

# ECHO NEWS

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Friday, February 13, 2026

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Swan weighs  
synthetic  
turf ban

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AvonWest  
hub  
concerns

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Sacred  
Grounds  
exhibition

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# Clare to tackle Munda Biddi challenge

Clare Reilly is ready to tackle the  
Wheelchair Meets Wilderness,  
an 1000km Munda Biddi Trail in  
a motorised wheelchair. **PG 8**



## NEW MIDLAND STATION OPENING

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**Steve Catania MLA**  
Member for Midland

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9274 8811 midland@mp.wa.gov.au



**Tania Lawrence MP**  
Member for Hasluck

TaniaLawrenceHasluck tanialawrencemp  
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Authorised by S. Catania, 34/6 Keane Street, Midland WA 6056

**Trish Cook MP**  
Member for Bullwinkel

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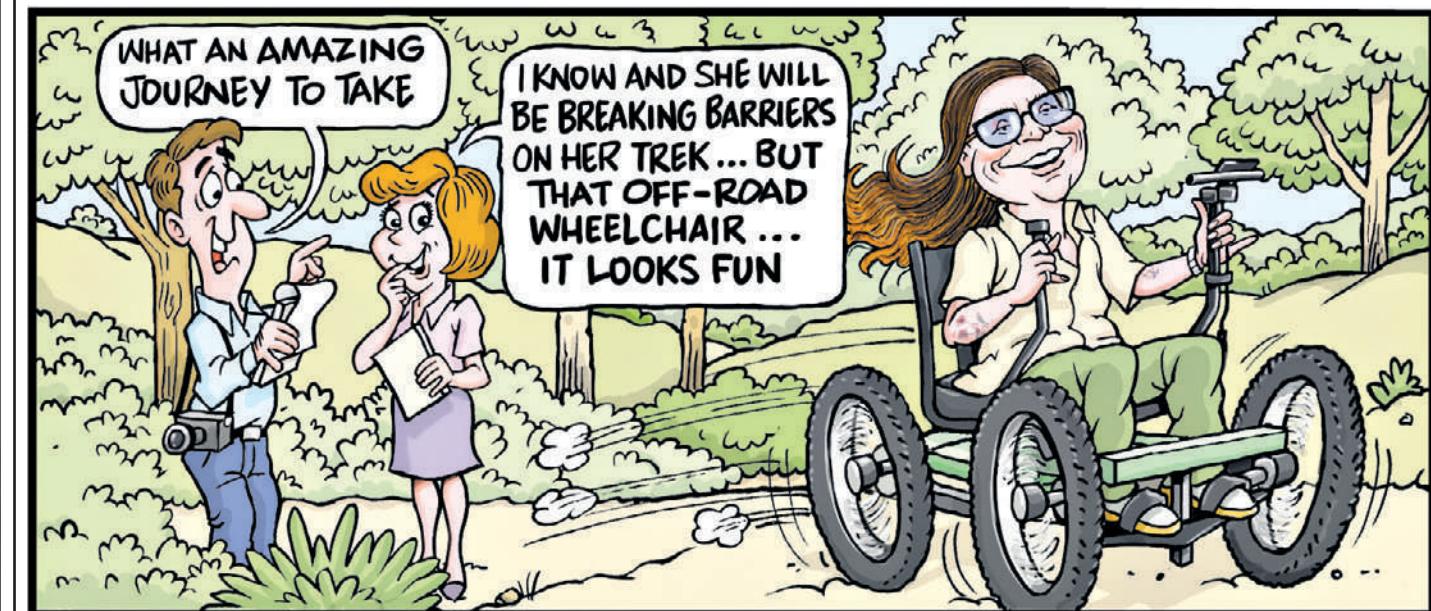
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CLARE REILLY, WHO LIVES WITH MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS, WILL TAKE A BIG CHALLENGE TACKLING THE WORLD'S LONGEST OFF-ROAD CYCLING TRAIL AIMING TO RAISE \$100,000 FOR MS RESEARCH IN A POWERED OFF-ROAD WHEELCHAIR.

## ECHO YOUR THOUGHTS

Have your say: [editorial@echo-news.com](mailto:editorial@echo-news.com)

### Change the day not date

Dear Echo News,

Further to S Oliver's letter in the *Echo News* (Letters, Feb 6) I would like to add the following.

Every year around December and January, when all the letters for and against January 26 being celebrated as Australia Day, I offer up what I consider to be a very reasonable and relatively easy solution to the continual arguments – I think that they are getting worse with each passing year.

My solution would be to have a day, not a date – say the first Monday every February or March.

This should satisfy all groups – those for or against – and whilst I realise there will always be someone unhappy, it will be far less than if we continue with having January 26 as Australia Day.

I might add that I personally don't mind celebrating on that date but feel a solution should be provided to make (almost) everyone happy.

I Sanderson  
Kalamunda

### Consider impacts of AI

Dear Echo News,

The rise of AI is welcomed by many who seem to believe that robots will do the mundane jobs and leave us with more leisure.

That's doubtful.

AI will allow some of the thinking jobs to be done by non-human devices, programs and software, but all the jobs that require the most menial, dirty work will still fall to either humans or other animals that can navigate terrain that robots can't and won't be

### Thought for the day

"Direction matters more than speed."

– Shane Parrish

asked to risk.

It's true that the owners of the AI and the devices will decide who/what does what, but unless you're a (substantial) owner, you're just a product to be consumed in creating more wealth for the owners.

Notice the increasing use of the word "productivity"?

We should – it's about how useful we are to those who control the capital.

Consider carefully the implications of AI!

P Carman  
Hovea

### Case for artificial lawns

Dear Echo News,

Your article on fake lawns seems to have wound up a few people particularly Catherine Dixon.

Her version of events appears to be far from reality and not formed from personal experience.

Around six or seven years ago I put one third of our back lawn under astro turf, it's the best thing I ever did.

Last year we did the rest of the lawn.

Contrary to Ms Dixon's propaganda it does not get hot, we had 44C recently week and it did not get hot or burn anyone's feet, this includes our local quendas.

There are numerous benefits which she fails to mention - no emissions from my petrol lawn mower which I donated to the Men's Shed and they got \$100 for it, and other benefits are no water, no fertilizer, no toxic weed killers, and no maintenance.

It looks identical to turf, does not fade, holds its shape and does not

smell!

Her statement that "people who have fake lawns almost always have no trees" is absolute crap and worthy of Donald Trump.

We have a 200-year-old marri, a magnolia, hibiscus, bottle brush four lime trees and many more.

The only downside that I can see is it might put Jim's Mowing out of business.

R Jones  
Lesmurdie

### Blood cancer tragedy

Dear Echo News,

As Australian children return to school, hundreds will not.

Their desks sit empty as they fight blood cancer – the single biggest disease threatening the lives of school-aged children in Australia today.

This year alone, around 350 children will be diagnosed with blood cancer.

It now accounts for more than one in three childhood cancers, yet remains a largely hidden national tragedy.

A blood cancer diagnosis is sudden and brutal. Children are forced out of classrooms and into hospital wards, enduring aggressive treatment that can last years.

Many miss 40 to 60 per cent of school in their first year alone, with some absent for up to 18 months. The impacts on learning, wellbeing and social development are profound and long-lasting.

Over the past two decades, blood cancer incidence among children aged five to 14 has risen by almost 30 per cent.

If this trend continues,

more than 400 children a year could face this devastating diagnosis within the next decade.

At the Leukaemia Foundation, we see the toll this takes on children and families every day – emotionally, financially and socially.

While we provide vital accommodation, transport, education and support services, and invest in life-saving research, we cannot do it alone.

As the World's Greatest Shave launches nationally, I urge Australians to stand with these children and all Australians impacted by blood cancer.

Participating by shaving, cutting or colouring your hair helps ensure no person faces blood cancer without support.

Register to participate in the World's Greatest Shave at [worldsgreatest-shave.com](http://worldsgreatest-shave.com) or call 1800 500 088.

Chris Tanti CEO  
Leukaemia Foundation

### Kalamunda AGM focus on trees

Dear Echo News,

On Tuesday I attended the Annual General Meeting of the City of Kalamunda.

By far the majority of members of the public (and local residents and ratepayers) attending the meeting were there not because of issues with footpaths, ovals or libraries but trees.

Please take note councillors and mayor, you are not reading the room.

After the very unfortunate revoking of the 2024 tree preservation policy by this council in 2024, this issue has not gone away.

No action regarding the issue means the level of frustration with this council.

Like Topsy it just grows.

N Parker  
Kalamunda

### CONSUMER PROTECTION

#### Don't miss boat on new seafood rules

With Commissioner for Consumer Protection Trish Blake

AUSTRALIAN seafood lovers are used to seeing country of origin labels when shopping, with this requirement applying to most food for retail sale for almost a decade.

From July 1, new rules will apply for restaurants, cafes, pubs, food trucks, takeaways and other hospitality businesses that serve seafood.

Changes to the Australian Consumer Law mean these businesses will need to tell diners if the seafood they are serving is Australian, imported or a mix of both.

This change means that when someone looks at a menu, a menu board or online, they should be able to see clearly where the seafood in a dish is sourced from.

The rules apply to seafood that's ready to eat as soon as it's served and applies to dishes like fish and chips, seafood pasta, oysters, 'surf and turf' and prawn salads, just to name a few.

These changes are all about helping customers make informed choices about the food they eat and so they know about what they're paying for.

More information can be found at [https://www.consumerprotection.wa.gov.au/seafood-country-origin-labelling](http://www.consumerprotection.wa.gov.au/seafood-country-origin-labelling) or for specific help on these changes email the team directly [seafoodcool@lgirs.wa.gov.au](mailto:seafoodcool@lgirs.wa.gov.au)

# Swan to investigate synthetic turf ban

BRAYDEN MOULD

A MOTION calling for the City of Swan to investigate a potential ban on synthetic turf was passed at a recent annual electors meeting, sparking a debate between environmental advocates and local industry experts.

The vote follows growing concerns from residents regarding the accelerated urban heat island effect and tree canopy loss, as previously reported in *Swan residents call for synthetic turf ban* (Echo News, January 23).

During the February 2 meeting, Dayton resident Catherine Dixon successfully introduced two motions aimed at curbing the use of artificial lawns across the municipality.

The first motion called for the City of Swan to consider amending its verge guidelines to officially remove synthetic lawn from the list of approved verge treatments.

While the second motion sought a broader investigation into how the city's local planning scheme could be amended to prohibit the use of synthetic turf on all private properties, including residential and commercial land, with an exception made for sporting grounds.

However, industry voices are urging the council to do further studies into product grades before moving toward a total prohibition.

Artificial Outdoor Solutions owner Bruce Russel says council should focus on regulating low-quality imports which he claims are mainly responsible for the environmental and amenity issues cited by advocates.

"The problem is, most people go for the cheapest alternative, which are cheap imported products that lack the technology to manage heat, odour, weeds, and colour," Mr Russel said.

"High quality, well-laid artificial grass made in Australia don't do any of those things."

"There is what we refer to as cool technology grasses, which use a special plastic that doesn't allow it to heat up, the same as what natural grass does."

"It's really a matter of you get what you paid for, whether you want high-quality or save some money and get low-quality."

Instead of a blanket ban on all synthetic products, Mr Russel is calling on the city to establish a regulated list of



Synthetic turf installed in front of a number of houses in the City of Swan. Picture: Brayden Mould

approved materials and installers.

"If companies want to be able to lay artificial grass in a council area, then they should have the ability to put their product forward to the council and ask for their product to be approved," he said.

"Then the council can look at that product and say, 'Yes this is a suitable product', if it meets Australian standards, and it's made in Australia."

Mr Russel believes that there is a middle ground in managing environmental impacts while giving residents the option to install low maintenance grass.

"If you want artificial grass, the council could mandate that you must leave dedicated space for a tree," he said.

"That adds to the tree canopy where there might have been none, while the shade from the tree naturally cools the ground below."

While resident advocates maintain their call for a total prohibition, Mr Russel argues that a regulatory framework involving strict product approvals and implementation standards are a more practical alternative for the city.

While residents continue to push for a total prohibition, Mr Russel maintains that a system of approval for synthetic turf products with strict requirements for implementation is a more viable path forward for the city.

The council is expected to consider the motions at an upcoming ordinary council meeting later this year.

## Western Power fronts court in Midland over Parky fires

GUANHAO CHENG

ELECTRICITY Networks Corporation trading as Western Power faced charges in Midland court on February 2 in relation to the December 2023 bushfire in Parkerville.

The first hearing was in relation to charges that allege the utility had, as a network operator, failed to ensure as reasonably practicable that the site of a notifiable incident was not disturbed in such a way as to prejudice examination.

They also allegedly failed to ensure the network was designed, constructed, operated and maintained so as to ensure that it is safe.

The third charge accused the energy operator of destroying or disposing of physical evidence relating to the incident.

The 2023 fire started with a tree falling on powerlines in Parkerville according to Department of Fire and Emergency Services commissioner Darren Klemm.

The fire began in the morning near the intersection of Granite and Johnston Roads and travelled east toward the Parkerville township.

In that process, it burned through 90ha of land and destroyed two homes.

As reported in *Bushfire heartache eased by community support* (Echo News, January 26, 2024) residents Georgia Bolden and her partner Mark Norton were one of the families whose home was burnt down.

The Shire of Mundaring then voted unanimously to waive rate payments for those affected by the Parkerville bushfire, including Ms Bolden and Mr Norton.

The 2023 Parkerville fire was also a point of inspiration for an RMIT research topic analysing evacuation behaviour in bushfires, as reported in *Researchers seeking answers to Parkerville fire* (Echo News, May 24, 2024).

RMIT University principal research fellow Erica Kuligowski led a team of researchers who spoke to residents about their experience of the 2023 and 2014 fires.

The findings were then published online a year later on November 18, 2025.

In the report, Parkerville residents revealed they



Midland courthouse. Picture: Guanhao Cheng

felt their risk to bushfires was high as they were aware of the larger areas of bush they lived by.

A key barrier to information access identified by many participants was the loss of power and phone signal and it was noted that telecommunications within the Perth Hills can be temperamental and often goes out during a hazard event.

Since the fires, Shire of Mundaring President Paige McNeil has been pushing to establish solutions for reliable telecommunications in the event of another fire.

*Mundaring strengthen their ties in Canberra* (Echo News, July 13, 2024) reported Ms McNeil attended the 2024 National General Assembly in Canberra to engage federal ministers and advocate for better telecommunications connectivity.

Western Power has also begun trialling covered high-voltage conductors in Parkerville this year to boost reliability, protect wildlife and reduce bushfire risk as reported in *Covered conductors to be trialled in Parkerville* (Echo News, January 16).

Western Power executive asset management manager Gair Lansborough said once the trial was completed, the Parkerville network would be the first Western Power network to be entirely made of covered conductors.

The charges against Western Power were brought by the WA director of energy safety under the Electricity (Network Safety) Regulations 2015.

The matter was adjourned with Western Power to reappear in court on May 8.

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# Icon Cancer Centre Midland doubles radiotherapy capacity

GUANHAO CHENG

ICON Cancer Centre Midland has doubled its radiotherapy treatment capacity with the opening of a second state-of-the-art Varian TrueBeam linear accelerator (linac) on February 4.

This expansion will reduce radiotherapy wait times for cancer patients in and around Midland and support hundreds more people each year across the City of Swan and surrounding communities to access cancer treatment closer to home.

As reported in *East metro radiation oncology petition gains traction* (Echo News, December 5, 2025), the eastern corridor of Midland and Swan Hills are still in need of a partnership that would allow cancer patients to access more affordable cancer care.

In that report, Guildford resident Bob Langlands said he had to pay about \$4000 out of pocket for his cancer treatment, highlighting the prohibitive costs under the current private model.

Icon Cancer Centre WA state manager Colin La Galia said Icon remained committed working collaboratively with government, public health services and community partners to improve access to affordable cancer care.

"Public-private partnerships play an important role in expanding capacity, reducing pressure on the public system and improving patient choice," he said.

"We continue to explore opportunities that support equitable access to high-quality cancer treatment, particularly in growing and underserved communities."

The machine has cutting-edge radiotherapy capabilities, including stereotactic radiation therapy for all tumour types, tattooless radiation therapy for breast cancer patients and HyperArc technology, enabling highly targeted treatment of brain tumours.

These technologies enable more targeted, non-invasive treatment options and can reduce the need for longer treatment courses.

Mr La Galia said the centre's investment in a second linac machine was a major step forward for cancer care in the eastern corridor.

"It means more local families can access advanced cancer treatment close to home, when it matters most," he said.

"The second linac has effectively doubled treatment capacity at the centre, enabling us to deliver more than 9000 additional treatments each year.

"This has a direct impact on reducing wait times, improving appointment availability, and allowing patients to commence treatment sooner.



The cancer treatment machine's opening was celebrated by Icon Cancer Centre staff, managers and coordinators. Picture: Guanhao Cheng

"It also supports more advanced treatment techniques."

The new linac has been named Jull, after the late renowned WA medical practitioner Roberta Jull as a way to honour her legacy of breaking barriers and improving health outcomes in the state.

Dr Jull was the first woman to establish a medical practice in Perth, driven by her determination to improve health conditions for patients.

Mount Helena resident Lesley-Anne Byrne was one of the first patients to be treated on the new linac.

The 37-year-old was diagnosed with stage two breast cancer in December 2024, while 35-weeks pregnant.

"I was diagnosed just before Christmas and gave birth to my second daughter two days later," said Ms Byrne.

"When they told me of my cancer diagnosis, there were so many doctors in the room talking about different treatment options – I was terrified."

Ms Byrne was given just three weeks to recover from a caesarean section birth before commencing chemotherapy in January last year.

In October, she underwent radiotherapy on the new linac at Icon Midland.

"It's great to have access to the best of (cancer care) technology so close to home," said Ms Byrne.

Icon Midland also implemented RapidArc Dynamic tech-

nology in 2025, an advanced treatment technique that reduces the time between consultation and therapy and minimises radiation exposure and potential side effects for patients.

Icon is the first in the southern hemisphere and only the third worldwide to clinically treat with RapidArc.

"Our investment in technology reflects Icon's dedication to ensuring more Western Australians can access high-quality, comprehensive cancer treatment when and where they need it," said Mr La Galia.

"We continue to grow our team, footprint and services to meet the demand of our patients in Midland, Swan Hills and surrounding areas."

Midland MLA Steve Catania opened the linac machine on World Cancer Day, shared his story and thanked the Midland cancer centre team for their dedication.

"In May last year, my daughter was diagnosed with a rare form of leukaemia, so we've been undertaking treatment for the last eight months," he said.

"Our oncologist gave the final bone marrow test this morning to see whether the treatment was finalised and she's now fully in remission.

"So today is a particularly special day for my family and through that journey, we understand the work that you do."

"You are saving lives so you should be supported at every turn and thank you for everything you do."

City of Swan

## Thousands of free native plants



Applications now open for the City of Swan's Free Trees and Plants Giveaway. Apply by March 27, 2026.\*

\*unless allocations have been exhausted earlier.



0003PRJ-2026

City of Swan

## eye on crime

### Forrestfield serious crash investigation

OFFICERS from the major crash investigation section are seeking the public's assistance for information as they investigate a serious crash that occurred in Forrestfield on Thursday, February 5.

About 3.55pm, a Mack prime-mover truck and a Honda motorcycle collided at the intersection of Harrison Road and Berkshire Road.

The rider of the motorcycle, a 60-year-old man, sustained serious injuries and was conveyed by ambulance to Royal Perth Hospital for medical treatment.

The 51-year-old female driver of the

prime-mover truck was not injured and is assisting Police with their inquiries.

Major crash investigators are conducting an examination of the scene and are appealing for anyone who saw the crash to contact Crime Stoppers online at [www.crimestopperswa.com.au](http://www.crimestopperswa.com.au) or by calling 1800 333 000.

Anyone with CCTV, dash-cam, or mobile phone vision relating to this crash can be uploaded directly to investigators via this link: <https://wapf.au.evidence.com/axon/community-request/public/forrestfield-serious-crash-5-february-2026>

### Strike Force Vulcan Boya bushfire investigation

STRIKE Force Vulcan officers are seeking the public's assistance for information as they investigate the circumstances surrounding a bushfire that occurred in Boya on Friday, February 6.

About 2.00pm, Police and Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) were advised of a large bushfire in the vicinity of Victor Road and Clayton Road.

The fire burnt approximately 30 hectares of vegetation but was extinguished before it could spread to nearby homes and businesses.

The cause of the fire is undetermined and officers urge anyone with any information relating to this fire to contact Crime Stoppers either online at [www.crimestopperswa.com.au](http://www.crimestopperswa.com.au) or by calling 1800 333 000.

Reports can be made anonymously.

Anyone with any CCTV, mobile phone, or dash-cam vision taken in the area of the fire, can upload the vision direct to investigators via



the link: <https://wapf.au.evidence.com/axon/community-request/public/boyabushfire>

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

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



# Northam cannabis facility and data mining centre approved



Large data mining centres can require significant cooling. Picture: Datacentres.com



The Atlas fuel station cryptocurrency ATM in Northam.



The AvonWest industrial hub. Picture: Procon Development

## MIKE PEETERS

**NORTHAM** resident Amber Balfour-Cunningham has raised concerns about the approval process regarding a hydroponic cannabis facility and data mining centre at the AvonWest transport and logistics hub.

The hub is about an hour east of Perth on a 62ha industrial-zoned site along Great Eastern Highway, Malabaine.

Ms Balfour-Cunningham said the first development was a 7.5m tall cryptocurrency mining server with a lot size of between 5000 and 7000sqm.

"This was approved by the Shire of Northam without public consultation," she said.

She said few details were available about one of WA's first cryptocurrency mining facilities.

She said such mining operations typically housed thousands of computers using large amounts of electricity 24/7 to check and record specific transactions of computer code, earning digital 'crypto' coins as a reward.

She added that to prevent the computer servers overheating, air conditioning needed to be run constantly or gigalitres of cold water piped around the computer equipment.

According to a recent United Nations report, global bitcoin mining has a significant carbon footprint and is highly dependent on fossil fuels with worrying impacts on water and land.

When questioned at a recent Shire of Northam council meeting about who would be operating or managing the approved crypto mining facility, the Shire of Northam stated the shire's records identified only the applicant (planning consultancy) and the landowner.

In response to further questions, the shire said the approval was issued as 'warehouse use', which is a permitted (P) use within the current zoning of the property (Light and Service Industry).

Procon Developments, which is leading the establishment and development of the \$500 million AvonWest logistics precinct, has one crypto ATM at its Atlas fuel station in Northam.

There is also another at a local property

investor's retail business.

Ms Balfour-Cunningham also questioned the recent regional Development Assessment Panel (DAP) approval of a hydroponic cannabis growing facility at the AvonWest industrial hub.

In its submission, Hidding Urban Planning, acting for Procon Developments, asked that the proposed hydroponic growing facility be considered as a 'use not listed' and therefore part of the Light and Service Industry zone.

According to council minutes, the facility will produce pharmaceutical grade medicinal cannabis under licence, with permits issued by the federal Office of Drug Control (ODC).

In the minutes, it is stated the facility will comprise growing rooms, drying and storage areas, packaging and warehouse space, a loading dock (for 19m vehicle access), and parking for three articulated trucks and 18 cars.

The entire facility will also be security fenced using a 2.4m high steel anti-climb fence, with gates to driveway and loading areas, including an electrified perimeter, 24/7 monitored CCTV, biometric access, tamper detection systems and onsite security personnel.

The project, which is being undertaken by Netherlands-based company Vitaponix, will be operational on its own microgrid.

In her deputation against the approval of the cannabis hydroponic growing facility, Ms Balfour-Cunningham said the proposed development was not consistent with the intended land use of the Light and Service Industry zone.

Other major concerns included the odour and emissions risk, conflict with its location next to a truck assembly area, negative impacts to Northam's visual landscape and valley setting and a lack of consideration regarding vegetation clearing and environmental matters.

"The facility is an example of piecemeal planning that has current and future implications for Northam's rural character and environment," Ms Balfour-Cunningham said.

"In essence, the proposal presents unresolved risks relating to odour, security, environmental impacts, and visual amenity at a prominent entry point to Northam."



Maureen Cooke packing and finishing boxes before delivery.

## St Stephen's Anglican Church helping back-to-school costs

FOR more than 40 years St Stephen's Anglican Church in the Forrestfield, Wattle Grove area has been involved in providing stationery items for needy children in local schools in the City of Kalamunda.

"This year we supplied to 14 schools, giving many needy children an opportunity to start their school year with what is needed to carry out their education in class including pencils, pens,

rulers, rubbers, files, calculators, colored pencils and highlighters," Parish coordinator Maureen Cooke said.

She said stationery was ordered, packed and delivered before the start of term 1.

"To help with the cost, we received generous donations from CWA Kalamunda and Kalamunda Rotary Club, and this helps greatly in allowing us to do this each year to assist local families."

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- There is no charge for this service and there is no requirement for you to be present when the work is undertaken.
- For safety purposes, your gas supply may need to be temporarily turned off for short periods between the hours of 8am-4pm while network upgrades are in progress.
- Traffic management will be in place in order for this work to be completed safely. There will be temporary lane and road closures around this area during these works, local detours will be in place. Please observe signage on site.
- Every effort will be made to minimise disruption and to permanently reinstate affected areas to their previous condition as soon as possible, within 15 working days of completion of works.
- We appreciate the community's understanding while these essential works are undertaken and apologise for any inconvenience.
- ATCO Australia builds, owns and maintains the network of underground pipe infrastructure near your home, which makes it possible for you to connect to natural gas.

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

For more information search for 'replacement projects' at [www.atco.com.au](http://www.atco.com.au)

# Swan business leaders: wellness and balance

GUANHAO CHENG

THE year's first Swan Chamber of Commerce Hour of Power featured two leaders in health and wellness businesses sharing stories about their business origins and how they overcame personal challenges.

Wellness Unleashed owner Kylie Moore first shared her experiences growing up in remote WA after being born in Dalwallinu.

She said her love of riding horses helped build her competitive spirit which she said she brought into the business world with her.

"That competitive side is huge for running a business," she said.

Ms Moore started her first business with her ex-husband which is a remote contract firefighting company that did prescribed burning and mitigation work and is still running today.

However, she eventually sold it to her ex-husband and began to use audiobooks as a way to educate herself in how to start a business as a single mother.

"I had to get creative because I was a single mum," she said.

"You cannot get money from the bank because it just isn't there, so I had to learn and I started listening to a lot of audiobooks, met lots of people and joined business groups where I could learn from others.

"I began to implement what I learned, and that became one of my superpowers.

"If they've already done it, I don't need to go research it and I just do it."

Ms Moore said after the breakup with her former husband, she travelled Australia with her sons and learned how to be happy.

"On the road, the boys and I met a lot of unhappy people," she said.

"It was incredible – you'd think you go on the road and find adventurous people that are out there just having a bit of fun.

"It wasn't like that at all.

"The majority of them were leaving something, trying to find themselves again, and in that, as well as travelling with my children and listening to my audiobooks, it made me start thinking about what I wanted to do next.

"I decided it was to implement what I'd learned from business and life to help people, to put it simply."

Ms Moore decided she wanted to do what made her happy and focus on health, which laid the foundation for the vision of Wellness Unleashed.



Speakers Greg Chaine and Kylie Moore. Picture: Guanhao Cheng

Manna Wellness director Greg Chaine spoke about battling through moments of doubt, learning to pare back the unnecessary and finding humility by recognising it was impossible to do everything.

Mr Chaine said his journey into wellness came from witnessing his wife Lauren's struggle with an autoimmune condition that developed from the stress of working as a lawyer for a top-tier firm.

"She developed chronic idiopathic urticaria and would be clawing at her skin with terrible rashes and fatigue," he said.

"Eventually we figured out that at least one component was this internal pressure on Lauren to continue to drive herself in an unsustainable way.

"One of the things at a psychological or existential level was Lauren learning to slow down and not drive herself so hard and not to feel guilt if she stopped."

Mr Chaine said the experience humbled both him and his wife, leading them to recognise their limits and the importance of sustainable wellness practices.

He said Manna Wellness was founded on the principle of laying deep roots rather than seeking quick fixes, which he symbolised through the company's tree logo.

"We don't want quick fixes and there's a lot of quick fixes that get offered in our current culture," he said.

"Our logo symbolises the idea of laying deep roots,

doing things that are wise and not particularly flashy but will lead to sustainable growth."

When questioned by *Echo News*, both speakers shared their views on finding the balance between health and business.

"For us, it's been actually a discipline to cut things off, to stop, to rest," Mr Chaine said.

"We implement almost like a Jewish Sabbath period, 5.30pm Friday to 5.30pm Saturday, where we're not allowed to work and we don't chat about work.

"That containment has been the game changer for us."

"I take time to look after my health where I can," Ms Moore said.

"Yes, it's terrifying with a great big debt, and my two boys renting and that sort of stuff but I'm really, really happy with where I'm at mentally."

"I've learned a lot from many places, and I look at my own team sometimes to inspire discipline."

"They use the health machines on their breaks sometimes, and when they do that, I try to mirror them."

The speakers also shared advice on decision-making in business, with Mr Chaine emphasising the importance of accepting limits and taking leaps of faith despite uncertainty, while Ms Moore encouraged business owners to trust their instincts and act quickly when things weren't working.



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There was plenty to do at the 10th anniversary School's Out event at the Kalamunda Water Park.

## Kalamunda Water Park celebrates 10th annual School's Out event

MORE than 750 Perth Hills residents beat the heat at Kalamunda Water Park's 10th annual School's Out celebration, which helped children, young people of all ages and carers cool off in an afternoon of fun and entertainment by the water.

This marked one of the biggest turnouts during the summer holidays for the major community hub.

"The family-friendly event - made possible through partnerships with the City of Kalamunda and Youth Action Kalamunda, was designed to be the perfect celebration of summer," Kalamunda Water Park duty manager Rhiannon Bowles-Payne said.

Youth Action Kalamunda, the City of Kalamunda's Youth Advisory Group identified a gap in mental health and LGBTQIA+ support services within the community, and to address this OurPlace LG-BTQIA+ Drop-in and Headspace Midland hosted information stalls and interactive activities to raise awareness of the support available to the community.

Families relaxed in shaded grassed areas and the wading pool, while younger children explored the toddlers' splash park, and guests enjoyed unlimited rides on the park's two giant tube slides, inflatable activities and laps in the 50 metre Olympic pool.

The celebration also featured DJ ARI-ON, an open-air photo booth by JustForKiks Entertainment, lawn games, a chillout zone and activities across the entire venue, ensuring plenty of entertainment on the day.

This year's event also featured a fully catered kiosk, serving favourites like hot chips and ice cream to keep families cool and energised throughout the day.

"The kids were entertained from the moment we arrived and the whole park had such a fun, relaxed vibe. We'll definitely be back next year," said a parent who attended.

Youth Action Kalamunda is a group led by young people aged 11-17 who live, study, work or play in the City of Kalamunda and are passionate about making a difference to your community.

Kalamunda Water Park venue manager Liam Jenkins praised the collaboration behind the event and said the City of Kalamunda had been instrumental in helping bring this event to life at the venue since 2017, helping to deliver memorable experiences.

For further information on the Kalamunda Water Park go to [www.kalamundawaterpark.com.au](http://www.kalamundawaterpark.com.au)

# State wine industry boost set to benefit Swan Valley

THE state government is investing \$6 million to grow the state's premium wine industry through a new four-year Western Australian wine industry partnership with Wines of Western Australia.

Regional Development Minister Stephen Dawson said thanks to the state's innovative wine makers, WA continued to produce some of the finest wines in the world.

"The Swan Valley is one of the jewels of the State's wine industry, which is set to benefit from the new WA Wine Industry Partnership," he said.

"This industry-led partnership takes a collective approach, rather than funding to individual wineries and producers, to grow businesses by driving export opportunities, industry sustainability and raising awareness."

"Under the previous partnership, several Swan Valley wineries participated in partnership-funded export activations, including Tokyo trade tasting, trade promotional support and Vinexpo Asia.

"I look forward to seeing how the Swan

Valley engages with the new partnership and the benefits to flow to producers and local businesses.

"A thriving wine industry has flow on benefits for regional jobs and tourism opportunities, that's why we made an election commitment to further bolster this industry."

"This partnership will leverage those gains to expand domestic and international export sales, while building industry resilience and capacity to adapt to the changing operating environment."

The funding, will be bolstered with \$3m from the state wine industry, builds on a long-standing collaboration between public and private sources to diversify export offerings and capture an increased share of the competitive global marketplace.

The industry-led partnership will work to expand local, national, and export market opportunities, while building long term industry sustainability for wine producers.

This includes supporting further inbound and outbound activations that promote WA wines to potential buyers, supporting and



Upper Reach Winery in the Swan Valley. Picture: Guanhao Cheng

promoting supply chain relationships, expanding market access, and building business readiness.

The initiative takes a ground-up approach to building sustainability.

This includes research and development aimed at improving production, building business resilience and workforce capability, and reinforcing environmental, social, and

governance credentials.

Wine tourism is key to the revitalised strategy, working with local and international connections to attract visitors and consumers to experience WA's beautiful wine regions.

With Wines of WA and other industry stakeholders, the WA wine industry partnership will aim to drive the future success of this thriving \$900m industry.

## Drone technology enhancing network maintenance



Drone Installation of a bird diverter. Picture: Western Power.

DRONE technology plays a critical role at Western Power, enhancing maintenance operations and increasing network resilience for the community.

Western Power's Head of Operational Maintenance, Brett Hovingh, said the way Western Power uses drones in its operations continues to evolve, with new capabilities being implemented to bolster maintenance techniques.

"We've trained 63 employees as remote pilots and use 24 specialist aircraft supporting our operations across our vast network," Mr Hovingh said.

"Our teams use drones to assist in a range of tasks including asset inspections, patrols, fault finding and reporting.

"The Western Power network is one of the world's largest stand-alone grids spanning

more than 255,000km from Kalbarri in the north, to Albany and Bremer Bay in the south, and out to Kalgoorlie in the east.

"Locating faults across such a large area can be time consuming and often involves travelling in challenging terrain but drones can perform the same task in a fraction of the time.

"To expand this capability, we're finalising extended visual line-of-sight rules with the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) so we can fly drones over an extended range/area for faster fault finding, reducing the duration of outages for the community."

We're also trialling innovative new applications of drones like our 2025 line-stringing trial, proving a drone has the potential to be used to string replacement conductors which helps to reduce impact in environmentally

and culturally sensitive areas.

"This trial showed that drones can be used to string line in hard-to-reach places - like over bodies of water - hauling line faster and safer than a raft crew," Mr Hovingh said.

"Another trial involves using drones to attach locally built Rotamarkas, will help steer birds clear of powerlines and mark machinery clearances in farming paddocks for safety."

Trials of other drone applications including mapping powerlines and substations using LiDAR to create precise 3D images and "drone-in-a-box" units to patrol substations for remote security are also ongoing.

"We're exploring how we can use drones to improve the safety of our network and our operations such as remotely monitoring our sites and to checking assets after storms before our crews set foot on-site," Mr Hovingh said.

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# Clare to tackle Wheelchair Meets Wilderness Munda Biddi challenge

PETER W LEWIS

IN April, Clare Reilly, who is living with multiple sclerosis (MS), will embark on an extraordinary expedition, Wheelchair Meets Wilderness, tackling the world's longest off-road cycling trail - the 1000 km Munda Biddi Trail - in a powered off-road wheelchair.

This bold journey aims to raise \$100,000 for MS research while breaking down barriers and showcasing what's possible for people living with disabilities.

MS Plus is supporting her journey, highlighting her efforts to raise critical funds for MS research by attempting to become the first person to roll the world's longest off-road cycling trail in a wheelchair.

By taking on this unprecedented challenge, she hopes to show that living with MS doesn't mean giving up on adventure, exploration, or personal goals.

Her mission also highlights the importance of accessibility in outdoor pursuits with her story serving as a reminder of the barriers that exist in the natural world for people with mobility impairments and the power of innovation to break down those barriers.

"This isn't just about completing a challenging trail; it's about showing the world that disability doesn't define your limits," Ms Reilly said.

"I want to inspire others while driving critical funding for MS research."

To make this dream a reality, \$30,000 is needed to cover essential expedition costs, including the purchase of a powered off-road wheelchair.

Once these costs are met, all additional

funds raised will directly support MS research, bringing hope and progress to the 33,000 Australians living with the disease.

The journey doesn't stop on the trail.

Ms Reilly plans to document the experience through a book and a documentary, with all proceeds and profits dedicated to MS research.

These creative endeavours will further the mission of raising awareness around MS, accessibility, and the incredible resilience of individuals living with disabilities.

Supporters can get involved by contributing to the fundraising campaign or partnering through philanthropic or corporate sponsorships.

Spanning over 1000 km, the Munda Biddi Trail is renowned for its breathtaking landscapes, weaving through ancient forests and rugged terrain in Western Australia.

Riders traverse a mix of surfaces - fire and access roads, gravel single tracks, repurposed railway formations, and even some sealed roads.

Each section brings its own character, from sandy tracks and steep climbs to scenic descents through breathtaking countryside.

Traditionally a cycling trail, this journey marks a historic milestone as it's reimagined through the lens of accessibility.

Every dollar helps bring this vision to life and fuels the fight against MS, so join the journey and make a difference by donating through the crowdfunding campaign at: <https://www.mycause.com.au/p/360402>



Clare Reilly is ready to tackle the 1000km Munda Biddi Trail in a motorised wheelchair.

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Front: Turner and Townsend associate director Jade Rogers, Crosslinks board deputy chair Melissa Marrison, Midland MLA Steve Catania, Crosslinks board chair Vicki Caudwell, REAL representative Steve Davies. Back: Crosslinks CFO Simone Kaufmann, Crosslinks CEO Dawn McAleenan and Lotterywest GM Lorna Pritchard.

## Crosslinks Community Hub \$3.8m boost to transform Midland lives

CROSSLINKS has been awarded a Lotterywest grant of more \$3.8 million towards the fit-out costs of the Crosslinks Community Hub in Midland.

The hub will provide a welcoming, fully accessible facility for people living with disabilities, their families, and associated community organisations, with a focus on reducing vulnerability and creating meaningful opportunities for connection.

"We know isolation is a massive issue, especially for people with disability," Crosslinks chief executive officer Dawn McAleenan said.

"This hub is about changing that. It's about giving people more ways to connect, belong, and be supported."

The funding will support the transformation of a former gymnasium on Great Eastern Highway, into a dynamic space that reflects extensive consultation from community members, local service providers, and business stakeholders.

As a not-for-profit organisation based in Midland, the hub is Crosslinks' response to a clear local need; to provide people with more ways to access services, learn new skills, and connect with others in a safe, inclusive space.

By collaborating with other organisations, the goal is to reduce isolation and increase inclusion across the wider community.

"We're creating flexible spaces for workshops, training sessions and events, including multiple sensory rooms and a fully equipped kitchen that can be used for everything from cooking classes to casual get-togethers," Ms McAleenan said.

"It's been a long time in the making, but it's going to be something really special."

Lotterywest is the major supporter of the project, along with the generous contributions of the Stan Perron Charitable Foundation and support from the City of Swan and the relocation subcommittee who have also provided expertise throughout the development stages.

"We're beyond excited to see this project finally coming to life," Ms McAleenan said.

"The hub is going to be so much more than just a building. It will be a place that people with disability can feel safe and supported, and where the whole community can come together."

The project is due for completion in mid-2027.

For 30 years, Crosslinks has supported people with disabilities to live more connected, independent and enjoyable lives. Crosslinks provides services including supported accommodation, community participation, inclusive events and individual support.

Midland MLA Steve Catania, representing Hannah Beazley MLA, formally presented the grant last week.



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PATS is a subsidy program funded by the Government of Western Australia administered through WA Country Health Service.



# Proposal for 73 new apartments in Bassendean

GUANHAO CHENG

THE Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) has received a development application proposing the construction of a nine-storey building in Bassendean consisting of 73 apartments, one incidental office, and parking.

The lot is 3353sqm and is located at the intersection of Park Lane, Guildford Road and Wilson Street in Bassendean.

According to the Town of Bassendean, the development aims to provide social and affordable housing while incorporating shared spaces and active transport facilities.

A report prepared by DevelopmentWA states the development proposes 80 per cent affordable and 20 per cent social housing in a build to rent model.

Build to rent is a model of housing where rentals are meant to be treated as forever homes, according to DevelopmentWA.

These rentals are managed by larger organisations aiming to provide long-term and secure rentals with subsidised rents based on tenant income or on a discount to the market rate.

"An affordable housing resident typically pays a maximum of 74.9 per cent of the market rental rate for the area in which the apartments are located," the DevelopmentWA report said.

"To be eligible for affordable rental accommodation under the Housing Australia future fund program, residents need to earn within the defined income thresholds as set by the federal government."

To be eligible, singles must not earn more than \$66,898 per year, couples no more than \$100,347 and families no more than \$140,486.

The proposed site is located within 40m of Bassendean station as part of the Midland line, 380m to Bassendean shopping centre and within 500m of Bassendean Oval.

According to DevelopmentWA, the site is also recognised as a contaminated site, due to the presence of asbestos-containing material (ACM) that was left from a demolished building that used to be at the southern side of the site.

Though the land use of the site right now is restrict-



Artist impression of the proposed development.

ed to paved carpark use, the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) engaged consulting and engineering services provider RPS for remediation.

RPS will be required to prepare a report and remediation action plan, looking to decontaminate the site so that it may be reclassified.

RPS' remediation works are scheduled for 2026.

The newly proposed apartment complex in Bassendean is a priority project nominated by the state government and approved for funding through the Housing Australia future fund.

According to DevelopmentWA, the proposed development would provide much needed social and affordable housing within a highly accessible and connected location.

"The development will be serviced by and contribute to the success of the nearby Bassendean station, future

envisioned mixed-use development, nearby retail uses and other community services," they said.

"The design of the development respects existing significant trees though retention is sympathetic to adjoining properties through generous setbacks and offers an attractive street presence."

A tree report for the development noted 37 trees on site, with significant trees that were recommended to be incorporated in the design "where practicable possible".

Four trees were marked as priority for retention, 22 were marked as worthy of consideration for retention, three were marked as "consider for removal", and seven were marked as priority for removal.

The DPLH is inviting community feedback on the proposed apartment complex development which has been valued at \$38 million.

Public consultation closes February 27.

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Anthony Spagnolo MLC with WA Liberal leader Basil Zempilas MLA and a Midland business owner discussing ongoing traffic congestion.

## Community outcry over Midland traffic congestion says Spagnolo

GROWING community frustration over traffic congestion in Midland is becoming impossible for the state government to ignore, with strong local engagement online reinforcing just how widespread the concern has become, according to MLC Anthony Spagnolo.

He said recent social media post highlighting congestion around Clayton Street and Military Road attracted 765 likes and 456 comments to date, a level of engagement clearly reflecting how deeply the issue is affecting people's daily lives.

"People do not engage like that unless something is hitting home," Mr Spagnolo said.

"The volume of comments and the consistency of what people are saying tells you this is not a niche complaint, it is a lived reality for locals who are stuck in traffic morning and afternoon, day after day."

Mr Spagnolo said congestion in Midland has been building for years due to lack of road in-

frastructure solutions, particularly the long-delayed Lloyd Street Bridge extension and associated upgrades to the Roe Highway and Great Eastern Highway Bypass interchanges.

"Planning work has been talked about for years, but there is still no clear timetable for construction," he said.

"Midland is a major hub for the eastern suburbs and the hills, and traffic gridlock here ripples out across the region."

"When locals are taking the time to comment, share and engage in such large numbers, it is a clear signal that the current approach is not working."

Mr Spagnolo said the popularity of the posts should serve as a warning to the government that patience in the community is wearing thin.

"This is not about politics for the people stuck in their cars, it is about lost time, missed appointments and frustration that keeps building," he said.

# Kalamunda couples join Great Southern Cruise XV

PETER W LEWIS

LONG time supporters of children's charity Variety WA's Creative Car Cruise Von and Ben Harrison from Maida Vale will be taking part in the Great Southern Cruise XV, marking the 15th year of the event which will take place from March 5 to March 8.

This will be Mrs Harrison's fifth year participating and Mr Harrison's fourth.

In previous years they have cruised in their 1973 Volkswagen Beetle, affectionately known as Herbie, but this year they are excited to debut Kevin — their 1976 Kombi.

Joining the Harrison's on this year's cruise are good friends Leeann Hawkins and Lauren Lumbus from Lesmurdie, with Beetle Herbie being freed up for Mr Harrison's parents, Ian and Helen Harrison to take part as well.

Over the years, Mrs Harrison estimates they have raised more than \$25,000 for the children's charity through local community events, fundraising efforts, and generous community support.

Mrs Harrison, who teaches at Falls Road Primary School, said this year they raised most of their funds through a Bunnings sausage sizzle, but usually they raised money through school-based fundraising initiatives such as gold coin donation days or taking Herbie along to the Moonlight Fair.

"Our friends introduced us to our first cruise, and once we discovered the difference Variety WA makes by providing grants to schools, we were hooked. These grants often fund things that government funding doesn't cover.

"For example, Variety provided enough funding for a Geraldton school that supports children with disabilities to build a swimming pool. Seeing the difference these grants make for local kids is invaluable. On top of that, we want to teach our own children about how they can help others."

Great Southern Cruise XV will see a collection of classic, vintage and rare vehicles travel a black top route from Vasse to Quindanning, stopping in regional towns



Ben and Von Harrison with their 1976 Kombi.

along the way to connect with local communities and deliver grants to schools and grassroots organisations.

The event is a cruise, not a race, designed to celebrate a shared love of motoring.

Great Southern Cruise XV focuses on connection, community and impact, bringing people together in support of regional communities across Western Australia.

Over the four-day cruise, participants will visit Cowaramup Primary School and Denmark Primary School, where Variety WA will deliver grants to support local programs and initiatives.

Additional community support will also be provided through stops including the Bremer Bay Sports Club and the Lions Club of Katanning, helping fund local initiatives that benefit children and families in the region.

Variety WA Board member and founder of the Creative Car Cruise Anthony Begley said the event had grown significantly since its humble beginnings 15 years ago.

"What started as a small group of like-minded car enthusiasts has grown into something much bigger," Mr Begley said.

"We began with a simple idea - to combine a love of motoring with helping kids who need it most. Over the years, the cruise has grown beyond what we ever expected, but that original spirit of bringing people together for a great cause, while experiencing some of the most beautiful parts of this vast state, is still at the heart of the event."

Further details and registrations will be available via <https://varietywacc.com.au>



Instruction will be available at the 'come and try' beginner lessons next month.

## Free 'come and try' at York and District Archery Club

IF you ever wanted to try archery then why not head to Talbot, 20km south west of York on Saturday, March 21 for the York and District Archery Club's (YDAC) free 'come and try' morning.

All ages are welcomed, and experienced archers will be on hand to talk about safety and give tips and the techniques of archery with practice on the range followed by a fundraising sausage sizzle and an opportunity to chat about those near bullseyes.

Regular archery shoots are held on alternate Saturdays and Sundays to accommodate family schedules - one weekend a scoring shoot and the other weekend a fun shoot.

The club also offers beginner lessons once a month, with all equipment included along with certified coaches teaching safety and shooting techniques and giving beginners lots of practice on the range.

The club promotes traditional archery with recurve and long bow, along with compound bows.

YDAC also holds in-house workshops and recently already held a well-attended workshop on how to fletch your own arrows - a skill much needed to repair the old.

Other workshops to be scheduled include tips on maintaining archery equipment and making new bow strings to replace the old.

The club has grown since it began in 2022 with a lot of interest in the sport of bush archery from ages 8 to 90 years old.

Members now come from as far afield as Mundaring, Pingelly, Wundowie, Beverley, York, Northam and Goomalling as well as a family in Perth, all sharing a challenging sport and a great family at-

mosphere.

The club now has two bush ranges - a shorter 14-18 target blue range with novelty targets and a longer 20-24 target range scoring with 3D and vinyl targets, with plans for an all-3D course in progress of being mapped out.

YDAC also offers sessions for interest groups or for team building providing a fun time for groups who just want to get out and have some social time together while learning the art and sport of archery.

"We encourage businesses and groups to take time away from their busy schedules and enjoy the company and bonding of your employees in a non-stressful social atmosphere," organiser Debbie Gentleman said.

"The club is truly grateful for our past regular sponsors who have helped us provide the Wheatbelt region with a bush archery club," she said.

"A big thank you to The Kit Bag Edge, Impact Archery, and Autobarn in Midland, who sponsored Interclub raffle items helping us raise funds for on-going range maintenance.

"Thanks also go to the Shire of York, York Community Bendigo Bank, York IGA Coop and in Northam Coles, Woolworths, Bunnings and our political reps of the region. All have been a great help supporting the club's special events."

To keep updated on events and beginner lessons follow the club, which is located at Talbot Reserve, on Facebook - York and Districts Archery Club Inc or if you have any questions email [yorkwaarchery@gmail.com](mailto:yorkwaarchery@gmail.com) or call Albert 0449 678 840 or Debbie 0410 815 003.

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The Invasive Species Council has called on the state government to fix outdated cat laws.

## Councils ready for cat containment but laws still lag

PETER W LEWIS

WA is eagerly waiting for the state government to act on a promise made last year to fix outdated cat laws that prevent local councils from effectively enforcing pet cat containment according to the Invasive Species Council.

New research by CSIRO publishing has revealed the consequences of continued inaction.

The new study shows that preventing pet cats from roaming remains a major challenge across Western Australia, despite 78 per cent of local governments eager for reform and growing community support.

Local authorities and groups have made previous calls for changes to laws as reported in *Mundaring to review cat laws* (Echo News, Sept 25), *Wheatbelt group aid feral cat fight* (Echo News, July 17), *Hills cat fight handballed to Parliament* (Echo News, Dec 21, 2023) and *Kalamunda cat law under review* (Echo News, Oct 26, 2023).

"Last year the WA government promised to change the law that makes it difficult for councils to act on pet cat containment. That commitment was welcome – but right now, councils are still stuck waiting, while wildlife and pet cats pay the price," Invasive Species Council chief executive officer Jack Gough said.

"Roaming pet cats are sending our suburbs silent. Every year across Australia they kill more than 300 million native

animals – wiping out birds, reptiles, frogs and small mammals.

"In the Greater Perth region alone, more than four million mammals, birds and reptiles are killed each month by roaming pet cats. Over the same period, more than 800 pet cats die from roaming-related injuries – deaths that experts say are entirely avoidable.

"WA is lagging the nation when it comes to responsible pet ownership laws, and local councils are crying out for the state government to step up and empower them to protect wildlife.

"The study shows that 78 per cent of local governments are now interested in implementing permanent containment for pet cats, meaning Western Australia could rapidly shift from national laggard to national leader – if legal barriers are removed.

"Cats are incredible hunters and killers.

"We can't change the nature of cats, but we can change the culture that allows pet cats to roam and kill our native animals.

"This is a basic reform which will both protect our native wildlife and give our pets a safer, longer life.

"For the sake of our numbats, terns, frogs and skinks, WA can't afford to fail on cat containment any longer.

"We look forward to the Cook government following through on their promise," Mr Gough said.

### Background:

- Roaming cats are at greater risk of death or significant injury from vehicle strike, from other cats and dogs, and snake bite. As they interact with other roaming cats, they are far more likely to catch severe disease, such as feline AIDS.
- Pet cats kill more than a million native animals in Australia every single day. Pet cats kill up to 50 times more animals on an area basis, compared to feral cats out in the bush.
- Permanently contained cats have lower rates of cat-borne diseases that can affect humans.
- If keeping cats inside the house is not an option, then outdoor enclosures (a 'catio') work well. Walking a cat on a lead also gives them the chance to explore the outdoors while under effective control.
- While a review of the Cat Act is a longer-term mechanism for change, other solutions are required immediately to enable local governments to act on improving responsible cat ownership, particularly when it comes to enabling permanent containment.

## Gidgegannup Dressage Club wins 'club of the year' award

EARLIER this month Gidgegannup Dressage Club (GDC) won the prestigious 2025 Metropolitan Club of the Year at the Equestrian WA (EWA) awards night held at the Ritz Carlton Hotel.

The award recognises an EWA affiliated club that has displayed an outstanding level of engagement within the community across multiple levels.

During 2025, the club has continued to build its reputation as a strong supporter of grassroots and older dressage riders, and contributing to the ongoing viability and community support for dressage.

"Grassroots riders are the lifeblood of every equestrian club, representing the foundation upon which the sport is built, bringing passion, dedication, and community spirit to the arena," vice president Lyn Millet said.

"These riders are not only the largest membership base but also the ones who keep clubs thriving day-to-day, whether through volunteering, supporting events, or simply showing up with enthusiasm and commitment."

Through its second annual Golden Oldies competition for riders over 50 years, the club has encouraged more 150 riders aged from 50 to 80-years since 2024 to ride with their peers, sometimes for the first time in decades and re-experiencing the joy of dressage.

"The 2025 Golden Oldies Dressage Festival was all about celebrating the contribution of older riders to the equestrian world and encouraging more older riders to find their way into the world of dressage training and competition by offering them a fun, low key and supportive competitive event," Mrs Millet said.

On behalf of Dressage WA, GDC also ran the grassroots dressage competition for riders of all ages to take their riding up a notch and compete at the State Equestrian Centre for a myriad of rosettes, rugs and prizes that they can proudly hang up in their stables at home.

Through its active committee, the club has been able to secure sponsorship and prizes and forge strong partnerships with local governments, equestrian bodies and local businesses.

Within its membership ranks, GDC has riders in



Members of the Gidgegannup Dressage Club with their awards.

their 20s up to 80 years old and offers a diverse calendar of events with more than 20 rallies, using EWA coaches and only two riders per class, free stabling on site, lunches to encourage a social atmosphere, training days, rider fitness and horse nutrition learning events, social events and group outings to renowned world class trainers and riders at EWA events.

Rallies and membership are offered at affordable prices and the club often subsidises events for members to minimise the financial barriers to participation in what is already an expensive sport.

The club is also celebrating its 25th anniversary this year and it is not the first time the club has been recognised in these awards, being previous recipients of the Club of the Year and Volunteers of the Year Awards.

For more information contact marjory.stanger@bigpond.com or message via Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/GidgegannupDressage>

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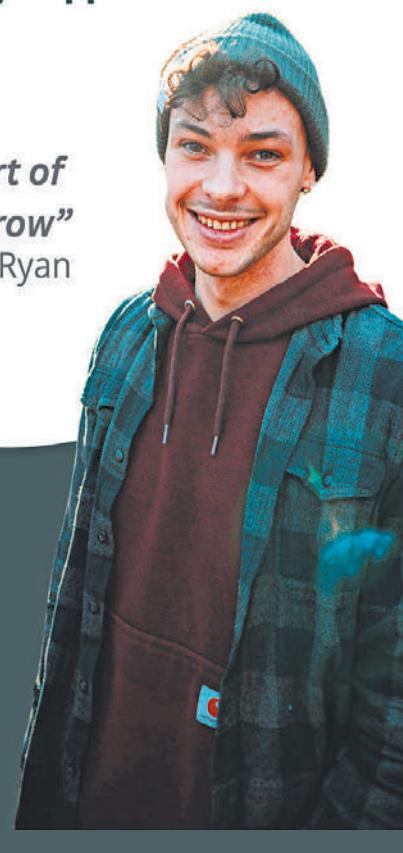
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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Kalamunda's multi-sensory bird art exhibition

GUANHAO CHENG

THE Zig Zag Gallery in Kalamunda will be hosting a multi-sensory exhibition that portrays birds as messengers, teachers, and companions in times of change.

What the Birds Told Me is the latest exhibition by artist Claire B Bushby who is a multidisciplinary artist and curator based in Perth, whose work explores interdependence, ecology, and community through collaborative and participatory projects.

Bushby said their exhibition was about looking at the relationships people have with birds.

"Both literally, with the local birds around them and what birds represent for different people," they said.

"For example, one person I spoke to said that the day their father passed a wagtail came dancing in front of them.

"This is of course normal behaviour for the bird, but the person felt solace through the bird's appearance during a time of grief."

Bushby uses textiles, sculpture, sound and video to explore the relation between humans and non-humans, and often through the lens of disability and queerness.

Bushby's exhibition previous to What the Birds Told Me was called Meet Me In The Garden

which also exemplified their artistic philosophy of all artwork being centred around relationships between humans and the non-human natural world.

"Meet Me In The Garden explored how the humble home garden forms part of a network of gardens and greenspaces around suburban homes," they said.

"By saying human and non-human I'm making a point that humans are not disparate from nature itself."

Bushby's previous work titled Bushpig reflected this connection and was one of their more personal pieces that turned past pain into power.

"Bushpig was a particularly personal artwork though because it talked about being bullied at school," they said.

"The name Bushpig was a pun on my surname and became a daily taunt."

"In this work I reimagined the Bushpig from a scared little girl to a strong powerful pig woman – a protector of the natural world."

The newest exhibition will be drawing on Bushby's lived experience as a queer disabled artist living with chronic illness and reflect on listening to the more-than-human world.

The exhibition will open at 4pm on February 14 at Kalamunda's Zig Zag Gallery.



Cockatoo in Banksia Bush by Claire B Bushby.



Claire B Bushby's exhibition What the Birds Told Me can be seen at the Zig Zag Gallery from February 14th.



The exhibition will explore Rachelle Dusting's personal experiences of identity and womanhood. Pictured are 'Now you see me', oil on linen and 'Emilie', oil on canvas.

## Sacred Grounds exhibition arrives in Midland

THE Midland Junction Arts Centre (MJAC) is set to host a solo exhibition of deeply personal artwork by artist Rachelle Dusting in the heart of Midland.

The collection will open on Sunday, February 22 and host new bodies of work exploring the intersecting themes of identity, spirituality, and womanhood through a lens that the artist describes as the tension and tenderness of becoming.

The collection will give gallerygoers a look behind the curtains of the artist's personal journey, weaving together internal symbolism with references of her unique Australian-British-Burmese heritage.

Dusting's paintings invite viewers to navigate the emotional seasons of the last few years through imagery that is a blend of portraiture and storytelling through oil painting.

Her work blends classical techniques with contemporary themes, and captures the beauty of the human experience.

The exhibition will span the genres of portraiture, figurative work, and still life and will represent an ambitious new chapter in the artist's career as she shifts terrain through the perspective of a woman approaching motherhood.

Much of her work draws inspiration from the domestic sphere, featuring light-filled interiors and curated objects

that are deeply imbued with personal meaning and memory.

Complementing the gallery display, the artist will host a series of public events including artist talks, technical demonstrations, and workshops.

The exhibition will run from Sunday, February 22 through Sunday, April 19 at 276 Great Eastern Highway, Midland.

Visitors can view the works from Tuesday through Friday from 10am to 5pm, or during weekend hours from 11am to 3pm Saturday and Sunday.

For more information visit the Midland Junction Arts Centre's website at [www.midlandjunctionartscentre.com.au/exhibitions/sacred-ground](http://www.midlandjunctionartscentre.com.au/exhibitions/sacred-ground)

## ENTERTAINMENT & GIG GUIDE

### Your local Gig Guide

**Fri February 13**

**Lyric's Bar**  
Veruschka Duo  
From 7pm, Free  
22 Lyric Lane Maylands

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

**Parkerville Tavern**  
Claudia Tipp  
From 6pm, Free  
6 Owen Road Parkerville

**Mahogany Inn & Distillery**  
Table for Two  
6pm – 9pm, Free  
4260 Great Eastern Hwy Mahogany Creek

**Sat February 14**

**Lyric's Bar**  
Klang  
From 7pm, Free  
22 Lyric Lane Maylands

**Parkerville Tavern**  
Jaycobe & Shanae  
From 6pm, Free  
6 Owen Road Parkerville

**Woodbridge Hotel**  
She Said  
From 8pm, Free  
50 East St Guildford

**Mahogany Inn & Distillery**  
Jon Evans  
6pm-9pm, Free  
4260 Great Eastern Hwy Mahogany Creek

**Sun February 15**

**Parkerville Tavern**  
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**Woodbridge Hotel**  
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## Twilight Tunes at Mundaring Sculpture Park

Twilight Tunes is set to return to the heart of the Perth Hills, bringing live music, good food and a relaxed summer atmosphere to Mundaring Sculpture Park on Saturday 28 February 2026.

This much-loved Shire of Mundaring event invites people of all ages to enjoy great music in a welcoming outdoor setting as summer draws to a close. Music will begin from 5pm, with an early set by Jon Edwards, followed by performances from supporting act The Illegals and headliners Honky Tonk Heroes as the evening unfolds.

Food vans will be on site from 4pm, giving

attendees plenty of time to arrive, grab a bite and settle in before the music starts. The event will run through to 9pm and is designed to be family friendly and accessible for the whole community. People are encouraged to bring a picnic rug or low back chairs and enjoy the atmosphere among the trees and public artworks. Pets are asked to stay at home.

Twilight Tunes is an alcohol-free event, helping to create a safe and inclusive environment for everyone. Proudly sponsored by Act Belong Commit, the event reflects the Shire's commitment to bringing people together through music, culture and shared community experiences.

## WA Homes can use Free Energy-Saving Kits

Residents of Perth's eastern metropolitan region, the Avon Valley and other parts of Western Australia now can assess the way they use energy and water within the home and identify potential cost saving measures through the use of a free-to-loan energy audit kit.

The energy audit kits - provided by Switch Your Thinking with the support of Energy policy WA in the Department of Energy and Economic Diversification - can be borrowed from more than 130 libraries and Community Resource Centres across the state.

Each kit includes a thermal imaging camera for locating draughts around your home, gaps in insulation and for checking fridge seals, a plug-in energy monitor for measuring energy consumption and the running costs of appliances. A basin-flow measuring cup to measure water flow from tapware, and a thermometer for measuring the temperature of rooms, fridges and freezers.

Provided with the equipment is a 36-page manual containing 8 tests and tips on how energy and water savings can be achieved, plus other great resources. To discover where you can borrow an energy audit kit from, visit [www.switchyourthinking.com/energy/](http://www.switchyourthinking.com/energy/).



ADVERTISING FEATURE



# Healthy Living

## Midlas helps local families take control of rising energy bills



Energy Ahead coach Kevin assesses fridge efficiency during a home visit.

WITH the cost of living rising and recent extreme heat pushing up electricity use, many local families are feeling the pinch when their energy bill arrives.

Community organisation Midlas is stepping in with a free service designed to help residents better understand and manage their energy use.

Through the Energy Ahead program, eligible Synergy customers can access personalised, in-home energy coaching.

An experienced energy coach reviews appliances, explains what's using the most power, and offers simple, practical tips to reduce energy waste without sacrificing comfort.

Participants also receive free energy saving items, making it easier to put advice into action straight away.

Midlas chief executive officer Angie Perkins said the service comes at a critical time for many families doing it tough.

"People are looking for simple ways to save money, especially during periods of prolonged heat," Ms Perkins said.

"Energy Ahead gives families real knowledge and real control over their energy use."

Residents can learn more or book free energy coaching at [thefwc.org.au/energyahead](http://thefwc.org.au/energyahead) or by calling (08) 6253 3500.

## Free Energy Coaching now available with Midlas

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# Twilight Tunes

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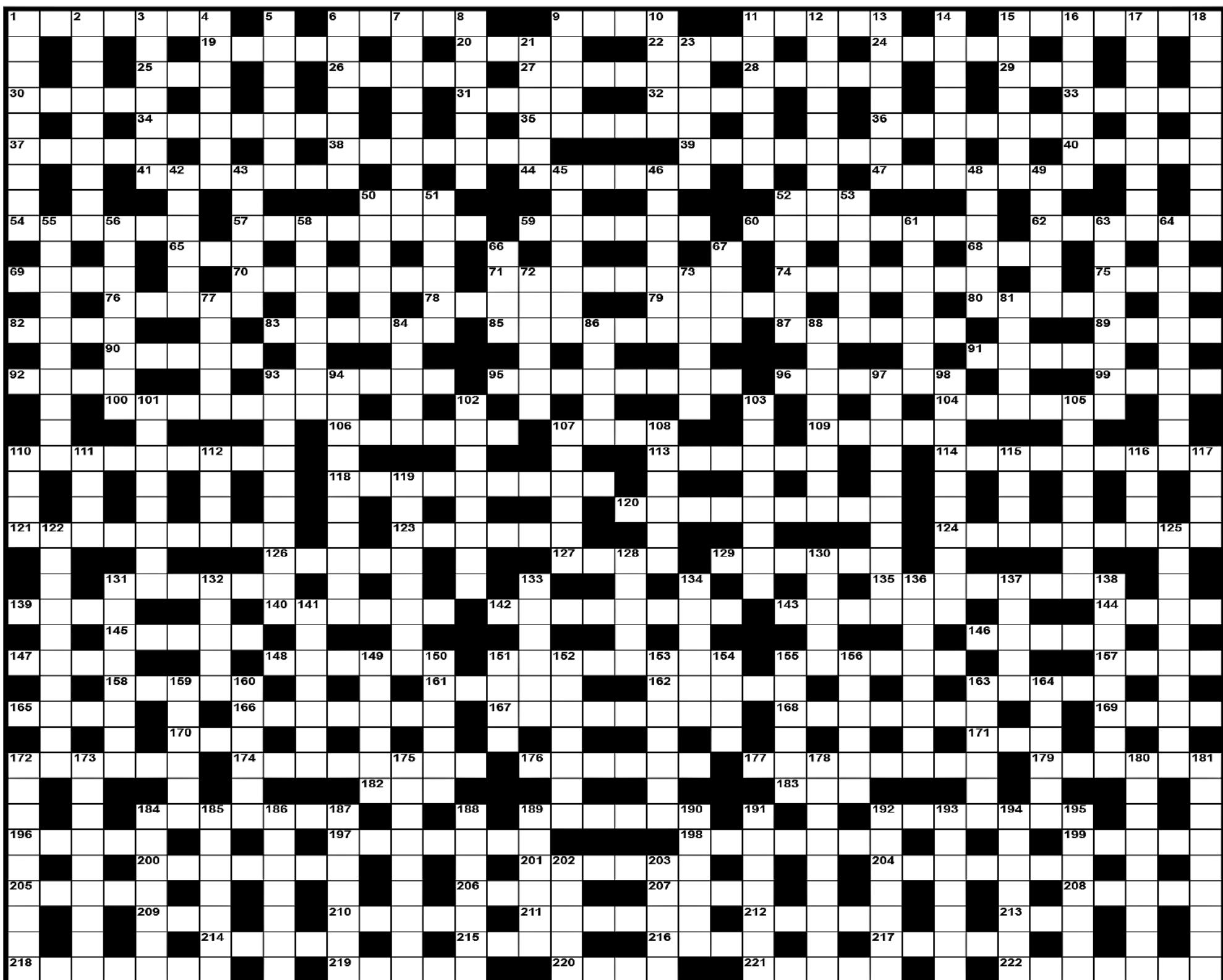
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15 Discussed  
19 A lord entitled to allegiance  
20 Freedom from difficulty  
22 Region  
24 Solitary  
25 An untruth  
26 A mass of nacre  
27 Clerical room  
28 Couches  
29 Mother (coll)  
30 Continue for a time  
31 Qualified  
32 Simpletons  
33 Ones fathers brother  
34 Private concerns  
35 Draws off liquid  
36 Divulges  
37 Admired stereotypes  
38 Slant  
39 Thrust forth  
40 Highest  
44 Suppose  
47 Allied by nature  
50 Please turn over (init)  
52 A Rugby League score  
54 Perceived the flavour of Deadly  
57 Impairs  
60 Circumvent  
62 A shrill cry  
65 Handy truck  
68 Frozen water  
69 Smallest particle  
70 Prepare for a second use  
71 Reduced to a mean

74 Prosecute

75 Have dinner

76 Public swimming pools

78 Roof covers

79 Correct

80 Follow in order

82 Spoken

83 Modest persons

85 Looks down upon

87 National flag

89 Rake

90 Additional

91 Looked at

92 Agitate

93 Give up work

95 Tea

96 Bring in from a foreign country

99 Expression of sudden pain

100 Headlong rush

104 Performing

106 Instruction

107 Microbe

109 Of birth

110 Lingerie, etc

113 Antelope

114 Attendants

118 Law enforcer

120 Swear

121 Pulsation

123 Short doze

124 Refrainer

126 More intimate

127 Box lightly

129 Delivered a cricket ball

131 Central American federal republic

135 Unpleasant sights

139 Former unit of currency in India

140 Naked person

142 Worldwide

143 Dread

144 Multitude

145 Thrusting weapon

146 Passageway

147 Surrounded by

148 Scuttle

151 Pestered

155 Agreement

157 Baked dishes

158 Master of ceremonies

161 In existence

162 Native of the

163 Largest continent

165 Seashore

166 Heavenly body

167 Necessary

168 Powered by atomic energy

169 Mild oath

170 Muscular

171 Contraction

172 Evil spirit

172 Repute

174 Of opera

176 A bequest

177 Stately

179 Boarder

182 No (Scot)

183 Destiny

184 Decapitates

189 Brings to a standstill

192 Scholarship

196 A vacuum (2,3)

198 Prohibition

199 Get your gun

200 Mathematical art

201 An Australian

204 One who ejects disorderly persons

205 See if clothes fit

(3,2)

206 A liquid food

207 Gramophone record

208 Fellows (coll)

209 Delaware (abb)

210 Surfaced walks

211 Equip again

211 Last Greek letter

213 Pioneer aviator, Charles

214 Flee to marry

215 Prophetic sign

216 Thin

217 Prickle

218 Water nymphs

219 Burdened

220 Full stops

221 Lightly cleans

222 Periods of office

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63 Victim of oppression

64 Giving notice of

66 Hairless

67 March 15th

72 Changed direction

73 Appear

77 Seraglio

81 Hours of darkness

84 British noblemen

88 Irk

93 Appoint

94 Rang

97 Cricketer

101 Positioned near the boundary

105 Gossiper

107 Choke

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## Read between the lines

by Pastor

**Ian Kirk**  
**Monarto**



'Monarto' might not be a familiar name to us, but it's the name of the largest zoo in Australia, covering over 1,500 hectares. Located in South Australia, it's the largest open-range safari park outside of Africa.

Our youngest daughter Heidi and her family recently visited it, while on their one-year holiday lap around Australia. They were so impressed with it. The exhibits were amazing, the keeper talks were so interesting, and the animals were incredible – lions, cheetahs, elephants, giraffes, rhinos, etc.

We were blessed to see it some years ago and recommended it to Heidi. For their four kids, it was the best school excursion they had ever been on! The youngest, our four-year-old Tahlia, just loved the meerkats.

Animals are amazing! They vary so much from each other, not just in size, but in their behaviours and abilities. They're fully able to adapt, and yet each species remains distinct, reminding me of what the first chapter in the Bible says – that God made everything "in kind".

Humans, according to that first chapter in the Bible, are a very special 'kind'. We were made in God's likeness. That's why we can create, explore, communicate, and build things – like Monarto.

That uniqueness is why we are so special to God – special enough for God's Son Jesus to come and die on a cross for us so that we could be forgiven and be reconciled to God – if we would put our faith in Jesus.

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## Reticulation

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## Indemnity and Warranty

### ECHO NEWS

Privately owned & proudly independent

ECHO NEWSPAPER  
CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE  
When an individual or other legal entity ("the Customer") requests Echo Newspaper ("Echo") to place an advertisement in this Newspaper, they agree to be bound by the following terms and conditions:

- Echo, at its sole discretion, may decline to publish any advertisement requested by a Customer. If Echo decides not to publish a particular advertisement, there is no obligation on Echo to disclose the reasons for its decision, and Echo will not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned to the Customer as a result of the decision.
- Echo will not be liable for any loss or damage caused to a Customer as a result of delay or as a result of Echo failing to place a requested advertisement or publishing an advertisement containing an error or omission.
- Echo may, at its sole discretion, decide to refund a Customer a portion of the cost of the advertisement if it forms the view that the error was not attributable to the Customer and the Customer notifies Echo of the error or omission before 5.00pm on the day the advertisement first appears in the Newspaper.
- Complaints concerning the accuracy of any invoice must be notified to Echo within 30 days from the end of the month in which the advertisement was published, after which time the Customer forfeits any rights it may have had to challenge the invoices.
- The Customer warrants that publication of the requested advertisement/s will not contravene any laws, whether statutory, equitable or otherwise, and agrees to wholly indemnify Echo (and its employees and agents) against all expenses, loss and damage arising directly or indirectly from the publication of the advertisement/s.

# ECHO Classifieds

## 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



## Gardener

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

## Employment



The Echo Newspaper is looking to fill the following position

### CADET JOURNALIST - DIGITAL CONTENT CREATOR

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

#### Essential criteria includes:

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

#### The suitable applicant must:

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

#### Desired but not essential:

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

#### In return the successful candidate will be offered:

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

The closing date for all applications is 5pm, Wednesday 25 February 2026 with the successful applicant to start ASAP.

Please email your resume with a cover letter to: General Manager / Editor Peter Lewis E: peter.lewis@echo-news.com

All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence.

## Employment



The Echo Newspaper is looking to fill A production assistance role

## DESKTOP PUBLISHER

### 18 HOURS PER WEEK

Tuesday: 9am-5pm  
Wednesday: 9am-5pm  
Thursday: 8.30-11.30am

### EXPERIENCE USING ADOBE INDESIGN AND PHOTOSHOP ESSENTIAL.

Previous newspaper or magazine layout experience would be favorably viewed.

The closing date for all applications is 5pm, Wednesday 18th February 2026 with the successful applicant to start ASAP

Please email your resume with a cover letter to: General Manager / Editor Peter Lewis

E: peter.lewis@echo-news.com

All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence.

## 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.



## Music

### UNIQUE HOUSE CONCERTS

Mix Margaret makes marvelous music. Classical piano, voice. Originals, Beethoven etc. new versions of Amazing Grace etc. 0414 374 701 mixmargaret.com/lyrics

## Music Tuition

Private Lessons in Guitar, Bass, Ukulele, Banjo, Mandolin, Lap Steel. Qualified tutor. TRBWA, WWCC and NPCHC clearances and registrations. \$35/30min or \$60/per hour. TXT Tony 0411 751 311 (SMS ONLY).



## Painting

Painting & Property Maintenance. 0477 660 703. Local.

## Painting

Steve Gregory painting service. Mobile 0417 926 027. Reg # 5098.

## Public Notice

### PROPOSED STRUCTURE PLAN 84 – 330 AND 335 HELENA VALLEY ROAD, HELENA VALLEY

Comments are being invited on the above Structure Plan currently being advertised by the Shire.

The Structure Plan has been prepared to facilitate the development of 61 residential lots.

The proposed Structure Plan and supporting documents can be viewed at the following locations:

- Shire's Administration Building (7000 Great Eastern Highway, Mundaring)
- The Shire's Engage Mundaring website (<https://engage.mundaring.wa.gov.au/>)

Submissions on the proposal can be made until **4.00pm on Friday 27 March 2026** via post or email:

**Online:** Via the submission form on the Shire's Engage Mundaring website

**Post to:** Shire of Mundaring, 7000 Great Eastern Highway MUNDARING WA 6073

**Email:** [shire@mundaring.wa.gov.au](mailto:shire@mundaring.wa.gov.au)

Following the advertising period, submissions will be considered by Council and a recommendation will be made to the Western Australian Planning Commission.

Should you have any queries please contact the Shire's Planning Services on 9290 6740 or via [shire@mundaring.wa.gov.au](mailto:shire@mundaring.wa.gov.au).

**Jason Whiteaker**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**



## Regrouting

Bathroom Regrouting. Call Andrew 0413 158 763.

## Wanted to Buy

**MEDALS** and Militaria bought by genuine local collector top prices paid 0407 982 215.



## Window Cleaning

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



## Solar Services

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



## Wanted to Buy

RECORDS, LP's or 45's collections + turntables + cassettes. 0424 489 910. Guildford.

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NEWS

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# ECHO Notice Board

## Upcoming Events

**Kalamunda Prostate Cancer Support Group** meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at Falls Farm, 41 Cagney Way Lesmurdie from 10am-1pm. For more information call Roy 9295 2522 or Ray 0427 095 892.

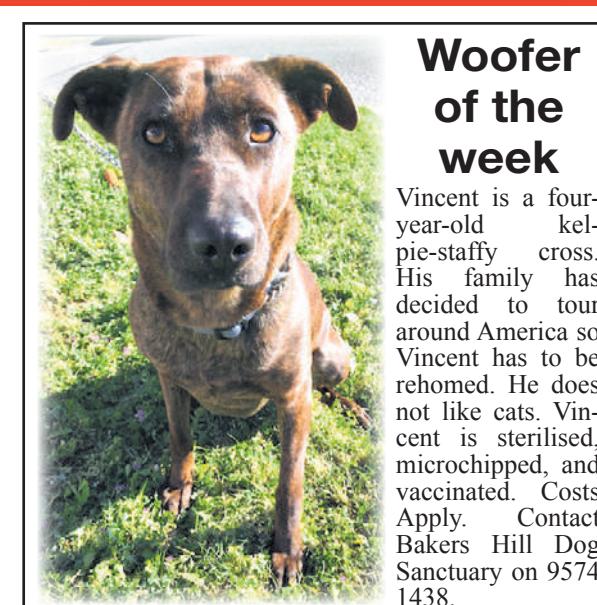
**Mundaring CWA** meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 10am at the CWA Centre (Sculpture Park), Jacoby Street, Mundaring. There is a general meeting and cuppa with craft and social to follow until 3pm. New members and visitors welcome. For more information call Marg on 0417 956 628.

**Midland Men's Shed** Social Tuesday is every Tuesday from

9.30am to 11.30am in the Baptist Church Hall, Bellevue. Call Andy on 0419 921 805. For workshop inquiries call 0411 833 055.

**ERICA Women's Centre** is hosting an International Women's Day event on Wednesday, March 4 from 9.45am to 12.15pm at 24 Junction Parade, Midland. The event will reflect on this year's theme Balance the Scales and will be joined by author and former ballerina Petal Ashmole Winstanley as guest speaker who will share her story of life full of adventure, creativity, grit, and resilience.

Noticeboard is for non-profits and community groups advertising free/low cost events/programs. Entries must be emailed to [editorial@echo-news.com](mailto:editorial@echo-news.com) two weeks before the event.



## Woofer of the week

Vincent is a four-year-old kelpie-staffy cross. His family has decided to tour around America so Vincent has to be rehomed. He does not like cats. Vincent is sterilised, microchipped, and vaccinated. Costs Apply. Contact Bakers Hill Dog Sanctuary on 9574 1438.

# Wins, losses and a draw for Midland Guildford



JOSHUA MCKENZIE

IT was a weekend of mixed results for Midland Guildford Cricket Club in both the senior and junior matches.

The male 1st grade was set a target of 392 for victory by their opponents Claremont-Nedlands.

The run chase was dominated by a phenomenal individual effort from Jordan Roads who posted a remarkable 194 runs from 190 balls.

He was supported by Max Bittner with 53 from 127, as the side posted 294 all out in the second innings of their defeat.

It was a successful round for the male 2nd grade against the same opposition.

After restricting their opponents to 204 all out, with Jacob Heslop taking 4-59 from 26.1 overs, they managed to chase down the target with four wickets remaining.

Hunter Wills was the top scorer with 51 from 144 in the victory.

The male 3rd grade was beaten by 86 runs, with Jarod Bridge taking 5-74 from 18 overs in the defeat.

It was a drawn match for the male 4th grade as they could not chase down their target of 264 before the end of their 80 over innings.

In the female B grade match, the side was narrowly beaten by three wickets after posting 174 all out in the first innings.

Lily-May Lyndon top scored with 58 from 75, while Sharna Abbott



Midland Guildford Cricket Club recorded four wins from nine matches across the weekend.

took 4-26 from eight overs in the second innings of the loss.

It was a convincing 76 run victory for the male U17 side after they posted 8-265 with Alan Antony, with 119 from 118, and Tanveer Chauhan, with 66 from 98, combining for a 169 run opening partnership.

It was a strong bowling effort from the entire side as they restricted Claremont-Nedlands to 7-189 in the run chase.

The female U17 side was able to chase the target of 167 set by Perth in their 40 over match.

Kaitlyn Magistro took 3-21 from seven overs, before Alyssa Tremlett dominated the run chase with

90 from 53 as they chased the score with two wickets remaining and 12.1 overs to spare.

The male U14 were beaten by Scarborough in their final match of the season as their opponents chased down their score of 9-212, while the male U13 were victorious in their match against the same opposition.

They comfortably chased the target of 129 for victory, with Karl Grasch scoring 70 from 76, however they just missed out on the semi-finals.

With just a few weeks remaining in the season, all teams will be looking to finish as strong as possible in their remaining matches.

## ECHO Local Real Estate

Residential  
Commercial  
Rural & Country

### Easy living family home in Eden Hill



THIS five-bedroom, two-bathroom Eden Hill home is ideal for a large family or those needing extra space for a home office and living areas.

Past the mature tree at the very front of the home, past the fences is a house that is ready to become an accommodating home.

The home has a practical layout, with living areas positioned off the updated kitchen.

The central space has a refreshed look offering a functional layout with modern cabinetry and good bench space on its blue stone benches.

Natural light features strongly throughout the house with large windows in the main living areas and bedrooms allowing sunlight to flow through to the rear of the property.

The children's playroom can be repurposed into a

home office or even an entertainment room.

Ceiling fans have been installed in the bedrooms to help ensure year-round comfort, while mirrored wardrobes provide built-in storage and enhance the sense of space.

Glass doors and windows at the rear connect the interior with the backyard, creating an easy transition from the kitchen to the outdoor areas.

The backyard is a clear highlight with its swimming pool that's set in light-coloured stone paving, making the area feel bright and inviting.

The space is well suited to summer use, whether for entertaining or family enjoyment.

There is also rear access via the garage to the backyard.

The separate, freestanding garage in the backyard has been converted into a private retreat featuring a veranda

overlooking the pool.

This space includes a bedroom and a modern bathroom, offering flexibility for guests, extended family, or use as a private work-from-home area.

The home sits on a 731.2sqm block zoned at R20/30 for development potential later down the line.

Set on a well-established block, the property combines comfortable interiors with a strong outdoor focus, providing a practical option for people looking for space, light and versatility.

Address: 25 Watkins Street, Eden Hill

Price: From \$829,000

Agency: Real Estate Plus

For more information contact Edward Harfouche on 0409 004 424

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