

New goal
set for
annual
65 Roses Day
PG 6



Mundaring
bushfire
contained
but not out
PG 5



Cassius
Turvey
murder trial
verdicts
PG 5



Pictures: GUANHAO CHENG

Goodbye Midland community

It's the end of an era as Midland's Guild of St Richards charity op-shop closes its doors after more than 50 years due to cost-of-living pressures. **PG 9**

ROHAN FOX
Automotives



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ECHO YOUR THOUGHTS

Have your say:
editorial@echo-news.com

Best wishes for Mia

Dear Echo News,

It is a shame to hear that Mia Davies did not win the new electoral seat of Bullwinkle.

In the past when Mia was in state government and we needed some help, she acted on our behalf and it was done.

These days you are lucky to get a reply let alone help of any kind.

Her resume is outstanding for what she has done for her constituents.

You often hear the term "where are the

statesmen these days". If we had a "states woman", Mia is such a person.

What a loss. Best wishes to her in her future endeavours.

**M White
Forrestfield**

National Volunteer Week

Dear Echo News,

During National Volunteer Week (May 19-25) we're recognising how integral volunteers are to cohesive and inclusive communities, something that's essential to strong Australian communities both now

and in the future.

In a year marked by natural disasters, rising cost-of-living pressures, and growing social challenges, the role of volunteers has never been more important.

Across Australia, volunteers have stepped up in countless ways – offering critical support during emergencies, helping people access food and essential services, strengthening community connections, and supporting local events.

Volunteers are the heart of our communities, and their contributions are vital in times of need.

While volunteers' contributions uplift others, volunteering also has a profound impact on the volunteers themselves – fostering lasting relationships, com-

Thought for the day

"Ships are safe in the harbour, but that's not what they were built for."
— Unknown

community engagement, and a feeling of belonging in an increasingly complex world.

The latest figures demonstrate that volunteering is essential to the fabric of Australian society – not just in economic terms, but also in its ability to connect people from diverse backgrounds and build social resilience during challenging times, including natural disasters and rising living costs.

As volunteering continues to evolve, it's essential that we recognise and support new ways of giving, ensuring that everyone feels

welcome and included in shaping a better future for all.

Regardless of age, background, or ability, everyone can volunteer.

In times of crisis and uncertainty, we are reminded of the power of connection and collective action.

This National Volunteer Week let's come together to recognise their incredible contributions and inspire even more people to step forward and make a difference.

**M Pearce CEO
Volunteering
Australia**

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.

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Financial counsellors: Free, independent, and compassionate support

With Commissioner for Consumer Protection Trish Blake

Ever wondered what a financial counsellor does? These wonderful workers are qualified professionals who provide information, advice, and advocacy to people in financial difficulty.

You can find them based in community organisations throughout WA, from large charities to smaller community centres, as well as local government agencies, and their services are independent, confidential, and compassionate. Best of all, they are free and not means-tested, ensuring that anyone in financial difficulty can access support.

Financial counsellors are not financial planners or advisers and work with those struggling to meet their financial obligations or debts.

Financial Counsellors operate under a licensing exemption from ASIC and must meet strict conditions. They do not charge fees to clients, nor do they receive payments or commissions from third parties. They are required to have appropriate qualifications and training, and must be eligible for membership in the Financial Counsellors Association of WA (FCAWA).

The counsellors offer guidance in many areas, including understanding rules and laws related to bills and debts, budgeting and money management, and negotiating payment plans with creditors. They provide advice on managing unpaid bills, fines, and debts, support for those considering bankruptcy, and assistance with consumer issues.

They also offer referrals to additional support services and information on other financial assistance options.

For more information or to find your nearest financial counsellor, visit fcawa.org or call the National Debt Helpline at 1800 007 007.

From the net...

Echo News social media comments

In response to residents concerned over Stoneville Road works:

J Lavell-Haigh:

"We literally just drove down Stoneville Road today and my son would not believe us when we said this was the finished product. It is absolutely awful!"

In response to Cassius Turvey murder trial verdicts:

C Higgins Trigwell

"Mrs Turvey has been all class throughout this ordeal she is an amazing woman."

In response to community vigilance leads to Bells Rapids footbridge repairs:

K Klein

"Well done to the community for bringing this to the attention of COS. Film crews were down there this morning, and maybe local government will realize their responsibilities. Bells Rapids is a national and international treasure and needs more funding for management (ranger presence), maintenance and security."

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Labor claims new seat of Bullwinkel

GUANHAO CHENG

THOUGH the count is ongoing, Labor has claimed victory in the new federal seat of Bullwinkel with the contesting candidates conceding defeat by Saturday, May 10.

By Thursday, May 15, Bullwinkel's count was 87.38 per cent complete with 106,100 votes counted from the 121,429 eligible electors in the area, according to data from the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC).

This now boosts the lead for Labor candidate for Bullwinkel Trish Cook to 1171, widening the gap between the leading candidates who only had 100 votes difference between them last week.

The new electorate was at the centre of a tense three-pronged contest between leading candidates from Labor, Liberal and the Nationals.

On Wednesday afternoon, May 7 the ABC reported Ms Cook was in the lead by 95 votes which left the possibility of a recount looming as per the AEC's standards.

But by Thursday morning last week, the lead had extended to 175 votes ahead of Liberal candidate Matt Moran.

Later that day, Nationals candidate Mia Davies who was in third place dropped out of the Bullwinkel race, releasing a statement on her page.

"To Matt Moran and Trish Cook, with the result still undecided in Bullwinkel, I wish you both the very best," she said.

"On this occasion we did not succeed but that does not equate to a lack of effort or conviction."

Ms Davies indicated her plans to leave politics following the end of her Bullwinkel campaign.

"The end of this campaign draws a line under a chapter of my life that has been dominated by politics," she said.

"I hope there is something out there that will give me the same satisfaction I have gained from serving the Central Wheatbelt, state parliament and The Na-



The lead held by the Labor candidate for Bullwinkel continues to grow as the AEC completes its count, prompting contesting candidates to concede defeat last weekend. Picture: Guanhao Cheng

tionals for 17 years."

Despite the final result pending from the AEC, Ms Cook took to Facebook to thank her supporters on Friday and expressed her appreciation as the inaugural member for Bullwinkel.

"I'm so grateful to be the first ever member for Bullwinkel, I've advocated for my patients and my community my whole life and I will continue to advocate for Bullwinkel as your local member," she said.

"Thank you to my volunteers for an incredible campaign, I'd like to thank everyone who played a role in this campaign."

In response to questions from *Echo News* about her immediate priorities following the victory, Ms Cook said she was eager to realise her commitments toward health, childcare and bushfire prepared-

ness outcomes in the hills.

"I'm looking forward to delivering my election commitments which include a Medicare Urgent Care Clinic in Mundaring, a Medicare Mental Health Centre in Kalamunda, a childcare centre in Mundaring, \$2.9 million for Hartfield Park, and \$3.9m for six volunteer bush fire brigades across Perth Hills," she said.

"I've worked as a health professional for most of my working life and I have unique lived experience in hospitals, GP clinics, on offshore rigs, and as a small business owner offering remote nursing services.

"I look forward to sharing these insights with my caucus, in committees and in the House of Representatives."

Mr Moran released a statement the day after to his followers conceding his defeat at the 2025 election.

"The result in Bullwinkel is now clear, and while it's not the outcome we had hoped for, I called Trish Cook today to congratulate her," he said.

"I want to sincerely thank everyone who supported me throughout this campaign - those who voted for me, volunteered, or sent kind words of encouragement.

"I am very grateful, your support means so much to me and my team."

Mr Moran indicated that though he had lost the seat, he planned to contest when the opportunity to represent Bullwinkel appeared again.

"The true test of character is how you react when things don't go your way," he said.

"I will remain active in the community, and I hope to seek elected office again in the future."

Divided opinion on upcoming Swan speed changes

CINDY CARTOJANO

SOME Swan residents say there will be peace of mind once the speed limit corrections on Oakover and Campersic Roads are enforced in July, while others disagree.

Effective on July 2 the speed limit on Oakover Road will be reduced from 80km/h to 70km/h and on July 9, Campersic Road will also be reduced to 70km/h.

"I'm delighted that Oakover and Campersic Roads are having their speed limits reduced because I hope that it will deter the rat-runners and improve safety on the roads," Middle Swan resident Jill Devaney said.

In *Potential rat-run concerns along GNH* (*Echo News*, February 7) Ms Devaney said she was in favour of the reduced speed limit on Great Northern Highway (GNH) but expressed her concerns about the impact it would have on feeder roads.

Brigadoon resident Karen Mowat said she was against the proposed speed limit changes on Oakover and Campersic Roads because of the lack of community consultation.

"I'm completely against the speed change being done without community consultation and the procedures being followed," Ms Mowat said.

"The council never made a decision to reduce the speed limit.

"We made a decision to ask for a review and the city and Main Roads had gone ahead and done this."

Ms Mowat said she understood other residents' concerns about a potential rat-run but she wanted to see the evidence first.

"I'd like to understand why someone would come off Great Northern and go there to get 10km/h (faster)," she said.

In *Swan resident concerned about Oakover Road rat-run* (*Echo News*, March 14) Oakover Road resident Rebecca Kelly said she noticed heavier traffic along the road when the speed

limit on GNH was reduced to 70km/h.

Ms Devaney said she noticed more cars driving in the area but there was no real way of knowing because the road wasn't monitored.

"I haven't sat down and done a count but when I'm out there, it just seems really busy," she said.

"It really is just subjective reports from residents."

Ms Mowat suggested adding cameras along the roads might help with potential speeders.

Swan chief executive Stephen Cain said

the city reviewed residents' concerns with Main Roads WA (MRWA).

Mr Cain said speed zones along the two roads were determined by MRWA.

He said traffic counts on Oakover and Campersic Roads after the speed limit change on GNH weren't available.

Main Roads WA have been contacted for comment.

Swan roads Oakover and Campersic will have speed limit updates at the start of July. Picture: Cindy Cartojano



Australian Government
Defence

Defence is holding a community drop-in session to answer questions and provide information on the provision of scheme water infrastructure for the Bullsbrook community.

This is an opportunity for the community to meet with project representatives to discuss pipeline construction activities and connections to scheme water infrastructure, and per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) remediation and management actions for RAAF Base Pearce.

Community members can drop in at any time, no bookings are required.

Light refreshments will be provided.

Community Drop-In Session

Bullsbrook Scheme Water Infrastructure
PFAS Investigation and Management Program

Session details:

Date: Saturday 24 May 2025
Venue: Bullsbrook Museum (outdoor area)
22 Turner Road, Bullsbrook WA 6084
Time: 10:00 am—1:00 pm
Contact: If you have any questions regarding the event, please contact the project team.
Phone: 1800 987 614
Email: bullsbrook.defence@ghd.com



Anzac Day in France for Gooseberry Hill vet



Gooseberry Hill resident and veteran Troy Simmonds (right) was at the Anzac Day at Villers-Bretonneux.

GUANHAO CHENG

GOOSEBERRY Hill resident and veteran Troy Simmonds was among the veteran family volunteers at an Anzac Day at Villers-Bretonneux, France – a first for him.

Mr Simmonds is a decorated combat veteran who lives in the wooded hills of Kalamunda with his family.

He was deployed on Operation Solace to Somalia in 1993, had multiple deployments to East Timor, Iraq and Afghanistan, and was a member of the SAS counter terrorism team supporting the 2000 Olympics in Sydney.

In 2008, Mr Simmonds was in Afghanistan during the Battle of Khaz Oruzgan surviving gunfire and a rocket propelled grenade landing beside him and launching shrapnel into his flesh.

Fast forward 17 years and Mr Simmonds now resides in the home in the forest, east of Perth, which he has called home for the past 10 years.

Mr Simmonds told *Echo News* the Anzac Day commemoration organised by the Department of Veterans' Affairs in Villers-Bretonneux was an incredible experience.

"Very moving to be there where so many young Australians gave their life. 110 years ago, the DVA team were fantastic and made us very welcome," he said.

"I was embedded in the ceremonial team, which actually put on the actual service.

"They do everything from all

the seat allocation, all the VIPs, what order the VIPs are going to sit in, putting name tags on all the seats so when the VIPs turn up at 3am or 4am, we can get them in their correct seats.

"Organising the band and heaps of rehearsals and the federation guard, which are the military drill people that perform the actual service.

"There's a lot of moving parts to bring off for an event like that, so I was with those people."

Mr Simmonds said as a veteran, it really resonated with him and he had read a lot about World War I.

"Just to be in the place, it felt really special," he said.

"It's just a shame more Australians can't get over there to see the actual memorial there because it's so magnificent and it was so special to have so many Australians and French people come over particularly for that event.

"There were 11,000 Aussies killed in that sort of region and there was something like 46,000 Australians who were killed over the Western Front, so in the broader area in World War I – that's staggering.

"I don't think there was any area of our country that didn't get touched by that loss and tremendous loss of that amount of people.

"And this came after Gallipoli, so a lot of the veterans of the guys that fought on the Western Front had survived Gallipoli."

Mr Simmonds said on the side

of the memorial was the Sir John Monash Centre which was an interactive audiovisual museum that took visitors back to the trenches.

"Experiencing that and then being at the moving dawn service is pretty incredible," he said.

Mr Simmonds said his decision to serve came from a desire for adventure, which he thinks has been satisfied after his 22 years of service in infantry.

"I saw a lot of adventures during that period," he said.

"That was the main reason and also I wanted to serve my country and do my bit.

"So probably not dissimilar to the motivations for some of the young diggers back then.

"But yeah, I love living up here and I've certainly got a lot of memories – you tend to remember the good things rather than the bad things."

Mr Simmonds said veterans are everywhere and it was time to shift the perception that veterans are only those who took part in World War II or the Vietnam War.

"They can be veterans that are in their 20s and you could be standing behind a veteran in the queue at the supermarket to go to the checkout," he said.

"They've got a whole heap of skills and they're very highly trained and adaptable.

"They make a good impact on society with all the skills they've learnt and they're quick to adapt to the way the civilian world uses those skills."

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The Shire of Mundaring finance team, from left, Lara Veselovski, Emma Brown, Laetitia de Vries, Lorraine Daly, Garry Bird, Stan Kocian, Stephanie Fertch and Rowena Jones.

Mundaring is recognised for financial management

Shire of Mundaring has been recognised as a best practice leader in financial management by the Office of the Auditor General (OAG), following the release of its 2023-24 local government financial audit results.

The shire was one of just 20 local governments statewide to be named a 'best practice entity', a commendation reserved for those meeting the highest standards across a range of rigorous criteria.

Criteria included timely submission of CEO-certified financial reports, high-quality financial statements and supporting notes, comprehensive and accurate working papers, and effective management and resolution of accounting matters.

Other criteria were the availability and responsiveness of key staff during audits, minimal and low-risk management letter findings and receiving a clear audit opinion with no significant concerns raised.

Shire chief executive officer Jason Whiteaker said the acknowledgment reflects the shire's long-

standing commitment to sound financial stewardship.

"The recognition by the OAG is a testament to the skill, professionalism and attention to detail of our finance team led by finance manager Stan Kocian," Mr Whiteaker said.

Shire President Paige McNeil said council is proud of the shire's strong track record of audit excellence, giving its community confidence that public funds are being managed transparently and responsibly.

"We extend our congratulations to Jason Whiteaker and the team on this outstanding recognition," she said.

"The shire's consistent performance builds on its reputation for financial accountability, supporting the delivery of quality services and infrastructure for the community."

The full OAG report is available at www.audit.wa.gov.au/reports-and-publications/reports/local-government-2023-24-financial-audit-results/

Mundaring bushfire contained but not out

CINDY CARTOJANO

A BUSHFIRE in the northern parts of Malmalling is still active even after 14 days since it was first reported and emergency services attended the site.

According to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) the incident was reported on May 1, at about 3.30pm and was being managed by the Shire of Mundaring.

DFES said the bushfire was contained, and there was no threat to lives or homes but there was a lot of smoke in the area.

Mundaring chief bushfire control officer Tom Belger said firebreaks and natural features such as rocky outcrops have helped with keeping the fire controlled.

"Hotspots, such as burning logs and other large fuels are still present within the already burnt area, but they do not pose a threat," he said.

Mr Belger said the incident was first attended by the shire's fire protection officers, who were then followed by volunteer bushfire brigades, DBCA parks and wildlife service firefighters and neighbouring volunteer brigades.

"Firefighters have employed a range of suppression strategies, including grounding crews in fire trucks, aerial suppression, hand tools and heavy machinery to improve existing containment lines," he said.



A contained and controlled bushfire in Mundaring continues to burn days after the report was made.

However, due to the rugged terrain, Mr Belger said machinery access to some areas was limited.

Mr Belger confirmed the incident was not a peat fire as it was not in peat-forming terrain.

"A fire would be considered a peat fire if it was burning underground in accumulated organic soil layers, such as those found in peatlands, wetlands, swamps or drainage basins," he said.

"These types of fires are typically identified by persistent smoke with no visible flames and require specialist suppression techniques.

"This classification does not apply.

"Firefighters continue to monitor the area through daily ground patrols and aerial surveillance."

Mr Belger said the cause had not been confirmed but it was suspected to be the result of an escaped or unattended campfire.

According to the DBCA, campfires are permitted with seasonal restrictions and only in provided fire pits.

To find campfire permitted sites please visit <https://explore.parks.dbca.wa.gov.au/current-campfire-conditions>



Mechelle Turvey (left) said her son died for absolutely nothing. Picture: Aaron Bunch/AAP Photos

Cassius Turvey murder trial verdicts

AARON BUNCH - AAP

THE mother of a murdered Indigenous teenager, who was chased into bushland and bashed with a metal pole, says her son was hunted for days and identified his killers before he died.

Noongar Yamatji teenager Cassius Turvey died in hospital 10 days after he was "deliberately struck" to the head in Middle Swan on October 13, 2022, causing nation-wide outrage.

In front of a packed courtroom on Thursday, Jack Steven James Brearley, 24, and Brodie Lee Palmer, 29, were convicted of murdering the 15-year-old after three days of deliberations.

Mitchell Colin Forth, 27, who was also on trial in the Western Australian Supreme Court for Cassius' murder, was convicted of manslaughter.

Aleesha Louise Gilmore, 23, was

acquitted by the jury of eight men and four women.

Outside the court, Cassius' mother Mechelle Turvey said her son identified Brearley and Palmer the night he was attacked.

"My son died for absolutely nothing," she said, with some family and supporters chanting "justice for Cassius".

"His life was taken. He was hunted down for days... 15 years of age, my son has finally got justice. May he live forever."

Ms Turvey said it was a "sore point" for her that police did not take a statement from Cassius before he died because of his head injury.

Asked about the verdicts, Ms Turvey said she was "numb with relief" after it was read.

"Justice to me will never be served because I don't have my son, and he's

Cont page 17

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CFWA calls for support ahead of 65 Roses Day

CINDY CARTOJANO

A NEW goal to sell 26,000 roses has been set by Cystic Fibrosis WA (CFWA) in preparation for 65 Roses Day on Thursday, May 22.

The day marks CFWA's biggest annual fundraising event which helps to fund research and support services such as helping families with treatments and hospital stays.

The money raised would also contribute towards online support groups such as CF Kids Connect.

CFWA said online groups kept people living with cystic fibrosis (CF) safe from cross infections caused by meeting in person.

CFWA chief executive Lisa Bayakly said, "The name 65 roses originates from a small boy's attempt at saying CF."

Although people are affected differently by CF, CFWA said it is a genetically inherited condition which mainly affects the lungs and the pancreas in the digestive system.

"It is one of the most common and complex, life-limiting diseases affecting children and adults in Australia and there is still no cure."

According to CFWA more than 3700 Australians are battling the life-threatening disease, with about 400 of those diagnosed living in WA.

Swan View resident Lillee Keogh was diagnosed with CF when she was only three weeks old, and Lillee's mum Jade Keogh said it was a tough time up until about two and a half years ago.

"Lillee had her first hospital admission at about six months old

and then from there, it was pretty much back-to-back hospital admissions."

In 2022, Mrs Keogh said Lillee was given compassionate access to Trikafta which wasn't available on the pharmaceutical benefits scheme, and Lillee needed to meet certain qualifications in order to receive compassionate access.

"Lillee had no quality of life at that point," she said. "We were in hospital more than we were out."

To keep up with her body's needs, Mrs Keogh said Lillee needed to take up to 50 tablets a day, depending on what she ate that day. Mrs Keogh said Lillee enjoyed being the light of any room and being in front of the camera.

Ms Bayakly said 65 Roses Day has had a significant impact on CFWA's ability to support the CF community.

"However, our work is not done," she said.

"Sadly, there are many people who are still not eligible for existing treatments, and others who have had to stop taking them due to unforeseen side effects.

"We're working hard in this space to meet changing needs."

CFWA is accepting pre-orders made by May 18 for a florist-arranged bouquet which would be delivered on 65 Roses Day, for those living in the metro area.

Roses are available for purchase on May 22 at shopping centre stalls, schools and community groups.

For those allergic or unable to visit the stalls, a virtual rose is also available for purchase at rosegarden.org.au where you can watch the garden grow.



Lillee Keogh after good lung test results.

Bassendean's callout for RYDE driver mentors

GUANHAO CHENG

BASSENDEAN'S RYDE program aims to help young drivers achieve the 50 hours needed to acquire a WA driver's license and is calling for new mentors to join the initiative.

The Town of Bassendean recognised that young people without access to suitable supervisors or vehicles, were severely marginalised from participating in employment, training and leisure activities.

These issues were magnified when, in 2012 the state government increased the number of required supervised hours from 25 to 50.

RYDE mentor Adam Khan said being a mentor had been a rewarding experience and participants, who usually came from challenging environments were often appreciative of the opportunity.

"I just wanted to see happy faces, you know, if these young kids know how to drive," he said.

"It's very rewarding in a way that you have people from challenging backgrounds coming into it.

"It's a great program for young people who don't have money to pay \$60 or \$70 per hour.

"At the end of the day you can see the smile and happiness in them so it's very sat-

isfying work.

"But you need a lot of patience and a lot of care, also understanding some special needs for people with special backgrounds, cultural backgrounds, new migrants.

"It's challenging work but at the end of the day when they are away and they're driving, you think, 'wow'.

"One of my students actually came back to my home and brought some sweets and he was just absolutely over the moon that he could drive."

Young people learning from the RYDE program will have completed the learning to drive phase of the process with a professional driving instructor.

This is to ensure the sessions are just about gaining experience and honing skills.

All driving sessions will be undertaken in a dedicated RYDE program vehicle.

Any driver that meets the basic criteria to supervise a learner driver, is willing to view an online induction video and pass the relevant police clearances, are eligible to get involved with RYDE as a mentor.

New mentors are expected to be available for at least one 90-minute session per week, have access to a phone that can text, hold a current C class driver's license and have a safe driving history.

More information and to register for the program is available at www.ryde.org.au

WA'S FIRST FAIR TO REIMAGINE HEALTH AND INCLUSION – LOUD, PROUD, AND COMMUNITY-LED



An exciting, first of its kind event is set to take place in Ballajura this May, bringing health, culture, and community together in a powerful display of inclusion and connection. The Together Now: Health & Community Fair will be held on Thursday, 22 May 2025, from 10:00am to 3:00PM at The Marketplace Precinct, Ballajura.

The event is proudly organised by Together Now WA (TNWA) – a local charity based in Ballajura. TNWA supports people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities through community services, emergency relief, and creative programs that bring people together.

The fair will feature over 40 leading health services, charities, and community groups from across Western Australia, including respected names such as Derbarl Yerrigan Health Services, Youth Disability Advocacy Network, Multicultural Futures, Worthy Australia, Kids First Australia, and zero2hero.

Highlights of the Fair:

- Live entertainment from DJ XQYEMU, Para and Ability Dance WA, and renowned drag performer Dean Misdale
- Free health services, including health checks and mental health support
- Games, giveaways, and informative community stalls
- A delicious Filipino-inspired menu from a local café
- Family-friendly activities, quiet zones, and sensory play for children

This community-led initiative is designed to be welcoming, inclusive, and accessible to all.

Event Details:

- **What:** Together Now: Health & Community Fair
- **When:** Thursday, 22 May 2025 | 10:00am–3:00pm
- **Where:** The Marketplace Precinct, Ballajura

More Info: togethernowwa.org.au/together-now-health-community-fair-2025

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Jo McCormick, Ulysses, Colleen Ashby and Inca at Stirk Park. Picture: Cindy Cartojano

Kalamunda welcomes second seeing eye dog

CINDY CARTOJANO

KALAMUNDA now has two Seeing Eye Dogs (SED), after SED Ulysses and her dog handler Jo McCormick recently moved to the area.

SED mobility instructor Matt Wood said his work involved working with dog handlers to ensure they are safe and confident in their independent travel and mobility.

"SEDs are legally entitled to travel to all areas including all public transport, taxis, ride shares such as Uber, shopping centres, restaurants and cafes.

"This legislation enables the SED handlers to live a normal life, just like everyone else," Mr Wood said.

Colleen Ashby said she received her first SED in 2018 after she lost 95 per cent of her sight due to complications with a heart transplant the year before.

"I had seven years of a wonderful working partnership with her and she now remains a pet with me for her retirement life."

Being an active person, Mrs Ashby said Vision Australia told her she would be an ideal candidate for a dog.

"I was also a special needs education assistant at the Lesmurdie High School and having a dog would be ideal in that work environment," Mrs Ashby said.

At the end of March, Mrs Ashby was paired with her second SED Inca whom she had been working with for the past five weeks.

She said SED allowed people who have little or no vision confidence to get out-and-about by themselves.

"Just knowing that your trustee and loyal partner is there all the time by your side, guiding you in amongst crowds and busy areas is so important for your mental health and general well-being."

Mrs Ashby said she's had some amazing experiences with her SED.

"Being in a march for the World Transplant Games in 2023 and proudly walking for Australia, with crowds on either side.

"I have flown on planes to Queensland, Sydney, Melbourne with my best companion by my side in unfamiliar areas, keeping me safe.

"Just recently, my new dog Inca safely guided me down some very rocky terrain at Kalbarri to get down to a viewing platform."

Jo McCormick said she's had her SED for nine months, and having Ulysses played a vital role in

her everyday life.

"My first SED has been truly life-changing," Ms McCormick said.

"The support, companionship and enhanced mobility my dog provides have been foundational to my independence and quality of life."

Ms McCormick said when she was given Ulysses, she already had two other dogs at home.

"One of the most memorable moments was the seamless integration of my first SED into our home, which already included two adopted rescue dogs.

"It was heartwarming to witness all the dogs getting along so well.

"Now, we have a house full of happy dogs."

Both Mrs Ashby and Ms McCormick said off leash or long lead dogs that come over to their SED was one of the many challenges they faced.

"This is very distracting and dangerous as it takes the dog away from its working capacity of being able to guide the handler," Mrs Ashby said.

"These are working dogs and the focus needs to remain on the handler and their job at task, not on other people trying to whistle or call their name and distract them or to come over patting them.

"They are there for a job."

Ms McCormick said another challenge was when drivers stopped in areas where pedestrians do not have the right of way in an attempt to be courteous.

"While the intention is appreciated, it can actually create confusion and increase the risk of accidents," she said.

Ms McCormick said she hoped the SED organisation would be given greater recognition for the work it does and wished for it to be integrated more in WA.

"Their impact is life-changing and I believe more people should have access to their incredible support," she said.

Mrs Ashby hoped to share her experience with SED, with others in the community.

"I hope to get back into my walking group, get some social groups together with other handlers and get a good community awareness around these amazing animals," she said.

"Public awareness is one thing that I'm aiming to try and participate in to promote the value and importance of SEDs."

At the end of April, SED celebrated the life-changing work of SEDs on International Guide Dog Day, and also its 65th anniversary at Vision Australia in Leederville.

Kids Helpline funding boost

THE state government will provide a \$1.35 million funding boost to Kids Helpline provider yourtown to support more young Western Australians.

Kids Helpline is a free phone and online counselling service for young people aged 5 to 25 experiencing mental health issues.

Last year the helpline responded to more than 10,000 young people in WA with many of the

calls made outside of business hours.

The service is particularly important to young people living in regional and remote areas of the state, where face-to-face services can be limited.

Kids Helpline has provided support and counselling for young people for over 34 years with more than 8.9m contacts and responses made throughout that time.

Health and Mental Health

Minister Meredith Hammat said Kids Helpline had a long history of providing support to young people.

"Allowing children and young adults to reach out at any time of the day or night, either by webchat or phone call, is critical to ensuring mental health support is provided when it's needed.

"Investing in the mental health and wellbeing of young Western Australians is vital for the future of our state."

Swan Active Ellenbrook earthworks completed



City of Swan CEO Stephen Cain, Swan Hills MLA Michelle Maynard, deputy Premier and Member for West Swan MLA Rita Saffioti and City of Swan Mayor Tanya Richardson inspect the earthworks at Swan Active Ellenbrook.

SIGNIFICANT Swan Active Ellenbrook milestones have been achieved, with earthworks now complete and the tender for the centre's construction released.

Earthworks began in February to prepare the site for construction, including digging the holes for the pools and levelling the site.

The centre would provide the Swan community with a regional-level aquatic and recreation facility in the heart of Ellenbrook, right near the newly opened Metronet train line.

From waterslides, pools and spas to a fitness centre, gym, wellness rooms and sports hall – plus all the outdoor facilities like BBQs and picnic areas – there will be something for everyone.

City of Swan Mayor Tanya Richardson said she was pleased to see the project speeding towards the construction phase and can't wait to see it start to take shape.

"We promised this to the people of Ellenbrook and the entire Swan community, and with support from the

state and federal governments, I am so thrilled that we are making great progress – next stop is construction," she said.

Deputy Premier and West Swan MLA Rita Saffioti said it was great to see even more progress at the much-anticipated Ellenbrook pool.

"Now that we can see some tangible progress, like the ground being levelled, it makes the project real for the community, and the Metronet trainline is demonstrating how easy it will be to access the facility," she said.

Swan Hills MLA Michelle Maynard said she was thrilled to be backing such a huge project that will bring vital facilities to a growing community.

"I'm proud to continue the work that has gone into delivering Swan's largest aquatic and recreation facility – it is a welcome addition in one of our fastest-growing suburbs," she said.

To learn more go to www.swan.wa.gov.au/city-and-council/planning-for-the-future/major-projects/swan-active-ellenbrook

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- Every effort will be made to minimise disruption and to permanently reinstate affected areas to their previous condition as soon as possible, within 15 working days of completion of works.
- We appreciate the community's understanding while these essential works are undertaken and apologise for any inconvenience.
- ATCO Australia builds, owns and maintains the network of underground pipe infrastructure near your home, which makes it possible for you to connect to natural gas.

Please direct construction enquiries to **13 13 56** (weekdays 7am-6pm) or email enquiries@atco.com

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



This year's theme, "Sexy Soil," highlights the importance of healthy soil for successful gardening and farming, with expert speakers and related products on hand.

Attendees will enjoy a variety of regular attractions, including the Honey Festival, Slow Olive Festival and the Alpaca Expo, plus live music, horsemanship, dog work, and children's hands-on activities focused on the theme.

It's a fun day out for the whole family! Learn about keeping cattle, sheep, or poultry, beekeeping, honey extraction, and the best olives and olive oil. Passionate experts will host talks on everything from the importance of fungi for soil health to the best vegetable bed preparation, and how to breed the best chooks.

Children will be amused and educated by roving fairies and performances by the Spare Parts Puppet Theatre. They can even make a worm farm to take home or pot up a seedling.

Watch the exciting equestrian events in the arena, marvel at sheep dogs in action, and see sheep being shorn. There will also be the latest machinery on display for your patch of country.

New this year, we're expanding the popular "Up the Garden Path" garden section, offering plants for sale and local gardening advice.

The event also features a hall with local food, wine and distillery businesses showcasing their products. Head here for a tasty treat or a bottle of local produce to take home and enjoy.

We thank our major sponsors - Countryman, Bendigo Bank, and the City of Swan - for their support. We also appreciate all our exhibitors, whose contributions make this such a diverse and exciting day for our visitors.

We welcome your feedback and ideas for future events. Don't miss this exciting, educational, and fun day out!



Pictures: KYLE ATTWOOD



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Good Sammy reopens in Midland

GUANHAO CHENG

AFTER closing its Midland store in May 2022 due to the location becoming unfit for purpose, Good Sammy has since been refurbished and officially reopened this week under new ownership.

At the official opening Good Sammy chief executive officer Kane Blackman said the original decision to close was not an easy one due to Midland's engaged community.

"Two and a half years ago when we shut the store because of safety concerns, we were disappointed and the community was upset that we had left," he said.

"One of the tough things I had to do when I started in the job three years ago was to shut this store.

"We had very strong stakeholder relationships here, huge number of donations.

"The team told me that the store was shut for 16 days across summer.

"When I asked why, they said that the air conditioning didn't work and it was too hot here for staff and customers, so they shut the store.

"I asked why we didn't ask the landlord to please fix the air conditioning, and they said the landlord would not.

"Then winter came and then the store leaked water through into buckets on the floor as well.

"Due to the concern that we had with the air conditioning, with the water coming through with the potential asbestos in the ceiling, we decided that it was no longer a safe environment for Good Sammy and we left Midland.

"We've been on a big search for two years to find a space back in Midland and we were absolutely excited when our old store became available with a fresh renovation and those concerns were addressed.

"The other unique thing about the Midland area for us is there is a large number of people who have a disability and are seeking employment.



Good Sammy chief executive officer Kane Blackman with Midland resident and Good Sammy employee Elizabeth Ellis at the official reopening of Good Sammy Midland. Picture: Guanhao Cheng

"We hope to reach out to that community and find opportunities for them to come in and reach out to local schools to find opportunities to deliver work experience, volunteering and training."

Midland resident and Good Sammy employee Elizabeth Ellis, who is living with dyslexia, has been working at Good Sammy for 16 years and said her nerves had melted away during her time being employed.

"A lady came in to do work experience with some kids and came back to school and told me there was a job going here and I got the job straight away," she said.

"It was so long ago but I was really scared to come in.

"I was 18 when I started here down the little store down the road.

"I was working at the front – the first two weeks they got me straight on the till, straight to doing everything."

Aside from the reading side of work, Ms Ellis said dyslexia was no barrier to her employment and shifting into e-commerce at Good Sammy wasn't difficult.

"Hasn't been too hard," she said.

"You're not in a store full of customers and you don't deal with donations.

"You're just doing more computer work, photographing and all other stuff."

Good Sammy's disability employment frequently asked questions web page section explained every new employee with a disability is placed with a Good Sammy mentor.

This is funded through the individual's NDIS plan and mentors are to provide individual, on-the-job assistance to help new employees learn and get familiarised with the role.

Those who aren't NDIS participants may need to pay for Good Sammy support services up-front.

Midland op-shop closes after 51 years

GUANHAO CHENG

TUCKED away in a little white building on Great Northern Highway is an op-shop that has been feeling the pressure of cost-of-living as visitors have slowly disappeared at the shop.

Guild of St Richards Midland committee member Janet Hutchins said it's the end of an era as the op-shop's presence in Midland for more than 50 years comes to an end.

The current reality sits in stark contrast to when the shop first opened in October 1973 on Morrison Road as described by the late Guild of St Richards Midland co-founding member Elizabeth Herbert in her written history.

"People were queued up at the door long before (Guild of St Richards co-founder Betty Foulkes) and I arrived," she said.

"The shop was packed with people squeezing past each other.

"By closing the stock was much depleted and Betty and I were exhausted but very happy with the results."

In 2025, after having been in five locations in Midland during its time and making its last stand on Great Northern Highway, the Guild of St Richards op-shop is preparing to close permanently.

"Even looking at the ledgers, the amount we've been getting this year compared to last has been a big difference," Ms Hutchins said.

"Rent has just gotten so high everywhere that there's nowhere to go for us."

When *Echo News* paid a visit, Ms Hutchins pointed at and assessed the outfit of the attending reporter to illustrate how the op-shop priced its donations.

"Shirt, pants, shoes and tie – all



Guild of St Richards Midland committee member Janet Hutchins. Inset: The op-shop. Pictures: Guanhao Cheng

that would be \$3.50 here," she said.

"\$1 for the shirt, \$1 for the pants, \$1 for the shoes and \$0.50 for the tie."

Ms Hutchins held up a brand new high-vis work shirt.

"\$1 for this new shirt," she said.

"Where else are you going to find a shirt like this at that price?" "We're not about making a profit at a place like this, we make enough to cover rent and then all the money goes to charities and donations.

"All of us are volunteers here or mutual obligation workers so we're not in it to make money."

Ms Hutchins said although the Great Northern Highway location would soon be demolished and developed into something else, she hoped it would have a last hurrah as new visitors came by to pick up some stock at bargain prices and support good causes.

"My mother had dementia, and my husband passed away

from cancer, so I care about those things more, but we donate to all sorts of charities," she said.

"(My coworker) donates her portion to DreamBuilders Care who help feed the homeless in Midland.

"Although we're closing down, it's good the owners are giving us a chance to trade-out and didn't go, 'You've got one month and then you're out of here'.

"I can't just sit down and retire so after this, I'm probably headed to the Salvation Army to help there.

"We're aiming for September 30 to clear all the stock and pay for rent which is about \$5000 but if we can sell all this, we'll recoup it and the rest we'll give it away.

"We still have regulars that come (to the Guild of St Richards) but what we need are new people for the final push.

"We're not fancy but we're cheap and that's what we need in this economy."

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Producer Anna Laverty with artist Finley Buka in the studio. Picture: James Morris

Musicians outside the spotlight sought

THE GRID Series and First Nations Focus (FN Focus) will be accepting expressions of interest from May 16 to July 1 for a free six-month music program to support artists from Perth's outer suburbs like Glen Forrest, where access to industry networks can be limited.

The outer Perth artist development program will provide one-on-one mentorship from industry experts, a fully produced and mastered track, live performance opportunities and a documentary film to showcase the artist's creative journey.

GRID Series co-founder Ariel Blum said the program was inspired by his background as a music producer.

He said throughout the years, he noticed an increasing number of people in the music industry had come from an affluent background.

"I observed that the bulk of my

client base were coming from either mum-and-dad money or from high social currency – coming from an immense place of privilege as a starting point," Mr Blum said.

"This level of access to resources is less forthcoming the further away you push out from the inner-city hubs.

"I didn't feel comfortable with that – it just felt completely inequitable."

Mr Blum said many music makers had gone unnoticed due to a lack of access.

"When we ran our program in outer Perth in 2019, we were overwhelmed with the number of applications we received."

FN Focus has partnered with GRID Series for the project, a First Nations-owned record label which was co-founded by Nyoon-gar Wongi rapper Josh Eggington, also known as Flewnt and Tani Webb.

"It was an incredibly organic process to hand the keys over to Josh, Tani and the FN Focus team to drive this year's program," Mr Blum said.

FN Focus director Josh Eggington said something special happens when the mic and map are handed over to First Nations creatives.

"Programs like this show that First Nations-led work isn't just culturally important, it's artistically exceptional and industry-leading," he said.

In the submissions, Mr Blum said they'd be looking for authenticity, work ethic, creativity, artistic bravery and community mindedness.

"We genuinely believe that in this country, the most exciting artists are the ones chipping away under the surface.

The program activities kick off in September and run through to January 2026.

Production costs cut in Bassendean



Lotterywest grants and community development general manager Lorna Pritchard with Black Swan State Theatre Company chief executive officer Ian Booth.

BASSENDEAN's Black Swan state theatre company has a new machine that is halving costs for smaller and independent arts organisations in the state to produce woodworked set pieces.

While traditionally multiple machines would be used for ensuring consistency of thickness and the actual sawing of wood, the new computer numerical control (CNC) machine combines it into one process.

The machine is a Tekcel Enduro supplied by WA company Tommotek funded through a \$95,000 Lotterywest grant.

Black Swan chief executive officer Ian Booth said the new

machine has already had a big impact, allowing Black Swan to reduce labour-intensive hours and lower production costs.

"This is an exceptional piece of equipment, bought from a WA company, which allows Black Swan to save time and money, and partner better with the wider arts sector," he said.

"We see partnering with the theatre sector as a core part of our role as the state theatre company.

"At the same time, we are always seeking to provide a safer operating environment for our staff."

According to Tommotek, Black Swan saved more than 100 hours in manufacturing time within the first few months of operation, with projects that once took days now able to be completed in just hours.

Black Swan's specialist services allow WA arts companies to keep set and costume production within the state, allowing theatre productions to be made in Bassendean.

Lotterywest grants and community development general manager Lorna Pritchard said the goal of the \$95,000 grant was to help Black Swan continue its critical role in supporting Western Australia's arts sector.

"Lotterywest is acutely aware of the importance art and culture has on our community and we are excited to work with Black Swan to play its role in creating opportunities for the arts in WA," she said.

Organisations interested in exploring funding options for arts and cultural infrastructure projects are encouraged to call 133 777.

Indigenous mining opportunities in Northam



Indigenous students commence training in Northam to enter the mining industry.

SKILL Hire's Transition to Work (TtW) program, in partnership with IronMerge, is making a significant impact in Northam by providing tailored and inclusive opportunities for First Nation participants interested in the mining industry.

The FIFO utility information session, a new initiative of Skill Hire's TtW program, is designed to offer at-risk Indigenous participants a clear entry point into the mining sector.

The educational program sets realistic expectations about life and work in the mines, focusing on long-term career progression and a commitment to diversity. Already, seven local participants have expressed interest in pursuing mining careers.

Transition to Work (TtW), delivered by Skill Hire (part of the IntoWork Group) in Northam, is an employability program that supports young people aged 15 to 24 with practical skills, ongoing career development, and connections to education, training and community support services.

IronMerge, an Aboriginal-owned company founded in 2019, specialises in providing tailored industrial solutions and employment services across the nation.

Divisional manager Alex Jane emphasised the importance of setting realistic expectations for participants, "We use a real warts and all approach when we tell people about the mining industry. It's not about rainbows and butterflies; it's the hardest thing they're going to do."

This honest and transparent approach ensured only those who are truly committed and mentally prepared for the rigors of the job pursued it, leading to higher retention rates and better job satisfaction.

"We tell them, 'If you don't want to be here, that's fine, but don't take somebody else's spot.' Once we're confident in their attitude, because their attitudes are everything, we then represent them to our clients."

The program is open to First Nation participants of all ages, from 18 to 70, with no requirement to be attached to any particular job provider.

IronMerge also offers a comprehensive training program that focuses on life values, budgeting and essential certifications like white cards and RSA.

The program has already seen significant success in exceeding diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) targets.

"Our clients, for example, BHP, have managed to maintain a 20 percent Aboriginal workforce and a 30 percent female workforce, significantly exceeding all of our DEI targets," Ms Jane said.

Skill Hire chief executive officer Ben Dahlstrom said the company is committed to providing more opportunities for First Nation participants.

"This partnership is about more than just employment; it's about building a future where everyone has a fair chance to succeed," he said.

"It's seeing them years later as senior leaders on sites. That's what I like to see."

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Thank you for re-electing me as your member for Hasluck

An election is a time for reflection. The Albanese government was judged well on its delivery across many areas, such as support for Medicare and School Funding, its economic management and real action on climate change.

Locally, we can be proud of the many commitments we have delivered and are delivering for Hasluck. The Metronet line to Ellenbrook, Community hubs at Ellenbrook and Dayton, the nation's first TAFE Clean Energy Skills National Centre of Excellence at Midland, investments in environmental protection for Grogan Swamp

and Ashfield Flats, Medicare Urgent Care Clinics at Midland and Morley.

The election result was a resounding mandate to do even more. I look forward to continuing to deliver for Hasluck, starting with a much-needed Medicare Urgent Care Clinic for Ellenbrook.

The redistribution has seen the Hills areas moved to the new seat of Bullwinkel, where I know Trish Cook will be an excellent advocate and serve the community well. She will continue to deliver on mobile communications and emergency services and will be a forthright representative to protect our environmental heritage.

Steve Catania MLA is the new Member for Midland

Prior to becoming a member of Parliament, Steve was a lawyer fighting for the rights of working people on issues like safety at work and a fair day's pay.

Since being elected in March, Steve has been fighting for constituents with key stakeholders on issues that are important to the community.

Steve has also been working hard on the delivery of his commitments to various local community organisations and schools.

Currently, Steve is campaigning for the uptake of the WA Student Assistance Payment, an initiative aimed at providing cost of living relief to local families with school aged children.

The payment aims to assist parents with school-related expenses, such as books, IT equipment, stationery, uniforms, shoes, excursions, and even groceries for school lunches.

Eligible families will receive \$150 for each kindy and primary school student, and \$250 for each secondary school student.

To access the payment, you simply need your child's WA Student Number and to apply through the ServiceWA app by Friday 4 July 2025.



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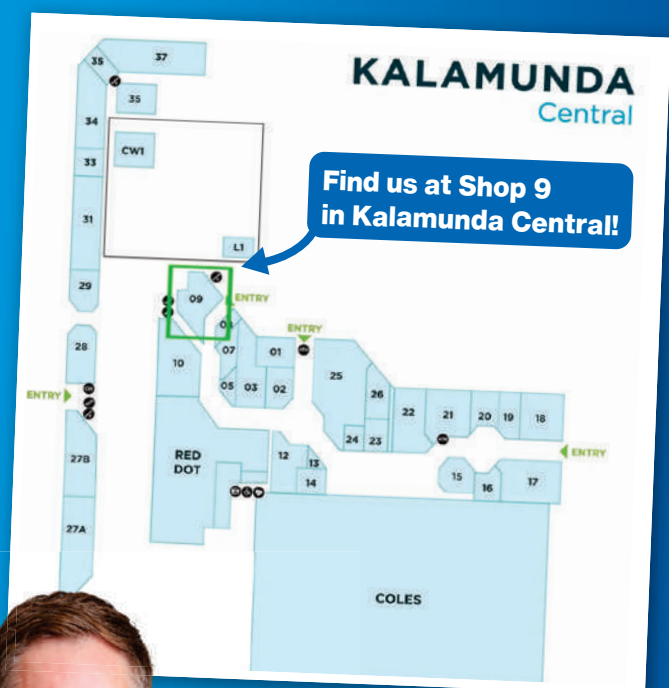
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Perth Hills, we're open!

If you have any questions, concerns, or need a hand from me or my team, feel free to pop into my office at Kalamunda Central!



**Adam
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MEMBER FOR **KALAMUNDA**

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Authorised by Adam Hort MLA, Liberal Party, Shop 9, 39 Railway Road, Kalamunda WA 6076.

ADVERTISING FEATURE

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Winter Wildflowers Delight

Our local bushland in the Perth Hills has some wonderful wildflowers and as we approach winter it is a stunning time to go have a look.

Here are three of our favourites that can be found when exploring on a short walk in our local National Parks.

Hypocalymma angustifolium, is an attractive small shrub, producing a mass of flowers along the stems, which can be all white to all pink, or a mix of white and pink. They are a great plant to attract birds and bees to the garden.

Grevillea bipinnatifida, commonly called the Fuchsia Grevillea due to its bright red flowers. A prickly shrub, offering protection and nectar to small birdlife. It grows as a ground cover or low sprawling shrub.

Chorizema cordatum, or the Heart Leaf Flame Pea brightens up a cold wintery day with orange and pink/red pea flowers that stretch up above the shrub. It is a small useful shrub that can also grow well in a dry shady position.



Chorizema cordatum



I'm humbled to be your representative in State Parliament and excited to now have a permanent local office in the Perth Hills. You'll find us at Shop 9 in Kalamunda Central, just across from Red Dot.

If you've got an issue that needs attention or just need help dealing with a state government service, my team and I are here to back you in.

Our office is your first stop if you need help navigating state government departments, want to raise a concern, or are looking to connect

with services in our community. No problem is too big or too small.

We'll also be holding regular mobile offices around the electorate to make sure we're getting to every corner of the Perth Hills - so please keep an eye on my website or social media pages for updates.

Feel free to pop in for a chat or make an appointment. You can also get in touch by phone at 08 9293 4747 or email adam.hort@mp.wa.gov.au

Cluedunnit Murder fiendishly clever mystery comes to Amaroo

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Whilst you enjoy a delicious three course dinner, gather clues from the various suspects as they visit your table, discuss with your fellow diners and then decide...whodunnit!

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Cluedunnit have been involved in providing Murder Mystery Dinner Experiences for 40 years and are one of the longest established murder mystery companies in the world.

Our murder mystery dinners SELL OUT quickly - don't leave it too late to book!

COCKTAIL OF MURDER - The Story So Far...It is 1929, and London is about to witness the latest drinking club 'GATSBYS' opening in Mayfair.

This club will be the first to allow women members, and it is already causing a stir!

This stylish establishment is the brainchild of Elliott Strong and has the financial backing of writers F Scott Fitzgerald, Agatha Christie, and

PG Wodehouse.

The London fashionable set is already clamoring for membership, it is the place to be seen for sure, and the drinks are to die for.

Enjoy a three-course dinner as you question the suspects, decipher the clues and work to crack the case.



COCKTAIL OF MURDER

Step into the glamorous world of 1929 London, where the latest and most exclusive drinking club, **GATSBYS**, is about to make its grand debut in Mayfair.

This groundbreaking establishment is the first to welcome women members, and it's already sparking quite the buzz! **GATSBYS** is set to become the city's most coveted hotspot.

The fashionable elite are already clamouring for membership - this is the place to be seen, and trust us, the cocktails are to die for!

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Hi, I'm Trish Cook – your local Labor member for Bullwinkel

Thank you to the people of Bullwinkel for choosing me as your representative in the Federal Parliament.

It is an absolute privilege to play a role in delivering for Bullwinkel, to make the changes we want to see in our community and to be part of the Albanese Labor Government.

I've spent my career advocating for the health and well-being of others. I will bring that same passion and commitment to Canberra, advocating for the people of Bullwinkel every day.

I've worked hard during this campaign, and I will continue working hard everyday to deliver for our community, including delivering on my election commitments:

Medicare Urgent Care Clinic in Mundaring, childcare centre in Kalamunda, \$2.9 million for Hartfield Park, Medicare Mental Health Centre in Kalamunda and \$3.9 million for 6 volunteer bush fire brigades across Perth Hills.

Together, we will make sure that our community gets the services and support that we deserve.

Thank you for your support, for the opportunity to deliver real and practical improvements in our community and for putting your trust in me to be the first ever Member for Bullwinkel.

Trish Cook
Labor Member for Bullwinkel



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I've spent my career advocating for the health and wellbeing of others. I will bring that same passion and commitment to Canberra, advocating for the people of Bullwinkel every day.

Together, we will make sure that our community gets the services and support that we deserve.

@trish4bullwinkel Trish Cook - Labor for Bullwinkel

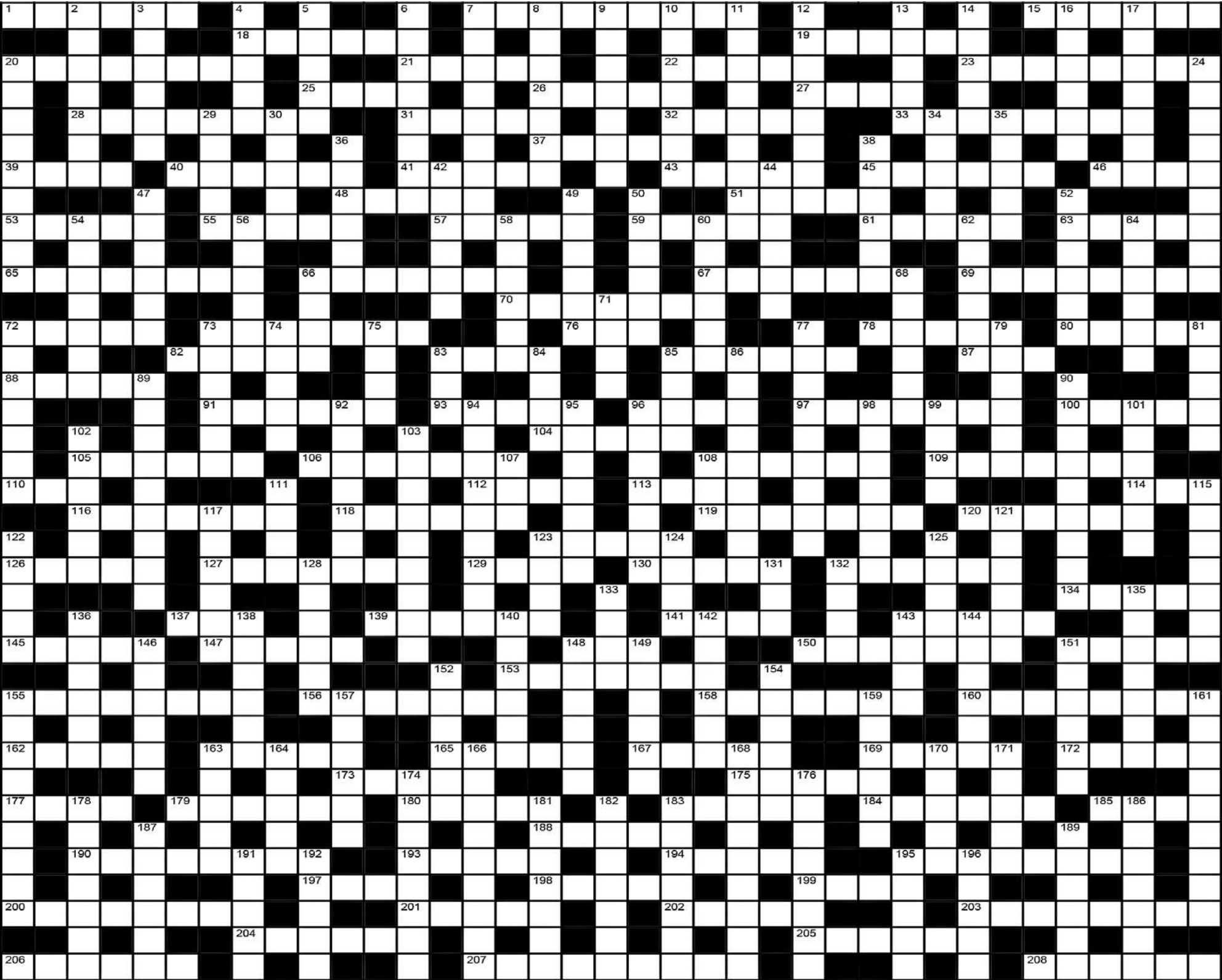
Authorised by E. Whiteaker, Australian Labor Party (WA Branch), 85-87 Havelock Street, West Perth WA 6005



ECHO

Mind Boggler Crossword

1217



ACROSS		73	Directional device	145	A waterlily	205	Attractive influence	72	Pan for gold	136	Comedy ‘straight man’	164	Myanmar’s former name
1	Bell-shaped flowers	76	Not quite a sweet potato	147	Religious groups	206	Classical dance	73	A glass bottle	138	Swiss city	166	Casino attendants
7	Staying power	78	Brittle	148	To betray someone (coll)	207	Safe haven	74	A measure	140	Sudden short windstorm	168	Study of stars
15	A cupboard	80	Dodge	150	After usual time	208	Artist’s room	75	Spreads seed	142	Fiddle around	170	Give a speech
18	A cure-all	82	Country	151	Bee houses			77	Flint and steel holder	143	Estimate the value of	171	Vertical passage
19	Capital of Canada	83	At no cost	153	Fabled animal			79	Small dog	144	Zodiac twins	174	Tennis assistants
20	Drench	85	Feline garden favourite	155	Likely			81	Roof overhangs	146	In short supply	176	Type of fish
21	Clasp tightly	87	An old weight	156	A card game			83	Enemy	148	Get wider	178	A good-for-nothing person
22	Church singers	88	Of sound	158	Finger joint			84	Biblical garden	149	Mumbai’s former name	181	Old sailing ship
23	Orators	91	Bowman’s shafts	160	Near to happening			85	Co-educational (abb) (2-2)	151	Young bovine	182	A large reptile
25	Ancient boat builder	93	A live coal	162	A lock of hair			86	Large spider	152	Appreciation	183	Kneecap
26	Sound angrily	96	An equal	163	Synagogue official			89	Musical implements	154	Largest country	186	A racetrack official
27	Free from danger	97	Made out plans	165	Brilliance of success			90	Hard to read	155	Turns to stone	187	A fairy being
28	Amount earned from investments	100	Long shafted weapon	167	Rich tapestry			92	Penned	157	Birds’ enclosure	189	Turkish mountain
31	Cognisant	104	A wanderer	169	Not showing emotion			94	Australian city	159	Example for learning	191	A skinflint
32	Ooze out	105	Foamy soap	172	School tests			95	Ordinary movements	161	Palates	192	Fasteners
33	Headlong rush	106	Motley coloured horse	173	A colour			96	Fervour	163	Come again	195	A scoundrel
37	A dance	108	Ensnare	175	Separates the coarse parts			98	Clothing			196	Seraglio
39	15th March	109	Floating ice mass	177	US state			99	Back part				
40	A shape	112	Ornamental fish sculpture	179	One making goals			101	Lump of gold				
41	Sediment	113	Hit a fly	180	Amid			102	Inadequate				
43	A light wash	114	Sticking agent	183	Flower part			103	Unaware				
45	Yearly	116	Eyeglass	184	Not shining			107	A failure				
46	Whispered call	118	Three-legged stand	185	Actual existence			108	A corn spike				
48	A valued thing	119	Unverified stories	188	Scene of action			111	Food store (coll)				
51	A waterway	120	Do a favour for	190	A comic book hero			115	Animated TV comedy stars				
53	Famous racecourse	123	A root vegetable	193	Coat piece			117	A prickly plant				
55	Stream of fish eggs	126	Burial place	194	A fish			121	Decapitate				
57	Remove facial hair	127	An Italian wine	195	Practise			122	Type of oar				
59	An artist’s stand	129	Scarce	197	Middle Eastern national			123	Globes				
61	On high	130	Of birth	198	Become invalid			124	Catches				
63	Packs of cards	132	Ice vehicle	199	Angel’s headwear			125	Mountainous Asian region				
65	Lines of houses	134	Strange and mysterious	200	Small fishes			128	Extremely cold				
66	Relating to earthquake	137	Small insect	201	Corpulent			131	Strict rule				
67	Meal courses	139	Mental strain	202	Free from bonds			132	Certain				
69	Set free	141	Hide away	203	Gives ground			133	Australian reptile (abb)				
70	Steering aids	143	Of royalty	204	Funeral speech			135	Mediterranean resort region				
72	Group of sheep												

Crossword Solution 1216 from 9 May, 2025

SECURES	P	R	A	B	I	D	D	E	E	R	T	O	T	E	D	D	P	I	C	K	L	E	S		
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Exhibition of art and identity at Midland Junction Arts



WORKS of art exploring how the physical environment shapes experiences and identities, and how identity connects to language and place are on display at the Midland Junction Arts Centre.

Silvana Ferrario's exhibition *A Sense of Place* is displayed in the east gallery while *Land ((Word)) Journey* is exhibited in the west gallery, featuring works by Tineke Van der Eecken, Natalie Damjanovich-Napoleon, Sharyn Egan, Carol Iggesden and Lakshmi Kanchi.

Ferrario worked with glass and highlighted the way individual experiences and identities were shaped by the physical environment.

She started working with the medium in the late 1990s when she left her career as a subsea engineer and scuba

diver.

"I find great joy in my glass practice," Ferrario said.

"I lose myself when designing and assembling the glass into the kiln."

Ferrario used her personal experiences and environment to create sculptural 2D and 3D objects.

The personal places and experiences are reflected through the exhibition's themes which include experiences with the ocean, memories of Italy and also elements of her home, the Perth Hills.

"The tranquillity of the hills provides such a rich environment to nourish my soul and my art," she said.

"There's something deeply inspiring about living surrounded by such natural beauty.

"It's almost like the landscape becomes a partner in the creative process."

Ferrario experimented with texture, transparency, opacity, reflection and light transmission to form her glassy creations.

Works at the west gallery explored each artists' place of birth, family histories and the commonalities shared between them through their experiences with the land and the language of poetry.

The concepts of place and identity are highlighted as Van der Eecken, Kanchi and Damjanovich-Napoleon are migrants, Egan is a member of the stolen generation, while Iggesden is a descendant of settler colonialists.

"Collectively these artists show how language and art have the power to both express belonging and create barriers to it," MJAC said.

"Through word as poetry and text as art they deftly and sensitively help us to connect to each other and our own narratives, as we navigate cultural identities and our sense of place."

Both exhibitions are available for viewing until July 13.

An artist talk and poetry reading complimenting the exhibition will be held on Saturday, June 28.

For more information and booking details, visit the MJAC website.

Damjanovich-Napoleon at the Land ((Word)) Journey opening on Saturday, May 10.

Silvana Ferrario at the opening of A Sense of Place, Midland Junction Arts Centre. Inset: In my garden 21. Picture: Josh Wells



A taste of Scotland comes to the Perth Hills

A **UNIQUE** opportunity to experience and be part of the Scottish culture will take place in the Kalamunda Agriculture Hall on Friday, May 30 from 7.30pm when the Gallus Ceilidh Band returns to town for this family event.

The band, renowned for its high energy ceilidh performances, delighted hills folks last year at the venue and their lineup ensures both traditional and contemporary music and dance.

The eight-piece band makes a big noise and comprises fiddles, pipes, whis-

tles, guitars, keyboards and drums, and the music is infectious, even if you don't dance.

But having a go means you will be walked through the dances – and then the fun starts.

Scottish fiddler and band member Linda Gauld said, "This is a high energy ceilidh like no other and you don't want to miss it. We are on a mission to get everyone Ceilidh dancing and we value enthusiasm over experience. So give it a go and you'll be laughing all night!"

Tickets are expected to go quickly after the success of last year's event, and those attending will enjoy the experience and excitement of a traditional Scottish ceilidh showcasing an extraordinary culture which brings communities together for a night of family fun.

There are limited door sales so get in quick.

Tickets are \$35 adults and \$25 children and are available on the performing arts centre website <https://kalamundapac.com.au/events/hoolie-in-the-hills/>

ENTERTAINMENT & GIG GUIDE

Your local Gig Guide

Thurs May 15

Hemingway & Co
Blues Thursday.
From 6.30pm. Free.
6/7095 Great Eastern
Highway Mundaring

Fri May 16

Settlers House York
Nick Childs.
From 5.30pm. Free.
Avon Terrace York

Woodbridge Hotel
Breezin.
From 8pm. Free.
50 East St Guildford

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

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Damien Wicks.
6pm-9pm. Free.
4260 Great Eastern
Hwy Mahogany Creek

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

Sat May 17

Settlers House York
Nathan Ward.
From 12pm - 3pm.
The Back Verandah
Band
From 5.30pm. Free.
Avon Terrace York

Woodbridge Hotel
Jamm'n.
From 8pm. Free.
50 East St Guildford

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

Hemingway & Co
Acoustic Saturday.
From 6.30pm. Free.
6/7095 Great Eastern
Highway Mundaring

Bassendean Hotel
Daren Reid and the
Soul City Groove.
8pm-Late. Free.
25 Old Perth Road
Bassendean

Parkerville Tavern
Table for Two
From 6pm. Free.
6 Owen Road

May 17 Sat Cont.

Lyric's Bar
Laneway Bar
Crash Creole.
From 7pm. Free.
22 Lyric Lane
Maylands

Sun May 18

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Fenton.
3pm-6pm. Free.
4260 Great Eastern
Hwy Mahogany Creek

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

Parkerville Tavern
Charlie Scott Duo.
From 3pm. Free.
6 Owen Road

Noble Falls Tavern
Sunday Music.
From 1pm-4pm. Free.
2672 Toodyay Road
Gidgegannup

Lyric's Bar
Laneway Bar
The Stumblers.
From 5pm. Free.
22 Lyric Lane
Maylands

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

Tues May 20

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

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Smooth Groove..
6pm-8.30pm. Free.
4260 Great Eastern
Hwy Mahogany Creek

Wed May 21

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

Thurs May 22

Hemingway & Co
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From 6.30pm.
6/7095 Great Eastern
Highway Mundaring

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Yoga Monday 6-7.15pm, Gooseberry Hill Hall. Ph Jeanene 0406 773 650.



Back row: Ellenbrook Study Hub Coordinator Aash Parmar, Elise Woods, RDA Wheatbelt director Elise Woods and City of Swan CEO Steven Cain. Front row: Lumen reference group and Ellenbrook Study Hub chair Wendy Newman and Mayor Tanya Richardson.

Ellenbrook Study Hub to boost access to tertiary study support

A NEW study hub in the Ellenbrook Library has opened, offering local tertiary students a space to study, meet and access dedicated support staff.

Since late last month, when the hub became operational, students can now access high-speed WiFi, hot desks, comfortable study areas, in-person support and guidance, study advice and workshops/social events.

Ellenbrook Study Hub is just one of three university study hubs in WA that successfully received the federal government's inaugural suburban university study hubs program.

The program expands access to tertiary education support for students living in outer metropolitan and peri-urban areas of Australia.

Ellenbrook Study Hub services are being delivered in partnership with Lumen, who operate a number of high-quality Wheatbelt regional university study hubs.

City of Swan Mayor Tania Richardson said the hub is a fantastic space for local students to access high-quality study services much closer to home.

"For City of Swan residents who have to travel quite a distance to access tertiary study services, having the newly

opened Ellenbrook Study Hub so close to home will make it easier for them to get the services they need without the long commute," she said.

Elise Woods, Lumen Wheatbelt Regional University Centre Director, said Lumen is thrilled to be delivering another high-quality study hub to the outer-metropolitan area.

"We are proud to open the doors at the Ellenbrook Study Hub, a vibrant new space that will help students from Ellenbrook and surrounding communities access higher education opportunities closer to home," she said.

"This partnership between RDA Wheatbelt and the City of Swan represents a strong commitment to supporting students in the community, not just in Ellenbrook and surrounding suburbs, but also in the neighbouring peri-urban areas of the Wheatbelt.

"Together, we are creating pathways for outer-metropolitan and regional students to succeed and thrive."

The Ellenbrook Study Hub is open from 6am to 10pm every day, and student support staff are on site during business hours, Monday to Friday.

To learn more email hello@ellenbrookstudyhub.edu.au or visit www.ellenbrookstudyhub.edu.au

Cassius Turvey murder trial verdicts

from page 5

not coming back... they can just rot as far as I'm concerned," she said.

"I'm happy with everything else, three months of hell during this trial, listening to all the amount of lies that have been put forward."

Ms Turvey thanked her family, supporters, investigators and the 91 witnesses who gave evidence during the three-month trial.

"Most of them were young children that are scarred for life and that helped my son on the day," she said.

"Not like Brodie Palmer saying that he helped my son. He did f*** all."

Prosecutor Ben Stanwix told the jury that Brearley delivered the fatal blows while "hunting for kids" because somebody had smashed his car windows.

It was alleged Forth and Palmer aided him, and along with Gilmore, they had a common purpose on the day.

Brearley denied he struck Cassius with a pole, saying he only punched him after the teen knifed him and that Palmer did the deed, which he in turn denied as the two men attempted to blame each other for the murder during the trial.

Before the fatal attack, Brearley and his co-accused armed themselves with metal poles pulled from shopping trolleys before driving off to search for youths.

About the same time, Cassius and a group of about 20 fellow students caught a bus to the same area to watch a fight being talked about on social media.

Brearley, Forth and Palmer intercepted them near the field and in a series of incidents, Brearley was allegedly slashed with a knife, and another boy was struck in the face with a metal pole.

Cassius and some other "terrified school kids" fled into nearby bushland.

"Cassius didn't make it as far as the fence when the accused Brearley caught up with him," Mr Stanwix said.

"He was caught, knocked to the ground and deliberately struck to the head with a metal pole."

Cassius was struck at least twice, causing bleeding in his brain.

His death shocked the community and the attack was described by some, including Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, as racially motivated, although Mr Stanwix said this wasn't the case.

Ethan Robert MacKenzie, 20, also faced trial accused of "snatching two kids off the street", and unlawfully detaining them, punching, kicking and stabbing one of them.

The five defendants variously faced 21 charges over the events of October 9 and 13.

The jury found them guilty of all charges except Gilmore's murder charge, and a stealing charge faced by Brearley.

13YARN 13 92 76

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Read between the lines

by Pastor Ian Kirk

Communication

We have little problem trying to communicate with most people in our society. We all speak the same language! Mind you, we might have some challenges trying to communicate with over-talkative people or people with poor listening skills. But when we were in Japan recently, it was challenging to communicate with the Japanese. Some knew our language well; but most didn't.

When we asked for directions to a place, or when we were ordering food, it became obvious that you had to use a lot of sign language to communicate to a non-English speaking Japanese person. Most of the time the person was able to help us; but not always. Colleen was in her element; waving her hands around (from her Spanish ancestry) while still talking flat-out in English – much to the amazement of the Japanese person.

When it comes to the most important matter of all, life and its purpose, I'm so grateful God has clearly communicated this to us all – through His Word, the Bible.

Translated into every language of the world, the Bible reveals how there is one God who made us and loves us, and that He sent Jesus into our world to save us from our sins and to grant us eternal life, if we would turn to Him and trust in Him.

On a mountain top, God came down and communicated clearly these most important words concerning Jesus: "This is My beloved Son. Listen to Him." May we listen to Jesus through the Bible.



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A free service for non-profit organisations

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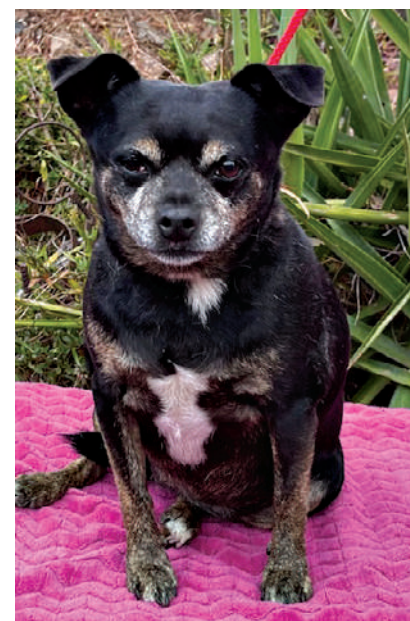
Upcoming Events

- **Helena College** is a not-for-profit, non-religious, co-educational, independent school for students from Kindergarten to Year 12. The school's senior leadership team will be hosting a discovery session to talk about the school and what it could offer your child. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 25 from 6pm to 7pm at the York Community Resource Centre. For more information call Mandy on 0439 628 633.
- **Kalamunda Prostate Cancer Support Group** meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at Falls Farm, 41 Cagney Way Lesmurdie from 10am to 1pm. For more information

call Roy on 9295 2522 or Ray on 0427 095 892.

- **The Rosehill Ladies Golf Club** meets each Tuesday at 8am at Hillview Public Golf Club, Kalamunda Road, Maida Vale. The season runs from March to November. Call Roz on 0419 915 623 or Julia on 0419 954 106.
- **Midland Men's Shed Social** Tuesday is every Tuesday from 9.30am to 11.30am in the Baptist Church Hall, Bellevue. Call Kevin on 0417 961 971. For workshop inquiries call 0411 833 055.

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

Jessie is a 10-year-old chihuahua cross, in need of a place to call home. She's perfect for a retired couple and is used to children. She is sterilised, vaccinated and micro-chipped. Costs apply. Contact Bakers Hill Dog Sanctuary on 9574 1438.

Raiders' comeback win against Wildcats



Men's Raiders took the win from the Perth Wildcats last Saturday.

CINDY CARTOJANO

AFTER trailing behind the Perth Wildcats for most of the night, Hills Raiders officer Shaun Bunting said the team were able to rebound at last Saturday's match-up.

"Our Raiders men dug deep, found another gear and stormed home for an 86-81 win over the Perth Wildcats Academy," Bunting said.

Bunting said the Wildcats looked in control in the first two quarters, but the gap was narrowed in the third.

"(The Raiders) exploded in the fourth with a surge that swung momentum for good," he said.

Bunting said a steal at mid-court in the fourth quarter led to back-to-back transition buckets.

"That sequence lit the fuse and the boys never looked back.

"When the comeback began a Raiders supporter behind the bench bellowed a Raiders chant that spread like wildfire until the entire arena was roaring."

Bunting said captain Ethan Croot set the tone for the game, Riley Marriott's relentless pressure forced the Wildcats into mistakes, while Tyson Kelly's offence was almost impossible to stop.

Bunting said the team were pumped and proud of its achievement.

"They knew they'd weathered the storm, fed off the crowd and shown exactly why the showdown series matters to basketball in the hills."

The finals games of the showdown series will be held on July 7 from 6pm with both men's and women's Raiders to play against the Cockburn Cougars at Mundaring Arena.



The U13 Aces will be hosting fundraisers throughout Kalamunda and Swan before they head to Queensland in July.

Little league heads to nationals

THE U13 Swan Hills Aces are heading to Queensland on July 6 to compete in Australia's first little league championship and are calling for support at its fundraisers.

Head coach Tom Gee said the Aces was made up of 14 players who came from the little league all-stars and the development shield teams after the state championship at the Easter long weekend.

"We are very excited to take Aces back into the national competition," Mr Gee said.

"The Aces came back last year as a result of increased junior participation at Kalamunda Rangers and the building relationship between Kalamunda and Swan Districts to develop a diamond sports pathway in the area."

With the help of Swans Baseball, Mr Gee said the little league has been training hard twice a week at Charlie Hodder.

"There are a bit of nerves as the team comes together and gets more comfortable at training," he said.

"Utilising the batting cages and lights, we are able to still work on skills with less daylight."

Executive officer Bec Sajtinac said the club was hosting multiple fundraising events because the total travel fees for players and staff was about \$50,000.

"We have had some amazing support from local businesses and companies," Sajtinac said.

Sajtinac said a Domino's dough raiser will be held at Swan View and Kalamunda stores on May 30 and a Bunnings sausage sizzle on June 22.

Meanwhile Sajtinac said a money board has started where supporters can purchase a number for \$20 and win cash.

The first prize is \$300, second prize is \$150 and third is \$50.

Mother's Day clash sees Swans victory



Last Sunday's match-up saw the Swans claim a 72-point lead against the Mundaring Roos.

BRIAN PALLISTER

SWAN View took the points over Mundaring at the Mother's Day clash.

Caleb Butler held the upper hand over his opponent Oli Aitken in the ruck duels and when the ball hit the ground, it became a wrestle.

The Mundaring Roos held sway in a low scoring first quarter but the continuous contests had the ball moving slowly.

Although the Swans had more forward 50 entries it was the Roos that held a seven-point lead at the first siren.

The second quarter started as another arm wrestle and the ball spent a lot of time between the 50 metre arcs.

Joseph Butler and Jake Higgins held firm, deep in defence while at the other end Anthony Bailey managed to keep leading goal scorer Jeff Ladd down to one goal.

Dylan O'Loughlen also worked hard attempting to cut off the Swan's forward entries.

As the quarter wore on the Swan's, on-ballers started to take better advantage of Caleb Butler's

ruck work.

Their increased influence was starting to draw teammates into the play, swinging the game in Swan View's favour.

The second half started with the Swan's holding a six-point lead.

Both teams continued to maintain the pressure making scoring difficult, but Mundaring's accuracy was keeping them in the game.

Hudson Knight continued as the Roo's leading goal scorer, his accuracy being a leading factor.

Josh Hollingum and Taraia Carpenter worked their way into the game, either delivering the ball to their leading forwards Boe Hyatt, Brady Noack and Jeff Ladd or running the ball in themselves to convert their kicks at goal.

The Roos were still in with a chance as Swan View held a 20-point lead to start the last.

Although the Swan's had other ideas as they started to open the game right up, players were lining up to have a kick at goals.

Seven goals to nil for the last pushed the Swan's away to a 72-point win.

Do you, your club or sports team have a sports story to share?



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The front yard is easy to maintain, with neat paving and greenery

to help complement the brick house and the limestone features.

The gentle incline and the rising limestone wall create some elevation and separation at the front of the house so residents peering out from the windows can get a good view of the street from the privacy of home.

Inside, the house has been furnished with a light but bright direction with the décor, with most of the rooms in white but with cream-coloured tiled floors in the

kitchen area to complement the light-coloured wooden cabinets and drawers.

A stone cooking bench finishes the sink area with an inbuilt oven and space for a dishwasher under the sink.

The open kitchen area lets in a lot of natural light as it shares a space with the dining area and large windowed double doors are positioned along the same wall as the kitchen window.

The sliding metal door to the

backyard also sits perpendicular to the kitchen and is another source of natural light filtering in and filling the space.

The air-conditioned lounge room is filled with natural light and flows into a modern kitchen with electric cooking, ample storage, and a dining area.

All three bedrooms are spacious with built-in robes.

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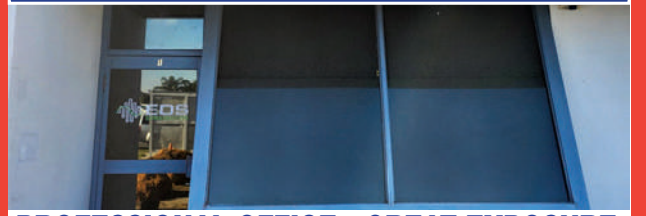


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