

New toxic plant found in John Forrest National Park

P5



Organised crime fears over tobacco shop arson

P6



York tip protest to go to Parliament

P3



Inset: BNAA chair Walter McGuire with a scar tree located in the proposed Perth Hills drilling area Alcoa shelved. Pictures: Bibbul Ngarma Aboriginal Association and Skyworks WA

Alcoa out of Perth Hills

Alcoa announced on Monday the exclusion of the hills from their expansion plan proposal after months of community opposition.

PG 3



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ECHO Celebrations



Second generation owners Jackie and Alec Hooper. Pictures: Claire Hooper/Facebook

Maida Vale native plant nursery celebrates 50 years

ZANTHORREA Nursery turned 50 years this year, marking half a century of giving back to the community in and around Kalamunda and building connections with wildlife conservation groups.

Mundaring garden club president Helen Mitchell said she wanted to commend the nursery for the community spirit they showed, contributing to the community beyond business.

"It is inspiring to see how involved the nursery is within the local community," she said.

"Supporting initiatives and fostering a strong connection with Kanyana Wildlife Centre, Beyond Blue, Friends of Kings Park and Kaarakin Black Cockatoo Facility.

"As president of the Mundaring garden club, I have experienced first-hand the kindness and generosity of this local business."

Ms Mitchell said she approached (Zanthorrea Nursery owner Ross Hooper) earlier in the year to see if he would be willing to donate goods to the garden club's auction raising funds for a new website at their club's 45th birthday celebration.

"Ross did not hesitate to come on board," she said.

The nursery was named after the grasstrees, also known as Xanthorrhoea preissii, growing naturally in the front garden but the family opted for a more intuitive spelling.

According to the nursery, in the spring of 1975, Zanthorrea was established in Gooseberry Hill by Jean Hooper who had an enthusiasm for native plants before they came into vogue.

Her plants were so hardy and healthy that word spread in the gardening community which led to her nursery outgrowing its original site.

Mrs Hooper's son Alec Hooper and his wife Jackie Hooper supported the momentum and bought the Maida Vale site which Zanthorrea continues to operate in today.

Back in the 70s, the site was a degraded block with remnant bush and rubbish that needed to be cleared.

"Alec, with carpenter skills of hammer and saw, built the original shed, shadehouses and gazebo," they said.

"Jean, a horticulturist, grew the first batch of plants on site and Jackie continued working as a teacher in Balga to support the new venture."

The nursery gained popularity as the drought in the late 1970s pushed gardeners to seek out hardier species that would survive the water scarcity, leading them to adopt more native Australian species.

Over the years, the perception of Australian plants has changed with an increasing value placed on wildflowers from the bush.

Zanthorrea has won several awards over the years including recognition from Australia's peak body for the nursery industry.

They were named Greenlife Industry Australia's best garden centre in Australia in 1995, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2008, 2010 and 2014.

The Kalamunda Chamber of Commerce also awarded them for business excellence in environmental management, retail business, environmental business and best medium business.

And in recognition of the species they sell promoting conservative water use, Water Corporation also awarded them the waterwise garden centre award in 2008.

Zanthorrea Nursery said their business owed much of their knowledge of native plants and their uses to the traditional owners of the land.

"Australia is one of the most biodiverse countries in the world with some amazing plants," they wrote in a statement.

"Many of these plants are more than just attractive garden specimens with edible and medicinal properties."

Zanthorrea Nursery celebrated their anniversary with a gathering in September this year, honouring the enduring work that began with Mrs Hooper's interest in native species back in 1975.



Zanthorrea celebrates 50th anniversary.



Jackie Hooper with Zanthorrea awards.



Current owners Ross Hooper with mother Jackie and sister Claire Hooper.



A selection of Zanthorrea plants.

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ECHO News

ADDRESS:

Unit 4/9 The Avenue
Midland WA 6056

Phone: **9374 6666**

GENERAL MANAGER / EDITOR

Peter W Lewis 9374 6605
peter.lewis@echo-news.com

ADVERTISING

sales@echo-news.com
Karon McCracken 9374 6610

EDITORIAL

editorial@echo-news.com
Guanhao Cheng 9374 6602
Mike Peeters 9374 6601
Brayden Mould 9374 6603

PRODUCTION

production@echo-news.com
Liz Rowlands 9374 6613
Maja Pietranik 9374 6613

ACCOUNTS

accounts@echo-news.com
Caprice Harries 9374 6604

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Final York tip decision now with SAT

PETER W LEWIS

FOLLOWING approval by Environment Minister Matthew Swinbourn last week for the York tip proposal that continues to be opposed by the Shire of York, the Avon Valley ratepayers association, Indigenous groups, Central Wheatbelt MLA Lachlan Hunter and local residents and groups, the final approval now stands with the state administrative tribunal (SAT).

The proponents have appealed against the joint development assessment panel's (JDAP) June 2020 decision to refuse an extension to the current landfill facility development approval, with the matter now listed to go before the SAT for a directions hearing on February 6 at 11.30am.

Planning Minister John Carey's office has confirmed there is now no role for the minister in this matter.

"As the Minister for the Environment has now approved the proposal, the SAT matter can be progressed," a spokesperson said.

Minister Swinbourn said after more than a decade of assessments, reviews and appeals, and community consultation, he had taken the decision to approve the Allawuna (Great Southern) Landfill proposal under the Environmental Protection Act.

"This decision is based on extensive, independent advice from the EPA, DWER, and the Appeals Convenor, with the project required to meet strict, modern best-practice environmental conditions.

"I wanted to be confident that the facility would be acceptable with respect to how it may impact other waste policy and other environmental principles in the Environmental Protection Act.

"A range of strict conditions accompany this approval, including the preservation of black cockatoo foraging habitat, feral animal control, dust, water integrity, and rehabilitation.

"Regular review and continuous improvement requirements for the landfill have been included to keep pace with evolving improvements in the circular economy.

"I recognise the community has every right to scrutinise decision making in relation to new waste management facility proposals. Nevertheless, I found that the EPA assessment of the proposal was conducted appropriately and its recommendation that the proposal may be implemented, subject to environmental conditions, was made based on the best available evidence.

"The project will now be subject to subsequent approvals outside of the EPA process."



York residents will return to the steps of Parliament House to protest the York landfill decision on Thursday December 4 at 1pm as part of a rally organised by the Stop 40 Years of Perth Rubbish in York group.

Avon Valley Residents Associations (AVRA) chair Keith Schekkerman said the group was very disappointed by the minister's decision.

"The decision shows that again very important issues like the disposal of rubbish, while taken by the minister, in practical terms the issue is left in the court of private enterprise," he said.

He said there was a myriad of issues that stem from the minister's decision including transport with up to four road trains per hour through Mundaring on to Allawuna and back, with the road from The Lakes to Allawuna being a winding country road unsuited to intensive road train traffic.

He also cited environmental concerns.

"To establish a large landfill right next to the Mundaring water catchment is unwise. Landfills leak and are allowed to leak as most do, the very reason why no new licences are issued for the coastal plains.

"We are told that newly established landfills are virtually leak proof. If that's the case, there is no reason why they should not be in Peppermint Grove.

"In all, the minister's decision does not make sense and shows that the government's policy on waste disposal is rubbish. Mind you, while we justly criticise this government's bad decision, the previous Liberal/National government had plenty of opportunity to stop this whole process but chose not to."

A Shire of York spokesperson said council and the community have consistently opposed this project due to concerns

about its environmental, social and economic impacts.

"We are extremely disappointed by this decision and will now carefully review the conditions of approval and consider what options are available to the shire and the community."

Mr Hunter slammed the government for signing off on the controversial Perth waste dump saying it was one of the most blatant betrayals of a regional community in recent memory.

"After years of sustained community backlash, countless submissions, rallies, petitions and meetings, Labor has arrogantly pushed ahead with turning York into a dumping ground for Perth's rubbish," he said.

"Minister Swinbourne refused to meet with me, York residents or local stakeholders for months. I wrote to him directly, and he refused to front up. That alone tells you everything about Labor's contempt for regional WA."

"Labor's own 2025 Central Wheatbelt candidate publicly pledged to the community that this landfill would not be approved under a Labor government. That promise has now been exposed as a complete and deliberate lie."

"Labor has shown no regard for community voices, no regard for road safety on Great Southern Highway, no regard for tourism, no regard for water security and no regard for Aboriginal cultural heritage," he said.

Mr Hunter said the fight was far from over.

"As the local MP, I will fight this disastrous decision until the end. I will not let York be treated as the rubbish bin of Perth," he said.

Mr Hunter urged the community to stand strong.

Alcoa removes Perth Hills from their exploration area

GUANHAO CHENG

ALCOA announced their removal of the Perth Hills from their proposed exploration plans on Monday, following months of opposition from the hills communities.

Bibbul Ngarma Aboriginal Association (BNAA) chairperson and Noongar Elder Walter McGuire said working together was key to making sure the community was heard.

"It is our role and responsibility to care for the waterways and forests as the First People of this land," he said.

"Since colonisation, we've been denied this role, but now we are bringing back the traditional ways of caring for Country for the benefit of all who live on Noongar Boodja.

"It is shocking to realise that companies like Alcoa and others have held open mining rights to our forests and access to our water sources for many years.

"For decades, successive WA governments have allowed them to exploit these rights, destroying our land and bypassing our community's rights to safe drinking water and clean air.

"Working together is the only way to get the best outcomes for Country.

"We are bringing people together to understand that we're just one human race, with many cultures and many differences, but we need to come together as one to look after our planet Earth."

BNAA senior Elder May McGuire said strip-mining land and pollution of water remained key concerns and pressure needed to come from the top down.

"We don't want our forests to go, especially our big trees up there in the hills," she said.

"They are beautiful the old jarrah, they are our family, it is a healing tree.

"The government has to put the best foot forward and start doing the right thing by the country and for all the people."

Alcoa director of regulatory approvals Kane Moyle said the decision reflected stakeholder and local community input during the EPA's recent public comment period on the environmental as-



BNAA chair Walter McGuire with a scar tree located in the proposed Perth Hills drilling area Alcoa shelved. Pictures: Bibbul Ngarma Aboriginal Association and Skyworks WA

sessments.

"Community and stakeholder consultation is an important part of Alcoa's planning for the future," he said.

"While exploration drilling is a low-impact activity and does not indicate an intention to mine an area but rather to broaden geological knowledge of the region, we understand the strong environmental and social values of the Perth Hills to local communities and the broader public.

"We listened to feedback and are making changes that will be reflected in both MMPs."

The alarm was first sounded in the hills when the BNAA shared excerpts from Alcoa's hundreds of pages long submissions to the Environmental Protection Authority.

Cont. p17.



The City has received a Proposed Structure Plan for Wattle Grove South. This plan is developer driven and will be determined by the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC).

The City is inviting community feedback on the proposed plan. Further details and relevant documents can be viewed online at engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au

Submissions close 5pm, Friday 5 December 2025



engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au



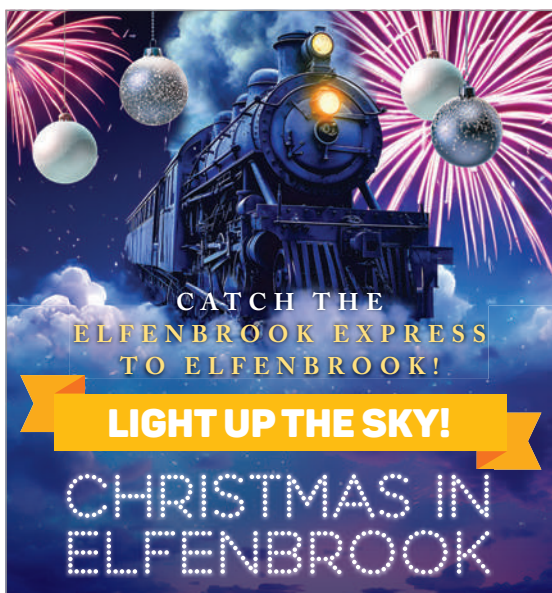
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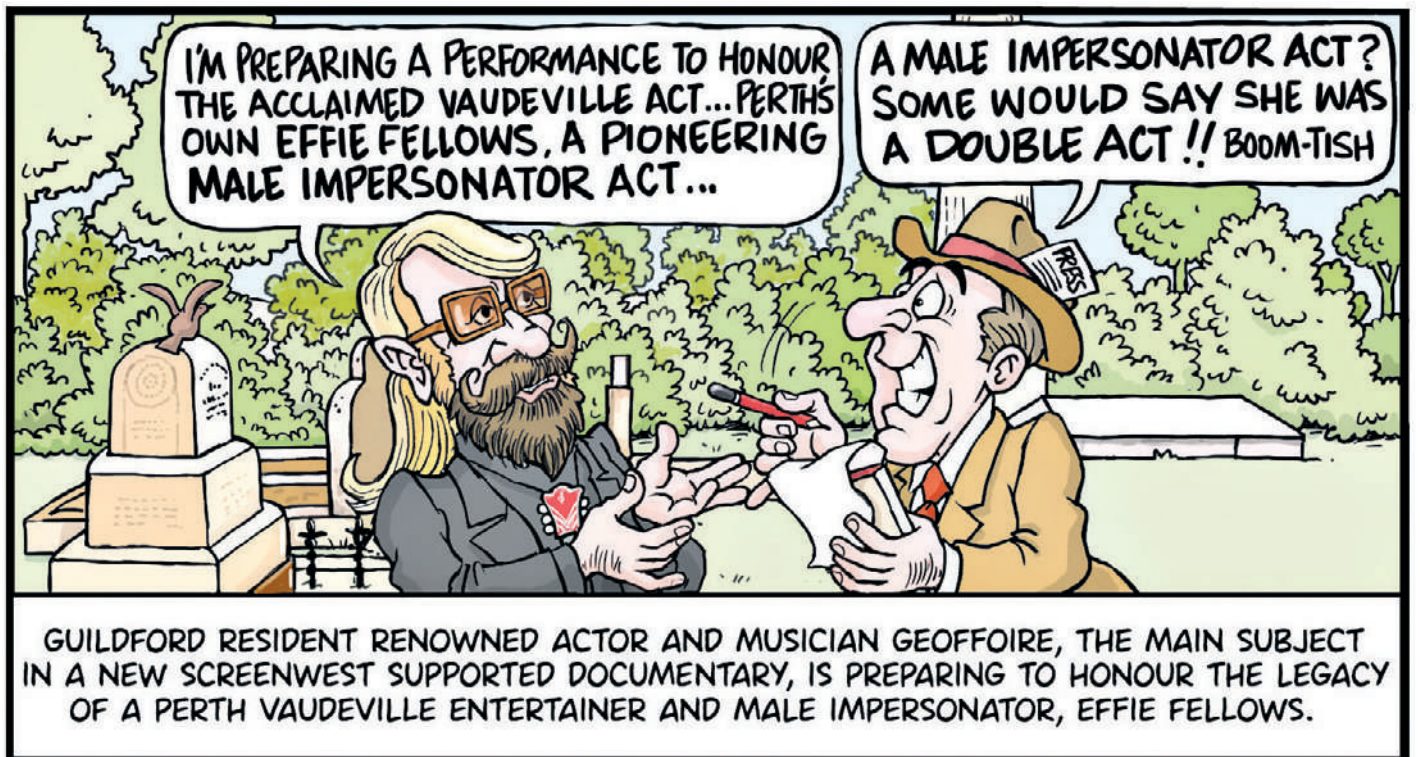


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ECHO YOUR THOUGHTS

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Station parking high rise

Dear Echo News,

I did have to smile at the juxtaposition of two articles in the *Echo* - the first detailing State government plans to build high rise apartments close to metropolitan railway stations and the second, an update on the new Midland station complex.

I had wondered why the new parking building is closer to Guildford Grammar than the new station, but now the reason is abundantly clear - there's room to build two or three high rise apartments between the two buildings!

Plus of course, small business will have a win, as Uber drivers will do a roaring trade ferrying people from the parking building to either Midland or Guildford stations.

**G Ross
Swan View**

Smile for the cameras

Dear Echo News,

Many people living in Midland, Swan and the eastern suburbs may not realise how much of their daily driving is now automatically recorded.

Over the past few years, Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras have quietly appeared across local roads, shopping centre carparks and council-managed areas.

ANPR cameras don't just see cars - they identify number plates and instantly match them to registration details held by the Department of Transport.

This means the moment a local vehicle passes a camera, the

identity of the owner can be retrieved automatically.

What concerns some residents is that very little community information has accompanied this rollout. Many drivers have no idea these cameras are operating or what data is collected, how long it is stored, or who can access it.

For example, if a driver has an overdue fine or suspended licence, ANPR can immediately flag the vehicle as it travels through Midland or past a camera on Great Eastern Highway.

This isn't always explained to the public, and many people aren't aware that routine errands - school drop-off, shopping, medical appointments - may be scanned along the way.

This is not about creating fear. It's about encouraging open discussion. Local communities deserve to know what technology is present in their area, how it works, and what rights drivers have.

A simple request for transparency is not unreasonable - it's responsible community awareness.

**D Kelly
Midland**

Sewage smells on the nose

Dear Echo News,

Thank you for your recent article on the sewage smells on Millhouse Road in The Vines in *Residents' concerns over foul smell* (*Echo News*, Nov 14).

I hope you pursue this aggressively.

This is not a new issue and has been going on for years.

For Watercorp to state it is a temporary issue is incorrect.

I think you should

question the health aspects of people being exposed, whether the gases created are combustible, and what would happen if there was a fire in the area.

This raises issues about Watercorp's ability to manage the aggressive development in the Ellenbrook area.

**E Lynch
The Vines**

Shade trees for new bus depot

Dear Echo News,

It's a pity the Greens did not just get a couple of shovels and plant some nice shade trees in the new bus terminus behind stand ten.

Ficus hilli would be the go.

Not piddly gum trees which do not give broad solid shade.

About a thousand bucks for ten mature trees and maybe a mini backhoe and three blokes.

No debate needed.

**R Wood
Midland**

Focus on asbestos awareness

Dear Echo News,

This week marks the start of National Asbestos Awareness Week 2025 and in the wake of the recent scare of asbestos being identified in children's play sand, now more than ever, parents need to understand that with asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) remaining in one-in-three Aussie homes, if these materials are not managed safely, they can pose a significant health risk to families.

There's no doubting Australia's passion for renovating. We love

Thought for the day

"It is better to fail in originality than to succeed in imitation." - **Herman Melville**

the challenge! But what many don't know is that they could be risking their lives and the lives of their loved ones (including their children) if they fail to respect asbestos risks and ensure asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) are managed safely.

It's heartbreaking that around 4000 Australians die needlessly every year from avoidable asbestos-related diseases - that's three times the national road toll.

With 51 per cent of current mesothelioma deaths directly linked to home renovations, the number of Australians who will lose their lives is predicted to rise if we don't get serious about asbestos awareness and how to manage this potentially deadly material safely.

What homeowners need to know is that asbestos wasn't only used in the manufacture of flat and corrugated sheeting materials. It was used in the manufacture of more than 3000 building and decorator products that remain lurking in one third of homes including brick, weatherboard, clad homes and apartments. It was used everywhere.

ACMs were commonly used in wet areas such as bathrooms, kitchens and laundries but this potentially deadly fibre could be in places renovators might not expect.

It could be lurking under carpets, linoleum, vinyl and ceramic floor and wall tiles, external and internal walls, ceilings, eaves, roofs and fences. Asbestos could be in any residential property, in any town or city across Australia if the home

was built before 1990 and in any commercial property constructed before 2004.

Make no mistake, renovating, demolishing or maintaining properties that contains asbestos can be lethal if ACMs are disturbed and invisible asbestos fibres become airborne and are inhaled.

So before taking up tools, learn how to manage asbestos safely by visiting asbestosawareness.com.au to access a range of free information for tradies, rural and commercial property owners, and homeowners including checklists and how to identify, test and safely manage asbestos because it could save your life or the life of a loved one.

Remember, when it comes to asbestos, don't cut it, drill it, drop it, sand it, saw it, scrape it, scrub it, dismantle it, tip it, waterblast it, demolish it, dump it. And whatever you do, don't remove it yourself and use licenced asbestos professionals because it's not worth the risk.

**C Barber
National Asbestos Awareness Ambassador**

The Echo reserves the right to edit letters for length, legal reasons or clarity. The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Echo. All letters must contain the author's full name, address and phone number for verification purposes.

What's your view?

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New toxic plant infestation found in John Forrest National Park

BRAYDEN MOULD

DEDICATED conservation volunteers are sounding the alarm after a new wave of highly competitive and toxic weeds were recorded in John Forrest National Park last week.

For years Friends of John Forrest National Park (FoJFNP) have successfully chipped away at major offenders breaching the national park like Watsonia, Pink Gladioli, and Cape Tulip.

However, the latest invaders – suspected to be aggressive garden escapees from neighbouring residential properties – are now threatening to undo that progress.

Once established, these invasive species form dense, suffocating clumps that steal vital water and sunlight from vulnerable native species growing along the creek banks.

Easter lilies, Arum lilies, Three-cornered garlic, and Sour grass are the new species recorded in localised spots in the national park.

FoJFNP coordinator Val English, says the appearance of these new species has been alarming.

“All of them have the potential to get very dense and outcompete all the native species of the banks of Jane Brook,” she said.

“Even these new species like the Three-cornered garlic, already has thousands and thousands of plants in the park that weren’t originally there.

“Some of them are incredibly toxic too, Easter lilies for example... are very toxic... if they were ingested by animals... they could get sick and possibly die.”

According to the Urban Bushland Council of WA a number of the new species, including Three-cornered garlic, are designated as high priority for removal, due to their threat to conservation values in the South-West Province.

Sour grass, Three-cornered garlic, and Arum lilies are also highly toxic to animals and humans when ingested in sufficient quantities, raising concerns of the welfare of fauna in the nature reserve.

While the volunteers of FoJFNP are dedicated to eradicating new expansive pests in the park, Ms English concedes that the goal of eradication is unlikely and the focus of the group is to contain the spread as much as possible.



FoJFNP run weekly bush care days, targeting weeds throughout the national park.

“You can really only contain because there’s so many sources of weed,” she said. “Local properties, seeds flowing down the creek, or catching on peoples shoes, or even

blowing in from the wind.

“We can contain and reduce but we absolutely have to be consistent.

“Missing one year of removal can result in significant lost ground against the invaders.”



An increase to the city’s quarterly mow schedule would need to go before council to be considered. Photo: Facebook

Weed infestation troubles Ellenbrook residents

BRAYDEN MOULD

ELLENBROOK and Aveley residents are urging the City of Swan to ramp up maintenance, warning the public areas overgrown with thick weeds and long grass pose a major fire hazard as the region approaches summer.

Fed-up residents have taken to social media to voice their concerns over the unkempt state of verges and parks, arguing the neglect is unacceptable given their timely rate payments.

The City of Swan’s local biodiversity strategy (LBS) notes that weeds significantly increase fuel loadings, which exacerbates the fire/weed cycle and makes bushfires more intense and likely to spread.

The community outcry is centred on the unkempt state of verges and parks, particularly along key routes like The Broadway, which residents say encapsulates the council’s neglect.

Under a post on Facebook discussing the rampant weed outbreak, Ellenbrook resident Greg Whitfield called out the City of Swan’s inaction.

“When is our city going to make Ellenbrook look good,” he said.

“Ninety per cent of Ellenbrook looks like a weed infested area.”

Similar concerns were made by another resident Sharon Lambert who says areas near her property look unkempt.

“Even when they do the verges they do a half-hearted job with tufts of weeds and long grass,” she said.

“(We) pay rates on time every year and feel we don’t get much in return as far as making the area look half decent.”

City of Swan Mayor Tanya Richardson posting on a public forum said that the city maintains a quarterly mowing schedule around the City of Swan catchment.

“In order for an extra mow to be added to the budget for next year, it would need to be increased,” she said.

“This would need to be brought to council as part of our budget process.

“The City of Swan is a large tier 1 council and we are topographically the biggest.”

City of Swan chief executive officer Stephen Cain said that a council decision would be required for any changes in the city’s maintenance program.

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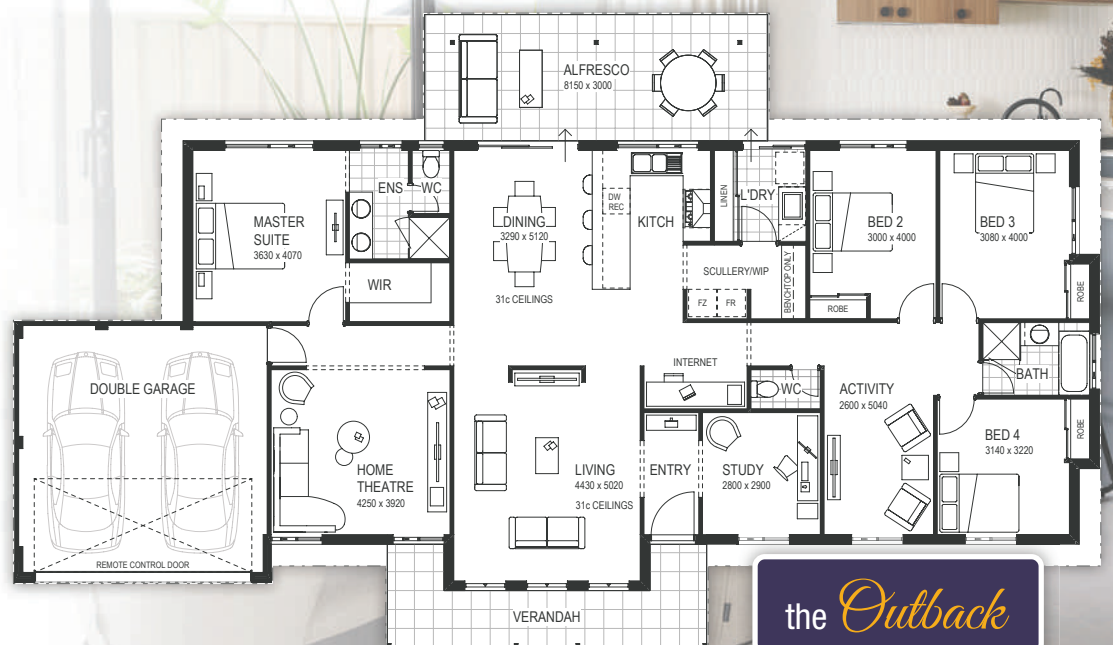
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Arson attack on Midland tobacco shop escalates fears of organised crime link

BRAYDEN MOULD

A TOBACCO shop in Midland, located along Great Eastern Highway sustained severe damage following a fire early Monday morning, which police are treating as suspicious.

Police and the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) were called to the business shortly before 4am after receiving reports of a structure fire.

Firefighting crews attended the scene and successfully extinguished the large blaze, but the intensity of the flames caused significant damage to the storefront.

The force of the fire blew out the shop's shutters and left the windows heavily blackened.

No injuries have been reported as a result of the blaze.

Authorities have revealed CCTV footage that shows the perpetrators, a group of men dressed in blue coveralls, seen using a red Hyundai as a battering ram against the roller door.

They subsequently used jerrycans full of gasoline to ignite the front of the store.

This new incident is the latest in a series of targeted attacks, fuelling concerns the organised crime associated with the Victorian tobacco wars has now reached Western Australia.

As reported in *Midland smoke shop fire investigation continues* (Echo News, November 1, 2024), A Midland tobacco shop last year was targeted by an arsonist after a white Nissan Navara crashed into the A-Deal Tobacconist's shopfront and was set ablaze.

Opposition Police spokesperson and Kalamunda MLA, Adam Hort, slammed the state government for its failure to address the growing organised crime numbers in the state.

"While every other mainland state has got on with the job and strengthened their laws, the Cook Labor government are just watching what other governments are doing," he said.

"In doing nothing, they've left our suburbs vulnerable



The front of 'Midland Tobacconist' sustained heavy damage to the roller door and window. Photo: Brayden Mould

and exposed, and organised criminals have taken full advantage of that failure.

"This isn't random. When other states tightened their laws, criminals looked for the weakest link and are moving their operations to our state.

"The Opposition is calling on the Cook Labor government to urgently introduce legislation next week – in its last week of parliament – to give authorities the power to shut down illegal tobacco outlets linked to organised crime.

"If Labor keeps delaying, it's the safety of local businesses, workers and families in our suburbs that will continue to be put at risk."

Premier Roger Cook expressed gratitude to first responders who managed to stop the blaze.

Mr Cook said tough new laws, which could lead to re-

tailers facing bigger fines or shutdown orders, would be introduced next year.

"One of the reasons why we are working with other states at the moment is to ensure that Western Australia has the toughest laws in the country."

Officers urge anyone who has any information relating to the fire to contact Crime Stoppers online at www.crimestopperswa.com.au or by calling 1800 333 000.

Rewards of up to \$25,000 are available for information leading to the identification and conviction of the arsonist.

Anyone with CCTV, dash-cam, or mobile phone vision taken between 3.30am and 4.30am in the vicinity of the fire, can upload the vision direct to investigators via the link wapf.au.evidence.com/axon/community-request/public/midland-arsonoffence

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Bells Rapids Lookout remains under construction and has ended up costing more than originally projected.

Bells Rapids Lookout budget blowout

GUANHAO CHENG

QUESTIONS asked during the City of Swan's November meeting revealed the cost to build the Bells Lookout had ballooned past the original budget.

The state government allocated \$800,000 to the project but it has since ballooned to a total project cost of \$1.259 million.

On November 12, Brigadoon resident Karen Mowat asked the City of Swan to confirm if the project was now incurring costs above the amount received in grant funding.

The city confirmed that the project cost now exceeded the original cost and will self-fund the additional costs following an unsuccessful application to the WA planning committee for additional funding.

\$459,000 will be allocated to the project from municipal funds.

Bells Lookout works begin amid parking con-

cerns (Echo News, August 15) reported an updated design would include 11 parking bays, which residents at the time said wouldn't meet demand.

According to the City of Swan, they would now address resident safety concerns about roadside parking by installing guideposts near the entrance to prevent roadside parking on Campersic Road and maintain clear sightlines.

Additionally, the city revealed the final cost to build the Brigadoon Playspace was \$619,000.

The developer contributed \$200,000 for the play space to be provided in the design, with the remaining \$419,000 to be funded through municipal funds.

The City of Swan manages the land the Bells Rapid Lookout tower is situated on through a management order they hold over the land.

The state owns the land for the purposes of "recreation" and the city said they had no intention to request transfer of ownership.

Pickering Brook townsite expansion deferred

GUANHAO CHENG

THE City of Kalamunda council voted unanimously this Tuesday to seek WA planning commission (WAPC) deferral on the decision for the Pickering Brook scheme amendment.

The decision was made in the interest of allowing additional time for city, the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage and the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) to work collaboratively to address the bushfire concerns raised by DFES.

Kalamunda South East Ward councillor John Giardina moved for the deferral, seconded by fellow South East Ward councillor David Modolo.

Cr Giardina said the Pickering Brook townsite expansion project had been ongoing for a long time and did not seem to be gaining any traction for a while but now that some action is occurring, he wanted to proceed with caution.

"Finally something came through from one of the departments that gives us some possibility of working with them to find solutions and I hope by deferring this we'll be able to do that," he said.

"I'm (proceeding) very, very cautiously with this – the last thing I'll want is for this to be knocked on the head totally."

Cr Giardina said due to the long bout of inaction on the townsite expansion, the truth was a lot of the Pickering Brook community members were losing hope.

"But the expectation is there that we actually do something with that

parcel of land and it's not only for them, but it's for the school, for the sports club," he said.

"I hope this (deferral) will go a long way in supporting what we're trying to do."

Cr Modolo also spoke to the motion, supporting the deferral to allow time to address bushfire risks.

"Pickering Brook is a unique area in that it's one of the few areas in our city and perhaps in the metro area that the people there actually want development, and good development here is not just a planning exercise," he said.

"I know the city and this council has done a mountain of work to try and progress that vision and a forced push towards getting it approval may see all of that good work undone."

"As the Minister for Housing and Lands John Carey has repeatedly said, WA needs more diverse housing options."

"That means different types, different scales, different locations and Pickering Brook is one of those rare locations where diversity is both possible and welcomed."

"While we recognise the need for sensible development, we can't ignore the seriousness of the bushfire risk in the region and the concerns raised by DFES."

"That's why seeking the deferral is not a step backwards – it's actually a step towards getting this whole thing right."

"This chamber's long supported the vision of a revitalised Pickering Brook, the people there are desperate for some semblance of future."

"Tonight's motion will help en-



Pickering Brook preferred townsite expansion area from south of Pickering Brook Road looking west as shown in a 2020 working group report.

sure that that vision isn't jeopardised."

The Pickering Brook townsite metropolitan region scheme (MRS) amendment request resulted from a long history of planning for the townsite's expansion.

In 2013, the City of Kalamunda's local planning strategy (LPS) 2010 was endorsed by the WAPC who then recommended the investigation of an area of land within Pickering Brook for the expansion.

Then seven years later, in 2020, the state published Pickering Brook's sustainability and tour-

ism strategy part one, as a plan to expand the townsite and urbanise 14ha of land.

A bushfire risk assessment and management plan was prepared to support this proposal.

A year later, the council voted to request the WAPC amend the MRS to rezone the land from rural to urban.

However, the progress has since ground to a halt against the bushfire concerns raised by DFES who does not support the proposed townsite expansion while the risks remain.

The council's latest resolution to defer a WAPC decision on the amendment would allow the City of Kalamunda to address bushfire safety concerns recently detailed by DFES to increase the likelihood of a positive outcome on the decision according to city documentation.

"This approach may alleviate the risk of the WAPC not initiating the MRS amendment, which would require restarting the entire process, leading to significant delays, additional costs, and wasted resources," the officer notes stated.



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Dec
3

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5

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Guildford resident stars in WA Reflection's short film

BRAYDEN MOULD

GUILDFORD resident, actor and musician Geoffoire, the main character in the new Screen-west-supported documentary 'I've Never Seen a Straight Banana', is set to share a unique slice of Western Australian history.

The short film is one of four documentaries in the WA Reflection series, which draws on the State Library of WA's archives to explore lesser-known stories.

The film charts Geoffoire's journey of self-discovery as he prepares a performance to honour the legacy of the acclaimed vaudeville entertainer and male impersonator, Effie Fellows.

Ms Fellows, a Perth-based entertainer commonly headlined theatres such as the Majestic, Regent, and the Luxor where she adopted men's attire and performed on stage.

As vaudeville waned in popularity during the 1930's, Ms Fellows continued to perform in nursing homes and community centres until her passing in 1977.

Geoffoire explained that he always envisioned performing a unique split half-female, half-male comedy act, but societal barriers made the prospect daunting.

"I had a childhood vision of mimicking, remodelling, and further advancing the dimension of a comedy act that I'd seen as a child," he said.

"But I was brought up in rural country where social acceptance of boundaries of anything outside the norm was fairly difficult to challenge.

"It came to light during some research I'd started doing as part of the documentary, I discovered that Effie Fellows not only played a part as a male impersonator, she also did a half man, half woman act.

"It was that strength that I thought... wow that was the act I wanted to build as a child... I thought 'I'll give it a go'.

"I had to put makeup on one side of my face. And that was all very, new."

Geoffoire hopes the film inspires others to explore performances that aren't normally accepted, and to explore the history of Effie Fellows.

"She should have been recognised more back in her heyday, in her own country," he said.

"I thought it was such a shame that... a Western Australian girl living in Subiaco and the amazing life she had... and no one knew her, no one knew anything about her.

"I think people can use her story to learn that sometimes you need a catalyst to give you confidence to do what you didn't have the confidence to do previously."

'I've Never Seen a Straight Banana' will be screened for free at the State Library Theatre on Thursday, December 11, starting at 6.30pm, and will be followed by a panel discussion with the filmmakers.

To register for the free screening, visit slwa.wa.gov.au/whatson/ive-never-seen-straight-banana

The film will also be showcased as part of the Perth Festival Lotterywest Films line-up, showing before selected feature films at the Somerville Auditorium between December and March.



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\$38 million of upgrades and new facilities at Kalamunda schools



Education Minister Sabine Winton with Kalamunda SHS students Lily-Bae Southall, Aaliyah Montgomery and Lavender Pennington.

EDUCATION Minister Sabine Winton has officially opened state-of-the-art new buildings to increase student capacity at Kalamunda Senior High School and Kalamunda Secondary Education Support Centre.

The \$38 million works include a new multistorey block with eight general classrooms to accommodate Kalamunda Senior High School students, along with new purpose-built facilities for Kalamunda Secondary Education Support Centre, comprising six classrooms and ancillary areas.

Also included in the project is a visual arts building, with four studios that provide dedicated spaces for the arts and multimedia, as well as a gallery area to celebrate the work of the school's emerging artists.

The additions accommodate growth in student enrolments at Kalamunda Senior High School, increasing permanent capacity by another 200 students.

The buildings were designed by TAG Architects.

The visual arts block was completed in November 2024 and has been used by staff and students since the start of the 2025 school year. The other buildings were completed by Broad Construction in July 2025.

It forms part of the Cook government's commitment to delivering high-quality education infrastructure for Western Australian students, families, and educators.

Education Minister Sabine Winton said the government will continue to prioritise investing in quality education infrastructure, close to where families live.

"It's so important that students and teachers have access to comfortable and modern learning and working environments.

"The new buildings will undoubtedly create vibrant spaces for students to learn, create, and grow.

"Our government will continue to prioritise delivering quality education infrastructure for Western Australian students."

Klasey Hirst MLC said it was fantastic to see projects like this delivering modern, inclusive facilities that support teachers and help students in Kalamunda reach their full potential.

"These upgrades are a great example of the Cook government's commitment to investing in quality education for every student, no matter where they live."

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New Swan FDV network chair, Angie Perkins with City of Swan community development officer Caitlin Ciovica in Juniper Gardens.

Midland March that Matters on next Friday

THE Swan family and domestic violence network will host its 12th annual Midland March That Matters on Friday, December 5 at Midland's Juniper Gardens as part of the 16 Days in WA campaign.

This year's event introduces a new format designed to bring the community together for free food, activities and vital information to support the community to make a stand to end family and domestic violence.

This event also coincides with the beginning of a new chapter for the Swan Domestic Violence Network who is welcoming Midland's chief executive officer Angie Perkins as their new chair.

Ms Perkins has over 20 years of experience in the sector and a strong focus on stakeholder and community engagement, mental health, family and domestic violence and access to justice.

"Family and domestic violence in our community is everyone's issue," Ms Perkins said.

"We all have a role to play to ensuring everyone lives free from violence and fear.

"This year's event is about giving people a space to connect, access resources, and hear about community led solutions.

"Real change happens when communities come together, listening, learning and working together."

Ms Perkins said organisers want people to leave feeling a sense of hope, being equipped with the confidence, connections and tools to speak out

against abuse and support those who need help.

"The march remains the heart of this event, a powerful symbol of unity, led by the WA Police Pipe Band," she said.

The event will begin at 10am with welcome speeches at Juniper Gardens behind Midland Dome, accessible via The Crescent or Cale Street, followed by the march at 10.45am.

From 11am to 1pm, attendees can enjoy free food including a sausage sizzle provided by IGA Midland and Swan Rotary Club, browse interactive stalls hosted by local organisations offering resources on domestic violence prevention and support services, and participate in family-friendly activities.

What began in 2012 as a small awareness stall at Midland Gate has grown into the Midland March that Matters, one of the state's most significant events advocating for safety and respect in relationships.

Hundreds of participants now gather annually to show solidarity with victim-survivors and those whose work is dedicated to preventing abuse.

The Swan Family and Domestic Violence Network is a collaboration of Midland-based organisations including Midland, City of Swan, Relationships Australia WA, Indigo Junction, St John of God Midland, ERICA, Department of Communities, Best Lives, Ngala, Zonta House Refuge Association, Centrecare and many others.

Mahogany Creek second hand store to close



Jan and Tony outside their premises in Mahogany Creek.

MIKE PEETERS

THE Mahogany Creek second hand store will stop trading at Christmas after 26 years.

It is the end of an era for owners Jan and Tony Smith who have become a huge part of the community.

Mr Smith said the closure was necessary due to the huge amount of ongoing maintenance and up-keep required for both the shop and their adjoining home.

"We are also both getting older - I am now 76 and my wife Jan is 80," Mr Smith said.

"I have always been my own boss and we used to run another shop in Chidlow before this one so

you could say it is in our blood."

About eight months ago Mr Smith suffered a bad fall when he fell off the roof breaking his pelvis and ribs.

He said this was another reason he and his wife had finally decided to shut up shop.

Regular client Anna Boddy said she understood that all good things must come to an end, but it would be the end of an era for the people of Mahogany Creek and surrounding areas.

"The hills community will really miss the warm and welcoming atmosphere of the store," she said.

The couple's daughter Leila, who runs another vintage store next door called Ebony and Ivy, will also be closing up her store at the same time.

New facilities at St Brigid's Primary School



Hasluck MP Tania Lawrence and Midland MLA Steve Catania try out the new playground equipment.

ST Brigid's Primary School last week celebrated the official opening of their new Year 1 extension and pre-primary playground refurbishment attended by Hasluck MP Tania Lawrence.

Ms Lawrence said work on the new facilities was delivered with support of federal government funding of \$178,155 through the capital grants program and will improve student educational outcomes.

"A lot of work has gone into this project which has delivered a refurbished general learning area and playground," she said.

"These new facilities will provide school staff, teachers and students at St Brigid's Primary School with better, more modern spaces in which to work, teach and learn.

"The Australian government is committed to providing all schools with appropriate funding so that all students, including those in St Brig-

id's Primary School, Middle Swan get the best possible education."

Ms Lawrence said the new facilities would benefit the students currently at St Brigid's Primary School, as well as the many students to follow in the future years.

"The teachers, staff and students at St Brigid's Primary School have built a strong and positive school community and these new facilities will further enhance our local educational opportunities," Ms Lawrence said.

"Our government strongly believes in providing the best possible resources so that local students can realise their potential and develop the skills they need to go on to further study or join the workforce."

More information about the Capital Grants Program can be found at: www.education.gov.au/payments-and-grants-schools/capital-grants-non-government-schools



Residents across The Vines and Swan Valley attended the Parliament House rally to protest ongoing development issues in the City of Swan.

Swan Valley residents rally against urbanisation

GUANHAO CHENG

SWAN VALLEY residents protested at Parliament House last week to oppose developer changes to The Vines and to preserve open green spaces in the Swan Valley.

The Vines Residents and Ratepayers Association (VRRA) submitted reports to the state government's inquiry into WA Planning opposing the way the state planning system had been used in the Swan area.

The VRRA also worked with Swan authorities such as the City of Swan, Swan Community Environmental Alliance, Swan Valley Tourism Alliance, and resident groups to protect The Vines and Swan Valley from further development they considered inappropriate.

The association is proceeding with a judicial review of WA Planning Commission (WAPC) decisions approving changes to The Vines structure plan in September.

The changes would allow removal of an 18-hole golf course from public and tourist access, which was a loss of 80 per cent public access according to the VRRA.

Ninety-one homes are planned to be built on the existing driving range and practice areas without checking the existing housing plans around The Vines and future demand for open and recreational spaces.

A two-storey driving range in the middle of the golf course is also planned, which the VRRA said threatened the course's future and the tourism appeal of the Swan Valley.

VRRA spokesperson Dixon Lowe said the years-long frustrating experiences to save the Vines showed there was no such thing as a "fair go" in the state's current planning process.

"Our actions target the heart of WA's planning processes which is structured to reduce the role of local communities in favour of developers," he said.

"For 20 years the Vines' resort owners have benefited from land sales around the golf course.

"With this now complete, they consider the golf course itself to be ready for housing.

"Despite opposition to structure plan changes, the WAPC sided with the developers."

The City of Swan council previously unanimously voted twice to support community opposition to the redevelopment, and in 2023, the metro outer joint development assessment panel (JDAP) rejected the driving range application citing its piecemeal nature.

"These decisions were ignored by the WAPC," Mr Lowe said.

"Even the Planning Department reports ignored the City of Swan's five-point resolution against the changes, and the 89 per cent of public submissions opposing the application, instead recommending approval with modifications. **Cont. p17**

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Fran and Pat Irwin with Chris Elders (centre).



Connection Café to bring Christmas cheer

CONNECTION Café, a food relief and community hub program in Midland which attracts support from all over Perth, will be full of Christmas cheer throughout December.

A grant from St John of God Midland Public and Private Hospitals (SJOG) will support the provision of Christmas hampers and treats for those who might otherwise go without.

Musical duo Pat and Fran Irwin will provide live music entertainment, adding a festive touch to the always welcoming atmosphere.

Rescue greyhound Rocco, who belongs to coordinator Chris Elders and is a favourite amongst regulars, will be looking forward to extra pats and attention.

Mr Elders said the housing crisis and cost of living had led to an increase in the number of people attending the weekly hub to share life, coffee and cake, a sausage sizzle and food parcels.

"Around 80-90 people visit each session most of whom receive a food parcel," he said.

"Toiletries and household goods are also available, plus information and referrals to other agencies and services."

Numbers attending are expected to rise throughout December, reflecting the need for food relief, increased housing difficulties and social isolation.

Mr Elders said a queue for the cafe starts forming long before the

doors open every Friday at 10am.

"I think the queue is part of the ritual now, a chance for people to chat and catch up," he said.

"One woman living in her car commented to me how this is one place and time of the week when she can feel like a part of normal life."

The café is run by volunteers and overseen by the Midland Anglican Church of Ascension.

As well as SJOG, the café is supported by a grant from Lottery-West administered by Anglicare, and donations from the parishes of Swan, Darlington-Bellevue, Bassendean, Mundaring, Subiaco, Floreat and City Beach.

Other donors include Black Swan Bakehouse, Guildford Grammar School, Swan Valley Anglican Community School, Tara Montessori, Hills Symphony Orchestra and Vital Beats Studio.

Mr Elders said more help is always appreciated.

"We always need donations of non-perishable foods such as long-life milk, tins of tuna, canned beans and vegies, cereal and pasta."

Connection Café operates out of the Ascension Church Hall in Spring Park Road Midland, every Friday from 10am to midday.

For further information or to make a donation call (08) 9274 1464.

Dementia now leading cause of death: ABS

THE latest data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) in the Causes of Death, Australia, 2024 report has named dementia as the leading cause of death in Australia, overtaking ischaemic heart diseases.

In 2024, dementia accounted for 9.4 per cent of all deaths, whilst the number of deaths caused by dementia has increased by 39 per cent over the last decade.

Dementia has been the leading cause of death for Australian women since 2016, with the 2024 data showing that 62.4 per cent of people who died from dementia were women.

Dementia Australia chief executive officer professor Tanya Buchanan said this data reinforces the critical need to invest in public health approaches to brain health and dementia risk reduction, while providing more targeted support for people impacted by dementia.

"There are currently an estimated 433,300 Australians living with dementia and without significant intervention, this number is expected to increase to more than one million by 2065," professor Buchanan said.

"We need to act on dementia now."

"At a community level, we need to increase awareness of dementia and brain health, reducing the stigma experienced by so many impacted by dementia."

"Across health, aged, disability and community care sectors, we need to ensure quality dementia care, with palliative care tailored to the needs of people living with dementia, their families and carers at the end of their life."

"Although there are things we cannot change, like getting older or genetics, we now know that up to 45 per cent of dementia cases globally could be prevented or delayed by addressing modifiable risk factors."

For more details on the ABS report visit www.abs.gov.au/statistics/health/causes-death

For dementia information and support contact the National Dementia Helpline on 1800 100 500 or visit dementia.org.au



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AMA (WA) president Dr Kyle Hoath, individual award winners Dr Jemma Hogan and Dr Maria Foundas with St John of God Health Care chief medical officer Dr David McCoubrie.

Triple win for St John of God Health Care

ST John of God Health Care (SJGHC) has been honoured with three awards at the AMA (WA)'s 2025 Awards night, reflecting its commitment to junior doctor wellbeing and career development.

SJGHC chief medical officer David McCoubrie said receiving the Health Service Provider of the Year Award is recognition of its People First culture and focus on valuing the experience of doctors in training.

"We offer junior doctors outstanding opportunities to learn and be mentored in teams, while providing holistic, person-centered care at a leading health care organisation," he said.

SJGHC general manager medical workforce and education Dr Jemma Hogan received the peer-nominated junior doctor of the year (Dr Camille Michener Legacy Award).

Dr Hogan also facilitates leadership and governance education for junior doctors at St John of God Midland Hospital.

SJGHC consultant aged care and rehabilitation

Dr Maria Foundas received the peer-nominated DHASWA Champion of the year (Jonathan Morling Legacy Award) for doing the most to champion the cause of doctors' and medical student health in Western Australia.

Dr Foundas, a senior geriatrician at St John of God Midland Hospital, is highly regarded by her colleagues for her leadership, compassion, and commitment to the wellbeing of junior doctors, from their commencement as interns, and moving into their roles as junior doctor, and also manages the intern wellbeing program at the Midland hospital focused on sharing concerns and problem-solving through group and individual talking sessions.

"I welcome the opportunity to shine a light on the important topic of junior doctor wellbeing. Being a doctor is an immense privilege but often comes with great responsibilities and challenges," Dr Foundas said.

Find out more about medical career opportunities at St John of God Health Care at www.sjog.org.au/working-with-us/medical-careers

Art residency brings out student creativity

MIKE PEETERS

HILLS artist and painter Belinda Eldridge recently completed a successful and innovative art residency at St Anthony's Primary School in Greenmount.

The project, entitled Journey of Faith, involved Ms Eldridge working closely with students from pre-primary to Year 6 to create a collaborative artwork based on the school's values.

"The 10-week residency commenced in August with nearly 100 children involved and 18 large framed murals produced," Ms Eldridge said.

"My role was to help guide the students through the artistic and conceptual process, while fostering a powerful sense of community and responsibility.

"This is a story of faith, education and the positive outcomes of inter-generational mentorship."

Deputy principal Erica Sanderson said that 2025 was a jubilee year for the Catholic Church and only occurred once every 25 years.

So, the school wanted to acknowledge this in different formats.

"The theme for this year's jubilee is Pilgrims of Hope, and our idea was to take elements of our school's history along with the charisms of our founding orders and the patrons of our four houses and create a pilgrimage walk within the school grounds," Ms Sanderson said.



Deputy principal Erica Sanderson with Belinda Eldridge. Picture: Mr Chalmers.

"We reached out to Belinda to engage her as our artist-in-residence to work with the students to create an array of murals.

"Each year level focused on a different aspect of our heritage and Belinda supported the students to create their own individual pieces.

"Belinda was then able to take the inspiration of these pieces of art to create a mural that captured those ideas."

She said Belinda put together a design

for each of the year levels from pre-primary to Year 5 that the students took turns to paint.

"The pilgrimage was used for the first time at our house day celebrations and staff and students alike took joy in what had been accomplished," Ms Sanderson said.

Ms Eldridge said the students collaborated in teams to produce the final projects, even creating a smaller one towards the end with their hand prints and

the motto, 'We continue to act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly'.

She added the school was also considering entering a state competition with Journey of Faith.

Ms Eldridge began painting professionally in 2016, starting with pet portraits and she now offers originals and commissions.

For more information go to: www.belindaeldridgeart.com

Midland TAFE gets \$3.3m for renewables facility



THE Cook and Albanese Labor governments have announced \$3.3 million funding for the construction of a renewables training hub at North Metropolitan TAFE's Midland campus.

The facility features a 25-metre working at heights tower, two donated Vestas nacelles, two 2.5-kilowatt wind turbines, and a monitoring room.

North Metropolitan TAFE will deliver new wind power skill sets from 2026, giving around 350 students a year the opportunity to gain experience working on industry infrastructure.

The renewables training hub will be critical to developing the state's clean energy workforce and will be central to the delivery of a range of training and workforce initiatives to be developed by the Clean Energy Skills National Centre of Excellence, a joint initiative between the Cook and Albanese Labor governments under the National Skills Agreement.

Skills and TAFE Minister Amber-Jade Sanderson said the Cook Labor government's record TAFE investment was delivering modern training facilities to provide a pipeline of workers.

"Collaborating with the Commonwealth enables us to do even more as we prioritise jobs, health, and housing, and ensure we have the skilled workforce required as we become a renewable energy powerhouse."



The project was funded through \$3.24m from the commonwealth's TAFE Technology Fund (TTF), with the Cook government contributing an additional \$100,000.

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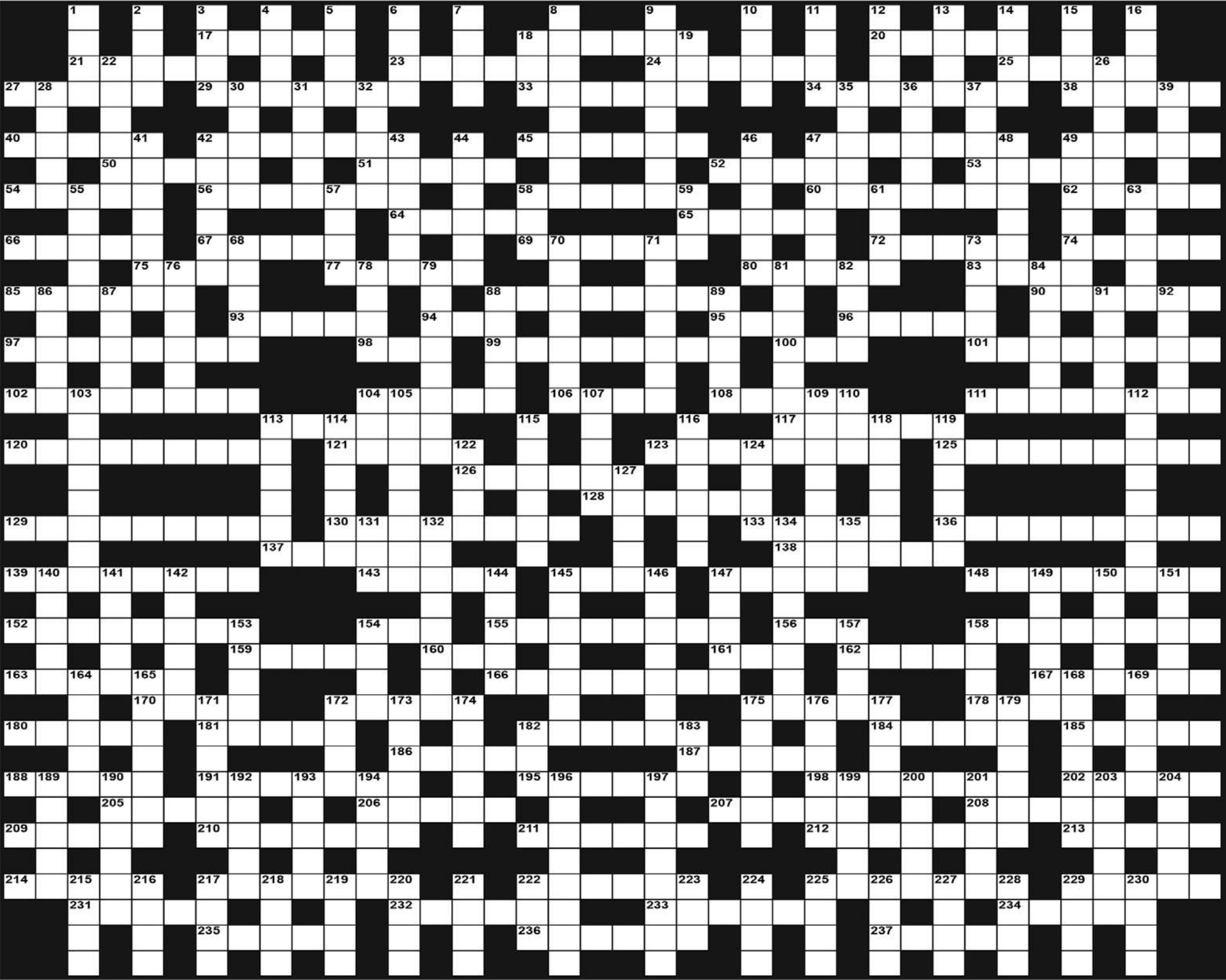
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ECHO

Mind Boggler Crossword

1246



- ACROSS

17 First class

18 Nonsense

20 Give a speech

21 Vine fruit

23 Type of sheep

24 Read again

25 Unembellished

27 Casts off

29 Very dry areas

33 Had a desire

34 Prominent

38 Comes across

40 Thin wooden strips

42 Shown in numbers

45 Outcast

47 Type of dog

49 Societal group

50 Type of bird

51 A tree

52 Wooden container

53 Each day

54 Listens to

56 Hearts

58 Sex

60 Give in confidence

62 Type of willow

64 Fine dress material

65 Fireplace

66 Cruel person

67 Senior member

69 High area

72 Spur wheel

74 Vacant

75 Workmen

77 Pick-me-up

80 Discretion

83 Cereal varieties

85 Invent

88 Handgun

90 Stems of plants

93 Fresher

94 Slip on ice

95 Round figure

96 Memento

97 Making a pair

98 Female sheep

99 Takes away from

100 Organ of sight

101 Abstaining from beer

102 Stressed

104 Following

106 Drinks as a cat

108 Positions for houses

111 Was in competition

113 A dog

117 Mafia code

120 Italian food

121 Goes first

123 Distilled tar

125 Involving two sides

126 Unfasten

128 Acting ruler

129 Fine point in conduct

130 More curly

133 Small marks

136 Of the night

137 Lamentation

138 Joined together

139 Pushed inward

143 Once more

145 Masticate

147 Minister's residence

148 Decomposed greens

152 Extra hours worked

154 Edge of stitching

155 Posed for

156 Turf

158 Ran too fast for

159 Hang loosely

160 Flow back

161 A tree

162 More mature

163 Part of a shirt

166 Dune

167 Meshed

170 Loafing

172 Wish well

175 Change to suit

178 Woody plant

180 Church law

181 Love

182 Pattern

184 Indian currency

185 Metal block

186 Not deserved

187 Oily fruit

188 Offspring

191 Talked about

195 Tended the ill

198 Salty compound

202 Groups of cattle

205 Brimless hat

206 Made cat's cry

207 Airholes

208 Gave hand signal

209 Thin biscuit

210 Make light noise

211 Leases pasture

212 Pattern for printing

213 Wash out

214 Precious stone

217 The beach

222 Underclothes

225 Chooses

229 Props up

231 Hatred

232 Take in food

233 A pilot

234 Push against

235 To that time

236 Puts in office

237 Type of violin

DOWN

1 Hoar frost

2 Lubricates

3 Darn

4 Intentions

5 Close

6 Farm animals

7 Consumes

8 Water crops

9 Musical work

10 Fly off

11 Verses

12 Make water cloudy

13 Simplicity

14 Undergarment

15 School test

16 Garden tool

18 Night moisture

19 Showed the way

22 Newspaper chief

26 Pays back

28 Cut into two

30 Send from home

31 Throw out

32 Slight sign

35 Poplar tree

36 Inside part

37 Wants

39 Name

41 Be suspicious of

42 Ten year period

43 Thing to be learnt

44 Gum from a tree

46 Glowing

47 Soaks well

48 Recently

49 Least distance away

55 Sharp

57 Talk wildly

58 Type of antelope

59 Eradicate

61 Ripped

63 Force forward

68 Being indebted

70 Very important

71 Beginners

73 Build

76 Area

78 Mythical monster

79 Put into

81 Toxic building material

82 Car part

84 High regard

86 Perch as a bird

87 Greek letter

88 Jockey

89 Flowers

91 Over

92 Rascal

103 Argued sensibly

104 Time of life

105 Glistening

107 Moving

109 Intense feelings

110 Placed in position

112 An end

113 Common circus tent

114 Sth American mammal

115 Do better than

116 Doctrines

118 Fight back

119 Be plentiful

122 Oil reservoir

124 Chooses

127 Lack of trouble

131 Coastal indentation

132 Speaks brokenly

134 Penalised

135 Make a knot

140 Relating to warships

141 Eagle's nest

142 Plaited

144 Loses feelings

145 Pitch in voice

146 Strolling

147 A decoration

149 Change genes

150 Giraffe's relative

151 In that place

153 Moved slowly

154 Get better

157 Fall down

158 Speak lengthily

164 Boredom

165 Wine merchant

168 Climate

169 At no time

171 Scaling aid

172 Band

173 Got away from

174 Walked sideways

175 Comes up

176 Representatives

177 Slow run

179 Make a law invalid

182 Lair

183 Head movement

189 Want badly

190 Took heed

192 Musical piece

193 Cars (US)

194 Correct

196 Importantly

197 Pleads with

199 A fibre

200 Scope

201 Screw

203 Papal decrees

204 Powdery

215 Was dressed in

216 Join

217 Soot

218 Performs

219 Sickneses

220 A cheese

221 Malady

222 Employ

223 Sister (abb)

224 Sign

225 Break suddenly

226 Adore

227 Use an axe

228 Box in practice

229 Posted

230 Requests
- Crossword Solution 1245 from 21 November, 2025
- MAYHEM D ROCKS O B M Q DODOS E CALMED
A O ACUTE O P BRANDISH I T TAPER E I
GAMMON M S NEEDS N C APSES E T EXALTS
I E R PICKS C CONSIDER C CONING A S S
CHARTED U EXITUE E E PALAMO S STATURE
A R R PRIOR A NURTURED R USING E S N
LARGESSE N VALUES LEADER E REDOLENT
A N HAGGLE ISSUED SISTER W L
CANISTER ADJUTANT LENGTHEN YOUNGEST
A G U A A M A E GARTER R T S P T U S S H
PRESENT THIEVING T S REINDER IMPASTO
T T H T N E S SIGNAL A D R E C L L U
UNDRESSER AILMENTS NATTIEST PRATTLING
R U W A T T AMBITS R E A E O H
ELATION CLEANSING TREASURER FATTEST
E O START S I E DAMP E B N EVOKE W
CAROL PUSHES D UTE EGG S PANDER LATER
D E S E T A E D I C T F E U D E X C E L A R E E L S
E I W H T A S I R E A N O E A T I E W S P
R T T L A S T A N N E N A T I E A S S
S E A G L E R M O T E L D U S T R I D E S E C A R R Y T
THERM ASPIRE U I R E T S A I A I R M A N A S I A N
I P R I S E N D S D I S C I T N N A L T E R K
S P O N S O R P A R T N E R E D W E I G H T I E R S T E R N E R
T O P E E R O T A T E E N S C O E
R E I N S T A T E C A S H C R O P R E S T O C K S M O T H E A D E D
I E B R O T A P I T T E D R T P A E R R
K E T T L E S E Q U A L I T Y A S P A L A T I A L T R E S T L E
E A E T D R E T U T M O S T M R R U H L W S
S U L T A N A S S U S P E N S E E A R P I E C E M E L O D I E S
L E S P I T C H E S A S E G N O G S I S T A I L O R R A S C E N D E D
S U N S H I N E I E G N O G S I S T A I L O R R A S C E N D E D
Y T S M O G U L L D E S T R O Y S A T R A W L O L I
M I S S I L E H E L A N D T L P A N D A O F A L T E R S
B T A B A N D S M B L A N D I S H Y A I N U R E S H C
O P T I O N A E S T O M A R Y A G A I N A V T R I P L E
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Day in the Forrest celebrates 10 years of music



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Glen Forrest's much-loved community music festival Day In The Forrest will be back on Saturday, December 6.

NOW in its tenth year Glen Forrest's much-loved community music festival, Day In The Forrest will take place on Saturday, December 6 from 1pm to 10pm at Morgan John Morgan Park (Train Park), Glen Forrest.

What began as a small idea to bring neighbours together around local music has grown into a cornerstone of the Perth Hills cultural calendar, drawing hundreds each year to Morgan John Morgan Park.

Run entirely by volunteers, the festival captures the creativity and generosity of the community, and each year, the stage lights up with original Western Australian music, giving emerging and established artists alike a chance to share their craft.

From indie folk and roots to rock and blues, the program reflects the diverse sounds that thrive here in the hills.

But Day In The Forrest is more a music lovers' festival than a mere music festival. It's about connection as much as performance - families spreading picnic blankets under the trees, children dancing before the stage, and friends catching up over local food and good tunes.

The festival is free, family-friendly and inclusive, guided by one simple rule: only good vibes.

Over the past decade, Day In The Forrest has become a model for grass-roots arts events — supporting local musicians, training young stage crews, and creating a safe, welcoming space where all ages can celebrate live music together.

This milestone reflects the dedication of the committee and volunteers who put in countless hours behind the scenes, and the loyal sponsors, community groups and festival-goers who return year after year.

This year promises to be the biggest yet, with a showcase of crowd favourites, food and market stalls, and the same sense of connection that has defined the past nine festivals.

Day In The Forrest 2025 takes place on Saturday, December 6 from 1pm to 10pm, at Morgan John Morgan Park (Train Park), Glen Forrest.

For further info please go to www.dayinthe Forrest.com

Ballajura artist takes out Lester Prize People's Choice Award

BALLAJURA artist Jessica Logan has been voted the winner of the 2025 Lester Prize People's Choice Award, receiving \$15,000, generously donated by the Baldock Family Foundation, for her evocative portrait 'Half Time'.

An emerging artist celebrated for her realism and rich use of colour, Logan secured the highest number of votes cast both at the exhibition's onsite voting kiosks and online via The Lester Prize website.

The works of the 40 finalists were exhibited at the WA Museum Boola Bardip from mid-September, drawing strong public engagement.

Logan's winning portrait - an oil on canvas depicting a mother breastfeeding her infant while eating an orange during an AFL half time break - delves into the layered identity of athlete-mothers and the complexities of balancing personal ambition with caregiving.

She said as an artist she was drawn to portraits that speak to resilience in overlooked moments.

"Painting Cassandra was a way to honour the quiet strength in her reluctant yet defiant decision to breastfeed mid-game. This piece is part of my broader exploration of womanhood, visibility, and the stories we don't often see celebrated in competitive or public spaces."

The portrait's subject, Cassandra Terranova, is a mother of twins, athlete, and advocate for women in sport who began playing AFL in 2018 as a means of reclaiming her physical and mental strength after early motherhood.

The moment that inspired the artwork was captured during half-time: Cassandra breastfeeding her son on the sideline - an image Logan described as an unplanned expression of "vulnerability and power", symbolising the adaptability and determination of mothers who continue to pursue their passions while navigating the demands of caregiving.

Logan's creative journey began at age seven, when she first realised the expressive potential of drawing beyond stick figures and the written word.

Largely self-taught, she balances her thriving executive career in leadership and cultural transformation with a deep passion for visual storytelling, with her work capturing raw emotion and human complexity, often exploring both animal and human portraiture.

Now focused on championing emerging artists, she is working toward hosting collaborative gallery shows that spark dialogue,



Ballajura artist Jessica Logan with her portrait 'Half Time' depicting a breastfeeding mother eating an orange during the break.

challenge perception, and celebrate the beauty of the everyday.

Awards include: Finalist, 2021 Vasse Art Award, finalist, 2021 South Perth emerging artist award, and highly commended, 2022 South Perth emerging artists award, 2025 Lester Prize finalist and winner of the Baldock Family People's Choice award.

The Baldock Family People's Choice Award, the final announcement of The Lester Prize season, officially marks the close of the 18th annual exhibition.

Executive director Shannon Yujnovich said the 2025 event was an exceptional success, attracting record visitation and the highest number of entries ever seen.

"With a prize pool increased to \$135,000 and strong support from new sponsors and members of the Lester Collective, the prize continues to flourish. Each year our reach grows, and portraiture gains an ever-expanding audience of supporters and admirers," he said.

"Thanks to our sponsors, supporters and advocates, The Lester Prize is well-positioned for continued growth and we hope to tour the prize nationally in the coming years, after all, this is a national competition, and we have entries from all around Australia."

For more information, visit: www.lesterprize.com

ENTERTAINMENT & GIG GUIDE

Your local Gig Guide

Fri November 28

Settlers House York
John Sloper
From 5.30pm. Free.
125 Avon Terrace
York

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

Parkerville Tavern
T.J O'Donovan.
From 6pm. Free.
6 Owen Road
Parkerville

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

Sat November 29

Settlers House York
Back Veranda Band
From 12pm.
The Jukes of York
From 5.30pm. Free.
125 Avon Terrace
York

Parkerville Tavern
Shane Turner
From 6pm. Free.
6 Owen Road
Parkerville

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

Hemingway & Co
Acoustic Saturday
From 7pm-9pm. Free.
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Highway Mundaring

Lyric's Bar Laneway Bar
Jere Sosa Duo
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22 Lyric Lane
Maylands

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

Sun November 30

Woodbridge Hotel
Brian Finn
From 3pm. Free.
50 East St Guildford

7th Ave Bar & Bistro
Travis Caudle
From 12-3pm. Free.
74 Helena Street
Midland

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

Lyric's Bar Laneway Bar
Daisy Cotton Duo
From 5pm. Free.
22 Lyric Lane
Maylands

Parkerville Tavern
Robo Mosquito.
From 4pm. Free.
6 Owen Road
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Mahogany Inn & Distillery
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James Wilson.
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Tues December 2

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Read between the lines

by Pastor Ian Kirk

Advent

This Sunday marks the beginning of Advent - from Sunday the 30th November to Christmas Eve. Advent's purpose is to announce the coming of Christmas and prepare us for it.

I love how, at this time of the year, nature also seems to remind us of the coming of Christmas. There is currently a spectacular display of the Jacarandas with their outstanding mauve blossoms. I also have in our garden hippeastrums in full flower with their unique large trumpet-like flowers. It's as if, they alone, are heralding the coming of Christmas.

Besides nature's announcement of the coming of Christmas, what is Advent specifically about? Advent is not just about announcing the coming of Christmas, but to remind us of the four big themes of Christmas - hope, peace, joy and love. These themes are not found in the commercialisation of Christmas, but in the coming of Christ - the birth of Jesus.

Jesus came to bring us hope beyond the grave, peace between God and mankind, joyful news of salvation, and God's love for us. The angel would declare to the shepherds on the night Jesus was born "I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people, for today in the town of David a Saviour has been born for you."

What a time we live in when the themes of hope, peace, joy, and love are exactly what our world needs - and we can have them when we turn to Christ.

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ECHO Classifieds

9374 6666
classifieds@echo-news.com

Bereavement

Our beloved Dennis Poole passed away peacefully after a rich life of service to building, community and friendships. 20/11/25.

Custom Video & DVD Solutions

Video Transfers to USB starting from \$45 - 6393 7298.

Drainage

SEPTIC TANKS PUMPED.

Blocked drains.
Septic tanks repaired.
Leach drains renewed and repaired.
Storm water drains.
I also repair & renew taps.
Same day.
Pensioner discount.
Call Trevor 0419 773 111.

Electrician

LITL Electrical
All types of electrical work & air conditioning.
Jeff Overton
0483 858 603.
EC14844

Gardening

Bilby's Garden Services
Weed, Prune, Mow & Slash. Free Quotes 0416 855 335.

Victa Mowing and Gardening. Call Terry 0415 377 780.

Ian Mac's whipper snipping, chain sawing and weeding. Small tree lopping jobs 0426 211 137.

Gutter Cleaning

Gutter cleaning & solar panel cleaning. Jason 0421 455 546.

Handyman

All your needs - external/internal painting & roof painting, high pressure cleaning & odd jobs & gyprock repairs - call Markus today - 0433 958 025.

Hobby Farm Services

Slashing, mowing, wool buying, firebreaks & property cleanups. Ian 0458 510 048.

Lawn Mowing

Tony's Lawnmowing, Handyman & Firewood. Cheap rates. Midland & Surrounding Areas. 0431 831 948.

Painting

AAA PAINTING INTERIOR/EXTERIOR
For very competitive prices and old fashioned service ph Nathan on 0409 247 293 (Reg. No. 6605).

Painting & Property Maintenance. 0477 660 703. Local.

Plumbing

MASTERS PLUMBINGAS
All Plumbing & Gas work, Blockages, Hot water units, Leaks, Renovations, Burst pipes. 24/7 Emergency Service. NO CALL OUT FEE David: 0416 644 191. PL-9554 GF-011284

Regrouting

Bathroom Regrouting. Call Andrew 0413 158 763.



Public Notice

BUSH FIRES ACT 1954 NOTICE OF PROHIBITED BURNING PERIOD CITY OF SWAN

The City of Swan wishes to advise that pursuant to section 17(6) of the Bush Fires Act 1954, the Prohibited

Burning Period in the City of Swan commences

Monday December 1, 2025 until midnight on

Tuesday March 31, 2026 inclusive.

Stephen Cain
Chief Executive Officer



Solar Services

Solar Panel Cleaning with Anti Mould & Solar Wax Treatment. 0421 455 546.

Wanted

URGENTLY WANTED SHED / BUILDING Power not required.

Building will be used to resurrect car that has been wrecked by vandals and thieves.

WA Football Car will be used for charity events 2026



Phone Brian 0400 548 639

Window Cleaning

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



Employment



Lecturer Heavy Diesel (Plant Operations)

Northam - Temp appt up to 16 Dec 2026 with possible further term and/or permanency)

Level/Salary: Grade 1-9, \$93,426 – \$120,651 pa (pro rata), LGA

The lecturer's primary role is to teach, facilitate learning, assess and mentor students in accordance with relevant curriculum and/or training package requirements.

To be eligible for employment applicants must hold a Heavy Automotive / Plant mechanic qualification or equivalent and have a minimum of 5 years working in the area of expertise.

It is preferred that applicants already possess a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment (or higher recognised teaching qualification) or can demonstrate progression towards the Certificate IV in Training and Assessment (or equivalent).

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

To Access Detailed Information: Go to jobs.wa.gov.au and key in the Web Search No.CRL089.25S. Applicants are required to apply online.

For Specific Inquiries: Please contact Ros Hegarty, Portfolio Manager Trades & Agriculture on (08) 9622 6778 or email Ros.Hegarty@crtafe.wa.edu.au

Closing Date: Monday, 12 January 2026 at 4:00pm (WST).

CRT 28670

Employment



The Echo Newspaper is looking for a

JUNIOR ADVERTISING SALESPERSON

If you enjoy meeting new people and have an outgoing personality, then this is the job for you.

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- A smart appearance with a strong commitment to customer service and the ability to develop and implement successful sales strategies, including digital, by building and maintaining long lasting client relationships.
- Strong negotiation verbal and written skills with excellent presentation and a professional phone manner is a must.

This position is Monday-Friday and offers a salary package, including a commission structure with a weekly car allowance.

Email Curriculum Vitae to
General Manager / Editor
E: peter.lewis@echo-news.com

Public Notice



PR.RFT 17.2526 – TENDER FOR PROVISION OF DESIGN SERVICES FOR MUNDARING CULTURAL PRECINCT

Tenders Close Friday 19 December 2025 at 11.00am

Shire of Mundaring invites Tenders from suitably qualified and experienced architectural consultancy teams to develop a comprehensive Cultural Precinct Improvement Plan as part of the Mundaring Town Centre Revitalisation Project. This plan aims to enhance the character, accessibility, safety, comfort, aesthetics, functionality, social interaction and economic vitality of the Mundaring Town Centre

Tenderers are required to attend a compulsory site briefing to be held at **10.00am on Tuesday 9 December 2025** at Mundaring Station Masters' House, Jacoby Street Mundaring. Please contact Cheryl Batty on (08) 9290 6651 to register their intention to attend the site briefing. Failure to attend this Site Inspection will render the Tenderer ineligible to submit a Tender.

The Tender documents can be obtained by registering with Tenderlink at <https://portal.tenderlink.com/mundaring>. All Tender submissions must be lodged by the Tender deadline via the Shire Tenderlink portal.

Further information regarding assistance with retrieving the Tender documents or using the portal to lodge Tenders can be obtained from Cheryl Batty on (08) 9290 6651 during office hours. All other enquiries must be lodged through the Tenderlink portal.

Tender submissions not received by the Tender deadline will not be accepted. Canvassing of Council members or Shire Officers will automatically disqualify the tender.

Jason Whiteaker
Chief Executive Officer

Public Notice



Western
Australian
Planning
Commission

Have your say

Swan Valley Planning Scheme No.1, Amendment No.10 – Submission closure date correction

Submissions for the Swan Valley Planning Scheme No.1, Amendment No.10 close **Friday 19 December 2025** instead of Wednesday 19 November 2025 as advertised in the original notice dated 7 November. Submissions can be lodged online or by email to swanvalley@dplh.wa.gov.au or posted to The Secretary, WAPC, Locked Bag 2506, Perth WA 6001.

The Scheme Amendment documents can be viewed online at haveyoursay.dplh.wa.gov.au/svpsamend10 or in person at the offices of the WAPC, Level 2, 140 William Street, Perth.

DOLPH_28773

Alcoa removes Perth Hills from their exploration area

From p3.

These documents formed part of Alcoa's submissions seeking approvals for ongoing plans to mine for bauxite and expand the envelope for their exploration operations.

Parts of Mundaring and Kalamunda were included in the area outlined in Alcoa's proposed expansion area, which covered drinking water catchments such as the Helena River feeding the Mundaring Weir as reported in *Alcoa's Perth Hills expansion zone* (Echo News, July 25).

A BNAA spokesperson said the community was grateful for *Echo News*' coverage of the issue and the local media played a critical part in raising awareness of the situation.

"(*Echo News*) media coverage has been a pivotal part of this campaign, and we really appreciate the commitment to our local community," they said.

"This is a victory for the people of Perth and for the Mandoon Bilya (Helena River) drinking water catchment that supplies Mundaring Weir.

"But make no mistake – the fight is far from over."

BNAA executive director Francesca Flynn said Alcoa's exit from the hills was a defining moment.

"Everyday people, local governments, and community organisations have already shown the power of standing united," she said.

"Alcoa plans to consume around 17 billion litres of water every year.

"More than one-third of the Kwinana desalination plant's maximum output (50 billion litres annually), at a time when the community are being urged to conserve water.

"Speak with your local government councillors, your state and federal MPs, and with each other.

"Now we must amplify our voices."

Swan Valley residents rally against urbanisation

From p11

"The community is protesting because proper assessments were not done, there was no regional impact assessment that would have given a clearer understanding of longer-term impacts, and because this is an ill-fitting planning decision that goes against tourism and recreational objectives for Perth's Swan Valley."

As previously reported in *VRRAs calls for rejection of Vines amendment* (Echo News, June 20), nearly 90 per cent of the community opposed the project in public submissions.

In June 2021, owners of The Vines golf resort and country club The Vines (WA) Pty Ltd published a document titled A new vision, announcing it to their golf club members and the media as a \$200 million project.

The vision offered to broaden recreational and social activities, expand housing and employment opportunities, and provide sustainable buildings and parks.

For the past four years The Vines community, supported by City of Swan council and many Swan Valley groups, have opposed the redevelopment of The Vines which the VRRAs said was a plan to replace the green open spaces with houses taking advantage of high land values.

The community already spent more than \$100,000 in donations to stop the redevelopment plan.

The VRRAs have now submitted a notice of intent, preparing for further legal opposition of the company if approvals move the development proposal to the next stage.



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Mixed results at latest MGCC round



GUANHAO CHENG

MIDLAND Guildford cricket club saw an equal number of losses and wins in the latest weekend of matches.

The senior male sides played against South Perth in one-day matches.

It was a close match for the male 1st grade as they batted first after winning the toss.

Jordan Roads led the team to posting 9-239 from their 50 overs with his score of 71 runs from 69 balls.

In the second innings, Nathan Barnwell, with 2-40 from 10 overs, and

The Midland Guildford cricket club female U17 win was the most dominant, coming out eight wickets ahead of Subiaco Floreat.

Brayden Brehaut, with 2-43 from 10 overs, were key contributors to defending the target and restricting the opposition to 8-233 in a six-run victory.

The result secured the side's position in the finals for 50 over matches this season.

The male 2nd grade and male 3rd grade sides were both beaten in their matches, while the male 4th grade won by five wickets with the winning runs being scored off the penultimate delivery of the match, with Oli Voorn being the top scorer with 50 from 61.

The female A grade side were defeated by eight wickets in their match against Subiaco Floreat, while the female B grade had their match against Rockingham Mandurah abandoned.

In the male U17 match, it was a

comfortable six wicket victory against Melville with Cooper Forsyth top scoring in the chase of 184 with an unbeaten 100 runs from 101 balls.

Mohit Malviya also scored 61 from 88 as the side posted 4-248 in their batting innings.

The male U15 were beaten in their match against the same opponents.

A strong performance from the female U17 in their match against Subiaco Floreat saw them victorious by eight wickets.

They restricted their opponents to 6-98 and chased the target with 10 balls to spare.

It is an exciting round of fixtures this weekend as two-day cricket begins for the senior male teams, while the male 1st grade looks to reach another grand final this season.

Positive outcome for Muchea seniors in round 7

MIKE PEETERS

MUCHEA Senior Cricket Club B-grade won their round 7 game against Morley with a gutsy 4 off the last ball of the game.

Muchea's opening bowlers began their spells with tidy overs and R Khatkarh got a wicket in both his first and second overs.

A bowling change resulted in another 2 wickets but then Morley put on a 108-run partnership which took a while to break, going on to score 208.

Muchea lost a quick wicket before slowly putting on runs with the score at 6-110.

When R Khatkarh came out to bat he put on a match winning performance scoring 65 runs.

After that, the game went down to the wire with Muchea needing 2 runs to win off the last ball, but R Bawa remained calm and hit it for four.

Top performers: R Khatkarh 65, B Clilverd 30, R Khatkarh 3-30 and L Udy 2-35.

The Muchea E-grade team also had a good win against Kingsley Woodvale.

After losing the toss they were sent into

the field first with the openers getting 2 quick wickets.

After that, the wickets dried up and Kingsley began to raise their run rate.

Muchea bowled well, getting a few wickets before drinks and changing the momentum of the game.

They ended up bowling Kingsley out for 168 in the 36th over.

Soon after, Muchea lost two quick wickets and W Bates and Y Karunawardena came on to produce a great partnership.

In a great team performance, Yunal also made 68 runs to put them back on the winner's list.

Top performers: Y Karunawardena 68 runs, W Bates 37 runs, K Dhanoa 4-30 and M Dundon 2-31.

Lastly, the H-grade team suffered a 10-wicket loss with top performers K Singh with 20 runs and J Norris with 19 runs.

Muchea Senior Cricket Club B-grade all-rounder R Khatkarh put on a match winning performance scoring 65 runs.



Notice Board

A free service for non-profit organisations

9374 6666
 editorial@echo-news.com

Upcoming Events

• **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 for coffee monthly 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.

• **CWA Kalamunda** meets on the second Friday of each month at 10am on Central Road, Kalamunda behind Aldi, look for the blue tree. Go along to join in the fun and meet new friends.

• **Mundaring Garden Club** meets every second Tuesday of the month at Mundaring Church of Christ, 1470 Stoneville Road, Mundaring. The annual program includes guest speakers who present on a variety of topics, workshops and outings to nurseries and gardens. Presentations are followed by morning tea in the club café. For

more information call membership on 0413 358 085.

• **The Mundaring Country Women's Association** meets every second Wednesday at 1pm at the CWA Centre (Sculpture Park) in Jacoby Street, Mundaring for a craft and social afternoon. Take your craft ideas to share on your favourite craft or hobby. Visitors are always welcome anytime to have a cuppa and a chat. For more information call Marg on 0417 956 628.

• **Midland Ascension Craft Group** meets every Tuesday of school term in the Parish Hall at 17 Spring Park Road, Midland,

from 1pm to 3pm. All are most welcome to join for a chat, cuppa, any craft and sometimes guest speakers. For more information call 0433 265 683.

• **Hovea Residents & Ratepayers Association** will hold a general assembly meeting at Parkerville Oval Sports Pavillion, Seaborne Street, Parkerville on December 4 at 7.30pm. There will be a discussion on the possible amalgamation of Hovea RRA and Stonerville Parkerville Progress Association. Anil Subramanya will also give a talk on his Antarctica Adventure. All Central Ward residents are welcome. For more

information please email Max Hore at annapurna2@bigpond.com

• **Parliamo Italiano** meets every Saturday morning for people with at least intermediate fluency in Italian. They regularly visit Italian films, plays, restaurants, vineyards, and have trips to Italy. Their annual Christmas party is on Sunday, December 7. Call Rosanna on 0405 243 725.

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

Zac is an approximately two-year-old labrador. He is very friendly with people but not with cats. Zac would benefit with dog obedience classes as he is a fast learner. He is sterilised, vaccinated, and microchipped. Costs apply. Contact Bakers Hill Dog Sanctuary on 9574 1438.

ECHO Local Real Estate



Middle Swan haven for poolside summers

TUCKED away in a quiet cul-de-sac, this Middle Swan 655sqm property offers a layout designed for modern family living and entertaining.

The entrance of the home has a light-filled multi-purpose room, while the main bedroom features an ensuite for comfort and convenience.

Moving through, the floor plan opens into an airy kitchen with wooden tiles that also sprawl into the dining and living space with natural light coming in from the expansive windows.

The house has walls that are a neutral grey tone making it a blank canvas for renovators or homeowners who want to make it theirs.

Sliding doors connect this central hub to the outdoor entertaining area where the patio overlooks the pool.

A short hallway leads to two additional bedrooms, the family bathroom and laundry, with another sliding door providing direct access to the alfresco.

The spacious covered outdoor area can be enjoyed from almost every room, overlooking garden beds ready for planting and a gated swimming pool.

Taking the limestone steps brings visitors to the property's standout feature which is an elevated cabana with open-plan living space, a kitchenette and a compact bathroom.

This versatile retreat can be used as a games room, studio, home gym or private hideaway with its own storage and sleepout area.

The block offers low-maintenance grounds with side access and established outdoor spaces perfect for weekend gatherings and summer barbecues.

Practical features include an alarm system, dishwasher and ample natural light throughout.

The home is conveniently located as it sits just metres from North Swan Park and the Midland sports complex.

Families with school-aged children can benefit from its proximity to Middle Swan Primary School, St Brigid's Primary and Governor Stirling Senior High School.

Easy highway access is available via Reid, Great Eastern, Great Northern and Roe highways with Toodyay Road also making commuting straightforward.

Perth Airport is about 15 minutes away by car.

**Address: 11 Criterium Place,
Middle Swan**

Price: From \$689,000

Agency: Real Estate Plus

**For more information contact Samantha
Appel on 0474 232 091**



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MIDLAND



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65 Great Northern Highway**

- The property is rectangular approx 10.06m x 50.30m.
- Zoned R60/80.
- 3 x 166sqm lots or
- 4 x 125sqm lots
- Zoned Residential/ Business (33)

**Samantha
0474 232 091
Midland
9274 5000**

MADDINGTON

FROM \$1,100,000 NO GST



**LEASED INVESTMENT
2 / 3 Binley Place**

This 260sqm strata lot is currently leased until 25/03/2028. It operates as an Indian restaurant. There are two lots in the strata complex and the tenant leases both shops.

The property is located just 50 meters from Maddington Central - Shopping Centre.

On site parking plus street parking.

For Lease details including current rent, lease term, rent reviews etc please contact agent.

**Mike
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