

ECHO

NEWS 1985-2025

SINCE 1985



Friday, August 29, 2025

Local Business Supporting Local People

VOL.42 NO.1928

Celebrate with us as we go back through *Echo's* history.

SEE OUR 12 PAGE LIFTOUT INSIDE.



Winemaker celebrates win

PG3

Picture: Guanhao Cheng

Third generation owner of Swan Valley's first winery says being named Icon of the Swan Valley is an honour but planning matters risk the region's winemaking future.

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

Thought for the day
 "It always seems impossible until it is done."
 – Nelson Mandela

National Stroke Week

Dear Echo News,
 I want to extend our heartfelt thanks to newsrooms, journalists, producers and editors across Australia who helped share our life-saving message during National Stroke Week 2025 (4–10 August).

By sharing the F.A.S.T. message on air and online, through stories in print, broadcast interviews with experts, survivors of stroke and their families and carers, you played a vital role in educating Australians about the signs of stroke and the importance of acting quickly.

When stroke strikes, it attacks up to 1.9 million brain cells per minute.

Thanks to your support, millions of Australians are now better equipped to recognise the F.A.S.T. signs of stroke and know to call the ambulance without delay: Face – Check their face. Has their mouth drooped? Arms – Can they lift both arms? Speech – Is their speech slurred? Do they understand you? Time – Time is critical. Call 000 immediately.

Every National Stroke Week story you shared has the potential to save a life.

You have helped amplify the message that stroke can happen to anyone, at any age, and that fast action is the key to survival and recovery.

From everyone at Stroke Foundation, and on behalf of the more than 440,000 Australians living with the impact of stroke around Australia — thank you

for standing with us this National Stroke Week!
Dr Lisa Murphy
 Chief Executive Officer
 Stroke Foundation

Congrats for Echo's 40th

Dear Echo News,
 Congratulations to Echo News for standing the test of time after 40 years.

I've written many a letter and had local issues highlighted in articles of which I am truly grateful.

It's great to see a local community newspaper keeping it local and thriving after so many years. Many thanks for your community support.

G Coleman
 Bassendean

ECHO NEWS
 Privately owned & proudly independent

Due to lack of space, the crossword will not be running in this week's edition.
 We apologise for any inconvenience.
 Please check our website for the crossword and last week's solution.

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OFFICE HOURS:
 Monday–Thursday:
 9.00am – 5pm
 Closed Friday
 Closed: Weekends & Public Holidays

From the net...

Echo News social media comments

In response to Dayton urban water management concerns:

L Derring:
 If we are not careful that's all that will remain: a street name. Minus the ability to grow fruit due to water table rise and fall. Developers not responsible, council planners out of step and no responsibility. Idiocy! Missing verges, proper run off drainage and they keep flattening landscape, covering it in concrete and bricks.

In response to Perth Hills LGAs oppose Alcoa lease:

V Seebeck:
 In 60 years of mining, Alcoa have not met the criteria set out by the WA government for rehabilitation of jarrah forests.

Bauxite mining undermines the topsoil that our jarrah/marri/wandoo ecological communities have evolved with. Research has shown that it changes the soil profile, causes

erosion, spreads dieback, increases the risk of salinity and destroys the mycorrhizal layer that underpins forest health (the mycorrhizal layer can take up to 40 years to recover). They often store the topsoil for up to eight years before extracting the bauxite and replacing the depleted soil.

With the moisture-holding bauxite removed, rehabilitated forests can only produce small, thin jarrah stems, with shallow root systems, which don't appear to improve over time, especially in our drying climate. Alcoa can't reproduce the large old growth forests with the necessary breeding hollows, microclimates, leaf litter layer, dead trees etc. that our black cockatoos, woylies, quokkas, numbats, phascogales and possums rely on. Rehab has also failed to return the original species composition in the understory, which these animals need for food and shelter.

Mining of the last of our jarrah forests would especially be a death knell for our critically endangered species, which are already on a knife edge.

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Prime cut or prime con? Exposing meat scams

Scrolling on Facebook and spotting a deal for cheap bulk meat delivered to your door might feel like a win, especially with the cost of groceries these days, but it could be a sinister trap.

Earlier this year the WA ScamNet team started hearing from people who paid for bargain-priced bulk meat packs advertised through fake butcher and "farm-to-table" profiles. The meat never turned up, and their cash was gone.

Now the scammers have added a new dimension to their cooked scheme. In a final cash grab victims are asked to pay a delivery insurance fee on the day the meat is due to arrive. The scammers may even say the fee will be refunded after delivery.

Meat is a big expense for most households, which makes these too-good-to-be-true offers especially attractive and this scam very successful. Victims can lose anywhere from \$200 for a mixed selection of meat, up to nearly \$1,000 for a butchered cow.

WA ScamNet suspects more people are being ripped off by these

meat scams than is being reported due to losses being "only" a couple hundreds of dollars. But because meat is a staple, even small amounts multiplied across many victims can generate substantial profits for the criminals behind it.

Genuine butchers or farm businesses are being caught up in it too as the scammers steal their names, logos and photos. They're then left to deal with angry victims asking where the meat is.

The red flags to look out for in posts include claiming bulk meat is delivered "direct from the farm to you" at prices that seem too good to be true.

Scam pages often lack reviews, likes and comments, fail to list a business address, appear newly created, or show a history of name changes. Check Page Transparency in the About section to see when the page was created and whether it has changed names.

Be wary of any seller demanding bank transfer, especially if multiple accounts are offered.

If you've been scammed report it to scamnet.wa.gov.au

Swan winemaker celebrates win amid planning concerns

GUANHAO CHENG

THE third generation owner of Swan Valley's first winery says he's honoured to be named Icon of the Swan Valley but worries planning matters risked the region's winemaking future.

"I think the biggest challenge for the Swan Valley is being able to stay," Olive Farm Wines third generation owner Ian Yurisich said.

"There are pressures afoot to subdivide the Swan Valley, which I think is not in the best interest of the region and our history.

"I think it's very important that the valley is preserved as an iconic grape growing region.

"It's one of the closest wine growing regions to any capital city in the world and I think that's something that we need to keep in mind and certainly it needs assistance and commitment from both state and local governments to make sure that the existing wineries and vineyards are able to stay here and continue the history of the valley that's going on to 200 years old."

Mr Yurisich said it was important to pay attention to planning changes, as allowing housing so close to agricultural areas can be the death knell for the industry.

"We've seen in too many instances, people moved into areas that are close to places like the Swan Valley with agricultural enterprises and producers have been forced out of it simply because people move in, band together, then influence the authorities to make changes," he said.

"The market gardens out in Wanneroo area, that sort of thing are a classic example.

"Some of the best soils for growing vegetables don't exist anymore simply because people have moved in and they didn't like the idea of an agricultural industry, and they got it shut down.

"There has to be decisions made so those sorts of things can't happen.

"If that happened, the history in this area is going to be very short lived from now on."

Mr Yurisich said the Swan Valley Policy Act, which is reviewed every five years, plays a vital role in protecting the area.

"I think the basis of that review has to be the fact that the valley needs to stay in its current form," he said.

"Those that are in the industry need to be encouraged to continue in the industry and be able to avoid the pressures that are placed on them from possible development."

He pointed to the Pinelli family in Caversham as an example of the difficulties of operating with suburbia nearby.

"They've been there for probably 60 odd years

and unfortunately, they've got suburbia at their back door and they're finding it more and more difficult to be able to operate.

"(For us) it was getting more and more difficult to operate back (in South Guildford) with suburbia encroaching on the boundaries."

Mr Yurisich said winemaking was like capturing the spirit of a place in a bottle and the ability to grow grapes in the valley was vital to not lose the winemaking essence and identity of the area.

"The aim in winemaking as far as I'm concerned is to try and grow the best quality grape that you can that's representative of the area in which they've grown and then transfer that over into a bottle," he said.

"We've got to be able to retain the vines that are currently here and somehow try and encourage people to continue in the industry and grow the industry because we're a pretty unique area.

"It's very important that we retain the characteristics and nature because we want to see Icon of the Swan Valley continuing for the next 50 years," he said.

The Yurisich family moved into their current Millendon winery in 2006, bringing the 177-year-old name and family winemaking techniques with them but leaving the historic South Guildford site.

Two years on from the move, after passing down from Ivan Yurisich, Vince Yurisich and Ian Yurisich's management, Ian's son and fourth generation owner Anthony Yurisich took over the winery in 2008.

"It was a sad day when we left Guildford where our history started but to be able to continue in the industry, it was obvious that we weren't going to be able to continue there because of suburbia encroaching on us and that's basically what we've got to resist out here," he said.

Mr Yurisich said he spent his life doing what he enjoyed, and while he didn't seek recognition, being honoured by his peers as an Icon of the Valley meant a lot.

"I knew and had contact with all the previous winners of Icon of the Swan Valley and that's really a highlight to be joining them with this award.

"We've always been part of the Swan Valley and I suppose we've made it a major point of our business to concentrate on product that has been produced in the Swan Valley.

"We've stayed true to the valley and that's an important part for me to be able to have contributed not just in the industry in the Swan Valley, but the promotion of the Swan Valley, the grapes that are grown here and the wine stalls that are produced."

The City of Swan has been contacted for comment.



Olive Farm Wines third generation owner Ian Yurisich is now retired but assists in running the business with his son Anthony Yurisich. Picture: Guanhao Cheng



The federal government has committed to new clinics in Mundaring and Ellenbrook.

Hills and Swan UCCs a step closer

URGENT care clinics in Mundaring and Ellenbrook are a step closer following tenders being called by the federal government.

The clinics will offer free treatment for minor injuries and illnesses as part of the federal government's election commitment to fund 50 urgent care clinics across the country including six in WA, which also include Bateman, Mirrabooka, Geraldton and Yanhep.

Tenders for the first three, which includes Mundaring, have opened and the others will go out next month.

The urgent care clinics have to be co-located or partnered with an existing general practice, with priority consideration given to those that already fully bulk-bill.

New guidelines for urgent care clinics issued this month say they must accept walk-ins and must bulk-bill patients, so no patients are out of pocket, including for the cost of imaging and pathology services covered by Medicare.

The clinics are expected to be open 14 hours a day, seven days a week, including public holidays, and have an X-ray machine on site or readily accessible.

Eight urgent care clinics already operate in WA and have served almost 200,000 patients since the first opened in May 2023.

The most used is in Rockingham, which has treated 34,000 people since mid-2023, followed by the clinic in Clarkson that opened about the same time.

The newest clinic, opened in Gosnells in May 2024, has treated just over 6800 people.

Almost one-third of visits to WA clinics were at weekends, and 20 per cent of those on weekdays were after 5pm.

"West Australians know that Medicare urgent care clinics have been a game changer for their community," Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said.

"That's why the Albanese Government decided to deliver another six in WA, so more people can get the care they need instead of waiting in a hospital emergency department."

Shire of
MUNDARING

Local Government Ordinary Election

Call For Nominations

An Ordinary Postal Election will be held on Saturday, 18 October 2025 in the Shire of Mundaring to fill the following vacancies:

Central Ward	1 Councillor	4 year term
East Ward	1 Councillor	4 year term
South Ward	1 Councillor	4 year term
South Ward	1 Councillor	2 year term
West Ward	1 Councillor	4 year term
West Ward	1 Councillor	2 year term

Nominations Open on Thursday, 28 August 2025

Nominations Close at 4:00pm Thursday, 4 September 2025

Nominations must be lodged with the Returning Officer:

- at any time during the above period by arrangement; or
- between 2:00pm and 4:00pm Thursday, 4 September 2025 (close of nominations) at the Shire of Mundaring, 7000 Great Eastern Highway, MUNDARING.

Nomination Requirements

Candidates are required to lodge with the Returning Officer:

- The Commission's preferred method for candidates to nominate is through the Commissions Nomination Builder. This tool assists candidates in completing their nomination form, including their profile and additional information. The Nomination Builder can be accessed via <https://lgportal.waec.wa.gov.au/noms>. Candidates can complete their nomination details and profile, print the completed form with the allocated reference number, and lodge it with the Returning Officer. Alternatively, a copy of the prescribed nomination form is available from the Returning Officer or via www.elections.wa.gov.au/LGE25Candidate-Information
- a single A4 page profile of not more than 1,000 characters (including spaces) containing information about the candidate.
- a nomination deposit of \$100 (cash, EFT, bank cheque or postal order).
- a recent passport-sized photograph (optional).
- every candidate must complete the online course titled Local Government Candidate Induction, available at Induction for prospective candidates | LGIRS, prior to nominating and prove the course code on the nomination form; and
- in addition to your A4 profile, you may provide additional information that you consider to be relevant to your candidature. This written statement cannot be more than 2,000 characters (including spaces), must be in the English language and is for publication on the local government's official website only. (optional)

Please Note:

Where an agent lodges a nomination on a candidate's behalf, it must be in the prescribed form with a written authorisation signed by the candidate. The documents may be hand delivered or posted to the Returning Officer and must be received by the close of nominations.

Information

Full details about eligibility and nomination procedures for prospective candidates can be obtained by contacting the Returning Officer, **Helen FRASER** on **0407 094 638** or the Western Australian Electoral Commission on 13 63 06.

mundaring.wa.gov.au

Kalamunda STEM students reach robo finals



Kalamunda Senior High School STEM students placed second overall, behind hosting university Curtin, for their robot's performance and design in a reef themed competition.

GUANHAO CHENG

STUDENTS from Kalamunda Senior High School's (KSHS) STEM club placed second overall, just behind Curtin University's team at the 2025 Western Australian Robotics Playoffs (WARP).

Competing as Team 9191 My Chemical Robots, the group also earned the creativity award for design and programming solutions, using tools available in the hills to bring their robot to life.

The team was made up of students from Years 7 to 12: Jacob Clephas, Nicola Barr, Cooper Myers, Kyle Wright, Kaylan Reynolds, Patrick Smith, and Jasmine Barton.

They were supported by KSHS alumni and former competitors Toby Trent, Marc Rouillard, and Sean Paxman who are Curtin students now guiding the next generation as mentors.

Throughout the school year, the team met three times a week to design, build and code their robot to meet the challenges of this year's reefscape theme.

Inspired by ocean ecosystems, the simulation game required teams to manipulate coral onto a reef and remove algae while navigating complex strategic play.

WARP is the state's premier

For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) robotics offseason event, bringing together 30 teams from schools and institutions across the state.

It mirrors the global FIRST robotics competition, offering students hands-on experience in engineering, coding, and collaboration.

KSHS STEM club is now in its sixth year after beginning as a small initiative to support the school's involvement in a STEM event run by the Bibbulmun Network of Schools.

KSHS teacher and STEM club coordinator Ian McMullen witnessed the initiative's inception and said what started as a few students exploring robotics, 3D printing and other activities during lunchtime slowly turned into a dedicated club.

"Our involvement in the annual WARP competition over the past three years has been a major catalyst for growth," he said.

"The students themselves lead this effort, ensuring continuity by mentoring younger members and passing on skills.

"I open the space and support where I can, but it's the students who drive the club forward.

"A key goal of the club is to help students develop practical

skills in coding, construction, metalwork, and engineering, while also encouraging pathways into STEM careers."

Mr McMullen said as a new contender, KSHS' performance was a testament to what dedicated hills students could achieve even against veteran competitors.

"As a relatively new team to WARP, we're definitely punching above our weight," he said.

"We don't have the funding or resources that many private schools or university-backed teams enjoy, but what we do have is a passionate and committed group of students.

"That seems to be enough to keep us competitive with the best."

The team have been invited to the National Championships on the east coast in 2026 and will consider raising \$10,000 to register after recovering from the WARP weekend.

With students graduating each year, KSHS' STEM department's focus is now on building engagement in the younger years to ensure continuity.

The school has registered a team in this year's FIRST Lego League aimed at sparking early interest in robotics and STEM for lower years.



Local groups can now apply for Shire of Mundaring community funding.

Mundaring community funding program open

LOCAL groups, clubs and creatives can now apply for funding through the Shire of Mundaring's revitalised community funding program, with simpler applications and more support available year-round.

Now open for applications, the updated program aligns with the Council Plan 2024 to 2034 and offers enhanced support for community-led projects and initiatives.

Shire President Paige McNeil said the refreshed program was shaped by valuable feedback from community groups.

"The new funding program reflects council's commitment to empowering residents, volunteers and community organisations," Ms Paige said.

"We've listened closely to our community and reshaped the program to make funding more accessible, more responsive and easier to navigate.

"Council is proud to help bring more great local ideas to life, championing the people and projects that make the Shire of Mundaring community strong,

connected, and vibrant," she said.

Key updates to the program include a simplified application process, shorter assessment timeframes and greater access to funding for community initiatives.

Grants now operate on a rolling basis, meaning applications can be submitted year-round until the annual budget allocation is fully expended.

The program is designed to support a wide range of community-focused initiatives, including local events, operational support for community groups, creative projects, and opportunities for young people representing Western Australia in their chosen field.

For full program details and eligibility information, visit www.mundaring.wa.gov.au/community/grants-and-funding/community-funding-program.aspx

Community members with questions are encouraged to contact the shire's grants officer via email at cgo@mundaring.wa.gov.au or phone (08) 9290 6628.

Midland Public and Private Hospitals correction

OUR story last week *New Midland Hospital to double private bed capacity* (Echo News, August 22) contained an error regarding the funding commitment by the federal government during the election campaign.

The \$335 million election funding allocation was specifically for the St John of God Public Hospital and not the new St John of God Midland Private Hospital now under construction.

St John of God Midland Public and Private Hospitals currently comprise a 307-bed public hospital, operated under a public-private partner-

ship between the state government and St John of God Health Care and a 60-bed private hospital.

In June 2023, the state government exercised its contractual right to purchase the 60 private beds for public use, effective July 1, 2026.

From that date, the Midland campus will operate as a fully public 367-bed hospital, commencing in the 2026/27 financial year.

The new St John of God Midland Private Hospital will be a contemporary standalone facility providing high-quality private health care services when it opens in August 2026.

BAITING TO PROTECT NATIVE WILDLIFE

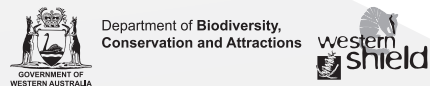
Under the Parks and Wildlife Service's *Western Shield* program, baiting to control foxes and feral cats occurs on more than three million hectares of conservation lands in Western Australia.

The baits used are toxic to introduced animals but not to native animals which have an evolved tolerance to the active compound (1080). All baited areas are signposted.

Baiting occurs on a regular and ongoing basis to protect endangered native animals including the numbat, western ground parrot and western swamp tortoise.

Attention pet owners: these baits will kill domestic dogs and cats. Baited areas must be considered dangerous for pet dogs and cats at all times.

For more information and maps on areas baited under *Western Shield* visit dbca.wa.gov.au/westernshield or contact your local Parks and Wildlife Service district office.



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Preparing for highly contagious H5 bird flu

ANITA MCINNES

THE Australian Government is preparing for a highly contagious strain of bird flu that is not in Australia yet but has spread quickly across the world, according to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water's H5 avian influenza page.

DCCEEW said while bird flu preparedness activities had been a national focus for many years, H5 bird flu had spread quickly across the world through the movement of wild birds.

"We are preparing for a possible outbreak of H5 bird flu in Australia and working collaboratively with state and territory governments, industries and the non-government sector to enhance preparedness and national response capabilities," the page said.

"Overseas outbreaks show that H5 bird flu would have significant impacts on our wildlife and agriculture industry, especially poultry and communities if it reaches Australia.

"First Nations communities may be uniquely impacted, particularly in relation to traditional hunting practices, culturally significant species and land use."

The page said government actions were focused on preparing for an outbreak and supporting biodiversity, the industries, other sectors and communities that would be affected.

In the rest of the world, the H5 avian influenza strain has caused severe disease and high death rates in wild birds, infected more

than 500 bird species from more than 25 avian orders and infected more than 60 species of mammals including seals, dairy cattle, cats, foxes, dogs and a pig.

H5 bird flu has also infected some people who worked closely with infected animals or environments contaminated with bird droppings and the ability to directly infect poultry with HPAI viruses and cause severe disease immediately (without needing to mutate).

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD), which is organising a free biosecurity workshop in September for pasture-based poultry producers, said the avian influenza risk to poultry from close contact with wild birds was well recognised.

DPIRD told *Echo News* it was unable to provide information on the number of pastured poultry producers in WA.

A DPIRD spokeswoman said good biosecurity practices were essential to reduce the risk significantly.

"Surveillance programs are in place to detect the different strains of avian influenza present in wild birds in Western Australia and Australia," she said.

"The WA poultry industry implements biosecurity measures to reduce the likelihood of the avian influenza virus being introduced to poultry properties.

"This includes segregating commercial and domesticated birds from wild birds, sanitising water and practicing good disinfection onto and off the property."



Overseas outbreaks show H5 bird flu will have significant effects on wildlife and the agricultural industry especially poultry if it reaches Australia, according to DCCEEW.

She said DPIRD continued to engage with producers to increase awareness of clinical signs of avian influenza to aid early detection and rapid response.

"These workshops will assist pastured-based poultry producers to develop a plan to implement processes, specific to their farm, to improve biosecurity."

Poultry owners are encouraged to attend a half-day workshop at the Lowery Community Hall in Bullsbrook on Monday, September 15.

Deputy chief veterinary officer Marion Seymour said the workshops would focus on biosecurity actions pasture-based poultry businesses can take to keep their flocks healthy and reduce the risk of a range of diseases, including all types of avian influenza.

"By the end of the workshop, pasture-based poultry owners will have the first draft of a biosecurity plan tailored to their property, a suite of biosecurity information and a farm biosecurity gate sign to take home," Dr Seymour said.

"Local DPIRD field veterinarians will also be on-hand to assist and answer poultry biosecurity questions."

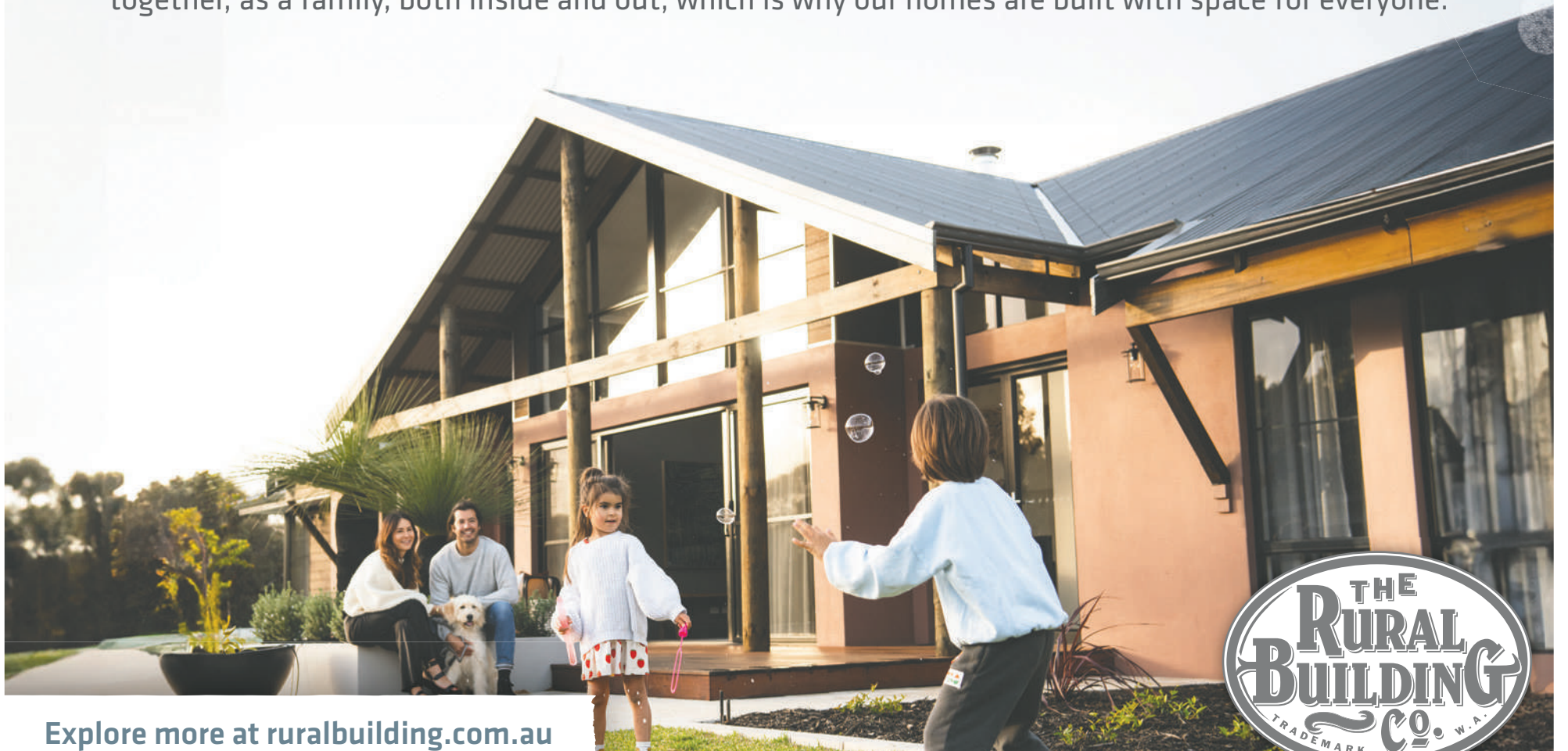
To register visit the DPIRD Eventbrite page at tinyurl.com/2urde3xs

Unusual signs of disease or mass mortalities in domesticated birds, wild birds or other wildlife should be reported as soon as possible to the emergency animal disease hotline on 1800 675 888.

The Opposition has been contacted for comment.

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Swan men run to Bluff Knoll for MS

GUANHAO CHENG

FOUR young runners from the Swan area finished a 423km ultramarathon to Bluff Knoll last week while fundraising for multiple sclerosis (MS).

Brothers Matt and Josh Fabila from Swan View, Ryan Fazzalari from Middle Swan, and Cumoram Desmond from Midvale were part of a six-man group who set out for the run from Osborne Park on August 17.

The runners, all former students of La Salle College and Governor Stirling Senior High School, faced torrential rain, thunderstorms, freezing temperatures, and injuries ranging from partially ruptured Achilles tendons to torn muscles.

Despite the challenges, the men completed the full-length run on August 22, and summited Bluff Knoll the following day, adding an additional 6.8km to the journey.

The ultramarathon raised \$13,245 for MS, exceeding their original \$10,000 target with the money to be donated to MSWA.

The run was organised by long-time friends Matt Fabila and Ryan Fazzalari through the Desires Movement Run Club, which the pair cofounded.

The club was launched in January this year, as a way to link personal development with community building and support for charitable causes.

Mr Fabila said MS was a cause close to his heart because it was a condition that affected his friend's mother, and he saw its impacts on day-to-day life.

"MS was close to me because it affected my friend's mum daily," he said.

"I saw a way to bring greater awareness to a cause close to me and felt the

cause needed greater spotlight."

Mr Fabila said the support in the Midland area was strong, with community members attending the fundraiser and businesses donating or pledging support.

"Recently retired Fremantle Dock-er Michael Walters, who always supports things in the local area, came back and hosted the fundraiser night with a Q&A panel to support local boys doing something worthwhile," he said.

Mr Fazzalari said the Desires run club welcomed new members of all abilities and offered a chance to commit to good causes.

"It wasn't just about the kilometres," he said.

"It was about proving to ourselves, and showing others, that when you commit to something bigger than yourself, the impossible becomes possible."

According to MS Australia, MS is a chronic disease affecting the brain, spinal cord and optic nerve and impacts more young people in Australia than any other chronic progressive neurological disease.

The body's own immune system mistakenly attacks the spine and breaks down the fat protecting the nerves, exposing it and slowing down the brain's signals to the rest of the body.

This can lead to difficulties walking, reduced hand and arm function, loss of sensation, pain, vision changes and changes to thinking and memory.

There is no known cure for the disease and its various types but care options to support people living with MS are available.

More information can be found at www.msaustralia.org.au

The six-man team undertook the challenge to raise funds for MS support, exceeding their target by \$3000 at the end of the trek.



Mundaring Chamber of Commerce's new direction



The Mundaring Chamber of Commerce has appointed a new committee and is inviting new members to join as they form their five-year strategic plan.

GUANHAO CHENG

THE Mundaring Chamber of Commerce has set a new course for 2025, appointing a new committee and beginning work on a five-year strategic plan shaped by member feedback.

The chamber's vice president Ronald Colijn, who runs Café Mojo in Mundaring, said members had completed two surveys to help guide priorities.

"We are creating a strategic five-year vision with the help of members, key stakeholders and the shire," he said.

"We have a goal to double our membership this year, and we are already nearly there."

Officially incorporated in 1999, the chamber provides a platform for local businesses, not-for-profits and government representatives to connect.

Mr Colijn said collaboration remained central to its growth.

"The committee consists of six enthusiastic business owners wanting to make a difference in business owners' life," he said.

"We facilitate Sundowners every month to highlight our small businesses, network and connect."

He said the chamber had also revitalised its Saturday markets in Mundaring.

"Locals love our growers and their produce at the markets," he said.

"We successfully run the Mundaring farmers' markets every Saturday showcasing our small businesses.

"Support from the Mundaring Community Bank has buoyed the chamber, which has launched a new website and is preparing 'some great ideas coming up soon,'" he said.

Mr Colijn encouraged residents and businesses to consider joining.

"It's not what we can do for you, it's what you can do for your business community," he said.

"Become a member, it's ridiculously cheap, but your membership gives us gravitas to represent you and your business community and fight for your causes.

"We are new, we are fresh, we are an exciting Mundaring Chamber."

Anyone interested in joining the Mundaring Chamber of Commerce may visit the website at www.mundaringchamber.org.au or contact Rosalba via memberships@mundaringchamber.org.au.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Draft Local Planning Policy 33 Future Forest

At its Ordinary Council Meeting on 22 July 2025, the City of Kalamunda resolved to advertise the draft Local Planning Policy 33 - Future Forest for public comment.

The draft Policy provides a clear and balanced approach to managing tree canopy cover across the City, while recognising the rights of landowners. It has been prepared following the revocation of the former Tree Retention Policy and reflects lessons learned, community expectations, and alignment with the City's environmental strategies.

A copy of the Policy is available from the City's Administration Building, Libraries or online at:

engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/FutureForest



Alternative to the survey, written submissions can be provided via:

Email: enquiries@kalamunda.wa.gov.au

Post: PO Box 42, Kalamunda WA 6926

In Person: City of Kalamunda, 2 Railway Road, Kalamunda

Comments close 5pm, Friday 24 October 2025

For further information contact the City's Strategic Planning Services team via 9257 9999 or enquiries@kalamunda.wa.gov.au

Anthony Vuleta
Chief Executive Officer



kalamunda.wa.gov.au

Social housing boost for eastern suburbs



Concept drawings of the new social and affordable housing in, from left, Malaga, Ellenbrook, and from top right Woodbridge, Bassendean and Midland.

PETER W LEWIS

THE eastern suburbs are set to benefit from one of the biggest affordable and social housing construction programs in Western Australian history as part of a state and federal government initiative to deliver 1146 new homes in the metro area, including 546 in the east.

Stage one of the program will include 197 apartments in Ellenbrook at Lot 29 in The Parkway and 56 apartments in Woodbridge at Lot 602 (No. 15) Yelverton Drive.

Stage 2 includes 120 apartments in Midland at Lot 6 Victoria Street, 100 apartments in Malaga at site 2, Ballajura Station Precinct and 73 apartments in Bassendean at Lot 9644 (no 1) Park Lane.

WA company PACT Construction will deliver developments in Ellenbrook, Bassendean, White Gum Valley, Wellard, Kelmscott, Subiaco, and Butler, delivering 501 apartments.

EMCO Building, a leading WA building company, will develop 293 apartments in Midland, Malaga and Woodbridge.

The apartments will be one and two-bedroom apartments and will be around 80 per cent affordable and 20 per cent social housing, all of which are located close to Metronet stations or high-frequency public transport corridors.

In stage 1 the 3595sqm Woodbridge site will provide 56 apartments of which 12 will be for social housing and 44 for affordable housing, with 20 one-bed apartments at 55sqm and 36 two-bed apartments at 67sqm over four storeys and 39 residential parking bays and 10 for visitors.

Stage 1 in the 16,858sqm Ellenbrook site will see the construction of 197 apartments with 20 per cent allocated to social housing (40) and 167 to affordable housing, with 83 one-bed 54sqm apartments and 114 two-bed 66-69sqm apartments over three storeys with 120 residential parking bays.

Stage 2 in Midland at Lot 6 Victoria Street on a 5240sqm site will provide 120 apartments, of which 24 will be allo-

cated to social housing and 96 for affordable housing, with 20 one-bed 50-62sqm apartments and 90 two-bed 66-72sqm apartments over four to six storeys with provision for 67 residential parking bays.

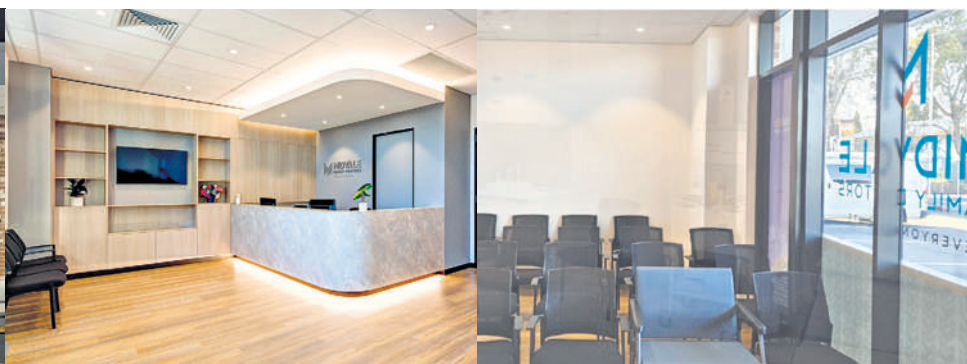
Also in stage 2, the 4500sqm Malaga site will cater for 100 apartments with 20 for social housing and the remaining 80 for affordable housing, with 34 53-57sqm one-bed apartments and 66 two-bed 68-79sqm apartments over seven storeys with 66 residential car bays, 14 visitor bays and eight commercial bays.

The Stage 2 Bassendean site at 3363sqm will provide 73 apartments with 15 allocated for social housing and the remaining 58 apartments for social housing, with 26 one-bed 53-56sqm and 48 two-bed 71-77sqm apartments over nine storeys with 43 residential and 11 visitor car bays.

Construction on the first project is set to commence in the first quarter of 2026, with the build time of each project expected to take between 16 and 30 months.



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Swan sets strategic direction for next decade



The City of Swan's strategic plan 2025-2035 sets out its priorities and goals for the next decade.

CITY of Swan council has endorsed its new strategic community plan (SCP) 2025-2035, setting out a bold community-led vision for the next 10 years.

The plan outlines the city's priorities and goals across all areas of local government, protecting the natural environment to supporting economic growth, boosting wellbeing, and building places where people truly feel at home – the SCP will guide every decision, service and advocacy effort over the next 10 years.

The SCP reflects the city's most extensive in-house community engagement campaign to date.

Over 14 weeks, more than 3400 people engaged and shared their views at 45 events across 42 suburbs, with a wide cross-section of our community and residents from all our suburbs contributing their thoughts and aspirations.

City of Swan Mayor Tanya Richardson said the strong community response was instrumental in shap-

ing the new SCP, representing a genuine expression of local aspirations.

"Our community told us what matters most to them, and we listened," she said.

"This was the largest community consultation we've conducted, and it has captured the diversity, energy and passion that defines the City of Swan – it is truly our community's plan for the future."

The SCP 2025-2035 is built around five key result areas:

- Natural environment – protecting and restoring our ecosystems, growing green spaces, conserving waterways, and leading in sustainability and climate adaptation.
- Social – fostering safety, inclusivity and cultural expression, while investing in youth services, events, public health, and spaces that connect people.
- Built environment – shaping sustainable growth for a population expected to exceed 220,000 by 2035, creating inviting public spaces, preserving heritage and delivering high-quality infrastructure and transport.
- Economic – driving local business growth, boosting tourism in the Swan Valley, creating diverse local job opportunities and activating vibrant commercial hubs.
- Governance – leading with transparency, advocacy and exceptional services, while ensuring every action delivers lasting value for the community.

Mayor Richardson said the plan reflects a shared vision and long-term commitment to building a connected and resilient community.

"We are proud to serve one of Western Australia's fastest-growing and diverse local governments," she said.

"This plan ensures that as our city continues to grow, we do so in a way that is inclusive, connected and sustainable.

"Our goal is to make the City of Swan an even better place to live, work and visit for both current residents and for generations to come."

The SCP will be delivered through various strategies and plans, aligning with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals to contribute to a global vision for a better future.

To read the SCP go to www.swan.wa.gov.au

Paws at home, wildlife thrives.

Roaming cats can harm local wildlife. The City of Kalamunda is introducing humane trapping in sensitive areas to reduce the impact of uncontained cats.

Keep your cat safe and compliant:

- Keep them indoors or contained
- Register, microchip, sterilise & ID
- It's the law – Cat Local Law 2023

Let's protect our pets and our environment.

kalamunda.wa.gov.au



ECHO 1985-2025 NEWS



Echo News celebrates 40 years

ECHO News has now turned 40 and remains one of the few independent suburban newspaper survivors, owned and largely staffed by local people.



Many of the original *Echo* staff celebrate the 1st birthday in 1986. Picture MIDLAND PHOTOGRAPHERS



Echo News owners and staff in August 2025.

From humble beginnings...

IN August, 1985, the then *Midland-Kalamunda Echo* published its first edition out of an old house in Keane Street, previously the home of pastors who had preached at the long-ago demolished church, which once stood on the vacant land next door.

The *Echo* has been going ever since. Today, the old house is gone, and so too are some of the staff who once served the *Echo* so well, including journalist, the late Peter Stoner and one of our founders the late Giovanni Stefanelli.

However, while the house was demolished to make way for the multi-storey Swan District Masonic Centre on The Avenue in Midland, the *Midland-Kalamunda Echo*, now *Echo News*, lives on with new staff, many of them local.

Ironically, the *Echo* office today is in almost the same location as where it started.

The entrance to the car park sits roughly where the office once stood, while the new office is located virtually on the footprint of the original church, on the ground floor of the Midland Pro-

fessional Centre.

Even a fire in 1992, and a flood two years ago, didn't stop the paper coming out.

Despite early copies of the paper and other records going up in smoke, in the 1992 fire staff continued to work out of the little office in Keane Street to ensure readers got their weekly local newspaper.

Something the *Echo News* team does to this day.

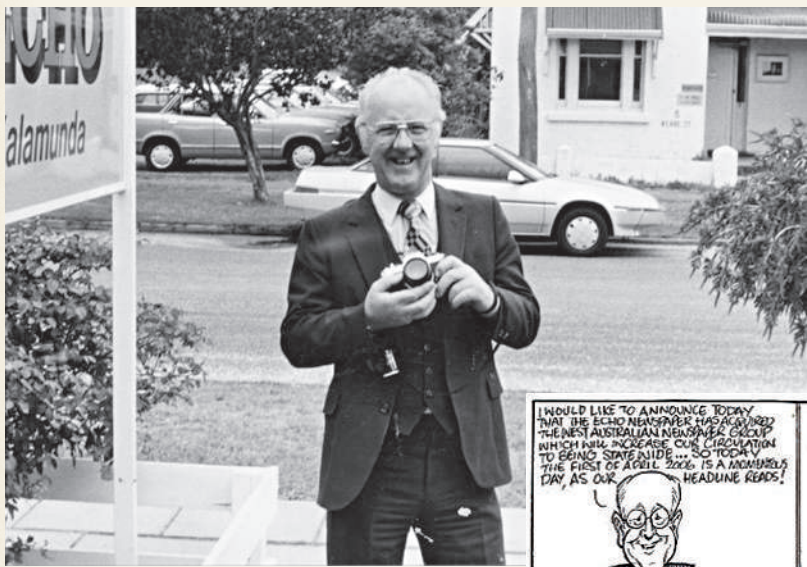


ECHO NEWS 1985-2025

Echo's from the past



On August 5, 1985, The Midland-Kalamunda ECHO published its first edition



Allen Cannell who started the paper back in 1985 with the support of several Midland businessmen.



The Echo grows from humble start

BACK in 1985 Allen Cannell was confident that a venture between himself, several Midland businessmen and a handful of staff would lead to a new independently owned local newspaper. Still going strong 40 years later, it is one of the few independent suburban newspapers which has managed to keep its leadership and ownership local.

Allen, along with office manager Elsie Gibson, decided to break away from the suburban newspaper group they were working on to start a new paper.

Sales representative Di Gardiner and journalists George Temple and Adele Lang joined them, the latter juggling twin roles as the paper's cadet and receptionist.

Their financial backers were a posse of prominent Midland businessmen – Giovanni Stefanelli, Bruce Cullam, Jack McShane and Albert Di Lallo – with Allen also holding a share in Birkenhead, the paper's parent company.

The majority of the staff were once employed by The Midland-Kalamunda Reporter.

Allen is out of the newspaper game, having retired in 2006 when he also sold his shares to Lane Taylor, who has been the company's accountant since 1991.

Out of the original shareholders, only Bruce Cullam remains, while Giovanni 'John' Stefanelli's son Joe remains as a director.

Allen fondly recalls those early dramatic days of the Echo's inception.

"It was an absolute miracle that we got that first paper out," he said.

Originally from Liverpool, he had migrated to Australia and worked his way up to managerial level in former WA department store, Boans, before landing a job at Comment News, where he developed his fascination with the newspaper industry.

A natural salesman, he quickly learned the ropes and was at the top of his game when he launched the *Echo*, named after the newspaper in his former home city.

Allen was the first with a smile, loved a laugh and had an open door policy to the many local people who swarmed into the little office at 7 Keane Street in Midland, with stories to tell, axes to grind, wedding and baby photos to share, or merely to have 'a cuppa tea and a bun' and a chat with him and his staff.

His humour extended to the newspaper, one example being a cartoon with him as a caricature announcing, "the *Echo Newspaper* has acquired The West Australian Newspaper Group which will increase our circulation to being statewide." The date was April 1, 2006.

Journalist George Temple, who lived in the area and was only 21-years-old when he took on the role of senior reporter, remembers it well.

Back then, the 'journalists' wrote their stories on a typewriter from a sleepout at the back of the house, which was boiling in summer and freezing in winter.

How times have changed, with the *Echo* now housed in modern offices on the ground floor of the Midland Professional Centre on The Avenue, Midland.

From the GM and Editor's desk

AS the *Echo News* enters its 40th year of publishing I am proud to be part of an independent and locally owned newspaper that with support from advertisers and readers alike will be around for years to come.

As a long-time journalist and former newspaper proprietor myself that has owned and operated four newspapers over the years, I believe in the importance of independent journalism and local newspapers.

While we face continued competition from social media advertising, many advertisers continue to see the value in advertising in local newspapers away from the world of constant scams and misinformation.

Since I began at the *Echo* more than two and a half years ago we have worked to bring the paper to the digital age and our website now attracts more than 1.4 million interactions a year from more than 312,000 active users.

The *Echo News* website is now a living archive of community news, celebrations and achievements with readers now able to go

through past digital editions and stories that provide a chronological database of local news, entertainment, community information, special reports, investigative journalism and sport that continues to grow each week.

On behalf of my team, I would like to thank our advertisers and readers for their continued support.

The *Echo News* hopes to be a part of our local communities in the cities of Swan and Kalamunda, and shires of Mundaring, Chittering, Northam and York and Town of Bassendean for many years to come.



Peter W Lewis

*Peter W Lewis
General Manager/Editor Echo News*

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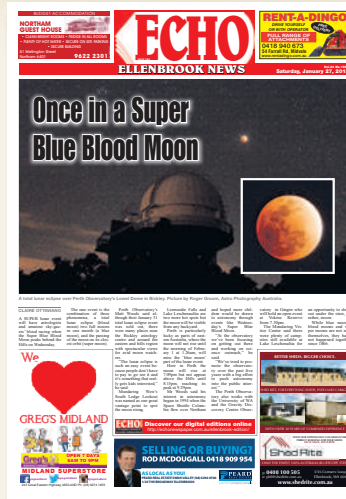
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ECHO NEWS 1985-2025

Echo's from the past



40 years on the Echo News is still going strong supporting the community

Giovanni Stefanelli - a proud founder

GIOVANNI Stefanelli was one of the original financial backers of *Echo News* and his family remains so today.

In 2015 the well-known and successful businessman, who came to the Swan Valley from Italy in 1950, was proud that *Echo News* was still going after 30 years.

While 25-year-old Mr Stefanelli could not speak English when he first arrived to Australian shores, his strong work ethic and willingness to learn helped him and brothers Tony and Pasquale buy their first property in Middle Swan, a sawmill on Great Northern Highway.

Since then the Stefanelli family has built itself around the framework of Midland.

Mr Stefanelli was a founding member of the Swan Chamber of Commerce and together with Allen Cannell started *Echo News* in 1985.

He built and served as president of the Swan Italian Club and was chairperson of the Midland College of TAFE, among countless other roles

across a lifetime spent in Midland.

In 2019, he was named as an honorary Freeman of the City of Swan and was extremely honoured by the title.

He was also known for being very generous with his successes, his \$1 million donation to build the Midland Oval Weep Park playground just one example.

Mr Stefanelli celebrated his 90th birthday in the same year as *Echo News* turned 30.

Sadly Mr Stefanelli was not here to celebrate *Echo News* 40th as he died in February 2022.



Echo launched in the boomtown 80s

THE launch of *Echo News* forty years ago in August 1985 was set against a backdrop of Perth as a boomtown in the 80s, an era when bigger was better, in everything from business and politics through to fashion.

Back then big hair, big shoulder pads and big beer barns and Sunday sessions were all in fashion.

Bigger-than-life-businessmen, including the likes of Alan Bond, who was still flying high from his 1983 win of the America's Cup, and politicians, such as Brian Burke, whose Labor ministry was then in power, were influencing the fortunes of WA.

Perth had a population of 983,400 (now 2,384,000 and growing with almost 26,000 extra people last year alone), the City of Swan, around 37,000, (now estimated to be 172,000), Kalamunda Shire had around 40,000 (now around 64,000), Mundaring Shire around 24,000, (now just over 42,500), and The Town of Bassendean, 14,626 (now 16,600).

Then Prime Minister, Bob Hawke, and his deputy Paul Keating had just deregulated home loan rates - the average home loan interest rates was 13 per cent and the median house price was just over \$52,000. It is now a whopping \$869,689.

Madonna's hit Crazy for You was number one on the Australian music charts, Michael Jackson was gearing up to visit Perth for Telethon, and the Burswood Island Casino, now the Crown, was due to open later that year.

Politically, the *Echo* area was well represented with Mundaring MLA Gavan Troy and Helena MLA Gordon Hill.

Charlie Gregorini was Swan Shire president,



Tom Broz and Dr RF Waugh held the top seats at Mundaring, Peter Marjoram presided over Kalamunda Shire, JB Cox was Bassendean mayor and Clarrie McCreed chief executive officer.

When it came to shopping in Midland, you got your groceries and alcohol from Knox's (now First Choice Liquor), and later *Echo News*' part-owner Bruce Cullam's Bi-Lo, and your meat from Vince Garreffa at Mondo's, before he had become the celebrity butcher of today following the expansion of his empire.

For a live music fix, there were the classic old pubs, The Council Club Hotel, The Midland Inn (the former Railway Hotel), and The Stockman Hotel.

Sadly, all of those historic old pubs were later destroyed by fire, except for The Council Club - which went up in flames in 1999 - being the only one left standing.

Now 7th Avenue Bar and Restaurant, you can still see the original name on the building, once at the heart of old Midland.



The City of Kalamunda congratulates The Echo on 40 years of serving our community!

Thank you for four decades of telling our stories, connecting our community, and being a trusted voice in the region. Here's to many more years of partnership and local storytelling.

kalamunda.wa.gov.au



ECHO NEWS 1985-2025

Echo's from the past



Geoff Stribley.

Have a laugh with cartoonist Geoff Stribley

GEOFF Stribley has done illustrative work for *Echo News* since its inception with his first cartoons appearing in 1990.

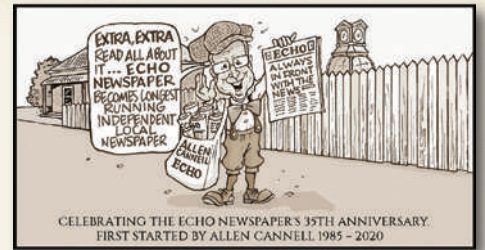
This week on search for his first cartoon for *Echo News* he went back as far back as 1995 but there were heaps more in the very big box of cartoons.

"I probably have the very first cartoon but the box is big and there is hundreds of papers in there so it will be a journey to go through them, so I dug down as far as I could and found some samples of the early cartoons," he said.

"I found one of the Midland

"Gulliver" themed cartoons from 1997.

"I don't think it was the first one but in the end there were three or four cartoons in this series, all the same picture but with different people with all sorts of ideas to better Midland around the sleeping Midland giant."



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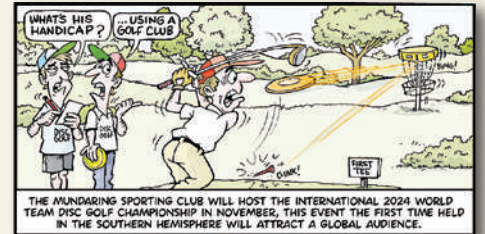
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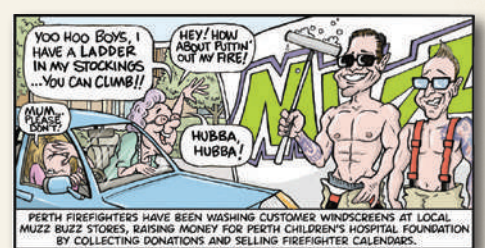
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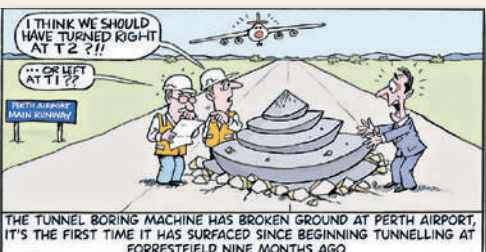
AUGUST 30, 2024



FEBRUARY 24, 2018



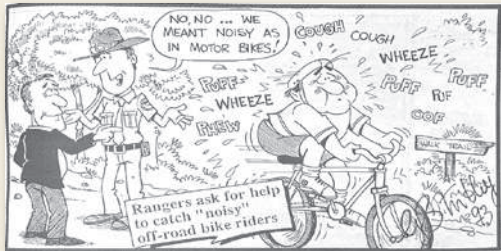
DECEMBER 22, 2023



MAY 19, 2018



JULY 8, 2000



APRIL 4, 1993



NOVEMBER 18, 2017

Echo News supporting the Swan Chamber of Commerce

SLW Transport is a family-owned business operated by Shane and Leanne Willcox located in High Wycombe specialising in containers, imports/exports, heavy haulage and fuel tank deliveries.

We continue to support the *Echo News*, based in Midland, and celebrate their commitment and staying power for 40 years' serving our community, both local

and beyond. Peter W Lewis and his team show an unwavering passion to bring real stories and news both digitally and hard copy, weekly to our communities.

Echo News is a huge supporter of the Swan Chamber of Commerce, as they continue to support small business and awaken peoples potential within the City of Swan and surrounding

areas. They also cover our monthly Hour of Power, a free Leadership and Personal Development workshop, held locally at the Crooked Spire Art House and Café in Midland.

SLW are grateful for the *Echo News*. So, subscribe now and pick up a copy from your local news agent in your area.

Shane and Lee Wilcox

ABS Auto – family focused team supporting Echo News

At ABS Auto Midland, we're more than just a mechanic, we're a family-focused team you can trust to keep your car running safely and smoothly.

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the school run, work commute, or a weekend road trip, you deserve peace of mind knowing your car has been serviced by mechanics who genuinely care. Our team provides clear advice, transparent pricing, and high-quality workmanship on every job, no surprises, no hidden costs.

From logbook servicing & brake repairs to diagnostics and maintenance, we treat

every car as if it were our own. We take the time to explain what's needed, so you stay in control of your decisions.

We've had an ongoing relationship with the *Echo newspaper* and proudly support this local institution and intend to continue our sponsorship for many years to come.

Happy Birthday *Echo News*.

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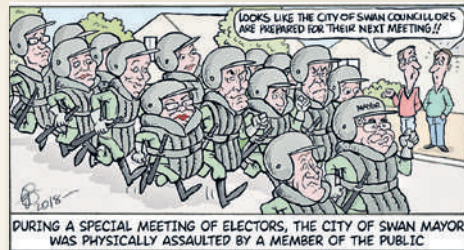
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ECHO NEWS 1985-2025

Echo's from the past



MARCH 28, 2025



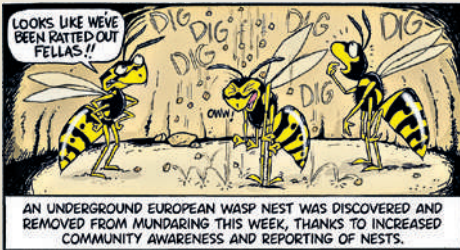
JUNE 23, 2018



DECEMBER 21, 2019



JULY 30, 2021



MARCH 9, 2019



APRIL 17, 1994

“I want to give a shout out to the Echo”

Echo News interviewed Michael Walters about his memories of and connections to the Midland area at the beginning of August.

Mr Walters said he remembered the newspaper since childhood and appreciated the coverage given to rising community members and stories.

“I want to give a shout out to the newspaper,” he said.

“Obviously, it’s been a newspaper that has been out since I was a kid and beyond.

You guys are shining a lot on the local talent and the local area and what happens around there.

“I still remember them to this day when I played state football – they interviewed me and they always made me feel special so just a huge shout out to Echo News.”



Echo News keeps us smiling at Foothills Denture

AT Foothills Denture Clinic, denture repairs can be done while you wait, and denture relines are usually a same day service.

Father and daughter team Malcolm and Raynee McArthur are both dental prosthetists, licensed to make all dentures including part acrylic and metal dentures.

The clinic is a Medibank Private Members Choice Provider and an HBF Members Plus Provider.

Rebates are available from all other health funds and we also deal with Veterans Affairs and offer pensioner discounts.

Special arrangements can be made for country clients

to reduce the number of visits.

The team are happy to discuss any difficulty or query you may have with your denture – free of charge – and offer a professional service at a reasonable price.

For a free quote call 9250 1733.

WA Safety Products stand by the Echo’s side

WA Safety Products is thrilled to extend our warmest congratulations to Echo News on an impressive 40 years of serving our community.

For the past 16 years, we have proudly stood by your side, supporting your mission and sharing our commitment to safety, local business, and community impact.

As a West Australia-

lian-owned safety business based in Midland since 2008, we understand the importance of upholding Australian Safety Standards and providing excellent customer service.

Our partnership with Echo News has been a cornerstone of our journey, allowing us to reach and connect with our community in meaningful ways.

As you celebrate your

anniversary, know that WA Safety Products is here to continue our unwavering support.

Together, we have made a difference, and together, we will continue to prioritize safety, empower local businesses, and enhance the fabric of our community.

Here’s to 40 years of excellence, growth, and shared values, thank you.

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ECHO NEWS 1985-2025

Echo's from the past



A lifetime of growing grapes in the Swan Valley

Charlie Zannino came to the Swan Valley when he was a child and has lived there ever since.



ANITA McINNES

IN 1985, the year Echo News was first published, a Swan Valley policy was prepared by the then state government (the Burke government) with the intent of protecting the rural character of the valley and encouraging the potential of the area for tourism, recreation, and environmental conservation.

Herne Hill resident Charlie Zannino, whose father left Italy to bring his young family to Australia due to the lack of opportunity/ work available, knows a lot about planning and development in the Swan Valley.

He has a background in viticulture and knows a thing or two about growing good grapes for making wine.

When his family first arrived in Australia Mr Zannino's father worked in Kalgoorlie but didn't want to work underground in the mines so the only work he could get was out in the wood line cutting timber for the mines and the power house and that was about 100 miles out from Kalgoorlie.

Then in 1953 his father visited Perth where he asked one of his cousins who already had a property in the Swan Valley if there was any property he could buy because his oldest daughters were school age and there was no real appropriate school out in the bush.

His father got a bank loan to buy the property his cousin said was available and they've been on the same property ever

since.

Once the family moved to the valley his father ended up getting a job in the Midland Railway workshops.

He worked full-time at the railway workshops for more than 18 years which meant he could only work on the property on the weekends and after work.

When his father bought the Herne Hill property it had a few vines there – mainly dry fruit currants and it had a shed which was used for the dry fruit.

"It had – well back then they called it a house but nowadays you wouldn't even call it a shed it was just a corrugated iron building and there was no running water.

"There was no power we just had a kerosene lamp for lighting and we had to get water from a rainwater tank and we had to live in that for nearly 10 years.

"Back then there was no real demand for wine grapes so he basically planted currants and sultanas.

"But he planted some wine grapes simply because he wanted to make his own wine and once the grapes started producing he started making his own wine just for family purposes and then he'd give a bit away to different people."

People would ask where he got the wine from and when he would say he had made it himself they would want to buy some.

"It just grew from there where he started making a bit more just to give to friends and then he started selling some and slowly over the years it grew more and more.

Mr Zannino said when he left school he had two options he could go on to university or get a job but being the only son with four sisters he had been helping his father in the vineyard because when they first moved on to the place they didn't have a tractor they just had a draft horse for the cultivating.

"I decided to basically stay on the property and carry on the vineyard because dad couldn't do it on his own basically having two jobs.

"Mum did a lot of work on the vineyard during the week while dad was at the workshops and it was very difficult for her.

"Then I was basically the one that said to dad 'There's a lot of work but not a lot of money in currants and table grapes so I decided we'll take a different tack and start pulling the currants out and planting wine grapes and I've been on the vineyard ever since."

Last week in his acceptance speech Faber Vineyard owner John Griffiths, whose CBP 2023 won best table wine of show at the 2025 Swan Valley Winemakers awards, said the wine had been made from grapes grown on Mr Zannino's property.

"I wasn't expecting to be acknowledged because generally just because it's your grapes once you sell it it belongs to whoever buys it but yeah it was a great honour for me to think well okay yeah I'm obviously producing good quality grapes to make top quality wine."

Mr Zannino was elected to council (Shire of Swan) in 1987 but he had started taking

an interest in what was happening planning wise in the Swan Valley earlier in the 80s when he was in his 30s.

"There was a huge issue with back then it was known as Pioneer Quarry now it's changed hands but there were problems with all the blasting and it was cracking houses," he said.

"There was dust and noise – it was just out of control."

Some of the residents who lived close by were trying to get something done about it and someone contacted the media with one of the TV stations wanting to come out and do an interview.

"Someone involved contacted me and asked me if I would do their interview because none of them wanted to do it.

"So I thought yeah no problem I'll do it so I did an interview and then there were other issues so I then decided to nominate for council.

"It's not something that I was expecting to win I was still you know reasonably young and nobody really knew me but I thought I'll just put my name down see what happens and then maybe next time but lo and behold to my surprise I was elected – first elected on the council back in 1987."

In the years he has been involved with the council and local and state government he has also twice served as the mayor, been a state candidate and is currently a Swan Valley Gidgegannup ward councillor and also represents the City of Swan on the Swan Valley statutory planning committee.

Echo News: a voice for community stories

SWAN Chamber of Commerce president Mike Match says Echo News has been interwoven into the community for 40 years and has been a voice for community stories.

"The Echo has been part of the fabric of our community for 40 years and continues to be a strong voice for local people and local stories," he said.

"The Swan Chamber of Commerce has enjoyed a close working relationship with the Echo and we are proud to celebrate this milestone with them.

"Congratulations to the Echo on 40 years of keeping our community connected.

"We look forward to seeing them thrive for the next 40 years and beyond."



Mike Match.

Local businesses helping each other to grow

We'd like to congratulate the Echo newspaper on celebrating 40 years!

As a small, family-owned and operated business, we've been proud to advertise with the Echo for many years.

Their support has been invaluable in helping our Garden centre and Arborist business grow and reach our local community.

It means a lot to us to work with another locally owned business that truly

understands the importance of community connection.

Thank you, Echo, for all you've done for local businesses like ours – and here's to many more years ahead!

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ECHO NEWS 1985-2025

Echo's from the past



Noonan wins Cody Steele Medal

BRIAN PALLISTER HILLSBROOK and Mandarling players and supporters lined up for the Last Post and the raising of the Old as a tribute to the 100th anniversary of Anzac Day.

Scott Noonan was proving a handful for the Mandarling forwards, with Darren Nelson and James Edwards continually driving the ball deep into the Hillsbrook forward line.

Mandarling not to be outdone produced some good footy of their own in the second quarter to reduce the half time lead to three points.

Tom Costen and James Harley were on top in the middle of the ground and Tom Casey was a good target in front of goal.

The third quarter was an even tussle although Hillsbrook managed to dominate the scoreboard 9.11 (65) to 8.8 (56) giving them a lead



Hills footy a regular in Sports since 2015

HILLS Football Association (HFA) was approached by Echo News in 2015 to find out if they would be interested in providing a weekly seasonal match report to be included in the sports section of the newspaper.

HFA president Brian Pallister said since then the association had received valuable exposure with game write ups reaching the broader community.

"We quite often get positive feedback from people who have read a write up," he said. "We have others asking for copies of photos which have been included."

Mr Pallister said the HFA was formed in 1946 in an attempt to offer people in the hills area some sort of connection and outlet after six years of the country being at war.

"It initially consisted of clubs from towns along the then rail line.

"Families would often travel by train to opposition towns – where they were greeted by tin sheds and dirt grounds – to enjoy a game of football in a family atmosphere."

The first grand final was won by Chidlow, who defeated Sawyers Valley.

Journalist says her job connected her to the community

ANITA McINNES



WHEN Rashelle Predovnik's parents bought 9ha in the Swan Valley years ago the land was still cheap and the valley was alive with Yugoslav and Italian families making their own new beginnings.

She went to Herne Hill Primary and in her world the Swan Athletic Club was the centre of the universe.

"There is a wonderful community in the Swan Valley where families have lived for generations and I relied heavily on that local knowledge, as a senior journalist for the *Echo*," she said.

Prior to this her parents had encouraged her to enrol in a secretarial college so she'd have some qualifications after she left school at 15 and worked part-time at Hungry Jack's in Midland.

"Learning to type turned out to be the skill I'm most grateful for – it opened doors, gave me work wherever I travelled, and carried me through years living interstate and overseas.

"I spent eight years in London before returning to Perth in 2003 with three suitcases, a baby and the realisation that it was time to stop deferring my journalism degree.

"I wanted to create a stable home for my daughter, so I bought a house in Midland and committed myself to finishing my studies."

In 2011 she had two job offers on the same day.

"One was with the Curtin University Business School in their marketing and communications team – a role that promised security and a bigger pay check.

"The other was at *Echo News*."

"On paper, the choice seemed obvious but in my heart, I knew I wanted to be a journalist. So I chose the *Echo* and looking back, it was the best decision I've ever made.

"That choice didn't just give me a job – it gave me a purpose and it connected me to this community in a way that changed my life forever."

Rashelle Predovnik grew up in the Swan Valley and travelled and worked overseas before returning home to study journalism. Picture: Anita McInnes

Ms Predovnik said working at *Echo News* changed her.

"I didn't grow up in a family of volunteers.

"My parents kept to themselves, and with no extended family in Australia, community wasn't really part of my world.

"That changed when I started working at the *Echo*."

"Suddenly, my inbox was filled every day with stories of people who gave their time, skills and energy to something bigger than themselves.

"I was inspired by the people I interviewed.

"Their love for the community slowly became my own.

"Over time, it felt like a partnership – I gave them a voice through my writing and in return, their example taught me the value of service, of connection, of building something that lasts beyond ourselves.

"Covering council stories for the *Echo* also lit a fire in me. That passion led me to run for the City of Swan council in 2017 (the same year I left the *Echo*).

"I didn't win that first time, but I learned so much from the experience.

"I came back stronger, and in 2019, I was elected to council – a journey that started with the community stories I was privileged to tell during my time at the *Echo*."

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ECHO NEWS 1985-2025

Echo's from the past



Gerry Coleman letter writer since 2013



Gerry Coleman

GERRY Coleman of Bassendean, who first had a letter published in *Echo News* on November 9 2013, is still an occasional letter-writer.

One of Mr Coleman's favourite topics is the suburb's state heritage listed red pillar post box and while trying to get it heritage listed he enlisted the help of *Echo News*.

Recently he gave *Echo News* a heads up that next year is the red pillar post box's 150th anniversary.

Mr Coleman said in 2015 he nominated the post box for placement on the WA state heritage register and was successful in 2018.

"It is registered as the longest continuously used red pillar post box in WA and most probably other accolades Australia wide," he said.

"This iconic town post box on the corner of Surrey Street and North Road, is revered and admired by the whole community which may have been used by convicts (post box is adjacent to the last remaining pensioner guard cottage in Perth) and many dignitaries were living in close proximity and although only standing 1300mm (4' 3"), small & simple just like myself) this little gem has a lot of history to offer in particular to our younger generation who don't use snail mail

anymore and perhaps this could be an opportunity for educational purposes.

"Local primary schools will be approached to run a drawing-painting competition to commemorate this fantastic milestone."

On two occasions in the 1970s Australia post attempted to remove the box, once coming under the cover of darkness and hurriedly removing much to the ire and scorn of the local community.

"It was returned a couple of days later."

He said Bassendean MLA Dave Kelly was interested in celebrating with the community as is Heritage Minister Simone McGurk, Hasluck MHR Tania Lawrence and the Town of Bassendean, who he said would most probably be proactive in taking initiative.

"As it is an Australia Post asset I've also approached their philatelic research team and nominated our pillar post box to feature on a stamp because of its uniqueness.

"As new stamps are issued in 18-month cycle there will not be one for the anniversary year but will be considered in conjunction with other notable red pillar post box around the country thereafter."



Former Echo journalist Sarah Brookes.

Award winning journalist

Former *Echo Newspaper* journalist Sarah Brookes won the top gong at WA Media Awards in 2016 for the Best Three Stories in a Suburban newspaper.

Judges said Ms Brookes' stories were revelatory, well-written and highly relevant to its audience.

- Investigations into the NBN rollout NBN tower invasion, (*Echo News*, June 4, 2016)
- Feral pigs on the move (*Echo News*, April 2, 2016)
- Clinic axed from Midland Hospital (*Echo News*, December 19, 2015)

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ECHO NEWS 1985-2025

Echo's from the past



Guildford history drives researcher

Guildford historical researcher Barbara Dundas. Picture: Echo News

GUILDFORD historical researcher Barbara Dundas is always someone willing to look into the past and try to preserve memories, events and things.

This week Echo News asked Mrs Dundas for some help in finding information about events happening in 1985 when the newspaper was first published.

She came up with snippets of information including the Midland football club celebrating its 40th anniversary and that by 1985 the Guildford Grammar war memorial was showing signs of wear so the school engaged the services of an architect to clean and restore it with the restoration work completed in time for the 1986 Anzac service.

In 1985 the Shire of Swan and the Department of Planning developed the Guildford design and development guidelines, the state government approved electrification of suburban railways, the City of Perth Skyworks started and also in that year Midland Brick purchased Whiteman's, with the two pioneering family companies combining to become one of Australia's leading brick makers.

In 1985 Mrs Dundas organised with the Shire of Swan a street parade and a formal unveiling of the plough now located at the south end of Fauntleroy Park.

She said school children attended and there were cuddly farm animals and 100 pigeons were released.

Over the years Mrs Dundas has also done things such as coordinating a project with oth-

er members of the Guildford Association over some years to identify the surviving homes of Anzacs and tell the stories of soldiers who lived in them as reported in Poppy trail tells Anzac stories (Echo News, April 28, 2023).

"The aim of the project was to create another means of exploring Guildford's history and a means of presenting it to young and old, the other purpose was to bring together material that just hadn't been assembled before," she said.

The association had specific criteria when selecting the soldiers, they had to have lived in, attended school, or worshipped in Guildford.

"That meant that when we were searching through records this provided the parameters.

"At that time Guildford only had about 500 homes and we have identified over 700 men, so some homes had four or five sons that went off to war.

"To realise the impact it had on the town, the number of people with associations to this little town and to realise the pain of the families was eye-opening."

In 2005 Mrs Dundas presented a paper titled The Historic Town of Guildford - Between Sea and Scarp at the National Garden History Conference in 2005.

She said the town on the Swan coastal plain was developed as one of the first three towns settled in the Swan River Colony, (together with Perth and Fremantle) on the banks of the Swan River.

VVRA thanks the Echo News

ON behalf of The Vines Residents and Ratepayers Association, we wish to acknowledge three recent Echo News publications.

These are *The Vines Opposition continues* pages 1, 3 and 17 of Echo News, June 20, *Development assessment panels explained* pages 1 and 4 and *Perth Hills and Swan Valley tourism promises kept?* page 3, both published in Echo News, June 27.

Thank you for these stories.



Echo News has been invaluable to Amaroo Retreat & Spa

Advertising with Echo News has been an invaluable experience for Amaroo Retreat & Spa.

As a locally owned and operated business, we are passionate about connecting with our community, and the Echo team has provided us with the perfect platform to do so.

From the very beginning, Karon has gone above and beyond to understand our

brand, our story, and our vision.

Her personalised approach, professionalism, and genuine care have made the process seamless and highly effective.

The results of our campaigns have been outstanding—helping us reach new audiences, strengthen brand recognition, and welcome more guests to experience the tranquility of

Amaroo.

We also deeply value Echo News' commitment to highlighting local stories and supporting businesses like ours.

Congratulations on 40 years of excellence. We look forward to continuing this wonderful partnership for many more years to come.

— Amaroo Retreat & Spa

Hills Seafood congratulates Echo's role in the community

"Congratulations to the Echo Newspaper team on your 40th anniversary!

As a proud local business, Hillseafood Supplies Mundaring has always valued the vital role you play in our community.

Your commitment to de-

livering accurate news and stories that resonate with locals has kept us informed and connected.

Over the years, your support for local businesses like ours has been invaluable, helping us thrive in a competitive market.

We appreciate your dedication to highlighting local events, initiatives, and the vibrant spirit of the Hills.

Here's to many more years of excellence in journalism!

Cheers to the Echo Newspaper!" Fernando Smilovitis



Swan Chamber of Commerce Business Awards 2025 winner 'HOSPITALITY'

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ECHO NEWS 1985-2025

Echo's from the past



ECHO NEWS Blasts from the past

Sep 2018



• Strawberry producers in Bullsbrook and the Swan Valley were starting to feel the pinch after copy-cat incidents of Queensland's needle contamination began to spiral out of control, with a Bullsbrook producer forced to install \$600,000 worth of food security measures. (Producers in pain as strawberry crisis spreads, Echo News, September 22 2018).



Feb 2017

• Footy clubs are worried they will lose their identity if West Australian Football Commission merger plans proceed. (Fighting for survival, Echo News, February 4 2017).

Feb 2009

• Local sculptor, Ron Gomboc with the monument he created to commemorate the late actor, Heath Ledger. (Legend honoured, Echo News, February 28 2009).



May 2003

• It's show time: Jarryd Ziedas, 5, his brother Kobee, 2, Sam Gregorovich, 15, and Rikki Ziedas, 10, all of Pickering Brook. (It's all apples for Pickering Brook Show, Echo News, May 3 2003).



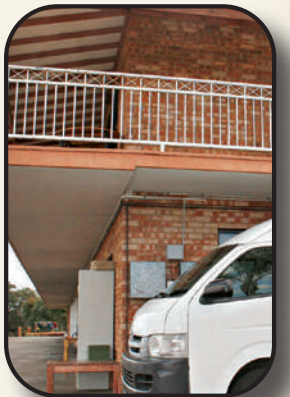
Jan 2023



• A Baudin's black cockatoo (left) and a Carnaby's black cockatoo (right) share a bird bath but their habits differ when it comes to nesting boxes. (Helping hands for Carnaby's Echo News, January 13 2023).

Aug 2015

• An application by Western Australian Shalom Group to allow a drug and alcohol rehabilitation dwelling for men in Henley Brook has been rejected by the City of Swan. (Rehab house rejected, Echo News, August 15 2015).



Feb 2021



• Rob Robson surveys his Tilden Drive property with Lillie Road neighbour Ben Murphy the pink bell-shaped lily flowers shot up on Tilden Drive resident Rob Robson's property this week in what he called, the first signs of life returning after the Wooroloo Fires. (Out of the ashes Echo News, February 26 2021).

Thank you Echo News for keeping us busy

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we will do our very best to make it happen.

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With the help of the Echo Newspaper, the only local independent newspaper, our regular adverts in the paper keep us busy and part of the local area.

Echo News: Thanks for your support through the years

ANNIVERSARIES are wonderful occasions.

We mark milestones, celebrate achievements and remember good times all while trying to forget we are growing older.

Grace Baptist Church

will celebrate its 13th anniversary in September and throughout the years Echo News has supported us through advertising and editorials.

Weddings have been celebrated and milestones re-

membered.

Our first long-time members came as a result of an advertisement in the Echo News and many people have commented on our advertisements and editorials.

ECHO NEWS

1985-2025



Echo's from the past



Dec 2019

•Darren Brown in front of the works, just metres from the golf course. (*Interchange tree trauma troubles golfers, Echo News, December 14 2019*).

•The City of Kalamunda is calling on residents to sign up to its new community register to help amid the COVID-19 pandemic. (*Driveway drinks lift spirits, Echo News, April 3 2020*).



Apr 2020



Sep 2016

• Many students from a primary school are missing class with dozens of suspected and confirmed cases of whooping cough. (*Whooping cough outbreak, Echo News, September 17 2016*).

Apr 2022

•Buying your first home should be one of the most exciting times of your life, but for Movida Estate homebuilder Matthew Waitland the dream of becoming a homeowner has turned into a nightmare. (*Homebuilder heartache Echo News, April 8 2022*).



Jun 2024

•Experience 'Metallic Morphology', the latest solo exhibition by artist Vince Austin, where a menagerie of metallic creations will be on display at the Midland Railway Workshops. (*Where imagination meets metal Echo News, June 14 2024*).

Just cremations share their message through *Echo News*

DO you want an affordable service that is non-traditional and no fuss? I'm sure you will have noticed a big difference in funeral costs in Perth.

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More and more people in WA are choosing a 'no fuss' approach to saying goodbye, and opting to mark the occasion with a simple and dignified service, avoiding the fan-

fare and the extra expense.

We've been proud to share our message with the community through *Echo News*. Their readership is local, loyal, and community-minded – the exact people we aim to serve. Advertising with *Echo News* has helped us reach families who value straightforward, compassionate service without the high cost.

If you want to know more about our services and arranging a funeral, have a look at our website, or contact us on 1800 65 35 95 (Free Call).

St Brigid's College & Mazenod College nurturing excellence

Nestled in Perth's Hills community, St Brigid's College and Mazenod College offer vibrant, values-driven education.

St Brigid's fosters the growth of confident, compassionate young women through a curriculum grounded in the Mercy tradition, with a strong focus on early years empowerment, academic challenge, and

environmental awareness – students are both good at learning and good at life.

Mazenod College provides tailored pathways for boys from Years 7 to 12.

Its curriculum blends modern pedagogy with traditional values, offering depth, choice, and career readiness, found in traditional ATAR pathways as well as trades certification

options.

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*Congratulations, The Echo,
40 years of keeping the
community in the news!*

Limited placements still available in Year 7 2026 and 2027 at St Brigid's College and Mazenod College. For enquiries please contact St Brigid's College at 9290 4200 and Mazenod College at 9293 1500



ECHO NEWS 1985-2025

Echo's from the past



Heading into the digital future...

PETER W LEWIS

The independent community newspaper industry has faced many challenges over recent years with the growing impact of social media.

To meet this challenge *Echo News* has worked tirelessly over the past couple of years to increase its exposure on its digital channels to drive growth and recognition.

In fact, last year *Echo News* was the proud recipient of the Swan Chamber of Commerce Business Award for Creativity and Innovation for our website.

Our website has already attracted more 580,000 visits this year with more than 117,000 active users during that period. Last year the website attracted 1.4 million visits by more than 312,000 users.

With our robust digital channels we have been able to change the way we communicate with clients and potential clients with an increase in digital marketing campaigns, including email and social media marketing through our own Facebook page.

This has included cross promotion with community groups, including the Swan Chamber of Commerce and the many local governments we cover, which has seen our stories reposted by groups we have featured in our newspaper.

While social media continues to be a

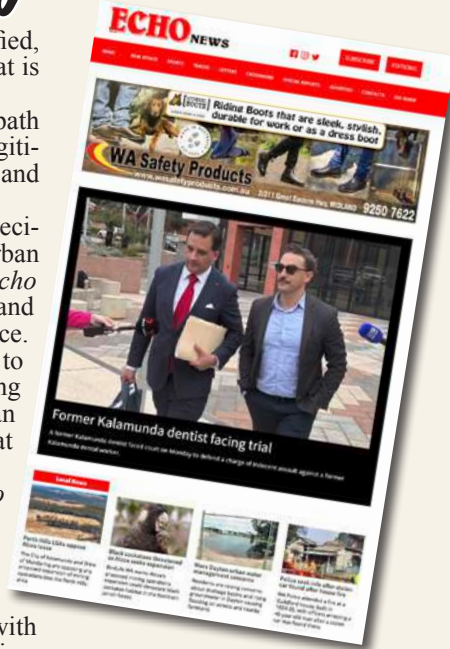
threat, we are tackling this with qualified, researched and fact-checked content that is archived on our website.

As social media has continued on its path we are now being recognised for the legitimate role we play and the trusted news and advertising that we offer.

Just when social media had almost decimated most printed independent suburban and regional papers, those like the *Echo* that have survived are now stronger and more believed than any other news source.

As the years move on being able to archive news and information regarding our local communities will become an important historical resource that we at the *Echo* are proud of.

One of the main reasons that the *Echo News* has managed to continue to exist in the increasing moving world of social media is the fact we are a trusted medium that has worked tirelessly for almost 40 years to provide its readers with accurate community news and information.



Your FREE Local Weekly newspaper is available from local outlets or subscribe NOW to get *Echo News* emailed direct to your inbox.



Shire of MUNDARING

Congratulations Echo Newspaper

On behalf of Shire of Mundaring Council and Staff, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to the Echo Newspaper.

For four decades, the Echo has served as a vital voice in our community, delivering trusted news, fostering local connections, and providing an essential platform for community dialogue. Your commitment to independent journalism has helped keep our residents informed, engaged, and connected to the issues that matter most to our local area.

mundaring.wa.gov.au

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Spoil your Dad for Father's Day



A Living Gift

Plants make a wonderful living gift, and a thoughtful addition to Dad's garden. Lucky for Dad, Father's day is at a time when there is plenty in flower, so there are just so many options to choose from. Like our beautiful Western Australian Kangaroo Paws. These can be planted together in a well drained pot to make a fantastic show of all the colours you can think of!

Dendrobium Orchids are a nice gift too and are a low maintenance plant that are great for

shady pot gardens. They look fantastic planted into an old tree trunk! Keep the pot size small when re-planting and use a specialty orchid potting mix.

Or if Dad is not so fond of flowers, what about a Casuarina 'Cousin It' for a quirky living gift. They look excellent in pots and can be dressed up with a pair of glasses.

"So if you are looking for a special present for Dad, consider a living gift!" - Zanthorrea Nursery

What's looking good this Father's Day?



Antigozanthos 'Fineworks'



Antigozanthos 'Masquerade'



Antigozanthos 'Carnivale'



Antigozanthos 'Bush Fine'



Spoil your Dad!! Father's Day at Amaroo Retreat & Spa!

Show your super hero Dad just how much he means to you with an unforgettable experience at Amaroo Retreat & Spa. Whether he's craving a delicious meal or a relaxing day, we've got you covered.

Father's Day Breakfast: Kick off the day with a hearty breakfast from 8am to 10am, priced at \$55 per person. Enjoy fresh danishes on arrival, a hot drink, juice, and a meal from our special Father's Day breakfast menu. Plus, to make it extra special, Dads receive a complimentary Beermosa.

Father's Day Lunch and dinner: Join us for lunch from 12.00pm to 3.00pm or dinner from

5.00pm till late, \$75 per person for two courses or \$85 per person for three courses. Dads will love our specially crafted dishes, and of course, a complimentary glass of Beermosa to toast the occasion!

And in celebration of every dad's dance move we will have live music for lunch and dinner.

Gift Vouchers: Give Dad the gift of choice with a gift voucher. Our remedial therapist can sort out his aches and pains or he can have a relaxation massage that'll have him sleeping like a baby.

Make this Father's Day one to remember at Amaroo Retreat & Spa!

Father's Day BREAKFAST

\$55 per person* 8am - 10am

Pastries, Fruit Platter and One Hot or Cold Drink.
A glass of Beermosa on arrival for Dad.

Eggs on Toast *scrambled, poached or fried eggs with bacon & toasted ciabatta*
Buttermilk Pannacotta *granola, honey, apple compote*
Brioche French Toast *biscoff, strawberry, vanilla ice-cream*
Smashed Avocado Croissant *poached eggs, watercress, parmesan*
Amaroo Big Breakfast *two eggs your way, truss tomatoes, bacon, beef sausage, mushrooms, hashbrown, house made beans*
Ancient Grain Porridge *blueberries, pecans, drambuie*
Shakshuka *poached eggs, braised tomato and capsicum, toasted ciabatta*
Mushrooms on Toast *stracciatella, tarragon, poached egg*
Pea and Zucchini Fritters *fried egg, bacon and feta*
Sausage and Egg Muffin *chilli hollandaise, avocado, sausage, fried egg, on a toasted english muffin*

Father's Day LUNCH & DINNER

12 noon-3pm | 5pm till late*

\$75 for two courses | \$85 for three course meal
plus a glass of Beermosa on arrival for Dad!

ENTRÉE

King Prawn cocktail *gem lettuce, marie rose*
Braised lamb ragu *mafaldine, parmesan*
Caramelized onion and goats cheese tart

MAINS

Roast Porchetta *green beans and broccolini, salsa verde, red wine jus*
Sweet potato gnocchi *burnt carrot puree, dukkah*
Chefs fish pie *smoked cheddar mash, crushedpeas*

DESSERTS

Baked apples *walnut cinnamon crumble, vanilla custard*
Portuguese egg custard tart *wattle seed, Davidson plum*
Chocolate stout cake *warm chocolate sauce*

Cheese selection *quince paste crackers, grapes (\$10 supplement)*

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- Food and coffee available
- Demo day only specials




ADVERTISING FEATURE

Spoil your Dad for Father's Day ❤️



Celebrate John Deere Demo Day at AFGRI Equipment

Mark your calendars for Saturday September 6th and head down to AFGRI Equipment South Guildford for a morning of excitement at our John Deere Demo Day from 8am to 12pm.

Whether you're looking to test drive the latest John Deere equipment, grab some merchandise, or simply enjoy a fun morning out with the family, this is the perfect way to kick off Father's Day weekend.

Don't miss your chance to win a John Deere Z315E ZTrak Zero-Turn Mower and Polycart and so much more. Plus, enjoy exclusive Demo Day specials, exciting giveaways, and a huge range of John Deere gear, toys, and clothing.

Bring the whole family—kids will love the dedicated kids' zone with ride-ons, face painting, and more fun activities to keep them entertained.

Come test out the latest John Deere machinery, stay for the fun, and leave with a great deal. Join us at 80 Great Eastern Highway, South Guildford—we can't wait to see you there!

MEGA GRILLFEST

FATHER'S DAY BBQ BASH

AT MIDLAND MEGAPLEX
 6 SEPTEMBER 11.00AM - 2.00PM

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Father's Day BBQ Bash at Midland Megaplex

Celebrate Dad the right way this Father's Day at Midland Megaplex with a free BBQ Bash the whole family will enjoy!

Happening on Saturday 6 September from 11.00am to 2.00pm, the Mega Grillfest includes a classic sausage sizzle and BBQ food sampling, thanks to Spudshed, plus heaps of fun for the kids' crafts, face painting, and jumbo games. Kids can even decorate an apron for Dad to take home!

There'll also be a photo wall with props, and the best Father's Day pic will win a retailer gift bundle worth \$300.

Jake Tana, Senior Marketing Manager at Cygnet West, managing agents of Midland Megaplex says, "It's a great way to bring the community together and support our retailers at the same time."

Triona O'Shaughnessy, Associate Director of Retail Property Management at Cygnet West, adds "The Landlord Lester Group loves getting behind these events, perfect for families and a great way to mark the occasion."

No need to book - just rock up! Scan the QR code or visit midlandmegaplex.com.au for more info.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Musical journey man returns for Celtic blues

AFTER decades of traversing the rich landscape of folk and roots music, seasoned singer-songwriter and former Kalamunda local, Jon Cope brings his latest musical project, the Celtic County Blues Band, to the Kalamunda Performing Arts Centre for a one-night-only performance on Saturday, September 13 from 7.30pm.

Weaving together heartfelt contemporary folk storytelling, reimagined traditional ballads, and soulful country blues, this intergenerational group of folk and jazz musicians seamlessly blends genres with exciting improvisation and spontaneity.

The audience can expect an entertaining evening of acoustic folk and roots music that spans genres and generations, offering an evocative journey through memory, emotion, and musical heritage.

Jon will be joined by Reuben Cope, Fiona Davidson, Reuben Koopermand and Josh Gray for a night of entertaining Celtic country blues.

"Jonathan Cope is the best male folk singer in the West Australian folk scene," WA Folk Federation treasurer Terry Bonnett said.

Tickets to the one night only performance are available at <https://kalamundapac.com.au/events/and-the-celtic-county-blues/>



Former Kalamunda local Jon Cope returns to Kalamunda.

Dreamscapes: Exploring the subconscious through art

GUANHAO CHENG

AN art exhibition exploring the impact dreams and nightmares has on human creativity and civilizations will be on at the Zig Zag Gallery from August 30 through to September 21.

Dreamscapes: Exploring the Subconscious Through Art delves into how dreams and nightmares transcend individual experiences, shaping civilizations, inspiring creativity, and offering insights into the subconscious.

Artists are encouraged to use any medium to express their interpretations, highlighting how these phenomena influence personal histories and cultural identities.

Art from 13 artists that specialise in a range of media from ceramics to oil paints and a range of styles will be presented in this exhibition.

Artists to be featured are Bec Abdy, Kathleen Bloomfield-Gibbs, Alida Cappelletta, Brad Coleman, Annabelle Gallon, Sophie Goodlich, John Herne, Annie Huang, Reegan Jackson, Savannah Matthews, Kristy Scaddan, Sarah Soula and Tara Wilson.

Their work has been seen on murals across Perth city, at art markets, projected as moving art pieces on city buildings and in other collections and exhibitions.

Artists Reegan Jackson and Annie Huang have provided a preview of their collaborative project RE-VERB which will be shown at Dreamscapes.

The pictures shared reveal planing their working surfaces and glimpses of Mr Jackson's black and white abstract patterning on top of a colourful backdrop of blue, yellow and purple.

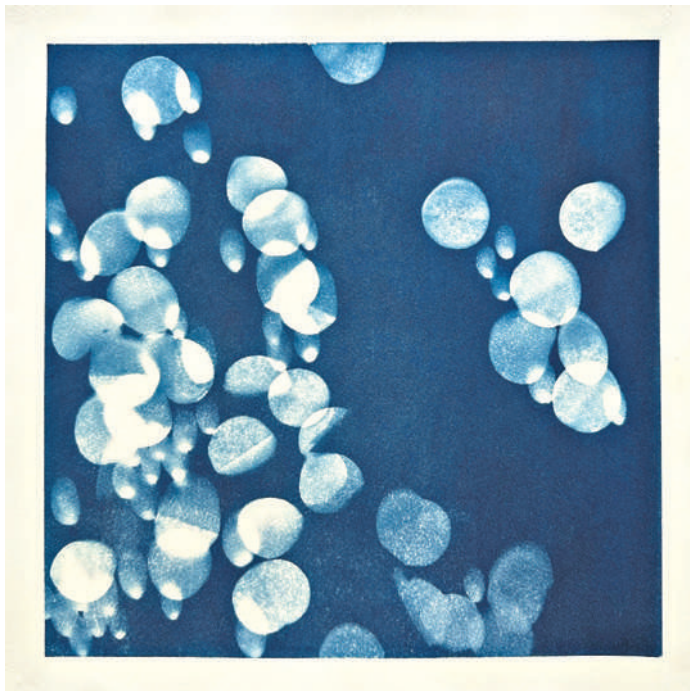
Another slide shows an abstract textured surface where undulating forms shift in and out of sharp focus as topographical lines reveal themselves in the details.

Their project will aim to combine ceramics practice with their individual approaches to explore memory as a technological fever dream.

The RE-VERB collaboration will combine analogue film photographs with painting, sculpture and digital manipulation.

Ms Huang's previous artworks include a large-scale projection of the rivers and native animals from Perth's wetlands turned into an animated artwork moving across the PICA building in Northbridge.

The showcase will aim to pull together their work into a cohesive collection with other artists to explore



Sunlit Blue by artist Kathleen Bloomfield-Gibbs.

how sleep becomes a canvas for narratives, connecting people through universal yet personal encounters.

It invites audiences to consider the landscapes of dreams and their emotional, cultural, and metaphysical dimensions.

ENTERTAINMENT & GIG GUIDE

Your local Gig Guide

Fri August 29

Parkerville Tavern
Matt Sofoulis.
From 5pm. Free.
6 Owen Road
Parkerville

Woodbridge Hotel
Duality Band.
From 8pm. Free.
50 East Street
Guildford

Settlers House York
Beth Chia.
From 5.30pm. Free
Avon Terrace, York

Bassendean Hotel
DJ Ash.
8pm-Late. Free.
25 Old Perth Road
Bassendean

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

Lyric's Bar
Laneway Bar
Rosemary & Tim.
From 7pm. Free.
22 Lyric Lane
Maylands

Sat August 30

Settlers House York
Espresso Duo.
From 12 noon.
The Jukes of York
From 6pm. Free.
Avon Terrace York

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Brett Hardwick.
6pm-9pm. Free.
4260 Great Eastern Hwy
Mahogany Creek

Parkerville Tavern
Intangible.
From 5pm. Free.
6 Owen Road
Parkerville

Hemingway & Co
Acoustic Saturday.
From 7pm-9pm. Free.
6/7095 Great Eastern
Highway Mundaring

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

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

Sat August 30 cont.

Bassendean Hotel
Retro Inc.
8pm-Late. Free.
25 Old Perth Road
Bassendean

Sun August 31

Settlers House York
Graeme Fisher.
From 12pm. Free.
Avon Terrace York

Imperial Homestead York
Cedric Tunes.
11.30pm - 2.30pm.
Free.
83 Avon Terrace, York

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Nathan Gault.
4pm-7pm. Free.
4260 Great Eastern Hwy
Mahogany Creek

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

Woodbridge Hotel
Anton McLoughlin.
From 3pm. Free.
50 East Street
Guildford

7th Ave Bar & Bistro
Jane Germain.
From 1pm-4pm. Free.
74 Helena Street
Midland

Childlow Tavern
Cactus Rose.
12.30pm-3.30pm.
Free.
4 Thomas Street
Childlow

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

Tues September 2

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

Woodbridge Hotel
Ravenswing.
From 7pm. Free.
50 East Street
Guildford

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ECHO NEWS

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Public Notice



WAPC

Western Australian Planning Commission

Fencing and Walls Policy, Swan Valley Planning Policy Scheme No.1

The Western Australian Planning Commission hereby provides notice of the Fencing and Wall Policy under the Swan Valley Planning Policy Scheme No. 1.

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance, and to establish development standards for all fences and walls within the Swan Valley Planning Scheme No. 1 area.

The full policy can be viewed online at www.wa.gov.au/government/document-collections/swan-valley-planning-framework.

Queries related to the policy can be sent to **The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, Level 2, 140 William Street, PERTH WA 6000**, via email to swanvalley@dph.wa.gov.au or to the Swan Valley Planning Team at 6551 8150.

DOLPH_27625

Employment



Cadet Journalist - Digital Content Creator

A part-time position - Tuesday-Thursday, with hours negotiable, now exists for an innovative, self-confident, reliable Journalist to join the Echo News editorial team.

Essential criteria includes:

- A formal journalism qualification or equivalent grading.
- Photographic skills.
- Ability to build relationships with industry sources and communicate effectively with people from grass roots level through to senior industry management.
- Be able to write and post social media content.

The suitable applicant must:

- Be a team player with a friendly personality.
- Be capable of writing a full range of articles, from news stories, feature profiles, advertorials and through to all types of reviews.
- Have the ability to source their own stories and get to the heart of the local area so local knowledge of our distribution areas would be an advantage.
- Have good communication skills, creativity and knowledge of media law is strongly desired.
- Attend 'out of hours' council/shire meetings, industry events and business functions.
- Have a valid driver's licence and a reliable vehicle.
- Be capable of working to tight weekly deadlines is an essential component of this position.

Desired but not essential

- Knowledge of 'InDesign' would be advantageous.
- A background in suburban newspapers would be viewed favorably.

In return the successful candidate will be offered:

- A salary commensurate with experience.
- Excellent working environment.

The closing date for all applications is 5.00pm Wednesday 10th September 2025 with the successful applicant to start ASAP. Please email your resume with a covering letter to: peter.lewis@echo-news.com
All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence.

Public Notice

CITY OF SWAN

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF LAND

Notice of proposed lease of land section 3.58 of the Local Government Act 1995

Property: Kitchen 1, 8 - 12 Stafford Street, Midland 6056
Lessee: Midland Meals Inc.

Annual rental amount: \$12,355.00 excluding GST

Valuation: \$12,355.00 excluding GST

Purpose: Commercial Kitchen

Term: Two (2) Years

Submissions in writing and addressed to the undersigned may be lodged on or before, September 15, 2025.

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



CITY OF SWAN

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF LAND

Notice of proposed lease of land section 3.58 of the Local Government Act 1995

Property: Suite 18C, 8 - 12 Stafford Street, Midland 6056
Lessee: Midland Meals Inc.

Annual rental amount: \$4075.00 excluding GST

Valuation: \$4075.00 excluding GST

Purpose: Commercial Office

Term: Two (2) Years

Submissions in writing and addressed to the undersigned may be lodged on or before, September 15, 2025.

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



SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that a Special Meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday 2 September 2025, commencing at 6.30 pm in the Council Chamber at the Shire Administration Building, 7000 Great Eastern Highway, Mundaring.

The purpose of the meeting is for Council to consider the following:

1. The award of tender for the upgrade of Elsie Austin Changerooms
2. The Mundaring Cultural Hub Concept Design and
3. The recommendations from the Governance Committee Meeting 18 July 2025

Please note, this meeting will be audio recorded and livestreamed.



Jason Whiteaker
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Do you have something to Celebrate?

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

Regrouting

Bathroom Regrouting. Call Andrew 0413 158 763.

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Window Cleaning

Tatania's Window Cleaning. Tracks. Frames & Fly screens. 0467 282 127.

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YOGA
Mon 6 - 7.15pm
Gooseberry Hill Hall
42 Ledger Rd
PH JEANENE
0406 773 650

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Bassendean Library
46 Old Perth Rd
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Cnr West & Old Perth Rd
BEECHBORO:
Beechboro Library
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Big lifestyle block in Bullsbrook



THIS 3.45ha Bullsbrook property offers a hillside view with green expanses that extend out and beyond the horizon for those that enjoy tree canopy shade and natural landscapes from the comfort of home.

An automatic metal gate attached to a light-coloured cobblestone wall with an integrated mailbox sets the tone for the commanding home that complements the rural backdrop.

Visitors can drive through the electric gates and down to a home among the trees with buildings capped with green roofs, solar panels installed on the main home and the shed and plenty of living space.

The main home has three big bedrooms, including an ensuite in the main bedroom complete with its own spa.

The spa sits in the corner of the room beside louvred windows that allow as much or as little light in as users take a

dip and enjoy the view of the hillside.

A spacious central living area flows from the kitchen to an undercover entertaining space looking over the valley vista.

The kitchen has a stone benchtop and neutral colours including white cupboards and drawers set against grey square tiled walls and a warm clay coloured tile floor.

Circular lights are flush against the white ceiling of the open plan dining area where a slow-combustion stove sits in a recessed corner.

The laundry room includes a shower and louvred windows throughout the home allow inhabitants to control natural light and add character to each room.

Year-round cosiness is built in with a mix of ceiling fans, air-conditioning, and a slow-combustion stove to make sure occupants stay warm or cool enough with the seasonal

temperature changes.

The property's spacious powered workshop offers the room needed to tinker away on a larger project and the solar panels help ease the electricity bill.

It may also be used as a double garage with extra space for a workbench.

Water tanks collect from the roof to ensure a reliable supply at the property.

The property offers space, views, and a lifestyle Bullsbrook is renowned for.

Address: 31 Fraser Road, Bullsbrook
Price: From \$1,195,000
Agency: Real Estate Plus
Contact Milton Rendell
on 9274 5000

Read between the lines

by Pastor Ian Kirk
Golden Canola!

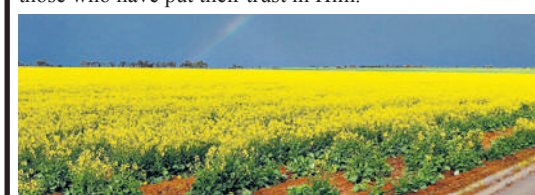


What a wonderful time we recently had in the Wheatbelt, going to country churches to encourage them. Country folk are so lovely and friendly. But besides having a delightful time with them, it was also delightful travelling in the country, especially after our good winter rains. Everything was green and bubbling with life. The crops looked great, the farm dams were mostly full, and we even saw lambs skipping about.

On the day we went, we had everything when it came to the weather – fog, rain, thunderstorms, rainbows, and even some sun. On our way back, the sun came out and lit up a paddock of canola that was in full-flower. It was so spectacular that I stopped the car to take a photo. What was special, is that the golden canola had dark thunderous clouds in the background.

The image made me reflect on life. There are times when life seems dark and stormy. The challenging circumstances of life can cast a darkness over us. Even our mood becomes gloomy and depressed.

Yet, in the midst of the storms of life, we can experience "sunshine". My "sunshine" comes from the Son of God, even Jesus. He promises to always be with us, to help and encourage us, and to give us peace and joy – throughout life. He didn't just die on the cross for our sins and rise from the dead. From heaven's throne, He watches over all those who have put their trust in Him.



ECHO Notice Board

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

Upcoming Events

- **Talkie Tea Time** at Midland Ascension Hall on Saturday, September 6 runs from 2.30pm to 4.30pm. Speaker Australian physicist David Blair will explain how Einstein's theories are part of a revolutionary school science project to help everyone understand global climate change. Catered afternoon tea. RSVP to 0414 386 398 or francescai.rwin2@iinet.com.au
- **The Kalamunda Ladies Probus Club** meets on the second Thursday of each month at St Barnabas Church Hall, Railway Road, Kalamunda (entry off Spring Road) at 9am for 9.30am start. They have morning tea and a guest speaker at each meeting and a monthly bus outing to different interesting places.

Socially they meet monthly for coffee and lunch also monthly at different venues in the area. Probus is a social club for retirees who enjoy life. For more information call Trish on 0468 309 823 or Juliette on 9293 4438.

• **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.

• **The Ellenbrook Friendship Group** meets each Wednesday at the Community Centre, 27 Maffina Parade, Ellenbrook from 1pm to 4pm. All welcome to make new friends or just have a chat. Enjoy indoor bowls, afternoon tea and the occasional outing. For more information call Sheila on 0402 973 307.

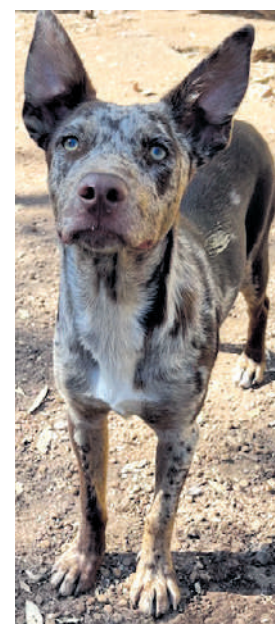
• **The St Stephens Anglican Church** will be running their market day on Friday, August 29 from 8.30am until 11.30am. There will be bargains galore at 9 Salix Way, Forrestfield. All welcome.

• **Woodbridge Ratepayers Association** wishes to inform members that current president Lynn Deering will be stepping down and Greg Hull will be president until the next AGM in March 2026. A date is to be confirmed to discuss developments around Morrison crossing development, parking resolutions, traffic congestion and Riverside All Abilities playground improvements. For more information email 6056wra@gmail.com

• **Friends of Woodbridge Bushlands** wish to seek those interested in contributing or being involved in discussions for a revised

and updated master plan for the Swan Regional Riverside Park (SRRP). Those interested in expressing an interest please contact fowb2025@gmail.com leaving your name and contact details.

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

Dasher is an eight-month-old German koolie who was trained as a sheep dog but she only wants to be a lap dog. She loves to be around children and playing ball. She is sterilised, vaccinated and microchipped. Costs apply. Contact Bakers Hill Dog Sanctuary on 9574 1438.

Swans fall one point short in WAFLW grand final

CHRIS PIKE

SWAN Districts came within a point of their first WAFL Women's premiership since 2017, falling 3.6 (24) to 3.5 (23) to Claremont in a tight grand final on Sunday.

The 2025 grand final was played at Mineral Resources Park in Lathlain, where Claremont secured their third flag in four years and back-to-back premierships.

It was the first grand final appearance for the Swans since 2021.

They entered the match with seven consecutive wins, including finals victories over East Fremantle and Subiaco.

Swan Districts playing catch up for much of the contest but kicked the only goal of the final quarter to cut the margin to one point.

A tense final 15 minutes saw no further scores.

Forward Summer Yarran kicked all three goals for the Swans, finishing with 11 disposals and four marks.

Midfielder Carys D'Addario was strong through the middle with 25 disposals, nine tackles and six inside 50s.

Rising midfielder Jaime Henry recorded 22 disposals and an equal game-high 22 tackles, along with three marks and three inside-50 entries.

Other contributors included Tamzyn Beros with 11 disposals, Summer Ajduk with 11 disposals, 14 tackles, and ruck Lauren Quaife with 10 disposals, five tackles and 38 hit-outs.

The Tigers kicked the first goal of the game after early behinds from Swan forward Emily McGuire. At quarter time, Claremont led by four points and extended their lead to 10 before Yarran's first goal cut it to seven by half-time.

Yarran added her second in the third



The Swan Districts WAFLW team played a close grand finals match but lost by one point.

term, bringing the margin back to one point before a late Claremont goal restored a seven-point buffer.

Her third goal five minutes into the last quarter brought the Swans within one, but

the score remained unchanged.

All three finals involving Swan Districts this year were decided by two points or fewer, highlighting a closely contested finals campaign.

Swan Districts outplayed by Peel Thunder

CHRIS PIKE

SWAN Districts lost to Peel Thunder by 54 points during the last round of their WAFL Men's season but there were wins for the colts and reserves who now turn their attention to finals.

Swan Districts and Peel met twice in the finals series of 2024 and the last time that Swans headed down to Lane Group Stadium they scored the qualifying final victory.

The first quarter saw five goals apiece from both teams during their last 2025 games.

It was from the second quarter that Peel began outscoring Swan Districts 10 goals to two for their eventual victory.

The result means that the Swans finish the season in eighth position on the WAFL Men's ladder with six wins and 12 losses.

Leon Kickett continued the impressive start to his league career with Swans by kicking another two goals from his nine possessions and four marks.

Captain Jesse Turner also amassed

35 possessions for Swan Districts, 100-gamer Aidan Clarke 24, Jackson McLachlan 23, Brad Lynch 18, Max Chipper 17, Brandon Erceg 17, Jiah Reidy 16, Jehb O'Donohue 15 and Ethyn Kane 15.

The Swans' goals came through Otis Harvey, O'Donohue, Ayden Cartwright, Kickett and Leigh Kohlmann for the two-point lead by quarter-time.

Earlier in the day, the Swan Districts colts beat Peel Thunder 12.15 (87) to 7.9 (51).

The win means the Swans finish the colts season in fifth position with a nine win and seven loss record and are slated to play West Perth in an elimination final on Sunday at East Fremantle's The Good Grocer Park.

Peel led by half-time, though Swan Districts took the lead after the break, kicking eight goals to one in the second half.

Levi Calcott kicked four goals in the win for Swan Districts with Cooper Shord adding three.

Blake Kelly racked up 33 posses-

sions, Soren Feast 21, Liam Hrabar 21, Anthony Hansen 18, Ezekiel Hewett 16 and Leo Steed 14 while McCartney Murdoch finished with 10 touches and 21 hit outs.

Then in the reserves contest at Lane Group Stadium, Swan Districts also scored the 14.8 (92) to 6.9 (45) victory against Peel Thunder.

The result means that the Swans finish in third position on the reserves ladder with the 9-7 record to earn a finals double chance.

Swan Districts kicked another three goals to one in the third term, five to two in the fourth for the eventual 47-point victory to have that winning form heading into the finals series.

Connor Blakely racked up 33 possessions for Swan Districts, Kelly 32, Chase Loftus 26, Chayse Martinson 25, Jacob Coniglio 17, Max York 17, Jordan Bushby 17 and Nathan Blakely 14 to go with 21 hit outs in the ruck.

The reserves will play South Fremantle in a qualifying final on Sunday at The Good Grocer Park as well.



Peel Thunder prevailed during the last round.



Mundaring win the first HFA semi final

BRIAN PALLISTER

IN the Hills Football Association first semi final for the 2025 season Mundaring defeated Pickering Brook 8.9 (57) to Pickering Brook 8.7 (55).

In the second semi final Chidlow had a 7.9 (51) to 3.6 (24) win over Swan View.

Chidlow now get the week's break as they head straight to the grand final to be held at Pickering Brook.

While this Sunday Swan View are up against Mundaring in the preliminary final to be hosted by the Mt Helena football club

Hills Football Association leading goal scorer Jeff Ladd from Swan View and Benjamin Seabrook 3rd time medalist Josh Hollingum from Swan View.

2-30pm at Chidlow oval.

In last weekend's first semi final Michael Brescacin got Pickering Brook started with their first goal, closely followed by the equaliser from Mundaring's Braeden Hilgert.

Ollie Aitken was having an intriguing battle with Jackson Shilling in the ruck duels. Steven Caccetta collected the loose ball pinpointing a pass off to Jack Giancono he then found Michael Brescacin on the lead for him to kick his second of three for the first quarter.

Sateki A'Vard cleared the next centre ball up to Braeden Hilgert for him to kick his second goal.

The first break had the Hawks in front by six points.

There two goals to the Hawks and one for the Roos for the second quarter.

With almost half the players contesting for the ball, play became extremely congested with the ball only moving a few metres at a time between the umpire having to throw it up.

The Hawks had managed to extend their lead to 14 points at the main break.

Jack Giancono joined in as a focal point in front of goals.

While Mitchell Shilling and Josh Vellinga managed to repel several of the Roos forward entries.

One goal each for the third quarter left the door open for Mundaring.

Players had to stand up if they were going to reverse the trend and find a way to negotiate the Cold and wet conditions.

Ollie Aitken became dominant in the ruck contests when he came

back on the ground after receiving some medical attention.

Robert Di Salvio started to find the form that has made him a strong outside player all season.

Dylan O'Loughlen was ably assisted by Lachlan Walter as they rebounded the ball out of their backline.

Sam Butler moved forward and became an avenue to goals.

Three quick goals had the Roos in front for the first time.

Pickering Brook bounced back with a goal to Jack Giancono.

The game was still in the balance with five minutes to play.

Mundaring managed to find a way through the Hawks' defence to score another goal, with only minutes left on the clock the Roos managed to defend their slender lead and come away with a two-point win.

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