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Mundaring and SPH win seats at table

The State Administrative Tribunal (SAT) has granted the Shire of Mundaring leave to make submissions and SPH leave to intervene subject to certain conditions.

PG 3

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Zac Williams
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Barbara Dundas receives an honorary lifetime membership and Kim Douglas' speech.

Guildford Association 50th anniversary

SWAN and Guildford residents gathered at members Barbara and Graeme Dundas' Garden at the start of February to celebrate the Guildford Association's 50th anniversary.

The association began under the name Guildford Community Development Council before being reborn as the Guildford Association, founded in 1975 to protect the town's heritage, environment, and character.

Founding member Kim Douglas gave a speech and recalled the early meetings where differing opinions clashed between longtime residents who wanted progress in the form of infrastructure development and newcomers passionate about historical preservation.

"Past history tended to be just that, while for us newer arrivals past history was to be cherished and preserved," Ms Douglas said.

"Meetings were often battlegrounds between older and newer factions.

"We'd come away drained and exhausted – but Guildford demanded our care and passion, and that's what we gave."

From the outset, members rallied against threats like a proposed regional rubbish tip on Kings Meadow Oval and the demolition of heritage structures.

Road and air traffic were also early concerns voiced by members according to Ms Douglas.

The planning, promotion and organisation of the rubbish tip meeting was the organisation's first major campaign.

It was a signpost to the future in demonstrating how the coordinated actions of a group could achieve significant gains for the entire Guildford community.

Ms Douglas reminisced about her family's

fight to close the dangerous East Street intersection after witnessing tragic accidents in the area. "This accident black spot had claimed several lives," she said.

"For our safety, we installed upright iron t-bar girders across our front boundary, as had our neighbours.

"The posts were soon put to the test when a sheep truck crashed and rolled on our verge – just minutes after our young son had walked across it.

"While too late for our neighbour at (1 East Street), who moved out after the strain of too many years' witness to deaths and accidents, years of Guildford Association campaigning succeeded and the closure mercifully went through."

Over the decades, the Guildford Association has been involved in many preservation efforts such as retaining Guildford's traditions of keeping livestock to protecting riverside amenities once enjoyed for swimming and family picnics.

In one campaign, the group hoped to save the Guildford stationmaster's house from demolition, but the efforts ultimately fell short.

Ms Douglas said she deeply appreciated living in Guildford and to be a continuing member of the association.

"I am enduringly grateful that (I was brought) to Guildford," she said.

"To this place of great trees, of river walks, of mellow bricks, of Stirling Square and St Matthews, Barkers Bridge and the Old Gaol and the Kings Meadows – and a history far beyond these. "Fretted and harried by the traffic of modern life, still Guildford remains a precious and unique place.

"May our community continue to keep it so," Mrs Douglas said.

Forrestfield Senior Leisure Club treasurer retires

FORRESTFIELD Senior Leisure Club's founding member and treasurer Eric Ayrey has retired after serving his club as a member for 25 years.

The leisure club celebrated Mr Ayrey's long-time service to the club by presenting him with a cake and dedication certificate, recognising him and his wife as co-founders of the club.

The club began as a women's only social club in Forrestfield known as the leisure social sports and travel club, which Mrs Ayrey was a member of.

It has since grown to be a more inclusive club, having both female and male members, and also welcoming members beyond Forrestfield such as Maida Vale, High Wycombe, Lesmurdie, Kalamunda, and Midland.

The club would organise group trips, tours, tavern visits, social gaming gatherings and afternoon teas.

When being presented with the cake and dedication certificate, Mr Ayrey stood up and said it was his pleasure to be the treasurer for all those years and thanked everybody for all they'd done.

Club coordinator Lorraine Steward said Mr Ayrey's work often involved collecting fees to fund club outings, accounting for numbers of members present at each event and noting who they were.

"When Eric is not at the club, his spare time is spent on his vegetable garden and he also never misses his carpet bowls on Wednesdays," she said.

"He loves going out with his friends to lunch and was always willing to help his fellow members with anything they needed."



Treasurer Eric Ayrey's long commitment to the club was recognised during high tea.

INSIDE

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P12 Crossword



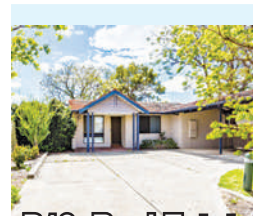
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Last weekend's protest against the proposed North Stoneville development. Pictures Zac Williams ZW Photography.

Mundaring and SPH win seats at SAT table

ANITA McINNES

THE Shire of Mundaring and Save Perth Hills (SPH) have both been successful in seeking to become involved in Satterley Property Group's request for a review of the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC)'s refusal of North Stoneville SP 34.

On Friday, February 21 the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT) said it had granted the shire leave to make submissions and SPH leave to intervene subject to certain conditions.

The WAPC has refused to approve the structure plan for reasons which include concerns about traffic, bushfire risk and environmental matters.

The decision by SAT deputy president Judge Henry Jackson grants SPH leave to intervene and the shire to make opening submissions at the time the parties file their opening submissions in advance of the hearing.

On Wednesday the shire said the decision reinforced its commitment to ensur-

ing local planning and community concerns were represented throughout the appeal process.

Mundaring President Paige McNeil said North Stoneville was the biggest development ever proposed in the shire.

"We welcome the opportunity to present the impact this urban development will have on our regional road network and the bushfire risk to people and property," she said.

"Our submission will also explore the potential cost to ratepayers of managing the public open space and proposed conservation area," she said.

With the hearing date for determining the amended structure plan scheduled for September the shire is continuing to work with its legal representatives to prepare their submission.

The SAT decision said SPH had an interest in the subject matter of the primary proceedings that went well beyond the mere expression of its constitutional objects.

"In short, it is a long-standing organi-

sation with members who have taken significant and sustained action over many years regarding the strategic planning of North Stoneville and particularly by opposing the structure plan and its predecessor," Judge Jackson said.

"In doing so it appears to have been recognised by, at least, the shire.

"At least at this stage I am satisfied that those actions are and have been motivated by its members' experience of several significant bushfires in the vicinity of the subject land which have threatened their lives and property, and their fear that the development of the subject land will exacerbate the risk of bushfire."

Judge Jackson's decision said SPH could file up to five lay witness statements by a date that would allow Satterley's experts to have regard to the lay evidence ahead of the completion of their reports for filing (currently required by April 4).

SPH is also able to file an expert report on the topic of human behaviour in fire (HBIF).

"Counsel for SPH may lead any of

the witnesses called by it but may not cross-examine any witness called by another party."

Save Perth Hills said the community members and expert witness at the appeal hearing would provide relevant first-hand evidence of evacuation constraints and bushfire impacts, both short-term and life-long, that would underscore the need for safer planning in bushfire prone zones.

SPH chair Peter Brazier said they had pursued intervention because of the potential magnitude of the structure plan's impact on the community.

"This is a plan that will knowingly place our community, and thousands more people, in bushfire danger, in an era of increasingly frequent and severe bushfire catastrophes," he said.

"It's only right that our local community members can bring their invaluable lived-experience into the court room, regarding a flawed and dangerous plan that, if approved, our community will have to endure, forevermore."

Hills storm payments available

WESTERN Power has encouraged customers who experience an outage for longer than 12 consecutive hours from last Wednesday's Perth Hills storm to apply for an extended outage payment.

Power outages were still affecting residents into last weekend in Mount Helena, Stoneville, Chidlow, Sawyers Valley and Giddegannup and surrounds, with emergency response crews continuing to work to address a number of hazards and outages caused by the storm.

More than 130 hazards were reported in the Perth Hills, with 55 hazards identified in Mt Helena, 26 of which were hazards on the ground.

As of Friday morning last week, there were still around 3,340 customers without power, down from around 5,000 on Thursday afternoon and 12,200 at the peak.

By Wednesday afternoon this week there were still four residents without power down from 320 on Sunday.

A Western Power spokesperson said they understood the inconvenience and frustration the outages have caused residents and have been communicating with customers directly impacted via SMS.

The damaging and destructive winds associated with the storm front threw debris, including tree branches, into the network damaging equipment and bringing down powerlines including three feeder lines in Sawyers Valley and one in Darlington.

Residents can claim a \$120 service standard payment for outages lasting 12 or more hours as an acknowledgement of the inconvenience for customers who have experienced a long supply interruption while waiting for repairs to be completed and restoration of power to occur.

Payment of successful claims will be made to nominated account within 30 days.

Claims can be made at www.westernpower.com.au/issues-enquiries/make-a-claim/extended-outage/

Moran against Nth Stoneville

LIBERAL candidate for Bullwinkel Matt Moran reaffirmed his strong opposition to the North Stoneville development at last weekend's Save Perth Hills rally in Mundaring.

Mr Moran condemned the Albanese Government's decision to green-light the proposed high-density housing development in the heart of Perth's Hills, a region highly susceptible to bushfires.

He warned that the project, which has been opposed by local residents for more than three decades, puts lives at risk and threatens the region's unique natural environment.

"This is an example of Labor putting profits before people. The North Stoneville development defies common sense, ignoring the well-documented dangers of building in a bushfire-prone area and the devastating impact on the environment," Mr Moran said.

He said the Federal Environment Minister, Tanya Plibersek, had the power to defer this reckless project under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act but instead chose to approve a plan that will see up to 60,000 trees destroyed and critical habitat for endangered black cockatoos wiped out.

"Residents in the Perth Hills have endured major bushfires in 2003, 2008, 2014, and 2021 - all within five kilometres of this proposed site. These clear risks, endangering lives, straining emergency services, and damaging the environment is unacceptable."

**Rod
HENDERSON**
LIBERAL FOR SWAN HILLS

✉ rod.henderson@waliberal.org.au

f Instagram Rod4SwanHills

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Authorised by S. Morgan, Liberal Party, 2/12 Parliament Place, West Perth WA 6005.

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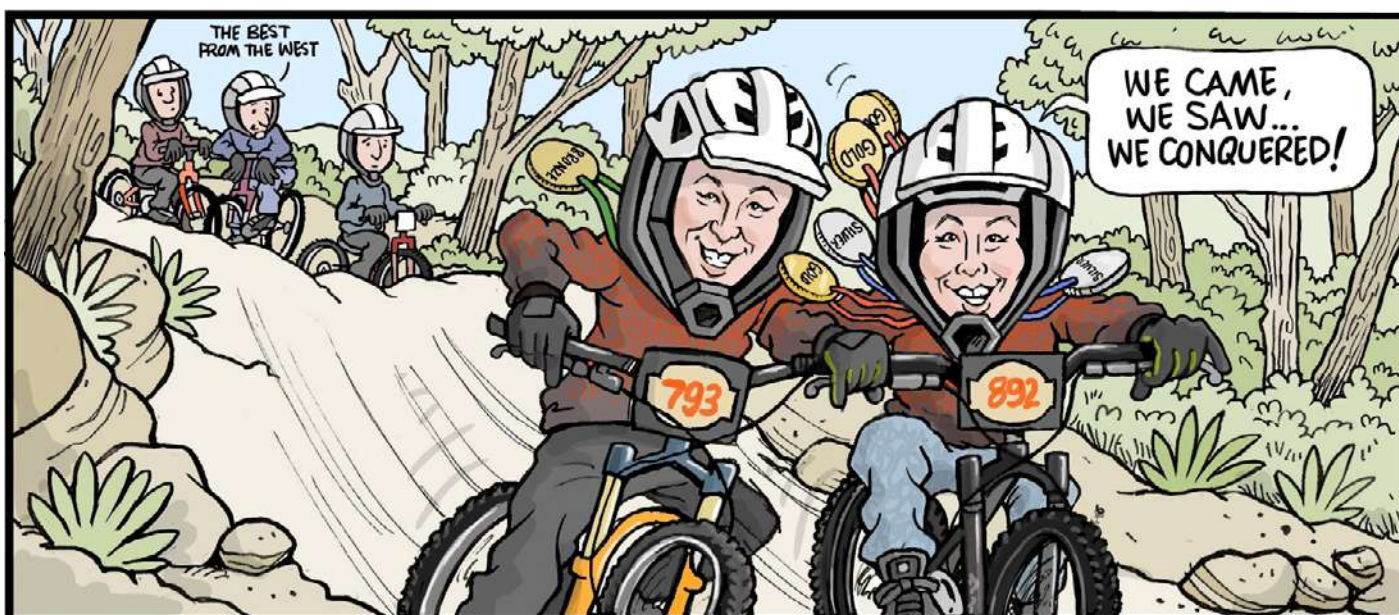
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NATIONAL STAGE WHILE PARTICIPATING IN THE CANNONBALL BIKE FESTIVAL, A
MOUNTAIN BIKING EVENT HELD IN NEW SOUTH WALES.**

ECHO YOUR THOUGHTS

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editorial@echo-news.com

Midland carpark nightmare

Dear Echo News,
Reader C Hughes letter
*Midland Station hope-
less* (Letters, February
7) hit the nail on the
head.

Coming out of the
car park trying to make
it back to the Midland
Shopping Centre is a
nightmare.

Adding to the insult
they closed one rail
crossing only to open a
fresh one at Cale Street.

Ask the Minister why
and she will tell you
that they failed to allow
additional land for an
over or underpass.

**D Cruden
Jane Brook**

Midland Disability concerns

Dear Echo News,
I am writing in response
to the letter published
by C Hughes *Midland
Station hopeless* (Let-
ters, February 7)

I have contacted
Metronet regarding
the issue of the lack of
support for the disabled

and aged that are trav-
elling on and off the
trains when the new
Midland train station is
finally established.

I gather the distance
is approximately 240m
to the carpark from the
station and a little less
to the bus station when
that is completed.

Metronet has
passed the concerns to
Transperth which I am
yet to have a response.

I have asked for a
small transport vehicle
to convey aged and dis-
abled passengers com-
ing and going to the
train station through the
bus station and to the
carpark which could
be easily driven by a
Transperth employee.

I have also asked for
a five-car disability
parking to be situated
outside the train station
as easy access.

Surely there would
or could be a pathway
created for that as well
as pedestrian, bike and
other modes of trans-
portation.

I am also going to
add that there is a need
for a certain amount of
'women only parking'
spaces in the car park
closest to the entrance/
exit for safety reasons
as there are health
workers and women
coming off the trains
early evening and late
at night.

**A Brown
Midland**

Kalamunda pedestrian concerns

Dear Echo News,
The City of Kalamun-
da's consultation on
the proposed McDon-
ald's drive-thru and
takeaway/restaurant
has now closed.

It is now up to the
city's planning officers

to make their recom-
mendation to the com-
mittee.

As local MP, I've
long been concerned
about pedestrian safe-
ty in the Kalamunda
townsite and particu-
larly across the Can-
ning Road in this loca-
tion.

The City of Kala-
munda asked me after I
was elected in 2017 to
convince Main Roads
WA to approve a sig-
nalled (press-button)
crossing across Can-
ning Road in front of
the IGA.

Through Minister
Saffioti's office, I
lobbied on the city's
behalf and in Septem-
ber 2020 Main Roads
changed their minds
and gave the city the
go-ahead to replace
the existing confusing
crossing with traffic
lights.

I immediately wrote
to the then chief exec-
utive officer with the
good news.

Older people and
people with visual im-
pairment living on the
Heath Road side of
Canning Road, plus
Kalamunda Primary
School students and
their families, plus
IGA shoppers and
Stirk Medical Centre
patients are amongst
the many people dis-
appointed that the City
of Kalamunda has still
not installed a proper
crossing.

I note that the city
mentions the crossing
in its 2024/25 annual
budget, but I can't see
any preparatory activi-
ty happening onsite.

I hope the city does
not view the McDon-
ald's plan as an op-
portunity to have the
proponent deliver the
crossing.

**Matthew Hughes
Kalamunda MLA**

Thought for the day

"Life doesn't get easier or more forgiving,
we get stronger and more resilient."

— George Lorimer

Election signs are pollution

Dear Echo News,
I hate election signs
- they are ridiculous
visual pollution that
adds nothing of value
to the political process.

They often become
litter in the streets, de-
stroy visual amenity
and distract from other
important matters for
the community.

It has been shown
that they make no dif-
ference to the voting
outcome, such as the
2021 state election,
the Liberal candidate
for Midland absolutely
plastered the district,
with a ridiculous lead-
time before election
day, and her two-party
preferred result actual-
ly dropped by 11.5 per
cent from the previous
election.

Similar results have
been seen in recent
local government elec-
tions also.

All political hope-
fuls be warned: I will
be putting in my best
efforts to have all of-
fending election signs
removed by any legal
means I can find.

I will be formally
complaining to the
relevant local govern-
ments, Main Roads
WA, state and federal
electoral commissions
about any non-com-
pliance with their pol-
icies.

Federal election
hopefuls especially
take note that you can-
not be a legitimate can-
didate when the date
of the election has not

even been announced
and I highly object that
we may have to endure
this garbage for more
than three months yet.

The confusion you
are creating with the
state election is com-
pletely out of order and
unacceptable.

For those who agree
with me, please re-
spond to this and
publicise your view
anywhere you can
(newspapers, social
media, etc) to let these
'hopefuls' know that
what they are doing is
not acceptable to the
community and likely
to be counter-produc-
tive to their cause.

**Election sign ninja
Name and address
supplied**

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WA Emergency Service Minister Stephen Dawson says the new incident control centres will be available to be sent right across WA.

Incident control centre reduced to mobile units

ANITA MCINNIS

DESPITE an independent review recommending in late 2022 that a dedicated incident control centre be established in the Perth Hills the community will have to settle for mobile incident units.

A dedicated incident control centre was one of the recommendations made by the Wooroloo bushfire independent inquiry.

But *No funding agreement for Perth Hills control centre*, (*Echo News*, December 6) confirmed there was no funding agreement for the establishment of a Perth Hills incident control centre.

Instead the Cook and Albanese Labor governments have agreed to provide incident control units and a vehicle to move them around the state.

On February 19 the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) confirmed both the state and federal governments had provided funding for the mobile incident control centres.

A DFES spokesman said the state government provided \$500,000 to fund the construction of the four initial state-of-the-art mobile incident control centres which have joined the DFES fleet.

The spokesman said an agreement was signed with the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) about six weeks ago on January 14 which would fund up to eight containers and a vehicle.

“DFES is also funding an additional four containers and two trucks for transportation from its existing budget,” he said.

In January last year *Power back but incident control centre still waits* reported Hasluck MHR Tania Lawrence’s \$3 million previous election commit-

ment of \$1.25m for an incident response and communication failover centre for the Shire of Mundaring and \$1.75m to increase mobile coverage in Herne Hill, Brigadoon and North Stoneville.

This was followed by *Perth Hills incident control centre progress criticised*, (*Echo News* October 31) where the Nationals criticised Labor for not having delivered an incident control centre ahead of the summer bushfire season.

Back then WA Opposition Emergency Services spokesman Martin Aldridge was critical a Perth Hills incident control centre still had not started almost four years on from the Wooroloo bushfire, which claimed 86 homes and burnt almost 11,000ha.

In a statement Ms Lawrence said the new mobile incident control centres were supported by a \$1.25m investment from the Albanese Government.

Made up of mobile control units similar to shipping containers, the units can be easily deployed across the Perth Hills and scaled up.

“This flexibility means first responders will have a dedicated space for command and control nearby a fire, storm, or any other natural hazard, and it can be used for concurrent hazards,” the statement said.

The Nationals Central Wheatbelt MLA and Bullwinkel candidate Mia Davies said only she and Nationals leader David Littleproud had committed to issue tenders and to deliver the dedicated facility the independent inquiry recommended.

Liberal candidate Matt Moran said mobile units could improve response times in some cases, but they did not replace the need for a properly resourced, fixed facility in a high-risk bushfire area like the Perth Hills.



Wattle Grove truck parking concerns

GUANHAO CHENG

KALAMUNDA council deferred a decision to approve a request to park commercial trucks on Valcan Road at their February ordinary meeting following residents expressing concerns.

During question time, residents raised concerns about truck parking on 30 Valcan Road, noting that it was classified as an access road so trucks should only enter for deliveries or work-related purposes.

They cited narrow sections, drainage, trees, and winding paths which made it unsuitable for regular truck traffic and referred to a similar truck parking request in the City of Gosnells was previously rejected due to the road’s classification.

City of Kalamunda development services director Nathan Ritchie acknowledged the access road classification and mentioned that it had been considered in development assessments.

“The city is aware of the road reservation and the pavement width,” he said.

“We understand the classifications for what’s there and they have been considered as part of the development assessment before putting forward a recommendation.”

Residents also made deputations against the commercial truck parking proposal citing legal ob-

ligations under WA Planning Law to protect rural amenity, which they argued would be violated by approving truck parking.

They added that Valcan Road was a narrow, tree-lined access road which was also a bushfire evacuation route, making additional truck traffic a safety risk.

The City of Kalamunda documents show that they have received eight submissions with the majority opposing the proposal to which the applicant has provided responses in sections.

“Valcan Road has hundreds of vehicle movements, many of them larger vehicles, and an extra one or two a day will make no difference,” the applicant said.

“All our vehicles comply with Australian standards (regarding) noise and indeed there are many hotted up cars and motor bikes in the street that produce much more noise.

“On a daily and weekly basis there are many types of vehicles on Valcan Road including concrete trucks, delivery trucks, horse trucks and semis which have no problem navigating the road or present as a danger to other road users or pedestrians.

The council passed a motion to defer the decision to the March ordinary council meeting for further review.

Police investigating election sign thefts



Piles of election signs from all parties were found discarded in Greenmount.

PERTH Hills election signs are being reported missing or found dumped in piles as the election date draws nearer, with some campaign workers resorting to air tag tracking.

A Liberal campaign assistant said air tags had to be used to track the location of signs.

“While I realise that electoral signs are not very popular amongst the general public it is and has been a promotion method used by all parties over many decades,” they said.

“This election the theft and destruction of signs has become an epidemic.”

A WA Police spokesperson said that the thefts are a crime and that if damage is caused to public property the offender may be charged with criminal damage or destruction of property.

“WA Police are continuing with investigations in relation to reports of signage thefts in the Swan and Perth Hills areas,” they said.

The spokesperson did not provide a number of election material thefts for the area compared to previous years when asked, explaining the offence of ‘stealing’ was added to incident reports in each instance and did not identify the specific item stolen unless it was reviewed in the full report.

“Police continue to encourage victims of theft to report matters to 131 444, and anyone with information or CCTV regarding the identity of persons or vehicles involved in the theft of signage to report to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or online,” they said.

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New workshop for Gidge Men's Shed

Swan Hills MLA Jessica Shaw presenting the Lotterywest grant certificate to Gidgegannup Men's Shed president Andrew Brine.



GIDGEGANNUP Men's Shed (GMS) has received a \$576,316 Lotterywest grant for the construction of a purpose-built workshop and trailer garage.

The grant was announced earlier this month with a special presentation of a Lotterywest grant certificate by Swan Hills MLA Jessica Shaw.

The new facility will create a permanent, supportive, and inclusive environment for both men and women, offering a range of workshop and leisure activities, community events, and services.

The workshop is set to become a vital community hub for Gidgegannup and surrounding areas, fostering social interactions, skill-sharing, and community networking.

"The men's shed plays a crucial role in addressing social isolation and mental health challenges prevalent among residents and provides a welcoming space where individuals can connect, share experiences, and collaborate on projects," GMS president Andrew Brine said.

"By promoting mental well-being and offering opportunities for members to learn new skills, the GMS has become especially important for those affected by the 2021 Wooroloo bushfire, with many members reporting improvements in their

sense of belonging and mental health," he said.

GMS contributes to community resilience through the provision of essential services, vocational courses, and partnerships with other organisations for community workshops and emergency preparedness initiatives.

The facility will also be fully accessible, catering to individuals with disabilities and seniors, and welcoming men and women over the age of 18.

"The new facility aligns perfectly with the Lotterywest 'inclusive thriving community investment framework', which emphasises the importance of community belonging and increased participation," Mr Brine said.

"The Gidgegannup Men's Shed project serves as a powerful testament to the strength of community collaboration. With its new facility, the Gidgegannup community stands to benefit immensely for many years to come."

"This grant of \$576,316 represents the culmination of years of planning and community effort," he said.

During the event, which was attended by many contributors, GMS expressed heartfelt gratitude to Lotterywest and the Labor state government for their vital support.



Hospital Security Team Leader, Saeed Saeed and members of the Labayka Ya Watani humanitarian group say farewell to the shipping container as it heads to Sudan.

Shipping container departs Midland to assist those in war torn Sudan

ST John of God Midland Private and Public Hospitals (SJGMPPH), security team leader and Sudanese community member Saeed Saeed has been integral in harnessing the collective generosity of hospital caregivers in an appeal to secure essential supplies to support the people of Sudan.

In the last 15 months, Sudan has been engulfed by a devastating war compounding the country's already precarious humanitarian situation, with the health infrastructure now struggling to cope with both existing and emerging medical needs.

The Australian Sudanese Community and, locally, the Labayka Ya Watani humanitarian group are engaged in providing humanitarian aid to those affected by conflict; their focus is on delivering crucial support to address the urgent health needs of the population, to bolster the strained healthcare system and working tirelessly to improve food security.

In October 2024, a call-out was made to all hospital caregivers and the challenge to fill a sea-container with supplies commenced: the response was overwhelming.

Donations included medical equipment/consumables, food, clothing, educational supplies, toys, sanitary/hygiene products, baby wipes, nappies, bottles and formula.

At the beginning of February, the filled to the brim container began its 54 day journey to Sudan, where

it will arrive in Port Sudan for distribution of the donated goods to a local hospital, medical clinics, displacement camps and schools.

SJGMPPH acting chief executive officer, Royce Vermeulen said the spirit of generosity amongst caregivers and stakeholders in supporting the Eye on Sudan Appeal had been a wonderful thing to witness.

"Saeed's initiative in making us aware of this human rights catastrophe and outlining a way that we could tangibly provide assistance, was something we knew we needed to support," Mr Vermeulen said.

"It was a process that unified caregivers and stakeholders alike. We wish the shipping container a safe journey and look forward to hearing the news of it arriving at its destination."

In addition to generous donations from hospital caregivers and the hospital itself, this initiative was proudly supported by BAAZ Security and a discounted sea container was generously provided by Total/WA Sea Containers.

Sudan's situation has been exacerbated by the deliberate destruction of health facilities, leaving millions without access to essential healthcare.

Food insecurity in Sudan has reached catastrophic levels due to the war, and more than 25 million people are now facing crisis levels of hunger, marking the worst food insecurity ever recorded in the country.

Guildford polls parking chaos

GUANHAO CHENG

GUILDFORD'S early voting location has been a site of gridlocked cars backing into James Street traffic as voters come and go through a single access point in the small lot.

Echo News arrived onsite on Monday to investigate the parking and traffic situation at the location.

Candidates and volunteers were stood under the hot sun, on a small walkway ringed by election signage leading into the building on 48A James Street.

A chalk line had been scrawled across the paved brick walkway to indicate the point candidates couldn't stand past, but it was a rule made difficult to adhere to by the limited standing space.

The Midland candidates from Labor, Liberals, The Nationals, Christian Party and the Greens

were all present during time of arrival.

Greens candidate for Kalamunda Janelle Sewell said all candidates were united in feeling very unhappy with the parking and traffic management situation.

"It's just been chaos with signs being crushed because there's no room to manoeuvre and the management is being done by volunteers," Ms Sewell said.

"A volunteer did an amazing job jumping in and directing traffic, but it's not right because the liability falls on them when there should be official management provided by the electoral commission."

"This site is taking in voters from Wooroloo to Pickering Brook and it's just not coping with the amount of traffic – there's only about 14 car bays and the flow of traffic has been constant."

Business owners in the row of shopfronts beside the location had put up a large sign warning voters their bays were reserved for customers only and violators risked having their vehicles towed.

Guildford Garden Machinery owner Craig Andrew had his shop operations disrupted directly next door to the polling booth and said he wasn't alone in his frustrations.

"Over the weekend none of the businesses could get parking, every bay was filled by voters – it's unacceptable," he said.

"We had customers ringing us asking where they should park because they couldn't get in and it was frustrating."

"So we took measures because we had to combat something here but since then, the sign was actually run over out the front."

"A guy in a F250 has absolutely levelled my sign and kept driving – it's been chaos to say the least."



Traffic congestion at the early voting booth in Guildford which also has to service Midland and the Perth Hills.

Swan strategic community plan is under review



City of Swan staff at a community engagement event.

CITY of Swan is asking residents to provide their views for the future to develop a new strategic community plan (SCP) for the next ten years.

The SCP is the city's highest-level planning document, representing a bold vision for Swan that recognises the region's strong ties to culture, the environment and quality of life.

"The city works hard to provide infrastructure and services to meet community needs but achieving our vision requires our community's input and significant planning," a spokesperson said.

Feedback will be placed into key result areas, including natural environment, economic, social, built environment and governance to guide planning and make reporting easier.

Mayor Tanya Richardson said the SCP provides a crucial connection between the city and the community used to shape Swan's future.

"It is important to have sound, long-term planning in place, but we are aware that your changes may have shifted since we released the SCP in 2021," she said.

"This is your opportunity to let us know

what your focus is and help us shape Swan's future based on your needs.

"We want our decision-making to be guided by the people it impacts – that is you."

"You can provide your feedback online or at a range of in-person workshops and events pop-ups across the city in the coming months."

"I look forward to hearing about all the exciting ideas you have for the future of the City of Swan."

The survey is available at www.swanengage.swan.wa.gov.au/scp



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Animal Justice Party runs in Midland

GUANHAO CHENG
GREENMOUNT resident Delia Richardson wants to protect animals and forests, advocate for those with disability, and provide vet cost relief as the Animal Justice Party's candidate for Midland.

Ms Richardson has lived in Greenmount for 18 years and said she has developed a strong sense of community with her daughter going to school in the area.

"Midland is a wonderful and diverse electorate, which is why I am proud to represent its local people, animals and natural environment," she said.

Ms Richardson will be promoting the Animal Justice Party's key campaign for this election, 'Veticare' - a subsidised healthcare system which it says will help wildlife, pets, and their owners.

The model based on the 'Medicare' system for humans will most benefit low-income earners and wildlife carers, as well as see the establishment of specialised wildlife

hospitals and support for the veterinary profession.

"The primary driver that led me to stand as a candidate was knowing how voiceless our animals are," Ms Richardson said.

"Right now, many animals are at great risk of neglect and abuse and many rescue organisations are at, or beyond, capacity.

"With around 70 per cent of us sharing our homes with pets, I plan to represent families who are doing it tough and struggling to pay for rising vet bills.

"The principle of giving a voice to the voiceless has always resonated with me, and I also see this reflected in Midland's disability community.

"Too often, the most marginalised and vulnerable communities are left behind."

Ms Richardson said as a first-time candidate, most of her contact with community was from daily life.

"Interacting with business owners and families, chatting with locals while walking my rescue dogs, having important discussions with people while letterboxing flyers

throughout Midland; these are all ways that I'm able to immerse myself in the community and hear firsthand from locals," she said.

"I am also only an email away - I encourage anyone with a query or concern to reach out so we can talk about it."

Ms Richardson said what set her apart from other candidates was also what she saw to be a defining characteristic of the area she wished to represent.

"Earlier in life, I enjoyed all the privileges that accompany a white person born to a devoted married couple with full access to healthcare and education," she said.

"With the breakdown of my own relationship, I suddenly found myself homeless with a toddler diagnosed with a disability at birth.

"It has provided me with great empathy for the struggles of others.

"I think there is a celebrated history of resilient people in Midland and surrounding areas."

"I have wide-ranging life experiences to represent and fight for our community."



Midland Animal Justice Party candidate Delia Richardson says she wants better vet care support for Midland residents.



The York Racecourse has been deemed unsuitable for racing.

York races cancelled as track unsuitable

YORK Racecourse has cancelled the scheduled race meet on Monday, March 3 due to sections of the track being deemed unsuitable for racing.

Following a review of photos and an assessment of the work required to bring the surface up to racing standard, Stewards determined that there was a significant risk the track would not pass inspection in time for nominations.

The *Echo* understands the track was damaged during the recent application of fertiliser.

"Despite the extensive efforts and resources invested into track improvements since the handover in January, an independent review has deemed the surface not suitable for racing at this time," York Racing chair Natasha Atkinson said.

"The safety of horses, jockeys

and all participants remains our top priority, and while this decision is disappointing, we must adhere to the industry's high safety standards," she said.

"Given the short timeframe and the need to ensure a safe and fair racing environment, the decision was made that the track was not in a suitable state to proceed with the meet," a spokesperson said.

"We understand this is disap-

pointing for our members, trainers, and the racing community, and we appreciate your patience and support. Our focus remains on addressing these issues to ensure a high-quality racing surface moving forward.

"We now turn our attention to delivering a great race meet on Sunday, March 30 and look forward to welcoming everyone back to York Racecourse."



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Candidates handing out how-to-vote cards were told to leave the voting area and car park.

Candidates keep their distance

GUANHAO CHENG

SWAN Hills candidates were left standing near the road after the WA electoral commission issued a direction to keep away from the Ellenbrook early polling centre and its car park.

Earlier in the week, candidates from all parties who were handing out how-to-vote flyers were given a letter saying they weren't allowed to distribute their materials near the building and had to vacate the area.

"I am advised that the owner of the building complex including the early polling place for the legislative assembly district of Swan Hills (3/308 The Broadway, Ellenbrook) has requested that all election campaign workers vacate the car park and surrounds for the duration of the early polling period," it said.

"This is entirely within the rights of the owner and as a lease hold-

er the electoral commission is required to abide by the owners wishes, otherwise the early polling place may have to close completely."

The letter outlined that each election campaign worker shall not enter the building other than to pass through, distribute materials or erect any signs on the common areas.

This included the veranda, car-park and garden beds of 308 The Broadway, Ellenbrook.

"This direction is to remain in place for the remainder of the early polling period for the 2025 state general election, unless a subsequent direction is issued," it said.

"This information is being communicated to all candidates for the district of Swan Hills and to the respective political party secretaries and agents.

"The early presiding officer and returning officer will arrange for how-to-vote material to be placed

on a table within the early polling period for the use of electors."

Swan Hills Liberal candidate Rod Henderson said prior to the letter, a stakeholder who refused to identify himself yelled and demanded candidates to vacate the premises for customers.

"Basically, they came out and said the owner doesn't want you here," he said.

"He said we were impacting the other businesses and they got really heavy about it.

"They ripped up our stuff and got very vocal almost to the point of threatening.

"He wouldn't tell us his name and they contacted the WA electoral commission.

"Now, we're standing on a one direction slip road, and a sand pit and we can't actually hand out flyers before they go into his property - we have to catch them from beyond the carpark which is simply really, really difficult."



Scott Parker, Chelsea Parker, Nationals WA Kalamunda candidate Lisa Logan with leader Shane Love and Jarod Avila.

Nationals \$5m pledge for Ray Owen Sports Centre

NATIONALS WA have pledged \$5 million to expand the Ray Owen Sports Centre in Lesmurdie to accommodate growing demand for basketball, netball and all-abilities sports in the Perth Hills.

Nationals WA candidate for Kalamunda, Lisa Logan, made the commitment last week, following recent meetings with local sporting groups and community representatives.

"This funding will help the City of Kalamunda with their plans to expand the Ray Owen Sports Centre from six to ten indoor courts, plus deliver two new outdoor netball courts, allowing more players, teams, and competitions to thrive," Ms Logan said.

"The funding will also support critical upgrades, including a re-developed facility entrance, modernised changerooms, and solar panel installation to help keep running costs down."

Ms Logan, a local mother whose children play at the centre, said Ray Owen Sports Centre was a cornerstone of community sport in the Perth Hills.

"Every week, thousands of families from all over the Hills

gather to play and compete at Ray Owen, but right now, the facility is at full capacity, with junior teams and players being turned away because there simply aren't enough courts," she said.

The centre is home to both the Kalamunda and Districts Basketball Association (KDBA) and the Kalamunda and Districts Netball Association (KDNA) which together cater to more than 5500 players every week.

"This includes 530 junior teams, 50 junior representative teams, and over 100 senior teams. When you factor in parents, carers, coaches, and officials, almost 15,000 people rely on this facility every week," she said.

Ms Logan said expanding the centre was vital to keeping up with demand and supporting more young people to get involved in sport and said it would also boost opportunities for all-abilities players participating in WestRise, WA's largest disabled basketball competition.

"WestRise is an incredible program, but it's currently restricted to 12 teams due to limited court space and an expanded Ray centre will create more opportunities."



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Weeding out a bad sale



From left to right:
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(close-up), *Eichhornia*
crassipes and below
Pistia stratiotes.



“Let the buyer beware”

It may not have crossed your mind that plants being sold online or privately, might be prohibited in Western Australia! Or that you have a responsibility as a consumer, to be aware of the risks associated with a purchase. There is legislation that underpins the regulation of importation and trade of plants that are not permitted in Western Australia. The goal of this regulation and legislation is to protect natural ecosystems and primary production systems in WA from the many pests, weeds and diseases found elsewhere. There can be consequences for people who are aware yet continue to engage in distribution of certain species. The consequences for the environment, however, can be devastating if pest species make it into natural ecosystems.

A work in progress

To be eligible for import into WA or trade within WA, a species must be assessed and given a legal status, under the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* (BAM Act). Once classified, the species is then listed as a ‘permitted species’ or ‘declared pest’ in a database called the Western Australian Organism List (WAOL). If an organism is not listed on WAOL it cannot be imported or traded. A person can request to have an organism assessed for classification by filling in an assessment form which is available on the department's website.

End the circulation cycle!

During the Covid-19 pandemic many people started new hobbies. One growing trend is aquascaping an aquatic garden inside an aquarium or pond. Plants were brought in by people who were unaware of the requirements. Subsequently, prohibited plants have been circulating in WA and advertisements of prohibited plants may occur on a variety of online advertising platforms. It is important that consumers learn how to weed out a questionable sale and how to determine if a plant is prohibited.

Some examples to be aware of: *Salvinia* species (ALL varieties), floating crystalwort (*Riccia fluitans*), *Rotala rotundifolia*, water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*), floating water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) and frogbit (*Limnobium laevigatum*). *Rotala rotundifolia* is often sold under ‘cultivar’ names. A cultivar is a variety of a species that has specific physical features, but all cultivars of a species share the same classification as they are the same species.

The buyer's checklist:

1. Before making a purchase, check whether a plant has a ‘permitted species’ status (find the scientific name of the species through internet searches).
2. Enter the scientific name into WAOL: <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/organisms>
3. Don't buy or distribute unlisted species or species that have a ‘declared pest’ status.
4. Advertising/selling ‘declared pests’ is prohibited and can be reported as an illegal agricultural matter on [crimestopperswa.com.au](https://www.crimestopperswa.com.au)
5. If you are unsure you can also email padis@dpird.wa.gov.au

If you find that you have ended up with a prohibited plant because you were not aware, please put it in a sealed plastic bag and leave that in the sun for two weeks on a hard surface, before putting it the bin. This will stop it being viable and it won't become invasive in the environment.



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Swan View dog run needs small dog area

GUANHAO CHENG

A MAINTENANCE depot on Swan View's Balfour Road has been turned into an off-leash dog exercise area which residents say needs a separate area for smaller dogs to play in.

The fenced-off and unused Mundaring maintenance depot was repurposed as an off-leash dog park after the shire installed a water pipe and a double gate system.

The Swan View dog exercise area on 62 Balfour Road has become a popular community meeting point for dog owners, with local coffee van operators Carl and Trina Pinner now setting up their On D Run Coffee van onsite six days a week.

Swan View resident Elle Rachel formed a Swan View Dog Park Facebook group and said she hoped to gain support for the group's request for an exercise area dedicated to smaller dogs.

Group members invited Mundaring councillors and state election candidates for the seat of Midland to visit the park on February 16 to gain support for the creation of a dog run for smaller dogs.

Since then, Labor candidate Steve Catania and independent candidate Sarah Howlett have met with group members at the site and shown support for the smaller dog run at the park.

Mundaring West Ward councillor Jo Cicchini also met the group at the park and acknowledged the success of the exercise area and the need for

a separate small dog area but explained the shire was prioritising a larger development at Brown Park.

Ms Cicchini explained the Brown Park project also included a dog exercise area but lacked a designated small dog run and encouraged the community to submit an official request to the shire, which she was willing to support.

With growing local backing, Ms Rachel has put her hand up to submit an official request to the shire on behalf of the group.

Mr Catania said he would be in support of Ms Rachel's efforts, offering state government funding if elected.

“Special thanks to Elle for stepping up as your spokesperson for the Mundaring shire request,” he said.

“I'll be following your progress and supporting where I can.”

Ms Howlett also said she was willing to help get the dog run across the line if elected.

“Users of the Swan View Dog Park have identified a need for a second fenced-off area to allow smaller dogs and larger dogs to enjoy the dog park separately, should they choose to,” she said.

“It was great to hear about their vision for this great community initiative and learn how I could support them when elected by liaising with the local government bodies and advocating for state government funding.”

Shingles Awareness Week ambassador an AFL-legend

AUSTRALIAN personalities including AFL-legend Robert ‘Dipper’ DiPierdomenico are sharing their experiences with shingles to encourage Australians aged 50 years and over to be aware of their risk of the disease during Shingles Awareness Week, which ends on March 2.

The awareness week aims to increase understanding of the impact of shingles and address common misconceptions surrounding shingles.

Shingles can present in a number of ways and can be a painful and potentially debilitating condition.

It is a viral infection that is caused by the reactivation of the varicella zoster virus, the same virus that causes chickenpox.

The risk of developing shingles increases with age as the immune system naturally weakens, and this can allow the usually inactive virus that causes shingles to reactivate.

Australians who have a weakened immune system due to illness, treatments or medications may also be at increased risk.

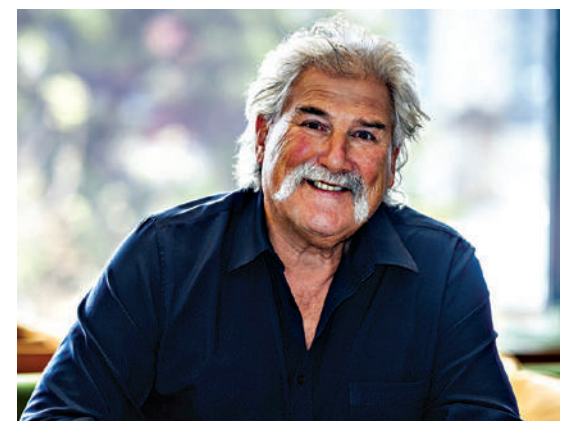
Recognised as one of Hawthorn Football Club's most prominent players, Robert ‘Dipper’ DiPierdomenico, has also experienced the painful and debilitating impact of shingles, and has cared for his partner during her shingles diagnosis.

“Compared to the pain of many of my sporting injuries, shingles was relentless. It put me out of action for nine days,” said Dipper.

“I had a large, itchy, red rash suddenly appear on the left side of my body.

“It was so uncomfortable, I slept on a mattress in the lounge room with the air conditioning running to try and find some relief.

“It was horrible to experience personally, and I know some of my loved ones, like my partner and



AFL-legend Robert ‘Dipper’ DiPierdomenico is a Shingles Awareness Week ambassador.

my mum, have also experienced the pain and discomfort of shingles.”

Centre for Virus Research director and the University of Sydney's Sydney Infectious Diseases Institute vaccine theme leader Professor Tony Cunningham said Australians aged 50 and over should not underestimate their shingles risk even if they did not recall having had chickenpox.

“If you've had chickenpox, the virus can remain dormant in your body,” he said.

“Almost all Australians have had chickenpox, even if they don't remember having it or were asymptomatic and so are at risk of shingles as they carry the inactive virus.

For more information about shingles, speak to a healthcare professional and visit knowshingles.com.au



The new Parkerville Children and Youth Care Kid's Hub is now open.



WA-first mental health kids hub launched in Midland

PARKERVILLE Children and Youth Care has officially launched The Kids Hub, WA's first dedicated mental health and wellbeing service for babies and children aged 0-12 in the City of Swan.

This free service provides vital support for children experiencing mild to moderate developmental, emotional, behavioural, and mental health challenges.

Developed in partnership with Koya Aboriginal Corporation, Lifespan Psychology Centre, the Mental Illness Fellowship of Western Australia (MIFWA), and Pregnancy to Parenthood, The Kids Hub offers a holistic and inclusive approach to children's mental health.

Families can access support without the need for a Medicare card, referral, diagnosis, or appointment, ensuring that every child receives the care they need, regardless of their circumstances.

Supported by the federal government's Department of

Health and Aged Care and the state government's Mental Health Commission, the hub provides early intervention through personalised assessments, therapy, and support - all in a child-focused, inclusive, safe, and nurturing environment.

"Early intervention at the Kids Hub means supporting children and families at the first signs of mental health challenges. The goal is to address issues before they become more serious and provide children and families with tools to promote long-term wellbeing at home, school, and with social connections," Parkerville's chief executive officer Kim Brooklyn said.

The Kids Hub offers a comprehensive range of services to meet the diverse needs of children and their families, including on-site psychology, occupational therapy, counselling, and wellbeing workshops, along with assistance in connecting to other community services.

Later in 2025, the hub will expand to include a sensory playground and yarning circle, providing a dedicated space for children to play, talk, and connect.

"These additions will create spaces where children feel safe to express themselves and families can come together to find solutions to life's challenges," Ms Brooklyn said.

"We're particularly proud of the yarning circle, which will provide a culturally safe space for Aboriginal children and families to share, connect, and heal."

The Kids Hub is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 7pm and Saturday and Sunday from 9am to 3pm at The Stan and Jean Perron Child, Youth and Family Centre, 1 Watertank Way, Midland.

Walk-ins are encouraged, and no appointment is required.

To contact The Kids Hub, email kidshub@parkerville.org.au or phone 0405 349 227.

Libs back live sheep trade

WA Liberals will continue to support WA's live sheep trade, with a Mettam Liberal government to lobby the federal government to overturn the Commonwealth ban scheduled to begin in 2028.

Liberal leader Libby Mettam has also committed to leading an overseas trade delegation to the Middle East to promote WA's agricultural exports, including live sheep, if elected as Premier in March.

Meanwhile, the Australian Live Export Council says it will continue to expand overseas markets despite the proposed 2028 ban, with countries such as Morocco in the market for high-quality and reliable Australian sheep to bolster their food security.

Ms Mettam said the announcement makes clear her party's strong position of support for WA's live sheep trade, and the regional communities that thrive on a healthy agricultural trade.

"A government I lead won't just provide lip service - we'll actively support, promote and defend the trade and defend regional WA from Labor's attack on livelihoods," Ms Mettam said.

"Labor have undermined Australia's longstanding credibility as a reliable trading partner with the Middle East."

"Only the WA Liberals are committed to repairing the relationship with one of our key export markets for agricultural products, even beyond live sheep."

Liberal Agriculture spokesman Steve Martin said Roger Cook's crocodile tears approach on the ban on WA's live sheep trade is just not good enough.

"WA Labor has stood by while their colleagues in Canberra have trashed our states' reputation as reli-

able trading partners, while throwing regional businesses and communities under the bus for inner-city preferences," Mr Martin said.

"The official position of support for the trade from WA Labor is a purely cosmetic exercise to avoid taking on more political damage in the regions, after the gutting of regional representation, the botched forestry jobs transition, and the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage disaster."

"The agricultural industry in Western Australia does incredible work providing food for our own population and across the world. The WA Liberals will back our producers every time."

Keep the Sheep campaigner and founder of the Livestock Collective Dr Holly Ludeman said more than 100,000 people have signed the Keep the Sheep petition.

"I am proud to be one of them. This grassroots movement was born out of the need to take action against the Albanese Government's ban on live sheep exports," Dr Ludeman said.

"The ban is already having devastating impacts on WA farming families and their communities. The live sheep trade has achieved world-leading animal welfare standards following years of significant industry-led reform."

"The Albanese Government's decision to ban the trade disregards science and the substantial progress made. Removing Australia from this international market will not improve global animal welfare, instead, it panders to ideology and jeopardises relationships with valued trading partners."

Labor pledge to manufacturing

THE state Labor government has pledged \$75 million to be split between establishing two Western Power steel fabrication facilities in Forrestfield and Picton.

The Forrestfield facility is planned to leverage existing steel fabrication capacity in the area and engage nearby businesses to build transmission components instead of importing from overseas.

Thousands of kilometres of new transmission lines will be needed to deliver an energy transition plan by connecting the grid to key wind zones in the South West, Mid West, Wheatbelt and Great Southern.

This will require thousands of steel lattice towers and steel poles by 2032, which the two facilities are

planned to assist by establishing long term contracts for locally made products.

The new Western Power manufacturing facilities will be used for manufacturing transmission components such as lattice towers, pile reinforcement cages, poles, wires and substation components.

"To set WA up for the future we need to make more things here and that's why we're establishing two dedicated facilities to manufacture equipment to deliver the energy transition."

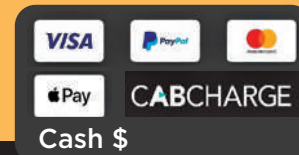
"We already have the capability when it comes to steel fabrication and we will leverage and expand local industry to support more locally made materials and more WA jobs."

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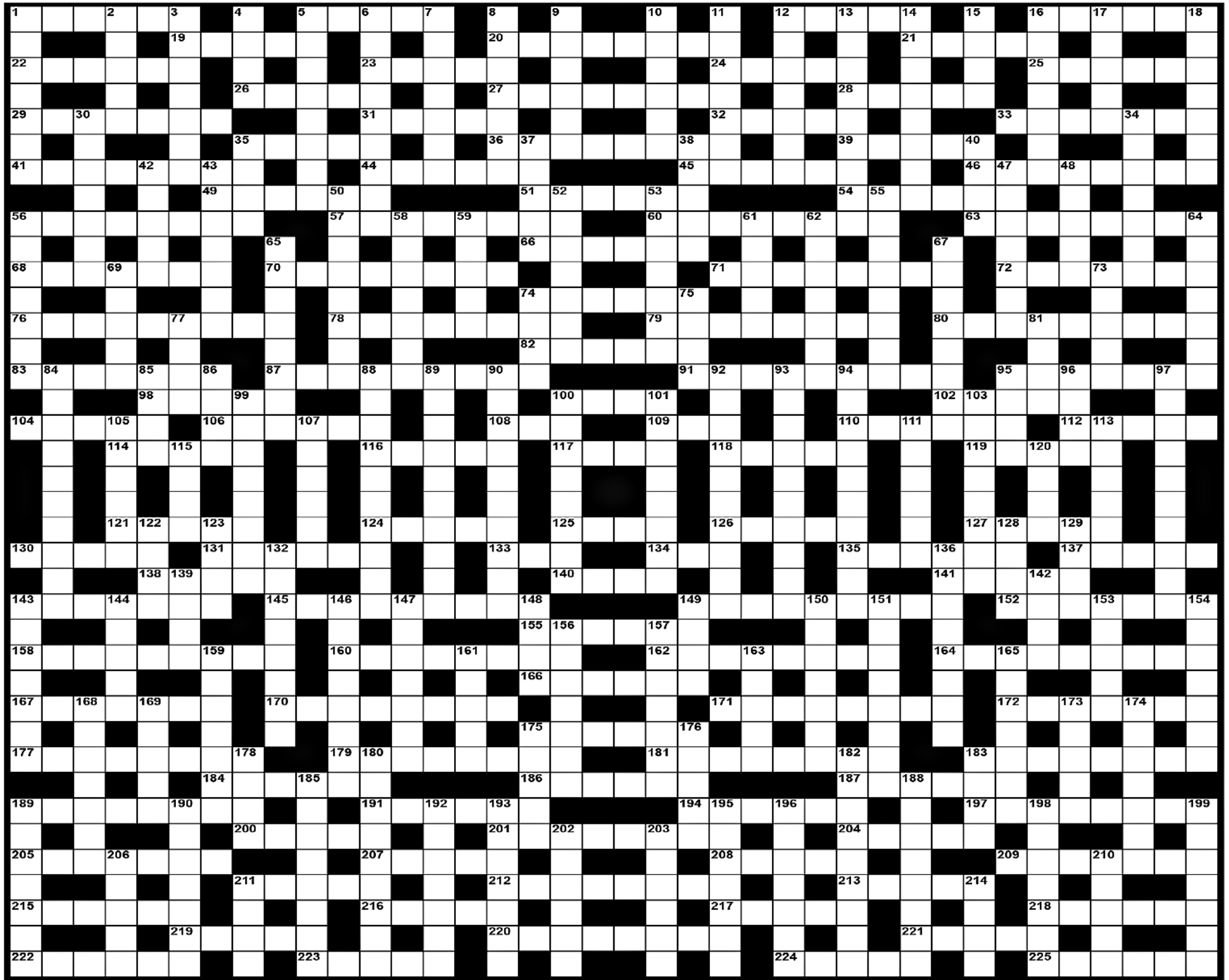


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ECHO

Mind Boggler Crossword

1206



ACROSS		74	Gorgon with head of snakes (myth)	152	A peak of the Himalayas	223	A subject	65	Epidemic over wide area	144	On a par	178	Biblical garden
1	Ukrainian port	76	Cemetery	155	Arouse	224	Canvas support	146	Something breathed in	147	Vomited (coll) (5,2)	180	A public walkway
5	Introduction (abb) (coll)	78	Parts of head	158	Keep in seclusion	225	Dirty mark	67	Large glacial fissure	148	Historic tale	182	Intensifies
12	Lawsuits	79	Mortarboard	160	Inherited lot	DOWN		69	Santa's helpers	149	Burden	183	Nimble
16	Mouth moisture	80	Alertness	162	Rebellious one	1	Japanese paper art-form	73	A country	150	Requiring	185	Hopeful person
19	Rule	82	African fly pest	164	Clapped	2	Step	74	Measure out (arch)	151	First to arrive	188	First in kind
20	A pest	83	Loot	166	Comrades	3	North Australian sea	75	An open space	153	Incite by activity	189	A showy spectacle
21	Select group	87	Parade of vehicles	167	Hawaiian guitar	4	One-sided view	77	Youth hostel chain (init)	154	News	190	Put back
22	African antelope	91	Type of vegetable	170	Letting	5	Inability to sleep	81	Formerly Persia	155	Greet	192	Like a lion
23	Prepare dough	95	Ancient form of paper	171	Of the sea	6	Meals from eateries	84	To make better	156	A gemstone	193	An opening
24	Preposition - about	98	Indigenous language (NZ)	172	Applause	7	A monolith	85	Among	157	Frame for vines	195	Took as truth
25	A large lizard	100	A particle of matter	175	Blood transporters	8	Human-like robot	86	Eye-lid darkener	159	A held principle	196	A medicinal oil (3-4)
26	Attend to fire	102	Plain cake	177	Ensnare	88	Those against	88	Musical instrument	161	Mindless	198	Destructive insects
27	Contrary proof	104	Famous Italian composer	179	Family patronage	89	Musical	90	Violent disagreement	163	Oath	199	Embryo of frog
28	Glossy material	106	Minor setback	181	Cough lollies	92	Subconscious	92	Subconscious	165	Spoken	202	Fruits of the oak
29	In loving mood	108	Knight's title	183	Revolvers etc	93	Polar continent	93	Polar continent	168	Actor, ... Dingo	203	A display in skies
31	Friend (Sp)	109	Flow back	184	Fools	94	Made easier	94	Made easier	169	A mountain ridge	206	Vaulted roof's
32	Take away weapons	110	Of a line	185	Ship-boring mollusc	95	Dark-brown malt liquor	95	Dark-brown malt liquor	173	Forays	210	Sacred sandstone monolith, NT
33	Escapee	112	Harvests	186	Bends down	96	Bonus (coll)	96	Bonus (coll)	174	Word element: star	211	Preservative
35	Make fresh	114	False gods	187	Contrary to good	97	Elite people (5,5)	97	Elite people (5,5)	175	With smoke dust	214	A cheese
36	Gives the particulars of	116	Killer whales	189	Lack of colour	99	Meat balls	99	Meat balls	176			
39	Unit of weight (imp)	117	A deep sleep	191	Applicable	100	Repository of official records	100	Repository of official records				
41	Close and personal	118	A sharpened pole	194	Of birth	101	Goes wandering	101	Goes wandering				
44	Japanese martial art	119	Sharpened pole	197	Thoroughfares	103	Shipwrecked person	103	Shipwrecked person				
45	Shouted	121	A bobbin	201	Friendship	105	Assimilate food	105	Assimilate food				
46	Horse event	122	Carries	204	Female deity	107	A hot pepper	107	A hot pepper				
49	A town in SW Western Australia	124	A bad habit	205	Play for time	109	More strange	109	More strange				
51	Of the eye	125	Prefix - within	207	Blamed	111	Capital of Norway	111	Capital of Norway				
54	Trick	126	Flinch from hurt	208	Child's game, ...	113	Prayer ending	113	Prayer ending				
56	Make less complex	127	Prickly bushes	209	Says	115	Fruit seeds	115	Fruit seeds				
57	In handy manner	130	A star sign	211	Rustling of silk	117	Leer	117	Leer				
60	Pre-decimal five-cent coin	131	Heartbeat	212	Novel, ... in	119	Doing nothing	119	Doing nothing				
63	Young racehorse	133	Decorate a cake	213	Wonderland	121	Walking stick	121	Walking stick				
66	Marriage partner	134	Crickets score	215	With hands on hips	123	Monument	123	Monument				
68	Cover in water	135	Length of cotton	216	A defence - being elsewhere	125	Subjects to domination	125	Subjects to domination				
70	Forward speed of an aircraft	137	Impressive group of selected items	217	Worth	127	Small trucks	127	Small trucks				
71	A nightclub performer	138	Drinks lightly	218	Artist's room	128	Egg-shaped	128	Egg-shaped				
72	One with special advantage	140	Synthetic fibre	219	Acting parts	129	Actor's dress	129	Actor's dress				
		141	1800s British ghost ship, the Mary ...	220	Come together								
		143	Preserves	221	Modify fittingly								
		145	Evergreen shrubs	222	Paper handkerchief								
		149											

Crossword Solution 1205 from 21 February, 2025

A	R	O	T	M	S	M	V	I	O	L	A	F	O	A	L	E	X	A	C	T	E	S	I	S	T
R	E	I	P	A	L	R	T	E	N	O	N	A	W	A	R	D	S	S	W	A	M	I	E	T	I
A	N	N	I	E	A	T	E	O	E	L	S	E	G	I	B	E	L	P	R	C	A	S	T	R	
T	C	T	E	R	R	I	E	R	X	S	T	R	A	D	E	R	N	A	L	E	A	T	I	U	
H	A	I	K	U	I	N	A	V	I	A	T	O	R	E	S	E	C	E	N	S	E	E	E	R	
E	A	S	T	A	T	I	O	N	O	F	Y	A	C	H	S	E	C	O	F	D	D	L	E	R	
E	R	N	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	
S	C	A	M	P	T	H	I	P	N	O	S	I	S	F	L	O	A	T	S	C	H	E	E		
A	T	L	E	I	A	N	E	A	E	A	O	A	A	A	E	A	X	E	A	C					
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P	C	O	R	I	G	I	N	A	A	T	R	U	E	R	I	N	A	N	E	L	S				
H	U	S	H	E	A	F	R	I	C	A	T	R	O	P	I	C	A	L	S	T	I				
C	A	I	R	A	T	E	H	I	A	N	H	E	H	I	N	D	I	T	I	T					
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C	O	N	U	N	D	R	U	M	E	R	S	E	R	G	O	N	M	I	C						
P	P	U	T	N	T	A	A	A	E	S	E	R	E	N	A	D	E	S	N						
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E	R	A	I	D	I	E	S	A	R	E	P	E	C	O	D	E	R								
L	I	M	B	S	S	A	F	A	R	I	A	L	A	C	R	I	T								
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E	R	E	C	T	E	D	E	H	A	D	E	S	O	N	C	E									

Gooseberry Hill school sandpit donation



Darryl Buckett built a new mud kitchen for students at Gooseberry Hill Primary School and says more retired people should volunteer.

GOOSEBERRY Hill Primary School students received a play equipment upgrade after Kalamunda resident Daryl Buckett built a mud kitchen using his own materials and those donated by Kalamunda Bunnings.

The primary school's P&C recognised the children's play area needed upgrading after discovering that the Year 1 students only had an old sink at the sand pit to play with.

Mr Buckett said he volunteered to craft a new mud kitchen for the school where his four children attended in the 90's and now four of his grandchildren were in attendance as that was motivation enough.

"I just couldn't wait to get something sensible there that you could actually play with and use," he said.

"And kids of that age, they love playing with mud kitchens, and my daughter-in-law, she's the president of the P&C (at Gooseberry Hill Primary School), thought it would be great to have a proper one instead of the grotty

one that they had.

"Then they would have something that's going to be appealing to them so that at playtimes they can go out there and play with it."

Mr Buckett said Kalamunda Bunnings were quick to support the idea and though they didn't have the timber he needed, he received a \$100 voucher to get it from their Midland store.

"Communities work better if people do this because I'm retired now and when you do something like this, the time that you spend on it is far more rewarding than any job you go to and get paid for," he said.

"I absolutely encourage it – there's so many areas that we can volunteer for these days that it's just a case of looking around to find someone that's in need of what skills you have.

"Don't waste them."

Mr Buckett said he was hopeful of the benefits play-based learning could provide and hoped he was feeding into a positive cycle of bringing up good adults.

"Play-based learning, it teaches them so much," he said.

"It's good for their social contact, getting on with one another and it's important that as they socialise together that's how they hopefully grow up to be good adults together.

"You can get a child in a seat and teach them for three hours at a desk, but play-based learning teaches them the same thing but from a different perspective.

"I was always told that 80 per cent of everything you'll ever learn, you do so by the time you're aged four.

"Everything I learned back then – and as you get older, you might forget what you said two minutes ago, but you remember something back then.

"I'm just reaching 74 now and everything I needed to know was 70 years ago.

"You realise how much you took on board and how much you learned from family and friends and neighbours and so on, and how good it was for you – because you do, in fact, carry that learning through your life."

Lockridge woman fined

TWO offenders were last week sentenced for animal cruelty after failing to seek vet care for a poodle puppy who had a broken leg.

They were each fined \$5000 and banned from owning an animal for two years.

Perth Magistrates Court heard RSPCA WA inspectors attended the 63-year-old female offender's Lockridge home in February 2024 after receiving two cruelty reports in relation to the poor living conditions of a large number of toy poodles who were thought to have been used for breeding.

The offender advised she only had two dogs – one male and one female – and did not use them for breeding.

The inspectors then attended the co-offender 59-year-old man's Morley property where he advised he owned two of the dogs who were at his home, but the eight remaining dogs – including the puppy with an injured leg, who has since been named Hazel – did not belong to him.

Hazel, who was seven months old at the time, was observed in the rear yard, unable to walk properly, and limping due to an injury on her right hind leg.

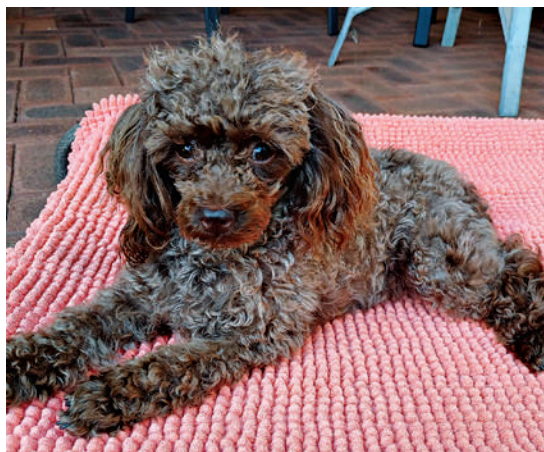
The offender said he noticed she was limping but had not taken her to the vet.

A microchip scan of the puppy indicated the female offender was the owner and later in a phone call between the co-offender and the inspector, the female offender advised she owned several of the dogs at the Morley property.

She said she noticed the puppy was limping the day before but also did not seek vet advice.

The female offender was given oral direction to take the puppy to a vet, which she obliged with. Following x-rays, it was apparent her right hind leg was broken, and the offender surrendered the dog to the vet as she could not afford surgery.

The leg could not be saved and was amputated. A specialist veterinary radiologist determined



Hazel has made a full recovery and has since been rehomed after her leg had to be amputated.

Hazel's leg had reduced bone density and muscle wastage which indicated the fracture had occurred more than 10 to 12 weeks prior to the x-rays being taken.

In sentencing, Magistrate Michelle Harries said it was, "difficult to accept (the female offender) didn't know (that Hazel was injured)."

She said the dogs at the Morley property were "kept in poor conditions" that were "extremely disturbing" and "extremely disgusting" and that Hazel "would have suffered serious pain."

RSPCA WA Inspector Manager Kylie Green said Hazel's case was a form of cruelty her inspectors see each and every day.

The animal ownership ban has a delayed commencement of one month to allow them time to re-home existing pets. The maximum penalty for a charge of animal cruelty is a \$50,000 fine and five years in prison.

Disability survey is now open

Mission Australia's fourth annual community access and inclusion survey is now open to hear from people about their experiences around disability.

The survey, which is open until March 28, is for people living with a disability and those who work, live with or know someone with a disability.

The results are used to inform work done by Mission Australia across the country to improve community connections and accessibility for people with a disability.

Mission Australia regional leader Verity Sullivan said the survey gave a vital insight into the lives of those who were often underrepresented in the community.

"Last year we had more than 1,400 respondents, making the survey one of the largest of its kind in Australia," she said.

"Results showed parents of children with devel-

opmental concern generally felt that the community was not as good at including their children in community activities and were more pessimistic than other cohorts about employment opportunities for people with disability," she said.

"Using this data, we supported the creation of the Village Voices: Enhancing Carer Capacity project which supports carers of people with disabilities in Perth.

"This program provides culturally responsive information, connects carers with resources, and creates safe spaces for discussion, aiming to reduce social isolation and increase knowledge of available supports.

"Another program we created was the Safe Communities - Community of Practice (CoP).

The survey which is open until March 28 takes about five minutes and can accessed at www.qrl.be/K5KF

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- Arty Brella's – in front of the Eric Farrow Pavilion on the lawn.
- K9 Connections Agility Display – near the DPIRD shed.
- Old McDonalds Farm Petting Zoo – next to the Markets.
- Hey Presto Magician – roving through the show.
- Russell Johnsen – Wandering Minstrel – roving through the show.
- Instrukta Truck – on the Trotting Track in front of Food Court 1.
- Nanny Caunt Face Painting – site 599, across from the DPIRD shed.
- Sax & the Single Girl - Food Court 2.

- 10th Light Horse – 'Have A Go Day' Friday at Pony Club grounds, Saturday roving the grounds.
- Wagin CRC's Art & Craft space – Mouton Baa behind the Wine Baa.
- Baart's Highway.

Not included in our free entertainment but also at Woolorama are:

- Ponies 4 All Occasions Pony Rides – near the DPIRD shed.
- Side Show Alley in its new location - grassed area next to the Shearing Shed.
- Blight's Haulage Wagin Woolorama Rodeo – from 5.30pm Saturday.

Don't forget about the livestock competitions, education pavilion, gourmet food, art craft & home industry displays and trade fair exhibits – there really is something for everyone!

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Public Notice

AMENDMENT NO.21 TO LOCAL PLANNING SCHEME NO.4 - REZONE PORTIONS OF LOT 6 HELENA VALLEY ROAD AND LOT 9001 CARABEEN AVENUE, HELENA VALLEY, FROM RURAL RESIDENTIAL TO DEVELOPMENT

Notice is hereby given for public information that the Shire of Mundaring, at its Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 10 December 2024, resolved to adopt and grant consent to advertise Amendment No.21 to Local Planning Scheme No.4 for public comment.

The purpose of the Amendment is to rezone Lot 6 Helena Valley Road and Lot 9001 Carabeen Avenue, Helena Valley from Rural Residential to 'Development – DA1'.

A copy of the Amendment document can be viewed on the Shire's website (Public Consultations section): www.mundaring.wa.gov.au

Limited printed copies of the Amendment document are also available at the following locations:

- Shire of Mundaring Administration Centre (7000 Great Eastern Highway, Mundaring)
- Katharine Susannah Prichard Library (119/135 Scott Street, Helena Valley)

Comments in relation to this Amendment will be accepted by the Shire of Mundaring, in writing until close of business on **Friday 11 April 2025.**

Any further information can be obtained by contacting the Shire's Planning Services on 9290 6666 or via shire@mundaring.wa.gov.au

Jason Whiteaker
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



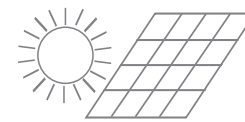
Public Notice

The next Annual General Meeting of the **Stoneville Voluntary Bush Fire Brigade** will be held 7.00 pm on 5th May 2025 at the Stoneville Fire Station, Bentley Street, Stoneville.

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Thank You

A big thank you to the person who found my handbag in Forrestfield Shopping Centre on the 8/2/25 and returned to Security. I have made some enquiries as to who this person is as I would like to thank them personally. I hope this person reads this, thank you again for your kindness and honesty.

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Read between the lines

by Pastor Ian Kirk

Uniquely Special

Last Sunday Colleen and I were in the Wheatbelt – travelling to Corrigin and Narembene to be a blessing to the local churches there.

At this time of the year, even though it is so dry, the countryside still looks amazing. The harvested crops are a beautiful golden colour, and the salmon gums have a striking pink colour.

On this road trip, like in previous ones, Colleen began talking to me. But after a while, she ended up falling asleep. She might be like this for an hour or so. But then she wakes up and begins conversing with me from where she left off. How does she do that? This cute quirk of Colleen's is impressive!

We all have quirks – cute ones and not-so-cute ones. I love how this affirms that we are all uniquely different from each other. Even our identical twin granddaughters are uniquely different, although they look the same and have the same DNA.

One of Colleen's favourite Bible verses captures this. In Psalm 139 we read 'You created my inmost being; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made.'

We are all handmade by God. We are so uniquely special, that we matter to God. Indeed, if we were the only person in the world, Jesus would have still died for us, so that we could be forgiven and be in heaven with Him – if we trust in Him. How uniquely special we are!



ECHO Notice Board

A free service for non-profit organisations

9374 6666

editorial@echo-news.com

Upcoming Events

- **The 56th Darlington Half Marathon & 8km fun run** will be held on Sunday, March 16 from 7am to 11am. Runners will start at Darlington Oval, following the Heritage Trail to Sculpture Park in Mundaring and return. The 8km runners turn at the Train Park, Glen Forrest. All runners will be rewarded with a finisher's medal and a light breakfast. There will be no road closures, but they do ask drivers to be aware of runners at road and trail crossings and for cyclists to be aware of runners along the trail. If you wish to register, volunteer or have any questions visit www.wamc.org.au Part proceeds from the event goes to Hannah's House – a charity dedicated to serving families with children who experience life-limiting or complex conditions.
- **The Hills Branch of Save the Children will hold their next fundraising stall** in the Mundaring Shopping Mall outside

Woolworths from 9am to 3.30pm on Friday, March 7. The stall will include their popular, second-hand books, hand knits, rugs, small gifts, and plants. There will be no EFTPOS available at the stall but there is an ATM machine nearby.

• **Midland Friendly Garden Club meets at 9.30am** on alternate Thursdays at Bruce Douglas Pavilion, Brown Park, Salisbury Road, Swan View. The next meeting will take place on 6th March 6. Visitors and new members are always welcome. For more information call Jenny on 0424 553 002 or Barbara on 0482 935 686.

• **The Swan Guildford Historical Society's guest speaker** Wesfarmers Australian History at UWA chair Professor Jane Lydon will reveal the money trail from former slave plantations in the Caribbean to colonial Australia including the Swan River. The dismantling of the slavery system within the British Empire had unexpected repercussions. The talk will be held on Monday, March 10 at 7.30pm at St Matthew's Hall, Stirling Square, Guildford.

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



Barry is an eight-year-old chocolate labrador. He is good with other animals and people. His owner is no longer able to care for him and he needs a loving home. He is sterilised, vaccinated and microchipped. Costs apply. Contact Bakers Hill Dog Sanctuary on 9574 1438.

ENTERTAINMENT & GIG GUIDE

Your local Gig Guide

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From 6.30pm.
6/7095 Great Eastern
Highway Mundaring

Fri February 28

Settlers House York
Kevin Doran
From 6pm. Free.
Avon Terrace York

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

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Table for Two
6pm-9pm. Free.
4260 Great Eastern
Hwy
Mahogany Creek

Parkerville Tavern
Ben Bulla
6pm-9pm.
Free.
6 Owen road
Parkerville

Lyric's Bar
Laneway Bar
Matt Angell Duo
From 7pm. Free.
22 Lyric Lane Maylands

Sat March 1

Settlers House York
The Jukes of York
From 6pm. Free.
Avon Terrace York

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Ben Graham
6pm-9pm. Free.
4260 Great Eastern
Hwy Mahogany Creek

Bassendean Hotel
Hi - NRG
8pm-Late. Free.
25 Old Perth Road
Bassendean

Parkerville Tavern
TJ O'Donovan
From 6pm. Free.
6 Owen Road
Parkerville

Mt Helena Tavern
Dave Cooper
From 6pm.
900 Keane Street
Mount Helena

Sun March 2

Settlers House York
The Jukes of York
From 12pm. Free.
Avon Terrace York

Bassendean Hotel
Jack & Gill
From 2pm. Free.
25 Old Perth Road
Bassendean

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

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Ray Rom
4pm-7pm. Free
4260 Great Eastern
Hwy Mahogany Creek

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

Mon March 3

Parkerville Tavern
James Wilson
From 12pm. Free.
6/7095 Great Eastern
Highway Mundaring

Tues March 4

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

Wed March 5

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

Thurs March 6

Hemingway & Co
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ECHO NEWS

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Andy Quilty at the Youth Futures Community School printmaking workshop at Midland Junction Arts Centre. Picture: Duncan Wright

Perth Festival comes to the Midland Junction Arts Centre

DURING March the Midland Junction Arts Centre (MJAC Inc) will be presenting two exhibitions as part of this year's Perth Festival.

The West Gallery will play host to 'Happy Meals and Scooter Skids: art from the outer suburbs' while the East Gallery will feature 'Don't Ignore the Periphery'.

'Happy Meals' is a dynamic and celebratory exploration of outer-suburban life featuring solo and collaborative works by Andy Quilty and high school students from three outer-suburban high schools, including Midland's Youth Futures Community School.

'Don't Ignore the Periphery' features a selection of monotypes and digital print works from multidisciplinary artist Brad Coleman alongside sculptural objects by artist-jeweller Amanda Alderson.

The 'Happy Meals' exhibition is a dynamic and celebratory exploration of outer-suburban life, the exhibition is an extension of Quilty's ongoing research and intention to amplify under-represented stories, improve arts access for outer-suburban communities and encourage young people to consider the possibility of pursuing arts into the future.

The exhibition is a culmination of the works created during a three-month residency at MJAC in 2024, 'Outside In Between'.

In this project, part of the Swan Youth Workshop series, Quilty and young Swan residents experimented with print processes to create individual and collaborative works empowering youth from the outer suburbs to share their lived experience through creative acts.

"Initially focusing on fundamental drawing skills, I quickly pivoted to a less prescriptive approach, giving the students access to different drawing and printmaking methods and materials, inviting them to improvise," Mr Quilty said.

"We used found and low-cost materials and techniques connected with outer-suburban experience, such as drypoint prints made by scratching into a sheet of tin retrieved from a skip bin, or oil graffiti pen monotypes using fast food packaging as a print plate.

"I wanted the students to feel welcome in an arts institution and know that these community spaces belong to them."

The monochromatic nature of the artworks not only reflects the aesthetic and cultural identity of the outer suburban life Quilty remembers from his own youth – black jeans and metal band tees, black skid marks on bitumen, black graffiti scrawls, black Holden HSV's and Ford XR8's, and AC/DC's Back in Black.

"Projects such as these exemplify the vital role artists bring to connecting organisations, individuals and audiences to creative inquiry," MJAC executive director arts and culture Jennifer Haynes said.

In the Brad Coleman and Amanda Alderson's 'Don't Ignore the Periphery' collaboration, the duo explore artmaking as a daily meditative practice, inviting audiences to consider the creative process as a reflective and transformative act.

Alderson's process is marked by slow, rhythmic forming, an embrace of complexity, and an element of danger, all balanced with a reverence for beauty and scale, with her jewellery, artwork and curatorial projects drawing directly on autobiographical adventures and long running experience working in the arts.

For Alderson, the studio is her place of sanctuary and therapy, where creating beautiful objects is a beacon of light in her recovery process from a disabling injury, as a daily restorative affirming action.

Juxtaposed with Alderson's intricate contemporary jewellery and sculptural objects, Coleman's practice involves anticipation, patience, and experimentation, coupled with the exhilaration of rapid results.

His love of storytelling and broad field of interest has led him to generate works in film, photography, animation, sound design, print making, oil painting and installation, but most recently, Coleman's primary focus has been on his ambitious 1500 monotype prints project, which started in 2024 from a personal challenge to create on a daily basis.

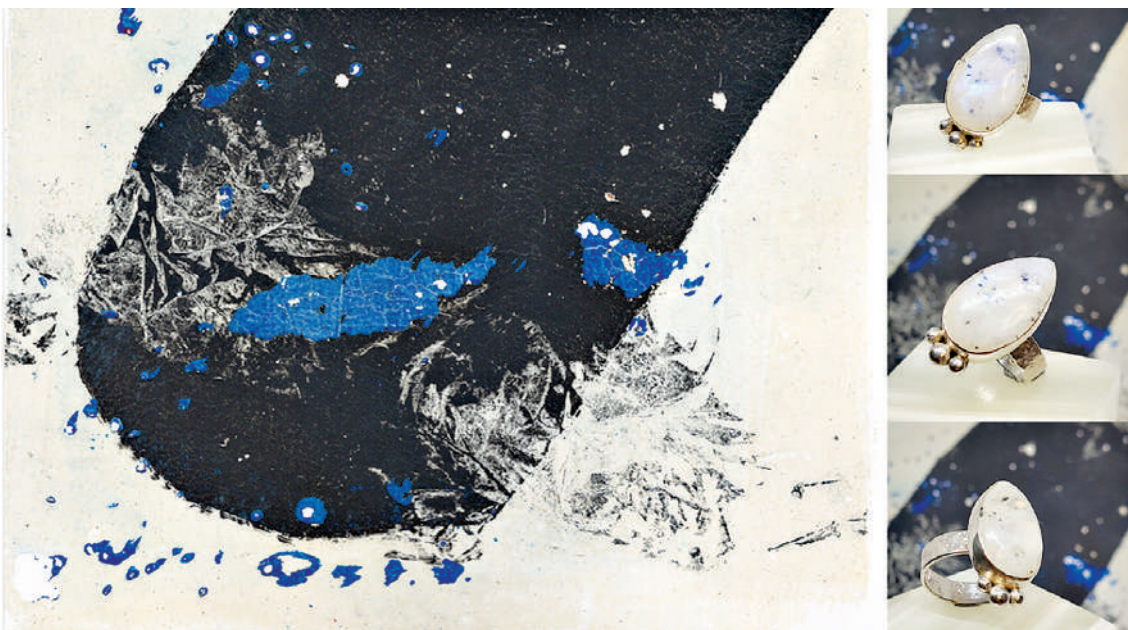
For both artists experimentation with materials and techniques, involving daily reflection and selective curation, is part of their routine practice. Working alongside each other in life and in their creative output, Alderson and Coleman look to reframe the outer boundaries not as distractions, but as essential elements to be woven back into the creative journey.

As part of the exhibition, a series of videos will be available online, designed to make the exhibition accessible to those who cannot attend in person, or would like to engage further with the ideas and artworks.

Each episode will focus on different groups of artworks from the exhibition, highlighting the importance of slow-art, allowing people to contemplate the works in their own place of comfort. A new episode will be added each week in the lead up to Slow Art Day, celebrating this international day of reflection and engagement.

The exhibitions will run at Midland Junction Arts Centre from March 1 to April 27.

MJAC is located at 276 Great Eastern Highway, Midland and is open Tuesday to Friday from 10am to 5pm and Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 3pm.



Brad Coleman's untitled monotype with silver and moonstone jewellery created by Amanda Alderson 'Light and Hope'.

Junior cricket teams get some wins

JOSHUA MCKENZIE

MIDLAND Guildford junior sides had some success including the male U14 team, which will face Rockingham Mandurah in the grand final after a win in their semi final.

While the female A grade had a bye last weekend the female B grade played Subiaco Floreat.

After winning the toss and batting first, the side posted 7-228 from their 40 overs.

Alisha Kozma top scored with 70 runs from 63 balls with a number of other batters making important contributions.

Despite setting a target of 229 for victory, it was not enough as their opponents chased down the score with five wickets remaining and 10 balls to spare.

In the female U17 match against Subiaco Floreat, the side enjoyed a comfortable four-wicket victory.

Kaitlyn Magistro (4-11 from eight overs) and Daena Master (3-16 from 5.2 overs) were the standout bowlers as the side bowled out their opposition for a total of just 80 runs from 32.2 overs.

It took the side 26.1 overs to reach the target set with Rebekah Farr leading all batters with 24 runs from 36 balls.

The female U14 played their first 30 over match of the season and won easily by five wickets.

They chased down the target of 87 for victory with nine overs to spare.

After securing a four-wicket victory over Willetton in the semi final the male U14 team will face Rockingham Mandurah in the grand final to take place on Sunday, March 9.

After an effort in the field that featured five runouts, the side restricted their opposition to 8-204 from 50 overs.

Chasing 205 for a spot in the grand final, Brayden Ginn played a superb innings of 87 from 91 to lead the side to victory as they reached the score with just two balls remaining in the match.



Hovea brothers Koen and Dane Breznikar trained in the Perth Hills in the lead up to the national comp.



Hills brothers shine at national biking festival

TWO Hovea mountain biking brothers made their mark on the Snowy Mountain's bike trails and the national stage after competing at the Cannonball mountain bike festival in New South Wales.

Nine-year-old Dane Breznikar competed in the U11 category and was crowned King of Cannonball after he became the overall winner.

Dane dominated during the competition, winning three gold medals and two silver medals across five events.

His older brother Koen, who is 11 years old, competed in the U13 category, securing a bronze medal and finished fifth overall in a highly competitive field.

The major mountain biking event, held from February 10-15, saw riders from across the country battle it out in multiple mountain biking disciplines.

Their mother Katie Breznikar said the atmosphere at the event was very positive and energetic, and although there were professional riders across the nation in attendance, the brothers handled the pressure well.

"The boys handled the pressure really well and the brothers were very supportive of each other throughout the whole thing," she said.

"Koen had a few mechanical issues in his races so for example in his first race his tire busted off and he rode the rest of the tracks on his rim.

"That's part of racing and you don't get a second chance.

"During the event because of the weather, the chairlifts went on hold so the boys actually only got to go for two practise rides before having to compete.

"Usually, you'd get at least five more trial runs, but after the com-

petition, some of the Thredbo riding ambassadors came up asking how many times he'd been on the track.

"Dane had to tell them he had only been on it twice and they were amazed because some of them said they had been on it about 500 times because they lived there."

The boys had no previous experience or family tradition in mountain biking and had only found their passion for it two years ago, with Mrs Breznikar saying now the whole family rides.

"I don't race them though," she said.

Mrs Breznikar said preparation for the event meant a lot of mountain biking in the hills between Mundaring and Kalamunda and the boys had plans to return to the King of Cannonball event next year and had their sights on turning professional and riding across the world.

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Apart from the house itself, the position makes living here easy and convenient with Midland's main shopping centre just minutes away.

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