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# NEWS

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**Fire response  
praised by  
deputy  
commissioner**



**PG 3**

**Juniper  
award  
honours**



**PG 9**

**Intro to  
the stars  
festival**



**PG 11**



Picture: Emily Wilson Photography **PG 4**

# River clearwater revival

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*"For by grace are ye saved through faith..." Ephesians 2:8*



Originally published September 15, 2023.

**ECHO YOUR THOUGHTS** Have your say: editorial@echo-news.com

**Aged care - resolution or revolt**

**Dear Echo News,**  
 After almost two terms in office, the state Labor government has still not resolved the aged care crisis which was caused initially by neglect over generations by the two major parties. What a legacy.

Why are we still in crisis do you think?  
 Is it because there is not enough money to address the problems?  
 No WA is a rich state. We can afford it.  
 Our mining dollars puts us well ahead of the others, but still there is a shortage of aged care beds and new facilities for the elderly.  
 In my view, after 22 years of advocacy for aged care, this is because neither Labor nor the Liberals gives the elderly any real priority in their policy making.  
 It is as simple as that. So, if you are heading towards retirement and hopefully old age, be aware that we are still in crisis, and you will be entering this crisis.  
 In the City of Kalamunda alone, we are almost 200 aged care beds short.

This is unconscionable, given that government land is available and suitably zoned at Heidelberg Park in Carmel.  
 I have spent endless hours trying to convince candidates at election time that if you prioritise care for the aged in the building of independent living units (ILSs) and nursing homes, you can kill two birds with one stone.  
 Firstly, you will address the above neglect,

**Thought for the day**  
 "Whether you think you can or think you can't, you're right." — Henry Ford

and, as the elderly downsize, or go into care, homes are freed up for the housing crisis. A simple win-win.  
 The last letter I had from a state minister stated the problems were out of his control as there is a building crisis and tradesmen are short. Really?  
 The state government has the money, so, fix this and get on with the job.

The other fact is that aged care providers are now walking away from the industry nationally, or going into the red. Why is that?  
 Governments used to totally control aged care but they passed the buck to private providers.

If these providers are now walking away, then governments are still responsible and must pick up the slack. They gave it away, let's face it.  
 It is not just about the lack of tradies or providers and it is not about money.  
 It's about mismanagement of a developing crisis over a generation. You reap what you sow.

To Labor candidates wishing to be elected or re-elected I say finish the job you promised to address. No more excuses. You've had six years.  
 And to the Liberal Party, some advice from somebody who has been in this game a long time - don't promise if you don't plan to deliver.  
 We, the elderly, have had enough already.

And we recognise spin. It is results time now.  
 To all the polities existing and aspiring, we say no more talking please.  
 Just get on with it and make it a truly Happy New Year for your aged and infirm constituents in need.  
**I Jones**  
**Friends of Aged Care Lesmurdie**

**Accidents on the hill are still continuing**  
**Dear Echo News,**  
 Yet another horrific accident on Greenmount Hill.

Thanks to Midland MLA Michelle Roberts I have obtained an urgent meeting with the Transport Minister's chief of staff to discuss the immediate reduction of speeds to 70km/h going up and 60km/h coming down Greenmount Hill.

We are to discuss the terms of reference for the impending Main Roads review including police reports, the RAC black spot and reports from emergency responders; police and ambulance and the costs involved to the government and to the drivers through the massive insurance costs of these accidents.  
 Inexplicably, although invited to represent all ratepayers the shire has declined

to attend this meeting and will not support an urgent meeting of all concerned citizens, the shire and main roads to express our demands and local knowledge of the dangerous intersections.

Just who or what does the shire represent and stand for?  
 Surely it's got a responsibility to promote community engagement rather than just administer rates, roads and rubbish?

And all this delay for just four speed signs for safety.  
**C Hughes**  
**Voices of Bullwinkel**

**Parking is blocking traffic**  
**Dear Echo News,**  
 Just a short note to tell you of our neighbourhood problems.

For some time, the neighbours have been having a problem with the Bailey Brewery parking in the street and blocking traffic back to West Swan Road (stopping patrons at gate to see if they have a booking).  
 This is a major concern to Park Street traffic flow as trucks are getting stuck on the corner.  
 Cars trying to continue up Park Street while traffic is held up at the gate trying get into the venue doesn't work, full stop.  
 The other main problem is street parking. Vehicles being parked some 200m down the road on both sides.  
 And then their patrons wandering down the middle of the road, as there is no pathway,

and there is no room for both cars and pedestrians.

The neighbourhood has been onto the City of Swan for years, but nothing has changed.

Are the COS waiting for someone to get injured?  
**B Potter**  
**Henley Brook**

*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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# Deputy commissioner praises fire response



## GUANHAO CHENG

**A FIRE of unknown origin which started on New Year's Day burned through 800ha in the Perth Hills but was contained by the evening of January 2.**

The fire started near the intersection of Carter Road in The Lakes just after 2pm with police and Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) members arriving at about 2.20pm.

More than 150 firefighters fought the Carter Road blaze, with more than 80 appliances on

the ground.

Crews were supported by aerial resources, including helitaks, fixed-wing water bombers and the large air tanker.

One unoccupied house was destroyed by the bushfire.

Another five non-residential buildings, which includes sheds, machinery in sheds and a greenhouse were also destroyed.

Another 24 properties and infrastructure were assessed and had either minor damage or no damage.

Acacia and Wooroloo prisons were within the warning zone but

were not under direct threat.

Department of Fire and Emergency Services operations deputy commissioner Craig Waters said the response to the fire was strong.

"Career and volunteer firefighters did an outstanding job protecting communities from a fast-moving bushfire in the Perth Hills that started on New Year's Day," he said.

"Firefighters faced challenging conditions including hot, dry weather and strong winds but were able to reduce the threat of the fire later that evening, work-

ing through the night to build containment lines to stop its progress and fully containing it late on January 2.

"The ferocity and fast-moving nature of this fire is a reminder of why it is important to make key decisions about when you will leave in an emergency, where you will go and how you will get there – it only takes 15 minutes using the free My Bushfire Plan app or website.

"Don't leave the planning until a fire is threatening you – it only takes 15 minutes for a fire to cut off your evacuation route."

**The fire burned through 800ha before being fully contained by emergency service personnel on January 2. Pictures: DFES**

The cause of the fire remains undetermined and WA Police are continuing to appeal for information, urging anyone with any information to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or via [www.crimestopperswa.com.au](http://www.crimestopperswa.com.au)

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

# Eastern suburbs record high 12-month price increase

## ANITA McINNES

**THE statistical areas level 3 (SA3s) of Swan, Kalamunda, Mundaring and Bassendean have finished in the top 10 for highest 12-month dwelling growth, according to CoreLogic.**

In north east greater Perth SA3 Swan with a median of \$762,098 topped the list with an annual change of 24 per cent.

Also in north east greater Perth SA3 Mundaring with a median of \$843,726 took second spot with an annual growth of 22.2 per cent.

With an annual growth of 21.4 per cent and a median of \$842,250 SA3 Kalamunda in south east greater Perth claimed fifth spot on the list.

SA3 Bayswater Bassendean in north east greater Perth finished seventh on the list with an annual growth of 21 per cent and a median of \$847,153.

On January 2 CoreLogic said in 2024 Perth values had surged 19.1 per cent higher over the year, Adelaide was up 13.1 per cent and Brisbane values were 11.2 per cent higher.

But three of Australia's capitals recorded a decline in values over the year Melbourne (-3.0 per cent), Hobart (-0.6 per cent) and the ACT (-0.4 per cent).

CoreLogic said its home value index (HVI) ended the year on a negative note, with values down 0.1 per cent nationally over the month after peaking in October and holding flat in November.

On January 9 REIWA said in December the City of Swan's median house sale price was \$670,000, the City of Kalamunda's median house sale price was \$750,000, the Shire of Mundaring's median house sale price was \$830,000 and the Town

of Bassendean's despite a fall of 0.8 per cent was \$754,000.

REIWA said Perth's median house sale price rose to \$740,000 in December, which was a 1.7 per cent increase on November and 23.3 per cent higher than December 2023.

The median unit sale price also rose, increasing 2.1 per cent over the month and 20 per cent year-on-year to \$495,000.

REIWA chief executive officer Cath Hart said while there was talk about declining prices and buyers' markets on the east coast, conditions in Perth still favoured sellers and price growth.

In its statement CoreLogic said the December decline in the national HVI was enough to drag the quarterly change into negative territory, also down 0.1 per cent, to mark the end of what had been a strong and resilient period of growth between February 2023 and October 2024 – a period characterised by high interest rates, cost of living pressures and reduced borrowing capacity.

CoreLogic's research director Tim Lawless said the decline in values was no surprise.

"This result represents the housing market catching up with the reality of market dynamics," he said.

"Growth in housing values has been consistently weakening through the second half of the year, as affordability constraints weighed on buyer demand and advertised supply levels trended higher."

The first half of 2024 saw national home values rise 4.1 per cent, before slowing to just 0.7 per cent through the second half of the year, with five of the eight capitals recording a decline in values between July and December.

### Top 10 greater Perth statistical areas level 3 (SA3s)

Rank	SA3 Name	SA4 Name	Median Value	Annual change
Greater Perth				
1	Swan	North East	\$762,098	24.0%
2	Mundaring	North East	\$843,726	22.2%
3	Kwinana	South West	\$658,950	22.1%
4	Cockburn	South West	\$864,363	21.6%
5	Kalamunda	South East	\$842,250	21.4%
6	Stirling	North West	\$885,778	21.1%
7	Bayswater - Bassendean	North East	\$847,153	21.0%
8	Wanneroo	North West	\$781,515	20.8%
9	Belmont - Victoria Park	South East	\$771,146	19.9%
10	Armadale	South East	\$699,851	19.6%

Source: CoreLogic

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Small Business Supporting Local People



The new program aims to create a culturally considered plan that centralises efforts to restore river health. Picture: Emily Wilson Photography

## New river health revival program launches

A NEW initiative aiming to address declining river health has launched and is the first of its kind to consider environmental, social, cultural and economic factors in one integrated plan.

The BoorYul-Bah-Bilya program was developed by the Aboriginal-led charity Bibbul Ngarma Aboriginal Association (BNA) to create a new type of community plan for improving river health.

The program's current focus is on the Helena River but BNA hope the plan will provide a framework applicable to all rivers once complete.

BNA reported that many rivers and waterways are degraded and less than 1 per cent are in pristine condition.

"Common threats include urban expansion, climate change, pollution, salinisation, acidification, vegetation decline, altered flow, erosion and sedimentation," they said.

"Management of rivers and waterways is fragmented and shared across many different agencies and landowners.

"To have a realistic chance of restoring river health for the future, new thinking and approaches are urgently needed."

The new program's stage one activities include developing ranger programs, documenting the Helena River's culturally significant places and documenting its current ecological health.

Auditing access points to the river to inform trail opportunities, educating community members about river health, and sharing information about the development of the plan are the remaining stage 1 activities.

In December 2024, the DBCA awarded two community rivercare program grants to BNA for river restoration projects.

BNA said the funds would be used for weed control, foreshore revegetation and habitat improvement for birds and other species dependent on waterways.

BNA director Francesca Flynn said the program was a grass-roots approach to represent the whole community by allowing government, businesses, schools, residents and community groups to contribute equally towards the future plan for the river.

"It will enable us to benefit from the extraordinary local knowledge that exists within our community," she said.

"Most importantly, it will help us to create the widespread transformative change that is urgently needed for our rivers and leave a lasting legacy for all Australians."

BNA senior Elder Greg Ugle said looking after rivers has important impacts on the entire environment.

"Water quality is what determines the wildlife and all creatures that need water to survive," he said.

"As a Noongar Traditional Elder, my intention is to be sure to protect our rivers and the animals that live along them."

## Travelling conmen back in Bullsbrook

AN alert has been issued to Bullsbrook homeowners to watch out for a new band of fake tradies travelling around WA, as five households so far report paying \$49,300 for shoddy roof and driveway restorations, and spray-painting work.

Consumer Protection has received reports from consumers in Bullsbrook, Wanneroo, South Yunderup, Australind and Bunbury about men, believed to be from the United Kingdom, who have been charging between \$2000 and \$27,000 for their services.

These travelling conmen are breaking the Australian Consumer Law by soliciting business without invitation and disregarding the required ten-day cooling-off period. They often deliver incomplete or substandard work before demanding full payment and vanishing.

It is also illegal for unregistered painters to carry out paid painting work valued over \$1,000 under the Building Services (Registration) Act 2011.

Complaints include patchy and peeling paint jobs, over-spray damage to vehicles and other property and the use of high-pressure sales techniques to initiate work immediately.

Commissioner for Consumer Protection Trish Blake urged WA consumers to turn down these dodgy traders if approached.

"These individuals are not legitimate tradespeople seeking to provide a quality service – they just want to take your cash and run," Ms Blake said.

"Not only do they overcharge for poor quality work, but they flout unsolicited sales laws by not giving you ten days to change your mind after they approach you.

"Once they've got the money and disappeared, it's nearly impossible to find them after the homeowner discovers the work is unfinished or badly done.

"Ignore their high-pressure sales tactics and claims of offering a good deal, and instead get multiple quotes from reputable tradespeople you have sourced yourself.

"We want consumers to be on alert, turn them away if they come knocking, and let us know so we can track their whereabouts."

Itinerant traders are often identified to be working unlawfully in Australia, lacking the necessary work visas required for non-Australian citizens.

To report travelling conmen, call Consumer Protection on 1300 30 40 54 or email [consumer@demirs.wa.gov.au](mailto:consumer@demirs.wa.gov.au). Information such as descriptions of offenders, vehicle registrations numbers or business names used would be helpful.



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# Ellenbrook accountant runs for Swan Hills

GUANHAO CHENG

**SWAN Hills Labor candidate Michelle Maynard says coming from a working-class family and seeing the impacts policies had on her life was where her own interest in politics began.**

Ms Maynard told *Echo News* she aims to carry on Swan Hills Labor member Jess Shaw's spirit of advocacy, hard-work, and community presence if given the opportunity.

"I'm yet to have a meeting where I'm with Jess or we're meeting with someone about this where I'm not told I have very big shoes to fill, or whoever has the role has very big shoes to fill," she said.

"What a great bar to set for the community to measure their candidates against – we've had this level of representation for the past eight years and it's wonderful for the Swan Hills community to have such great representation.

"That obviously comes from her being so approachable being such a part of that community that people feel like they can approach her with their problems because she's visible and she's genuine.

"Jess wasn't one of those politicians that comes out one day every three and a half years to make sure people realise she's around – she's at the swap meets, she's at the school events, and people know who she is and knows what she stands for and what she'll do for them and I think that's incredibly important when you're a politician.

"Those are key things that I

would like to emulate from what Jess has done and be a good honest hard-working local member that never takes for granted the faith people in the Swan Hills put in you to do the best you can for them."

Ms Maynard is an Ellenbrook business owner and West Swan resident, and while she lives in the neighbouring electorate, she said her connections to the electorate she's campaigning in are strong.

"I live one electorate over in West Swan, which is the one that abuts it, but because my business is in Ellenbrook, that's my connection to the community," she said.

"I'm the treasurer of the Ellenbrook Dockers, the Ellenbrook Community Collective and Swan Chamber of Commerce.

"So that's my connection to the community so while I don't live in there at the moment I am obviously connected – I'm not parachuted in from anywhere."

Ms Maynard said reaching out to the community has been rewarding and she's heard resident concerns about cost of living, accessible transport, the need for a public pool and community centre in Ellenbrook.

"Cost of living is a massive one," she said.

"Being able to afford raising kids here, being able to have sports programs and being able to afford the mortgage and budgeting.

"With the train now open, people have been waiting for that for 20 years.



Swan Hills Labor candidate Michelle Maynard and members of the Ellenbrook Men's Shed celebrating the sod turning of the Ellenbrook Community Hub.

"So, big things like that and getting the services out there that people want is a goal of mine."

Ms Maynard said she's looking forward to impacting the community positively by delivering the same services that provided opportunities for her successes.

"I have always had an interest in politics more so from a perspective of realising from a very early age the people on TV had an impact on my life and so I always took an interest in what was going on because I feel like you have to," she said.

"It's your obligation and it's your right as a voting citizen to know what's going on.

"This is my opportunity to help protect those things for people like me who are just watching on TV like ages ago.

"While I've built an incredibly successful life for myself, that foundation, that core root is something that I hold onto a lot," she said.

"I come from a single-parent household, my mom still works at Coles, we are here as a very grounded salt of the earth every

day working Australian family.

"And while people might see a snippet of my life now, as an accounting partner, I've won some amazing awards which has been fantastic but that's who I've become, but who I am at my core is an everyday salt of the earth working person.

"When I think about government, I think their core job is to provide those basic things for people to make sure they're incredibly strong, so people like me have the chance to be successful."

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# Midland MLA Michelle Roberts on her achievements

ANITA McINNES

**AFTER 28 years as the Midland MLA Michelle Roberts has decided to not run in the state election on March 8.**

Mrs Roberts told *Echo News* about some of the achievements she was most proud of after she was given the Police portfolio, the big role the Midland Railway Workshops played in people's lives and some advice for whoever wins her seat.

In opposition, when Dr Geoff Gallop first suggested she take on the police portfolio she was taken aback but he convinced her and she went on to achieve quite a lot.

She said providing occupational health and safety coverage for police officers was essential and looking back people would now question how it could ever have been a contentious issue.

"But let me assure people it was very contentious and it had been put off for over 20 years," she said.

"So providing occupational health and safety coverage was a number one thing from the Gallop government era from a supporting police officers' perspective.

"Then in the McGowan government era it was great to be able to give them the bullet-and-stab-proof vest but putting in place a proper scheme for the medical retirement of police officers I think is probably the proudest thing I did in that time."

From a community policing perspective the most important was introducing remote Indigenous police stations which were whole-of-community facilities.

"So they were a police station, court house and also to provide community service hubs.

"And to put that in context there were remote Indigenous communities that didn't have a police station within 400 or 500km and we know really bad things were hap-

pening in those communities.

"The initiative for that came out of the death of Susan Taylor here in the metropolitan area and Magistrate Sue Gordon did a report for government and basically you couldn't just leave the communities unpoliced and unregulated and have young girls and children with nowhere to go with their complaints."

In her valedictory speech in Parliament on November 26 she said her family connection to Midland went back generations, with her grandmother Olive Hopkins, nee Middleton, being born in Midland in 1912.

Olive's father Joe Middleton and his brother Harry had come to Midland as young children in the late 1800s with their parents, John and Emma.

Her mother's parents, the Wisbeys, also lived in Midland, having arrived as free settlers in the 1850s.

When Mrs Roberts contested Midland at the December 1996 election, the Court government had closed the railway workshops, despite promising in 1993 to turn them into a centre of engineering excellence.

Her great grandfather Joe Middleton and his brother went to primary school in what's now the Midland Junction Art Centre in the early 1900s.

"Their dad John Middleton worked at the Midland Railway Workshops - I found his death notice from the workers at the government railways - and his years of service went back to a year before the workshops even existed, which at first I thought was weird but the first workshops were actually at the Fremantle end.

"So he must have come across from Victoria worked his first few years at the Fremantle end and then the main workshops once it was established in Midland all the work forces transferred up here."



Midland MLA Michelle Roberts is retiring after holding the seat of Midland for more than 28 years. Picture: Anita McInnes

Her grandmother's family was a big family - some of the extended family worked at the workshops as well.

"My grandmother's sister - Rose Kenworthy - her husband was the last man to be killed at the workshops."

The story was that he'd gone back to work but was possibly still recovering from flu or something and he was backed over by a locomotive - she thinks she was about 10 at the time and it was devastating for the whole family.

She said the workshops were a big part of everyone's lives in Midland.

"One of the original shop stewards at the workshops was the late Jack Marks, I had served on Perth City Council with him so my first campaign for Midland, Jack came out and helped me - they were special memories.

"We doorknocked a lot of the streets around the old part of Midland near the

workshops and there were still a lot of railway workshop workers living there most of whom knew Jack and most wanted to invite him in for a drink.

"People don't realise it was like its own little city."

In conclusion *Echo News* asked the first woman Police Minister, the first woman Emergency Services Minister, the first woman manager of opposition business, the first woman president of the Western Australian Labor Party and the first woman Speaker of the WA Parliament her advice for her replacement.

She said genuinely listen to people and be open to what they were saying and feed that into the political process because it was your job to represent your electorate and the people and you can't do that if you're not listening.

Also it doesn't hurt to be kind and walk a mile in some else's shoes.



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Kinetic WA executive general manager Sarah Ismail, program graduates Ngahua, Nina and Libby, with Kinetic Australia managing director Matt Campbell.

## Newest bus drivers graduate

REPRESENTATIVES from the Public Transport Authority (PTA) joined Forreestfield MP Stephen Price and local school principals to celebrate the graduation of three of Perth's newest bus drivers.

Graduates Libby, Nina and Ngahua are the first participants in Kinetic's 'women up front trainee bus driver program' in WA, a groundbreaking initiative to attract more women into the transport industry.

The event, held at Kinetic's High Wycombe depot facility, highlighted the success of the program, which has already encouraged more than 500 women across Australia and New Zealand to become bus drivers with the bus company since its launch in 2021.

Kinetic, which delivers 10 government school bus contracts in the Perth region, welcomed PTA representatives and local school principals to meet and celebrate the new drivers.

Attendees were hosted by Kinetic's leadership and service delivery teams.

The trainee driver program offers participants fully-paid, four-week training to transition from a car licence to a bus driver licence, a key element of Kinetic's women up front strategy, which aims to achieve gender balance across its workforce by 2030.

Under the leadership of executive general manager, Sarah Ismail, Kinetic's state workforce already boasts 25 per cent female representation - well above industry average.

"Put simply, this program allows us to welcome and train up new drivers who may never have con-

sidered a career in transport," Ms Ismail said.

"We're so proud to welcome Libby, Nina and Ngahua to our team. Their diverse backgrounds and perspectives enhance our service delivery and better reflect the communities we serve."

Ngahua, inspired by her mother - also a bus driver - transitioned from a career in administration and customer service.

"Being a bus driver has given me a strong sense of connection to the community. Every day brings new interactions and opportunities to make a difference," she said.

Nina had long aspired to work in passenger transport but faced financial barriers to training and certification.

"What I love most about this job is connecting with people every day and knowing I'm making a positive difference in their journeys," she shared.

Libby, previously working in retail, was inspired by her father's career as a bus driver. Now, she's embraced a new path, upgrading her licence and pursuing a Certificate III in Administration with Kinetic.

"Kinetic has given me confidence and skills to grow in my career. With my bus licence, I see endless opportunities ahead. Having a leader like Sarah makes it easy to see the possibilities this program creates," she says.

The inaugural women up front graduates are now proudly delivering school bus and charter services.

For more information about Kinetic's Women Up Front Trainee Driver Program, visit [www.wearekinetic.com](http://www.wearekinetic.com)

# Swan family business calls for trolley fine review

GUANHAO CHENG

SINCE the City of Swan introduced its new trolley fine in November, the community has provided a mixed response to its effect on the community and business owners.

Pham Group operations and marketing manager Matthew Huy Pham said he understood the need for reducing abandoned trolleys, but believed the method needed some work.

“As a business, we understand and agree that abandoned trolleys are not a good look for the shire and the Midland community, so I totally understand that some action had to be put in place,” he said.

“From my understanding, if the city collected any abandoned trolleys, they’d notify shops and provide a grace period, and if they weren’t collected during that, then the fine would be applied.

“We just did a trolley run in the afternoon and visited the Midland operation centre after we saw a Facebook photo put up with some of our trolleys in it.

“We rocked up and we saw about 100 trolleys and 20 of them were ours, so we spoke to the lady at the centre, and she confirmed that their position was if the city collected the trolley, it is automatically a \$40 fine per trolley.

“That took us back a bit, and I’m up for a \$800 fine as is and we easily lose 10-20 trolleys a week, which, we can’t see this being a sustainable position for our business and the other nearby IGA stores, who are small business owners that can’t afford this type of fine.

“The lady agreed that the intention isn’t obviously to slap us small family businesses and for us to not be sustainable, but we weren’t really consulted during this whole process.”



Midland Supa IGA owner Matthew Pham said the trolley fine bylaw needed some more work so that it doesn’t undermine small businesses with overly harsh fines.

Mr Pham said there were multiple friction points with the current iteration of the bylaw and wished more could be done so businesses and the city could work together and find a solution that worked for all.

As reported in *Swan tackles shopping trolleys* (*Echo News*, November 22), the city would impound abandoned shopping trolleys and charge a collection fee to retail owners, covering the collection cost and encouraging retailers to improve their trolley management.

City of Swan Mayor Tanya Richardson said the city was aware of the multitude of opinions about the amended bylaw.

“The City of Swan has received varied feedback about our abandoned shopping trolley local law with most expressing gratitude for tackling this ongoing issue,” she said.

“Since collection started in November 2024, we have proactively picked up more than 250 abandoned trolleys and we’ve seen an increase in retailers

collecting trolleys, reducing instances of abandonment.

“We hope introducing trolley collection fees encourages retailers to explore other solutions to manage abandoned trolleys, such as employing additional trolley collectors, implementing coin return trolleys or installing wheel-locking mechanisms.

“Several retailers have acknowledged the new law and proactively worked with us to address the issue.

“This has included discussions on hotspot locations, payment inquiries and collection requirements – all of which the city has either resolved or is working on.

“We have recently responded to one retailer who has raised concerns about the cost to their businesses and how to prevent consumers from taking trolleys.

“Since collection only started a few months ago and implementation of the local law is still in its early stages, we will continue to monitor its success in the coming months.”

# Greenmount crash on Christmas Day

GUANHAO CHENG

WA Police are continuing to appeal for information after a Christmas day crash on Great Eastern Highway, near Old York Road, left five passengers with serious injuries.

Officers from the major crash investigation section are seeking information regarding a serious crash that occurred in Greenmount about 4.15pm.

WA Police said a grey Toyota Corolla hatchback and a silver Hyundai Santa Fe station wagon collided, resulting in two women who were passengers, being conveyed by ambulance to Royal Perth Hospital with critical injuries.

The 48-year-old Hyundai Santa Fe driver and two other child passengers, aged 17 and 10, were conveyed to hospital with serious injuries.

The 46-year-old male Toyota Corolla driver was reported to have sustained minor injuries.

Shire of Mundaring President Paige McNeil said Scott Street had long been recognised as a dangerous intersection in the shire.

“Just before Christmas I met with federal opposition assistant Infrastructure and Transport spokesperson Tony Pasin and we witnessed three near misses within 10 minutes during our meeting on site,” she said.



Great Eastern Highway has been the subject of much community outcry for safety changes.

“Mundaring shire council have also written to Transport Minister Rita Saffioti.

“We need immediate action to fix this treacherous stretch of Great Eastern Highway.

“I continue to call on all candidates for the seat of Bullwinkel for urgent federal black spot funding to make Scott Street safer.”

A serious crash earlier on November 3 sparked discussion about the need for urgent speed limit reduction along Great Eastern Highway, as reported in *Four signs for road safety* (*Echo News*, November 15).

Then *Call for signs in Greenmount continues* (*Echo News*, December 13) reported a fatal crash at the end of November and revealed Main Roads planned to review speed limits during the first quarter of 2025.

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# I feared for my life: waste workers call for action as battery fire risks surge



Lithium batteries are a common cause of fires in waste vehicles throughout WA. Picture: City of Swan

A City of Swan waste truck driver narrowly escaped a fiery ordeal earlier this year when his vehicle was engulfed in flames, likely to be sparked by a lithium-ion battery.

The truck had been passing a primary school when it ignited, and the driver, having leapt to safety, could only watch on as firefighters arrived to extinguish the flames before it could spread any further.

Steve Goddard, a City of Swan side loader operator, reflected on the number of recent battery fires in waste trucks across the country.

“I’ve been driving waste trucks for 30 years...and it is quite daunting when you see the flames in the rear-view mirror.”

“If you thought about it every day, the potential dangers we face on a regular basis... it would be hard to get up and come in. I fear for my life sometimes,” he said.

“It really hits home how dangerous these types of fires can be when you see how close the truck is to the school when it went up — the situation could have been much worse, and the school would have had to be evacuated.”

This incident is just one of thousands across Australia each year — a problem firefighters and waste industry experts largely attribute to the growing prevalence of lithium-ion batteries making their way into household bins.

Commonplace in items like toys, phones, and other electronics, batteries pose a risk when incorrectly discarded.

Lithium battery fires are not just a transport issue. They can start during the various stages of waste management — from landfills to recycling centres.

Denisa Juklova, a pre-sort cabin operator for Resource Recovery Group, recounted a close call of her own at the material recovery facility in Canning Vale where she works.

“The fire came over the conveyor and into the cabin so quickly,” she said.

“With all that paper and plastic surrounding the

battery, the fire could have been a disaster — the battery could have exploded and the whole plant could have burnt down.”

“I was so relieved that my colleague Selva Kamalan was able to extinguish the fire quickly and he was ok.”

According to Denisa, these occurrences are common. “I have seen more than 100 battery fires in my time working in this industry,” she said.

“I love what I do but I worry about myself and my co-workers — we all just want to go home safely at the end of a day at work.”

Batteries are the source of at least three fires a week in WA and the dangers they pose to workers in the industry, waste processing infrastructure and the community are a nationwide concern.

The solution is simple —

take unwanted batteries and items with batteries inside, like mobile phones and laptops, to a dedicated drop-off location.

Residents can join the tens of thousands of Western Australians already taking their batteries to their nearest drop-off location.

The WasteSorted website lists more than 700 battery drop-off locations, located in convenient spots like supermarkets, hardware stores and council facilities.



Recycling plant operators, Denisa Juklova and Selva Kamalan are appealing to the public to dispose of their batteries responsibly to prevent fires in their workplace.

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## eye on crime

### Midland detectives investigate SMS scams

MIDLAND detectives, with assistance from the Australian Federal Police joint cybercrime co-ordination centre (JCP3) have commenced a criminal investigation into a sophisticated SMS phishing scam in Western Australia.

Four people have been charged with more than 70 offences as the result of a year-long investigation into a criminal syndicate running the sophisticated SMS scam.

In September 2023, the JCP3 identified that several Australian bank customers had their online bank accounts compromised after falling victim to a text message scam.

It will be alleged members of a criminal syndicate operating within Western Australia sent text messages to several victims purporting to be their bank in order to obtain identifying details such as online banking logins, credit card details and passwords.

Between July 28, 2023 and August 10, 2023, members of the syndicate used hundreds of fraudulently obtained bank details to spend over \$350,000 via Apple Pay at various retail stores in the Perth metropolitan area.

Between July 2024 and October 2024, WA Police executed several search warrants across the state arresting four men alleged to be members of the criminal syndicate.

Inquiries remain ongoing. To report a cybercrime, view cybercrime information or to access help about cybercrime, go to [www.ReportCyber.com](http://www.ReportCyber.com)

To report a scam or for further information about scams see the National Anti-Scam Centre or WA ScamNet websites.

If you are concerned that your identity has been compromised, contact the national identity and cyber support service IDCARE at [www.idcare.org](http://www.idcare.org)

### Information sought on Beverley fatal crash

OFFICERS from major crash investigations are seeking information regarding a fatal crash in Beverley on Sunday, December 22.

About 09.10am, a brown Mitsubishi Pajero was being driven south on Great Southern Highway, when for unknown reasons it left the road, struck a tree and rolled.

The 37-year-old male driver of the vehicle was taken to Royal Perth Hospital.

WA Police said the man died in hospital on Friday, January 3 as a result of the injuries he received

in the crash.

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

Anyone with information regarding this crash, or who saw the brown Mitsubishi Pajero being driven in the time leading up to the crash, is asked to call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or report the information online at [www.crimestopperswa.com.au](http://www.crimestopperswa.com.au)

### Chidlow fatal crash is under investigation

DETECTIVES from major crash investigations are investigating a fatal crash that occurred in Chidlow in the early hours of Saturday, December 21.

About 4.20am, a black 2005 Ford Falcon sedan collided with a tree on Liberton Road, near Stone Street.

Upon police arrival, a 21-year-old man was located deceased.

A 19-year-old passenger was extracted from the vehicle by Department of Fire and Emergency Services and conveyed via ambulance to Royal Perth Hospital.

The 18-year-old driver was also conveyed via

ambulance to Royal Perth Hospital.

Both men are being treated for serious injuries. Major crash investigators are urging anyone with any information in relation to this incident to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or report online via [www.crimestopperswa.com.au](http://www.crimestopperswa.com.au)

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

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

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



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### Changing men's behaviour program gets Northam rollout with Keedac partnership

THREE new men's behaviour change programs will be rolled out in regional Western Australia, with contracts awarded to deliver these services in Northam, Albany and Bunbury.

Communicare will deliver the service in Northam in partnership with Kaata-Koorliny Employment and Enterprise Development Aboriginal Corporation (Keedac).

The programs will provide timely, evidence-based services to men who use coercive, controlling or abusive behaviour in their intimate and family relationships.

Importantly, people who choose to use violence in their relationships will be supported to accept responsibility for their actions, address the underlying attitudes, values and beliefs that can lead to their use of violence, and given skills around healthy ways to resolve disagreements in relationships.

Increased monitoring of coercive and abusive behaviour is prioritised, and safety planning work will be undertaken with victim-survivors.

There are currently a range of men's behaviour change programs in place around Western Australia, including three residential programs.

The state government has committed \$3.1 million over two years to expand that number to Northam, Bunbury and Albany, as part of a \$72.6m family and domestic violence package announced in November last year.

Agricultural Region MLC Darren West said the

Northam men's behaviour change program would complement local family and domestic violence counselling services such as Share and Care, the specialist family and domestic violence counselling for kids run by Yorgum and the men's workers in the Family and Domestic Violence Response Teams.

"I'm really pleased to see the successful service providers will be working in partnership with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, including Keedac here in Northam. It is so important that services be culturally secure and culturally safe."

"I thank Minister Winton and Premier Cook for committing to this important initiative in the Wheatbelt."

Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence Minister Sabine Winton said ensuring the safety of victim-survivors of family and domestic violence is the number one priority of the Cook Government.

"Men's behaviour change programs are an important intervention to break the cycle of abuse by making men who choose to use violence take accountability for their actions."

"The delivery of these programs in Northam, Albany and Bunbury is an important part of our government's commitment to improving the safety of those impacted by family and domestic violence."

Men who are concerned about their behaviour towards others, or who are victim-survivors of family and domestic violence, can contact the Men's Domestic Violence Helpline on 1800 000 559.





# Charlotte takes Juniper Award honours

design as well as fine art, she is passionate about forging alternative pathways for designers.

As an avid illustrator, she continually seeks to push the boundaries of theatre and exhibition spaces, exploring their intersections and untapped possibilities, and as a storyteller, weaving narratives through every aspect of her creative work.

Ms Meagher has been an active contributor to its artistic community since her school years at Darlington Primary and Kalamunda Senior High through the GATE program.

Her involvement in events like Mundaring Hills Open Studios and her 2017 Worn In Worn Out award highlight her early connection to the region's vibrant arts scene.

In 2022 she completed a Bachelor of Performing Arts in Production Design at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA). Her multidisciplinary approach to art spans production design, set-design, illustration, sculpture, and theatre-making, showcasing her versatility.

In 2024, her debut exhibition, Mineral

Town at RookARI (part of Propel's Kickstart program), earned significant recognition for its exploration of environmental impact, guilt, and connection, inspired by her childhood in a mining-driven economy. Her sensitive use of contemporary 'bogan' iconography sparked meaningful discussions.

Ms Meagher has also led community-focused initiatives, including an 'artist' collective with the Conservation Council of Western Australia, fostering dialogue on climate change through art. Projects like her papier-mâché sculptures, inspired by marine life, exemplify her blend of artistic practice and activism.

As the 2024 Robert Juniper Award for the Arts scholarship recipient, Ms Meagher will use the scholarship funds to expand her repertoire as a designer, visual artist, and dramaturg, focusing on her project The Human Intelligence Image Generator, set to be staged in 2025.

In collaboration with a sound designer, projection artist, lighting designer, and an-

other artist, the performance will explore emotions like loneliness in a tech driven world, using a parody of AI to question how algorithms shape reality yet miss human nuance.

"This scholarship represents an incredible opportunity for me to continue exploring the intersection of art and community. Growing up in the Perth Hills, I've always been inspired by the people and stories that surround me. I want to create spaces that foster connection, provoke meaningful conversations, and address social issues in innovative ways. The Robert Juniper Award for the Arts will help me bring these visions to life," Ms Meagher said.

The Robert Juniper Award for the Arts is designed to support young artists who demonstrate exceptional promise and align with the values of creativity and community championed by its namesake.

For further details about Charlotte's work, visit her website at [www.charlotte.meagher.com](http://www.charlotte.meagher.com) or follow her on social media @charlottefmeagher.

**LONG-time Shire of Mundaring resident Charlotte Meagher is the 2024 Robert Juniper Award for the Arts recipient, recognising her outstanding contributions to the arts and her dedication to fostering meaningful connections within the community through creative storytelling.**

With a background in set and costume

# Bickley Harvest Festival boost

KALAMUNDA Chamber of Commerce (KCC) has been awarded funding through the state government's \$3.6 million Tourism WA Metro Events Program for its annual Bickley Harvest Festival.

KCC chair Jon Elbery said the funding would significantly enhance KCC's ability to promote the region and help position the Bickley Valley as a premier WA tourism destination.

The Bickley Harvest Festival spans approximately 20 venues and attracts thousands of visitors over

the festival weekend.

The event highlights the region's finest produce, unique businesses, and breathtaking scenery, while delivering a substantial economic boost to the local community.

The funding has been provided to amplify marketing efforts for the festival, a flagship event that showcases the Bickley Valley's vibrant offerings and plays a pivotal role in growing the region's profile.

Mr Elbery said the Bickley Valley region was home to some of WA's finest restaurants and producers of wine, spirits, ciders and beers

and produce - and yet it is largely unknown.

"This generous grant from Tourism WA will allow the festival organisers to grow both patron numbers and the profile of the region in a way that we've been unable to accomplish in the past," he said.

KCC chief executive officer Tania Both said the funding will allow the chamber to elevate its marketing efforts, creating lasting opportunities to grow the region's profile.

"We're excited to maximise this opportunity and are focused on using these funds to build the legacy

of the festival, investing in elements that have permanency and creating something enduring for the entire region," she said.

Details on the grant's allocation are still being finalised, but the funds will support new marketing activities for the festival.

KCC aims to enhance well-loved festival features, including pop-up accommodation and extending the event over multiple weekends.

The dates for the upcoming festival are April 26-27 and May 3-4.



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## Mayor's message

Kaya everyone,

Happy new year to you all.

I hope you had a safe and relaxing holiday break with your family, friends and loved ones, making wonderful memories.

The City has hit the ground running in 2025, with a few projects already kicking off and some progressing – all are contributing to our thriving community.

We're reviewing our Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan and invite you to provide feedback on this important document.

It will contain updated actions to strengthen relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Aboriginal people, for the benefit of all Australians.

There is more information below in the Engage with us section.

February will be a busy month with ground works officially starting on the \$108 million Swan Active Ellenbrook site, one of the largest projects the City will oversee. I am excited to share updates on this major project as they develop.

You are invited to the Annual Electors Meeting on February 3 in Council Chambers, Midland Town Hall, where we will receive the annual report and you can submit motions on behalf of the community for Council to consider.

This is just the beginning of what will be a productive year for the City and the community and I look forward to bringing you along the journey each month.

Here's to a great 2025.

**Tanya Richardson**  
Mayor, City of Swan



## Engage with us



### Innovate RAP review

Our Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) helps us to listen, engage and connect with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, including our local Noongar communities. We endorsed our first Innovate RAP in 2022, delivering great initiatives for our staff, community and stakeholders. This year, we are reviewing this document alongside our community and key stakeholders, showcasing our achievements, and identifying new actions for the next two years. We want you to share your aspirations and ideas for the plan. Go to [swanengage.swan.wa.gov.au/draft-reconciliation-action-plan](https://swanengage.swan.wa.gov.au/draft-reconciliation-action-plan)



### Malaga Local Area Plan (LAP)

In February, we will ask the Malaga community for feedback on our Malaga LAP background report to understand your top priorities for the area in the next five years and other issues you would like addressed. This will be phase one of the consultation process. Once we have evaluated and summarised the feedback, we will begin phase two, where we will communicate the community's new priorities. Go to [swanengage.swan.wa.gov.au](https://swanengage.swan.wa.gov.au) from February 3.



## What's happening



### 500 card group

Players of all experience levels are welcome to join the 500 card group that meets at Bullsbrook Public Library every Thursday from 10.30am-2.30pm. Enjoy a cup of coffee or tea and, if you've never played before, our friendly members will teach you. Call **(08) 9207 8989**.



### REmida scarecrow craft session

Come along to the Dayton Family Hub on Thursday, January 23 from 10.30am-12noon for a free session where children can apply their creativity and make a scarecrow for the garden or outdoor space. Parents are required to stay for the session. Email [ro.hetaraka@swan.wa.gov.au](mailto:ro.hetaraka@swan.wa.gov.au).



### Baby sharks

Bring your children to the Ellenbrook Community Library on Friday, January 31 from 10.30am-12noon for a shark-themed craft session. Explore all things sharks through stories and rhymes followed by a fun craft activity. Show off your creations with a shark themed dance party at the end. All materials provided. Suitable for ages 3-6 and their parents/caregivers and is a children's craft workshop. Bookings essential. Call **(08) 9207 8787**.



### Ellenbrook Inflatable Day

Grab your bathers and head to Charlie Gregorini Memorial Park for Ellenbrook Inflatable Day on Saturday, February 1 from 10am-2pm. This free family-friendly event will feature water slides, obstacle courses, DJ, dunk tank, food trucks and more. Call **(08) 9267 9267**.



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



# Sun and fun at Mundaring summer of entertainment

SHIRE of Mundaring's popular summer of entertainment series returns in 2025, bringing three free events for the whole community to enjoy.

Supported by a \$15,000 Lotterywest grant, the series highlights the shire's commitment to fostering community connection and celebration.

Here's what to expect from the line-up:

**Movie in the Park on Friday, January 17:** Kick off summer with a movie night under the stars at Brown Park, Swan View. Arrive early to enjoy pre-cinema entertainment and delicious food trucks before watching a fan-favourite movie on the big screen. Bring picnic blankets, chairs and warm clothes for a cosy evening. Parking is available in the oval carpark.

**LakeFest on Friday, January 31:** Head to Lake Leschenaultia in Chidlow for lakeside fun featuring pump track challenges, paddleboats, a chill-out zone and activities for all ages. Food trucks will add to the festive atmosphere. Parking is limited – use the complimentary shuttle from Chidlow Oval. Don't forget water, sunscreen and picnic essentials.

**Twilight Tunes on Saturday, February 22:** End the summer with a magical evening of music at the Sculpture Park Amphitheatre in Mundaring. This outdoor concert will feature classic tunes under the stars, along with activities to keep children entertained. Bring picnic blankets, chairs and warm clothes to enjoy the evening. Parking is available on-street and in nearby bays.

Shire President Paige McNeil said the support of both council and Lotterywest ensures these events remain a highlight of the shire's summer events calendar.

"We're proud to deliver the summer of entertainment series once again, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to Lotterywest for their generous contribution," she said.

"These events are a wonderful way for our community to come together, celebrate the season and enjoy all that our shire has to offer."

For further information go to [www.mundaring.wa.gov.au/leisure-recreation/summer-of-entertainment-2025.aspx](http://www.mundaring.wa.gov.au/leisure-recreation/summer-of-entertainment-2025.aspx)



Twilight Tunes are back again at the Sculpture Park Amphitheatre.

## Soiree to benefit WAAPA students



The Summer Gala Soiree will be held at Woodbridge House on January 26.

WOODBRIDGE House is again the venue for the Summer Gala Soiree on Sunday, January 26.

This year the beneficiary has been changed to benefit talented and hardworking WAAPA students through the Friends of the Academy committee via grants for showreels, secondments and so on.

The line up of Western Australian talent includes musical director Alessandro Pittorino, accompanist Caroline Badnell, artists Eimear Foley and Devon Lake (returning from last year), Beth Redwood, Lainey O'Sullivan, Brett Peart and Vin Trikeriotis.

The majority are WAAPA alumni, with Devon and Vin fourth year students.

Many of the artists have trained internationally, with Alessandro the only Australian to graduate in organ studies from the Julliard School of Music in New York.

Eimear trained on the other side of the city at New York University and to add to her extensive musical skills, she recently graduated in medicine from the University of Notre Dame.

Lainey studied drama and theatre studies at Trinity College, Dublin.

Prior to studying as a tenor, Vin toured the globe

performing in Tempest Rising, a heavy metal band.

The repertoire will be light classical, along with popular music theatre, concluding with a bracket of Australiana favourites.

Emphasising the Australiana theme, the Freeze Frame Opera truck will again be used as a stage.

The concert is family friendly picnic style with BYO blankets, chairs (preferably low), food and drink, with shade for all.

Sam the Coffee Man will be on site again for hot and cold drinks.

The National Trust's Woodbridge House is nestled between the Swan River, Guildford Grammar and Governor Stirling Senior High School, where there is ample free parking.

Bookings can be made for the concert on [www.trybooking.com/CXTCY](http://www.trybooking.com/CXTCY) or visit [www.summergalasoiree.com](http://www.summergalasoiree.com) which has links to all information, including the Australian Cultural Fund website where tax deductible donations can be made to offset the running costs of the concert which will enable all ticket sales to benefit WAAPA students.

For more information contact Di Collins on 0432 538 075 or email [info@summergalasoiree.com](mailto:info@summergalasoiree.com)

## Intro to the Stars festival



The aurora australis as seen from Mundaring Weir. Picture: Matt Woods/Perth Observatory

WHETHER you are a seasoned space enthusiast or just beginning your cosmic adventure, the Perth Observatory's Intro to the Stars festival offers an introduction to space like never before.

Join them on Sunday, January 12 for a day filled with exploration, wonder and the joy of discovering the mysteries that lie beyond the earth's atmosphere.

Don't miss out on this stellar opportunity for family fun and educational excitement at the Perth Observatory, 337 Walnut Road, Bickley.

Thanks to Community Bank Forrestdfield the open day is free, but the public does need to book through the observatory's website.

Visit <https://www.perthobservatory.com.au/shop/events/intro-to-the-stars>



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# Healthy Living



## Important changes to home care packages

**THE federal government is supporting an increase to aged care worker wages which commenced on January 1.**

This is a result of the Fair Work Commission's decision to increase wages for some aged care workers.

If you receive a home care package, this will mean an increase to your package subsidy.

You should expect to continue to receive the same services and hours of care that you currently receive from your provider.

Your provider is required to pass on the wage rise to their workers. Some providers will need to adjust their prices for care and services delivered by workers that will be receiving this wage increase.

What do you need to do?

Your provider may ask you to agree to reasonable price increases for your care and services and update your home care agreement.

These price increases will be funded through the increase to your home care package subsidy, it is not expected that your contribution will change.

If you don't agree to the price increase, it may make it harder for your provider to keep giving you care.

You can contact the Older Persons Advocacy Network for information about your rights and seek support at [www.opan.org.au](http://www.opan.org.au)

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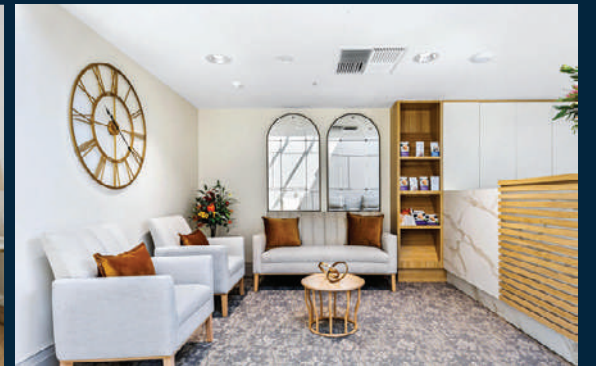
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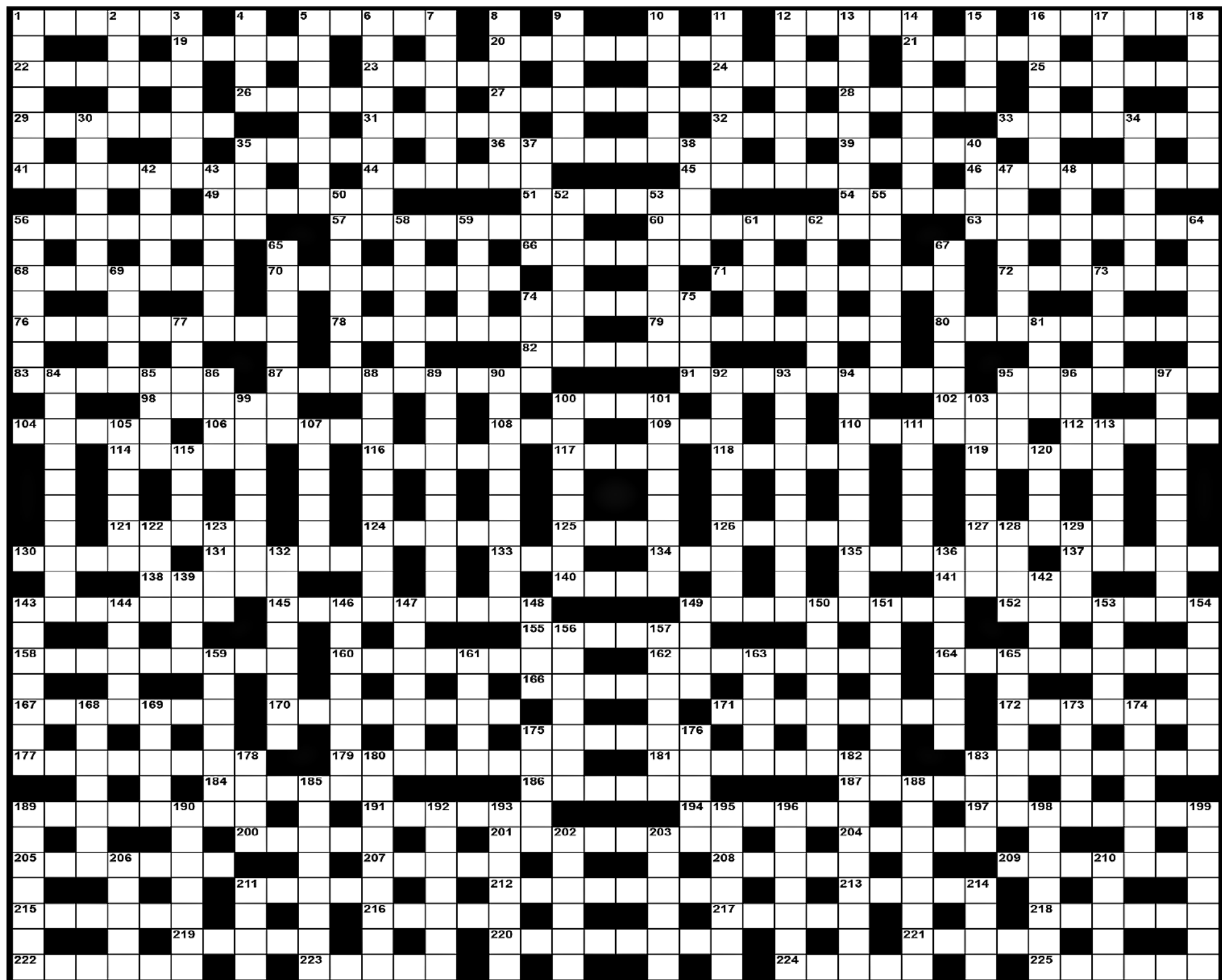
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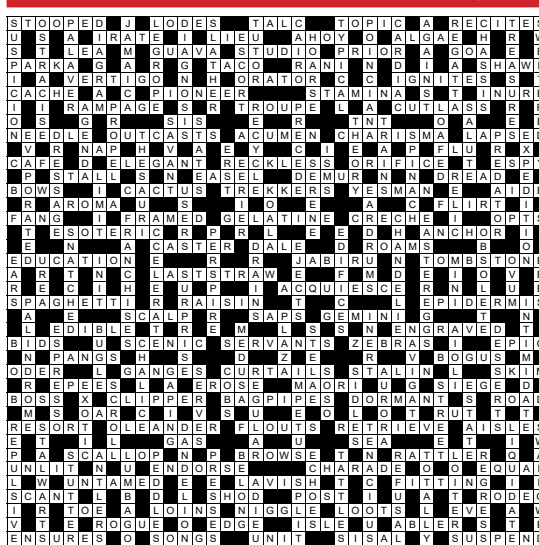
# Mind Boggler Crossword

1199



- |                           |                                       |                            |                                   |                                |                               |                            |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>             | 79 A parrot                           | 155 System of sound        | 223 A mountain ridge              | 65 Peaceable                   | 149 Commonsense               | 178 Way out                |
| 1 Formerly hidden         | 80 Complicated                        | 158 A baton                | 224 Character                     | 67 Nominees                    | 150 Rescue from loss          | 180 A stone fruit          |
| 5 Picture on wall (3-2)   | 82 Confused                           | 160 Able to stick          | 225 Tiny dots                     | 69 Desert haven                | 151 Puts in position          | 182 A maze                 |
| 12 Cheeky                 | 83 The seed of flax                   | 162 Small workstations     | <b>DOWN</b>                       | 73 A pancake topping           | 154 Meat pins                 | 183 Beef fat               |
| 16 Speak indistinctly     | 87 Biblical city                      | 164 In plenty              | 1 The devil                       | 74 A mollusc                   | 156 Adolescent                | 185 Sun shade              |
| 19 A fossil resin         | 91 Act of concession                  | 166 Corolla leaves         | 2 Made a mistake                  | 75 Soft drink (coll)           | 157 Lunar                     | 188 Enter illegally        |
| 20 Illegal                | 95 Places for worship                 | 167 Memory loss            | 3 A scene                         | 77 Above                       | 159 Ornamental shoulder piece | 189 Amasses                |
| 21 Extended dramatic work | 98 Creep around                       | 170 Sets of three children | 4 Swedish pop group               | 81 Come together               | 161 Olden deity               | 190 Affect deeply          |
| 22 Angelic child          | 100 Ocean plant                       | 171 Apart                  | 5 Chairs a meeting                | 84 Uneducated                  | 163 Conceptions               | 192 Put back               |
| 23 Faint                  | 102 Minor                             | 172 Do better than         | 6 Sentimental                     | 85 A sword                     | 165 Hawaiian guitar           | 193 Conceited person       |
| 24 A medal                | 104 Iced as a cake                    | 175 Leafy rainforest roof  | 7 A condition                     | 86 Shower with love            | 168 Absolute blessedness      | 195 Intrinsic nature       |
| 25 A tax list             | 106 A shiver                          | 177 Appalling              | 8 Dilapidated (3,4)               | 88 Plant eaters                | 169 Type of boat              | 196 A crime                |
| 26 A valuable item        | 108 A play on words                   | 179 One expected to lose   | 9 Liquid containers               | 89 Signifying                  | 173 Aroma                     | 198 Climate periods        |
| 27 Divert attention       | 109 Royal Agricultural Society (init) | 181 Beach memento          | 10 A private concern              | 90 Able to be used up          | 174 A windflower              | 199 Becomes highly-skilled |
| 28 Ring-shaped cake       | 110 Dried grape                       | 183 Young hares            | 11 High flat area                 | 92 Inharmonious sound          | 175 A marine formation        | 202 Local expressions      |
| 29 Violin player          | 112 Paces                             | 184 Pardon                 | 12 Frighten                       | 93 Unbeatable                  | 176 Strongly desire           | 203 Completely cover       |
| 31 Friend (Sp)            | 114 A riverside embankment            | 186 Waters off Egypt (3,3) | 13 Rider's carry bag              | 94 Light folding beds          |                               | 206 Creep along            |
| 32 Give high praise       | 116 A bump                            | 187 Of the stars           | 14 Last born                      | 95 A fork spike                |                               | 210 A support              |
| 33 Speak very quietly     | 117 Try to persuade                   | 189 Street scribbles       | 15 Defeat                         | 96 Table-shaped hill           |                               | 211 Join in materials      |
| 35 Bicycle lever          | 118 Happy expression                  | 191 Part of the eye        | 16 Is equal to                    | 97 Advantage gained            |                               | 214 An enclosure           |
| 36 A climbing shrub       | 119 A tree                            | 194 Soak back up           | 17 Pastry items                   | 99 Struggles with              |                               |                            |
| 39 Correct                | 121 Gone wild                         | 197 Place for comfort      | 18 Arbitrator                     | 100 Hand joints                |                               |                            |
| 41 Left over              | 124 A US President                    | 200 Asian region           | 30 Talk about                     | 101 Valuable                   |                               |                            |
| 44 Land                   | 125 Public open-air pool              | 201 Gleams                 | 34 Mock medicine                  | 103 Glancing rebound           |                               |                            |
| 45 Excellent              | 126 Type of religion (US)             | 204 Cede                   | 35 A plan                         | 105 Precipices                 |                               |                            |
| 46 Protect from heat loss | 127 A movable joint                   | 205 Drink vessels          | 37 Lazes around                   | 107 Thinking                   |                               |                            |
| 49 Asian ornamental plant | 130 A flower                          | 207 A headache tablet (tm) | 38 A fibre                        | 111 Force of blow              |                               |                            |
| 51 A lasso                | 131 Account book                      | 208 More secure            | 40 Go under water                 | 113 Bricklayer's tool          |                               |                            |
| 54 Constantly moving      | 133 Honey maker                       | 209 Hair cutters           | 42 Base for stores                | 115 Change course              |                               |                            |
| 56 Fattest                | 134 A large vase                      | 211 A weapon               | 43 Escape                         | 120 Mend with wool             |                               |                            |
| 57 A revolving carrier    | 135 One of two                        | 212 Three-sided figure     | 47 Wanting                        | 122 Facial features            |                               |                            |
| 60 Large aquatic bird     | 137 South American steppe             | 213 Allude                 | 48 An Inuit boat                  | 123 Woe!                       |                               |                            |
| 63 Weirdness              | 138 Delete                            | 215 Breathe out            | 50 Critical trial (4,4)           | 128 A metal                    |                               |                            |
| 66 Attack from the air    | 140 Drinks lightly                    | 216 Baghdad citizen        | 52 Changed                        | 129 Merriment                  |                               |                            |
| 68 Italian dish           | 141 Make amends                       | 217 Fine silk fabric       | 53 Friendly                       | 132 Certain                    |                               |                            |
| 70 Evened (4,4)           | 143 Book of the Bible                 | 218 Not transparent        | 55 Diced paper                    | 136 Wild punch                 |                               |                            |
| 71 Type of oil            | 145 One searching for metals          | 219 Slow mollusc           | 56 A sunshade                     | 139 Opulent                    |                               |                            |
| 72 Annoying               | 149 Absolute need                     | 220 Expressed by sign      | 58 Knock-back                     | 142 Inert gaseous element      |                               |                            |
| 74 Small particles        | 152 Irritates                         | 221 Legendary sea nymph    | 59 Take away weapons (arch)       | 143 Overtake (3,4)             |                               |                            |
| 76 Intermittent           |                                       | 222 Enchantments           | 61 A town in Florida              | 144 Actor, ... Dingo           |                               |                            |
| 78 Clothing outfit        |                                       |                            | 62 Makes tidy                     | 146 Roomy                      |                               |                            |
|                           |                                       |                            | 64 Australian folk group, The ... | 147 Breathed in                |                               |                            |
|                           |                                       |                            |                                   | 148 Invitation to reply (init) |                               |                            |

**Crossword Solution 1198 from 20 December, 2024**



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### HILLTOP Mowing & Yard Maintenance

Glen Forrest & Surrounding Areas PH: 0400 365 887.

### Livestock Wanted

**Wanted to buy 2 quiet female alpacas** to protect sheep, good home guaranteed. Contact 08 9571 2050.

### Painting, Gardening, Pressure Cleaning.

0477 660 703. Local.



ASK ABOUT OUR GREAT PRICES FOR CLASSIFIEDS

### Regrouting

**Bathroom Regrouting.** Call Andrew 0413 158 763.


### Solar Services

**Solar Panel Cleaning** with Anti Mould & Solar Wax Treatment. 0421 455 546.




### Yoga

**YOGA**



**Monday & Thursday 6pm-7.15pm**  
 Gooseberry Hill Hall, 42 Ledger Road  
 Ph Jeanene 0406 773 650

## Employment



Government of Western Australia  
 Department of Communities

### Senior Child Protection Worker /Senior Field Worker

Division: Community Services  
 Web Search No: COM38424  
 Level/Salary: Specified Calling Level 2, \$ 107,948 - \$118,277 pa + Super - PSCSAA 2024 and Level 5, \$101,122 - \$110,517 pa + Super - PSCSAA 2024  
 Senior Child Protection Workers and Senior Field Workers work with children, young people and families who are vulnerable or in crisis to ensure children are safe and protected from harm. They:

- Undertake case work activities of a complex nature.
- Make recommendations on the care and management of children.
- Develop a high level of knowledge and skills in providing services and support to families and communities.
- Provide expert advice to District staff members on child safety and protection issues.

To Access Detailed Information: Visit [www.jobs.wa.gov.au](http://www.jobs.wa.gov.au) and key in the Web Search No.  
 For specific Inquiries: Please contact Alicia Watson A/Assistant District Director, on (08) 6277 4141.  
 Location: Moora/Merredin/Norham/Narrogin.  
 Closing Date: Friday 31 January 2025 at 4:00pm (WST)

DOC\_24610

## Employment



### Quality and Compliance Officer

Northam, Geraldton or Kalgoorlie, Perm Full-Time  
 Level/Salary: L3, \$79,156 - \$84,977 pa, PSCSAA

The Quality and Compliance Officer provides ongoing administrative and technical support to the Manager Academic Quality & Capability to ensure the quality and compliance of the College's training delivery systems; and supports academic planning processes.

Central Regional TAFE is committed to improving employment opportunities and outcomes to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. As a measure to achieve equality Section 51 of the Equal Opportunity Act 1984 (WA) will apply to this position. Therefore, preference will be given to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

To Access Detailed Information: Go to [jobs.wa.gov.au](http://jobs.wa.gov.au) and key in the Web Search No 40000959. Applicants are required to apply online.  
 For Specific Inquiries: Please contact Lea Arnold, Coordinator Quality and Compliance on 08 9956 2834 or email [Lea.Arnold@crtafe.wa.edu.au](mailto:Lea.Arnold@crtafe.wa.edu.au)  
 Closing Date: Monday 20 January 2025 at 4.00pm (WST).

**ECHO** "Lets keep local people in work" To advertise your situations vacant call 9374 6666.

## Public Notices

### CITY OF SWAN

#### NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF LAND SECTION 3.58 OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995

**PROPERTY:** Suite 30A at Stafford Court, 8-12 Stafford St, Midland, WA, 6056

**LESSEE:** Autumn Therapy Pty Ltd (ABN 36 682 536 303)

**ANNUAL RENTAL AMOUNT:** \$6,500.00 per annum plus GST and Outgoings


**VALUATION:** 6,105.00 per annum

**PURPOSE:** Commercial Office

**TERM:** 1 Year

Submissions, in writing, addressed to the undersigned, may be lodged on or before Monday 27th January 2025.

**Stephen Cain**  
 Chief Executive Officer  
 City of Swan  
 PO Box 196, Midland, 6936



## Employment

### Coordinator Lake Leschenaultia

Fantastic opportunity to work at Lake Leschenaultia in Chidlow, a 168-hectare bushland reserve which offers swimming, picnicking, canoeing, camping, cycling and bushwalking.

We are seeking a highly motivated and experienced individual to ensure Lake Leschenaultia excels in providing a safe and enjoyable visitor experience to the tens of thousands of people who visit each year.

The successful applicant will have experience in managing facilities, nature reserves, parks or campgrounds. They will be able to build, support and maintain a great team; effectively manage a budget, contractors and projects; minimise and manage risks; and help plan for the future.

A salary in the range of \$98,092 to \$121,526 pa will be offered based on qualifications, ability and experience. Commuter use of a Shire vehicle is available with an option to negotiate for private use.


For more information contact David Clear, Manager Recreation & Tourism Services, on 9290 6730.

Applications close Monday 20 January 2025, with interviews held on Wednesday 29 January.

Apply online - [www.mundaring.wa.gov.au](http://www.mundaring.wa.gov.au)



## In Memoriam



### Claude Somlo

Born 23 June 1970.  
 Passed away  
 26 December 2024.

*Sadly missed by those closest to him, his many friends and work colleagues.*

*Claude's farewell will be at*  
 2.30 pm on Friday 10 January at  
 Simplicity Funerals  
 350 Great Eastern Highway, Midland.

*And a celebration of his life*  
 from 4.30 pm at Bayswater Tennis Club  
 80 Murray Street, Bayswater.

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## Read between the lines

by Pastor Ian Kirk

### The Great Adventure


While on holidays in Albany recently, I did the 13km return hike to Bald Head – out past Frenchman's Bay. It's an arduous hike, as there are three hills to climb; the final one being Bald Head. On the day I went, the weather was perfect, and the coastal scenery was spectacular. It was so worth it!

Coming back was challenging though. I had done no fitness training since injuring my back. So, as I climbed the hills on my return, my knees started to hurt, and my quads started to tighten. Then, during the final leg, I started getting cramp and each step became more painful.

It was a good feeling when I returned and had my wife Colleen pick me up. Then, back at our holiday cottage, despite the soreness and tiredness, I could rest and savour the great adventure I had been on.

Life is a great adventure. There are good and hard times, delights and challenges along the way. But what's the point of it all, if there is nothing beyond the adventure; no resting and delighting?

I'm glad that Jesus taught us that death is not the end. There is the promise of eternal rest and delight after life's great adventure – if we believe in Him as God's Son and trust in Him as our Saviour and Lord. In this life, we also have the blessing of His help. I'm grateful life's great adventure has a glorious goal in Jesus – eternal life.





# ECHO Classifieds

## Public Notices



Government of Western Australia  
Department of Training  
and Workforce Development

### Help shape the strategic direction of training in Western Australia

The Minister for Training and Workforce Development is looking for people with effective leadership and strategic thinking skills and the ability to work collegially within the TAFE sector to help shape training to meet future industry and community needs throughout Western Australia.

If you have these skills, knowledge of vocational education and training, experience in community and industry engagement, and a record of service to industry or the community, express your interest now.

Under the *Vocational Education and Training Act 1996*, Governing Councils play a key role in the strategic management of TAFE Colleges within the Western Australian Government policy framework.

Expressions of interest for membership of **Central Regional TAFE** Governing Council are invited.

Members of Governing Councils are remunerated for their services.

The State Government is committed to increasing the representation of women on Government boards and committees and supports diversity in the appointment to boards and committees.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people; and people from culturally diverse backgrounds are warmly invited to apply.

Please send a brief curriculum vitae of no more than two pages using the approved proforma by 14 February 2025 by email at: [TAFEGoverningCouncils@dtwd.wa.gov.au](mailto:TAFEGoverningCouncils@dtwd.wa.gov.au)

The curriculum vitae proforma and further information about Governing Council membership and the application process is available at [www.dtwd.wa.gov.au](http://www.dtwd.wa.gov.au)

Note: Recommended applicants will be asked to consent to a criminal record check. Applicants with a convictions record are not automatically precluded from appointment to the Governing Council. Each case will be considered on its merits.

DTWD\_24101



### EASTERN METROPOLITAN REGIONAL COUNCIL (EMRC) AIR POLLUTION CONTROL RESIDUE (APCR) TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL (Environmental Review Document) (13 January 2025 – 28 January 2025)

The Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council is proposing to construct and operate an immobilisation plant to treat Class V Air Pollution Control Residue (APCR) generated from offsite Waste to Energy plants, and to construct a dedicated Class IV monocell for disposal of the treated APCR, at the Red Hill Waste Management Facility, located within the City of Swan.

Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council has prepared the Environmental Review Document in accordance with EPA procedures and is released for public review. The Environmental Review Document describes the proposal, the likely environmental impacts and the proposed management measures.

Hard copies of the document may be purchased for \$10 (including postage) from:  
Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council  
226 Great Eastern Highway, Ascot WA 6104  
Telephone no: 08 9424 2222

Copies of the document may also be downloaded from [www.epa.wa.gov.au](http://www.epa.wa.gov.au) or <https://www.emrc.org.au/>

Copies of the document will be available for examination at:  
Midland and Ellenbrook Public Libraries  
State Library of Western Australia.

The closing date for public submissions is: **28 January 2025**

The EPA prefers submissions to be made electronically via the EPA's Consultation Hub at: <https://consultation.epa.wa.gov.au>.

Alternatively, submissions can be:

- posted to: Chair, Environmental Protection Authority, Locked Bag 10, Joondalup DC, WA 6919 or
- delivered to: Environmental Protection Authority, Prime House, 8 Davidson Terrace, Joondalup, WA 6027.

If you have any questions on how to make a submission contact, EPA Services, Department of Water and Environmental Regulation on 6364 7000.

# ECHO Sports



Mark Tenney was the top scorer of the season in his senior men's team.

## Mundaring principal lead scorer in soccer season

GUANHAO CHENG

**THE Perth Hills United Football Club's senior men's team had a successful past season, placing second on the ladder and securing a division one spot for 2025.**

Sacred Heart School Mundaring principal and club member Mark Tenney was the top scorer for the amateur team, scoring 25 goals for the season.

Mr Tenney said playing on the senior team has been a great experience as a newcomer and he hopes to continue next season.

"I just moved into Stoneville at the start of 2024 and was after a family friendly club not just for me but for my kids as well," he said.

"It's been a really lovely experience at the club and it's good to see the players in all age levels.

"Last year was a win for the amateur men's team — which is also known as the seniors men's team but we call it the amateur team.

"We played in the Metro Perth competition and were in division 2 but came in second place overall so we got promoted up the ladder to division 1 next year.

"Our toughest team to go up against was Brozzy Sports Club from south of the river.

"They won division 2 and they moved up to division 1 as well, so we'll be up against them again.

"They were a really well-balanced team with no real weaknesses across the pitch with a really good striker.

"Our team was a younger team, and our fitness and stamina were our strengths.

"We had some 18 and 19-year-olds on our side who could run all day, so some really strong midfielders which are the spine of the team and good wingers.

"Our midfielders and attack got us through most of our matches."

Mr Tenney said the club was great for socialising and hoped to see more players in their thirties join the club so an over 35s men's team could be formed.

"The hope is to get an over 35s team up and running and the club has put out an expression of interest to see if we can attract about 15 or 16 players," he said.

"Having a few extra members is always good in case of injuries.

"The great thing is that it's a super social environment and sometimes people come along more for the chats and catching up aspect of being in a team together.

"Whether you're a seasoned soccer player or just starting out, if you're in the age range, it's worth considering.

"The best thing about it is you don't need a high level of ability to engage with the game and the club is reasonable with training times.

"I've got a family and kids and training once a week at Harry Riseborough Oval is manageable.

"If you can kick a ball, that's enough to get you started."

For further information email [secretary@phufc.com.au](mailto:secretary@phufc.com.au)

## Cricket resumes after Christmas break



Keaton Critchell produced a standout innings of 106 runs from 106 balls in the male 1st grade match against Perth.

JOSHUA MCKENZIE

**MIDLAND Guildford female A grade returned to action with a dominant nine-wicket victory against South Perth.**

Teneale Peschel (4-28 from nine overs) and Lilly Mills (3-11 from six overs) were the standout bowlers as they dismissed their opponents for a total of just 94.

Naomi Dattani (35 not out from 46) and Chloe Piparo (31 from 27) placed the side in a strong position, with Ines McKeon contributing 16 not out as the side won with just one wicket lost.

The senior male and junior male sides last weekend faced off against Perth in both one-day and T20 fixtures.

The male 1st grade were set a target of 319 for victory after a bowling effort led by Brayden Brehaut (4-38 from seven overs).

Keaton Critchell produced 106 runs from 106 balls and combined with Austin Thomas (61 from 74) for a partnership of 124, but it would not be enough as the side fell 52 runs short.

In the male 2nd grade match, their opposition started with a 122-run opening partnership and it was difficult to overcome the slow start.

Jack Giancono took 3-51 from 10 overs in the bowling innings, but the batting innings saw only Mitchell Pope perform with 52 from 40 as the side was bowled out for 135 and lost by 107 runs.

It was a two-wicket defeat for the male 3rd grade in their match against the same opposition as they couldn't defend a target of 197, while the male 4th grade secured a one run victory off the final ball of their match.

Thomas Baker (81 from 87) and Matt Hampson (70 not out from 108) helped produce a total of 8-227 which the side was only just able to defend.

The female B grade struggled to get any momentum in their match against Perth and lost by 138 runs.

The male U17 and male U15 played T20 matches against Perth with the male U17 enjoying a 22-run victory in their match, while the male U15 fell 59 runs short of the target set by their opponents.

The female U17s produced a strong performance with a number of players absent playing for Western Australia at the U16 national championships.

They chased down a target of 172 for victory with five wickets to spare.

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# ENTERTAINMENT & GIG GUIDE

## Your local Gig Guide

### Fri January 10

**Bassendean Hotel**  
DJ Roller.  
5pm-Late. Free.  
25 Old Perth Road  
Bassendean

**Parkerville Tavern**  
Intangible  
From 6pm. Free.  
6 Owen road  
Parkerville

**Lyric's Bar**  
Jere Sosa Duo  
From 7pm.  
Live in the Laneway  
Free.  
Hair Metal  
Vinyl Underground  
22 Lyric Lane  
Maylands

### Sat January 11

**Bassendean Hotel**  
Damien Cripps Duo  
8pm-Late. Free.  
25 Old Perth Road  
Bassendean

**Lyric's Bar**  
Charles Scott Duo  
7pm. Free.  
22 Lyric Lane  
Maylands

**Parkerville Tavern**  
Matt Sofoulis  
From 6pm. Free.  
6 Owen Road  
Parkerville

### Sat January 12

**Parkerville Tavern**  
Slim Jim and the  
Phatts.  
From 4pm. Free.  
6 Owen Road  
Parkerville

### Cont. Jan 12

**Bassendean Hotel**  
Gemma Luxton Duo.  
From 2pm. Free.  
25 Old Perth Road  
Bassendean

**Lyric's Bar**  
The Pick-Me-Ups  
5pm. Free.  
22 Lyric Lane  
Maylands

### Wed January 15

**Chidlow Tavern**  
Muso Jam Night  
7.30pm till late.  
Free.  
4 Thomas St Chidlow



## Promote your event

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ENTERTAINMENT & GIG GUIDE

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on 9374 6650 or  
peter.lewis@echo-news.com

www.echonepaper.com.au

**ECHO NEWS**



# Local Real Estate

Residential  
Commercial  
Rural & Country

## Your Modern comfort in Historic Guildford

STEP into Guildford and find this cosy three-bedroom, one-bathroom home with a unique blend of modern amenities and historic character.

This well-presented home could suit buyers who are looking to downsize, invest or purchase their first home.

The front entrance is surrounded by plants and has a shaded carport, extending out from the red brick façade.

Inside, carpeted floors sprawl the living area which shares an open space with the dining area and kitchen area which has wooden floors and a sliding door to the backyard.

The kitchen is u-shaped with the stovetop, sink, and serving-ingredient preparation countertop on their respective sides of the stone benchtop to help keep the cooking workflow area organised.

There is a built-in oven in the kitchen with cabinets above and below it for easy access to ingredients or any appliances residents may need.

Ample light flows in

from the wide window and backyard sliding door, illuminating the space where the kitchen and dining area meet.

From the dining area, a right turn leads to the hallway connecting the entrances to all bedrooms and the bathroom and laundry area.

The main bedroom has built-in robes, and a ceiling fan light to keep hotter days under control.

Outside, the backyard area has a covered patio, a storage room, and offers a tranquil view overlooking open plains and nearby walkways along the Helena River.

On a 187sqm block this property is conveniently located near local cafes, bars, shopping, and the Guildford Bowling Club, which offers residents a relaxed yet vibrant lifestyle close to home.

**Address: 14/10 East Street, Guildford**  
**Price: From \$539,000**  
**Agency: Real Estate Plus**  
For more information contact Edward Harfouche on 0409 004 424



# Notice Board

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

## Upcoming Events

• **Kalamunda Chamber of Commerce** is holding its first sundowner of the year at the Kalamunda Bowls Club, Stirk Park, Kalamunda on Friday, February 7 from 5.30pm to 7.30pm. Why not start the year on the right foot with the best business community around. Enjoy nibbles, a drink and the relaxed vibes of summer as the sun sets over Kalamunda for an evening of connection, conversation and community. Visit <https://www.kalamundachamber.com/events/07-feb-sundowner/> to RSVP.

• **Transition Town Guildford** is holding a Really Really Free market outside the Mechanics Hall, 20 Meadow Street, Guildford on Sunday, January 19 from 9am to 10 am. Gates open at 8.50am. Bring your unwanted Christmas gifts and any other items you no longer

need. Take what you need or want. The really really free market is like a big garage sale except everything is free. No cash exchanged. No bartering. No haggling. The organiser provides the trestle tables and you provide the stuff. Tables will be setup outside the hall and labelled with different categories (for example books, kitchen items and toys) for you to place your items on. Only bring items in reasonable or good condition. If an item doesn't work but you think it could be repaired, please label it (Doesn't work, needs repairs etc).

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



## Woofers of the week

Girlie is a nine-year-old kelpie who is very energetic. She has come from a farm so would be better suited to a bigger property. She is very loyal. She is sterilised, vaccinated and microchipped. Costs apply. Contact Bakers Hill Dog Sanctuary on 9574 1438.

### CONSUMER PROTECTION

## Summer vibes, safe lives: Tips for enjoying outdoor activities

With Commissioner for Consumer Protection Trish Blake

Summer is here, and it's time to get outside and have fun making memories with family and friends.

Consumer Protection wants West Aussies to have a safe, happy, and healthy summer and importantly – no trips to the Emergency Department. This time of year comes with its own set of risks so it's timely to give everyone a little reminder for how to enjoy the warm weather safely.

When it comes to kids staying safe there's no substitute for adult supervision. Especially around water.

Drowning is a silent killer. It can happen to young children within 20 seconds and in just few centimetres water.

Stop scrolling through mind-numbing memes and put the phone away so you can keep watch when little ones are swimming or even better – get in and have a splash with them.

Portable pools, like the blow up one you got out for the start of the hot weather, might be small and seem safe, but they pose significant drowning risks to children. It's a good idea to empty them and store away when they're not use, give your plants and lawn a big drink so the water is not wasted.

Did you know in WA, it is a legal requirement to have a fence with a gate that is self-closing and locks properly around any pool with more than 30 centimetres of water? This includes portable pools. Pool fences should be checked regularly to make sure there are no holes or a broken gate.

Families should also be mindful not to prop open pool gates or leave large items such as furniture near pool fences. We know how easily little ones can climb and these objects provide easy access.

Pools toys are fun and can make life easier with babies and toddlers but they are not safety devices and should never replace adult supervision. When buying or using pool toys, check the age and weight restrictions to ensure the products are appropriate for use.

When it comes to fun in the sun out of the water, Consumer Protection has safety tips for using trampolines and eRideables.

Due to their growing popularity, accidents involving eRideables have increased. Make sure to purchase age-appropriate devices, that your child wears a helmet, and only one person per device.

# I Remember When...



Do you remember as I do as a kid growing up in Guildford and Midland there were three main things you did as a lad on your school holidays. Played cricket, swam and fished.

My mates and I used to fish under the bridge going over to Caversham called Barkers Bridge. I understand the bridge was built in 1950 adjacent to the original bridge which was built by the convicts back in 1854, a bit before my time. We'd either fish there or close to along the river back in our teens and actually there was quite a few of us local kids who did that.

Other spots that were popular were at the Guildford Rec as we knew it, which is actually Kings Meadow opposite the point in Bassendean. You would fish off the jetties and there were lights so you could fish at night. Near Barkers we used to find some really good Brim and Yellow Tail and at the Rec we used to find the odd Cobbler and Kingy as well at the mouth of the Helena River. Bait in those days you caught first in a small scoop net in the reeds near where you fished and caught what we called shrimps which were small river prawns. You would find them everywhere but hard to find today.

Near Barkers Bridge there was a Tarzan swing which was rope hanging from a huge tree that you swing out on and jump in the river and, if you were game enough, you would also jump off the Bridge which I was one of the fools who did that. Also jumped off the Guildford Bridge that goes over to Bassendean. These activities were all part of being boy I guess. Every year I still catch up with my mate Pete and we have one fish in the river around New Year as a bit of a tradition. I was once the guy with bragging rights but I don't know what's happened, Pete has been taking the title for most caught in recent years – not happy.



Milton Rendell – CEO  
Real Estate Plus Group

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## FORRESTFIELD \$439,000



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



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<p><b>NEW FRESH SMOKED + ARTISAN PRODUCTS DAILY</b> Smoked Whole Rainbow Trout Premium Smoked Salmon AUST Seafood Marinara Wood Roasted Fish WA Sardine fillets Beetroot Cured Trout</p>	<p>SA Plump Fresh <b>BLACK MUSSELS DAILY</b> \$8.95/kg <b>HURRY WHILE STOCKS LAST</b></p>	<p>Huon Fresh Atlantic Salmon Fillets Skin On <b>Premium Sashimi Grade</b></p>	<p>Premium Fresh Smoked Tasmanian Salmon Slides available 100g \$9.95 200g \$14.95 1Kg \$69.95/kg</p>	<p><b>We thank you for your loyal support and caring!</b></p>	
<p>LOCAL WA HEADLESS LARGE OCTOPUS <b>\$28.95/kg</b> <b>DISCOUNT FOR BULK 15kg BOXES</b></p>	<p>WA GRASS FED BEEF Small Scotch \$28.95/kg Skirt Steak \$17.95/kg <b>BULK SAVINGS ON ALL CUTS!</b></p>	<p>Nando's Pickled Marinated WA Octopus 250g <b>\$22.80ea</b></p>	<p>Ready to go Salt &amp; Pepper Squid <b>\$23.95/kg</b></p>	<p>Fresh Juicy Exmouth Goldband Snapper Whole <b>\$22.85/kg</b></p>	<p>LAST OF THE SEASON SHARKBAY FROZEN RAW KING PRAWN CUTLETS <b>\$49.95/kg</b></p>
<p>Humpty Doo Barramundi medium Whole <b>\$18.95/kg</b></p>	<p>NZ HOKIE FILLETS FROZEN 6.8KG CARTON <b>\$14.95/kg</b> <b>CARTON BUYS</b></p>	<p>Sweet Premium Cooked Prawn Cutlets IQF were \$30.95/kg <b>NOW \$27.95/kg</b></p>	<p><b>Tender</b> Southern Cleaned Squid Tubes <b>\$22.95/kg</b></p>	<p>Frozen XL Sharbay Crab Raw &amp; Cooked <b>\$23.95/kg</b></p>	<p>NEW SEASON ALBANY ROCK OYSTERS LANDING</p>
<p>NEW SEASON WA Cooked Crayfish <b>PRICES DOWN!</b></p>	<p>☆☆☆ Ready to cook meal options and Recipe ideas instore ☆☆☆ SNACK &amp; COCKTAIL FOODS AND FRESH MEATS ALSO CATERED FOR. <b>COME AND SEE OUR FACTORY DIRECT INSTORE SPECIALS</b></p>	<p>WE WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL OUR GREAT CUSTOMERS A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR <b>THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!</b></p>	<p><b>HILLSEAFOOD</b> 4 Wandeara Cr Mundaring <b>08 9295 0066</b> Open Mon-Fri 8am to 5.30pm and Saturdays 8am-2pm</p>	<p>WA Fresh Fish Unloading daily: • Broome Red Emperor • Humpty Doo Barra • Kalbarri Pink Snapper • Exmouth King Snapper • Kalbarri Spangled Emperor • Augusta Nannygai • Bunbury Gummy Shark</p>	

**FACTORY SPECIAL** ALL Carton lots of local whole raw and cooked prawns receive a **10% Discount** 3kg and 5kg sizes.