough

AVAILABLE

Wednesday-Friday

1130am-8pm

Saturday 3pm-8pm

Artisan Loafers sourdough, garlic & herb butter (3 pieces) \$11.50

smokey roast chorizo butterbean puree, sourdough, lemon \$21.50

lamb cutlets (3) honey roasted carrots, sweet potato, mint jelly \$32

buttermilk fried chicken bites pickles, chipotle mayo \$19.50

pork spring rolls (3) pickled vegetable, chilli oil \$21.50

baked brie fig & almond, rosemary, crackers \$19.50

grilled halloumi darling range honey, sage \$14.50

roast pork shoulder, chilli jam \$22.50

hummus & warm sourdough

shredded chicken salad honey roasted carrot, nuts, radicchio, iceberg, pear, tahini dressing \$24

grilled halloumi salad rocket, cucumber, radish, red pepper, pickled onion, spicy Thai dressing \$24

roast sweet potato salad (v) kale, raisins, white wine vinaigrette, nuts & seeds \$21.50 add chicken \$6.50

caesar salad cos lettuce, bacon, croutons, parmesan, anchovy \$24 add chicken \$6.50

pan roasted gnocchi #1 cauliflower, almonds, craisins, kale, parmesan \$29.50 pan roasted gnocchi #2 broccoli, peas, mint, macadamia, danish feta \$29.50 add chicken \$6.50

mushroom & chorizo fettuccine



chippies \$11 iceberg, raddichio, lemon oil \$8 rocket, pear, parmesan \$11 broccoli, toasted almonds \$12

DESSERT

warm chocolate brownie, icecream, raspberry **\$11** orange & poppyseed cake, creme fraiche \$11 tiramisu \$11

affogato \$6.50

frangelico \$16 kahlua \$16 baileys \$16 amaretto \$16

cocktails

aperol spritz - aperol, prosecco, soda \$14 limoncello spritz - limoncello, prosecco, soda \$14 hugo spritz - st germain, prosecco, soda \$16 amaretto spritz-amaretto, citrus, prosecco, soda \$16

dark & stormy - rum, ginger beer, bitters \$14 moscow mule - vodka, lime ginger beer \$14 pimm's cup - pimm's no. 1, ginger ale \$14 mimosa - prosecco, orange juice \$11 bloody mary - vodka, tomato juice, lemon, worcestershire sauce, tobasco, salt & pepper \$14



1 FREE SIDE DISH WITH **ANY PURCHASE OVER \$100**

sebs cold cuts selection of cold cuts from Sebastian Butcher, grilled sourdough, mustards pickle \$32

warm olives & sourdough \$10.50

Available for dinner only Mention "Echo 24" to redeem

cheese selection quince, pear, crackers \$42 tomato, spinach, shaved parmesan \$29.50

potato & lentil dahl (vegan) chutney, white rice, papadam \$26.50

buttermilk fried chicken burger slaw, chipotle aioli, pickle, chippies \$25

slow roasted pork burger pickled red cabbage, sweet corn, charred pineapple, chippies \$27

vegetarian burger grilled zucchini fritter, turmeric pickled cabbage, herbie hummus \$25

old fashioned - bourbon, sugar, bitters \$20 negroni - gin, campari, sweet vermouth \$20

MOCKTAILS **BERRY BLISS SODA \$12** WATERMELON MINT LEMONADE \$12 **TURKISH ICED TEA \$12**

> 0 (7 **@masonandbird**

www.masonandbird.com.au I 7 Williams Street, Kalamunda I Fully Licensed I Dine in & take away available I @masonandbird

ARTSENTERTAINMENT **Community choir brings harmony to the Perth Hills**

JACKI ELEZOVICH

SWAN Harmony Choir's Spring concert will take place in Darlington on Sunday, November 10. The choir was established in 1997 and rehearses weekly in the old Midland courthouse.

Choir member Delia Richardson said the group had an expansive repertoire, ranging from church hymns to today's popular hits.

We have a varied repertoire from Billie Eilish to the Eagles, sea shanties, some sacred music and traditional hymns," she said.

Some of the songs included in this year's repertoire are Walking in Memphis, Always on my Mind, Someday, and No Time to Die.

The group is comprised of two troupes: the main choir and the Cygnets, a smaller group of 14 members compared to the main choir's 40. Both groups perform free and low-cost concerts and singing workshops in the local community throughout the year, and have performed at events including the Darlington arts festival, Shire of Mundaring Anzac Day service, and the official re-opening of the City of Swan library.

Their spring concert, performed under the watchful eye of music director Richard Braham, will treat audiences to an afternoon full of joy, fun, and community spirit through the choir's beautiful renditions of both classic pieces and current musical favourites.

Delia said audiences were in for a treat.

"The attraction of listening to a choral performance is in the very name of the choir: it is the harmony. Swan Harmony choir has four parts: soprano, alto, tenor and basses. Choirmaster, Richard Braham, excels in harmonising all four parts to evoke emotions, create tensions and add depth to musical compositions," she said.

"People attending the concert will find the harmony very uplifting and hopefully enjoy seeing how the four different parts of the choir interact."

The concert will be held in the Darlington Hall from 3pm to 5pm and will be followed by afternoon tea for audience members.



A recent Swan Harmony performance.

Two-day Polish cultural extravaganza in Bellevue

ONE of the highlights of the year in Bellevue's Polish Club Sikorski calendar is the two-day Polish cultural extravaganza, a vibrant festival showcasing Polish music, dance, and food.

A free family festival will be held on Saturday, November 9 from 3pm with Polish folk dancing, live music, animal farm, face painting and children's activities, along with traditional food and drinks

The following Saturday, November 16 will feature a free concert by Beata Wald, a renowned Polish singer known for her strong voice combing modern and traditional music and connecting deeply with Polish culture.

Nestled in Bellevue, the Polish Club Sikorski has long been a vital hub for the Polish community and a welcoming space for those interested in experiencing Polish culture.

The club prides itself on being a warm and inviting venue for the entire community, regardless of heritage.

The club's restaurant, Eco Jar Polish Food, is a culinary gem, serving up homestyle Polish dishes along with a fully licensed bar.



Textiles exhibition Take the Journey opens in Guildford

JACKI ELEZOVICH

GUILDFORD artist Di Ditcham has recently opened her Take the Journey exhibition in the Guildford Village Potters' building on Meadow Street.

The exhibition focuses predominantly on Ms Ditcham's work as a textile artist, and showcases pieces including wall hangings, books, brooches, and clothing

Take the Journey, the wall hanging that inspired the name of the exhibition, is inspired by a village in India, which Ms Ditcham visited on one of her many travels to the country. She said her wall hangings often represented places she has seen or travelled to.

"They take months, sometimes years to make be-cause of how intricate they are," she said.

Each part of the hanging represents a part of a landscape that exists in real life.

"They remind me of some of my favourite places, and the experiences I've had there, and I think that's really special."

Ms Ditcham also creates brooches which are crocheted and then stitched and beaded over the top to make animals both

aspect of her art.

A lot of it is pretty experimental," she said. "I never know what kind of effect I'm going to get

until I take the fabric out, and by then I can only add to it, I can't change what's there.

An artist from her teenage years, Ms Ditcham said creating art has always been part of her life.

"I've always loved art. I knew it was what I wanted to spend my life doing. That's why I went back to university, because I felt I still had so much left to learn.'

First studying at Forrestfield and then Midland TAFE in the 1980s, Ms Ditcham taught art in the Forrestfield area for many years after receiving her diploma, and later went to university to receive her Bachelor of Art majoring in textiles, graduating at the age of 68.

She said it's never too late to learn more and build artistic skills.

'Many of my classmates were only 19," she said. "So I was kind of their granny. They thought it was great that I was back to studying and doing something I was passionate about."



wild and native, as well as natural-dyed clothing and fabric scrapbooks in a rainbow of colours and techniques.

Many of the works utilise found or recycled materials from coffee pods to gumnuts. Each has a different effect on Ms Ditcham's art and saves unused items from going to landfill

The works on show are vast in form, material and artistic technique, but collective in their vibrant colour and intricate craftsmanship.

She uses the dirty pot technique of dying fabric, meaning the end result is a surprise when the fabric comes out of the dying water. Ms Ditcham said she finds something whimsical









Your local Gig Guide

Sun 10 November

Settlers House York

125 Avon Terrace York

Parkerville Tavern

Noble Falls Tavern

Graeme Fisher.

12pm. Free.

Coastal Drift.

6 Owen Road Parkerville

Taylor Cutts.

Gidgegannup

Rose & Crown

5pm-8pm. Free. 105 Swan Street

Chidlow Tavern

12.30pm. Free.

4 Thomas Street

Tues 12 November

6/7095 Great Eastern

Wed 13 November

4 Thomas St Chidlow

Thurs 14 November

Hemingway & Co

Blues Thursday

6.30-9pm. Free.

6/7095 Great Eastern

3

Highway Mundaring

Hemingway & Co

Jazz Tuesday

Highway

7pm-9pm. Free.

Chidlow Tavern

Jam Session

(All welcome). 7pm. Free.

Jared Herft.

Guildford

Ben Bulla

Chidlow

1pm-4pm. Free. 2672 Toodyay Road

4pm-7pm. Free.

Fri 8 November

Settlers House York Nick Childs. From 6pm. Free. 125 Avon Terrace York

The Rookery Kim Anning Duo. 6.30pm. Free. 152 Avon Terrace York

Parkerville Tavern Cush. 6pm-9pm. Free. 6 Owen Road Parkerville

Rose & Crown Kurt Carrera. 2pm-6pm. Free. 105 Swan Street Guildford

Kalamunda Performing Arts Centre Vince Jones. 7.30pm. \$45. 48 Canning Road Kalamunda

Chidlow Tavern Fenton Oldmeadow. 6.30pm. Free. 4 Thomas Street Chidlow

Sat 9 November

Settlers House York The Back Verandah Band. 6pm. Free. 125 Avon Terrace York

Parkerville Tavern Shane Turner. 6pm-9pm. Free. 6 Owen Road Parkerville

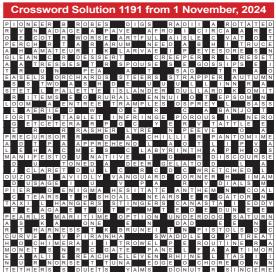
Hemingway & Co Brett Hardwick. 7pm-9pm. Free. 6/7095 Great Eastern **Highway Mundaring**

Promote your event with Echo's Online

Entertainment & Gig Guide

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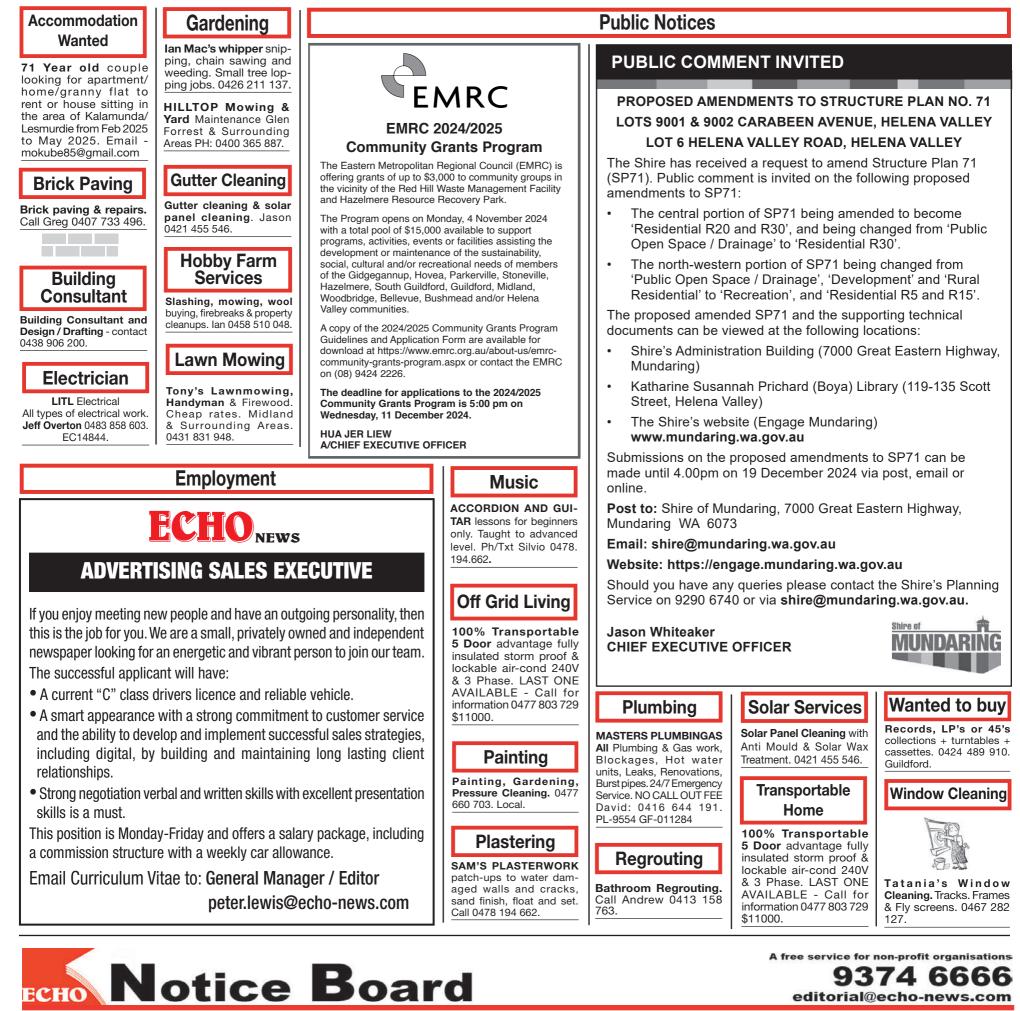
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ECHO Classifieds



Upcoming Events

• Midland Friendly Garden Club meets

tea will be served for a gold coin donation. For more information email mhhs@mun daringhistory.org or call 9295 0540.

• **Mundaring Probus Club's** next speaker meeting is on Monday, November 11 at 10am at the Glen Forrest Sports Club. For-

month at 10am. CWA flags are displayed on Yelverton Drive, Midland on meeting days. CWA offers a diverse range of interests and each branch works to meet local community needs. Call Maureen on 0460 777 557 or email maureenbarker1@gmail.



at 9.30am on alternate Thursdays at Bruce Douglas Pavilion, Brown Park, Salisbury Road, Swan View. The last meeting for the year will take place on Thursday, November, 14. The guest speaker will be Herb Society of Western Australia vice president Ericka Stean, who will be talking about the medicinal, culinary and cosmetic properties of herbs. For more information call on Jenny 0424 553 002 or Barbara on 0482 935 686.

• A Mundaring and Hills Historical Society general meeting will be held at the Boya Community Centre, 135 Scott Street, Helena Valley on Saturday, November 16 at 2pm. The meeting will be followed by a talk at 2.45pm by Merv Beacham about the story behind Chippers Leap – "the death of an 11 ½-year-old Caucasian boy who accompanied John Chipper on the way to York with flour and provisions". Afternoon mer ABC political reporter Peter Kennedy will reminisce on past WA premiers and the difficulties of modern government. For more information call 0412 427 533.

• The Kalamunda Combined Probus Club meeting is on Wednesday, November 13 at 10am in the Kalamunda RSL Club hall, 35 Canning Road, Kalamunda near the Dome Café. The special guest speaker will be Barry Sue who will talk about the exploits and life of his father Jack Sue, as a Z Force commando during World War II and involvement in preparation for the fatal attempt to beat the world water speed record by Donald Campbell in1967 at Lake Coniston water in the UK. For More information or to book in call Don 0439 970 038.

• **Midland CWA** meets at the Midland Railway Yards Blacksmith Lane (West) Midland on the third Wednesday of each

com

• **Bayswater City VIEW Club** meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 10am with the meeting starting at 10.30am at the Bayswater Tennis Club, Bayswater. Members enjoy a wide range of social activities while raising funds to sponsor 12 financially disadvantaged students with their education through The Smith Family Learning for Life program. For more information call Linda on 0417 960027 or email bayswatercitywa.vie wclub@gmail.com

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

Woofer of the week

Missy is a three-year-old Staffordshire and bull terrier cross. She is good with other dogs and older children but can be boisterous with little ones. She is sterilised, vaccinated and microchipped. Costs apply. Contact Bakers Hill Dog Sanctuary on 9574 1438.

editorial@echo-news.com

9374 6666



Regan Hill was part of the Midland Guildford premier T20 side, which finished their regular season fixtures last weekend.

Midland Guildford cricket update

JOSHUA McKENZIE

MIDLAND Guildford Cricket Club female A grade match against Melville was abandoned due to pitch conditions, while the female B grade faced the same opposition.

After winning the toss, the female B grade side decided to bowl first and with equal contributions from all bowlers they would dismiss their opponents for just 112.

Emma Wilson (3-37 from eight overs) and Laura Croft (3-22 from 5.5 overs) were the key bowlers for the team.

Kristin McLeod (38 runs from 81 balls) and Justine Hayward-Janney (36 from 48) were the best performers in the batting innings as they led a successful run chase that ended with five wickets in hand.

The female U17 won by seven wickets against Melville, while the female U14 ended their match with Subiaco Floreat with the scores tied.

The premier T20 and colts league sides concluded their regular season fixtures against South Perth, Scarborough and Bayswater Morley last weekend. The premier T20 had their opening match abandoned against South Perth due to rain before they would be victorious in the next two contests.

Jordan Roads was the leading run scorer with 79 runs in his three innings, while Austin Thomas, Jay Parmar and Hudson Knight all took three wickets across the two bowling innings.

The premier T20 side will now play Perth in their quarter final as they aim to defend their premiership victory from last season.

After a strong start in their opening match, the colts league side would lose their final two matches to be eliminated from finals contention.

Mitchell Pope scored 57 runs in his three innings, as Jacob Heslop took an impressive six wickets at an average of just 7.67 runs per wicket.

With no senior male or junior male matches being completed over the past weekend as two-day matches started, the focus was on the female sides and male T20 sides.

Almost all sides will be in action for Midland Guildford Cricket Club this weekend.

International karate championships in the Avon Valley next year

NORTHAM Recreation Centre is set to host next year's USKU International Karate Championships and Cultural Exchange where more than 150 participants will compete in a thrilling display of athleticism, technique and discipline.

From August 19 to 27, 2025 martial artists from around the globe will gather for an unforgettable week of competition, cultural exchange and community spirit.

change and community spirit. The Avon Valley will transform into a global stage as karate practitioners from countries including Japan, New Zealand, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, South Africa and more converge to showcase their skills and immerse themselves in the rich cultural heritage of Western Australia.

"This historic event will mark the first time the international karate spotlight shines on the region, offering our local community an incredible opportunity to experience world-class martial arts and vibrant cross-cultural interaction right in our own backyard," Avon Valley USKU sensei Ken Bainbridge said. "Local fomilies will opport their

"Local families will open their homes to international participants through a special homestay program, fostering meaningful connections and lifelong friendships.

"This event is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our community to not only witness martial arts mastery but also engage with different cultures from around the world.

"It's more than a competition it's a celebration of unity, respect, and cultural understanding."

The event will kick off with a welcome party at Toodyay Memorial Hall, featuring a Welcome to Country by local Aboriginal Elders and performances that celebrate the



Northam karate enthusiasts prepare for next year's international event.

region's Indigenous heritage.

From cultural storytelling to hands-on wildlife experiences at Caversham Wildlife Park, the event will showcase the best of what the Avon Valley has to offer to international guests and locals alike.

With interactive workshops at lo-

cal schools, cultural performances and a bustling competition schedule, there's something for everyone, whether you're a martial arts enthusiast, a culture lover or just looking for an exciting family day out.

"We invite local businesses, schools, and community mem-

bers to join us in supporting this incredible event. Whether it's volunteering, hosting international guests, or simply attending to cheer on competitors, your involvement will make this event an unforgettable success," Mr Bainbridge said.

Rural & Country

Local Real Estate

Modern Midland unit

THIS two-bedroom unit, positioned in the heart of Midland, is ideal for investors, downsizers or first-time buyers.

Discover a conveniently positioned and neatly presented modern, low-maintenance living home with an open-plan living and kitchen area, built-in robes in both bedrooms, a combined bathroom and laundry and split-system air conditioning wrapping around to the left is an outdoor patch which makes for a great space for a get-together or a barbecue.

A dedicated carport makes parking a breeze while zipping out for a quick trip or coming home after an eventful day.

The property is close to all the amenities in the Midland and surrounding area.

Midland Gate Shopping Centre is



Residential Commercial

tioning.

The kitchen is compact and handily positioned next to the front entrance, cutting short the rounds of hauling in groceries and connecting seamlessly to the living room.

Polished off-white stone tiles complement the simple elegance of the neutral décor which characterises the unit's interior.

Both bedrooms are carpeted for comfort and come with built-in robes that have long sliding mirror doors to ensure occupants can check their outfits in a full-body reflection and look sharp before heading out.

Just beyond the living area, past the sliding glass doors is the home's outdoor area.

There's a small storage room to the right as occupants step out and less than 2km away and local primary and high schools are also a similar distance from home.

Swan Regional Recreation Park and Swan Active Midland are both only about a kilometre away, keeping the facilities promoting healthy living conveniently close by.

The property is tenanted until May 24, 2025.

Address: 5/2A Wroxton Street, Midland Price: From \$379,000 Agency: Real Estate Plus For more information contact Edward Harfouche on 0409 004 424

