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The Kalamunda Agricultural Society is proud to announce the 2026
125th Kalamunda Show
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Picture: Nengah Gill

EVs ahead in fuel crisis

Bassendean resident Steve Gill is championing the economic benefits of electric vehicles as the cost of fuel continues to bite.

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THE STATE GOVERNMENT IS PLANNING TO REPLACE DRIVER SEATS ACROSS THE C-SERIES TRAINS, A TOTAL OF 92 TRAINS, WHICH WERE CONSTRUCTED IN BELLEVUE, AFTER 80 PER CENT OF DRIVERS REPORTED PAIN.

ECHO YOUR THOUGHTS

Have your say:
editorial@echo-news.com

Data centre power concerns

Dear Echo News,
Regarding the development application lodged with City of Swan to build a data centre on lots 14 and 15 Sterling Crescent, Hazelmere.

The proposed project is for construction and operation of a 1.4ha, 24m tall plant which would consume 150MW of power on the lots adjacent to the east of the Steiner School.

For comparison, this facility would be slightly larger than the Midland public/private hospitals!

Power is of major importance for the 24/7 operations to the facility, yet its power demand exceeds that of the nearby switching station.

Given the problems a power disruption would bring, there will be 88 generators set to kick in to operate continuously day and night until the problem is fixed. This will also necessitate up to four deliveries of diesel per day.

Noise modelling for the diesel generators and the 64 exhaust cooling fans suggests continuous values are above normal peak noise regulations.

In addition to the adjacent school, there are residential dwellings and three hospitals within a couple of hundred metres of the site.

These neighbours and others will be severely impacted.

In all its magnitude, the proposal lacks a number of critical components.

One of the most important is a water disposal plan/treatment facility. Water used for cooling purposes will be continually concentrated until its salinity is greater than seawater.

This water cannot then be simply flushed or even worse dumped in the adjacent Helena River, yet there is not a mention of this in the proposal.

Please visit Swan Engage to learn more about how this project will negatively impact the Midland region and send these Swiss developers to a more suitable location.

Dr R Ilchik
South Guildford

Vitamin B6 supplement warning

Dear Echo News,
I want to warn others about the risks of high-dose vitamin B6 in over-the-counter supplements.

I am a 51-year-old woman who, when asking a retail assistant for a magnesium supplement, was unknowingly given one containing 50mg of vitamin B6 per tablet, far above the recommended 1.5mg daily for adults my age.

After five weeks, I developed tingling in my hands and feet, loss of balance, and stiffness in my legs.

Blood tests showed my B6 level was 440 nmol/L (normal range 30–110). After stopping the supplement, my symptoms are improving.

Due to the number of cases of B6-related peripheral neuropathy, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has announced that from 1 June 2027, oral products containing more than 50mg but not more than 200mg of vitamin B6 will be rescheduled as Pharmacy Only (Schedule 3) medicines, requiring pharmacist advice before purchase.

Products containing more than 200mg/day will continue to require

a prescription. Lower-dose products (≤ 50 mg/day) will remain available for general retail sale but must carry a warning for products containing more than 10mg of vitamin B6:

“Warning – Stop taking this medication if you experience tingling, burning or numbness and see your healthcare practitioner as soon as possible. (Contains vitamin B6).”

I share my story so others can avoid similar health issues.

M Grgich
Forrestfield

Salvos Easter message

Dear Echo News,
As Easter approaches, we are reminded of an eternally important message that has echoed across centuries and continues to speak powerfully into our lives today. A message of hope, freedom and unconditional love.

For us at The Salvation Army, Easter is not simply a date on a calendar, it is an invitation.

It is an invitation to discover or rediscover the profound truth at the heart of the Easter story: that every person is of worth, cherished and deeply loved.

The life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ represents the ultimate gift of freedom. Freedom from fear, from shame, and from the burdens that weigh us down.

In a world that feels increasingly uncertain, where many Australians are facing financial pressures, social isolation and anxiety about the future, this message matters more than ever.

This Easter, we invite you to join us at one of our 400 locations across the nation. Whether you are in a city, a regional

Thought for the day

“The power of man’s virtue should not be measured by his special efforts, but by his ordinary doings.”

- Blaise Pascal

town, or a remote community, there is a place for you.

This Easter is not about having everything figured out, it’s about coming together, sharing in hope, and encountering a message that has the power to renew, restore and give you freedom.

Please know our doors are always open.
Miriam Gluyas
Commissioner
The Salvation Army

WA is not short of talent

Dear Echo News,
In your February 13 edition of *Echo News*, the cover rightly celebrated Parkerville artist Sue Starcken and her long-standing contribution to Western Australia’s artistic community.

Yet in that same edition (Page 7), a \$2.2 million Swan Valley sculpture trail was announced, led by a visiting international artist with no lived connection to this region.

Artur Bordalo is a young Portuguese street artist whose work evolved from graffiti into large-scale installations made from discarded materials - plastics, tyres, and industrial waste - now exhibited worldwide. His work is highly visible and marketable.

But this project is presented as a celebration of the Swan Valley’s environment, culture, and community.

So where are the Western Australian - and Australian - artists?

We are not short of talent.

Generations of artists,

including First Nations practitioners and multi-generational Australians, are deeply connected to this land and its materials - wood, stone, vine and landscape.

This should be more than a marketing exercise.

Public funding should strengthen local capability, not sideline it. If this project is truly about place, then place should lead it.

Otherwise, we are not building cultural legacy - we are purchasing it from Portugal.

Dr K Klein
Brigadoon

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

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FORM stands by engagement process

GUANHAO CHENG

A DISPUTE over consultation surrounding the Swan Valley sculpture trail has continued, with arts organisation FORM rejecting claims Swan Valley artists were overlooked and defending its engagement process.

The WA government-backed \$2.2 million project will feature works by internationally recognised Portuguese artist Artur Bordalo, known as Bordalo II, and aims to create a destination attraction similar to the Giants of Mandurah.

As reported in *Swan Valley artists upset by sculpture project handling* (*Echo News*, March 27), several valley artists, including long-standing sculptor Antonio Battistessa, raised concerns they were not meaningfully consulted before key decisions were made.

In response to questions from *Echo News*, FORM said it had undertaken more than 14 months of community engagement since December 2024, including interviews, stakeholder meetings, presentations and ongoing discussions with artists and organisations.

FORM said this included 20 one-on-one interviews during the project's business case stage, 20 project updates delivered through meetings and calls, and engagement with groups including the City of Swan, tourism bodies and Aboriginal cultural organisations.

FORM chief executive officer Tabitha McMullan said individual engagement had been chosen to allow for deeper conversations.

"Community engagement is at the heart of everything FORM does," she said.

"For a project of this scale and significance, we have deliberately chosen to engage with artists and community members individually so we can listen properly, understand their perspectives, and ensure their feedback genuinely shapes the project."

FORM also detailed its contact with key local artists named in the earlier report.

The organisation said Mr Battistessa had been engaged multiple times since March 2025 through networking events, meetings and phone calls, and had been offered further opportunities for discussion.

Mr Battistessa maintains FORM's meetings with him were not consultations for artists to meet with decision-makers and make meaningful contributions.

"What's the point of a consultation if you've already made up your mind?" he said.

"What is the correct next step here is for there to be a circle meeting conducted with people of the valley and FORM and for chances for dialogue and respect and listening to each other.

"I don't want a system where they stand up in front of us and just announce, but dialogue."

FORM said sculptor Ron Gomboc had been contacted in early 2025 and again ahead of Bordalo II's visit but declined further involvement due to other commitments.

The organisation also pointed to ongoing engagement with Ellenbrook Arts and Maal-inup Aboriginal Gallery, including meetings between Bordalo II and local representatives during his February site visit.

FORM said the artist met with Swan Valley Elders for a Welcome to Country, a wa-



FORM defends its artist consultation process but Swan Valley artists say the sessions did little to affect outcomes. Picture: Guanhao Cheng

ter ceremony and discussions about cultural themes and locally significant animals.

FORM acknowledged some community members would have preferred earlier consultation but said engagement was ongoing and that key project elements had not yet been finalised.

"The project remains in its early stages," a spokesperson said.

"Decisions on locations, the number of sculptures, and community involvement are still being shaped through ongoing consultation."

FORM said opportunities would be available for local artists through employment, fabrication, workshops and complementary commissions linked to the project.

The organisation said sculpture frames and footings would be manufactured in Western Australia and that local creatives could work alongside Bordalo II as part of the delivery process.

Tourism Minister Reece Whitby has previously said the project aimed to boost visitation and create economic opportunities for the Swan Valley. **Cont. p22.**

El Caballo Blanco gets new lease of life



El Caballo Blanco resort. Picture: Real Commercial

THE famed El Caballo Blanco resort in Wundowie is about to get a new lease of life after being purchased by Perth entrepreneur Paul Hanna.

El Caballo was first established in 1974 by businessman Ray Williams and operated as an Andalusian horse theme park and resort until 1995.

During its peak in the 1970s and 80s the resort attracted around 250,000 visitors per year and was a major tourist attraction famous for its daily Spanish dancing horse shows and Spanish-influenced architecture.

Key facilities developed on the El Caballo site at that time included a 4000-seat equestrian arena and amphitheatre, a hotel with function rooms, motel units, restaurants, a swimming pool and tennis courts.

The property changed ownership in 2020 and was briefly earmarked for an Aboriginal community housing and training facility but that plan did not proceed and the site has remained largely disused.

In a recent application to the Shire of Northam Mr Hanna, who also owns the Club Hotel in Southern Cross and the Goldfields Brewing Company, made a deputation at the March 25 council meeting.

At the meeting, Mr Hanna who is also the executive chairman of NuFortune Group which recently bought the Radio Gold Mine site 44km northwest of Southern Cross, shared some history about how the resort came to his attention before reaching an agreement on it on December 29, 2025.

Mr Hanna said his aim was to totally renew the existing central building but keep the existing Spanish theme and architecture.

"We would keep the wedding hall and seek more rooms to up the accommodation capacity from the existing 40 units," Mr Hanna said.

He also wanted to revitalise the wellness centre with spa and sauna offerings.

Mr Hanna also talked about having a garden cen-

tre as hydroponics were reportedly a major tourist draw in the Middle East and although not very big in WA now, he believed there was a market for it in WA.

Mr Hanna is seeking to rezone lot 721 on deposited plan 422252, known as El Caballo Resort at 3349 Great Eastern Highway, Wundowie, from the current tourist zone to a special use zone.

This rezoning would implement council's recently endorsed local planning strategy (August 2024) by identifying the site for special use, allowing a tailored mix of permissible land uses including light industry, a garden centre and tourist and visitor accommodation.

The amendment focused on site-specific changes without altering broader scheme provisions related to the tourist zone, which would be addressed in a future omnibus amendment.

When councillor Attila Mencshelyi asked about Mr Hanna's light industrial proposal in terms of the enterprises he wanted to include, Mr Hanna said one of them was an 'innovation hub'.

He said this would involve producing hemp manufacturing blocks and all things made out of hemp.

Mr Hanna went on to talk about hemp's utility in limestone manufacturing processes and said he had communications with the president of the French hemp society to discuss its benefits and its place in WA.

At the meeting, the council decided to pass the motion to amend their local planning scheme 6.

This modification would involve the rezoning of lot 721 and the golf course access leg portion of lot 722 from a tourist zone to special use zone 14.

It would also rezone a portion of lot 722 from special use zone 10 to 14.

The special use framework would enable a customised set of permissible uses and development standards to be applied, aligning with the site's context and future development vision while protecting adjacent amenity.

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Childcare site sale scrapped after buyer withdraws

DANIEL HOLMES

THE Town of Bassendean has halted plans to sell the Wind in the Willows early childhood centre site following community opposition and the withdrawal of a prospective buyer.

At its ordinary council meeting on March 24, council resolved to immediately cease the public disposal process for the Wilson Street site and instead explore a revised approach for the future of childcare services in the area.

The decision follows significant backlash from families and residents, who raised concerns about the proposed sale of the publicly owned land and its implications for local childcare access.

The prospective purchaser, the Cha Cha Cha Group, withdrew from the process.

The decision also came after widespread community feedback during the public notice period, as well as issues raised at a special meeting of electors on March 25.

Bassendean Mayor Kathryn Hamilton said the outcome reflected council's commitment to responding to community concerns.

"This resolution ensures the town can move forward and explore further opportunities with government, community stakeholders, and potential service providers to deliver the best possible outcome for families," she said.

"This proposal listens to our community, keeping families at the centre of our decision making,

while ensuring we responsibly manage public assets."

Under the revised approach, the town will now work in partnership with state and federal governments to investigate alternative options, including potential funding for new or improved childcare facilities.

The future of the site remains uncertain, with council yet to confirm whether the land will still be sold under a different model or retained for community use.

Further decisions are expected at the April 28 ordinary council meeting, where councillors will consider feedback received through public submissions and motions raised during the special meeting of electors.

In the meantime, existing childcare services at the Wind in the Willows centre will continue operating while the council assesses its next steps.

The town has also released documents relating to the proposed disposal process following public concern about transparency, providing insight into the initial proposal and community response.

The Wind in the Willows site has been a key issue for local families, with many expressing concern about the potential loss of childcare services and the broader impact on the community.

The decision to halt the sale marks a shift in council's approach, with the process now reset as it seeks a solution that balances community expectations with long-term childcare planning.



Wind in the Willows early childhood centre in Bassendean. Picture: Supplied

MJAC receives \$69K Lotterywest grant

MIDLAND Junction Arts Centre (MJAC) has received a \$69,000 Lotterywest grant to support upgrades to enhance access to arts, culture and creative opportunities in Perth's eastern suburbs.

Since 2017, Mundaring Arts Centre Inc has managed MJAC in partnership with the City of Swan, building a strong reputation as a vibrant arts and cultural hub.

The centre now supports more than 54 community groups and attracts more than 20,000 visitors annually.

The funding will support security and access upgrades to MJAC's entry foyer, along with the creation of a new Digital CoLab, which will be available for community use by 2027.

The upgrades to the reception area will improve visitor experience, accessibility, security and assist in promoting the artforms and artists presented in the gallery spaces, solidifying the purpose and function of the two spaces and increase the capacity of MJAC to support community enterprise and cultural activity.

The Digital CoLab will provide a hub for artists to learn, experiment, create, teach and collaborate with each other. It will foster exploration of digital technology, providing programming opportunities to develop skills, record and promote artist stories, their practice and artforms.

This investment reflects the State Government's commitment to strengthening community infra-

structure, supporting the arts sector and ensuring Western Australians have access to inclusive, modern and engaging cultural spaces.

MJAC executive director arts and culture Jennifer Haynes said she was excited that the new Digital CoLab will foster creative projects that connect communities and showcase Western Australian artists to a global audience.

"At the same time, upgrades to the facility's accessibility, security, and visitor experience will better support the 54 community groups currently using MJAC and the more than 20,000 visitors each year, while allowing expanded after-hours use," she said.

Midland MLA Steve Catania said the funding was a big win for Midland.

"The MJAC plays a vital role in bringing people together by supporting local creativity and giving our community a place to learn, share and express itself," he said.

"The new Digital CoLab and improved accessibility will make the centre even more welcoming and it's great to see Midland continuing to grow as a cultural heart of the eastern suburbs."

Klasey Hirst MLC said MJAC has already built a strong reputation as a vibrant arts and cultural hub.

"These valuable upgrades will ensure it continues to support our community, foster creativity, and showcase the incredible talent of Western Australian artists."



MAC Inc chair Darrell Jones, City of Swan Mayor Tanya Richardson, MAC Inc executive director Jenny Haynes, Klasey Hirst MLC, City of Swan acting CEO Mark Bishop, MAC Inc executive director Narelle Doran and project officer Jasmine Jones at the Lotterywest certificate presentation.

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Bibbulmun water tanks reinstated

GUANHAO CHENG

STOLEN water tanks have now been reinstated at the Helena and Waalegh campsites restoring an important water source for hikers.

Three tanks were stolen along the Bibbulmun track earlier this year impacting hikers who relied on the water as reported in *DBCA: Concrete water tank replacements not feasible* (Echo News, March 20).

The Bibbulmun Track Foundation posted a Facebook update on March 24, thanking all community members for sharing updates and supporting one another as the issue was being resolved.

“These tanks play a valuable role in supporting walkers, particularly across longer stretches between shelters,” they said.

“While everyone should still plan to carry enough water, it’s reassuring to see this infrastructure back in place.

“If you’re heading out this way soon, you can once again rely on tanks at both sites.”

Bibbulmun Track Foundation chief executive officer Su-Mita Hill said the tanks had been replaced and refilled by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) Mundaring team.

“Walkers have been very pleased to see the tanks reinstated and have expressed strong appreciation for the crews who worked to return them to the campsites as quickly as possible,” she said.

“During the period the tanks were absent, we are aware of at least one instance where a walker was directly impacted by reduced access to water at a campsite.

“We encourage walkers to continue reporting any issues relating to track infrastructure to both the foundation and DBCA so they can be addressed as quickly as possible.

“As a non-profit powered by dedicated volunteers and community support, we rely on track users and community working together to keep everyone safe.”

Ms Hill said she encouraged people to be considerate as water remains an essential and limited resource in the environment that the track passes through.

“We would also encourage the broader commu-



New tanks are now in place on the Bibbulmun track although police continue to investigate the theft. Inset: Chief executive officer Su-Mita Hill. Pictures: Bibbulmun Track Foundation.

nity to recognise the importance of these assets for walkers undertaking multi-day journeys, and the impact that damage or theft can have on safety and shared experience along the track,” she said.

Police are continuing to investigate the initial theft and anyone with information is urged to contact Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000.



New Shire of Chittering president David Dewar with deputy president Mary Angus.

New Chittering shire president elected following resignation

GUANHAO CHENG

THE Shire of Chittering has appointed a new shire president following the resignation of former president Mark Campbell earlier this year.

Councillor David Dewar was elected to the role at the March 18 ordinary council meeting, stepping up after serving as deputy president and acting president during the transition.

Cr Dewar takes on the position after a period of change within council, following the October 2025 local government elections and the recent leadership vacancy.

The appointment formalises a transition that had already been underway.

Cr Dewar had been acting in the role while council prepared to elect a new president, maintaining continuity in decision-making and representation.

He now assumes the position for the remainder of the council term.

The leadership change comes as the shire continues to manage growth and planning across the region, balancing development with its rural character.

Council has in recent months progressed a range of planning and community initiatives, with a focus on long-term strategy and local engagement.

Councillor Mary Angus was elected deputy president at the same meeting.

Cr Angus and councillor Beck Foulkes-Taylor both submitted nominations for the position of the deputy president.

A ballot was then conducted resulting in a 4-3 vote in favour Cr Angus.

In a statement, Shire of Chittering chief executive officer Melinda Prinsloo thanked Mr Campbell for his service to the community over the past five years and said the shire would remain committed to strong governance and continuity of leadership.

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Kalamunda Primary School, where the P&C is fundraising for a new bus shelter. Picture: Supplied.

Kalamunda Primary School seeks support for bus shelter

DANIEL HOLMES

KALAMUNDA Primary School's Parents and Citizens Association (P&C) is calling on the community to support a fundraiser aimed at building a bus shelter, with hundreds of students currently exposed to the weather during pick-up times.

More than 350 students attend the school, with families often gathering in outdoor areas without adequate shelter from rain and sun at the end of the school day.

The P&C is hosting a quiz night fundraiser on Saturday, June 20 at the Lesmurdie Club in an effort to raise funds for the project, which aims to improve conditions for students and parents waiting outside the school.

A P&C representative said the shelter would provide a safer and more comfortable environment for families during busy pick-up periods.

"Students and families are currently

exposed to the elements while waiting, particularly during hot or wet weather," she said.

The group hopes the fundraiser will bring the community together while also contributing towards a practical upgrade to the school's facilities.

City of Kalamunda communications officer Katrina Bergin said responsibility for a school-based bus shelter sat with the Department of Education.

The P&C is continuing its fundraising efforts and is encouraging community members to get involved, with funds going towards the design and construction of the proposed shelter.

Organisers say the project would provide long-term benefits for students, families and the wider school community.

Residents interested in supporting the fundraiser or attending the quiz night can contact the Kalamunda Primary School P&C via email at kpsfundraising@outlook.com

New train driver seats to be fitted in Bellevue



A C-series train at the Bellevue train depot which will be where the A-series seats will be fitted to replace the ones causing train drivers discomfort.

GUANHAO CHENG

THE newest C-series train fleet's seats will receive a replacement, with works to be carried out in Midland after drivers raised concerns about discomfort and pain.

The Public Transport Authority said it would replace driver seats across the C-series fleet after feedback from drivers and the trains seats would be fitted in the Bellevue facility where the fleet was first put together.

A PTA spokesperson said the decision followed consultation with the Rail Tram and Bus Union (RTBU) and driver feedback after the trains entered service.

"The PTA and State Government have been working constructively with the RTBU to

incorporate driver feedback to support comfort and operability in the C-series driver's cab," they said.

"While the existing chair meets industry standards and underwent extensive testing, commissioning, and multiple design reviews, including endorsement from a representative group of drivers, the PTA is acting on feedback to ensure the best possible outcome for staff."

The spokesperson said concerns were raised after drivers spent extended periods of time operating the trains.

"Once the trains entered service, some drivers raised concerns about the comfort of the current driver's chair after extended use," they said.

"Following the feedback, the PTA successfully trialled an al-

ternative model and a decision was made to replace the chair across the C-series fleet.

"Procurement of the new seats is subject to an open tender process, and they will be fitted to the trains at Bellevue."

The Bellevue facility was established as part of the state government's railcar program and has been the key assembly and commission location for the C-series trains.

The program has since delivered 246 C-series railcars for METRONET projects, replacing the older A-series trains.

According to a story from WA-Today reporter Hamish Hastie, the PTA will replace every seat across 92 C-series trains and the Australind train with the A-series model seat, known as the Grammer 90.6 SHORT.



Early Years Workshops

Presented by Karen Young

'Neuro-Nurtured': The Developing Brain During Early Childhood

Tuesday 14 April 2026
3:00pm-4:30pm

This workshop explores the powerful role of the early learning environment in nurturing holistic child development, and how we can use neuroscience to foster emotional self regulation and resilience in all children.

Sessions are free, but registration is essential. Scan the QR code to register.



2026 AEDC Community Forum

Tuesday 14 April 2026
5:00pm-6:00pm

The Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) collects data on early childhood development. Parents, carers, and educators are invited to join this workshop to understand what the latest data is telling us about children in the City of Kalamunda.

Sessions are free, but registration is essential. Scan the QR code to register.



Parenting During Early Childhood

Tuesday 14 April 2026
6:00pm-7:30pm

This workshop for parents and professionals explores how we can provide strong foundations for healthy child development, with practical strategies for common parenting struggles and preparing your child for the transition to school.

Sessions are free, but registration is essential. Scan the QR code to register.



Kalamunda supports Wattle Grove South rezoning

BRAYDEN MOULD

THE City of Kalamunda has moved to support the controversial Wattle Grove South development in a 6 to 1 vote, marking a significant step towards urbanisation of the area despite a decade of community resistance.

At the ordinary council meeting on March 24, Councillor David Modolo successfully moved an alternate motion to recommend approval of the plan to the Western Australian Planning Commission, if certain modifications to the plan were met.

As reported previously in *Wattle Grove South rezoning opposition continues* (Echo News, March 6), residents have strenuously objected to the proposed rezoning from rural to residential, with the public comment period last year collecting 116 submissions, with 77 of those objecting to the proposal and 26 in support.

Cr Modolo told the gallery he was acutely aware that people's homes and lives were at stake but argued the council needed to act to maintain influence over the final outcome.

"If the matter proceeds without a clear and considered position from this council, there's a real prospect the structure plan

will be shaped elsewhere and not necessarily in a way that reflects the nuances of the community," he said.

The approved modifications to the structure plan would focus on Precinct A, where many established businesses would have faced restrictive residential zoning under the original plan.

"A structure plan approved without modification would see existing lawful multigenerational businesses in precinct A move into a nonconforming position over time; they won't be able to grow, and they'll be edged out and kicked out," Cr Modolo said.

Cr Modolo said the alternate motion was a practical way to support the progression of the structure plan while protecting the role of the area as a local employment hub.

"I can see how this issue in this area is playing out and I wouldn't be able to sleep at night knowing that we missed an opportunity to at least protect some in the precinct," he said.

Deputy Mayor Kathy Ritchie spoke against the motion, questioning why the council could not maintain a variety of housing choices by keeping the area rural.

Cr Ritchie said the community remained heavily opposed to the land use change and raised concerns about potential loss

of biodiversity that the envisioned housing development from the structure plan could bring.

"The process to urbanise Wattle Grove South has been extensive and exhausting across two decades," she said.

"We as a council are aware of the canopy and biodiversity loss and the effects of rising temperatures which have and are occurring across the city.

"With the increased people comes increased heat, the noise of living, the cats and dogs... what of the nesting birds, the bobtails, the monitor lizards, and quenda's? If they survive where do they go? Can they retreat to the other side of Crystal Brook Road?"

While Cr Ritchie recognised the developer's commitment to preserve some of the local canopy, the fragmented greenery would not sustain the active native environment.

"I acknowledge the proponent's commitment to retain some and plant additional trees but trees in isolation are not a viable ecosystem for the survival of the animals which live here," she said.

"I would therefore ask that before you make a decision, consider what the major-



The proposed Wattle Grove South rural area is currently home to a number of animals species including Rainbow Bee-Eaters. Picture: ReWild Perth.

ity of residents in this area have told us for a decade, and that you guard and protect for our children and grandchildren, what remains of the unique foothills' ecosystem."

Community disappointed by Wattle Grove South decision

WATTLE Grove South residents have expressed deep disappointment following the City of Kalamunda Council's decision last week to support the proposed Wattle Grove South Structure Plan prepared by Hesperia Pty Ltd and Jardim Property Group.

The decision comes despite strong and consistent community opposition, with 77 submissions opposing the proposal, as well as unresolved concerns raised by multiple government agencies regarding infrastructure, environmental impacts and public health.

Wattle Grove South environmental group EcoVision coordinators Bev and Charles Dornan said the decision was not simply disappointing in outcome but concerning in the way it was reached.

"What troubled many residents was not just the decision itself, but the unchallenged mischaracterisation of the planning framework as well as the apparent lack of rigorous scrutiny applied to the issues before council, especially considering the number of public sector agencies that did not unequivocally support the plan," Mrs Dornan said.

"A key concern raised by resi-

dents is that several councillors appeared to proceed on the assumption that urbanisation of Wattle Grove South is inevitable," she said.

She said Cr David Modolo, the mover of the motion described the issue as "run and done" and "settled within the broader planning framework" - a position not supported by the state's own planning framework.

"The now outdated North-East Sub-Regional Planning Framework clearly states that land identified for 'urban investigation' does not represent any commitment to rezone or develop, but rather requires further detailed assessment before any such decision can be made.

"Urbanisation is not a foregone conclusion, and it is not 'run and done' as stated by Cr Modolo," Mrs Dornan said.

"It is a decision that must be properly justified, tested and lawfully made - and many in the community do not believe that threshold has been met," she said.

"Importantly, several key government agencies have either not supported the structure plan or have made their position conditional on significant unresolved issues being



Members of the EcoVision environmental group. Inset: EcoVision coordinators Bev and Charles Dornan.

addressed to their satisfaction."

She said for example, the Department of Health does not support the structure plan in the absence of reticulated sewerage and has also raised concerns about historical land contamination, and the Water Corporation has confirmed that reticulated sewerage is neither planned nor funded within its current five-year capital works program."

Residents are also concerned

that the structure plan has been advanced ahead of rezoning, contrary to the established principles of orderly and proper planning in Western Australia.

Mrs Dornan said further resident concerns include lack of confirmed sewer and infrastructure provision, incomplete environmental assessment processes, outstanding objections from key agencies and questions around whether the proposal has been progressed in accordance



with proper planning sequence. "Despite these issues, council voted 6 to 1 in favour of supporting the structure plan," she said.

The meeting drew a large and engaged public turnout, with the public gallery filled and an overflow, highlighting the depth of concern within the community. **Cont. p22.**

You are invited to YORK to enjoy a weekend of history, tradition, music and simple pleasures.

For more information contact Karen on 0418 936 214 or email info@yorkheritageweekend.com.au



Day 1 Friday April 24

Spend the afternoon wandering through historic York. Visit our world class Motor Museum, grab afternoon tea at the bakery and make your way to Avon park for the BYO family concert featuring top class local musicians Kim Anning Trio & Triple Engine starting @ 6pm.



Day 2 Saturday April 25

Commemorate Anzac Day country style, Dawn Service on Mount Brown Gunfire Breakfast Parade and service at the Memorial Station St. 11am. Afternoon tea with historian Richard Offen presenting 'The History of Photography' @ 2pm.



Day 3 Sunday April 26

Sunday @ Sandalwood including the Blues Breakfast Concert Tickets \$15 @ Humanitix Breakfast available to purchase. Parade of Penny Farthings along Avon Terrace, Mad Tatters Morris, Kid's games, Devonshire Cream teas at CWA. Come along to The Imperial Homestead for a traditional bush band concert by Maggie's Delight starting @ 6.30pm.



Day 4 Monday April 27

Do you have relatives who served in the Military? WAMDL would love to showcase their stories in their digital library! Tour the iconic Town Hall, take a bus trip to Greenhills, learn of the history and hear the new owners exciting plans for the historic building. Greenhills Tickets \$20 @ Humanitix includes morning tea. Explore the Amana memorial at Settlers House & stay for lunch.

Kalamunda moves to regulate AI

DANIEL HOLMES

THE City of Kalamunda is moving to regulate how artificial intelligence is used by staff, with a draft policy setting rules around privacy, oversight, and accountability.

The policy outlines how AI tools, including generative platforms such as ChatGPT, can be used within the organisation, while prohibiting the use of sensitive or confidential information.

Under the draft, AI must not be used to make decisions or deliver services without human oversight, and all outputs must be verified by a suitably qualified or experienced person before being used in decision-making or public communication.

The policy also requires staff to disclose when AI has influenced decisions, communications or services and establishes mechanisms for reviewing and challenging AI-generated outcomes.

Mayor Margaret Thomas said the move was driven by the increasing use of artificial intelligence tools, which “make it essential to establish a strong governance framework to guide its responsible use.”

“The policy ensures any current or future use of AI is ethical, lawful and in the best interests of our community.”

The draft framework also places restrictions on what platforms can be used, requiring approval from the city’s Information and Communications Technology (ICT) services before any public AI tools are adopted.

Unapproved platforms may be blocked, and all commercial AI tools must undergo security assessments to prevent uncontrolled



third-party data sharing.

The policy defines sensitive information as data that could compromise privacy or security if disclosed, and explicitly prohibits entering such information into AI systems.

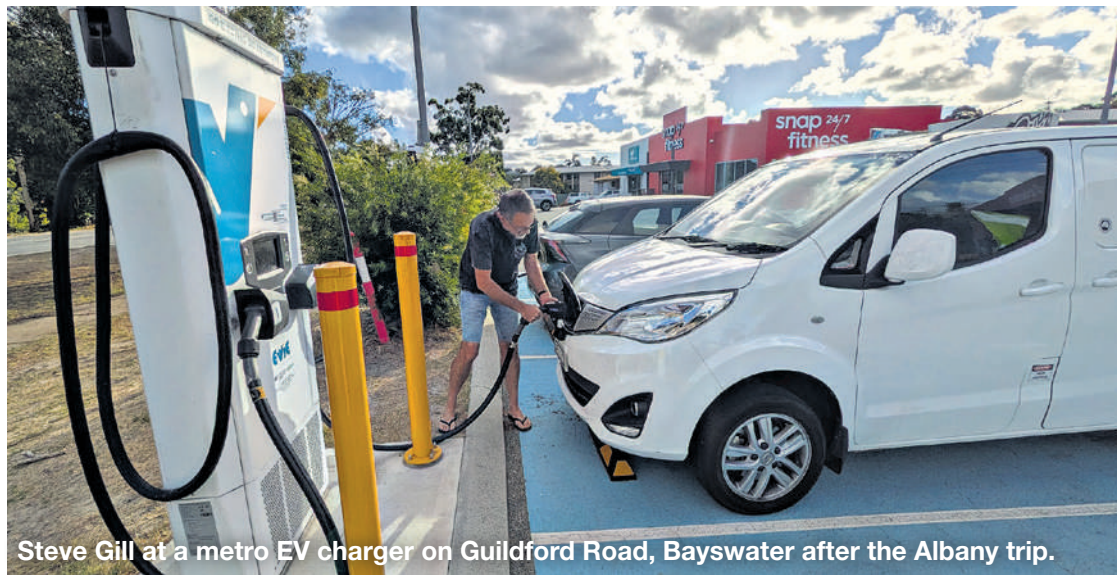
It also includes compliance and monitoring measures, allowing the city to verify usage through log reviews, browser history checks, and internal and external audits, with breaches potentially resulting in disciplinary action.

Mayor Thomas said the policy aimed to balance innovation with community trust.

“It sets out clear governance, accountability and risk-management arrangements so that AI can support innovation while protecting community trust, privacy and the city’s reputation,” she said.

If adopted, the policy will apply to council members, employees, contractors and volunteers using AI technologies in the course of their duties.

The city said the framework would ensure AI is used to support, rather than replace, human decision-making, while improving service delivery for residents.



Steve Gill at a metro EV charger on Guildford Road, Bayswater after the Albany trip.

EVs come into their own in fuel crisis

MIKE PEETERS

AS Australia’s fuel crisis deepens, the use of electric vehicles (EVs) has come to the fore.

Long-time environmental advocate Steve Gill of Bassendean has owned an EV since 2022 and spent much of that time spreading the word about the advantages of renewable energy and electric vehicles.

Mr Gill said he has been watching the dramatic price rises at the bowser over the past few weeks with a mixture of both shock and interest.

“These increases reinforce the fact that the more the fuel price goes up, the more attractive owning an EV becomes,” he said.

“In my experience, running an electric vehicle using public fast chargers costs only between half and two thirds the price of petrol, depending on the fuel price.

“If charging at home from solar it is almost free.” Mr Gill said the other big advantage of owning an EV was the low carbon emissions.

“Its effect on global warming is much less than any oil-powered vehicle, including hybrids, even after accounting for the higher monetary and environmental costs of building the vehicle,” he said.

“The third major advantage is being able to plug in when I get home and set the timer to start either when the sun is shining (for solar), or when carbon emissions from the grid are lowest.”

Mr Gill recently returned from a trip to Albany that demonstrated the substantial savings.

“My Albany trip to see the Lighting the Sound light show was only a few weeks ago but the higher fuel prices were already coming into play,” he said.

“Using public chargers my wife and I covered the roughly 1136 km from Bassendean to Albany and back in the EV spending only about \$125 on electricity charging.

“I worked out that the same distance in a petrol vehicle would have cost about \$284 in fuel with petrol prices at approximately \$2.5/l.”

Mr Gill is also a firm supporter of environmental causes, including the Cavalcade to Canberra held in August to September 2024 when he drove his BYD EV van as the WA support vehicle for Professor Neville Bruce.

“On the day after his 81st birthday, Prof Bruce rode his (non-electric) bicycle from Parliament House in Perth to Parliament House, Canberra, via Adelaide and Melbourne,” Mr Gill said.

He said the purpose of Cavalcade to Canberra was to take the message to our elected representatives about ‘No New Gas!’ and discourage the exploring and processing of new gas fields in culturally sensitive areas.

“Travelling on back roads where possible and staying in caravan parks, camping grounds and roadside rest areas, I spent three weeks in the van using available chargers.”

Mr Gill also recently completed a shorter trip to Dalwallinu, 230km north-east of Perth, to try out some of the Great Northern Highway electrification project running from Midland to Port Hedland, via the inland route.

This trip proved a bit more challenging with Mr Gill admitting that although some EVs were perfect for around town and well serviced areas, a short-range goods vehicle like his could face some ‘range anxiety’ when heading further afield.

Parkerville Gala raises \$400k for trauma-informed school

GUESTS and supporters of Parkerville Children and Youth Care generously raised more than \$400,000 at last weekend’s Wizard of Oz themed Parkerville Gala event at Fraser’s – with all funds benefiting a new specialist school currently being built in the Perth Hills.

The gala was made possible by the decade-long support of presenting partners Hancock Prospecting, Hancock Iron Ore and the personal commitment of Gina Rinehart AO – whose kindness and belief in Parkerville’s mission stretches back even further.

The funds will help establish the new school and directly support young people whose lives have been shaped by trauma.

Parkerville Grove School is a specialist secondary school delivering a healing-first therapeutic education model for young people aged 12 to 18 whose trauma has made mainstream education impossible.

The school is intentionally designed to build healing and safety first, creating foundations young people need to re-engage with learning in a sustainable way.

Guests at the event were quick to open their hearts, with funds raised being earmarked for the school’s allied health services, therapeutic services, and purpose-built environments designed to help young people feel safe, regulated, and ready to learn.

Parkerville Children and Youth Care chief executive officer Kim Brooklyn said Mrs Rinehart’s generosity, her genuine care for vulnerable children, and her unwavering commitment over many years had been transformative – not just for this school, but for countless young lives.

“Every dollar raised will provide essential funding for Parkerville Grove School, which will bring

together trauma-informed teachers, youth workers, and allied health professionals to support each student in a caring environment. Thank you for making that possible.”

To learn more about Parkerville Grove School and trauma-informed education, visit www.parkervilleeducation.org.au



Dorothy (Alysha Macri) kept guests entertained throughout the gala.

JESUS DIED SO WE MIGHT HAVE LIFE!



RESURRECTION SUNDAY 5TH APRIL

Grace Baptist Church

Regular Services:

Sunday School (All Ages) 9.30am

Family Worship 10.30am

Midweek Prayer Meeting: 7.00pm

Meeting at:

**Brown Park Community Centre,
Salisbury Rd, Swan View**

Evening Worship:

3pm at Woodlake Community Centre, Ellenbrook

Pastor: Graham Thomas

Ph: 0425 354 159 gbcmidland.org.au

ECHO NEWS

SINCE 1985

Friday, April 3, 2026

**8 PAGE
KALAMUNDA
SHOW
LIFTOUT**

Local Business Supporting Local People

The Kalamunda Agricultural Society
is proud to announce the 2026



125th

Kalamunda Show

Our Show – Our Community

*Celebrating
Kalamunda Show
since 1898!*

Standing the test of time.

**FRIDAY &
SATURDAY
NIGHT
FIREWORKS**

**Friday 10th April
5pm to 10pm**

**Saturday 11th April
10am to 9pm**

Kostera Oval and Agricultural Hall Kalamunda

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY



Community Bank
Forrestfield

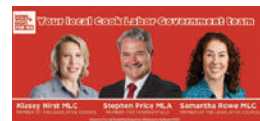
Bendigo Bank

BYD

Rotary
Club of Kalamunda Inc.



Purslowe & Chipper
Funerals



**MAZENOD
COLLEGE**



**ST. BRIGID'S
COLLEGE**

FREE Native Plant Giveaway

Return any 10c recyclable container to the
Mazenod/St. Brigid's College tent at the show
and receive a FREE Native Plant*

Proudly donated by the
City of Kalamunda Adopt-A-Patch Program.

*One per person & Limited Stock Available

Proudly supported by



Come visit the Mazenod and St. Brigid's College
Sustainability and Activity Tent at this year's
Kalamunda Show.

- Free native plant giveaway
- Free decorate your own recycled wooden plant tag
- Free colouring competition
- Free jewellery craft making activities

The Kalamunda Agricultural Society is proud to announce the 2026

125th Kalamunda Show



Learn to **DANCE TODAY**

Jus' Dance

MADDINGTON 1984 Albany Hwy, Maddington

NEW CLASSES STARTING - ENROL NOW!
NO PARTNER REQUIRED | BEGINNERS TO INTERMEDIATE.



KIDS CLASSES | ADULT CLASSES | SENIOR CLASSES

EVENING CLASSES
Mon-Fri 7-9pm

- BALLROOM • LATIN • SALSA • ROCK N ROLL
- JIVE & SWING • SMOOTH • NEW VOGUE SEQUENCE

NEW ENROLMENTS
20% Bring ad in OFF to claim

Social Dance
10th April | 8.00pm-11.00pm
Adults & Seniors \$15pp
BYO Drinks. Floor Show & Lots of Dancing.

KIDSport APPROVED CLUB
KIDS & YOUTH CLASSES
AGES 5-17 YRS
MON & TUES 4.45-5.45PM.

Jenny 0413 430 721
info@jusedance.com.au | Check our class timetable www.jusedance.com.au

Jus' Dance
KALAMUNDA
TUESDAYS
Beginners & Improvers
7.30-8.30pm
Intermediate Level
6pm-7.30pm
* NEW VENUE *
St Swithens Church Hall,
195 Lesmurdie Rd,
Lesmurdie

Mazenod College – Moments of Grace

More than a school, Mazenod College blends tradition with inspiration, guiding boys to learn, lead, and serve with purpose.



beyond the classroom through diverse co-curricular experiences that build confidence, character, and community connection.

Set on an 8.9-hectare campus in the Lesmurdie hills overlooking Perth, the College offers a peaceful, well-resourced environment designed for how boys learn and grow.

Facilities such as the Provenance Centre for Design and Technology support innovation and hands-on learning, while the MyPath program provides senior students with personalised pathways to university, TAFE, or the workforce. Every boy is known and supported within a community grounded in respect, brotherhood, and aspiration. As Mazenod celebrates its 60th anniversary, it continues to honour its heritage while inspiring future generations.

Education at Mazenod is a balanced journey. Academic excellence is complemented by opportunities in sport, music, culture, spirituality, and leadership. Students are encouraged to step

St Brigid's College – Light the Way

Founded in 1929 by the Sisters of Mercy, St Brigid's College is a vibrant Catholic community in the Perth Hills, guided by its ethos "Light the Way."



girls secondary environment (Years 7-12) that empowers young women with confidence and leadership.

It offers a holistic education grounded in faith, compassion, and academic excellence.

Across all stages, students benefit from strong academic programs, supportive relationships, and a values-based culture. St Brigid's continues to nurture capable, compassionate, and confident learners ready to make a meaningful difference.

The College provides co-education from Pre-Kindergarten to Year 6, fostering curiosity and belonging, before transitioning to an all-



Dance like Nobody is watching...

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

\$15.00 p/p – BYO drinks and enjoy the floor show and dance the night away.

Term 3 at Jus' Dance studio will commence on Monday, April 20 and Tuesday, April 21 at both Maddington and a new location in Kalamunda – St Swithens Church Hall, 195 Lesmurdie Road, Lesmurdie.

Adult and senior dance classes, day and evening include Ballroom, Latin, Salsa, Rock 'n Roll, Jive & Swing and New Vogue. Youth and Kids Ballroom & Latin classes for children ages 5 – 17 yrs Monday and Tuesdays. Jus' Dance is a Kid Sport approved club.

So why not come down and have some fun and meet new people while learning something new.

Great music excellent teachers, good fun. Pay for full six-week Term & receive 20 per cent off total cost for all new students.

Our first social dance will be held on April 10 from 8.00pm until 11.00pm. Adults and Seniors

Enrol online www.jusedance.com.au or contact Jenny 0413430721 or email info@jusedance.com.au for more information.



ABS AUTO MIDLAND

Our family-owned business proudly services the Midland community, delivering honest advice, reliable workmanship, and quality automotive servicing at fair, competitive prices.

Book your service today!



(08) 6161 4636

absautomidland.com.au

ABS Auto Midland – a trusted part of the community

ABS Auto Midland is more than just a local mechanic; it's a trusted part of the Midland community.



As a family-owned and operated workshop, the team has built a strong reputation for honest advice, reliable workmanship, and genuine care for every customer who walks through the door.

beyond the workshop.

In 2023, Katrina and Murray took over ownership of ABS Auto Midland, bringing with them a strong commitment to transparency, trust, and quality service.

It's this combination of technical expertise and community focus that has driven consistent growth through word-of-mouth and loyal customers.

Under their leadership, the workshop continues to deliver reliable automotive care, whether it's a routine service, brake replacement, or a more complex repair.

For drivers across Midland and surrounding suburbs, ABS Auto Midland offers peace of mind, quality automotive care at fair, competitive prices, delivered by a team you can trust.

Their qualified technicians approach every job with precision and pride, ensuring vehicles are safe, efficient, and ready for the road.

What truly sets ABS Auto Midland apart is its connection to the local community.

From supporting local sporting clubs to engaging with residents, their commitment goes

The Kalamunda Agricultural Society is proud to announce the 2026



Kalamunda Show



Kalamunda Show has a long history

THE Kalamunda Show is run by the Kalamunda Agricultural Society which was founded in 1898.

The show committee is made up of volunteer members of the agricultural society and new volunteers are always welcome.

Their work includes organisation of the grounds, security, stalls, activities, displays and entertainment.

Members also run the exhibition hall and although most exhibitors come from the Kalamunda area, many also travel some distance to show their flowers, cookery, needlework, preserves, handicraft, photography and art.

The show committee meets throughout the year and more regularly in the lead up to the show.

The agricultural hall was built in 1896 and the townsite of Kalamunda officially proclaimed in 1901.

Thereafter the agricultural group became known as the Kalamunda Show.

While the agricultural society originally owned the agricultural hall and the grounds (now Koster Oval), in 1922 the hall and grounds were

given to the Darling Range Road Board.

In 1975, due to declining membership, the society entered into a five-year contract with the Lions Club of Kalamunda to run the annual show co-jointly.

This arrangement became permanent in 1980 and an amicable financial arrangement for running the annual show was reached between the two groups.

This arrangement was still in place until 2014 when the Lions Club of Kalamunda resigned from the partnership.

The show is now entirely organised by the Agricultural Society.

In recent years, the show has shown a resurgence amongst the community with strong attendances and attracts many visitors from outside the district.

The dates for the show have changed many times since its inception, ranging from very early in the year to later in the year.

The show is now held early to late April depending on when Easter falls.

For more information go to: www.kalamundaagriculturalsociety.com.au



An exciting new chapter for The Jewellery Centre Mundaring

YOU may be aware that we have recently taken over the reins from Bob and Carol at The Jewellery Centre Mundaring.

We know we have big shoes to fill - something we're reminded of daily by the number of lovely people who stop in to share a story, say hello, or enquire after Bob and Carol.

Their legacy of genuine care and exceptional service is the heart of this store, and it's a privilege to carry it forward.

We want you to know that we're here, and we're incredibly excited to serve this amazing community that we're only just beginning to meet.

You'll still find the same incredible team you know and trust, ready to look after all your jewellery needs with the same personal touch The Jewellery Centre is known for.

Over the coming months, you'll also start to see a few thoughtful updates - new services, improved systems, and fresh ways to make your experience even more special.

Our goal is to build on the incredible foundation already here while keeping the warm, local feel you love.

We're truly grateful to be part of the Mundaring community and can't wait to meet more of you,



hear your stories, and help you celebrate life's most meaningful moments.

All the very best, Chris and Melody.

The Jewellery Centre MUNDARING

YOUR OWN LOCAL JEWELLER
Specialising in
REPAIRS • SALES • DESIGNS

Have jewellery you never wear?
Let's transform it.



With master jewellers on site every day, we specialise in redesigning old or unloved jewellery into magnificent custom pieces – *created just for you.*



LADIES AND GENTS WATCHES TOO!!



FULL RANGE AVAILABLE. 2 YEAR FULL WARRANTY ON ALL WATCHES.

SEKONDA & JAG

Your Trusted Jeweller

The Jewellery Centre

9295 1667

Shop 5, Mundaring Shopping Centre MUNDARING

The Kalamunda Agricultural Society is proud to announce the 2026



Kalamunda Show

Family passes available online

ONE and two-day family show passes are now available online, enabling guests to enjoy the fireworks on both nights sponsored by Bendigo Bank.

You can also avoid the ticketing queues on Friday night while trying some of the rides, browsing the stalls, and enjoying some of the delicious food and drink available.

Visitors with two-day passes can return on the Saturday to do some shopping and enjoy the all-day stage entertainment.

BYD Midland have cars on display at the show, along with Kalamunda Toyota.

Tickets for both nights are also available at the gate.

To book your two-day passes online go to megatix.com.au/events/kalamunda-show-2026



ONLINE TICKETING



Team Labor Proud Sponsors of the 125th Kalamunda Show!

As your Perth Hills and Foothills Labor Government team, we are proud to support the Kalamunda Show and want to thank all the incredible volunteers who have contributed to this event for more than a century.

Your dedication has helped bring together families, farmers, artisans, and local groups to showcase talent, enjoy entertainment, and strengthen the connections that make Kalamunda such a vibrant local community.

Building on our Gold Sponsorship of this year's Show, the Cook Labor Government is delivering our \$15,000 election commitment to further support this milestone year and beyond.

This funding will go towards a new shed at the showgrounds and highlights our ongoing commitment to local communities, ensuring that this beloved tradition continues for generations to come.

A special mention to the current Chair Nat Coppin, Vice Chair Rachel Boyes, and the committee for your tireless work and hours of planning.

We wish the event every success and look forward to connecting with the community at the Show.

You can find us, your local Labor Government team, at the red tent!

- Stephen Price MLA Member for Forrestfield, Hon Klasey Hirst MLC and Hon Samantha Rowe MLC Member for Western Australia, Trish Cook MP Member for Builwinkel



Stephen Price MLA Member for Forrestfield

No frills, No fuss funerals @ Just Cremations

DO you want an affordable service that is non-traditional and no fuss?

I'm sure you will have noticed a big difference in funeral costs in Perth.

While some are very expensive, others are uncomfortably cheap, which can leave you wondering "what should I do".

30 years ago, we looked at the funeral industry in Perth and concluded that funeral homes were doing the same traditional expensive funerals that hadn't changed for 100 years.

At Just Cremations, we wanted to build a quality brand, at a far more affordable price than was currently available.

Our mission: to create a "professional, courteous funeral service for the people of Perth at a fair and reasonable price".

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

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

<https://justcremations.com.au/>



Program

PROGRAM TIMES MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Kalamunda Show Entertainment 2026

ON STAGE FRIDAY 10TH APRIL 2026 5.00 – 10.00PM

5.00pm	Kalamunda Senior High School Bands	KSHS — Luxious — Skeptik
5.50pm	OFFICIAL OPENING	
8.00pm	Chinese Dragon Dance	
8.30pm	FIREWORKS	
10.00pm	CLOSE	

ON STAGE SATURDAY 11TH APRIL 2026 10.00AM – 9.00PM

10.00am	The Black Chooks
10.45am	PCYC Tumblers
11.15am	Small Little Dancers
11.45am	PRESENTATIONS
12.10pm	CORStudios Acrobatics
12.45pm	Parkerville Community Band
1.45pm	Kalamunda Performers
2.20pm	Darling Range Wind Ensemble
3.20pm	Rhinestone Roundup Line-Dancing (wear your dancing shoes!)
3.45pm	Happy Hour
5.00pm	Daren Reid & The Soul City Groove!
8.00pm	FIREWORKS
9.00pm	CLOSE

KIDS CORNER SATURDAY 11TH APRIL 2026 11.00AM – 4.00PM

11.00am-3pm	Paint your own plaster of paris to take home. Toy library play, messy play, blocks and more! Worm farm – make & take! (finish 3pm)
12 noon	Al Kazam Magic Show
1.00pm	Eco Faeries and Craft Faeries

ROVING SATURDAY 11TH APRIL 2026 10.00AM – 4.00PM

10.30am	Eco Faeries
11.00am	Al Magic Show
12.00pm	PCYC Tumbler Clowns
12.30pm	Outback Betty & Friends
1.00pm	PCYC Tumbler Clowns
1.30pm	Outback Betty & Friends
1.10pm	Al Magic Show
2.00pm	Betty Bubbles
2.30pm	Outback Betty & Friends
4.00pm	Farewell Outback Betty & Friends

ALL DAY ACTIVITIES SATURDAY 11TH APRIL – UNTIL 4PM



Log Chop • Silent Disco • Climbing Wall • Kids' activities (Oval)
Young Farmers Association competition
Sheep Dog demonstrations • Old MacDonald's Farm

FRIDAY
Perth Observatory stargazing • Kanyana

EXHIBITION HALL
100s of exhibits showcasing local artists and hobbyists.
Friday 5pm-9pm
Saturday 10am-8pm.
Prizes awarded (in hall) 4.30pm.

Our friends from Outback Betty & Friends will be participating & leading the crowd!

Then join Outback Betty & Friends for line-dancing in front of the main stage at 3.20pm!

Just as our name suggests we believe in providing just and fair services to all our clients

Just Cremations
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18 Bourke Street, **Bunbury**
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17 Canning Road, **Kalamunda**
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49 Pinjarra Road, **Mandurah**
401 Great Eastern Hwy, **Redcliffe**
21 Cort Way, **Rockingham**

The Kalamunda Agricultural Society is proud to announce the 2026



125th Kalamunda Show

Wayne Garwood – the man behind the Kalamunda Show

A LEGEND of the Kalamunda Show, Wayne Garwood has been a driving force behind the event since 1992.

Even after retiring as chairman last August, he still maintains a strong presence and remains heavily involved in this year's 125th edition.

Such is his impact that Mr Garwood was made a Community Citizen of the Year in 2025 for his tireless work organising the show.

The show committee is also making plans for the naming of a new building after Mr Garwood to be known as the Wayne Garwood Pavilion.

New Kalamunda Show chairman Nat Coppin said Mr Garwood's input over the years had been phenomenal and working with him had always been enjoyable.

"Without Wayne's untiring dedication and work the show would never have reached the heights it has and our job now is to continue that legacy," Mr Coppin said.

Long-time friend and Kalamunda Chamber of Commerce events coordinator Marilyn Keys said her association with Mr Garwood began more than 30 years ago when they both worked on Koolan Island near Derby in the state's Kimberley region.

"Wayne worked as a surveyor and it turned out we were both from Kalamunda," Ms Keys said.

"That association continued with our



Wayne Garwood with his 2025 Community Citizen Award.

shared interest in the Kalamunda Show after returning to Perth.

"Wayne has always had an amazing ability to build strong relationships with a range of community, sporting and agricultural groups, as well as manoeuvring successfully between them."



PROUDLY SPONSORED BY



Your local Labor team

Proud Supporters of the
125th Annual Kalamunda Show!



Klasey Hirst MLC

MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Samantha Rowe MLC

MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Stephen Price MLA

MEMBER FOR FORRESTFIELD

Trish Cook MP

MEMBER FOR BULLWINKEL

The Kalamunda Agricultural Society is proud to announce the 2026



125th Kalamunda Show

70 Years of Mead Medical - A Legacy of People, Not Just Practice

SEVENTY years is a long time in health-care.

It's long enough to see medicine transform - from paper files to digital systems, from solo GPs to multidisciplinary teams, from reactive care to prevention and long-term health management.

But at Mead Medical, what has mattered most over those 70 years hasn't just been the way medicine is practised.

It's the people who have practised it.

Founded in 1955 by Dr John Jamieson, Mead Medical began with a simple but enduring purpose: to care for the community.

That purpose has carried through generations of doctors, nurses, and staff - each leaving their own mark on the practice and on the lives of their patients.

Some of those individuals are still spoken about today.

Doctors who didn't just treat illness, but became part of people's lives - trusted, familiar, and deeply respected. For many families, Mead Medical has been there across generations, and the names of the doctors who cared for them are remembered just as clearly as the care itself.

There are also those we remember with a different kind of weight.

Doctors who left us too early, but whose impact was profound.

Dr Peter Anderton and Dr Bill Babe are among those whose contributions to both the practice and the community are not forgotten.

Their legacy lives on not just in memory, but in the standard of care and commitment they helped shape.

This is the reality of a practice that has been part of a community for 70 years - it carries stories. Not just of medicine, but of people, relationships, and moments that matter.

That continuity is something increasingly rare.

In a healthcare environment that can feel fast-paced and transactional, there is something deeply valuable about a place where you are known - where your history is understood, and where care is built on relationships over time.

But reaching 70 years has never been about standing still.

Mead Medical has evolved constantly to meet the needs of its community - expanding services, investing in facilities, and supporting the next generation of GPs through teaching and supervision.

Behind the scenes, there is a constant effort to balance quality care with the realities of a challenging healthcare environment.

Because general practice today is not easy.

There are workforce pressures, funding constraints, and increasing demand. There is also growing interest from corporate and investment groups in the WA healthcare market - something that brings both opportunity and important questions about the future of community-based care.

Through all of this, the focus at Mead Med-

ical remains the same.

People first.

Not just patients - but the people who care for them, and the legacy they are part of.

Seventy years on, Mead Medical is not defined only by how long it has existed, but by the lives it has touched and the people who have shaped it.

That is something worth recognising.

And something worth protecting as we look to the future.



Kalamunda Surgery 1974-2013.



Original surgery, Canning Road Kalamunda.



Mead Medical today.



70 Years of Caring for the Hills

Mead Medical | Est. 1956

Celebrating 70 Years of Care

For 70 years, Mead Medical has been part of the fabric of the Perth Hills community. Generations of families have trusted us with their care, and we are proud to continue that legacy today.

With clinics in Kalamunda and our new purpose-built facility in Maida Vale, we are committed to providing accessible, high-quality healthcare close to home.

As our community grows, so do we. We are pleased to welcome new GPs to the practice and expand our services to better support both long-standing and new patients.

What We Offer

- ✓ Experienced GP team
- ✓ Kalamunda clinic
- ✓ New Maida Vale Clinic
- ✓ Family-focused care

Convenient Appointments

- ✓ Weekdays until 7pm
- ✓ Weekends and public holidays (Kalamunda)
- ✓ Saturday mornings (Maida Vale)

Welcoming new patients and continuing to support families across generations.



MEADMEDICAL
EST. 1956

Kalamunda: 37 Elizabeth Street, Kalamunda
Maida Vale: 6/31 Maida Vale Road, Maida Vale

Phone: **08 9293 4455** (both clinics)

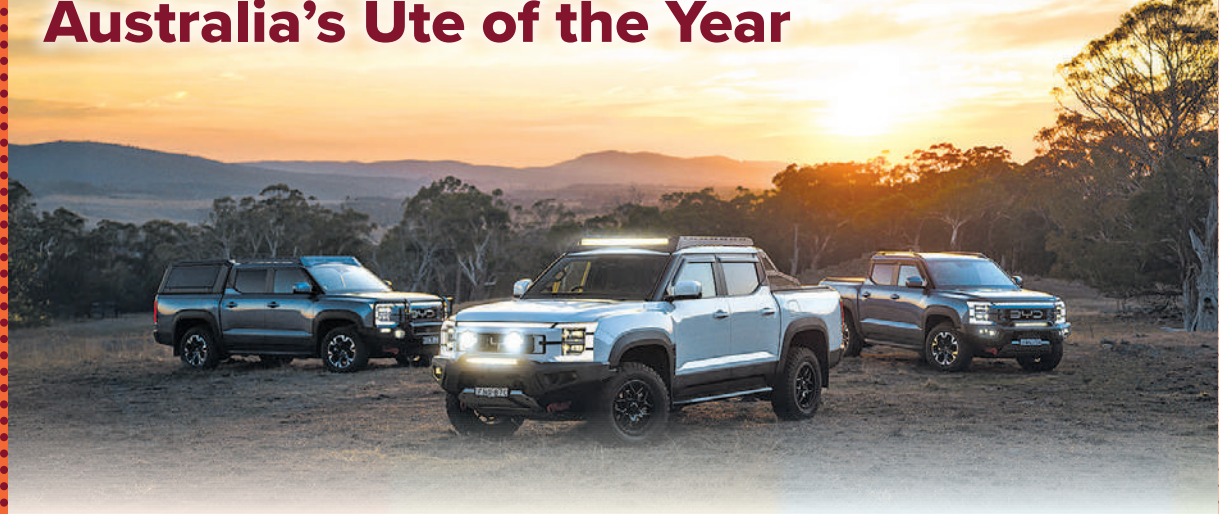
Caring for our community—now and into the future.

The Kalamunda Agricultural Society is proud to announce the 2026



125th Kalamunda Show

Redefining the modern ute: Australia's Ute of the Year



FOR decades, the Australian ute has been defined by toughness and practicality.

Today, however, drivers expect more, and the BYD Shark 6, earning the titles of Australia's 2025–26 Ute of the Year and 2026 CarsGuide Best Ute Under \$85K, reflects exactly how the segment is evolving.

Modern ute owners are looking for versatility that fits seamlessly into everyday life, from busy workdays to family commitments and weekend escapes.

The Shark 6 meets those expectations by combining Super Hybrid technology with confident performance, refined comfort, and advanced safety.

Its intelligent Super Hybrid system allows many

daily trips to be completed using stored electric power from the battery helping drivers travel further while lowering running costs.

At a time when cost of living matters more than ever, this balance between capability and efficiency makes a real difference in everyday life.

This award represents more than industry recognition; it signals a new direction for one of Australia's most important vehicle categories.

Strength and efficiency no longer sit at opposite ends of the spectrum, they now work together.

The Shark 6 sets a new standard for the modern ute: capable, efficient, and designed for the way Australians live and work today.



Daren Reid guarantees a good night for everyone at the show.

Powerhouse entertainment from Daren Reid and the Soul City Groove

DAREN Reid and the Soul City Groove will appear on Saturday night at the Kalamunda Show.

The popular band has an extensive repertoire of songs for all ages - from classic 60s rock and roll to the 70s disco era - as well as the best of the 80s through to current top 40 hits.

Famous for their audience interaction, they regularly perform at high profile functions and family shows and will have everyone dancing and talking about the night for weeks.

The band is exciting to watch, easy to dance to and they work hard to keep everyone on the dance floor.

wheels
2025 | 26
UTE
OF THE
YEAR

Award-Winning Super Hybrid Ute

SHARK 6

BYD | Midland

215 Great Eastern Highway, Midland
(08) 6289 6400

Discover more

Join us at the Kalamunda Show!

Visit our stands to connect with our teams and discover how we're making the City of Kalamunda safer, more connected, and more sustainable.
See you at the show!

Place Team



- Compassionate Communities
- 'Dying to Chill Out' zone

Community Safety Team



- Bushfire Preparedness
- Pet ownership
- Parking information



kalamunda.wa.gov.au



Generations of care, grounded in tradition



Purlow & Chipper
Funerals

239 Great Eastern Highway, Midland
9274 3866
purlowchipperfunerals.com.au

The Kalamunda Agricultural Society is proud to announce the 2026



125th

Kalamunda Show



Celebrating 125 Years of the Kalamunda Show

THIS year marks an incredible 125 years for this beloved community event.

For more than a century, the show has brought neighbours, families, and friends together to enjoy everything that makes our hills community unique.

The City of Kalamunda is proud to continue supporting this iconic event.

As part of the celebrations, the city will host a friendly and informative stall where visitors can stop by for a chat, pick up helpful information, or simply take a moment to relax.

The space will be run by the city's Place team alongside volunteers from Kalamunda Compassionate Communities, who are always ready with a warm welcome.

They'll be sharing details about upcoming events, community programs, and ways to stay connected.

A special feature of the stall will be the "Dying to Chill Out" area - a calm, comfortable corner where people can pause, rest, and ask questions in a supportive environment.

It's designed to encourage gentle, open conversations about topics that many of us think about but don't always have the chance to discuss.

The city's Emergency Management team will also be on hand to help residents feel more prepared for bushfires, storms, and other local emer-



gencies.

They'll be sharing practical tips on reducing risks around the home, understanding your responsibilities during emergency seasons, and creating a household emergency plan.

Their advice is useful for everyone, whether you're new to the area or have lived here for decades.

The city's Rangers team will be there too, ready to talk about their role in keeping our community safe and enjoyable.

They can answer questions about local laws, responsible pet ownership, parking, and how to report concerns.



Purlow & Chipper supporting families for over 130 years

Our dedicated team is here to guide you through every step, helping you create a farewell that truly reflects your loved one's values, beliefs and story.

Whether you're planning a traditional service or something more personal, we tailor every detail to suit your wishes.

We understand how important it is to commemorate life with dignity, respect, and personal meaning.

Our role is to help families celebrate their loved one in a way that feels authentic and special, and we take pride in creating remembrance services that are as unique as the people they honor.

One of our funeral arrangers, Jackie Walden, from Midland Purlow & Chipper, has been in the profession for nearly five years.

With a background in aged and palliative care, she has always been driven to help people in their time of need.

"The trust a family places with me to guide

them and care for their loved one is such an honor," she said.

Their modern facilities offer live-streaming, audio-visual support, and warm, welcoming spaces for after-service gatherings, and they also provide repatriation services and can arrange funerals in unique locations such as beaches, wineries and parks.

At Purlow & Chipper Funerals, we believe every life deserves to be remembered in a significant and personal way.

We are proud to serve our local communities and honored by the trust families place in us.

Generations of care, grounded in tradition.
Learn more at: <https://www.purlowchipperfunerals.com.au/locations/midland/>





Anthony Spagnolo MLC with Harry Gratte at his flood affected property.

Swan Valley flooding issues need govt intervention says Spagnolo

ANTHONY Spagnolo MLC has written to Premier Roger Cook calling for direct state government intervention into ongoing flooding issues affecting landowners in the Swan Valley.

Mr Spagnolo said the scale and persistence of flooding across areas including Henley Brook and West Swan is causing serious damage to productive land and placing growing pressure on local families and businesses.

"In recent months, I've spoken with a number of landowners who have shown just how severe this has become, with paddocks that were once usable now sitting waterlogged for extended periods," Mr Spagnolo said.

"Some properties are experiencing standing water at levels that threaten homes, livestock and basic day to day operations. This is not a one-off weather event, it points to deeper problems in drainage planning and coordination."

Mr Spagnolo said there is increasing frustration within the community that responsibility for the issue is being deflected rather than resolved.

"While the City of Swan has a role to play, it is becoming clear that the scale of this problem requires leadership from the state government," he said.

"At the moment, there is no clear, coordinat-

ed response, and that is leaving residents without answers or any real pathway forward."

Mr Spagnolo said the ongoing impacts are not only environmental but economic, with productive agricultural land being steadily degraded.

"This is long-established land in one of Western Australia's most important regions, and people are watching it deteriorate without any clear plan to fix the problem," he said.

In his letter to the Premier, Mr Spagnolo has called for a full investigation into the causes of the flooding, along with a coordinated response that brings all relevant agencies together.

"This requires more than commentary about who is responsible," he said.

"It requires ownership of the issue, a clear set of facts, and a plan that actually holds up."

Mr Spagnolo said the situation reflects a broader pattern of planning and coordination failures that are increasingly being felt across growing parts of Western Australia.

"When basic issues like drainage are not properly sequenced or managed, the consequences are felt directly by local people on the ground."

"This issue will not resolve itself. It requires the state government to step in, take responsibility, and deliver a coordinated response that deals with the problem properly."

Hour of Power an invitation to connect



Man of Commerce Tony Smyth and ERICA Women's Centre CEO Linda Malone.

THE Swan Chamber of Commerce's Hour of Power is back again with ERICA Women's Centre chief executive officer Linda Malone and Man of Commerce Tony Smyth as speakers.

Swan Chamber of Commerce chief executive officer Tom Smilovitis said the chamber is looking to operate a more intimate experience for the upcoming Hour of Power.

"You could be a student, an ex-prisoner, a teacher, a member of government, a business-person or community organisation," he said.

"We create opportunities for students, for ex-prisoners, for people who are looking for work but don't know where to start."

"For businesses, there will be sales opportunities but also a chance to establish a lasting relationship, find new workers and even give back and build community."

"We are already seeing results with students gaining opportunities, businesses identifying future talent, and relationships forming that simply

wouldn't happen in a classroom alone."

The chamber has expanded its reach this year by inviting more high school and TAFE students into the sessions, alongside business owners and professionals.

The sessions align with initiatives such as Jobs Galore for students and Thrive Integration which is a prisoner reintegration program focused on workforce participation.

Mr Smilovitis said the session reflected the chamber's 2026 theme, Let's Work Together, and was a deliberate effort to bring different parts of the community into the same room.

He said the goal was to create a balanced, connected community and invited this to be an opportunity for professionals of all stripes to gather and network without judgement.

"If you're a professional who's good at what you do, then we want to connect," he said.

The upcoming Hour of Power will run 10.30am to 11.30am on April 8 at Midland's Crooked Spire.



Lots of vintage cars were on display at the swap meet.

Successful vintage car swap meet in Toodyay

THE recent Northam-based Avon Valley Vintage Vehicle Association of WA inc (AVVVA) swap meet was a huge success with more than 2000 people coming through the gates at the Toodyay Showgrounds looking for vintage car parts and collectable car and oil memorabilia

With more than 150 sellers filling the oval AVVVA president Ron Mackay said many club members were concerned the high fuel prices would stop people attending, but fortunately that was not the case.

60 classic and vintage cars were also on display and members of the various car clubs in WA were well represented with their pride and joy on display.

Toodyay Lions Club manned the main gate taking the entry money and The Toodyay Moondyne Men did the public car parking, volunteering their time on the Sunday to make the day a success.

Another Toodyay local club was



The swap meet brought the Toodyay Showgrounds alive.

the Avon Valley Shotokan Karate that had a food stall to keep the public well fed.

Another swap meet is planned in Toodyay for March 14, 2027.

Notice of Special Electors Meeting

Local Government Act 1995 [s. 5.29]

Notice is hereby given that a Special Electors Meeting will be held at the City of Kalamunda Administration Centre, 2 Railway Road, Kalamunda on:

Thursday 16 April 2026 at 6.30pm

in accordance with a petition submitted by electors of the district, the purpose of the meeting being as follows:

"to discuss our serious concerns regarding the proposed leasing of Jorgensen Park and of two other lots of Unallocated Crown Land (UCL), as per public notice dated 27th Feb 2026, for the purpose of a private commercial event of 15 - 21 weeks duration."

**Margaret Thomas JP
Mayor**

City of
Kalamunda



News | Events | Project Updates

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Kalamunda View

News from your City | April 2026



Mayor's MESSAGE

We've eased into Djeran and the cooler months, and there's plenty happening across the City of Kalamunda.

It's been a challenging time globally, and we're starting to feel some of those pressures here at home. As we head into budget season, the City will be looking closely at how we fund services and what rising costs mean for our community. Our Finance Team is hosting information sessions to explain how the City is funded, why costs are increasing, what it takes to maintain our services and infrastructure, and the choices we'll need to make together. You can find details at www.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/our-city/events-workshops/kala-value

I'm also excited to share that Plants for Residents is back for 2026. Expressions of interest open from 13 April to 8 May, giving everyone a fair chance to take part. Successful applicants can receive up to 10 free native plants—helping us grow beautiful, low-maintenance gardens and support our local environment. Learn more at engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/plants-residents-2026

School holidays are here, and our Libraries, Kalamunda History Village and Hartfield Park Recreation Centre have a great line-up of activities to keep kids busy and active. Visit www.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/events for the full program.

The Kalamunda Show is also just around the corner, celebrating an incredible 125 years. I hope to see you there as we support this much-loved community event.

A quick reminder for the long weekend: if your bin is usually collected on Friday, due to the Good Friday public holiday, it will be picked up on Saturday 4 April. All other Easter Monday and Anzac Day collections remain the same.

As Anzac Day approaches, let's take time to honour those who have served and those who continue to serve today. Lest we forget.

Stay safe these Easter holidays. I look forward to seeing you out and about in our beautiful City.

Mayor Margaret Thomas JP

PLANTS FOR RESIDENTS BACK FOR 2026!



The City of Kalamunda is excited to bring back its much-loved Plants for Residents Program (PFR) in 2026, following the success of last year's refreshed format.

This year's program will again offer pre-selected native plant packs—four options designed to be waterwise, low-maintenance and perfect for gardens across the City. Plant varieties may shift slightly based on nursery supply, but all packs will continue to support the program's environmental goals.

Save the date: Expressions of Interest open Monday 13 April 2026.

Scan the QR code for full details and Terms & Conditions.



SCHOOL HOLIDAY EVENTS

Hop into the Easter School Holidays, with plenty of fun activities for the kids at our Libraries, Kalamunda History Village and Hartfield Park Recreation Centre!

From craft activities, dance and sport, there is plenty to keep our young ones entertained and active!

Events are free, or a small fee may apply. Registrations are essential. Scan the QR code to view the full program!



ANZAC DAY OPENING HOURS AND EVENTS

ANZAC Day offers an opportunity to reflect and pay tribute to the sacrifices of our past and present servicemen and women.

Please note that for the Anzac Day public holiday, some of our facilities will have reduced opening hours.

Scan the QR code for more information on our opening hours over the ANZAC Day public holiday, and ANZAC Day services in the City of Kalamunda.



KalaValue Workshops

IN PERSON OR ONLINE

Hear from the City's Finance Team - info sessions running this April!

Scan the QR Code to view session details and register!

HIGH WYCOMBE SKATE & SCOOTER JAM

with FREESTYLE NOW

18 APRIL | 2:30PM - 5:30PM

Fleming Reserve, High Wycombe

REGISTER NOW

Public Agenda Briefing Forum
6:30pm, Tuesday 14 April

Ordinary Council Meeting
6:30pm, Tuesday 28 April

Administration Centre, Council Chambers

Visit kalamunda.wa.gov.au to view the Agenda

Restricted Burning
1 April 2026 – 31 May 2026

During this period
burning restrictions apply

Contact Us

9257 9999 | enquiries@kalamunda.wa.gov.au
2 Railway Road, Kalamunda
PO Box 42 Kalamunda WA 6926



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Artist John Ned Kelly.

Invitation Within.

John Ned Kelly's RE: Born unveils a powerful new direction

RE: Born, a new exhibition by celebrated Australian artist John Ned Kelly, has now opened at Midland's Birli Gallery.

Marking a compelling shift in Kelly's practice, **RE: Born** moves beyond the powerful stockman figures that have long defined his work and instead turns its gaze upward, into the living architecture of trees.

In this striking body of paintings, Kelly explores the quiet presence of trees as witnesses to time, memory and renewal.

Dense foliage, twisting branches and luminous canopies form the central language of the exhibition, capturing both the vitality and stillness of the Australian landscape.

These works position trees not simply as elements of scenery, but as living, enduring presences, sheltering wildlife, shaping ecosystems, and sustaining life itself through the oxygen they provide.

"I wanted to focus on something that's always been there, but often overlooked," Kelly said.

"Trees carry a quiet strength and resilience. They hold history, they adapt and they endure. There's a kind of majesty in that resilience, and this series is about honouring it."

Kelly's unmistakable painterly style, bold, textured and deeply atmospheric, remains, yet the exhibition introduces a new softness and introspection.

Leaves and canopy forms become

repositories of memory, suggesting that landscapes hold stories far older than ourselves, and each work invites viewers to consider trees as guardians of place and silent witnesses to change, growth and continuity.

Birli Gallery curator Brooke Farrell describes the exhibition as a pivotal moment in Kelly's evolving practice.

"This body of work feels both grounded and expansive," she said.

"There is a reverence in the way John has approached these subjects, lending them an almost human presence. In **RE: Born**, the trees become keepers of memory, protectors, and life-giving forces. It's a powerful shift that speaks to environmental connection, while still remaining unmistakably his."

Significantly, **RE: Born** marks a rare opportunity for collectors, with just 15 works to be released.

As a tightly held and highly considered series, the exhibition captures a defining moment of transition in Kelly's career.

The exhibition reflects the gallery's ongoing commitment to supporting artists who deepen our understanding of the Australian landscape through contemporary practice.

Inviting audiences to slow down, look up, and reconnect, **RE: Born** is a meditation on strength, presence and the enduring majesty of trees.

The exhibition is open until April 26.



Silent Witness.



Strength and Serenity.

Swan Valley easter egg hunt

THE historic Nikola Estate acreage is set to transform into an Easter themed playground this weekend as the winery hosts a highly anticipated Easter Egg Hunt and Family Festival on Sunday, April 5.

The event invites local families to 148 Dale Road, Middle Swan to celebrate the Easter long weekend amongst the estate's vineyard grounds.

The festival will begin at 11.30am with a giant easter egg hunt across the grounds for families to explore and find hidden easter eggs.

Organisers are encouraging families to arrive before the 11.30am launch to ensure their children are ready and waiting when the chocolate hunt begins.

After the initial egg search, the festival grounds will feature a junior obstacle course and dedicated carnival fun zone.

The event lineup includes a variety of outdoor entertainment options such as junior axe throwing, mini golf, and a bouncy castle.

Live DJ entertainment will provide a soundtrack for the day as various lawn games are spread across the estate's



Families are encouraged to arrive before 11.30am to ensure they are ready for the beginning of the easter egg hunt.

grassed areas.

While the younger attendees participate in the scheduled activities, adults can relax and enjoy food, wine, beer, and drinks provided by the estate.

The festival is being held as a free entry event with no prior bookings required for those attending the Swan

Valley celebrations.

Visitors are encouraged to find a space on the lawns and settle in for the duration of the festive program.

The combination of scenery and organised activities aims to provide a full day of entertainment for all ages within the Middle Swan location.

ENTERTAINMENT & GIG GUIDE

Your local Gig Guide

Fri April 3

Settlers House York
Nick Childs
12pm-3pm
Oscar Litchfield
From 5.30pm, Free
125 Avon Terrace, York

Woodbridge Hotel
Goodstock
From 8pm, Free
50 East St, Guildford

Parkerville Tavern
Gerard Maunick
From 6pm, Free
6 Owen Road
Parkerville

Sat April 4

Settlers House York
Nathan Ward
12pm-3pm
The Jukes of York
From 5.30pm, Free
125 Avon Terrace, York

Parkerville Tavern
Andy Pearce
From 6pm, Free
6 Owen Road
Parkerville

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

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

Sun April 5

Settlers House York
Lez Karski
12pm-3pm, Free
125 Avon Terrace, York

Parkerville Tavern
Leslie Hinton
Entertainment
From 3pm, Free
6 Owen Road
Parkerville

Cont. Sun April 5

Woodbridge Hotel
Kane Cahill
From 3pm, Free
50 East St, Guildford

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
The Sheds
4pm-7pm, Free
4260 Great Eastern Hwy
Mahogany Creek

Chidlow Tavern
Live Music
12.30-3.30pm, Free
4 Thomas St, Chidlow

Mon April 6

Parkerville Tavern
Andrew Winton
From 1pm, Free
6 Owen Road
Parkerville

Tues April 7

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

Wed April 8

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
House Grooves
Presented by
Fenton Wilde
6pm-9pm, Free
4260 Great Eastern Hwy
Mahogany Creek

Chidlow Tavern
Muso Jam Night
7.30pm till late, Free
4 Thomas St, Chidlow

Thur April 9

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Neil Adams
5.30-8.30pm, Free
4260 Great Eastern Hwy
Mahogany Creek

Promote your event



SCAN ME
ENTERTAINMENT & GIG GUIDE

OPTION 1 Large Display Banner

Linking directly to your website or ticketing outlet. \$100 p/w

OPTION 2 Half Display Banner

Linking directly to your website or ticketing outlet. \$50 p/w

OPTION 3 Free Text Listing

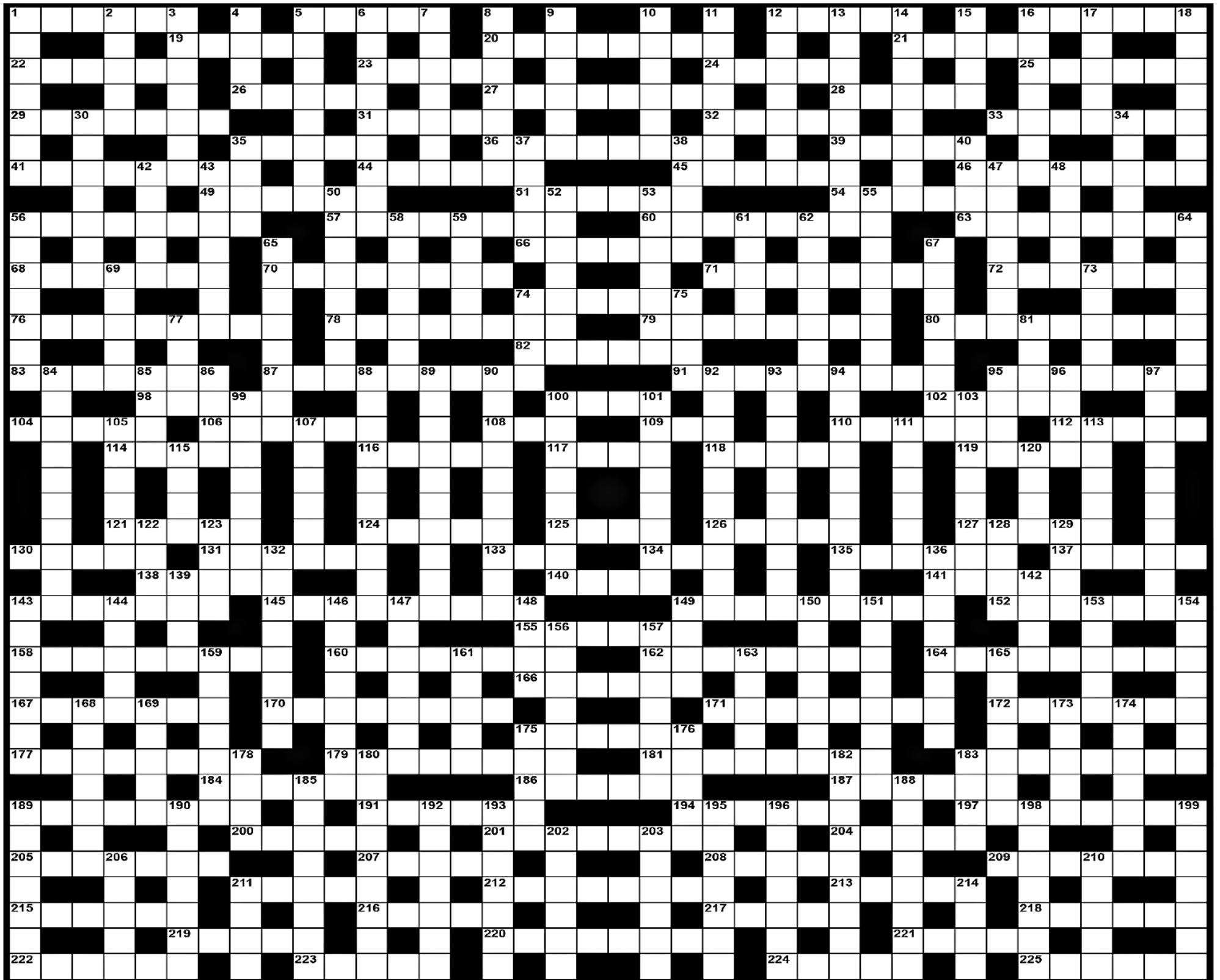
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ECHO NEWS



Mind Boggler Crossword

1262



- | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ACROSS | 80 Widespread | 166 A shaped hole | 3 Odd | 67 Strained | 148 Performs | 182 Taut feeling |
| 1 Pines for | 82 Lawn tools | 167 Alkaline | 4 Exist | 69 Company of soldiers | 149 Food from animals | 183 Leading player |
| 5 Second showing | 83 Overtake (3,4) | 170 Produce | 5 Place for comfort (4,4) | 73 Helpful thing | 150 Sexy literature | 185 Defeated utterly |
| 12 Vegetable dish | 87 Join together (7,2) | 171 From Paris | 6 Getting back | 74 A pace | 151 Put in right files | 188 Turned inward |
| 16 Grinding tool | 91 Slopes | 172 A note | 7 Chewy sweets | 75 Waistband | 153 Thoughts | 189 Faces |
| 19 Strong string | 95 Puts spread on bread | 175 Come from one thing | 8 Highest | 77 An urn | 154 Sample-takers | 190 Main meals |
| 20 Set in motion | 98 Oyster gem | 177 Sipping | 9 Way of standing | 81 Sewing case | 156 Way of producing | 192 Roofs of mouths |
| 21 Raised bit of ground | 100 Carve in metal | 179 Operating rooms | 10 Danger | 84 An undertaking | 157 Bundles | 193 Outstanding |
| 22 Part of vine | 102 Very strange | 181 Make longer | 11 Payback | 85 Church recess | 159 Make angry | 195 Took no notice of |
| 23 Thin porridge | 104 Cigarette ends | 183 Types of seals | 12 Most important (4,3) | 86 Job of work | 161 Sugary to taste | 196 Artless young woman |
| 24 Poet's valleys | 106 Noticing | 184 Long seat | 13 Deciding factor (4,5) | 88 Bad dreams | 163 Sketched | 198 Pacify |
| 25 Metallic sound | 108 A canine | 186 Help | 14 Horrid | 89 All put together | 165 Without ambition | 199 Disagree |
| 26 Something more | 109 Do something | 187 Fools | 15 Verses | 90 Put line beneath | 168 Mythical animal | 202 According to convention |
| 27 Way of speaking | 110 Muddy pool | 189 Act clumsily | 16 Keep going | 92 On the inside (4,6) | 169 A badge | 203 An incursion |
| 28 Eye moisture | 112 Cures meat | 191 A meal | 17 Preparation (3-2) | 93 Became lighter (4,6) | 173 Massage cream | 206 A snake |
| 29 Lost | 114 Vegetables | 194 Lubricating | 18 Essential part | 94 One who makes up things | 174 Awoken | 210 Horrify |
| 31 Childish | 116 Cut in two | 197 Slandered | 30 Leaps | 95 Past tense of breed | 175 Demise | 211 Cut short |
| 32 Wants | 117 Outfit | 200 Type of elk (US) | 34 An ointment | 96 Trial | 176 ... John, singer | 214 Nimble |
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| 35 Kitchen utensil | 119 Prepares copy | 204 Float in air | 37 Ships bodies | 99 Put back in order | 180 Beef cattle breeds | |
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| 39 Clumps of grass | 124 Top room | 207 Untrue | 40 An air | 101 Made more dense | | |
| 41 Saddest | 125 Religious symbol | 208 Dark time | 42 Watery wound discharge | 103 Very big animal | | |
| 44 In natural position | 126 Legal defence | 209 Public marches | 43 Roofing part | 105 Mixes with others | | |
| 45 Be unbalanced | 127 Heart valve | 211 Part of long poem | 44 Most unprepossessing | 107 Part of foot | | |
| 46 Complete | 130 One leading | 212 ... da Vinci | 45 Electric-motor part | 111 Man at the wheel | | |
| 49 Paid killer (coll) | 131 A condiment | 213 Spoilsports (coll) | 47 Filling with air | 113 Of the stars | | |
| 51 Splendid | 133 Choose | 215 A skin indent | 48 Gave permission | 115 Level | | |
| 54 Being sick | 134 Old cloth measure | 216 Beaver like animal | 52 Railway-line support | 120 Cake decorator | | |
| 56 Lengthy tresses (4,4) | 135 Leapt | 217 Scope | 53 Used money for interest | 122 Irritation | | |
| 57 Container of egg | 137 More aged | 218 Of mountains | 55 Coming to rest | 123 Copies | | |
| 60 Lowers (4,4) | 138 A set of beliefs | 219 Bring up | 56 Small grain | 128 Mythical giant | | |
| 63 Sparkles | 140 Looked at | 220 Make unfriendly | 58 Pierced | 129 Pulls behind | | |
| 66 Bread cutter | 141 Scatter around | 221 Type of heron | 59 A rest | 132 Kept for oneself | | |
| 68 A cleaning cloth (4,3) | 143 Brings | 222 Gazes | 61 Things for undoing | 136 Giving one's promise | | |
| 70 Can be endured | 145 Berated | 223 Circular plates | 62 Boils slowly | 139 Torn | | |
| 71 Deeply respectful | 149 Unsolved questions | 224 Relaxed | 64 Holdup in path | 142 Hearing organs | | |
| 72 A printing error | 152 Most simple | 225 Join a group | | 143 Limp | | |
| 74 Boggy areas | 155 Be in opposition | | | 144 Masticates | | |
| 76 Lacking funds | 158 Listening closely | | | 146 Abolish summarily | | |
| 78 Flood over | 160 Type of car | | | 147 Apprentice | | |
| 79 First to arrive | 162 Good-looking | | | | | |
| | 164 States strongly again | | | | | |

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Read between the lines

by Pastor Ian Kirk

Three Days

Three days – a lot can happen in three days. It takes three days to fly to the moon – if you have a rocket. It takes three days to drive from Perth to Sydney, assuming you have some sleep along the way. But the phrase “a lot can happen in three days” is most frequently used of the Easter narrative.

Jesus' followers were distraught after He was arrested and crucified to a cross as a criminal. They watched Him suffer and die. But three days later, they were so shocked to see Him alive. Had He been revived in the cool of the tomb where His body had been laid? Had someone resuscitated Him? No! He was resurrected by God's power; never to die again.

They saw and touched His body, they ate and drank with Him. Jesus went out of His way to help them know that He was no ghost or hallucination. For forty days, before we went home to heaven, people saw Him alive. They even saw the healed nail wounds from the cross in His hands and feet.

If Jesus was resurrected, then this is huge! It proves He's God's Son. It also means that His death on the cross was significant – He died bearing our sins so that we could be forgiven and be saved. It also means Jesus is alive, and all who call out to Him, seeking His forgiveness will be saved - and will be with Him in heaven one day.

ECHO NEWS

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FORM stands by engagement process

From p3.
 "The WA government will continue to work with the region's artists to explore opportunities for skills sharing, knowledge transfer, and artistic participation throughout the project and ahead of its launch," he said.

FORM said its consultation approach was appropriate and that feedback from stakeholders had been incorporated into the project's business case submitted in June 2025.

Maalinup Aboriginal Gallery artist Dale Tilbrook said while consultation had occurred, they felt limited in their ability to influence key decisions.

"Whether consultation from FORM was adequate is a tricky question to answer because I think a lot of what's happened was potentially put in place before FORM got involved in consultation," she said.

"Although the consultation was very nicely done, it was essentially after the fact because there wasn't

really anything that I could say or anyone else could say to change the course of events."

Looking ahead, Ms Tilbrook said greater local involvement would be key, particularly in shaping how the Swan Valley's identity was represented.

"What I would like to see is much more local involvement," she said.

"But they've already chosen the artist, so everything else is bits and pieces."

"It's not the project as a whole."

Ms Tilbrook said Aboriginal cultural storytelling should be central to the project's identity along with the iconic vineyards.

"It is the only story that is a point of difference for Australia," she said.

"You can go anywhere else in the world for wine regions or landscapes, but you can't get Australian Aboriginal culture intertwined with it anywhere else."

Community disappointed by Wattle Grove South decision

From p7.
 "The standard of deputations was exceptional - respectful, informed and deeply committed to protecting the future of this area."

In contrast to the majority decision, Mrs Dornan widely praised deputy Mayor Kathy Ritchie.

"Cr Ritchie demonstrated careful, principled and well-informed leadership," she said.

"Her speech reflected a genuine understanding of the planning framework and the issues at stake."

"She reflected on previous council decisions and policies, and the environmental significance of the area and her speech was an excellent example of the level of scrutiny and independent thinking the community expects from its elected representatives."

"Despite the significance of the decision to so many Wattle Grove families, two councillors voted to support the structure plan without providing any individual reasoning whatsoever"

The structure plan will now be referred to the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC), where it will undergo further assessment, if the WAPC approves future rezoning.

Residents have indicated they will continue to engage constructively in that process.

"This is not the end of the matter," Mrs Dornan said.

"There is still a long way to go, and we remain committed to ensuring that decisions about Wattle Grove South are made on the basis of proper planning, sound evidence and genuine community consideration."

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ECHO Notice Board

Upcoming Events

• **The Kalamunda Ladies Probus Club** meets on the second Thursday of each month at St Barnabas Church Hall, Railway Road, Kalamunda (entry off Spring Road) at 9am for 9.30am start. They have morning tea and a guest speaker at each meeting and a monthly bus outing to different interesting places. Socially they meet for coffee monthly and lunch also monthly at different venues in the area. Probus is a social club for retirees who enjoy

life. For more information call Trish on 0468 309 823 or Juliette on 9293 4438.
 • **CWA Kalamunda** meets on the second Friday of each month at 10am on Central Road, Kalamunda behind Aldi, look for the blue tree. Go along to join in the fun and meet new friends.
 • **Mundaring Garden Club** meets every second Tuesday of the month at Mundaring Church of Christ, 1470 Stoneville Road, Mundaring. The annual program includes guest speakers who present on a variety of topics, workshops and outings to nurseries and gardens.

Presentations are followed by morning tea in the club café. For more information call membership on 0413 358 085.
 • **The Mundaring Country Women's Association** meets every second Wednesday at 1pm at the CWA Centre (Sculpture Park) in Jacoby Street, Mundaring for a craft and social afternoon. Take your craft ideas to share on your favourite craft or hobby. Visitors are always welcome anytime to have a cuppa and a chat. For more information call Marg on 0417 956 628.
 • **Midland Ascension Craft Group** meets in

the parish hall 17 Spring Park Road, Midland every Tuesday of school term from 1pm to 3pm. All most welcome to join for a chat, cuppa, any craft and sometimes a guest speaker. For more information call 0433 265 683.
 • **The Swan Guildford Historical Society** will meet at 7.30pm on Monday, April 13 at St Matthew's Hall, Stirling Square, Guildford. They will host popular broadcaster, author, and bellringer Richard Offen as he delivers an exposé of the Swan Valley and Darling Range identities as featured in Heroes, Villains,

and Vagabonds. For more information call Clem on 0407 997 911.
 • **Hills Mature Age Singles Social Group** meet fortnightly Wednesdays for an 11.30am lunch at the Woodbridge Hotel in Guildford. The next lunch will be on April 15. Come join us for a fun day out with no fees. For more information text Mike on 0467 526 078.
Noticeboard is for non-profits and community groups advertising free/low cost events/programs. Entries must be emailed to editorial@echo-news.com two weeks before the event.

Woofers of the week



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Inclusive Sport4All program launched in Mundaring

INCLUSIVE sport was at the heart of Mundaring Arena last week, as the community came together to launch the Sport4All program and celebrate a shared commitment to making sport accessible to everyone.

Community members, sporting clubs and local leaders gathered for a breakfast event to celebrate the start of the initiative, which aims to make sport more inclusive for people of all abilities.

The program will be led locally by local Mt Helena resident Michael Bourgault du Coudray, an elite swimmer and experienced coach with lived experience of disability. He officially launched the initiative alongside Sport4All State Manager Carina McMillen.

Sport4All supports clubs and organisations to create welcoming environments where everyone can take part in sport, regardless of ability.

Shire President Paige McNeil said the program reflects how inclusion enriches sport and brings the community together.

“By supporting the Sports4All program, we help strengthen our community, ensuring it’s a place where everyone is welcomed, included, and able to play

the sports they love, while sharing in the connection and belonging that community sport brings,” she said.

“I’d like to thank Michael and the Sport4All team for introducing this program to our community. We look forward to seeing the positive change that this partnership offers and the opportunities it will create for our local sporting clubs across the shire.”

Michael Bourgault du Coudray said the program is focused on creating real change at a local level.

“Sport has the power to connect people and build confidence, but only if everyone has the chance to be involved,” he said.

“This program is about working with clubs and the community to make that a reality, creating more opportunities for everyone to take part in sport.”

Sport4All state manager Carina McMillen said the strong turnout reflected the community’s commitment to inclusion.

“It’s fantastic to see such strong support here in Mundaring. This is exactly what Sport4All is about, communities coming together to make sport more inclusive and accessible,” she said.

“We’re excited to work alongside the



The Sport4All program launch was well attended by local politicians, council representatives and members of local sporting clubs.

shire and local clubs to create lasting change and ensure everyone has a place in sport.”

Shire of Mundaring continues to support programs and partnerships that strengthen inclusion and ensure community spaces and activities are open to everyone.

Sport4All builds on this commitment by working directly with clubs, coaches and volunteers to remove barriers and create

more inclusive sporting opportunities.

Attendees included Klasey Hirst MLC, Anthony Spagnolo MLC, Kalamunda MLA Adam Hort, shire president Paige McNeil, councillor Toni Strutt, CEO Jason Whiteaker and representatives from community groups and sporting clubs from across the shire.

To learn more about Sport4All and how to get involved, visit www.sport4all.com.au

New president for Kalamunda Netball Association

KALAMUNDA Districts Netball Association (KDNA) has welcomed Kate Overton as its new president who will step into her role ahead of the 2026 season.

Overton succeeds outgoing president Nicole McKennay, whose more than 20 years of service has played a significant role in shaping the association into a cornerstone of community sport in the region.

“Nicole’s impact on this association can’t be overstated,” Ms Overton said.

“Two decades of commitment is something really special, and we’re all benefiting from the foundations she’s built.”

A familiar face within the local netball community, Ms Overton brings extensive experience to the role as a former Phoenix Netball Club president, a current umpire, and has spent many years coaching and playing the game.

Professionally, she works for one of Australia’s largest technology companies and is focused on bringing practical innovation into community sport.

“We know volunteers are the backbone of community sport, but we also know it’s getting harder to fill those roles,” she said.

“There’s a real opportunity to use technology and smarter systems to better support our people and make it easier to get involved.”

KDNA is also pleased to welcome Helena Valley Netball Club to the association, further strengthening participation across the district.

Looking ahead, Ms Overton said a key priority will be engaging directly with members to shape the association’s future.

“We’ll be going out to our community and asking for honest feedback — what’s working, what’s not, and where we need to be better,” she said.

“That will directly inform our strategic plan and the direction we take from here.

“We also want to work closely with our clubs, families and local community leaders to build an association that is inclusive, sustainable and built to last.”

Ms Overton said the association’s direction closely aligns with Netball WA’s THINK 2030

vision, particularly in growing participation, improving member experience and strengthening inclusion at all levels of the game.

“From participation and inclusion through to better experiences for our members, we’re all moving in the same direction - and that’s a really powerful place to be,” she said.

While continuing to support women and girls in sport, KDNA is also committed to expanding opportunities for boys and men to participate.

“We want everyone to feel like they have a place in netball,” Overton said.

“That’s how we grow the game and keep it strong into the future.”

KDNA is currently open to sponsorship opportunities as it enters this next phase, with local businesses encouraged to get involved.

“We’re rebuilding with purpose, and we’d love to bring local businesses on that journey with us,” Ms Overton said.

Businesses interested in partnering with KDNA can email president@kalamundanetball.com.au



Newly appointed Kalamunda and Districts Netball Association president Kate Overton.

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REIWA welcomes new bond reforms

A NEW bond release process will allow property managers, landlords and tenants to apply for the release of the bond at the end of the tenancy and get around the court process.

The reforms mean if a dispute arises over how the bond is to be paid out, neither the tenant nor landlord will need to attend court to resolve the matter in most cases.

Instead, these decisions will be made independently by the Commissioner for Consumer Protection, saving people time and the cost involved in attending court or having a property manager attend on behalf of a landlord.

The Real Estate Institute of Western Australia (REIWA) President Suzanne Brown says the institute hoped the new determination process would lead to speedy resolution of disputes.

“Previously, disputes over the bond had to go through the Magistrates Court, which could be a very lengthy process (and) the outcomes also varied,” she said.

“Now, in most cases, the dispute will be reviewed via the Commissioner determination process, and this should help tenants get their bond returned in a more timely manner.

“Of course, this is dependent on the Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety’s Consumer Protection division being resourced sufficiently.

“We also believe the Commissioner determination process will lead to greater consistency in dispute resolutions, which is a good outcome for all.

“Unlike decisions made by the courts, decisions regarding bond disputes will be published on the Consumer Protection

website, providing consistent guidance for industry and the community.”

About 4500 tenancy matters are heard in the state’s magistrates courts every year.

Ms Brown said tenants should be careful when applying for the bond as soon as they moved out of the property.

“While it might be tempting, it will not speed up the release of the bond and could cause delays,” she said.

“There are processes to be followed, such as the final inspection and property condition report, and the bond will not be released immediately an application is made.

“It is in the best interests of all parties that any issues be discussed and addressed, or an outcome negotiated before an application is made for the bond – this will be the fastest way to get the bond released.”



For renters, the new reforms mean bond payout disputes may be settled outside of court through the Commissioner for Consumer Protection.

I Remember When...



Do you remember the smell of a hot cross bun? I do. Growing up in Guildford, that smell meant Easter had arrived. Not weeks before—like now—but right then. You only really saw hot cross buns at Easter, which made them something special. My dad was a baker, so we had plenty of them. Fresh, warm, straight out of the oven. And back then, they came in those foil trays—simple, no fuss, but somehow better. That smell still takes me straight back. Back to a time when everything slowed down. Nothing was open. No pubs, no shops—everything shut. And that was just how it was. It meant people stayed home. Families got together, not because they had to juggle plans, but because there wasn't anywhere else to be. It was a true family time—simple, relaxed, and shared. You made your own fun. A footy in the yard, a wander down the street, or just being outside until someone called you in. And Easter treats were simple too. A couple of eggs from Red Tulip and you were happy. Funny thing was, Easter chocolate seemed to have its own taste back then—maybe because you only had it once a year. Nothing complicated. That's what stands out now—it was simple, and it was ours. And even today, all it takes is that smell... and you're right back there. Happy Easter to everyone—hope it brings back a few memories.



Milton Rendell – CEO
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