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VOL.42 NO.1897













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CONSUMER PROTECTION

Scammed at the farm gate:

With Commissioner for Consumer **Protection Trish Blake**

How to spot fake machinery deals

IF it's too good to be true, then it probably is. From fake farm machinery to livestock scams, criminals are getting more sophisticated, and their victims, our hard-working farmers, are losing thou-

sands. One victim lost nearly \$30,000 trying to buy a tractor from a business called "Epic Farming". He searched the ABN listed on the professional looking website and it matched to a similar named business, and after speaking with them over the phone and email he felt confident he was dealing with a legitimate seller.

He paid via bank transfer and then the communication stopped, the tractor never arrived. It's not just machinery these criminals are using to fleece our famers, livestock is also in their bag of rotten

One of the biggest red flags for these types of scams is being asked to pay by bank transfer. Scammers love this method of payment because once you pay, they are usually quick to transfer the money offshore and then there's no guarantee the bank can get your money back.

Instead pay using a secure payment method such as your credit card or PayPal. This offers better protection and allows for chargebacks in case of issues.

But is there a way you can verify the business before dealing with them? Unfortunately, this is getting more difficult as the scammers evolve their techniques. Some will steal ABNs that link to real businesses with a similar name, others will boldly speak with you on the phone and answer your questions about the equipment to suck you in further.

Consumer Protection recommends searching the address of the business and checking it out via Google Street View. Call nearby businesses to verify the business you're dealing with exists. Reverse Google image search the photos to check they aren't being used in real business adverts or come from stock photo libraries.

If possible, arrange to inspect the machinery or equipment yourself, or send a trusted friend. Scammers will have all the excuses in the world as to why the machinery can't be viewed in person – this is another red flag. Also be suspicious if the seller asks for personal identification documents as these scams can also be used to steal your identity.

If you think you may have been scammed trying to buy farm machinery, equipment or livestock, there's no shame in reporting it to us via scamnet. wa.gov.au or call 1300 30 40 54, email consumer@ demirs.wa.gov.au



A MAJOR MILESTONE WILL BE REACHED NEXT WEEK FOR THE NEW MIDLAND STATION PROJECT, WHEN THE RECENTLY COMPLETED MULTISTOREY CAR PARK WILL OFFICIALLY OPEN TO COMMUTERS.

ECHO YOUR THOUGHTS

Have your say: editorial@echo-news.com

Aged care record set straight

Dear Echo News.

I refer to the letter from Iris Jones (*Echo News*, January 10) and feel compelled to set the record straight.

There is not a crisis in the provision of residential aged care places in the district and there is not a shortfall in available beds.

The registration of providers and the funding of service delivery commonwealth government responsibilities and not those of the state government.

Residential aged care is provided by not-forprofit and commercial entities.

The issue presented by Iris Jones to me, in December 2016, on land at Lot 500 Gavour Road, Wattle Grove, prior to my election, was the lack of appropriately zoned land on which to build residential aged care facilities.

Under the Barnett Liberal-National government its rezoning for aged care was repeatedly refused.

This rezoning, however, was achieved in August 2017 within five months of my election in March 2017.

has not begun building this 'ready to roll' facility, despite major relaxation of planning conditions.

Towards the end of 2017, at my instigation, the government established an inter-departmental aged care availability working group which reported in October 2019.

Mrs Jones was invited to contribute and gave evidence.

Subsequently, a new WAPC position statement encourages local governments to make residential aged care a permitted use in residential zones within local government structure plans.

The government also got the Department of Lands to begin identifying and activating government land suitable for residential aged

Here, in 2018, the McGowan Labor government provided Crown land adjacent to Sunshine Park, Lesmurdie, conditional on the operators Roshana upgrading the existing facility, which was done.

Roshana now plan an additional 81 beds, and last year opened a \$30 million addition at the group's facility in Carmel.

And in May 2020, Hall and Prior opened a 160-bed facility at Karingal Green in Maida Vale.

Not to acknowledge these real increases in bed numbers since 2017 and those in the offing is, I think, misleading.

In response to public demand, additional commonwealth government funding was provided to expand home care support that has significantly altered the aged care market.

The state government has successfully The private owner made funds available to get aged care providers to open spare capacity (mothballed beds) to relieve the pressure on 'blocked' hospital beds.

The state government has never promised to build and operate residential aged care facilities in metropolitan Perth, and I have never advocated that it should.

Hills advocates campaigned for land availability and planning approvals, and I have delivered.

I have no doubt that opportunistic, simplistic and sensational

promises will be made by some candidates during the 2025 election campaign as is often the case.

I doubt that the provision of residential aged care will be immune, but it is important that no-one is misled.

Matthew Hughes Kalamunda MLA

Highway expert advice needed

Dear Echo News,

C Hughes of Voices of Bullwinkel is a passionate advocate for reduced speed limits on the Greenmount Hill section of the Great Eastern Highway (Letters, January 10).

I am not sure on whose behalf Voices of Bullwinkel speak, but judging by discussions on local Facebook groups, I am fairly confident that opinion amongst the residents of Bullwinkel would be pretty evenly split on the changes that they propose.

It is clear that there are safety issues that need to be urgently addressed, but to what extent has speed contributed to the accidents that have occurred?

To what extent is driver behaviour a factor?

Or the alignment of the road?

Or the absence of median barrier?

Will reducing the speed limit improve the situation, or create other, unintended consequences?

I don't know the answers to these questions, but I would respect the opinions of those who investigate the accidents that have occurred on the Great Eastern Highway and the experts in road safety who are presumably conducting the Main Roads review.

Thought for the day

'With ordinary talent and extraordinary perseverance, all things are attainable." - Thomas **Fawell Buxton**

While I commend the aim of Voices of Bullwinkel to improve community engagement, surely it is better to wait for the outcome of the review, and to press for evidence-based policies, rather than advocating so strongly for something that is more opinion-based, and does not necessarily have universal community support.

C Elders Darlington

Trucks should stay left

Dear Echo News,

They like to consider themselves 'knights of the road' and some truckies may well be, but some driving overdouble-bogy length, trailers (road trains) seem to think they're driving a family sedan.

Overtaking semi-trailers of similar size on major highways rather than staying in the left lane, is simply dangerous driving.

As professional road users they have a duty to behave better than that and our police should be enforcing the road rules to stop road trains leaving the left lane other than in an emergency.

A good place to start enforcing the law might be Great Eastern Highway between Midland and Mundaring, where we lose lives too frequently and we see these behemoths travelling well in excess of limits, often in the right-hand lane.

P Carman Hovea

P14 Crossword INSIDE

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.

Disclaimer: election-related

editorial content published by Echo News is prepared in accordance with our editorial policies and principles of fairness, accuracy, and impartiality. Responsi-bility for editorial decisions rests with Peter W Lewis General Manager/Editor.

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Urgent care centres increase but bulk-billing falls

GUANHAO CHENG

PRIME Minister Anthony Albanese visited the Midland Urgent Care Clinic on January 9 and among other topics spoke about improvements to healthcare affordability and accessibility despite new data outlining a decline in affordability.

Mr Albanese was joined at the centre by Premier Roger Cook, Hasluck MHR Tania Lawrence and Bullwinkel Labor candidate Trish Cook.

He said his government was exceeding the target of 50 urgent care clinics that were promised at the last

"We now have 87 which are open

today," Mr Albanese said.
"More than a million Australians have got the care that they need when they needed it through Medicare urgent care clinics.

"Importantly as well, this work has taken pressure off emergency departments.

"One in four of those people who've gone through clinics have been young people, people under the

'So that if you have a health issue that is not life threatening, this is the

"Which is why so many families have benefited from Medicare urgent care clinics here in WA

'More than 124,000 visits in WA." Mr Albanese said this has resulted in zero cost from patients as the amount was covered by Medicare.

"Zero to every single patient who's come through because all they have needed is their Medicare card, not their credit card," he said.

But according to the Royal Australian College of GPs a new report by healthcare directory Cleanbill highlighted the need for an urgent injection of funding in Medicare to support more bulk billing and reduce out-of-pocket costs.

The latest Medicare data showed 77.6 per cent of GP consults were bulk billed but Cleanbill's independent report, released on Monday showed the percentage of practices bulk billing new adult patients without concession cards continued to fall, to 21 per cent.

The report also showed average out-of-pocket costs increased 4.1 per cent to \$43.38.

Despite the multifaceted health-care situation, Mr Cook said urgent care clinics, such as the one in Midland were important for alleviating pressures from the other loadbearing parts of the system.

"A strong primary healthcare system is fundamental to a healthy hospital system," he said.

"We want people to get regular and ongoing care from their GP, or in places like this where they can get spontaneous unplanned care when someone's had an accident, a disease, an onset of an illness, or you know, a broken bone.

"So these are important places to take the pressure off our (emergency



Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, flanked by Premier Roger Cook and Hasluck MHR Tania Lawrence, visited Midland's Urgent Care Clinic where he spoke about improvements to healthcare. Picture: Guanhao Cheng



Deputy premier Rita Saffioti and Midland Labor candidate Steve Catania at Binar Futures.

Labor commits \$12.5 million to new Bellevue sporting hub

A RE-ELECTED WA Labor government will Deputy Premier Rita Saffioti said sport had the ty sport hub in Bellevue.

Led by community organisation Binar Futures, the project will include eight basketball and netball courts, a gymnasium, a health and education centre and a First Nations sporting hall of fame.

A parcel of land currently owned by the state government will also be provided for the hub on the corner of Henkin and Clayton Streets in Bel-

About 1300 students are expected to use the facilities once construction is complete.

Binar Futures works to empower Aboriginal youth through sport, engaging young people in the Midland area and throughout the state with basketball clinics, carnivals and other activities to promote positive lifestyles.

This state government contribution will allow Binar Futures to seek additional funding support from third parties, including private entities and other levels of government.

new communi- incredible ability to bring people together, encour age healthy and active lifestyles and develop re-

"We also know there are enormous benefits in having modern, state-of-the-art sporting facilities for young people in our communities, which is why WA Labor is committing to this new hub in Bellevue

'A re-elected WA Labor government will always do what's right by our local communities and invest in the things that matter, helping to keep them safe and strong.

Labor candidate for Midland Steve Catania said a hub like this will not only help young people to develop their sporting skills, it will also become another support system and network to help them grow and build a positive future.

"Binar Futures is a fantastic community organisation helping young Aboriginal people through sport, and if elected, I look forward to working with them closely on this project to deliver it.'

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For more information search for 'replacement projects' at www.atco.com.au



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Discover important projects shaping our City and share your ideas. We value your feedback, thoughts and input on projects, policies and community matters. Join the conversation today!

engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au

Projects currently open for comment:

- Fast-Food Outlet & Car Wash 14 & 16 Canning Road & 5 Heath Rd, Kalamunda
- Cell 9 Wattle Grove Public Open Spaces
- EOI SEED Young Entrepreneurs
- AEDC School Readiness
- Water Extraction 60 Repatriation Road & 30 Foti Road, Pickering Brook
- Residential Aged Care, Champion Road, Lesmurdie



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Binar Futures hopes to reach more young leaders through Labor's commitment to a new \$12.5m Bellevue community sporting hub.

Binar's mission at a larger scale

CINDY CARTOJANO

WITH a re-elected Labor government's commitment to a new community sport hub in Bellevue, Binar Futures founder Adam Desmond says the organisation can take down barriers of inclusion for young leaders at a larger scale.

The \$12.5 million hub is planned for a parcel of state-owned land on the corner of Henkin and

Mr Desmond said there had been a great need for this type of space for young people in the com-

"If they don't have things to do, if there's not something they're a part of, the likelihood is that they'll end up being part of the justice system,'

"Any kid that's kept busy with something positive is far less likely to go off track.'

Binar chair Andrew Vlahov said a lot of time

was spent asking young leaders what they wanted out of the sporting hub.

"It's not something we thought of last week, this is years in the making," he said.
"So we're building it hand to glove, based on

community needs.

A unique part of the hub is the digital First Nations Hall of Fame.

This is not old socks in a glass case that people look at," Mr Vlahov said.

'This is an experiential interactive one."

Mr Vlahov said it was not up to Binar to decide who went in the Hall of Fame, it was up to the community.

It could be community leaders, Elders, activists, or academics - not just athletes.

We want to make sure that there are role models that are displayed and you might connect

"Because you can't be what you can't see."



The planned site for the water bore and extraction proposal in Pickering Brook.

Pickering Brook water extraction proposal raises resident concern

RESIDENTS have brought up concerns around selling water on private property and warned it might become a repeat of what happened in Karragullen with Coca Cola and will possibly have a negative impact on the environment.

City of Kalamunda has received a development application for water extraction which is being advertised for public comment but has already raised concern in the community.

The water quality assessment and management plan is available to view in the document library of the proposal's outline and comment submission page.

The document outlines the water is to be used for bottling for human consumption and routine quality assessments would be performed by the bottling company to comply with bottled water quality standards.

In the same document, the management plan states the bore water level will be monitored monthly and changes to groundwater levels and quality will trigger the plan which will reduce pumping rates and durations.

A separate document on the proposal says the proposal is for the extraction of 30,000kl per an-

The document continues to say the bore to be used for the extraction is located on Lot 6 Repatriation Road and water extracted from it would be sent to a 250,000L tank located on Lot 12 Foti

Comments can be sent to enquiries@kalamun da.wa.gov.au and submissions close at 5pm on

Minister's North Stoneville environmental reconsideration

ANITA McINNES

ENVIRONMENT and Water Minister Tanya Plibersek is reconsidering her earlier approval for the proposed North Stoneville development following applications to revoke the decision, including by the Shire of Mund-

On December 23 the environment assessments west branch head, on behalf of Ms Plibersek, wrote to Liberal candidate for Bullwinkel Matt Moran after he requested the minister reconsider the decision to approve the North Stoneville environmental aspects of the the proposed townsite development.

"Your request for the approval to be revoked under section 145(2)(b) of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC) has been received and is currently being considered," the letter said.

"As you will be aware, section 145 of the EPBC Act also includes provisions for the minister to consider before making a decision to revoke an approval decision.

Section 145(2)(b) of EPBC Act allows the Minister to, by written instrument, revoke an approval under this part for the purposes of a specified provision of part 3 if: the approval would not have been granted if information did not accurately identify those impacts because of negligence or a deliberate act or omission by the person proposing to take the action or the designated proponent of the

Last year the Shire of Mundaring told the Environment minister her approval granted on September 16 would allow the removal of about 200ha of critical habitat within a local natural area.

Shire President Paige McNeil said the

council strongly urged the minister to reconsider the decision, as the significant loss of habitat for vulnerable and endangered species in North Stoneville would have irreversible consequences for the local environment and greater Perth.

Ms McNeil said the request for reconsideration underscored the shire's strong commitment to sustainable environmental practices and preserving the unique biodiversity that define the Perth Hills.

"The Mundaring Shire council and community are gravely concerned about the North Stoneville development's significant impact on local biodiversity, including the loss of 60,000 trees which are a critical breeding habitat for the endangered Carnaby's, Baudin's and vulnerable forest red tailed black cockatoos," she said.

"We are deeply disappointed with the decision that has been based on environmental survey's undertaken seven years ago and believe that serious consideration must be given to the current condition of the forest that has been impacted by the cumulative environmental fall out of the Wooroloo 2021 bushfire and the 2022-23 summer drought."

North Stoneville hearing adjourned (Echo News, August 16, 2024) reported Save Perth Hills (SPH) was seeking to intervene in the SAT hearing under section 37(3) of the State Administrative Tribunal Act 2004.

On February 4 SPH will present its intervention bid to SAT, seeking to have third party participation in Satterley's 2025 appeal hearing.

New deadline set for Satterley (Echo News, April 4, 2024) reported that anyone giving evidence to SAT usually needed to prepare a witness statement of their evidence.



CINDY CARTOJANO

FIREFIGHTERS were being kept busy in the eastern suburbs this week with multiple bushfires reported.

While Echo News was going to press, we received updates of an uncontained and uncontrolled fire along Toodyay Road in

A Department of Fire and Services (DFES) spokesperson said the fire was in inaccessible terrain.

On Wednesday afternoon, emergency responders received reports of a fire at Mid-

DFES said the incident on Dale Road was reported after 12pm and extinguished at 8.30pm.

The spokesperson said investigators were working on determining the cause of

At 2pm on the same day, DFES announced a bushfire advice for Ellenbrook

The department spokesperson said the fire near Mussellbrook Trail was extinguished about 4pm that afternoon.

On January 16, DFES said there was still a bushfire advice for the bushfire in Avon Valley National Park.

ADVERTISEMENT

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

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 rearview 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

"I was so relieved that my colleague Selva Kamalan was able to extinguish the fire quickly and he was

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.



Indigo Junction chief executive officer Sharon Gough says domestic violence is a whole of community responsibility. Picture: Guanhao Cheng

Latest funding streamlines domestic violence services

GUANHAO CHENG

MIDLAND'S Indigo Junction was one of 10 community organisations to receive funding to boost access to counselling and advocacy services for family and domestic violence victim-survivors.

Indigo Junction received \$356,000 to expand their domestic violence advocacy service over two years.

Historically Indigo Junction needed to refer women to external counselling providers which impacted the number of women accessing these services as some disliked connecting with multiple agencies or providers they didn't know.

Indigo Junction chief executive officer Sharon Gough said women can now access specialised family and domestic violence (FDV) counselling services from within Indigo Junction's suite of programs.

"This streamlines the experience and

promotes improved access for the women we support," she said.

"Indigo Junction is growing the FDV services we offer the community."

"We are now able to offer women streamlined access to counselling services that promote safety and healing from family violence related trauma.

"Indigo Junction is the specialist FDV provider in the Midland community and needs to keep pace with community demand for support.

"The additional funding will increase the number of women accessing counselling services that come through our doors."

Ms Gough said the main focus for dealing with FDV in the Swan area through Indigo Junction was via prevention and early intervention.

"We recently received funding to provide specialised youth FDV education programs, case management and counselling

services for young people in the City of Swan," she said.

"The understanding of what healthy relationships look like and how to recognise behaviour that constitutes as coercive control and intimate partner violence is critical to stopping FDV.

"It's not necessarily violence in the physical sense – it might be controlling behaviours.

"Actions such as compromising freedom and being possessive by intimidating or frightening people fall under that.

or frightening people fall under that.
"Financial abuse and compromising financial security by how they behave is family and domestic violence.

"Shaming, humiliating and criticising people and causing them to doubt themselves and their self-worth is another example

"It might be cultural or spiritual abuse where they stop their partners from speak-

ing their language or practising their beliefs, and it can be the types of behaviours they choose to direct towards you in front of your children.

The more we support the community to identify that that's emotional and coercive control, the faster we can end this.

"It's across the board, but particularly with young people, learning the signs and stopping the behaviours before they are exposed to it for an extended amount of time is the key.

"Early intervention is the best prevention."

Ms Gough said the Swan community needs to understand that FDV is a whole of community responsibility.

"The change can only be made by everyone taking steps collectively to call behaviour out, and support both the victim survivors and perpetrators of family violence," she said.





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Nationals pledge \$176m to relocate DPIRD to Northam

THE Nationals in government will relocate the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) headquarters to Northam, putting an end to years of delays and uncertainty under the Cook Labor Government.

Leader Shane Love MLA said the Cook Labor government's failure to deliver the long-promised facility has left WA's agriculture and regional development sectors in limbo.

"Under Labor, Western Australian agriculture doesn't have a home," Mr Love said.

"WA Labor promised a world-class DPIRD headquarters at Murdoch University in 2022, with a \$320 million price tag, yet as we enter 2025, those plans have been abandoned.

"Adding insult to injury, \$176m in funding was stripped from this critical project in the recent mid-year Budget review, and Labor has pushed the project out beyond 2028, leaving staff and the sector without a clear plan or timeline."

Currently, nearly 200 DPIRD staff are operating out of temporary facilities at the Claremont ity by delivering ters in Northam.

Showgrounds or working from home, following the closure of the South Perth offices due to asbestos concerns.

The government plans to spend an additional \$9.3m this year on alternative temporary work areas for staff.

"The Nationals in government will restore the \$176m cut by WA Labor and use it to build a world-class facility in Northam," Mr Love said.

"This new headquarters will provide permanent workspaces for staff, modern laboratories, an incident and emergency management centre, and on-site research and development facilities such as fields and glasshouses."

Nationals WA candidate for Central Wheatbelt, Lachlan Hunter, said Northam was the ideal location for

the new headquarters.

"Northam is the heartland of WA's agricultural sector, offering existing infrastructure, space to grow, and proximity to the Muresk Institute for education and training," Mr Hunter said.

"Relocating DPIRD to Northam would bring hundreds of stable jobs and significant investment into the Wheatbelt, aligning perfectly with the department's purpose of serving WA's agricultural and regional communities."

Mr Hunter emphasised the accessibility of Northam for staff and stakeholders.

"Less than an hour from the metro area, with regular public transport including the Avon Link train, Northam offers the best of both worlds – a regional base for agriculture and research while remaining easily accessible for staff who choose not to relocate.

"After years of Labor's broken promises and neglect, The Nationals in government will make agriculture and regional development a top priority by delivering a world-class DPIRD headquarters in Northam"



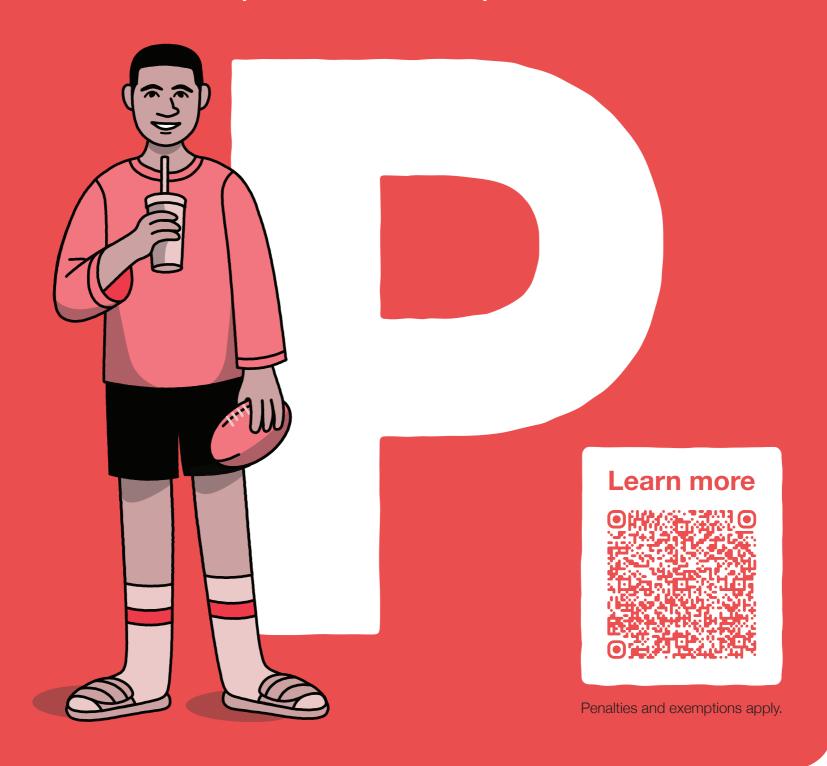


Red plate. One mate.

Since 1 December 2024, red P-platers can only have one passenger.

A fine of \$200 and two demerit points will apply, like the penalty for the existing midnight to 5am curfew for red P plate drivers.

For info on exemptions search 'red plate one mate'.



7

Midland pageant empowering young women with positivity

JACKI ELEZOVICH

ULTIMATE Pageants will bring their body-positive and diversity-focussed spin on pageantry to Midland this weekend with their national finals competition.

Bassendean resident and Ultimate Pageant national finalist Paige Anderton said she knew from the first time she watched a pageant in 2017 she wanted to be part of the pageant world.

"As I learned more about what these girls and women do for their communities and being able to raise money for their chosen charities, it became quite clear to me that this was a way I could make my own impact on the world," she said.

"Now I can't lie and say I don't love putting on

"Now I can't lie and say I don't love putting on a sparkly dress, getting myself dolled up and stepping on that stage, but pageantry is much more than that"

Ms Anderton said one of the best aspects of competing in pageants was the opportunity to make lifelong friendships.

"As much as we are all competing, we are still able to create such a genuine sisterhood," she said.

"Beauty pageants allow girls and women to give back to the community via attending and organising community events and appearances and meeting like-minded individuals who want to make a positive impact on the world and for future generations.

"In particular, I love being able to watch girls and women of diverse backgrounds come together for the same cause."

She said competing in pageants allowed women to give back to their communities and make a positive impact.

"My appearances through pageantry are based on enhancing quality of life: trying new things, exploring Perth for all of its beauty, bringing happiness to the world – in particular I raise money for Alzheimer's WA, for mental health charities and foundations supporting mothers with premature babies as I was born at 27 weeks.

"Knowing I am able to make a difference and raise money to enhance quality of life and create conversation about these conditions warms my heart, knowing I am able to give back to others all through pageantry and telling my own story."

Ultimate Pageants encourages diversity and body positivity, and has no age, height or weight restrictions.

"Within the system you are encouraged to show off your diversity and individuality," Ms Anderton said

"The director Asha Ryan has focussed on formulating a pageant where confidence and a positive mindset is what the judges will be focussing on in order to empower girls and women and inspire meaningful actions through our own self development."

Ms Ryan, who founded Ultimate Pageants in 2023, said she wanted the pageants to be focussed on empowerment and celebrating individuality.

"I think celebrating uniqueness and giving girls the opportunity to learn life skills is a special thing to be able to do," she said.

"Pageants are amazing places for finding your community of like-minded people, and for finding that confidence in yourself.

"Pageants are also a great opportunity for people to try something they didn't think they would be able to do.

"You get to see kids flourish in pageants, going from shy six year-olds to eleven year-olds who can deliver whole speeches on stage flawlessly.

"For adults as well, because it's sometimes harder to try new things as an adult, I want Ultimate Pageants to be a great supportive space where women can give pageantry a go."

The national finals competition will be held in the Midland Junction Arts Centre on January 19, where the stage competition and crowning of eight Ultimate Queens will take place. For tickets visit www.ultimatepag eants.online



Paige Anderton of Bassendean is a national finalist in the Ultimate Pageant competition to be held at Midland Junction Arts Centre on January 19.

SALE ON NOW! SALE ON NOW! SALE ON NOW! Work and Play outfuts FIND THE PERFECT OUTFIT MIDLAND 9274 0429 1 1 Old Great Northern Hwy 1 OPEN 6 DAYS WILLETTON 9259 1698 1 Unit 2 / 11 Augusta Street 1 OPEN 6 DAYS

Kalamunda's plan for Youth Week



JACKI ELEZOVICH

KALAMUNDA is planning a Youth Week program, which will include a youth symposium to hear young voices on issues including climate change, personal safety and resilience.

City of Kalamunda Mayor Margaret Thomas said she hoped to deliver an engaging and impactful Youth Week program, which will include a youth symposium to hear young voices on issues including climate change, personal safety and resilience.

"In consultation with the Youth Advisory Council and Youth Action Kalamunda, the city has identified key issues that matter most to young people," she said.

"This year's Youth Week program, the 'champions of change youth symposium', has been developed in direct response to this feedback.

"The symposium will bring together local youth leaders and change champions to empower and inspire young people to lead positive change in their communities."

Three key sessions will cover local solutions to climate change, hands-on first aid courses for under-18s and Kalamunda-grown sporting stars sharing their experiences of resilience.

Ms Thomas said the city's youth team was collaborating with the Youth Advisory Council to ensure the event remained youth driven.

"Youth Week WA is a vital opportunity to highlight the contributions of young people and celebrate their potential to shape the future of our community," she said.

"With initiatives like the champions of change

youth symposium, the City of Kalamunda continues to build an environment where young people can thrive as advocates and leaders."

Youth Week provides young people across WA with an opportunity to express their ideas, raise important issues, showcase their talents and connect with their peers.

This year's celebrations will kick off in Karratha and will include more than 100 events.

The 2025 theme is our threads, this place, your moment, reflecting young people's connection to their communities and to each other.

The theme was selected by the Youth Week planning committee which includes the 2025 Youth Week ambassadors Daisy Pilsworth, Emily Sullivan, Lisa Lee and Om Sharma.

Youth Minister Hannah Beazley said there was something for everyone in the variety of events being held in communities across the state.

"Youth Week 2025 is once again shaping up to be another epic celebration of Western Australia's incredible young people," she said.
"Youth Week WA is a wonderful opportunity to

"Youth Week WA is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the positive contributions of Western Australian young people, promote their talents and help them foster valuable community connections.

"I encourage everyone to get along to an event in your local community during Youth Week 2025 and show your support for the amazing young people across our state."

A total of \$75,000 in state government grants were distributed to support events for Youth Week 2025, which is the state's biggest annual celebration of young people and will run from April 10 to 17.

Driving in Western Australia



Arrive safely on your next road trip

Driving WA's expansive regional roads can present unexpected challenges such as bushfires, floods, unsealed roads, wildlife and stray animals. Before jumping in your car to start your road trip, you should plan and prepare to arrive safely.

- → Check road closures on the Main Roads WA Travel Map or by calling 138 138.
- → Write down emergency contact numbers, such as local police stations, tourist information centres and local shires.
- → Let someone know where you're going and how long you will be gone.
- → Know your vehicle and what road conditions it can handle.

- → Check whether you need to bring extra fuel if travelling long distances.
- → Pack food and water to last 2-3 days past your intended travel time.
- → Take emergency equipment such as a first aid and tool kit, fire extinguisher and a satellite phone.



Experience Magic Under the Stars: Sunset Movie Series Returns for 2025



Get ready to enjoy the magic of outdoor movies this summer! The City of Kalamunda is thrilled to announce the return of the highly anticipated Sunset Movie Series, kicking off on Friday, 31 January 2025 at Stirk Park, Kalamunda.

Bigger, better, and more enchanting than ever, this beloved community event is your ticket to unforgettable evenings under the stars.

Thanks to a generous \$20,000 funding boost from Perth Airport, this year's program features more movie sessions at new, convenient locations across the City. Families can look forward to an expanded lineup of heart-warming, action-packed, and laugh-out-loud films, all in a relaxed outdoor setting.



This year's series also marks an exciting collaboration with local schools, with five out of seven screenings hosted on school grounds. This partnership not only strengthens community ties but also provides valuable fundraising opportunities for schools, making movie nights even more impactful.

Mayor Margaret Thomas is excited for this year's program saying "We're so grateful for Perth Airport's support, which has allowed us to expand this much-loved event. Partnering with our local schools brings our community closer together, while giving families even more reasons to enjoy these magical summer evenings."

Each movie night promises a fun-filled evening, with free popcorn, and exciting pre-show activities from 5:30 PM, followed by the outdoor cinema experience. Movies will begin between 6:20 PM and 7:20 PM, perfectly timed with the sunset. Bring your picnic blankets, a low chair, and enjoy a fantastic night with loved ones.

For the full program of dates and movie titles, visit www.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/sunset. Don't miss out on the magic – mark your calendars and join us for a summer to remember!

Sunset Series MOVIE FESTIVAL

Friday 31 January

Blueback Stirk Park, Kalamunda

Friday 14 February

Captain Underpants Maida Vale Primary School

Friday 21 February

Mayka The Forest Song Mary's Mount Primary School, Gooseberry Hill

Friday 28 February

G-Force Lesmurdie Primary School

Friday 7 March

Migration Walliston Primary School

Friday 14 March

Wolf and the Lion Kalari Park, Wattle Grove

Friday 28 March

Pokemon: Detective Pikachu Dawson Park Primary School, Forrestfield

Join us for the City of Kalamunda's FREE outdoor movie screenings, proudly supported by Perth Airport.

Bring a blanket or chairs and find your spot on the grass for this year's Sunset Series.

FREE popcorn & pre-show activities | Screenings start after dark

Screening days & times are subject to weather conditions. Visit the website for further information.







Tim reflects on his 30-year Ellenbrook masterplan vision



Tim Trefry is an urban planner who was key in Ellenbrook's development.

WITH the long-awaited Ellenbrook-Morley train line officially opened, Tim Trefry, one of the urban planners behind the Ellenbrook masterplan, reflects on how a 30-year-vision became a reality.

The Ellenbrook train line was enshrined in the early planning and Mr Trefry played a key role in ensuring the train line eventu-

A former sand quarry and pine forest in Perth's north-eastern fringe, work on Ellenbrook first commenced back in 1995 with Hatch – a global services firm specialising in mining and metals, energy, infrastructure and digital technologies - helping deliver the town's vision at every stage.

The Ellenbrook landholdings, held by the WA Housing Authority and private urban developers in a joint venture, was transformed into a 1200ha new community of 11,500 homes in eight walkable villages surrounding a vibrant, mixed-use town centre.

Today, it's home to 30,000 residents and is Australia's most decorated urban development project with 30 awards, including the International Real Estate Federation (FIAB-CI) 2015 World Prix d'Excellence Award for the world's best masterplanned community, and continues to be acknowledged as a model for contemporary new communities.

Mr Trefry has more than 30 years private and public sector experience within the urban planning space and has designed, approved and delivered more than 10,000 residential lots on a range of projects that spanned Ellenbrook, North Eglington and Wattleup – all in WA, and Huntlee in the NSW Hunter Valley.

At Ellenbrook, he worked on the delivery of eight residential villages and the regional town centre.

As a Fellow of the Planning Institute of Australia, he said the Ellenbrook transit corridor is the ultimate testament to why future proofing communities matters, and he believes the city should serve as a blueprint.

"Ellenbrook is the perfect 30-year lesson for Australia's urban planners. By enshrining that transit corridor in the masterplan all those years ago, we set today's residents up for success," Mr Trefry said.

"This underscores the power of forward planning and it's proof that visionary design and collaboration can create thriving, sustainable communities that flourish for generations to come.

'Seeing the excitement from residents as the first train left the station shows just how impactful long-term planning can be. For many, this train line is more than just improved transport - it's a catalyst for the next phase of Ellenbrook's growth.

'It will spark investment, boost local jobs, and expand town centre facilities, further cementing Ellenbrook as a thriving, self-sufficient community.

"Deputy Premier Rita Saffioti should be proud of her commitment and leadership that drove the construction and delivery of what will now go down in history as the long awaited but warmly welcomed Ellenbrook

From the outset, Hatch's planning ensured the train station would sit in a central, accessible location within a 400-metre walkable catchment of the main street.

The vision was clear: the town centre should be a stop on a regional transit system, with the station adjacent to the core commercial area.

Mr Trefry said Hatch contributed to strategic planning, urban design, planning approvals, and the delivery of the rail line, in collaboration with the Metronet team, while also developing the rail alignment study and precinct plans for the Ellenbrook, Whiteman, and Malaga train stations.

This ensured they were designed to prioritise accessibility and foster community connection.

The Ellenbrook train line is expected to drive the next stage of growth for the town centre, attracting investment, creating jobs, and expanding facilities for the local com-

"It's a transformative step forward for one of Australia's most celebrated urban developments and a powerful reminder of what thoughtful, long-term planning can achieve," Mr Trefry said.

The 21km Morley-Ellenbrook Line has five new stations, including Ellenbrook Station - providing a short 30-minute journey to Perth's city centre.

"As Australia's cities grow, it's vital for developers and planners to think decades ahead, embedding transit corridors and prioritising connected, inclusive design," he

"Ellenbrook is the ultimate example of how the choices we make today shape how our communities thrive tomorrow.

PM must address live sheep export trade jobs: Nats

LEADER of The Nationals David Littleproud said the Prime Minister turned his back on the live sheep export trade while in Western Australia and owes it to farmers to pay them a visit and listen to their

"The Prime Minister is pressing ahead with the closure of the live sheep export trade while in WA," Mr Littleproud said.

"He is destroying the livelihoods of 3000 people while apparently spruiking jobs in regional WA.

"This is also an enormous insult to the 60 or more workers who have been left without jobs last week after the abrupt closure of the Tammin abattoir (about 72kms east of York) in the Wheatbelt community

"The Prime Minister owes it to the Tammin abattoir workers to explain why they are now out of a job and why he is abandoning them

"Labor's contempt and treatment of the industry has been disgraceful and our farmers have had enough.'

Market analysts Episode 3 said the closure of the abattoir points to the repercussions of the live sheep trade decision and the government implementing an inadequate timeline for the phase out.

"Over the last two years, we've seen a decline to the Western Australian flock, and I think by the end of this year, we're going to be down to two-thirds of the size of what it was back in 2021 and 2022, around 8 million head marked down from 12.5 million head, market analyst Matt Dalgleish said.

"Even if there are some good prospects for sheep meat exports as boxed meat, if the farmers can't see a future in the immediate short-term because of the short timelines and the decision to phase out and they get out, then that means the sector reduces in size and that has implications for the abattoirs as well, they don't have the supply

"If this is another nail in the coffin and that means a few more producers make the decision to contract their exposure or get out entirely, that's just going to put further pressure on those that are remaining in the supply chain, whether it's other abattoirs, veterinary services, shearing teams, and transport oper-

Mr Littleproud added WA Premier Roger Cook has openly backed the live sheep trade and must show leadership with the Prime Minister.

"Farmers deserve to know if Premier Cook will raise the issue of live sheep exports and the Tammin workers losing their jobs," he

"The WA Premier has so far failed to stand up to the Prime Minister and fight to save live sheep exports.

"A future coalition government, with The Nationals' candidate Mia Davies winning the seat of Bullwinkel, and Keep the Sheep advocate Paul Brown in the Senate for The Nationals, will reinstate the live sheep export trade."

Meanwhile, Keep the Sheep spokesperson Ben Sutherland has accused the prime minister of refusing to engage with the people whose livelihoods he is ripping apart while in WA.

"Keep the Sheep protesters were following Albanese during his campaign-style tour across the state, when WA Farmers president John Hassell was able to ask him the question," Mr Sutherland said.

'We shouldn't have been surprised when Albanese responded with... silence. It's been his MO from the beginning."



The Nationals leader David Littleproud.

"Albanese owes our farmers an answer and owes it to the Tammin abattoir workers, who last week had their livelihoods taken away because of his policies."

Three people face animal cruelty charges

THREE people are due back in Midland Magistrates Court on Thursday, February 6 after their case was adjourned while they obtain legal advice.

A 43-year-old-man, a 38-year-old woman and a 61-year-old woman, who were charged with animal cruelty after failing to seek vet care for their dog who was suffering from allergy-related skin issues, first appeared in the Midland court on January 6.

An RSPCA WA inspector attended a Midland property in December 2023 after receiving a cruelty report in relation to an injured large breed dog that was living in squalor.

RSPCA alleged the male accused said the eight-year-old german shepherd had a foul smell due to allergies and when he last took the dog to a vet three months prior, he was told to give the dog antihistamines and was not required to return to the vet.



He also said the dog had been "very sick" for the last three days.

The inspector observed the dog was in very poor body condition, his ribs were easily palpable, he had an abnormal gait on his back legs and had patches of fur missing with crusty scabs across his back and neck.

The male accused told the inspector he had been feeding the dog cat biscuits and had difficulties finding allergenic food.

He also had been trying to resolve the dog's allergies using home remedies.

The accused have been charged under sections 19(1), 19(3)(d), and 19(3)(h) of the Animal Welfare Act 2002. RSPCA WA will allege they were cruel to the dog in that they did not provide him with proper and sufficient food and that he suffered harm which could have been alleviated by taking reasonable steps.

The male accused was also charged under section 40(2) for failing to comply with a written direction.

The maximum penalty for a charge of animal cruelty is a \$50,000 fine and five years in prison. Failing to comply with a direction order attracts a maximum penalty of a \$20,000 fine and one year imprisonment.

Teenager drowns

A TEENAGER has drowned earlier this week at a lake in Chidlow.

A police spokesperson said about 2pm on Tuesday, January 14 emergency services were called to Lake Leschenaultia after reports of a distressed swimmer.

Emergency services located the boy and provided him with first-aid.

The 17-year-old boy was unable to be revived despite the efforts of emergency responders and witnesses.

The lake will remain closed until further notice while police investigate the incident.

Police will prepare a report for the Coroner.



Discover our digital edition online www.echonewspaper.com.au



Try your hand at Bridge

No experience required

Beginner's Lessons

Friday 7th February till Friday 28th March 2025 9.30am–11.30am







For further details and to register please phone Jenny on

0407 085 229

www.kalamunda-district.bridge-club.org

Kalamunda District Bridge Club

OPEN DAIY

Thursday 30th January 2025 12–2pm

56 Ledger Road, GOOSEBERRY HILL Come and check us out!



New Midland station car park opens Monday

THE New Midland station project will reach a major milestone next week, with the recently completed multistorey car park officially opening to commuters on Monday, January 20.

The car park, located within the existing station's footprint, features five levels including an open-air top deck, around 800 parking bays including 20 ACROD bays, 13 motorcycle bays, pay-by-plate and SmartParker machines, lifts, lighting, CCTV, duress alarms and the provision for future electric car charging stations.

Commuters will be able to start using the new car park from January 20, with parking free for all SmartRider holders until February 5 as part of the 'summer of free travel'.

Outside of this initiative, parking will be charged at \$2 per 24-hour period or part thereof - the same as parking at any other Transperth station.

The existing car park will now be decommissioned to allow construction to begin on the temporary and permanent bus interchange.

Visual amenity has been a key consideration, and the multistorey car park has been designed to reflect both the geographical landmarks and the colours of local Aboriginal language groups.

On top of providing protection from the sun, wind and rain, the brightly coloured exterior was designed to represent the area between the WA coast and the nearby Darling Ranges.

The façade, which was made from powder-coated aluminium fins, is laid out in a pattern that maps the shape of the Swan, Canning and Helena rivers.

Transport Minister Rita Saffioti said the opening of the new multistorey car park marked a major milestone in the redevelopment of the Midland station.

"The new carpark includes around 800 parking bays across the five-storey building, providing much needed relief to the station's previous parking pressure.

"We can now commence the next phase of the project, which will see a new bus interchange built on the site of the existing car park.

"This project is reshaping the heart of Midland and will deliver positive benefits to the community for decades to come."



METRONET





The Midland Station multi-storey car park will open Monday 20 January.

The new car park will provide an upgraded parking experience, with about 800 parking spaces, including 20 ACROD bays and 13 motorcycle bays, the car park is one of the first key elements completed as part of the METRONET New Midland Station Project.

Entry will be via a slip-lane off Victoria Street and temporary pedestrian access will be in place at opening to provide passengers safe access to the bus and train station.

The existing car park will close the same day so works can commence on the new bus interchange.

Passenger pick up/drop off, taxi bays and short-term parking will be located in the multi-storey car park until the new station is operational.

Victoria Street between Helena Street and the entrance to the car park will be reduced to one lane for approximately six months for bus interchange works.

There will be some changes in the area so plan ahead and follow the signs.

*Please note that due to ongoing construction requirements, the open-air deck on level 4 will remain closed at this time.

For more information call 9326 3666, or email info@metronet.wa.gov.au.

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Come learn with your local bridge club

Kalamunda District Bridge Club is your local place to learn or play bridge in a relaxed Hills environment and new members are always welcome!

So come down, keep your brain sharp and make new friends, beware though it can be addictive.

Bridge is played at our clubhouse in Ledger Road, Gooseberry Hill, 5 days of the week. We are a friendly club with players at all levels of bridge. We usually offer beginner lessons twice a year, the next one will start on Friday 7th February and conclude Friday 28th March, with an Open Day happening on Thursday 30th January from 12.00 – 2.00pm. We have occasional lectures from visiting experts and run a variety of competitions catering to all levels of bridge.

Monday evening supervised sessions are open to anyone wanting to practice their bridge skills. A partner is not necessary. It is a very popular evening where new players can gain experience in a very friendly atmosphere!

Please refer to our website for more information regarding days and times or phone Jenny on 0407 085 229 for information and to register.





Mix Margaret's mighty music and music lessons

"People of all ages love music and it's very good for them. They love hearing music and making music themselves," says Margaret Jones.

"Learning to make music can be very intriguing and engaging, especially if you're able to range freely without being stuck in a structured course.'

With decades of music and teaching experience, and a profound understanding of music and music education, Hills musician Margaret Dylan Jones is able to tailor one-to-one lessons to suit each student's needs and interests.

An accomplished and published composer of educational and professional classical music, Margaret teaches online or in students' homes in the Mundaring Hills area.

Musical endeavours taught include piano, singing, speech & vocal health, music theory, and pitching for people with genuine tone-deafness. See www.tone-deafness-lessons.com

Hear Margaret perform their own music at the next Bushcare Info, Chat & Music event (BICM 5), Sunday 16th February. See www.mixmargaret. com/bushcare

MusB(UWA), DipEd, LTCL, ATCL, AMusTCL, AMusA. WWĆC

FOGO education show comes to Kalamunda

Let's All FOGO show set to educate and inspire young environmental champions

The City of Kalamunda, in partnership with Ad-



venture Kids Entertainment, is proud to present the Let's All FOGO show in 2025 — an exciting and interactive educational program supporting last year's rollout of the Food Organics, Garden Organics (FOGO) waste service. Participants can enjoy age-appropriate educational, interactive and catchy songs, dances and activities, to help them learn how to be champions of change and reinforcing the message of making landfill the last resort.

Thanks to funding from the WasteSorted Community Education Grants, this engaging show will tour schools, daycare centres and libraries across the region teaching children about environmental stewardship, earth-cycling, and the importance of reducing waste and viewing landfill as the last re-

The WasteSorted Community Education Grants provide funding to support projects that encourage waste reduction, recycling, and responsible resource management. These grants empower communities to adopt smarter waste practices and create a cleaner, greener future for Western Australia.

This initiative highlights the power of community-focused funding to drive meaningful change, ensuring education and environmental responsibility go hand-in-hand.

For more information about the Let's All FOGO show visit Kalamunda.wa.gov.au/libraries

This project is supported by the Government of Western Australia and the Waste Authority.

Your connection with music

Learn to read, understand and play piano music, or improve voice quality and pitching.

Have lessons with Margaret D. Jones online or in your own home in the Mundaring Hills area.

Piano and theory ages 8 to 108, voice and singing over 16.

Your connection with nature

Margaret is the producer of the Bushcare Info, Chat & Music event series.

BICM 5: BECAUSE THE BUSH NEEDS OUR HELP

Peter Kendrick, PhD - talk on weeding in the Pilbara Storme Reeves - songs from new CD out now Margaret Jones - solo piano music.

BICM 5 is 2pm - 4pm Sunday 16th February at 120 Stoneville Road (Mundaring Uniting Church, opp. KFC).

> Gold coin entry includes afternoon tea. Margaret 0414 374 701, www.mixmargaret.com

Show us you care — see you there!

School Holiday Activity

LET'S ALL FOGO

Join Milli the Hen and her clever sidekick Mike as they sing, dance, and tell stories to teach children how sorting everyday kitchen scraps can help build a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable planet!



Kalamunda Library

Wednesday 22 January

Book: trybooking.com/CXRGG



High Wycombe Library

Tuesday 28 January Book: trybooking.com/CXRGR



Lesmurdie Library

Book: trybooking.com/CXRGX



Forrestfield Library

Book: trybooking.com/CXZNX





This is a free event, however, bookings are required.

No tickets required for accompanying adults.



Mind Boggler Crossword

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- Giving an advantage
- Useful facility Disappointment Sky blue
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- time
- Sickly-looking
- Awaken Ocean travel
- 33 Saunter Odour
- Seabird fertiliser
- Group of ships Cradlesong
- Whispered call
- Precedence in order A ballet skirt
- Literature of love Minimum
- 51 54 Vigilant A detested thing
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- 60 Shining state A nudist
- Devote to
- something 63 Hooklike
- instrument
- A soft felt hat Disregards

71

- Organic community
- 75 Easy to believe
- Sturgeon roe
- Strengthens 81 Soundness of body
- 83 Relatives
- 84 Icv rain
- 85 Edge 86 Conclude

- Winding, as a snake
- Cowboy's leg
- Drop behind 101
- Compass point Portable dwelling
- Grand manner Continual Removes skin
- Neck brace A levy A lively dance
- Gear for a horse Lift 129 Fragrance
- Truck's compartment Smooth transition
- (mus) 134 Ensnare
- Of the sun 136 138 A female bird A talent

141

- 143 Laziness Bearing on subject 147
- 150 Needing no work 155 Effective use of resources
- Lion symbol 159 Hilltop
- 160 A cooker Everything
- Excited feeling 163 Space for an audience
- 165 Ogled A tomato (coll) 166 (4,5)
- Talkative Food for gods Puts away

- Pay back
- Make certain of Final Greek letter
 - protection
- Retributive justice
 - Dodge Womb (Lat) Type of arachnid A fragment

179

Edible garden plant In present condition (2,2)

Change over

Feelings of hostility

patronage (fem)

Chess champions

One under

A salve Monies outlaid

- Those doubting an accepted truth
- Boiled food Countryside Metal mixture Add colour to Hidden stash
- Moisten while cooking Accompany Cool
- A low bed 220 Boundary 221 Come between Eva PerÛn, aka ...
- Large-scale digging 224 Part of a song A pamphlet 225 226 Windpipe
- 227 Timid 228 Fabric embellishment Young, likeable

DOWN

Without musical accompaniment (1,8)

hooligans (coll)

- Large containers A dirge
- Bouncy Make saliva Night moisture Involuntary spasms

- Lace hole
 - Detest 10 Fruits A sacred beetle Type of reindeer
 - Elegance in motion A skilled worker Pacify
 - Actions Discharge slowly
 - Tickle A badger Post some money A dog breed
 - Flying saucer (init) Added South American
 - steppe Impromptu (2,3)
 - Robust Sailors (coll) Ocean motion 45 Pacific country
- A bay window Architectural style Portable lights Word element: star
- 52 53 56 57 58 59 Precise Deep furrows Anaesthetic A root vegetable Floor show
- Rims Of the middle 63 Mental damage Japanese verse form Cleared area in
- forest 69 A being Absence of sound 70 A barrage of gunfire
- Soft leather No more than 75 Bridle part A grub

A curving recess

- Car safety device A call for more
- A tree A waistband
- 90 Carnival port (abb) 91 Clamorous
- 92 A hotel Audio effect 93 94 Burnt remnant
- Travelling musician Impatiently irritated
- Goddess of wisdom Rounded hills
- Silly person (coll) Geronimo's people Small coins
- 106 A bar 107 Suit of cards A formal request 108 One owing money
- 111 Placid 112 Moist 114 Inlet 115 Part of staircase
- An African river Leguminous plant Bovines Afterwards
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Shire President's Message

Hi everyone,

As the new year rolls in, it brings a sense of renewal, hope and inspiration. 2025 promises to be a productive year in the Shire of Mundaring as we deliver new community projects from our Plan for the Future - Council Plan.

Summer also marks bushfire season. New Years Day saw our Volunteer Bushfire Brigades first on the scene battling a fastmoving blaze at The Lakes near Wooroloo. Their commitment to our community's safety is exemplary and we thank them sincerely.

To support their efforts, please make sure your property provides clear access for firefighting trucks and take the time to update and practice your Bushfire Plan.

January 26 sees us celebrating Australia Day at the Boya Community Centre, welcoming 33 new Australians at our Citizenship Ceremony.

We'll also take great pride in recognising all of our Community Award winners for their invaluable volunteering contributions to our shire. We will present awards in four categories including Young Citizen of the Year, Inspirational Volunteer, Access Mundaring and Long Service.

Mark your calendar on Tuesday 4 February for our Annual Electors' Meeting! This is an opportunity for our community to ask questions about Shire matters or propose motions for Councils' consideration. Join us at 6:30pm in the Council Chambers for a productive exchange of ideas. For further information visit mundaring.wa.gov.au/ electorsmeeting.

I'm really looking forward to sharing projects and updates as we work together to realise our vision of the Place for Sustainable Living.

Paige McNeil **Shire President**

Growing a Greener Future in Greenmount and Swan View

Shire of Mundaring

ON THE TRAIL

Shire of Mundaring has secured \$82,953 through the Urban Greening Grant Program to enhance tree canopy and vegetative cover in Greenmount and Swan View.

Supported by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) and delivered in partnership with WALGA, this initiative contributes to a broader \$1.6 million program across 16 local governments in Perth and Peel to plant over 5,000 trees and 130,000 understory species.

More than 200 trees will be planted locally. focusing on areas with limited urban canopy. This effort will help reduce urban heat, create ecological corridors, and support endangered black cockatoos and other native wildlife.

The project also aims to boost biodiversity and improve hydrological health, fostering a more sustainable environment.



Shire President Paige McNeil highlighted the initiative as part of the Shire's vision for sustainable living. "Planting more than 200 trees in our foothills delivers on our commitment to enhance natural habitats for conservation and recreation," she said.

"Increasing tree canopy will also connect local bushland, like John Forrest National Park, with our neighbourhoods, creating healthy spaces for our community and wildlife."

Visit mundaring.wa.gov.au/ protectingourenvironment to learn more about our environmental initiatives.

What's On

1 Feburary **Ordinary Council** Meeting

Tuesday 11 February

The meeting will be held on Tuesday 11 February at 6.30pm at the Shire Administration Centre.

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

2 Inclusive Sports Day

Thursday 30 January (FREE)

10am to 12pm Mundaring Arena

Have a go at a range of inclusive sports designed for people with disabilities. This event is proudly supported in partnership with WA Disabled Sports Association and Blind Sports WA. Bookings via bit.ly/InclusiveSportsDay



10 February (FREE)

6.30pm to 8pm Boya Community Centre

Discover the hidden diversity of birds at Broz Park, Helena Valley, with Rachel and Mike Green, authors of The Birds of Broz Park. Join their engaging and illustrated talk to learn practical bird identification tips. Bookings essential via

https://100225b.eventbrite.com.au/

4 Cloud Storage and Photo Storage Wednesday

12 February (FREE)

10am to 12pm Boya Community Centre

Learn how to protect important documents and photos using cloud storage while freeing up hard drive space. Bookings essential via https://120225b.eventbrite.com.au/



7000 Great Eastern Highway, Mundaring WA 6073 T: (08) 9290 6666 E: shire@mundaring.wa.gov.au



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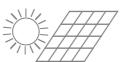
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Central Regional TAFE is committed to improving employment opportunities and outcomes to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. As a measure to achieve equality Section 51 of the Equal Opportunity Act 1984 (WA) will apply to this position.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

To Access Detailed Information: Go to jobs.wa.gov.au and key in the Web Search No 40000953 Applicants are required to apply online.

For Specific Inquiries: Please contact Frances Everett, Manager Governance and Integrity on (08) 9088 6702 or email Frances. Everett@crtafe.wa.edu.au

Closing Date: Tuesday 28 January 2025 at 4.00pm (WST).



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Public Notices

SHIRE OF MUNDARING **ANNUAL ELECTORS' MEETING**

Electors of the Shire are advised that the annual electors' meeting will be held on Tuesday, 4 February 2025, commencing at 6.30pm in the Council Chamber, 7000 Great Eastern Highway, Mundaring.

The purpose of the meeting is to:

- 1. Adopt the 2023/24 Annual Report; and
- 2. Conduct General Business

A copy of the 2023/24 Annual Report is on the Annual Reports and Progress Reporting page on the Shire of Mundaring

website. Hardcopies are available for inspection at the Mundaring Administration Centre and Mundaring and Boya Public Libraries.

Please note, priority at the meeting will be given to guestions and motions received at least two business days prior to the meeting. Additional questions and motions may also be presented at the meeting which will be considered after the written submissions, time permitting.

To submit a question or motion, please provide completed forms to shire@mundaring.wa.gov.au by 4pm, Thursday 30 January 2025.

Note, this meeting will be audio recorded and livestreamed.

Jason Whiteaker **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**



CITY OF SWAN

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

PROPERTY: Suite 8, 8-12 Stafford St, Midland,

WA. 6056

The Trustee for RAMMS Investment Trust trading as Clear Ears Perth

ANNUAL

VALUATION:

TERM:

LESSEE:

RENTAL AMOUNT:

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1 Year with 3x 1 year options

\$5,221.00 per annum plus GST

and Outgoings PHRPOSE: Medical consulting (Non-Retail)

Submissions, in writing, addressed to the undersigned, may be lodged on or before 3rd February 2025.

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



CITY OF SWAN

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF MEETING

In accordance with section 5.5 of the Local Government Act (1995) notice is given that the Annual Electors Meeting will be held at Midland Town Hall Auditorium, 312 Great Eastern Highway, Midland on Monday, February 3, 2025 starting at 6pm and concluding at the latest 9pm.

The business of the meeting will be:

- 1 Receive the Annual Report 2023/2024
- 2. General business.

To access the annual report and for further information on registering to attend and participate in the meeting, please visit the City's website: www.swan.wa.gov.au.

Please note the meeting will be live-streamed and videorecorded. The recording will be made available on the Council's website after the meeting.

Stephen Cain Chief Executive Officer PO Box 196, Midland, 6936



MORE PUBLIC NOTICES ON PAGE18.







Public Notice

Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 2022/9151

Re-Publication of Preliminary Document and Response to Public Submissions

The following notice is published pursuant to Section 95B(2) of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act). As part of the Great Eastern Highway Upgrade Project, Main Roads is proposing to construct and operate a two-way carriageway

and upgrade intersections and other road infrastructure within a 11.4km section of Great Eastern Highway. The Proposal is located approximately 56 km east of Perth and, at its closest point, approximately 25 km south-west of Northam. The proposed action occurs in the Wheatbelt region of Western Australia. The proposed action has been determined to be a controlled action under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999 (EPBC Act) and will be assessed through Preliminary Documentation. The controlling provision under Part 3 of the EPBC Act are

(Endangered), Baudin's Black Cockatoo (Zanda baudinii formerly Calyptorhynchus baudinii) (Endangered) and Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus banksii naso) (Vulnerable). In accordance with Section 95A(3) of the EPBC Act, the Preliminary Documentation related to the proposed action was advertised for viewing and public comment for 10 business days from 11 to 25 October 2024. Four submissions were received during the public

listed threatened species (section 18 and 18A); Carnaby's Black Cockatoo (Zanda latirostris listed as Calyptorhynchus latirostris)

comment period. a summary of the submissions received is provided in the Hesponse to Submissions document that is available to the public to access in addition to the revised Preliminary Documentation. These documents are available for viewing for a period of 10 business days

between 18 January and 3 February 2025, noting that submissions are not being sought at this time. In accordance with Section 95B(2) of the EPBC Act and Regulation 16.03(6)(g) of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Regulations

2000, the Response to Submissions and revised Preliminary Documentation is available:

• in hard copy available for purchase for \$10 (including postage and packaging) from:

Main Roads Western Australia 126 Peel Terrace Northam WA 6401

Telephone No. 138 138 electronically (free of charge) via the Main Roads website at

https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/projects-initiatives/all-projects/regional/geh-upgrades/

Persons with special needs (i.e. for whom English is a second language or who has a vision impairment) may contact Mick Adam via the details below for assistance in accessing the documentation.

Senior Environment Officer Main Roads Western Australia PO Box 333, Northam WA 6401 Email: mick.adam@mainroads.wa.gov.au Phone: +61 8 9323 6394

ENTERTAINMENT & GIG GUIDE

Your local Gig Guide

Fri January 17

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

Parkerville Tavern Kevin Curran From 6pm. Free. 6 Owen road Parkerville

Sat January 18

Bassendean Hotel 80s Underground 8pm-Late. Free. 25 Old Perth Road

Bassendean

Mt Helena Tavern Bob Brisbane From 6pm. Free. 6 Owen Road Parkerville

Hemingway & Co Acoustic Saturday From 7.30pm. 6/7095 Great Eastern Highway Mundaring

Lyric's Bar Laneway Bar From 3pm. Free. 22 Lyric Lane Maylands

Parkerville Tavern Cush From 6pm. Free. 6 Owen Road Parkerville

Mahogany Inn Solo Music Festival 2pm - 9pm. Covers from Pink Floyd, Eric Clapton, Cat Stevens, Paul Kelly. 4260 Great Eastern Highway Mahogany Creek

Sun January 19

Parkerville Tavern Todd Johnston and PeaceLove Phatts. From 4pm. Free. 6 Owen Road Parkerville

Bassendean Hotel Calico From 2pm. Free. 25 Old Perth Road Bassendean

Lyric's Bar Donny Goodman Duo 5pm. Free. 22 Lyric Lane Maylands

Childlow Tavern Live Music 12.30pm – 3.30pm. Free. 4 Thomas St Chidlow

Tue January 21

Hemingway & Co Jazz Tuesday From 6pm 6/7095 Great Eastern Highway Mundaring

Wed January 22

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



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ENTERTAINMENT & GIG GUIDE

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Summer Mozart at St Cuthbert's

THE second concert in the Summer Mozart festival series will be held at St Cuthbert's Anglican Church, Darlington at 3pm on the public holiday Monday, January 27 which is Mozart's exact birthday.

This concert explores Mozart's visit to Naples in 1770, to absorb the latest trends in Italian opera.

The program features a rare instrumental work by Domenico Cimarosa (1749-1801), who was born in Naples and achieved renown as a master of the cantabile Italian vocal style. T

Two of Mozart's delightful quartets will be played.

The artists are flautist Emily Gunson, violinist Kylie Liang, violist Bourby Webster and cellist Isaac Davis.

The World of Mozart presented by W. A. Mozarteum celebrates Mozart and his world – taking a closer look at

some of the places where Mozart lived, visited and worked, with insights into the artistic and social environments of London, Naples and Vienna.

A variety of Mozart's music will be presented, from enchanting trios written in London by the eight-year-old, through to his ever popular Symphony no. 40 in G minor, alongside works by composers he met during his travels, and interspersed with entertaining readings from Leopold Mozart's letters.

The first concert London Calling will be held at the Eileen Joyce studio, University of WA at 3pm on Saturday, January 25.

The third concert Timeless Masterpieces is at Callaway Auditorium, University of WA at 3pm on Sunday, February 2.

For more information visit www.flutissimo.com.au and for bookings call 9574 1591 or 0417 984 887.



9374 6666

classifieds@echo-news.com BOOK ONLINE: www.echonewspaper.com.au

Classifieds

Public Notices

Grants Selection Committee Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the above meeting will be held on Tuesday 29 April 2025 at 5.30pm for the purpose of assessing applications for the Shire's Community Event, Matching and Milestone Event Grants.

The meeting will be held in the Council Chamber at Shire of Mundaring, 7000 Great Eastern Highway, Mundaring.



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CITY OF SWAN PUBLIC NOTICE TALBOT ROAD BARRIER REMOVAL

Notice of road barrier removal as per section 3.50 of the Local Government Act 1995

The City of Swan will remove a barrier closing a portion of Talbot Road in Hazelmere on Saturday, February 1, 2025. The removal was approved at the Ordinary Meeting of

Council on Wednesday, December 11, 2024.

The closure has been in place since 2009 and prevents public vehicle access to the area.

Read the full motion in the meeting minutes:

www.swan.wa.gov.au/city-and-council/your-council/
meetings.

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



Do you have something to Celebrate?

Why not announce it in the Echo? Call 9374 6666 to share your special news.

Public Notices

Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914

Western Australian Land Authority has made application for a temporary licence under s5C to take 150,000 kilolitres from the Perth-Superficial Swan aquifer for dewatering purposes to support construction of the Brabham sewer main in Brabham. People who are interested in the application, may make a written submission within 15 days of this publication to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, 7 Ellam Street Victoria Park Western Australia 6100, quoting DWERVT7103.

If you object to the proposal, you must in your submission specify what actions, if any, would overcome your objections.

General enquiries to Ellam reception on 6250 8000.

Notice Board

A free service for non-profit organisations

9374 6666 editorial@echo-news.com

Upcoming Events

• Kalamunda Prostate Cancer Support Group meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at Falls Farm, 41 Cagney Way Lesmurdie from 10am-1pm. For more information call Roy on 9295 2522 or Ray on 0427 095 892.

• The Seventh Day Adventist Church at 24 Anderson Road, Forrestfield is collecting funds for refugees in the camps on the Myanmar (Burmese) border. Pastor John Horvath said a 20m flood had washed away people and houses in the camps, leaving many in desperate need of basic necessities. Contact Pr Horvath on 0429 796 159.

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.

Lou zer suite expe he c ilise

Woofer of the week

Louie is a two-year-old schnauzer cross. He would be best suited to someone who has had experience with a schnauzer as he can be very feisty. He is sterilised, vaccinated and microchipped. Costs apply. Contact Bakers Hill Dog Sanctuary on 9574 1438.

Read between the lines

by Pastor Ian Kirk

The Great Adventure

While in Albany recently, we explored lots of places, like Two People's Bay and the coastline off Frenchman's Bay. We went to many remote places, enjoying spectacular coastal scenery.



But after Colleen went op shopping, one of her favourite activities, I tried to start our car, but it wouldn't crank over. Doing a few checks, I concluded that it was the battery; even though the battery seemed to have been fine beforehand.

We were glad we weren't in some remote place without phone coverage. As a matter of fact, we just happened to be 150 metres away from a car shop that had batteries. So, I undid our dead battery and came back from the car shop with a new battery - and the car started. How timely that our battery died where it did.

The perfect timing of when our car battery failed, reminds me of God's perfect timing when it comes to helping us. In Romans 5:6 we read "For while we were still helpless, at the right time, Christ died for the ungodly." From God's perspective, at the right time, He sent Jesus into our world, to reveal God to us and to rescue us from the consequences of our sins – through faith in Him.

God's perfect timing was out of His perfect love for us. In Rom 5:8 we read "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." What a caring and loving God!

9374 6666 editorial@echo-news.com

Midland Guildford 1st grade produces a dominant win

JOSHUA McKENZIE

THE Midland Guildford male 1st grade side produced a dominant win against Scarborough.

In the bowling innings, the side led by Matt Russo (4-43 from ten overs) restricted their opponents to 8-206.

Keaton Critchell provided a second consecutive century with a destructive innings of 116 runs not out from just 81

The innings including ten fours and six sixes as the side secured victory by seven wickets with 14.5 overs remain-

The male 2nd grade also enjoyed a comfortable win against the same op-

After being asked to bowl first, the side was led by efforts from Ben Skinner (2-15 from seven overs), Lennon Brookes (3-20 from 10 overs) and Kelly Jones (3-7 from 3.1 overs) as they limited their opponents to 127 all out.

A straightforward chase that was led by Mitchell Pope (45 from 70) and Hayden Collins (35 from 81) saw the side win by eight wickets with 19.5 overs remaining.

The male 3rd grade were defeated by four wickets, while the male 4th grade managed a thrilling victory by just three

The female B grade cruised to a comprehensive 175-run victory over South

After posting 7-262 with Justine Hayward-Janney (57 not out from 55) and Lily-May Lyndon (50 from 59) being the leading scorers.

Emma Wilson (4-19 from 7.3 overs) and Elle White (3-28 from five overs) were the best bowlers for the side as they bowled out their opposition for a total of just 87 runs.

In the other fixtures for the female sides, the female A grade and female U17 both had bye fixtures and the female U14 did not have a match scheduled this weekend.

The male U17 lost by eight wickets in their T20 match against Scarborough, while the male U15 lost in a super over against the same opponents also in a T20 fixture.

The male U14 produced a thumping 137-run victory in a strong display against Joondalup. Tanveer Chauvan (89 from 123) and Lachie Flux (62 from 97) were the standout performers in an innings of 3-227, before the bowlers dismissed Joondalup for just 90. The male U13 also won comfortably against the same opposition with a 40-run victory. After posting 172 all out, an all-round bowling display saw them dismiss their opponents for just 132 runs.





Local Real Estate

Residential **Commercial Rural & Country**





home which dates back to about 1910 and has been updated for modern liv-

The 500sqm property has a fully renovated kitchen featuring contemporary appliances, ample storage space, and a refreshed bathroom designed with stylish fixtures

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Some bedrooms feature built in shelves, and another has a mirror and sliding wardrobe installation that makes it easy to check and correct the outfit if needed.

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out the home add a fresh and inviting touch.

The living area is fully carpeted with neutral grey carpets which complement the grey walls that define many spaces in the house.

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The bathroom has been updated to be more spacious and fit contemporary living standards, and the house also has a new Zincalume roof.

The backyard has a big space for hosts to entertain guests in open air and take in the big natural landscape while enjoying each other's company as the house backs directly onto Ray Marshall Park.

Situated in one of the most desirable locations in Woodbridge, the cottage offers picturesque views overlooking Ray Marshall Park and serene wetlands, making it a perfect spot for nature lovers.

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