

Helena Valley traffic delays due to burst pipe

PG 5



Mt Helena swimming accessibility concerns

PG 8



Kerry hits 400 blood donation milestone

PG 9



PG 9

Lesmurdie youngster with a big heart

Nine-year-old Xavier Foster raises more than \$5000 for the Perth Children's Hospital.

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- Criminal Injuries Compensation
- WA Nils
- Justice of the Peace (Monday and Tuesday 10am-1pm)

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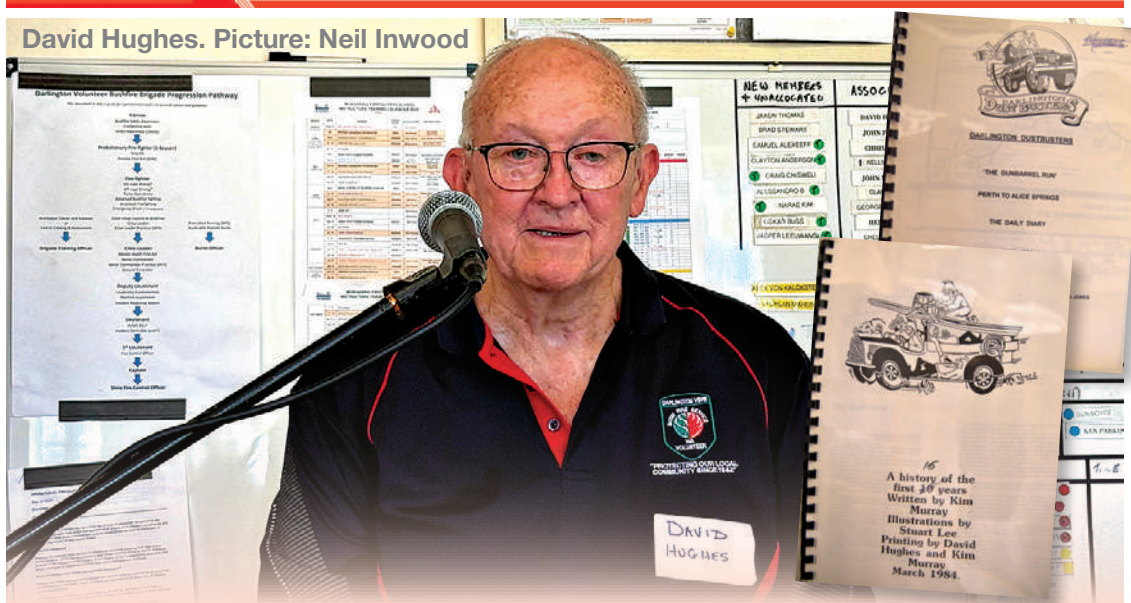
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Acts 16:31

ECHO170323L

ECHO Celebrations

David Hughes. Picture: Neil Inwood



Darlington Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade celebrates 50-year milestone of David Hughes

LAST week past and present members of the Darlington Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade gathered to celebrate the 50-year milestone of David Hughes for his diligent service and exhumate a time capsule buried 25 years ago.

Past members of the Darlington brigade from the year 2000 joined current members and guests for a morning of memories and stories, presentations, and the discovery of what was buried, followed by a special lunch.

The time capsule contained items including newspapers, photographs, crew lists, Darlington Brigade history books and newsletters, stories from local school children, a brigade shirt and patch, and even a \$2 chip from the old Burswood Casino.

For the returning year 2000 members it was also a chance to see how the brigade has expanded and grown over the past 25 years, including two building extensions, renovations and upgrades, and changes to, and modernisation of, fire trucks and firefighting equipment.

At the special event stalwart member David Hughes was presented with his 50-year clasp for his Bush Fire Long Service Medal, for his diligent service with the Darlington Brigade by special guest, DFES deputy Commissioner Craig Waters.

Mr Hughes joined the Darlington Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade in 1975, a year after the brigade reformed in 1974.

He became a lieutenant in 1977, and in 1981 was appointed the brigade captain for four years, and subsequently the fire control officer from 1984 until 1988.

During this time, he was always very proactive in hazard reduction burns, as a permit issuing officer and fire attendee in many instances in areas outside of Darlington.

Mr Hughes also served two years as chairman of the Shire of Mundaring's bush fire advisory committee and he was heavily involved in building the shire's first fire communications van.

However, his greatest legacy to the brigade were the buildings which now house the Darlington station.

Back in 1979 the Darlington Pony Club had a shed on the site, but relocated to the Eastern Hills Arena.

In December 1980 the Shire of Mundaring gifted the brigade what is affectionally known as the 'shed' and Mr Hughes and other members created a two-vehicle area with a small meeting room and kitchen.

That soon became too small and in 1985 Mr Hughes and others commenced planning the bri-



Time capsule opening. Picture: Neil Inwood



Time capsule contents. Picture: Stacey August

gade's new home and started building the new station, which was officially opened on October 22, 1988.

He also acted as manager for the brigade teams that competed in the Blackwood Marathon over a 10-year period as well as being historian for the brigade, co-writing the Brigade's 17-year history book.

After giving up involvement in front line fire-fighting, he joined the collar tank team in 1999, remaining with them until stepping back to being an associate member a few years ago.

Mr Hughes said he was both surprised and honoured with the presentation and questioned where those 50 years had gone.

"I'm so pleased to see the brigade continues to grow and evolve with the times and this is due to the commitment of all our dedicated volunteers," Mr Hughes said.

"Involvement in the brigade has resulted in many lasting friendships and a feeling of belonging in the community," he said.

A detailed history of the brigade can be found in the full colour, 82-page book History of DVBFB 1942-2020, compiled by Cliff Burns and published by the brigade and the Darlington History Group.

The book is a collection of documents, photos, drawings, stories, and a historical timeline of the brigade's significant events, milestones, and activities.

Copies of the book will be available at the station.



Brigade Members. Picture: Neil Inwood

INSIDE

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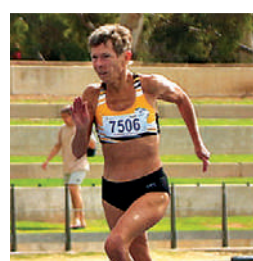
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Water Corp to cover Chidlow water supply fixes

GUANHAO CHENG

WATER Minister Don Punch says Water Corporation will pay for six Chidlow residents' pumps and water tanks, but Wooroloo's non-standard water service means residents are obligated to manage their own water access.

The water supply issue in the Perth Hills was brought to parliament on May 22, with Kalamunda MLA Adam Hort raising the grievance.

Chidlow residents who relied on the Goldfields trunkline have reported frequent outages, particularly between 4pm and 10pm, leaving homes without basic necessities like bathing, toilet use, or even a glass of water.

In response, Mr Punch said while Wooroloo and Chidlow were experiencing similar issues with water pressure, they had different causes and meant Water Corporation had different obligations.

He said while Chidlow drew off the Mundaring-Kalgoorlie pipeline, Wooroloo had never been connected to the town water supply system and was not part of the regulated water supply for that area.

"For a variety of reasons some customers cannot be supplied with water at the pressure that is required or may have water quality issues or other substandard components to the water supply – that is why it is a non-standard water service," he said.

"In essence, it enables people to access what water might be available from Water Corp infrastructure without the obligation on Water Corp to provide that at the standard within a regulated water supply service area."

"I was part of one of those schemes in the past and it was very useful to be able to tap into a Water Corp main that ran from a dam but to accept responsibility that I had to hold that water in my tank and pump it out into my house."

Perth Hills water crisis group member Roberta Selleck said the minister's statement



Perth Hills water crisis group members with Kalamunda MLA Adam Hort outside of parliament house on the day of the grievance being raised.

about Wooroloo's non-standard water service status remained a contentious issue.

"Water Corporation has only applied the non-standard water service agreements to many of the properties, after the repeated failure of the Werribee Road pipeline," she said.

"Communication from Water Corp on May 13 stated a number of solutions had been explored, but ultimately none are feasible as the funding criteria used by Water Corp is based on population density which disadvantages hills communities."

Mr Punch said while the Mundaring-Kalgoorlie pipeline was a complex system to manage, the impact on Chidlow resi-

dents was noted and Water Corporation have done tests that indicated pressure drops did exceed what was acceptable in some areas.

"I am advised that in January, Water Corp installed a water tank and pump system for the most affected resident to see whether that improved the situation, and it did," he said.

Six Chidlow properties have been confirmed to receive the same solution and Water Corporation will cover the cost but they will have to enter into a non-standard water service agreement as part of the deal.

"The solution at this stage for the residents of Chidlow, who are clearly receiving a service that is not in accordance with the water services licence, is that Water Corp will meet

the cost of providing those tanks and pressure pumps," Mr Punch said.

"It is in direct negotiations with affected customers."

Mr Punch said a new main reticulation pipeline had been provided to account for expanding development in the Chidlow area.

New developments had been a concern for Chidlow residents who anticipated an exacerbation of pressure problems as more new homes tapped into the supply line, as reported in *Water Corporation responds to Chidlow complaints* (Echo News, February 6).

"I certainly have not received any advice from the developers about pressure issues within that development area, but I am sure it is something Water Corp will take up if it is made aware of it being an issue," Mr Punch said.

Mrs Selleck said while it was welcome relief to a handful of residents with significant water supply issues in Chidlow, it did not alleviate those who were still experiencing water pressure issues.

"We welcome an interim solution but continue to seek a holistic community solution which we raised with the minister on May 15, so it resolves all the water pressure and supply issues," she said.

"This was not addressed by the minister."

The crisis group is now calling for a reliable and future-proof solution that does not depend on vulnerable trunklines, consistent water pressure in Wooroloo and surrounds, replacement of degraded infrastructure and a return to standard water agreements for all affected households.

"Wooroloo residents have basically been told nothing will be done," Mrs Selleck said.

Mr Hort said getting the water tanks and pumps was a win for the community but not the finish line.

"We have proven that when communities speak up and persist, they can hold government to account," he said.

"Now we need lasting and fair water security for every family."

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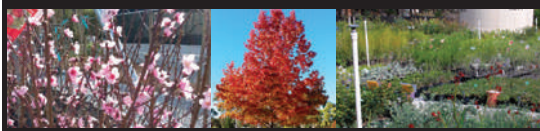
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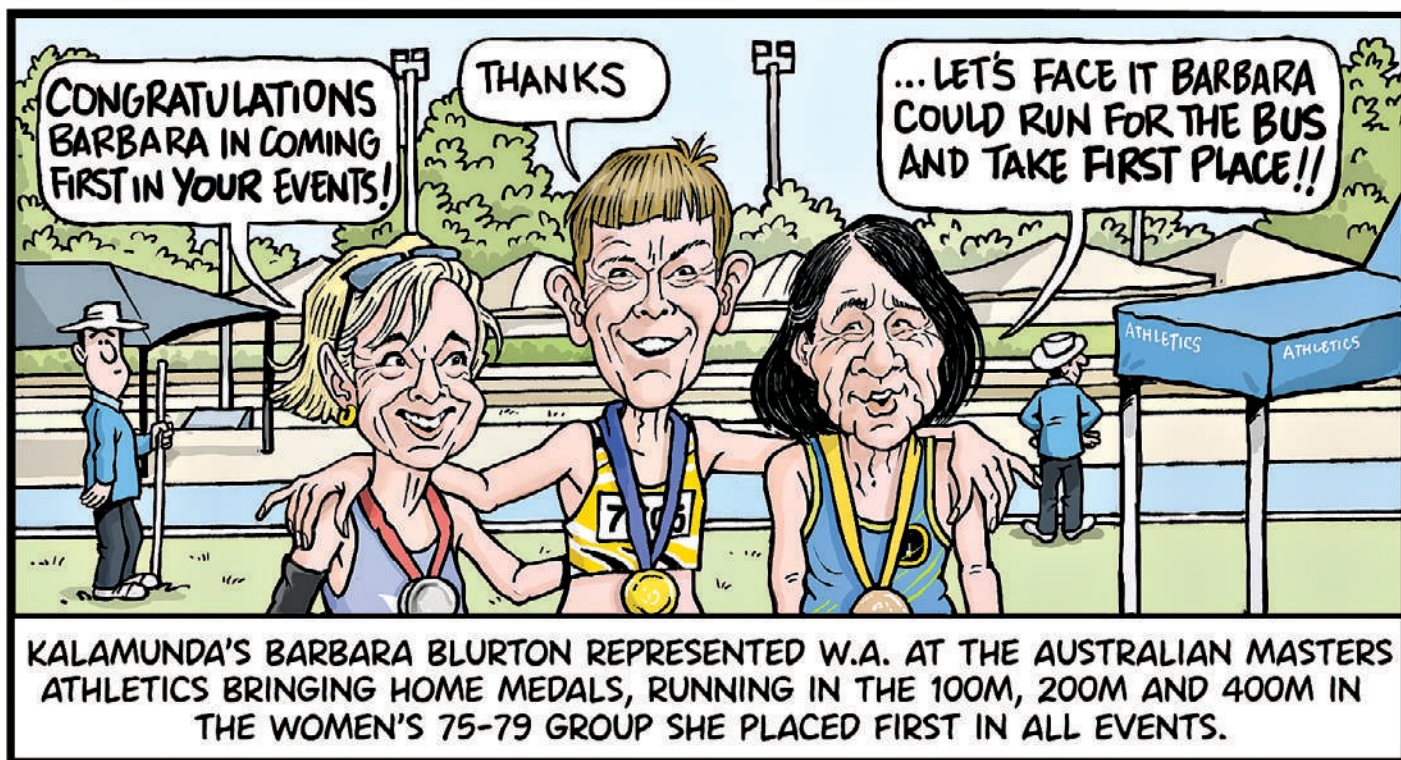
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ECHO YOUR THOUGHTS

Have your say:
editorial@echo-news.com

Homeless need help from govts

Dear Echo News,

My organisation Homelessness Australia is urging federal and state governments to act on the latest findings from the National Housing Supply and Affordability State of the Housing System 2025 released last week.

Thought for the day

"Life is 10 per cent what happens to you and 90 per cent how you react to it."

— Charles R Swindoll

The 2025 report revealed households are under growing pressure, with increasing rental stress, and a sharp rise in people stuck in rental stress for over two years, and social housing as a proportion of all housing continuing to decline.

New data in the report reveals the direct impact of this crisis on people's wellbeing, with renters in rental stress experiencing worsening mental health over the past decade.

New data also reveals that rental stress is increasing risk factors for homelessness, with one in four stressed renters not having savings to manage an emergency.

What's scary about this housing crisis is there is no end in sight.

This report is the latest indicator telling us how bad things are. It's affecting people's mental and physical health and it has to end.

The report noted the strong connection between rental stress, lack of social housing and homelessness.

It cited data showing 280,000 people accessed homelessness services between

2023-24, and that persistent homelessness and the unmet need for homelessness services are growing.

Homelessness Australia supports the report's recommendations to boost social housing to six per cent, with a long-term target of 10 per cent of all homes.

This report calls for bold action to address the housing crisis and provide all Australians with the stability and security of a safe, affordable home. We urge the federal government to act swiftly on this report, and to work with us to turn this crisis around.

Alongside growth in social housing we urgently need increased government investment in homelessness services to meet the growing need for support and ensure no one is turned away.

K Colvin CEO Homelessness 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.

From the net...

Echo News social media comments

In response to Midland build-to-rent development taking shape:

Who would want to live on that tiny corner? Not even any area outside down stairs to sit. Not many gardens or parks around. Closed down old pub over the road. At least you would get to sit in your balcony and enjoy breathing in all those fumes from people's cars off the main road out front. No thanks.

H Monda

In the comments of Midland and Districts Historical Society Inc.'s repost of our story Midland op-shop closes after 51 years:

Firstly, I would like to state that the article printed in the Echo newspaper has a definite mistake - "... as described by the late Guild of St Richard's Midland co-founding member Elizabeth Herbert..." Elizabeth is alive and well, living in Middle Swan.

In 1973, two ladies from Midland saw a need for an op shop to help people in the community.

The late Betty Foulkes and Elizabeth Herbert found an old butcher shop on Morrison Rd and after a thorough cleaning, filled it with donated clothes and bric-a-brac. The opening day was phenomenal! A large crowd was waiting for the doors to open and it was non-stop till closing time. This was the beginning of The Guild of St Richard in Midland.

After a while the need for a larger space was required and they found an old shop in Sayer St, Midland. St Richard's stayed in these premises for a number of years before the owner stated that they needed the premises for themselves.

The next location was at the rear of the old bank building that sits between Great Eastern Highway and Victoria St (opp San Churros corner) They shared these premises with other charitable organisations, including a food bank.

Upon leaving there, the next location was opposite the Midland Town Hall near Kimbo's Fashion shop. This was a great location with high visibility which served the charity well. Upon leaving here, St Richard's moved to their current and last position on Great Northern Highway where sadly, they will close soon.

Elizabeth Herbert is my mum and she has many fond memories of those early years of a thriving op shop that served the local community by offering very reasonably priced goods thereby being able to raise funds to support many charities over more than 51 years. She is sad to hear that St Richard's is closing: "It hurts my heart that St Richard's has to close but I have a lot of memories from the days of sorting through donated goods, serving in the shop, meeting many people and helping my local community. I would like to thank everyone, past and present who have volunteered over all those years. Thank you."

Written by Rosemary Herbert with Elizabeth Herbert, Middle Swan

Notice of Intention to Levy Differential Rates

In accordance with Sections 6.33 & 6.36 of the Local Government Act 1995 and the Council's intention to continue levying differential rates for the **2025/2026 Financial Year**.

Details of the proposed Minimum Rates and Rate in the Dollar for each rating category are as follows:

Rating Category	Rate in the Dollar (\$)	Minimum Rate
Gross Rental Valuation Rating Categories		
General GRV	0.070124	\$1,240
Industrial/Commercial GRV	0.087115	\$1,344
Vacant GRV	0.140199	\$1,240
Unimproved Rating Categories		
General UV	0.004030	\$1,240
Commercial UV	0.005015	\$1,344
Levies		
Waste Avoidance & Resource Recovery (All Categories)	0.0005600	\$26.80

A statement of the Objects and Reasons for the proposed rates and minimum payments is available for inspection at kalamunda.wa.gov.au, and at the Administration Centre.

Submissions by electors or ratepayers, in respect of the Intention to Levy Differential Rates, should be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer, City of Kalamunda, PO Box 42, Kalamunda, 6926 or via email to enquiries@kalamunda.wa.gov.au.

Submissions close **5pm, Friday 20 June 2025**.

Once Council has considered the submissions, the Differential Rates and the 2025/2026 Budget (with or without modification) will be adopted by Council.



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Water Corporation says a burst pipe in Mundaring was unrelated to the ongoing pipeline project. Picture: Andrew Williams

Traffic delays due to burst pipe

CINDY CARTOJANO

LAST Thursday, May 22 Mundaring residents told *Echo News* about a burst pipe near the Scott Street bridge in Helena Valley.

A Water Corporation spokesperson described the event as a “business as usual burst”.

“Last week’s burst water main on the corner of Scott Street and Clayton Road, Helena Valley, was caused by a break in the pipe.”

The spokesperson said a report was first made on May 21 about a leak which was deemed relatively minor by the crew who attended the job.

“The leak then worsened,” the spokesperson said.

“The following day, crews re-attended to conduct repairs to the water main and fix the damaged road surface.”

During this time, the spokesperson said Scott Street, between Helena Valley Road and Clayton Road, was temporarily closed during daytime hours for the safety of the crews.

“The road was also partially closed on the morning of May 23 for resurfacing work.”

More than two years ago, the Shire of Mundaring announced the start of

works on the Scott Street bridge.

“Traffic will be reduced to a single lane over the bridge with stop/slow traffic management in place at all times,” the shire’s announcement stated.

According to Water Corporation’s website, upgrades to the Scott Street bridge was part of the Hazelmere and Helena Valley water pipeline project.

In *Scott Street bridge completion delayed again* (*Echo News*, January 19, 2024) it was reported that the opening date for the bridge had been pushed back numerous times.

“The burst was completely unrelated to the project,” the Water Corporation spokesperson said.

“The burst was on a much smaller diameter water pipe and the project is laying a much larger diameter one.”

Meanwhile, the shire announced an upgrade of the Helena Valley Road and Scott Street intersection started on Monday, May 26.

The shire said a three-way traffic control system meant the roads could remain open and the northern footpath would be closed.

Construction is planned from late July to late August, according to the shire.

Confusion as school speed zone includes 70km/h sign

ANITA McINNES

DRIVERS on Gngangara Road near Swan Valley Anglican Community School may have been surprised to be pulled over and fined for speeding earlier this month.

When Main Roads WA installed new school zone signage on Gngangara Road for the community school they left the old 70km/h signage behind.

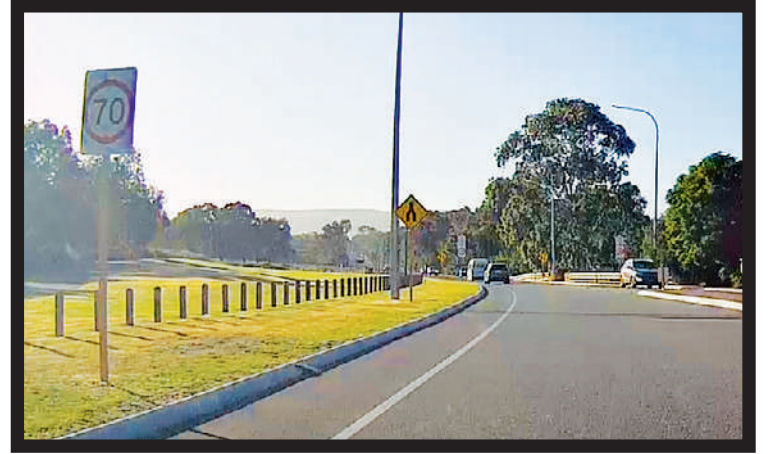
A driver brought this to the attention of *Echo News* after they were fined for speeding on a section of Gngangara Road just after Neary Boulevard and before Egerton Drive with dashcam footage showing the old 70km/h sign in front of one of the school zone signs.

On May 21 when *Echo News* sent WA Police a screenshot of the dashcam footage showing the confusing signage they contacted Main Roads WA who promptly removed the old 70km/h sign.

A Main Roads WA spokeswoman said the school zone signage came into effect at the start of term 2 on April 28 with both Swanleigh Parade and Gngangara Road providing access for students to the school.

When WA Police responded to *Echo News* on May 21 a spokesman said typically a short period was provided for motorists to adjust to a changed speed zone before undertaking any enforcement activities.

“The placement of signage and



A screenshot of dashcam footage showing the old 70km/h speed sign that was left behind when school zone signage was installed on Gngangara Road.

the speed limit forms part of an officers initial assessment and decision to conduct speed detection duties in a particular area,” he said.

“WA Police are not aware of any specific actions being conducted in this area since the new school zone signage was installed.”

When *Echo News* told WA Police at least one person had been fined the spokesman said they could request a review of the fine by submitting an inquiry and providing supporting documentation to the Department of Transport either in writing or via email to its infringement services section.

Since then Main Roads WA has said any motorists who were issued with a speeding fine on

that section of Gngangara Road between Monday, April 28 and Wednesday, May 21 should contact Main Roads via enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au or 138 138.

The Main Roads WA spokeswoman said the school zone on Gngangara Road was put in place after community concerns were raised with Main Roads about the safety of children crossing to access the school.

“Main Roads ensures changes are clearly communicated through the installation of appropriate advance warning signage,” she said.

“Where possible, advance notice is also provided through updates published on the Main Roads website, subject to available lead times.”

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Kalamunda to advertise differential rates

CITY of Kalamunda is set to advertise the differential rates for 2025-26 with a 5 per cent increase in residential rates and a 7 per cent increase for commercial, industrial and vacant properties up for consideration but will invite feedback from residents prior to adoption.

As part of the chief executive officer's reports, item 10.6.4 budget 2025-2026 differential rates noted the City of Kalamunda's financial results for the year ending June 2023 highlighted a deterioration in their operating surplus ratio (OSR).

The document goes on to explain the ratio is a measure of a local government's ability to cover its operational costs and have revenues available for capital funding or other purposes.

It also explains that the OSR is declining as revenue is not matching operating expenditure, depreciation expenses have increased following the revaluation of city assets, and the growing cost of providing services and assets, with costs pressures experienced especially in building and construction costs and their ongoing maintenance.

The report explains that for the coming year, the city continues to see volatility in several categories of construction costs placing pressure on building and construction projects.

Currently, the city's net assets equate to about \$975 million gross replacement cost, and the report states that maintaining and renewing such a large asset base and delivering a wide range of services requires revenue to match the recurrent operating costs required.

"The city's main revenue source is heavily dependent on rates," the report said.

"The city has undertaken a thorough review of its cost structures, revenue generation opportunities and service levels in order to formulate a financially responsible budget.

"The city's financial sustainability will be critically dependent upon maintaining close scrutiny over costs, leveraging commercial opportunities and developing sustainable rate setting strategies."

The report gave five options for the council to consider to address the OSR.

One is to do nothing but is not recommended by the officer as it is financially unsustainable.

Option two is to increase revenue through rates, fees, charges as well as new sources of income such as exploring improved offerings at Kalamunda Performing Arts Centre, carbon trading with the implementation of FOGO etc.

Option three is to decrease operating expenditure.

Option four is to decrease capital expenditure by retiring assets and relocating or co-locating utilities and services.

Option five is a combination of increasing revenues through rates, fees, charges and new income sources, and decreasing operational and capital expenditure.

"The council has chosen option five which reflects the proposed increase to rates for 2025-26," the report said.

Council voted unanimously for the advertisement of the rates ahead of June 30 with councillors David Modolo and



Lisa Cooper speaking to the motion.

"In my own consultation with the public it's clear to see that many feel the justification of increase is just not there, that they're not getting that value for the increase suggested," Cr Modolo said.

"Many others are wondering: have we done enough to cut our spending before we go ahead and hit the ratepayers' hip pockets at a time when people can least afford it?"

"Ninety percent of all money coming into the city is made up of rates and fees and charges.

"When labor costs are sky-high, when material costs are sky-high, this is not the time for new projects.

"Please, council, take feedback from the community on board, particularly when it comes to our spending."

Cr Cooper said while no one liked rate rises, it was vital the council's decision enabled the city to meet its current and future obligations and continue to operate in a financially sustainable manner.

"Whilst acknowledging that there are many ratepayers doing it tough through this cost of living crisis, I would encourage them to reach out to the city who can assist with payment arrangements," she said.

"Our community has high expectations that the city will deliver on new facilities, upgrades to parks, maintaining footpaths and roads, as well as providing many services.

"I think it's also really important to acknowledge the city is actively pursuing new revenue streams which will reduce its reliance on rates in the future."

Darlington childcare centre approved

GUANHAO CHENG

THE Darlington childcare centre proposed for 1 Amherst Avenue was approved with conditions by the development assessment panel (DAP) on May 1 despite Mundaring council unanimously opposing it in April.

South Ward councillor Luke Ellery motioned for the Metro Outer DAP (MODAP) to reject the application on bushfire risk, traffic increase, pedestrian safety and local amenity grounds.

The motion outlined that there was only one access route to the site with no emergency access provided despite three road frontages, the traffic increased by 25 per cent in peak hour movement, the accessway already exceeded 200 vehicles per hour and the character of the area would be impacted.

These were the same grounds the Mundaring council unanimously voted to support during their April meeting.

Cr Ellery's report recommendation motion was seconded by Central Ward councillor Prapti Mehta but was lost 2-3 as MODAP presiding member Francesca Lefante, deputy presiding member Eugene Koltasz and member Tony Arias voted against it.

The DAP heard deputations from nine Darlington residents against the proposal and presentations from the developers and consultants representing the childcare development.

Conditions state the child care premises should be constructed in accordance with the approved plans and also to the required standard for the bushfire attack



Darlington Ratepayers and Residents Association president Louise Stelfox says the current DAP process is undemocratic and overlooks community sentiment and council input.

level 29.

The measures and actions recommended in the bushfire emergency evacuation plan shall also be implemented and thereafter complied with by the landowner(s) and the operator in perpetuity, to the satisfaction of the Shire of Mundaring.

Prior to lodgement of a building permit, the development's plans must show an alternative option for pedestrian access to Glen Road frontage to be incorporated into the development, for the purpose of emergency evacuation from the childcare centre, to the satisfaction of the Shire of Mundaring.

A motion was also carried noting the proponents are encouraged to investigate the option of incorporating a water spray system around the perimeter of the building, to aid in fire protection.

An amending motion by Cr Ellery to have developers undertake congestion modelling prior to obtaining a building permit to the satisfaction of the Shire of Mundaring was lost 2-3 as DAP members voted against it.

Shire of Mundaring President Paige McNeil said council unanimously supported reform of the current DAP decision-making process.

"Council has expressed concerns about the limited influence local governments currently have under the DAP framework, particularly when decisions are made contrary to the recommendations of council and community feedback," she said.

"Council is hopeful that reforms will lead to a more balanced and transparent system, one that better reflects local planning contexts and community expectations."

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Question over councillor's eligibility goes to the SAT



Whiteman councillor Dave Knight has taken a question about his eligibility to sit as a councillor to the State Administrative Tribunal.

ANITA McINNES

A CITY of Swan councillor has applied to the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT) after questions about his eligibility to sit as a councillor emerged.

Whiteman ward councillor Dave Knight confirmed with *Echo News* on Wednesday morning that he applied to SAT in April and that a hearing will be held on Friday, June 6.

During question time at a City of Swan meeting on April 9 former Labor minister Gavan Troy said under the Local Government Act the essential requirements were for a councillor to be 18-years-old, an Australian citizen or a British subject prior to 26 January 1984 and an elector of the local government district (bearing in mind that had two elements – either a residential qualification or property owner).

Mr Troy then asked if any councillor had been asked about their eligibility in the past six months and what action had been taken at a City of Swan meeting on April 9.

City of Swan chief executive officer Stephen Cain responded “yes and the matter has been passed onto the Western Australian Electoral Commission”.

Echo News asked the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) what a local government was required to do and when, if for example there were concerns an elected councillor was not eligible to be on a council if they did not reside or own property in the area.

DLGSC said the Local Government Act 1995 (Act) was the key piece of legislation responsible for the governance of local governments.

“Part 2 division 5 of the Act outlines that if a local government CEO has reason to believe an elected member of council does not reside within the local government area, they are required to give written notice to the member indicating the reasons why the CEO believes they are disqualified,” a DLGSC spokeswoman said.

“Under part 2 division 5 of the Act, progression to SAT is available to both the CEO and the accused member.”

Echo News asked the City of Swan to confirm if Mr Cain had given written notice to Cr Knight and what his response had been.

“In April 2025 Cr Knight made an application to SAT on the matter of his qualification to hold office as a council member,” a city spokesman said.

“The application will progress in accordance with the SAT process.”



Cr Karen Beale, Swan View Football Club's Darren Rullo, Swan View Cricket Club's David Pease, Shire President Paige McNeil and Cr Jo Cicchini at Brown Park Oval.

Brown Park set to shine brighter with LED

SPORT and recreation in Swan View is about to get a major boost, with Shire of Mundaring council unanimously awarding the tender to upgrade the Brown Park upper oval lighting to modern, energy-efficient LED technology.

At its May meeting, council endorsed Greenlite Electrical Contractors to deliver the \$508,769 (ex GST) lighting upgrade project following a competitive tender process.

The upgrade proposal is detailed in the Brown Park Recreation Precinct Plan.

The project will see the installation of high-performance LED lighting that meets Australian standards for small ball sports, dramatically improving visibility and extending the usability of the oval into the evening hours for local sporting clubs and community events.

Shire President Paige McNeil welcomed the decision, highlighting its alignment with the shire's long-term goals for participation in sport.

“We are lighting up Brown Park Sports Oval in Swan View. Council awarded the tender to upgrade the lighting to enable more training and sporting opportunities in the evenings,” she said.

“Thanks to the combined efforts of the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, Cricket Australia and the Swan View

Cricket Club, we're looking forward to even greater local participation in sport and recreation at the shire's only district-level ground.”

The upgrade is backed by a \$199,354 funding contribution from the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, with additional funding of \$40,000 from Cricket Australia and \$6,000 from the Swan View Cricket Club.

Swan View Cricket Club senior treasurer David Pease said the new lights are a game changer for the club and the community.

“This will allow for our juniors to play all home games at Brown Park, our women to play at a more time-friendly slot and making men's matches an event not to be missed,” he said.

Swan View Football Club president Darren Rullo, echoed the enthusiasm.

“The installation of new light towers at Brown Park creates new opportunities for our club. It will transform how we train, enable night games, and better support fixtures for youth, colts, men's and women's football,” he said.

“This is a fantastic step forward for a facility that has long needed investment, and we're excited about what it means for the future of our sport in the region.”

Construction is expected to start later this year.

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Trish COOK

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Together, we'll make sure our community gets the services, support, and respect we deserve.

@trish4bullwinkel

Trish Cook - Labor for Bullwinkel



Mt Helena swimming pool accessibility concerns

GUANHAO CHENG

MT Helena residents met last week to discuss the lack of community access to Mt Helena aquatic centre, asking for increased opening times, an extended opening season, more and varied programs, and heating and lighting.

Mt Helena swimming club president Wade Isard said two months of public access to the nearest aquatic facility annually was not enough and the lack of lighting and heating for the colder seasons deterred winter visitors.

“People aren’t going to turn up to a pool at 20 degrees or less if they’re out swimming,” he said.

“They’ve got this facility up there that they’re not utilising.

“The population’s increasing everywhere – it’s increasing up in the hills as well.

“The Royal Life Saving (State of Australian Aquatic Facilities 2025) document talks about having a facility for every 20,000 people.

“There’s over 40,000 in the Shire of Mundaring which would qualify, and look, it’s not as simple as this but it did give an idea that two pools can exist up in the shire.

“The shire is absolutely mad to consider the Mt Helena pool as an economic impost in some way, which is what they seem to be doing when the school (and) the education department actually pays 50 per cent of the operational cost.”

This was confirmed in the September 2017 ordinary council meeting minutes which said the Department of Education would continue to contribute to 50 per cent of the operating cost of utilities, stores, general maintenance, vandal damage and security patrols.

The department also paid for 33.33 per cent of the aquatics coordinator’s annual salary.

“In September 2017, the council voted to decrease the opening season of the pool from 22 to nine weeks,” Mr Isard said.

“The shire’s report at the time recommended that this was to save costs, whilst council considered ceasing all public access to pool for the foreseeable future.

“This decision was made without community consultation as it was ‘not considered necessary’ according to the shire’s report, which at the time triggered a strong community backlash.”

In *Pool cuts put council in hot water* (Echo News, December 9, 2017) it was reported an online petition to save Mt Helena pool gained more than 800 signatures in its first two days and surpassed its 1000 signatures target.

Former Swan Hills MLA Jessica Shaw listed saving the Mt Helena pool from closure as one of her notable advocacy projects during her time in politics as reported in *Swan Hills MLA to retire* (Echo News, June 6, 2024).

“The Mt Helena Aquatic Centre is located on the grounds of the Eastern Hills Senior High School and at the time the community’s overwhelming response prevented the pool from being decommissioned and swayed the council’s decision in 2019 to enter a 10-year licence agreement with the Department of Education for shared use and management of the pool,” Mr Isard said.

“This however did not return the pools opening dates and times to the pre 2017 council decision, and in 2025 the pool remains closed to the public for 10 months of the year.”

Mr Isard said he had been contacting



Mt Helena Swimming Club president Wade Isard says the Mt Helena facility needs swimming lessons beyond VacSwim to attract visitors.

the Shire of Mundaring to discuss the pricing of a heating and lighting system.

“The shire did look into the lighting, and they came up to the same monetary capital cost figure that I did and I have been saying the same for about two or three years previously which is that the lighting will cost installed, and this is the worst case scenario: \$80,000.

“The heat pump costs about \$90,000 but that is not installed.

“So all up the heating and lighting installed offsets around \$250,000 capital investment which is pretty low when you are considering a new aquatic facility it

will be tens of millions of dollars.

“As far as I’m concerned, this is a no-brainer: very low capital costs, quite low running costs compared to any other aquatic facility and it’s satisfying a need and a catchment of 20,000 of community members that just doesn’t exist without this pool.

“So at the moment, it really doesn’t exist because it’s only open for two months of the year because there’s no heating and lighting, and they don’t run programs there.”

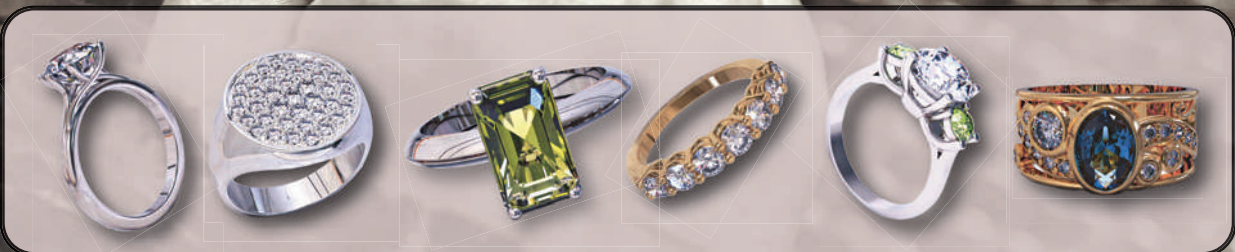
The Shire of Mundaring has been contacted for comment.

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Kerry hits 400 blood donation milestone



Kerry Katich celebrates her 400th donation at Lifeblood Midland. Pictures: Cindy Cartojano



CINDY CARTOJANO

AVID Swan volunteer and blood donor Kerry Katich celebrated her 400th donation at Lifeblood Midland last Wednesday, in the midst of national volunteer week.

Mrs Katich started her donor journey in 1996 after she heard about a young Midland man who suffered from leukaemia and was in need of bone marrow.

"Where I can help, where there's a need, then I want to help," she said.

Mrs Katich said she was proud of the media effort to encourage blood donations.

"Every night on the news I see that program where the blood donation levels come up.

"Also, I think the advertising that's done now is really fantastic."

However, Mrs Katich said there was always a need for donations, so she encouraged others to get on board if they were able to.

She said people should check with their local centres if they were eligible to donate blood because they could clear up misconceptions about donating.

"I had a cancer scare in 2001 and the oncologist told me that I'd never be able to donate blood, but Red Cross rang me to ask why I wasn't continuing.

"When I told them they said, 'no, no, please don't give up but do go on the tamoxifen'.

"I went on for five years and as soon as I was finished, I just went back down to the (centre)."

Despite having worn many hats throughout her life, whether it was a primary school music teacher or a telex operator, Mrs

Katich said she always made an effort to help the community.

"Even when I lived in Canberra and worked at foreign affairs, I volunteered to play the organ at the cathedral there," she said.

"Then when I got a posting to the Australian embassy in Bangkok and I worked up there as a telex machine operator, I played the organ at the Holy Redeemer Cathedral in Bangkok.

"So everywhere, I've gone and I've volunteered to do things."

Being involved in the community was something Mrs Katich enjoyed.

"I'm one of those people that like to be active and I haven't given up on being involved – music wise or whether it's a nursing home where I can also go to help the oldies, and I still play the organ at two churches and run a choir."

Lesmurdie youngster with a big heart

CINDY CARTOJANO

LAST weekend Lesmurdie's nine-year-old Xavier Foster ran in the HBF Run for a Reason, raising more than \$5000 for the Perth Children's Hospital (PCH).

Xavier's grandmother Liz Payne described Xavier as the kind of kid who enjoyed helping others.

Mrs Payne, who volunteered at the kids' hospital, said Xavier was inspired by the work his grandmother did and asked her if he could do the HBF run.

"I want to raise money for the kids' hospital," Xavier told his grandmother.

Mrs Payne said Xavier knew he was one of the lucky ones because he didn't have a medical condition which required him to go to the hospital.

"He can see that there's children that need medical help and are staying in hospital for days or weeks on end," Mrs Payne said.

"He's a bit of a thinker, our little Xave."

Mrs Payne said Xavier took the race seriously and made sure to train so he could get a good time.

"At Walliston (Primary School) they set up a running club every Friday morning.

"He was using that to help get his fitness up because he wanted to run the whole 3km."

On the day of the run, Mrs Payne said Xavier knew that HBF would donate unwanted jackets or jumpers to Vinnies.

"Even though he doesn't like to wear a jumper, he made sure he had a jumper," she said.

"He made sure that we all had jumpers that we could drop off at the start line."

Mrs Payne said Xavier was overwhelmed at the amount he raised for PCH.

"I think originally he wanted \$500 and he thought that was out of his reach.

"But the school, the community, friends, family, everyone sort of just got behind him."

Mrs Payne said it didn't matter to Xavier whether the donation was small or big.

"He was just very grateful."



Xavier Foster after running the HBF Run for a Reason 2025.

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The Huntsman and the Wolf

Terrifying or Terrific?

There are hundreds of species of Wolf spiders (Lycosidae) and Huntsman spiders (Sparassidae) in Australia, and they are two of our most feared spiders - inside or outside of the home. But they really don't deserve a bad reputation or our fear and loathing.

Huntsman spiders conjure up images of big hairy Tarantulas terrifying people when they scuttle out from behind curtains or crawl along the ceiling, and Wolf spiders seem to be everywhere - roaming in the garden or running along the floor, disappearing under the lounge.

The fact is these spiders, although sometimes frightening, are completely harmless, and if found in the house it is either by accident or they are only there to help you control insects like moths, crickets and flies, or even other spiders.

Huntsman spiders

These long-legged spiders, measuring up to 100mm or more across the legs, are grey to brown, sometimes with leg banding. They are nocturnal and are known for having keen eyesight making them excellent hunters - hence their name. Huntsman spiders are very sure footed and quick, often running down or leaping onto prey. They are known for their flattened bodies and sideways, crab-like arrangement of their legs, appearing wider than they are long. They are found Australia wide, huddled in family groups (Eastern states species), or solitarily in wood piles, under the bark of trees, on rock walls, under leaf litter and logs - and occasionally inside the house. Huntsman spiders have eight eyes in two rows of four- all the better to see you with!



Wolf spiders

These spiders measure between 10-80mm across, they are smaller and stouter than Huntsman spiders, with shorter legs. Unlike Huntsman spiders, their legs extend straight out from the body rather than being angled and positioned sideways. Their bodies appear longer than they are wide. They live on the ground and are usually dull brown with white, black or grey variegated markings or radiating bands. Wolf spiders are found Australia-wide in all habitats and are vagrant hunters making temporary retreats in vegetation, although some build burrows, either open or with a trapdoor. Wolf spiders have eight eyes in three rows of 4, 2, and 2. The 4 rear eyes are greatly enlarged and form a square making them very recognisable. They have excellent eyesight and chase down their prey, much like a wolf - and this is where they get their common name.



Remarkably, both these spiders also show some endearingly human traits. For example, Huntsman spider breeding pairs have lengthy courtships involving mutual caressing and dancing. Wolf spiders demonstrate incredible maternal care for their young. You may have seen the little spiderlings being carried on the mothers back until they are able to fend for themselves. Wolf spiderlings are aerial dispersal specialists, where they spin a silken thread to catch the wind and fly away in an act of dispersal called ballooning. Although they do spin silk, neither Huntsman nor Wolf spiders create a web for catching prey but will spin silk for their egg sacs.

We hope you've gained an appreciation for these remarkable creatures, understanding the differences between them and the differing roles they play in our ecosystem.



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eye on crime

Lesmurdie burglary and vehicle theft

MIDLAND detectives are seeking public assistance as they investigate a burglary and steal motor vehicle incident in Lesmurdie on Sunday, April 27

About 4am, two unknown persons gained entry to the garage of a house on Kathleen Road and stole an orange 2017 Holden (HSV) GTSR sedan, bearing registration plates MYN2DAY (WA). The vehicle is a rare make and model.

CCTV captured the incident and investigators have identified two persons they believe can assist, one described as being of slim build, wearing a dark coloured hooded jumper with full length zip, light coloured long pants and dark gloves.

The second person is described as also being of slim build, wearing a light-coloured hooded jumper, light coloured long pants and a dark coloured backpack.

The HSV was last seen travelling south bound along Tonkin Highway, near the intersection of Welshpool Road around 4.29am.

Anyone with any CCTV or dash camera footage that may have recorded any suspicious activity, or may have captured the HSV driving through the Lesmurdie or surrounding areas around this time can upload via this link - <https://wapf.au.evidence.com/axon/community-request/public/270425081563478>

Brabham man charged with 18 offences

MIDLAND rapid high harm offender response detectives have charged a man following an investigation into several incidents in Brabham on Monday, May 12.

Between 3.30am and 8.30am, police will allege the man committed several traffic and property offences resulting in a number of calls being made to police.

An investigation was commenced and detectives located the man inside a residential address in Brabham where he was taken into custody the same day.

A 31-year-old man from Brabham was charged with 18 offences including two charges of driver fail to stop, property damage, reckless driving, two charges of attempted aggravated home burglary with intent, attempting to steal a motor vehicle, stealing a motor vehicle, stealing, two charges of possessing drugs with intent to sell/supply, possession of meth, steroids, psilocybin, diazepam, ketamine and drug paraphernalia.

The man's bail was refused and he was remanded in custody. He is next due to appear before Midland Magistrates Court on June 10.

Bassendean fatal crash investigation

OFFICERS from the major crash investigation section are investigating a fatal crash in Bassendean on Tuesday, May 20.

About 5.30pm, an off-road motorcycle and a silver Toyota Yaris hatchback collided at the intersection of Guildford Road and North Road.

The 28-year-old male rider of the off-road motorcycle died from his injuries at the scene.

The 52-year-old female driver was uninjured. Major crash investigators are conducting an examination of the scene and are appealing for any witnesses to call Crime Stoppers.

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

Midland serious crash investigation

OFFICERS from the major crash investigation section are investigating a serious crash in Midland on Friday, May 9.

About 1.50pm, a 38-year-old male pedestrian was struck by a white Scania truck, towing a flat-bed trailer, westbound on Great Eastern Highway, near Brockman Road.

The pedestrian was conveyed to hospital for treatment of serious injuries sustained.

Major crash investigators conducted an examination of the scene and are appealing for any witnesses to call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or report the information online.

Dash-cam or mobile phone vision relating to this crash can uploaded directly to investigators via this link: <https://wapf.au.evidence.com/axon/community-request/public/seriouscrashmidland09052025>

Middle Swan serious crash investigation

OFFICERS from the major crash investigation section are seeking the public's assistance for information relating to a serious crash in Middle Swan in the early hours of the morning on Sunday, May 25.

About 12.30am, a white Toyota Camry sedan and an E-scooter collided at the intersection of Toodyay Road and Roe Highway where the driver of the car failed to stop and left the scene.

The male rider of the E-scooter sustained serious injuries and was conveyed by ambulance to Royal Perth Hospital for medical treatment.

A man in his 20s is assisting major crash investigators with their investigation, and officers urge anyone who has information relating to this crash, or who saw either vehicle travelling in the area prior to the crash, to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or online via www.crimestopperswa.com.au.

Dash-cam, or mobile phone vision relating to this crash, can be uploaded directly to investigators via this link: <https://wapf.au.evidence.com/axon/community-request/public/carvescoter2025106>

Midland detectives seek man after assault

MIDLAND detectives are seeking public information regarding the identity of a man who they believe can assist with an investigation after an incident in Midland on Tuesday, May 6.

About 2pm, the victim was sitting near the loading area behind a shopping centre on Great Eastern Highway, where it will be alleged, they were assaulted.

The male was seen in the area at the time and is described as being aged around his 40s, of medium build, with a dark complexion, shaved head, acne scars and missing teeth.

He was wearing a black baseball cap, a dark coloured shirt with a white sleeveless puffer jacket over the top, dark coloured long trousers and dark coloured shoes.

Anyone with information regarding the person's identity or their current whereabouts is asked to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or via www.crimestopperswa.com.au/open-cases/assault-midland-wa-6056-6-may-2025/

Reports to Crime Stoppers may remain anonymous if they wish.

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



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



The Vintage Sports Car Club of WA has secured a 10-year lease with Whiteman Park with the option to renew for another 10 years. Picture: Robert Campbell

Vintage sports car club moves to Whiteman Park

THE Vintage Sports Car Club of WA officially opened its new club rooms in Whiteman Park with more than 130 people in attendance.

Vintage Sports Car Club of WA (VSCCWA) president Glenn Swarbrick said though the club had been running for quite a few years it's never had its own club rooms.

"We've had uses of other club rooms but they were never ours so it was hard to do anything that was permanent (and) even in the last rooms we had, we had to share them with other people at times, so it was difficult for it to be our own space," he said.

"This has given our members a good impetus to be a lot more involved in what the club does.

"We run four major events a year, sort of encompassing historic motorsport and each of those events is run with volunteers.

"The two biggest ones we do are around

the houses in Northam and in Albany and each of those takes upwards of 60-odd volunteers to actually make them work."

The VSCCWA was able to secure a 10 plus 10-year lease with Whiteman Park, giving the club a home to facilitate its own events and bigger projects.

The Whiteman Park clubroom opened officially on May 18 during volunteer week and Mr Swarbrick said it was a nod to the significance of the Caversham area to the history of WA motorsport.

"It's part of our history in a lot of ways because some of our more senior members actually used to race at Caversham and so they're really happy because Whiteman Park's not far from Caversham's old circuit," he said.

"And as part of the history of Caversham, our club was instrumental in getting the suburb of Brabham named after Sir Jack Brabham.

According to an article published by the VSCCWA, the military airstrips in Caversham became Western Australia's first dedicated motor racing circuit at the end of World War II.

Two Australian Grand Prixs were held there with one in 1957 and the other in 1962.

The VSCCWA provides a place for people to gather, appreciate and engage in the history of the state's motorsports.

The move to the new facility was made possible by a \$50,000 Lotterywest grant which helped the club fit-out their clubroom, workshop area and shed space.

"It's a club that's open to anybody," Mr Swarbrick said.

"It doesn't matter whether you've got a car or not, or if the car is not even historic – to be a member of the club and support the history of motor sport is more important than anything."

Money for trees lost to PSHB

LOCAL governments will now be able to apply for grants to help replace trees lost to an invasive beetle.

Pest found outside quarantine area (Echo News, June 22, 2024) reported that the polyphagous shot-hole borer (PSHB) had been found on properties in Kalamunda, Guildford, Woodbridge, Caversham, Beechboro, Kiara and Ellenbrook.

On Tuesday, May 27 the WA Local Government Association (WALGA) welcomed the start of the state government's WA tree recovery program for eligible local governments and continued its call for more action to support local governments combat the destructive PSHB.

WALGA said the \$7.2 million WA tree recovery program announced in August last year would provide critical funding to impacted local governments.

The program will mean those local governments can access funding allowing them to plant up to three new trees for every one tree that has been lost to PSHB.

These grants will support the planting of thousands of trees to replace those lost to PSHB.

WALGA president Karen Chappel reaffirmed the need for further funding and measures to intensify local government PSHB response efforts.

"With Perth already having the lowest tree canopy of any capital city in the country, it is imperative for the federal and state governments to invest in and explore every reasonable measure, in response to PSHB," she said.

"WALGA acknowledges the importance of the WA tree recovery program, but there is much more to be done to respond to PSHB and further protect and grow our tree canopy.

"We will continue to advocate for greater investment into PSHB response and research, and for contemporary legislative and policy mechanisms to enable protection and growth of our urban forest, including to reduce tree loss on private land.

"We must ensure more new trees are planted to boost our ever-dwindling tree canopy."

WALGA said local governments had six weeks to apply for the first funding round, the recipients of which would be announced in August.

Two Autism WA homes being built in Ellenbrook



One of the two four-bedroom homes being built in Ellenbrook to cater for people living with autism.

CONSTRUCTION commenced in January on two new homes in Ellenbrook for people with autism.

The Autism Association of Western Australia has appointed Motive Building Group to build the two four-bedroom homes, which are being delivered with the help of a \$1,057,644 state government community housing new build grant.

The Autism Association of WA is one of the largest specialist lifespan organisations in Australia providing services to people with autism.

The primary purpose of the Ellenbrook project is to provide a supported environment for people with autism, along with one or two other people who also require similar support.

The purpose-designed dwellings can each accommodate three adults with autism and a 24/7 carer and will meet the improved liveability

design guidelines.

The base and frame have now been completed and the roof construction is currently underway.

Housing and Works Minister John Carey said the state government was committed to ensuring the diverse needs of tenants across WA are met, including people with autism who require specialised accommodation.

"The program is a substantial investment to help meet this commitment by enabling the construction of much needed new social housing with a variety of dwelling types and configurations.

"This program is a critical part of our \$5.1 billion commitment for housing and homelessness measures and is providing critical financial support to the community housing sector to deliver for our state's most vulnerable people."

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Your local Gig Guide

Thurs May 29

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

Fri May 30

Settlers House York
Kevin Doran.
From 5.30pm. Free.
Avon Terrace York

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

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

Parkerville Tavern
Nicki Rose.
From 6pm. Free.
6 Owen Road
Parkerville

Sat May 31

Settlers House York
Graeme Fisher.
From 12pm. Free.
Back Verandah Bar.
From 5.30pm. Free.
Avon Terrace York

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

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Ben Bulla.
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
Anthony Adams.
8pm-Late. Free.
25 Old Perth Road
Bassendean

Sun Jun 1

Settlers House York
Nathan Ward.
From 12pm. Free.
Avon Terrace York

Sunday June 1 cont.

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Kevin Curran.
4pm-7pm. Free.
4260 Great Eastern
Hwy Mahogany Creek

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

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

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

Mon Jun 2

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Fenton.
12pm-2pm. Free.
4260 Great Eastern
Hwy Mahogany Creek

Parkerville Tavern
Trent Williams.
From 12pm. Free.
6 Owen Road
Parkerville

Tues Jun 3

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 Jun 4

Childlow Tavern
Muso Jam Night.
7.3pm till late. Free.
4 Thomas St Chidlow

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Fenton and Friends
Acoustic open mike
night. 6pm-9pm. Free.
4260 Great Eastern
Hwy Mahogany Creek

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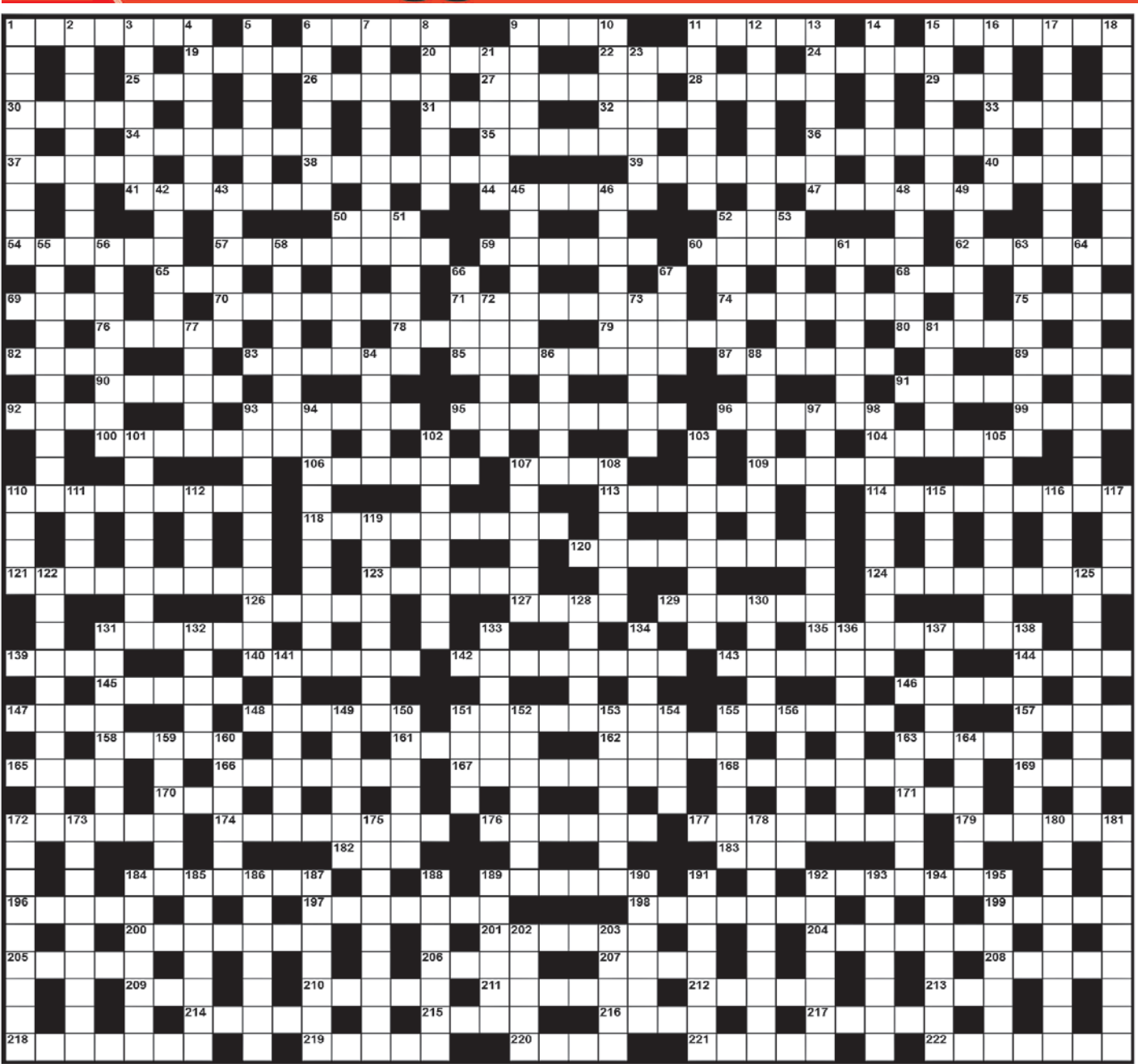
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ECHO NEWS

ECHO Mind Boggler Crossword 1219



ACROSS

1 Stonework (7)
6 Of sound (5)
9 Encourage in crime (4)
11 Couches (5)
15 Wool fat (7)
19 Reddish yellow (5)
20 Possesses (4)
22 Impetuous (4)
24 Famous Roman fountain (5)
25 Floor covering (3)
26 Tree sap (5)
27 Musical dramas (6)
28 Creamy condiment (5)
29 Pouch (biol) (3)
30 Sugary (5)
31 Large book (4)
32 Covered a cake (4)
33 Faithful (5)
34 Stringed instrument (7)
35 Some person (6)
36 Hard to find (7)
37 German pistol (5)
38 Without concerns (7)
39 Just birthed (7)
40 Utilising (5)
41 River mouth (7)
44 Late afternoon (6)
47 Cleans river bottom (7)
50 Australian Institute of Sport (init) (3)
52 Pigeon (3)
54 Long-legged birds (6)
57 Circus performers (8)
59 Parade walkers' poles (6)
60 Sudden disruption (8)
62 Headwear (6)
65 Skin colouring (3)
68 Top card (3)
69 Globes (4)
70 Fabled animal (7)
71 Near to happening (8)
74 Of the country (7)
75 A memo (4)
76 Seaside towns (5)
78 A narrow boat (5)
79 Damp (5)
80 Saloon car (5)
82 Small restaurant (4)
83 Fit to eat (6)
85 Corpses (8)
87 Place of safety (6)
89 Of the air (4)
90 A task (5)
91 Wild horse (US) (5)
92 Song for two (4)
93 Come from (6)
95 Celebration time (8)
96 Money receivers (6)
99 Overdue (4)
100 Mexican hat (8)
104 Grinding tool (6)
106 Lawless (6)
107 New star (4)
109 Stage show (5)
110 Beach nanny (9)
113 Slow-witted person (coll) (6)
114 Fake professional (9)
118 Falling into ruin (9)
120 Spread around (9)
121 Unaware (9)
123 Piece of pasta (6)
124 A watch (9)
126 Billiards shot (2,3)
127 Bounty (4)
129 Type of sheep (6)
131 Musically slowly (6)
135 Root vegetables (8)
139 A waterbird (4)
140 Make notes on (6)
142 Nut-collecting rodent (8)
143 Parts of necklaces (6)
144 Weak (4)
145 Intense (5)
146 Enthusiasm (5)
147 Liquid measure (4)
148 A working dog (6)
151 Designed fabric (8)
155 One who makes falsely (6)
157 Regrets (4)
158 Legendary monster (5)
161 Cartridge (5)
162 Old bailiff (5)
163 Australian marsupial (5)
165 A long river (4)
166 Disbeliever (7)
167 Rumour monger (8)
168 Abhor (7)
169 A platform (4)
170 Swift aircraft (3)
171 Spread newmown grass (3)
172 Type of llama (6)
174 Oil facility (8)
176 Small lodging room (6)
177 Most elated (8)
179 A call for more (6)
182 Trinitrotoluene (init) (3)
183 A primate (3)
184 Floating properties (7)
189 Hopeless (6)
192 Lack of money (7)
196 1000 kg unit (5)
197 Famous escapist (7)
198 Mosquito-borne disease (7)
199 The soul (5)
200 A cocktail (7)
201 A sacred beetle (6)
204 Deeply affected (7)
205 Farewell (Fr) (5)
206 Silicate mineral (4)
207 Animal doctors (abb) (4)
208 Brick ovens (5)
209 An amount of (3)
210 Lawn prickle (5)
211 Holding device (6)
212 Japanese verse form (5)
213 A garland (3)
214 A stand (5)
215 Alone (4)
216 Isolated land (4)
217 Wash lightly (5)
218 Leave unattended (7)
219 Levels off (5)
220 Studious type (coll) (4)
221 Thick (5)
222 ANZACs (7)

DOWN

1 Former Italian leader (9)
2 African plain region (9)
3 Treat lovingly (7)
4 Dairy product (7)
5 Infectious gastro disease (7)
6 Takeaway food counter (7)
7 Fond recollections (9)
8 Circumstances (7)
9 Poplar tree (5)
10 Mode of travel (5)
11 Shaded parts (7)
12 Type of owl (9)
13 Regular wage (7)
14 Roman god of the sea (7)
15 Tabulating (7)
16 Central part (7)
17 A maze (9)
18 Guilty of neglect (9)
21 Wanderers (6)
23 A climb (6)
42 Female relative (6)
43 A planet (6)
45 Wild (7)
46 At fullest extent (7)
48 Puts off (6)
49 Stretch out (6)
50 Completely engross (6)
51 Upright position (6)
52 Ancient city state (6)
53 Annual (6)
55 A large fish (10)
56 Is suspicious of (8)
58 Arctic animal (8)
61 Carrion-eating bird (7)
63 Topmost point (8)
64 Polar continent (10)
66 Metallic element (4)
67 Word element: inflammation (4)
72 Cried in pain (6)
73 European country (6)
77 Pulsate (5)
81 British noblemen (5)
84 Prising tool (5)
86 Word element: star (5)
88 Small birds (8)
93 Hard times (10)
94 Circular road juncture (10)
97 Listens secretly (10)
98 Onlookers (10)
101 Noticed (8)
102 Types of flowers (8)
103 A rover (8)
105 A sweet (8)
107 US 5 cent piece (coll) (6)
108 Unattached on water (6)
110 Building block toy (tm) (4)
111 Roll up (4)
112 Ban (4)
115 A particle of matter (4)
116 London underground (4)
117 Undressed (4)
119 Diced paper (8)
122 Advantageous (10)
125 Grand lighting (10)
128 Fairytale giants (5)
130 Ice hut (5)
131 A detested thing (8)
132 Water reptile (coll) (5)
133 Brief windstorm (6)
134 Distance measurement (6)
136 Desire for food (8)
137 A type of surgeon (5)
138 In fits and starts (8)
141 Personal individuality (7)
149 Powerful (6)
150 A guard (6)
151 A nipple (4)
152 High flat area (7)
153 Unimportant (7)
154 Snowman (Tibet) (4)
155 A felt hat (6)
156 Slightly rude (6)
159 A mental illusion (Fr) (4,2)
160 Off course (6)
163 A boiler (6)
164 Fervent (6)
172 The island continent (9)
173 A flower (9)
175 Staying power (9)
178 Surgeon's work (9)
180 Go to and fro (9)
181 Ambassadors' offices (9)
184 Perplexed (7)
185 Rowers (7)
186 Containing fat (7)
187 Sewing aid (7)
188 Send away (7)
189 Pertaining to revenue (6)
190 Live coals (6)
191 Red-faced (7)
192 Grazing land (7)
193 Saying (7)
194 Shook badly (7)
195 Pulling jerkily (7)
202 Papal law (5)
203 Dodge (5)

Crossword Solution 1218 from 23 May, 2025

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

Forrestfield rolls out first iron ore railcar

LOCAL railcar manufacturing has hit another significant milestone with the recent rollout of the first iron ore railcar wagon built by Perth-based company Gemco for Rio Tinto Iron Ore (RTIO).

Gemco is set to deliver 100 wagons over the next six years to RTIO, with an initial release of 40 and another 10 per year for six years, with the work also including repairing and refurbishing key wagon components.

The state government has contributed \$6.9 million to Gemco under the local manufacturing investment fund (LMIF) to upgrade its Forrestfield facility and establish a new facility in Karratha.

These two projects will provide 17 new jobs to manufacture and maintain railcars.

The state government has also provided a further \$340,929 in LMIF funding to Gemco so it can modernise its railcar wagon manufacturing and maintenance plant and equipment at its Forrestfield premises.

This upgrade will help the company deliver 40 iron ore railcar

wagons to BHP and allow Gemco to maintain its position as a local manufacturer into the future.

The LMIF - which was a commitment made by the state government ahead of the 2021 state election - has awarded more than \$13.5m to metropolitan and regionally based projects.

It continues to secure an ongoing stream of work for local fabricators in the manufacturing and maintenance of iron ore railcar wagons.

Through its Made in WA plan, the state government has committed to expanding local iron ore railcar manufacturing, including through collaborating with other industries like the grain sector to investigate further opportunities.

Premier Roger Cook said diversifying the economy and making more things in the state were key to the government's plan to maintain Western Australia as the strongest economy in the nation.

"That's why we are so pleased to see Gemco rolling out its first iron ore railcar wagon.

"This is a clear sign businesses want to make more things here in WA.



"It builds on our government's proud record of bringing railcar manufacturing back as part of Metronet.

"Soon, we'll create jobs across WA by building even more things here, like batteries and powerlines.

"We want to continue diversifying our state's economy, which means supporting manufacturing businesses like Gemco."

Manufacturing Minister Amber-Jade Sanderson said by working with and supporting companies like Gemco, the government is realising its ambition of building more things here in Western Australia.

"This means we are directly supporting jobs, particularly in Forrestfield, where we have been building our state-of-the-art Metronet C-Series trains and where Western

Power will soon begin building the poles and wires needed to power our state's energy transition.

"I want to congratulate Gemco on achieving this significant milestone for Rio Tinto Iron Ore.

"It's proof businesses in our booming resources industry are already embracing our vision for a State that builds more things in our own backyard."

New triticale crop variety to reap rewards for WA farmers



THE state government has invested in a new locally developed forage crop that is set to reap rewards for Western Australian grain and livestock producers.

The new multipurpose triticale variety, developed by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD), will appeal to sheep and cattle producers in medium and low rainfall environments wanting to maximise stockfeed options on challenging soils.

Named Dyna-Trit 1143, this new versatile variety is the result of an

international collaboration with the Florida Foundation Seed Producers.

The selection and commercial release of this variety involved field trials at Merredin, Wongan Hills, Manjimup and DPIRD's Katanning Research Station over several seasons.

A unique characteristic of this variety is that it does not have awns, the bristle-like growth in the triticale head, making it more suitable for direct grazing, silage or hay production, while still being suitable for traditional grain harvest.

Dyna-Trit 1143 is a part of the

Cook Government's ongoing investments to increase the profitability and sustainability of WA's livestock and grains industries and will be marketed in Australia by Nutrien Ag Solutions.

Agriculture and Food Minister Jackie Jarvis said she saw great potential for Dyna-Trit 1143, and triticale more generally, as a robust

option for both grain growers and livestock producers, particularly on marginal soils, and in medium to low rainfall areas.

"This initiative is part of our investment to help industry respond to a changing climate and deliver year-round feed options for sheep and cattle growers across WA's diverse environments."



Homelessness Minister Matthew Swinbourn, third from the left, with representatives from Anglicare WA, Centrecare and the Department of Communities Office of Homelessness at the launch of the Find My Way online portal.

Online tool to help homeless

A NEW online portal to connect people experiencing homelessness to vital support services and accommodation across Western Australia was launched last week.

Find My Way - online homelessness services portal is a free service, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to help people experiencing or at risk of homelessness seek accommodation and available support services.

Users who are not already connected to a service will have access to a homelessness service connector who will be able to assist with referrals as part of Centrecare's entripoint service, making it quicker and easier for people to find support when they need it.

Find My Way can also store and manage important documents, and with permission can share information with service providers to avoid long administrative processes and people having to retell their stories.

The development was led by a consortium comprising of Infochange in partnership with Anglicare WA, the Innovation Unit and Anthologie.

Community service organisations and people with lived experience were included in the design process

to ensure Find My Way meets the needs of its users.

Homelessness Minister Matthew Swinbourn said the portal was a 'digital front door' connecting people experiencing homelessness to critical accommodation and support services, making accessing help easier for those in our community who need it most.

"By simplifying how people access support, we are reducing the burden on those seeking assistance.

"The state government is proud to deliver Find My Way and the homelessness services connectors in collaboration with the sector."

Find My Way supports the state government's All Paths Lead to a Home: WA's 10-year strategy on homelessness 2020-2030 and the sector-wide adoption of a No Wrong Door approach to service delivery.

Find My Way can be accessed online via a smart phone or computer, including computers at local libraries.

People can still request access to accommodation and other services through existing pathways including engagement hubs, by calling Entrypoint Perth or contacting accommodation services directly.

Visit www.findmyway.org.au for more info.



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How to grow beautiful wildflowers in pots

Whether you have a courtyard, patio or small garden, join local plant lovers, Rachel and Mike Green, and discover which local plants grow well in pots and how to grow beautiful local wildflowers to bring your space alive.



**Lesmurdie Library
Saturday 21 June
10:00am-11:30am**

To secure your spot scan the QR code or visit trybooking.com/CXULQ

For more information phone
Lesmurdie Library 9257 9976



The World of EDUCATION

St Brigid's College – Lighting The Way In Education

At St Brigid's College, our students are at the heart of all we do. Here, they grow with a sense of belonging, confidence and happiness and thrive in a wholistic environment of learning and living.

Our curriculum nurtures the development of the whole person in a Christ-centred environment firmly based on the Catholic tradition. We know that the biggest impact of a child's learning journey is their teacher and at St Brigid's you can be assured that your child will receive the best opportunities in their education and growth.

Our Primary School caters for students from Pre-Kindergarten through to Year 6 and is co-educational. Primary students have ready access to educational facilities such as science and computer laboratories, the Performing Arts Centre, swimming pool, tennis courts, ovals and gymnasium.

Secondary students are encouraged to pursue their personal excellence in a nurturing and supportive environment. Interpersonal and self-management skills are a focus as our students grow into independent, responsible life learners who are both good at learning and good at life.

Our students, teachers and parents, work in partnership to develop our learning and teaching programmes, ensuring that each of the nine learning areas address essential knowledge and skill.



For further information about College enrolments, join us on a College Tour or contact our Registrar, Patty Majko at majko.patty@stbrigids.wa.edu.au or on 9290 4237.

Potting Local Wildflowers: Popular Gardening Talk Returns



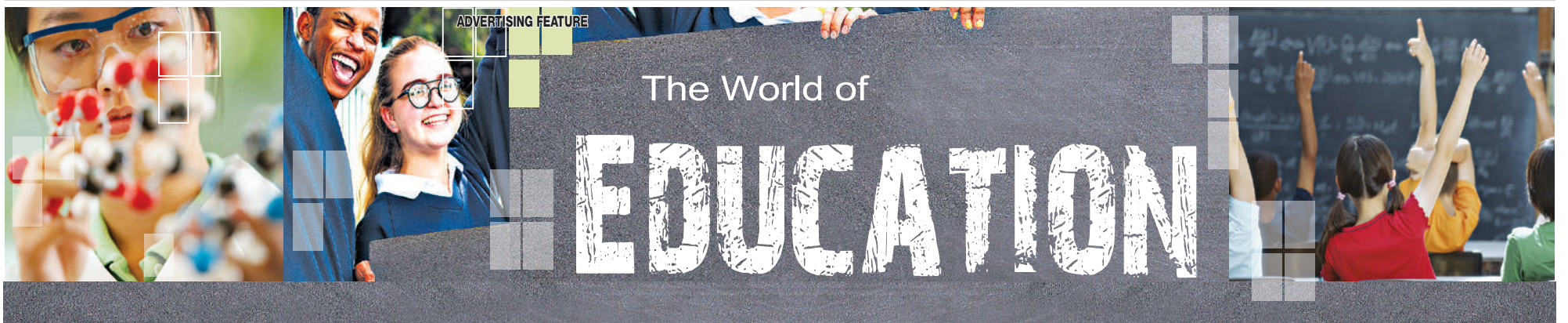
Back by popular demand! After a well-attended Mother's Day session at Kalamunda Library, local gardening enthusiasts Rachel and Mike Green are bringing their inspiring talk to Lesmurdie Library on Saturday 21 June 2025.

Discover how they've transformed a small garden into a thriving display of over **210 potted native plants**, including **60+ wicking beds**, all bursting with local wildflowers. Their unique approach has even attracted the attention of Gardening Australia, with their garden set to feature on ABC this year. This engaging session covers:

- Which native plants grow best in pots
- Tips on pots, placement, and watering systems
- Fertiliser and propagation advice
- Simple slug management techniques

Rachel and Mike share their journey with beautiful photographs and videos, offering practical ideas for gardeners of all ages and spaces - perfect for those with smaller gardens or looking to try something new.

Don't miss out - spaces are limited!
Visit or contact Lesmurdie Library to reserve your place.



'Student-centered' Educational Excellence at Treetops School



Treetops School's 'student-centred' education approach was recognized in 2024 as 'an exemplar of school-based and embedded wellbeing for students'.

Treetops, along with just two other schools from across Australia, was chosen by the Association of Independent Schools WA (AISWA) and Independent Schools Australia (ISA) to meet with Federal Minister for Education and Youth, Hon. Jason Clare MP, to showcase innovation in areas of priority education reform.

Treetops Principal Stuart Harris reported, "It was an honour to present our approach in a national forum. We are proud of the strong Treetops community we have built. We blend the Western

Australian Curriculum with Montessori and International Baccalaureate philosophies, in a student-centred environment to meet our students where they are."

Treetops School is a small, co-educational, private school located in Darlington, in the Perth Hills. Catering for ages 18 months to 18 years, Treetops is known for its innovative approach to education, and strong school community. We pride ourselves in 'Preparing the individual to make a world of difference'.

To learn more, visit our website at www.treetops.wa.edu.au. To join one of our small group tours of the school, contact the Treetops Office via email at office@treetops.wa.edu.au or phone 9299 6725.



Dance like NOBODY is watching

Jus' Dance offer a diverse range of ballroom dance classes including social group classes, medal classes and private dance lessons, suitable for dancers of all levels of experience – from beginners through to professionals.

Term 4 will commence on the 9th & 10th June at both Maddington and Kalamunda Studio's, so why not come down and have some fun and meet new people while learning something new.

Our Cabaret Dinner Dance will be held on Saturday the 31st May from 6.30pm until late. Full buffet home cooked meal, floor shows and raffles to raise funds for Cancer

research.

Adults / Seniors \$45 p/p. BYO Drinks – Bookings essential for catering

Adult and Senior dance classes, day & evening include Ballroom, Latin, Salsa, Rock 'n Roll, Jive & Swing and New Vogue. Youth & Kids Ballroom & Latin classes for children ages 5 – 17 yrs. Kid Sport approved Club.

Great music excellent Teachers, good fun. Pay for full 6-week Term & receive 20% off total cost for all NEW students. Enrol online www.jusdance.com.au or Contact Jenny 0413430721 for more information.



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Sat 31st May | Doors open @ 6pm
Adults & Seniors \$45 • Kids 5-10yrs \$20
Floorshows, Raffles to raise money for Cancer Research. Lots of dancing.
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Jenny 0413 430 721
info@jusdance.com.au | Check our class timetable www.jusdance.com.au

Jus' Dance KALAMUNDA

TUESDAYS
Beginners & Improvers
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To Access Detailed Information: Go to jobs.wa.gov.au and key in the Web Search No 40000080. Applicants are required to apply online.

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PUBLIC COMMENT INVITED

DRAFT METRONET EAST HIGH WYCOMBE DESIGN GUIDELINES

DevelopmentWA invites comment on the draft METRONET East High Wycombe Design Guidelines (the draft Design Guidelines).

DevelopmentWA has prepared the draft Design Guidelines to facilitate redevelopment of the METRONET East High Wycombe project in accordance with the vision and objectives of the METRONET East Redevelopment Scheme and METRONET East High Wycombe Structure Plan. The draft Design Guidelines provide a framework for delivering quality built form, high amenity public realm and sustainable design outcomes that respond to the local context and character. The draft Design Guidelines are to be read in conjunction with the Residential Design Codes Volumes 1 and/or 2.

A copy of the draft Design Guidelines can be viewed online at <https://developmentwa.com.au/planning-and-approvals/current-planning-items>, or at our office, Mia Yellagonga Tower 2, Level 7/5 Spring St, Perth, between the hours of 8:30am and 5:00pm Monday to Friday.

Comments on the draft Design Guidelines should be received by **11 July 2025** and can be submitted on our website, by email to planning@developmentwa.com.au or by post for the attention of the Manager Planning, Locked Bag 5, PERTH BUSINESS CENTRE WA 6849.

For further information on the draft Design Guidelines, please contact our Planning team on **08 6200 4111**.



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Long term challenges will impact the construction of new homes, according to the Housing Industry Association.

Home building to rebound

WHILE detached housing is showing strong growth in WA, QLD and SA, activity remains subdued in New South Wales and Victoria, according to a new report from the Housing Industry Association (HIA).

HIA said apartment construction was yet to recover from a collapse in foreign capital caused by state taxes and was expected to rebuild gradually towards the end of the decade.

HIA chief economist Tim Reardon said housing demand was not going to decline with a rise in interest rates.

"It is continuing to grow along with the population," he said.

"Structural reforms are needed now to shape affordability, economic opportunity and living standards for the next generation."

The number of homes under construction in Australia is set to increase over the next few years, driven by strong population growth, low unemployment, and falling interest rates.

However, long-term structural issues continue to pose risks to housing affordability and national supply targets, HIA said.

Mr Reardon said the sector was showing signs of improved confidence following a period of weak activity, particularly in apartment construction.

"We expect new home commence-

ments to increase steadily through the second half of the decade.

"Detached house building will lead this recovery, peaking in 2027, with apartment construction set to follow as market conditions and policy settings improve."

He said recent interest rate cuts and historically strong migration were adding to demand for new housing.

But ongoing constraints including land shortages, regulations and taxes were increasing the cost of construction and limiting supply.

This would continue to drive up the cost of both renting and buying a home.

"The only way to close the growing gap between supply and demand is through meaningful reform – particularly at the state level."

The HIA report forecasts that home building will fall 20 per cent short of the Australian Government's target of 1.2 million new homes over the five years.

"We need to unlock land, streamline planning processes, and remove barriers to investment if we are to meet the housing needs of a growing population," Mr Reardon said.

"Australia has the capacity to deliver, but it will take a coordinated response from all three tiers of government to overcome these constraints."

Sleeping bag appeal kicks off across the hills

CINDY CARTOJANO

THE annual REIWA sleeping bag appeal kicks off with member agencies throughout Mundaring and Kalamunda opening their doors to collect sleeping bags and blankets in support of The Salvation Army.

REIWA president Suzanne Brown said REIWA partnered with the Salvos more than a decade ago to start the appeal.

"(It) was established in 2013 to provide REIWA members with meaningful opportunities to give back to the community through fundraising and volunteering efforts," Ms Brown said.

"The initiative began as part of our support for the Salvos' WA winter appeal and has since grown into REIWA's annual sleeping bag appeal, which now runs in conjunction with the Red Shield Appeal."

Salvos spokesperson Warren Palmer said affordability and availability of housing were the key drivers of homelessness.

"Particularly in suburban areas on the fringes of Perth where the possibility of being unnoticed is greater," he said.

"With these twin challenges of meeting the current housing needs based on population growth alone, there is no surprise in there being little capacity to also absorb those who experience relationship breakdowns, family violence and addiction issues let alone those who live below the poverty level.

"Sadly, it is inevitable therefore that homelessness in all forms will thrive."

Mr Palmer said the sleeping bag appeal allowed the Salvos to provide care and support to those who experienced the discomfort and insecurity of homelessness.

"We are very grateful for the support of REIWA and its community re-invest members for their support with this appeal," he said.

Real estate agency Professionals Stirling Clark (SC) licensee Tayla Parkinson said SC was always ready to step up and support a good cause.

Ms Parkinson said SC was a collection point this year and also participated in the appeal last year.

"We had a great response, so signing up again was an easy decision," she said.

She said the program offered a small sense of comfort to those facing homelessness during the winter months.



REIWA team members Ruby Galindo and Chelsea Roddy with boxes for the sleeping bag appeal.

"Salvos will ensure the donated items reach those who need them most because no one knows how to connect with people in need quite like the Salvos," Ms Parkinson said.

Donations will be accepted at Kalamunda's Brett Johnston Real Estate and Provincial Real Estate as well as Professionals Stirling Clark offices in Forrestfield, Mundaring and Kalamunda.

There are 23 collection points throughout the metropolitan area with donations open until Friday, June 27.

Read between the lines

by Pastor Ian Kirk



How Endearing!

While on holidays in Japan, exploring the beautiful city of Kyoto, Colleen and I took a trip to the nearby city of Nara. This ancient city is well known for its temples and shrines. It's also known for the sika deer wondering about in parks on the outskirts of the city and in nearby streets - and that's exactly what we found.

The deer are wild and come into the city from nearby forests. They love to graze on the grass in the parks, but they also love to get food from humans. What's so intriguing is how they do it. They come up to you and politely bow their head a number of times - like how the Japanese people bow their head when they seek to honour and respect you.

One of the things you notice about Japanese culture, whether it's the people or the deer, is that they are so honouring and respectful. It reminds me of the person of Jesus, who was this in a far greater way, as He walked this earth. He washed His disciples' feet, He lifted up the downcast, He used His power to restore and heal people, and He chose to lay down His life on a cross to bear the punishment of our sins so that we could be forgiven and saved - if we would believe in Him.

Jesus has so honoured us and respected us and has endeared Himself to us through His amazing love for us.

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Upcoming Events

- **Hovea Residents & Ratepayers Association** is holding a general meeting in the Parkerville Oval Sports Pavilion, Seaborne Street, Parkerville on Wednesday, June 4 starting at 7.30pm. Ratepayers are welcome to attend and may raise any local issues to be discussed including the associations future. After the meeting a wine and cheese function will be held. All welcome. Central ward councillors are invited. Tea and coffee afterwards. For more information call Max on 9295 4557.
- **Transition Town Guildford** is holding a Really Really Free Market on Sunday, June 8 from 9am to 10am at the Mechanics Hall, 20 Meadow Street, Guildford. Take

along any items you no longer need and then take what you need or want. Everything is free - no cash exchanged, no bartering and no haggling. The community group provides the trestle tables while you provide the stuff. Gates open at 8.50am. For more information email ttguildford@gmail.com

riordan@gmail.com

• **Midland Ascension Craft Group** meets in the Parish Hall, 17 Spring Park Road, Midland every Tuesday of school term from 1pm to 3pm. All most welcome to join for a chat, cuppa, any craft and sometimes a guest speaker. For more information call 0433 265 683.

• **Kalamunda Youth Swing Band** gives young musicians the opportunity to rehearse and play in a band. Rehearsals are Monday afternoon during school term. For more information call musical director Leah on 0432 973 395.

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

Miley is a four-year-old lhasa apso. Her owner has to relocate and can't take her. Miley is very loving and a bit of a couch potato. She is sterilised, vaccinated and microchipped. Costs apply. Contact Bakers Hill Dog Sanctuary on 9574 1438.

Kalamunda master brings home gold

CINDY CARTOJANO

AT the Australian Masters Athletics (AMA) championships, WA representative Kalamunda's Barbara Blurton brought home medals for all three events she raced in.

Mrs Blurton ran the 100m, 200m and 400m for the women's 75-79 group and placed first in all three races.

"I have to say, I've been there before and done it before. But just going into a new age group, it gives you a new impetus to get back up to the top," she said.

Mrs Blurton said she was reasonably confident before the event.

"I think that helps quench the nerves a little bit if you can be confident going into something."

Mrs Blurton said she played field hockey when she was younger and still lived in the UK.

She said the experience contributed to her talent with athletics.

When she started to lose interest in the sport in her late 30s, she met her husband who was into running.

"I started running around the streets with him when we were living in London and then someone told me about masters athletics.

"I suppose from my hockey background I was used to sprinting backwards and forwards rather than just going out for a long-distance run."

Now 75, Mrs Blurton said she's had to cut back on training but age hasn't stopped her from continuing her sport.



Barbara Blurton during the 100m race at the 2025 AMA championships.

"I think everybody finds that as they get older, you can continue to train at quite a high level and compete at quite a high level, but you do have to take age into account.

"The body just needs a little bit more rest," she said. Breaking the world record numerous times was a key highlight for her.

"When I was in Melbourne in my mid-40s, I did set the world record for the women's 45 (group) 800m," she said.

"In fact, I set it twice. And in 2020, I set the (women's) 70 400m world re-

cord three times."

Mrs Blurton said she's looking forward to upcoming races with the Oceania championships in September and the world championships in August next year.

With the world races being held in South Korea, Mrs Blurton said travelling is one of her favourite parts about running.

"That's been one of the most exciting things about it, that you see places you would never dream of going to," she said.

Chidlow topple Swan View

BRIAN PALLISTER

PREVIOUSLY undefeated this Hills Football Association season Swan View travelled to Chidlow where despite a slow start the Cougars ended up winning by five points.

Chidlow won 15.7 (97) to 14.8 (92) but Swan View had control in the first quarter with Caleb Butler getting the better of Joshua Johnson in the ruck.

Taraia Carpenter and Josh Hillingum drove the ball forward to where Kane Higgins marked and converted one of his two goals for the quarter.

Jordan Dyer was winning on his wing while Jaiden Power and Sam Hobbs were repelling most of Chidlow's forward entries.

It was all Swan View in the first quarter but Chidlow worked their way into the game scoring five goals straight in the final quarter to win by five points.

The Cougars managed to break through for their only goal for the first quarter.

It was going to take some position changes and a lot more endeavour if the Cougars were going to get into the contest.

Matt Mallaby was moved onto the ball and quietly went about the business of picking up possessions.

Steven Scorer also had a run on the ball.

These changes also helped Lukaz Dymek find space.

The Cougars slowly chipped away, reducing the deficit to 24 points at the main break.

Josh Hollingum successfully spent a bit more time forward where he and Jeff Ladd kept the Swans goals coming.

Joseph Butler cleared several of the Cougars forward entries.

Lukaz Dymek snuck forward to kick his two goals for the game.

Although if not for some errant

kicking at goal Chidlow could have been closer than the nine points at the last change.

The scene was set for a cracker of a last quarter and both teams delivered for the spectators who had come along in support of their clubs.

The Cougars found their range and accuracy with five goals straight.

Jake Forman continued his solid four quarters with a couple more goals finishing with five for the game.

Max Daniels rounded out his game with several last quarter possessions.

Josh Rossen worked hard in an attempt to keep the ball in the Swans forward line but unfortunately they had inherited Chidlow's inaccuracy from the third quarter and managed just two goals from six attempts.

Both teams have now had six wins but Swan View have a higher percentage of 247 compared with Chidlow's 141.



Aryang helps Fever gain early dominance

Sunday Aryang was strong in defence in West Coast Fever's win.

SUNDAY Aryang contributed strong defence in West Coast Fever's 75-66 win over the Giants at Ken Rosewall arena.

Aryang of Midland finished the game with eight deflections, six gains, three rebounds and an intercept to lead the charge for Fever's defence.

She was supported by Fran Williams who pulled in four gains, three deflections, two intercepts and a rebound.

The pair played a crucial role in the first

quarter when the Fever started to build a strong lead.

Fever started the first quarter strongly, scoring the first four goals of the match and going into quarter time with an eight-goal advantage.

The Giants controlled the second quarter and after five minutes in the third quarter, the home team had drawn level.

From there it was goal-for-goal in the third quarter as both teams upped the ante until power five.

Fever scored from a defensive rebound from Kadie-Ann Dehaney and then two supershots by Olivia Wilkinson helped the visitors build a five-goal lead at the final change.

By the start of power five in the final quarter, Fever were leading by eight when Aryang capped off a huge defensive game with a superb intercept to help build a lead the Giants could not run down.

Despite two late supershots from Matisse Letherbarrow (eight from 12 attempts)

to reduce the margin to nine, Fever had done enough to survive the Giants late surge.

Superstar Jhaniele Fowler-Nembhard was again the game MVP and provided a focal point for Fever as she finished with 63 goals.

When she sunk her twelfth for the night, she became the first player to surpass 9000 national league goals.

Fever will host the Queensland Firebirds in round 8 on Sunday, June 1.



West Coast Fever

I Remember When...

Do you remember when most homes had a sleep-out and when I tell my kids I used to sleep on the back verandah of our house they say no way. Yes, it was pretty common for homes built in the forties, fifties and sixties to have a sleep-out. A lot of homes were only two bedroom and when the family got larger it was easier to build a wall and separate a room suitable to sleep out on the back verandah. It wasn't uncommon to have an outside toilet either. Sometimes it was right out the back of your property and at one stage the local dunny man would collect your waste coming up the alley behind your house. There are still some of those lane ways in around Woodbridge near Second Avenue. Many houses in that era would have a lounge room and then go down the passage, the main bedroom was opposite the lounge at the front of the house. When you went down the passage it would lead to an open central area and a second bedroom quite often ran off it. Or, if you had an in-house bathroom that wasn't on the back verandah you had a passage that led to that bedroom and bathroom also sometimes a laundry. In the centre of the house was usually the dining area and kitchen with a wood stove combined with a door that led out to a verandah. Not all laundries were inside some were referred to as wash houses like we had in our house in Bertie Street Guildford and our bathroom was on the back verandah. The wash house was free standing and had what they called a copper in it which you could boil the water for washing or boil water to bring inside for a bath. I still see a few of these old places in my world as a real estate agent and boy it brings back some memories when I see them. Imagine asking the current generation to live in these places with a drafty sleep-out with louvre windows, the toilet and wash house outside and the cloths line that was a bit of wire tied to the fence back to the house. Those were the days.



Milton Rendell – CEO
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