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NEWS

Friday, May 29, 2026

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National Reconciliation week



P8

Guildford Post Office vision



P4

Nominate for Kalamunda's advisory group



P6



BBB Rangers Trei Winmar and Ethan Kickett with the Balston's pygmy perch. Picture: Francesca Flynn

Rare perch discovery

Bibbul Ngarma Aboriginal Association has discovered the return of a fish species in the hills that was previously deemed locally extinct. P3

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THE BIBBUL NGARMA ABORIGINAL ASSOCIATION HAS DISCOVERED A LOCALLY PREVIOUSLY BELIEVED EXTINCT FISH THE VERY RARE BALSTON'S PYGMY PERCH IN THE MANDOOK BILYA (HELENA RIVER).

ECHO YOUR THOUGHTS

Have your say!
editorial@echo-news.com

Thought for the day

"The only place where success comes before work is in the dictionary."

- Vidal Sassoon

Lloyd St Bridge input

Dear Echo News,

The May 15 issue of Echo News contained two stories about transportation infrastructure in the Midland area, one specifically about the proposed Lloyd Street bridge and the other about cross-agency transport planning in general.

Both articles indicate that community input is a "top priority" in these processes, with the article about the bridge stating explicitly that Main Roads is working with "Traditional Owners, environmental groups" and the City of Swan in this process.

While the Traditional Owners have been consulted since the 2022 invocation of Section 18, as a member of one of the environmental groups I can state unequivocally that we know of no one from Main Roads (or Mr Catania's group) who has contacted any of us to discuss plans for the bridge since 2023.

To reconfirm our original position, we are not opposed to construction of a bridge at, or near this location: our objections have always been and remain to the project as put forth by Main Roads.

We would be more than happy to propose, discuss, and review options and plans for the construction on the river with any and all agencies, if invited to the table.

Traffic flow documents from Main Roads and presented to the city regarding the formerly-proposed four lane bridge design indicate that this will not lead to a transportation miracle in Midland, but instead just increase congestion.

This modelling indicated that truck traffic from Hazelmere will overwhelm the bridge and nearby intersections (GEH) and would result in wait times of up to nearly one hour on just the bridge itself.

Clearly that does nothing to improve ingress and egress to and from Midland.

Taking a step back from the proposed

bridge, it is clear that the longer-term plan is to make use of the full Lloyd Street road reserve north of Great Eastern Highway.

This corridor remains largely obscured due to the parallel access roads just west of the current main street.

If the bridge is built as currently proposed, it seems patently obvious that a build out of Lloyd Street to provide an alternative trucking route to Toodyay Road and on to Roe/Reid highways and a future east link is part of the plan.

While this plan might have made sense decades ago when the area was mostly vacant land, it is now completed bounded by mature housing developments.

Main Roads cast its options more than a decade ago when it built out Roe/Reid as the trucking route.

A Lloyd Street build-out would be extremely destructive to mature neighbourhoods and communities that have developed along the current configuration by introducing truck traffic never imagined by any for the area.

Roe/Reid should be embraced for trucking, rather than retrospectively imposing the resurrection of a bygone concept of a plan on the area.

I commend MLA Catania for convening a working group on these issues, as there are solutions that can be found given the current state of development and the late-to-the-table planning process.

But without broad public input from all sides (ie, real people, not just bureaucrats and businesses) in the planning phases there will likely be no consensus or progress on the transportation debacle (let me count the ways) that currently defines transit in Midland.

Dr R Ilchik
South Guildford

Is AI a waste of energy?

Dear Echo News,

The news that the proposed Hazelmere data centre has been shelved is welcome, but it brings to mind a question.

I've noticed over the last year or so that when I make an inquiry using Google, almost always a page appears at the top labelled AI Overview.

On one occasion I scrolled down to the bottom of this page and found, in small print, the following disclaimer: "AI can make mistakes, so double-check

responses". What's the point of AI if humans have to check the result?

Talk about a waste of energy.

KG Blake
Lesmurdie

Wildlife will survive

Dear Echo News,

Why are you so negative H Sanders?

It seems that Jorgensen Park is the centre of the universe, and all wildlife will die because of this event.

Come-on, give credit to our wildlife on their ability to survive.

I am sure that the City of Kalamunda will have pamphlets, highlighting as to what we can offer at point of entry, as so hopefully after this event, they will come again, and see what we can offer, so we can benefit long term.

R Furfaro
Kalamunda

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.

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Advice available on delayed building work on new homes

With Commissioner for Consumer Protection Trish Blake

EACH year, thousands of Western Australians take the exciting step of building a new home.

Under usual market conditions, the vast majority of these projects go smoothly.

However, because the building industry relies on multiple and sometimes unpredictable factors – different products, trades, supply chains and timeframes – it can be affected by disruptions near and far, including fuel price volatility.

In almost all cases, you and the builder will have the same goal of managing the challenges and completing your project in a timely and cost-effective way.

Clear and cordial communication is key as an agreement between parties is

often the best way to ensure projects are completed with minimal loss or disruption for everyone involved.

If you are facing delays or increased costs to your building or renovation project, advice is available from our colleagues at the State's building regulator, the Building and Energy division of the Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety.

Timeframes for completion of building work are generally set out in each contract. If an extension of time is sought, the builder needs to specify the reasons and confirm the relevant contractual clause.

You can lodge a home building work contract complaint with Building and

Energy if you believe a delay or price increase is unjustified.

There are limited circumstances when a builder can increase the price of a fixed-price contract for home building work valued between \$7500 and \$500,000 without the owner's consent.

This includes work not commencing 45 days or more after the contract date if the delay is due to a situation beyond either the builder or owner's control, or due to the owner's failure to comply with a condition imposed under the contract.

While terminating a building contract is an option, it is worth remembering that you may have to pay the builder for legitimate expenses or damages.

Trees felled on Alexander Drive approved: Swan

GUANHAO CHENG

PARADISE Quays developer Peter Burke says all approvals were attained for works on Alexander Drive and the project was responding to a shortage of aged care in Swan.

As reported in *Lone tree saved from destruction on Alexander Drive* (Echo News, May 22) residents were upset when they saw trees along Alexander Drive being removed.

Mr Burke said the trees were assessed by an arborist with reports sent into the city that showed the trees along Alexander Drive could not be retained.

"Those reports were sent into the City of Swan," he said.

"I understand nobody wants to hear trees are going to get knocked down, but they've been assessed by an arborist and found that the tree's canopy and root systems would undermine the development.

"From a safety aspect (they could) possibly prove unstable and (pose) a future hazard to residents, homes and vehicles.

"We are committed to replacing all trees removed and no tree removed was on either an endangered list or identified as breeding or habitat environment by arborists."

Previous concept plans, prior to the latest arborist reports, did indicate the 20 trees along Alexander Drive were marked to be retained however Mr Burke said that plan was a starting point that was then superseded.

"The trees would not be able to be transplanted, and while it would be ideal to keep every tree on the site, this is simply not possible, and any removal was on advice from arborists and botanists to ensure the trees were not threatened species or habitats to select fauna," he said.

"Updated plans were made available to the city and residents as we looked at needing to remove further trees in order to be able to actually develop the site and make it safe.

"Ballajura currently has a shortage of more than 1000 beds in aged care.

"We're going to be bringing in more than 120 beds with this development."

A City of Swan spokesperson said the tree clearing works at the Paradise Quays site on Alexander Drive were compliant with the approved development conditions.

"The city did not issue a formal stop work order but requested a pause in city works to clarify tree removal," they said.

"Approximately 15 trees were removed.

"A condition of subdivision approval required details



Paradise Quays developer Peter Burke says approval was given for the trees to be removed, which were not deemed as endangered or habitat for breeding by arborists. Picture: Guanhao Cheng

outlining whether any trees with potential for habitat should be retained."

The spokesperson said although they had "received a number of complaints", the developers were compliant with the guidelines and operated within the approvals given by the city.

As reported in *Swan District Hospital in ruins and in limbo* (Echo News, April 4, 2025) more than 20 per cent of the city's residents were over the age of 55.

The City of Swan Mayor Tanya Richardson said in the previous report that by 2036, the region would need 918 extra aged care beds and 1300 more retirement village units.

Mr Burke said he was aware that the City of Swan had a shortage of aged care residences and had worked hard to get to a plan that community groups such as the Lake Estates Action Group (LEAG) were happy with.

The LEAG had previously opposed a Ballajura aged care development proposal by Southern Cross due to the height, scale and density of the plan as reported in *Public comment on Ballajura aged care closes soon* (Echo News, March 21, 2025).

In it, the City of Swan said the council initiated a scheme

amendment to the current zoning prompted by community feedback.

The council then resolved to create the 80m Emu Swamp buffer area as a separate lot to ensure it was protected and retained through land management planning.

In the month following that report, the City of Swan voted for an earlier start date for a proposed aged care facility at Paradise Quays.

As reported in *Councillors vote for earlier start on aged care stage* (Echo News, April 25, 2025) the LEAG said they were in favour of being in a working group with Wattle Fairway.

In February this year, LEAG voiced their support of the proposed development of Paradise Quays and said they expected to be kept updated on tree retention.

They also said they expected the developers Wattle Fairway to honour their commitment to construct all 77 homes as single storey, to do dilapidation surveys on all homes within 50m of the site and to rectify any damages, and to minimise noise, dust and area disturbance during construction.

Mr Burke said each removed mature tree would be replaced on a one for one basis to ensure tree growth in the future.

'Extinct' fish found in Helena River

BIBBUL Ngarma Aboriginal Association (BNAA) has discovered a locally previously believed extinct fish - the rare and threatened Balston's pygmy perch - in the Mandoon Bilya (Helena River).

It was first detected through eDNA sampling as part of the BoorYul-Bah-Bilya (BBB) program, which is building a biodiversity baseline across the entire Mandoon catchment.

"We then collaborated with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's (DWER) river science team to undertake targeted fish surveys to confirm its presence. Some of our new BBB rangers supported these surveys - an incredible experience that we will never forget," a spokesperson said.

Balston's pygmy perch is one of the rarest freshwater fishes in the southwest and was long thought to be extinct north of Margaret River, making this discovery particularly significant.

The species faces a high risk of extinction due to habitat clearing and the impacts of a drying climate.

This new northern population may be more resilient to climate change, making its protection and recovery especially critical.

The findings will be used to inform future conservation, land-use planning, and land management decisions.

BNAA will continue to work with key stakeholders to support conservation actions and improve habitat for this and other threatened species in the Mandoon catchment.

This is the second rare and threatened species previously thought to be locally extinct that has been rediscovered through the BBB program so far, alongside the Perth Hills quokkas.

These discoveries highlight the power of community working in partnership with government to generate science that informs land use and management decisions, and helps to support threatened species recovery, protect climate refuges, build resilience to climate change, and enable Aboriginal Rangers to care for Country.

The species' decline has been driven by land clearing, habitat degradation and salinisation, in addition to altered river flows and habitat extent due to water use and climate change.

Barriers in river systems can restrict fish movement, while introduced species such as trout and eastern mosquitofish (*Gambusia holbrooki*) pose ad-



(Left to right) DWER's Kelli O'Neill and Tim Storer with BNAA's Trei Winmar, Ethan Kickett, DWER's Dom Heald and BNAA's Callum Haines.



Balston's pygmy perch found in the Mandoon Bilya (Helena River).

ditional risks related to predation and competition.

Climate projections for southwest WA indicate further declines in groundwater and surface water availability, increasing pressure on the remaining populations.

The findings will be reported to the state government to inform future conservation, land-use planning, and land management decisions.

BNAA will continue to work with stakeholders, including DWER and the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), to support conservation actions and improve habitat for this and other threatened species in the Mandoon Bilya (Helena River) catchment, including mainland quokkas.

Cont. p17.



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The new ownership group says they plan to keep the exterior of the building intact. Picture: Brayden Mould



New owners outline their historic post office vision

BRAYDEN MOULD

THE planned transformation of the historic Guildford Post Office remains on track, with the new owners aiming to unlock the 129-year-old landmark and return it to a community public space.

As reported in *Guildford Post Office restoration under review* (Echo News, May 1) the initial development application proposed integrating modern commercial facilities into the heritage-listed site, while preserving its original 1897 facade, and featuring formal dining areas, a coffee window, and a rear car park.

Building co-owners Chris McLoughlin and Elliot Chipper, who alongside partner Leigh Doherty comprise the ownership team, said their underlying objective with the restoration is to focus on preserving the history of the site.

"Preserving a piece of Guildford's history has been really important for us," they said.

"We would much rather tackle this restoration with respect and see the community support us and our vision, rather than trying to cut corners and potentially alienating them.

"It really is a big change and a lofty goal, but we are hoping to make the restoration to the exterior subtle, so the outside of the building looks almost identical to how it does now.

While their goal is to preserve the exterior of the building, the internal floor plan will introduce new hospitality options designed to draw families and locals into the precinct.

"We have a vision of a fully licensed patisserie, with a takeaway coffee window where families can take a coffee, and a croissant or muffin and walk across the road to Stirling Square with their kids," they said.

"Plus, the fully licensed restaurant and bar we are planning for the interior will offer a great spot for people to unwind and enjoy a meal, whether they want to sit inside or head outdoors."

The development application recently closed its public advertising period, receiving 137 public submissions, including four objections.

"That number represents 97 per cent support from the community, which is really unheard of for a transformation on this scale," Mr McLoughlin said.

"It really shows the community is genuinely supportive and behind us in this restoration; they want to see the building returned to its former glory.

"We saw the recent data centre controversy in Hazelmere, where public backlash resulted in the



A takeaway coffee window and patisserie is planned for the north side of the building. Picture: Brayden Mould

development application being withdrawn, so we knew how vital it was to get the community's input and support."

Both Mr McLoughlin and Mr Chipper acknowledged that parking is the most prominent concern for the local community.

"Obviously we are aware of the concerns for parking, and the reality is Guildford wasn't designed for car arrangements, but we are committed to taking a proactive approach, not a passive one," they said.

"There are roughly 53 car bays within a 200m radius of the location, not to mention the 400 plus public bays at Guildford train station on weekends.

"The train station also means people can easily catch public transport to come see us, which is bound to be a lot more stress-free for them.

"We are also planning to set up notifications when people book a table to let them know that parking on-site is limited, and to ask that they opt for rideshare or hop on a train or bus instead."

Both Mr McLoughlin and Mr Chipper emphasise that finding a balance between the restoration and community access remains a top priority for them.

The final development application is scheduled to go before the Development Assessment Panel (DAP) for determination later this year.

"It's an extensive process, the City of Swan have been reviewing our documents with a fine-tooth comb to make sure we meet every requirement, but once the construction is mapped out, we are looking to have everything finished ready to open around spring next year," they said.

Updated aircraft noise forecasting could affect Kalamunda residents

THE City of Kalamunda is proposing updates to its local planning scheme to reflect revised aircraft noise forecasts linked to Perth Airport's draft master plan 2026.

The proposed amendment would update Australian noise exposure forecast contours across parts of High Wycombe, Forrestfield, Maida Vale and Wattle Grove, with the contours used to guide where residential and other noise-sensitive developments are considered suitable.

According to the scheme amendment report, updated aircraft noise contours would extend further into residential parts of Wattle Grove compared to 2020 forecasting.

The report states this would result in a greater number of residents being affected compared to the 2020 contour.

Parts of the Hatch Court light industrial area would also experience increased impacts under the revised contours, while some areas of High Wycombe are

expected to see slightly reduced impacts.

The amendment follows updated noise modelling endorsed by Airservices Australia as part of Perth Airport's long-term planning process.

Under State Planning Policy 5.1, ANEF contours are used to manage development around airports and reduce the impact of aircraft noise on surrounding communities.

The report explains that residential development becomes less suitable as ANEF levels increase, with higher exposure zones requiring stricter planning controls and additional noise mitigation measures.

It also notes the revised contours could create opportunities for increased residential density in parts of High Wycombe where aircraft noise impacts have reduced compared to earlier forecasts.

City officers said the amendment would ensure Kalamunda's planning scheme remained consistent with current aircraft noise modelling and state planning requirements.

Notice of Intention to Levy Differential Rates

In accordance with Sections 6.33 & 6.36 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and the Council's intention to continue levying differential rates for the 2026/2027 Financial Year.

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

Rating Category	Rate in the Dollar (c)	Minimum Rate
Gross Rental Valuation Rating Categories		
General GRV	0.053450	\$1,400
Industrial/Commercial GRV	0.081550	\$1,600
Vacant GRV	0.111000	\$1,400
Unimproved Rating Categories		
General UV	0.003270	\$1,400
Commercial UV	0.004115	\$1,600
Levies		
Waste Avoidance & Resource Recovery (All Categories)	0.00067200	\$35.00

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

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

Submissions close 5pm, Thursday 18 June 2026

Once Council has considered the submissions, the Differential Rates and the 2026/2027 Budget (with or without modification) will be adopted by Council.

Alternatively, feedback can be submitted online engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au



Chittering shire backs residential caravan park



The proposed layout of the eight sites on the approved caravan park.

GUANHAO CHENG

AN application for a nature-based caravan park at a resident's rural property was approved at the Shire of Chittering's May ordinary council meeting.

Bindoon resident Peter Easey submitted a deputation in support for his application for a nature-based caravan park.

Mr Easey said he and his family had spent more than 20 years restoring the block he had purchased in 2000 from the neglected state it had been left in.

"We raised our children there, instilling in them a deep respect for the unique flora and fauna on the property," he said.

"Our eldest daughter was so inspired by growing up on this land that she went on to earn a degree in environmental management.

"Our proposal to host self-contained travellers through low impact camping platforms such as Hipcamp is born entirely out of this passion."

Mr Easey said the proposal will address the concerns raised from public submission and wetland protection, heavy earthworks, waste and management of noise levels and other impacts were all within their plans for the site.

"We've spent more than two decades transforming a wasteland into a pristine natural sanctuary, and we will continue to look after it," he said.

"We have worked transparently with the shire's planning team and we wish to thank them for their detailed assessment of the proposal, their consideration of the public submissions and their favourable recommendation.

"We accept conditions one to 11 of the officer recommendation noting that these conditions appropriately limit impacts on the surrounding area in accordance with the campground management plan.

"We have concerns about condition 15 which imposes a two-year time limit as this will affect the ongoing viability of the business.

"We respectfully request that council move a motion to approve the application without condition 15.

"We respectfully ask council to support our vision for sustainable tourism in Chittering."

Cr John Curtis spoke to the motion as the mover.

"I believe that we should support this," he said.

"Business tourist operations bring money to the shire and it aligns with our community and our council plan."

Cr Curtis said their willingness to comply with the multiple amendments earned them a tick and their proposal helped bring more accommodation to the shire.

"We always want accommodation in the town, but we've got nothing.

"Now, these two people, they want to do something constructive and let people enjoy our environment up in the Chittering shire."

Cr Curtis said an overnight stay proposal that was brought to council months earlier that was refused didn't help support the shire's capability to drive tourism.

"We can't keep knocking these short stay accommodations," he said.

"I'm fully supportive of this."

Cr Nicholas Grayer also spoke to the motion and outlined why a two-year lifespan for the approval was important, despite the applicant seeking lifetime approval.

"I do understand about that note 15 (in their deputation) that they want it for an approval for life," he said.

"I believe that 24 months is crucial.

"We can then come back and see if there is an effect on the locals in that area because they are all on large properties where they don't want tourists either, so we need to take them into consideration."

Cr Foulkes-Taylor spoke against the motion and said while the shire should look at more tourism opportunities, in her view, the proposal was not suitable for an agricultural resource zone.

"It introduces a commercial tourism activity into an area intended for rural production," she said.

"That shift has real implications for local amenity and rural character (and) concerns raised by nearby land owners are valid.

"Even at a small scale, a campground brings noise, traffic, and transient activity that changes the nature of the locality.

"The reliance on self-contained vehicles doesn't remove those impacts.

"The site has known constraints and a temporary approval doesn't eliminate the potential for cumulative impacts, especially when key elements like waste management rely heavily on visitor behaviour."

Cr Foulkes-Taylor said bushfire risk and the landscape being unfamiliar increased risk for visitors, which was another reason why she did not support the recommendation.

Cr Kylie Hughes said she also did not support the development application as she was concerned the development may "never lawfully operate".

"The shire's own officers acknowledged the proposal likely does not meet the definition of a nature-based park... due to the proximity of dwellings on Cockatoo Drive and Windemere Way," she said.

"A development approval from this council means nothing if the applicant can't obtain the license required to actually open the gates.

"I believe that would be to the jeopardy of the owner going down this route when they're unlikely to get that approval."

Cr Hughes said complaints about noise, wetland conservation, the constraints the operation will face and environmental impacts meant she couldn't support the application.

Deputy shire president Mary Angus said the application's small scale and consideration of the shire's amendments, of nearby residents and based on information supplied by the proponent, the application was worthy of approval.

She said that however the 24-month approval clause was there to stay, despite the applicant's wishes, as it was important for the shire to be able to review the approval.

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Kalamunda SES volunteers were served a treat on WOW Day.

Special thanks gets served to Kalamunda's SES volunteers

THE Rapid Relief Team (RRT) has said thanks to the State Emergency Service (SES) in honour of Wear Orange Wednesday, providing delicious meals to SES volunteers at special appreciation events, including one at Kalamunda.

Kalamunda SES team leader Richard Craddock said Kalamunda volunteers were delighted to be able to serve 35 meals to their local SES unit at their WOW Day event.

"Rapid Relief Team will always be ready to respond to a call for support from the SES," Mr Craddock said.

"Whether it is during a flood, storm or some other natural disaster, RRT will be there to keep the men and women of the SES well-fed and energised while they do the important work of protecting their communities.

"This WOW Day, during National Volunteer Week, we recognise the hard-working volunteers

of the SES, and RRT was pleased to provide hot, fresh and delicious signature burgers and other refreshments to these events."

As the charitable arm of the Plymouth Brethren Christian Church, RRT supports frontline workers and emergency services by providing food, donations and other resources, as well as hosting events for the community.

Established in 2013 to assist emergency services in times of disaster and crisis by providing meals and other support, it's expanded to more than 16,500 volunteers and provides support to the community through charitable donations and events.

Taking place during National Volunteer Week, WOW Day is dedicated to showing appreciation to the SES volunteers for the support they give to support the community during emergencies.

For more information on RRT, please go to www.rrtglobal.org/



Mr Stervaggi said after seeing what Mackenzie has gone through, he just wanted to do what he could to help.

Lesmurdie man racing to support Lupus awareness

AS one of the top fundraisers in the weekend's HBF Run for a Reason, Lesmurdie's Paul Stervaggi has turned personal motivation into impact.

He took on the Brooks Half Marathon, raising funds and awareness for Lupus Voice Australia, inspired by his girlfriend's sister, Mackenzie Snow who lives in Midland.

Now 19, Ms Snow lives with Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE), specifically Lupus Nephritis — a chronic autoimmune disease where the immune system attacks healthy tissues and organs.

She was diagnosed at the early age of 11 after a rapid health decline that led to life-threatening complications, including fluid around her heart, severe kidney damage, dramatic weight loss, and eventually losing her ability to walk.

Ms Snow required heart surgery and intensive treatments including chemotherapy, high-dose steroids, and immunosuppressive therapy.

"It was overwhelming," she said.

"I lost most of my hair from treatment and spent a lot of time in hospital. Starting high school while going through that was incredibly difficult, I only attended 58 per cent of my first year."

Mr Stervaggi said after seeing what Mackenzie has gone through, he just wanted to do what he could to help.

"Events like HBF Run for a Reason give you the chance to spread awareness and raise money - I never thought twice about doing it," he said.

Despite nearly seven years of remission, Ms Snow continues to manage daily symptoms including fatigue, headaches and a weakened immune system, with a recent flare up requiring new immunosuppressive treatment.

"Even when things look stable on paper, you don't always feel healthy," she said.

"It's an invisible illness, and that can make it hard for people to understand the daily challenges, both physically and mentally."

Funds raised will support Lupus Voice Australia and its work with the Kim Jolly Lupus Research Fund at Monash University, improving patient support and increasing awareness of the disease, which affects more than 20,000 Australians, mostly women.

"Finding a cure is the ultimate goal," Mr Stervaggi said.

"Right now, we want to spread awareness and give people like Mackenzie hope."

While Mr Stervaggi hoped to complete the half marathon in under four minutes per kilometre, his focus remained firmly on the cause.

"The day is really about lupus and Mackenzie," he said.

Ms Snow said this support is deeply meaningful. "This gesture means so much. Not just for me, but for everyone living with lupus."

To donate to Mr Stervaggi's run go to <https://runforareason26.grassrootz.com/lupusvoiceaustralia/paul-stervaggi>

Notice of Proposed Local Law

Local Government Property Local Law 2026

Local Government Act 1995 [s. 3.12(3)]

Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 [r. 3A]

The Council of the City of Kalamunda resolved on 26 May 2026 to give local public notice of the proposed Local Government Property Local Law 2026.

Purpose

The purpose of this local law is to provide for the regulation and management of activities on local government property in the district.

Effect

The effect of this local law is that any person being on local government property in the district must comply with the requirements of the local law.

Have your say

A copy of the proposed local law may be inspected at the City of Kalamunda Administration Centre at 2 Railway Road, Kalamunda and City of Kalamunda Libraries, during normal opening hours. Electronic copies of the proposed local law can be viewed on the City's website at www.kalamunda.wa.gov.au. Submissions may be made to the following:

Email: enquiries@kalamunda.wa.gov.au
 Post: PO Box 42 Kalamunda WA 6926
 In person: Drop-off at 2 Railway Road, Kalamunda
 Monday-Friday, 8:30am to 5:00pm

Submissions close 5pm Friday 17 July 2026

Anthony Vuleta
 Chief Executive Officer



kalamunda.wa.gov.au

Nominations open for Kalamunda Environmental Advisory Group

DANIEL HOLMES

THE City of Kalamunda is calling for community members with an interest in sustainability, biodiversity and climate issues to nominate for its environmental and sustainability reference group (KESRG).

Nominations have opened for the group, which provides advice and recommendations to council on environmental policy, community engagement and sustainability initiatives across the city.

The city is currently seeking to fill five community representative positions on the group, with appointments running for up to two years from July 2026 to June 2028.

The advisory group assists council on matters relating to urban forest strategies, biodiversity protection, climate change planning, water management and carbon reduction initiatives.

The group may also undertake investigations or reviews into environmental issues affecting the wider community.

The KESRG will provide council with support as requested in the city's progress towards becoming a more environmentally sustainable community.

The reference group is made up of between six and seven members, including one elected council member, five community representatives and potentially an external climate or sustainability expert.

Applicants are encouraged to demonstrate experience or interest in areas such as urban forest management, biodiversity, water-sensitive urban design, climate change assessment or energy sustainability.

The city says the group will also act as a link



The City of Kalamunda is seeking community nominations for its environmental and sustainability reference group. Picture: City of Kalamunda.

between council and the community by providing feedback on environmental engagement activities and emerging sustainability issues.

Nominations close at 5pm on Friday, June 12. The nomination form can be accessed at <https://engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/kalamunda-environmental-and-sustainability-reference-group-2026>

Applications are able to be submitted online, via email to enquiries@kalamunda.wa.gov.au, or in person at the City of Kalamunda administration centre.

Housing plan a boost for North Ellenbrook



The North Ellenbrook West DSP will provide much needed housing in the north-east corridor.

MIKE PEETERS

THE recently approved North Ellenbrook West district structure plan (DSP) will facilitate the creation of between 5000 and 6500 dwellings in the North Ellenbrook area over the next 20 years.

The housing development is part of the federal government's 100,000 homes for first home buyers initiative being rolled out to deliver more than 34,000 new homes, including 11,000 exclusively for first home buyers.

The funding, in partnership with the WA state government, is part of a \$4.7 billion investment in housing and homelessness measures in the 2026-27 state Budget.

This includes a joint investment of \$522 million in the Housing Enabling Infrastructure Fund to deliver the critical power and water infrastructure needed to unlock new housing.

According to Planning, Housing and Works Minister John Carey a further \$694.3m will be invested for land development works at Metronet station precincts including Ellenbrook and Wanneroo, and across metropolitan and regional WA.

Together, these two investments are expected to unlock more than 7500 homes for first home buyers and tens of thousands of lots over the long term.

The agreement will also include \$375m for a new state-led 'build to sell' program which will see the construction of up to 500 new homes exclusively for first home buyers.

Ellenbrook, Aveley and The Vines community group member Phil Bennett said the North Ellenbrook West DSP was good news given the current housing situation and he hoped it would have a lowering effect on house prices.

"The announcement is not surprising given that the whole area has been earmarked for many years," Mr Bennett said.

"Having the Northlink extension to Tonkin Highway has opened the area substantially and development will move forward quickly because of that.

"We've already lost the 'country village vibe' that Ellenbrook had a decade ago and looking at the services available we have grown to be a regional centre."

He said he would like to see more homes 'built to rent' as rents in the area were skyrocketing.

"We've been here for 16 years now, raised three kids and seen a lot of change," Mr Bennett said.

"There are plenty of parks, a wide range of shops and services, the Ellenbrook train station and the upcoming Swan Active Ellenbrook development, which should be a great boost for the community.

"Tonkin Highway makes north-south travel easier while Gngangara Road improves east-west access - overall, it is a highly desirable place to live."

Minister Carey said North Ellenbrook was a priority growth corridor with development expected to occur progressively over the next two decades and initial development anticipated from late-2027.

"The North Ellenbrook West DSP provides the planning framework for future housing, infrastructure and community facilities, including open space, schools and local services," Mr Carey said.

Concerns over lemon scented gum trees



Residents have raised concerns about potential impacts to lemon scented gum trees near the Welshpool Road and Lewis Road intersection. Picture: Daniel Holmes

DANIEL HOLMES

CONCERNS have been raised over the potential impact of proposed roadworks on a well-known row of lemon scented gum trees along Welshpool Road in Kalamunda.

Questions about the trees were raised during public question time at the City of Kalamunda's May 26 ordinary council meeting, with resident Hannah Lill asking whether any trees in the "avenue of lemon scented gums" could be affected by the proposed Welshpool Road and Lewis Road intersection upgrades.

Ms Lill also questioned whether decision-makers were being fully informed of the potential impacts before supporting the project.

The city said it was too early to determine the full effect the works could have on the trees.

"At this stage the city cannot confirm the impact on the lemon scented gums on Welshpool Road as the design of the Welshpool/Lewis Roads intersec-

tion is still in the conceptual phase," a city spokesperson said.

Council documents said preliminary concepts indicated some trees "may be impacted", though the exact locations and number of affected trees would depend on the final design outcome.

The city said more information would be provided once the project moved further through the design process.

"Details will be shared with decision making authorities at such time that impacts are known," they said.

City staff are continuing to brief stakeholders including Main Roads, councillors and internal departments while planning progresses.

The lemon scented gums are a recognisable feature along the road corridor, with concerns likely to attract community interest as the intersection upgrade plans develop further.

No timeline for final designs or construction was discussed during the meeting.

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Mahogany Inn and Distillery's 'Joe's Jump' Vodka and 'New World Gin' won awards at the 2026 London Spirit Competition.

Mahogany Inn and Distillery win medals at London comp

MAHOGANY Inn and Distillery was recently awarded silver and bronze at the 2026 London Spirits Competition (LSC).

Its Spirits of Mahogany 'Joe's Jump' Premium Vodka claimed a silver medal while its Mahogany botanical 'New World Gin' was awarded bronze.

"Winning these medals marks a strong endorsement from one of the industry's most commercially minded judging panels, which evaluates spirits not just on taste, but on value for money and shelf appeal, factors that actually drive purchase decisions," a spokesperson said.

Now in its ninth year, the London Spirits Competition judges each entry across three weighted criteria - quality, value, and packaging - producing a score that reflects how a spirit performs in the real world, not just in a tasting room.

Entries are first blind tasted by a panel of active trade professionals, including spirits buyers, bar managers, and mixologists, before price and packaging are factored in.

The competition drew entries from

more than 30 countries, with particularly strong representation from the UK, Australia, India, Italy, USA, Mexico and Netherlands, reflecting the increasingly global character of the spirits industry.

The LSC saw gins, whiskies, liqueurs, rum and vodka as the most entered categories, followed by tequilas, RTDs and other no and low beverages.

The London Spirits Competition is judged by a panel of leading spirits buyers with current commercial buying experience, or spirits consultants and experts directly involved in developing new spirit brands or purchasing spirits for resale.

"The authority of a London Spirits Competition award comes from the quality of the judges, the rigour of the process, and the fact that it reflects what consumers and buyers actually want. We're thrilled that 'Joe's Jump' Premium Vodka performed so well," Mahogany Inn and Distillery general manager Jim Middleton said.

The distillery also won gold and bronze medals at last year's Perth Royal Show awards.

Reconciliation week highlights importance of relationships

MIKE PEETERS

THIS week is National Reconciliation Week and after 31 years working at the Swan City Youth Service (SCYS) in Midland, centre manager Graham Cox says genuine relationships are hugely important.

"Working with young people in a genuine environment is a great way to promote understanding and reconciliation," Mr Cox said.

"It is also important to create a safe space for young people to talk about difficult issues as in my experience, troubled youth don't always get the opportunity to express themselves.

"At SCYS we offer this opportunity as well as mentoring, leadership and cultural connections."

Mr Cox said that in his early life he lived through some difficult times and could remember when verbal racism was quite prevalent.

"It is gratifying this seems to have improved a lot today," he said.

Mr Cox, who received the 2026 Swan senior community citizen of the year award earlier this year, is humble about his achievements.

And when discussing his work, he is quick to point out that in his job he sees himself as a conduit for young people to improve themselves.

"When I first started out at SCYS I saw a lot of Aboriginal youth going to prison and no one seemed to be putting in much effort to turn this around," he said.

"Quite a few years ago I received a \$5000 grant to try and solve the problem and I made that money last five years.

"One of my main focuses at that time was reducing the idea among some troubled youth that going to prison was a rite of passage.

"I got together a mix of boys suffering poverty and hardship to make tapping sticks, do some storytelling and create fellowship."

He said he thought many problems were caused by loneliness and depression - with the two closely linked.

"Young people can isolate themselves so I see



Mr Cox at SCYS where creating a safe space for youth is crucial.

our work a bit like putting building blocks together one at a time to help kids build up their confidence - I call it 'mind travel'."

Mr Cox said SCYS worked closely with Midland TAFE to run certificate I and II courses online.

"We also visit local high schools to teach the importance of employment, education, respecting women and mental health, among many other things," he said.

The SCYS began as the Midland Community Youth Service in 1995 and had several locations before ending up at its current site in 2017.

National Reconciliation Week runs from May 27 to June 3.

Contact SCYS at www.scys.com.au

Ellenbrook parents finding support



Training Alliance Group's Ragul Raveendran and Nick Yeo, Swan Hills MLA Michelle Maynard, Hasluck MP Tania Lawrence, with local Ellenbrook mums Jen Monzon and Jayne Melton.

AS one of Perth's fastest-growing communities for young families, it is little surprise that Ellenbrook has become one of WA's strongest take-up areas for the Parent Pathways program.

Young Ellenbrook mums taking part in the voluntary program are accessing financial assistance, mentoring and being connected to parenting, health and other local services, to support their personal, study and training goals.

For 23-year-old Ellenbrook resident Ashleigh Turner, Parent Pathways has helped bring her goal of becoming an early childhood educator back within reach.

With a four-year-old and one-year-old at home, Mrs Turner said study had been put on hold until she found the program.

"I'd started studying childcare at TAFE when I was younger, but found it hard to get there, and then I had my oldest child," she said.

"Now, with guidance from my Parent Pathways mentor, I'm doing online learning to get my childcare certificate. I hope to finish the course in the next couple of months so next year when my oldest is in full-time school, I can start working."

The Parent Pathways program, delivered by Training Alliance Group, is open to eligible parents and carers with children under the age of six who are not in paid work.

The program includes financial assistance of up

to \$1250 towards goals such as training, transport, driver's licenses and technology, \$250 in vouchers for groceries, regular mentoring, and wellbeing support.

Training Alliance Group executive director Ragul Raveendran said the program was making a meaningful difference for families in Ellenbrook.

"Every day we hear from parents, mostly mums, who have used the Parent Pathways program to study flexibly around their children, and these parents have then gone on to find employment or start their own businesses.

"To be able to support these mums to chase their dreams of a better future is incredibly humbling, and we're grateful for the federal funding that makes the Parent Pathways program possible."

The need for programs like Parent Pathways and the connections they create was evident at a recent free community event hosted by Parent Pathways and the Mum Collective, which included sleep training by WA's peak parenting organisation Ngala, at the Grapevine Community Arts Space.

The event was at capacity with a large waitlist. Hasluck MP Tania Lawrence MP and Swan Hills MLA Michelle Maynard MLA both attended the morning.

"It was great to see the Parent Pathways program in action in Ellenbrook," Lawrence said.

Cont. p17.

Notice of Review of Local Laws

Local Government Act 1995 [s. 3.16(1), (2)]

Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 [r. 3A]

The Council of the City of Kalamunda resolved on 26 May 2026 to give local public notice of its intention to review the following local laws:

1. The Shire of Kalamunda Health Local Law 2011, published in Government Gazette No. 188 on 7 October 2011.
2. The Shire of Kalamunda Standing Orders Local Law 2015, published in Government Gazette No. 16 on 29 January 2016; and
3. The Shire of Kalamunda Fencing Local Law 2016, published in Government Gazette No. 159 on 2 September 2016.

Have your say

Copies of the local laws may be inspected at the City of Kalamunda Administration Centre at 2 Railway Road, Kalamunda and City of Kalamunda Libraries, during normal opening hours. Electronic copies of the local laws can be viewed on the City's website at www.kalamunda.wa.gov.au. Submissions may be made to the following:

Email: enquiries@kalamunda.wa.gov.au
 Post: PO Box 42 Kalamunda WA 6926
 In person: Drop-off at 2 Railway Road, Kalamunda
 Monday-Friday, 8:30am to 5:00pm

Submissions close 5pm Friday 17 July 2026

Anthony Vuleta



kalamunda.wa.gov.au

ADVERTISING FEATURE



The World of EDUCATION

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Opening soon - Nido Early School Henley Brook

Nido Early School Henley Brook is opening soon, bringing a new early learning choice to one of Perth's fastest-growing communities.

Designed to support children in their earliest and most important years, the new centre will provide quality education and care for families seeking a more considered, play-based approach.

The centre will feature dedicated learning environments

for each age group, alongside three atelier art studios, a large piazza-style gathering area and sensory-rich spaces.

These purpose-built environments allow children to move between quiet, focused experiences and collaborative play, supporting their social, emotional and cognitive development.

Outdoors, children will have access to expansive play spaces designed to connect them with nature and open-ended

exploration.

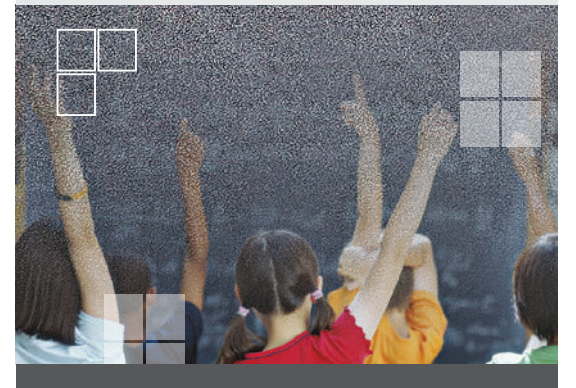
Nido already supports families across the wider region, with established early schools nearby providing trusted education and care to their local communities.

The opening of Nido Henley Brook continues this commitment, creating another accessible choice for families who value quality early learning close to home.



More than just a new childcare centre, Nido Henley Brook has been created as a space where genuine relationships with families are prioritised from day one.

As we prepare to open our doors, families are invited to join the waitlist to stay updated and be among the first to secure a place at this new early school. Subject to Department approvals.



Subject to Department approvals

Every curiosity matters



Childcare opening in Henley Brook. Enquire now. nido.edu.au

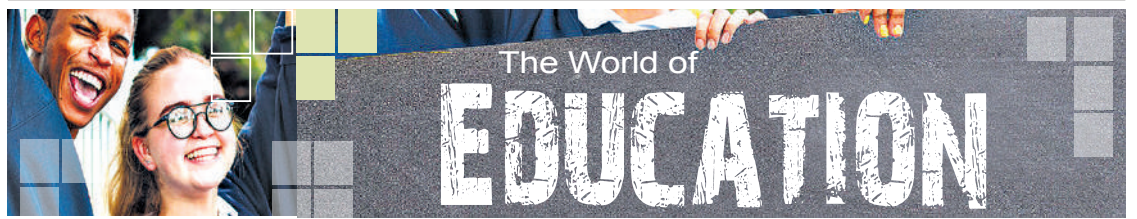


ST. BRIGID'S COLLEGE

Learn More About St Brigid's College, Pre Kindy – Year 12 on our next Tour Friday, 19 June 2026, 9AM-11AM Bookings are essential

Limited Placements Year 7, 2027 & 2028

MORNING TOUR BOOKINGS THROUGH:
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St Brigid's College, learning towards success

At St Brigid's College, the value of education is nurtured from the earliest years through to graduation within a Pre-Kindergarten to Year 12 community. As a co-educational Primary School and a girls' Secondary College, St Brigid's provides a faith-centred, contemporary education that supports every student to flourish.



A balanced approach of play-based learning, explicit teaching and meaningful exploration builds strong foundations in literacy, numeracy, and social and emotional wellbeing. Purposefully designed learning environments foster creativity, independence and a love of discovery, enriched by the

Within the Primary Campus, the Early Learning Centre offers a safe, stimulating environment for children aged three to six, where each child is known, valued and inspired. Guided by the Western Australian Curriculum, the Early Years Learning Framework and the Reggio Emilia philosophy, learning is inquiry-driven and recognises children as capable and curious.

St Brigid's Bush School, where children engage with nature to develop resilience, confidence and connection.

As students progress into Pre-Primary and the Middle Years, structured programs, specialist subjects and co-curricular opportunities strengthen academic foundations, preparing students for a confident transition to Secondary School and success beyond the classroom.

60 Years of Faith & Brotherhood

Founded in 1966 by the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, Mazenod College began as a small Catholic boys' school with just 31 students.

Inspired by St Eugene de Mazenod and grounded in the teachings of Jesus Christ, the College has grown into a thriving community educating more than 900 boys while remaining deeply connected to its Oblate heritage and supportive local and regional families.



The establishment of the boarding residence in 1967 expanded opportunities for students from regional and remote Western Australia to access a Catholic education in the Oblate tradition.

In 2026, Mazenod College proudly celebrates its 60th Anniversary, honouring six decades of faith, learning, brotherhood, family and service. This milestone year also marks the appointment of the College's first female Principal, Mrs Sabrina Hughes.

overlooking Perth, the College provides a peaceful environment with purpose-built facilities that support the holistic development of every student. Boys benefit from a balanced education encompassing academic, sporting, cultural, musical, spiritual and personal growth opportunities.

At its heart, Mazenod College remains committed to ensuring every boy is known, valued and empowered to achieve his personal best.

Set on 8.9 hectares in the scenic Lesmurdie Hills



MAZENOD COLLEGE

Moments of Grace

Mazenod College is more than just a College for boys. Mazenod is a distinctive College that defends the honourable traditions, adventures and learning of boys. We exist to inspire boys to learn, lead and serve as they strive for excellence together.

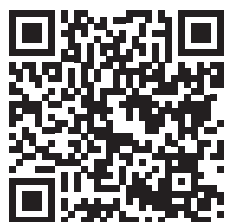


UPCOMING TOURS

Wednesday 19 August 2026 - 9:30am - 11:30am
 Tuesday 3 November 2026 - 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Register your attendance via:

www.mazenod.wa.edu.au

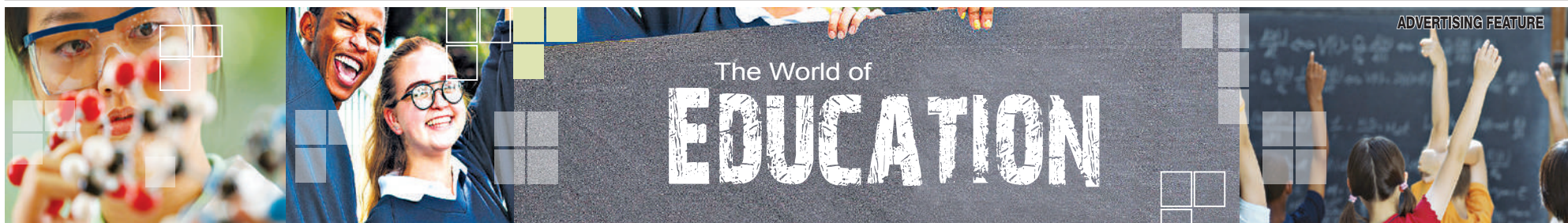


To register for an application kit, please contact:

www.mazenod.wa.edu.au

registrar@mazenod.wa.edu.au

(08) 9291 1500



ADVERTISING FEATURE

School Holiday Youth Bridge Program



The Kalamunda District Bridge club located in Gooseberry Hill will be running a special program for kids aged between 11 and 18 years old during the school holidays in July!

If you are looking for fun and a challenging activity this could be it!

Bridge is a card game played by millions around the world including Bill Gates, Warren Buffet, Martina Navratilova and the late Omar Sharif!

Our Experienced instructors will guide you step by step in a relaxed and support-

ive environment. Snacks and all materials are provided!

Dates. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 7th, 8th and 9th July and the following week Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 14th 15th and 16th July, from 9.15am -11.45am each day.

Who - Youths 11-18 years old.

Where - 56 Ledger Road Gooseberry Hill.

Cost - \$150 (Just \$50 for each extra sibling)

Contact - Kay 0407 993 344



Youth Bridge Classes FOR KIDS 11-18 YEARS

LOOKING FOR FUN AND A CHALLENGING ACTIVITY THESE JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAYS? DISCOVER THE EXCITING GAME OF BRIDGE!

Relaxed, supportive environment. Snacks and materials provided!

Tues, Wed, Thurs July 7, 8, 9 and Tues, Wed, Thurs July 14, 15, 16

From 9.15am - 11.45am

Cost \$150 per child (\$50 for each extra sibling)

56 Ledger Road, Gooseberry Hill

For further details and to register please phone

Kay on 0407 993 344

or email kdbclub@bigpond.com

kalamunda.bridgeaustralia.org

ECH0270528M

Enrolments now open at Parkerville Grove

Enrolments are now open for Parkerville Grove School, a specialist secondary school in Parkerville opening Term 3, 2026.

Delivered by Parkerville Children and Youth Care through Parkerville Therapeutic Education Services, the school has been designed for young people in Years 7 to 10 whose learning has been disrupted by trauma or significant adversity. The school offers a calm, predictable and supportive environment where safety and wellbeing come first.

Using a healing-first therapeutic education model, the school recognises that young people learn best when they feel safe, connected and understood. Small class sizes, consistent routines and strong relationships help students rebuild confidence and re-engage with learning at their own pace.

Foundation Principal Alice Alibrandi said emotional and physical safety are central to the school's approach.

"When young people feel safe and supported, they can begin to reconnect with learning," Ms Alibrandi said.



In 2026, the school has capacity for up to 60 students, with enrolments considered on the ability of the school to meet the educational, wellbeing and therapeutic needs of each young person.

Further information about eligibility and the enrolment process, is available at: www.parkervillegroveschool.wa.edu.au

Parkerville Grove School

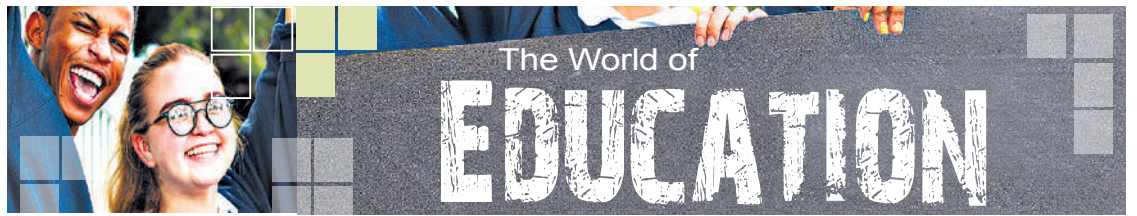
A specialist secondary school opening Term 3, 2026 for students in Years 7-10.

You belong here.
Your future starts here.

Learn more about enrolment:

parkervillegroveschool.wa.edu.au

Parkerville Grove School is delivered by Parkerville Children and Youth Care through Parkerville Therapeutic Education Services.



NDIS Reforms Create Questions

Thousands of Australians may soon be affected by changes to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), with new registration requirements set to reshape the disability sector.

While the reforms aim to strengthen safeguards and improve quality, they have created uncertainty for participants receiving supports from unregistered providers, as well as the providers and support workers who deliver those services.

Plan and Grow CEO Anita Peiris said many people are still trying to understand what the changes mean for them.

"The NDIS is complex at the best of

times, and reforms naturally create uncertainty. We want people to know they have options, and the earlier they start planning, the more control they will have over their future," Ms Peiris said.

Plan and Grow, a Western Australian disability provider with more than a decade of experience supporting people with disability, has launched its NDIS Rescue Pathway to help participants, providers and support workers navigate the reforms and understand their options.

For more information, visit www.planandgrow.net/ndis-reform-support or contact the Plan and Grow team on 6444 9682.



Investing in Every Child's Future

The Cook Labor Government is committed to ensuring every Western Australian child has access to a quality education, no matter where they live.

That means investing in local schools, supporting families with cost-of-living relief, and delivering the programs that help students thrive.

We know cost of living remains a concern for families, which is why we are delivering another round of the **WA Student Assistance Payment** - \$250 for secondary students and \$150 for primary and kindy students. We've also made **public transport** permanently free for school students, we are increasing **before and after school care**, and providing **\$300 KidSport vouchers** to eligible families.

We're continuing to invest in our schools - with major upgrades and new facilities delivered at **Kalamunda Senior High School & Education Support Centre** last year, and there's more to come.



A new **Early Childhood block** at **Glen Forrest Primary School** is funded in this year's State Budget, with significant upgrades also on the way for **Eastern Hills Senior High School**. This is in addition to **\$650,000** already delivered to nine local schools to improve facilities and upgrade equipment, because we know even small investments can make a big difference for students and school communities.

I'm proud that the Government is also delivering the supports that make a real difference day to day - including the **Small Group Tuition** program to support literacy and numeracy; expansion of the **School Breakfast** program; and ensuring students can learn in comfortable environments through the **Cool the Schools** air-conditioning program.

Because we know when students and their families feel supported, they achieve better outcomes.

Hon Klasey Hirst MLC

Member of the Legislative Council

plan and grow

NDIS Reform Support

Navigating the future of support, together.

Understanding the upcoming NDIS reform.

What do these recent reforms mean?

Let's talk!

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hello@planandgrow.net
planandgrow.net

Registration No: 4050003997
 You're in safe hands with a fully registered provider that meets strict NDIS quality & safety standards.

The Cook Labor Government is supporting families and investing in education in the Perth Hills

ADVERTISEMENT

- ✓ Delivering a third round of the **WA Student Assistance Payment** - giving families **\$250** for every **secondary student** and **\$150** for **primary** and **kindergarten students**
- ✓ **\$38 million** of major upgrades to works **Kalamunda SHS** and **Kalamunda Secondary Education Support Centre**
- ✓ **\$12 million** to build a **new early childhood block** at **Glen Forrest Primary School** as part of a **\$233 million investment in Education** infrastructure upgrades across WA
- ✓ **\$15 million** for significant upgrades to **Eastern Hills SHS**
- ✓ **Public transport** for **school students** travelling to and from school is **now permanently free**
- ✓ Expanded **School Breakfast Program** and more **free full-time kindy**
- ✓ More **Free TAFE** to support the training of electricians, plumbers, bricklayers, plasterers, nurses and early childhood educators.
- ✓ Supporting **over 1,300 apprentices and trainees** under the **GTO Wage Subsidy Program**
- ✓ Continuing to deliver the next round of **Cooling the Schools** at **Mundaring PS**, **Mount Helena PS** and **Kalamunda PS**
- ✓ **\$612,000** for **local school and P&C projects** to benefit students and school communities.



Chidlow Primary School
 Walliston Primary School
 Parkerville Primary School

Lesmurdie Primary School
 Darlington Primary School
 Mazenod College

Pickering Brook Primary School
 Spring Road Community Kindy
 Kalamunda Primary School & Ed Support

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Member of the Legislative Council of Western Australia

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ARTS ENTERTAINMENT

NAIDOC Week celebration coming to Midland TAFE

MIDLAND TAFE will come alive with music, culture, community connection, and celebration on Wednesday, June 3 from 9am to 1pm as staff and students host a free major NAIDOC Week event celebrating this year's theme, "50 Years Deadly".

Presented by Koolark and TAFE event management students, the free community event will celebrate the history, culture, achievements, and resilience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, while bringing together students, staff, families, local organisations, and the wider Midland community.

The celebrations will feature a full morning of live entertainment, cultural activities, food, games, health services, and community engagement.

One of the highlights of the event will be a live performance by BOOX Kid, the 2025 WAM vocalist of the year.

A proud Noongar (Wadandi Bibbulmun) artist, BOOX Kid works across songwriting, music production, theatre, opera, and sound design, and is widely recognised for supporting and promoting First Nations voices and storytelling through music and performance.

The event will also feature special guest Nyima Tucker, a proud Aboriginal woman, model, content creator, and advocate who uses her social media platforms to celebrate culture, identity, self-expression, and representation for young Indigenous Australians.

Guests will have the opportunity to hear Nyima share her story and connect with attendees throughout the day.

Activities across the event include



Wadumbah Dance Group will be performing as part of the NAIDOC celebrations at Midland TAFE.

live dance and music performances, the "Deadly Games" sports competition with prizes, tote bag painting and creative activities, hair braiding, delicious breakfast burgers and native-inspired food, community stalls and cultural activities, free health and wellbeing infor-

mation, Foodbank WA involvement and family-friendly activities and entertainment.

The event has been designed to encourage cultural learning, community connection, and celebration in an inclusive and welcoming environment.



The event will host a number of talks by industry experts on the proper care and maintenance of plants. Picture: Kalamunda Garden Festival

Kalamunda Garden Festival on again

THE Kalamunda Garden Festival will return to Stirk Park next weekend for its winter edition, featuring a lineup of horticultural speakers and more than 130 specialised stalls.

The single-day event is scheduled for Sunday, June 7 and will run from 10am to 3pm.

This year's speaker panel will feature a number of industry experts including Connie Cao, Craig Castree, Tammy Huynh and Chloe Thomson.

Specialists from the Gardeners' Circle will also staff a designated plant doctor station to provide diagnostic consultation for plant health issues.

Organisers have requested that attendees bring only photographic evidence of their plants rather than live samples to prevent the potential spread of pests or diseases.

A plant crèche will operate along Headingly Road inside the festival boundary, allowing attendees to check in and store their purchases while navigating the grounds.

Confirmed commercial stalls for the

event include specialised plant nurseries and garden tool suppliers, alongside various mobile food trucks.

A complimentary shuttle service will be available to transport attendees between the festival grounds and the City of Kalamunda's administration carpark, at 2 Railway Road, Kalamunda.

Domestic dogs are strictly prohibited within both the park and the official event boundary.

Live musical entertainment will be split into two sessions, beginning with a performance by Scarlet's Way from 10am to 12pm.

The Murphy Brothers will subsequently perform on the main stage from 12.15pm until the event concludes at 3pm.

Complimentary face painting and organised children's activities will also be available on-site throughout the day.

Cost is only \$10 for adults while children and companion card holders are free.

For tickets and further information visit www.kalamundagardenfestival.com.au



The festival will have more than 130 stalls.



A plant crèche will operate for attendees.

ENTERTAINMENT & GIG GUIDE

Your local Gig Guide

Fri May 29

Settlers House York
Graeme Fisher
From 5.30pm, Free
125 Avon Terrace York

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

Parkerville Tavern
Craig Hewitt
From 5.30pm, Free
6 Owen Road
Parkerville

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

Lyric's Bar
Cactus Hack
From 7pm, Free
22 Lyric Lane
Maylands

Sat May 30

Settlers House York
Back Verandah Band
From 5.30pm, Free
125 Avon Terrace, York

Woodbridge Hotel
Next Level
From 8pm, Free
50 East St, Guildford

Parkerville Tavern
Intangible
From 3pm, Free
6 Owen Road
Parkerville

Lyric's Bar
The Pick-Me-Ups
From 7pm, Free
22 Lyric Lane
Maylands

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Nathan Gaunt
6pm-9pm, Free
4260 Great Eastern Hwy
Mahogany Creek

Sun May 31

Settlers House York
Nathan Ward
12pm-3pm, Free
125 Avon Terrace York

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

Sun May 31 Cont.

Chidlow Tavern
Ramshackle
12.30pm-3.30pm, Free
4 Thomas St Chidlow

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Coastal Drift Trio
4pm-7pm, Free
4260 Great Eastern Hwy
Mahogany Creek

Mon June 1

Settlers House York
Graeme Fisher
12pm-3pm, Free
125 Avon Terrace York

Parkerville Tavern
Jump the Gun
From 1pm, Free
6 Owen Road
Parkerville

Tues June 2

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

Woodbridge Hotel
Ravenswing
From 6pm, Free
50 East St, Guildford

Wed June 3

Chidlow Tavern
Muso Jam Night
7pm till late, Free
4 Thomas St, Chidlow

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Acoustic Open
Mic Night
Presented by Fenton
and Friends
6pm-9pm, Free
4260 Great Eastern Hwy
Mahogany Creek

Thur June 4

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

Woodbridge Hotel
The Pointy Heads
From 6pm, Free
50 East St, Guildford

Promote your event



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Contact Peter for more information
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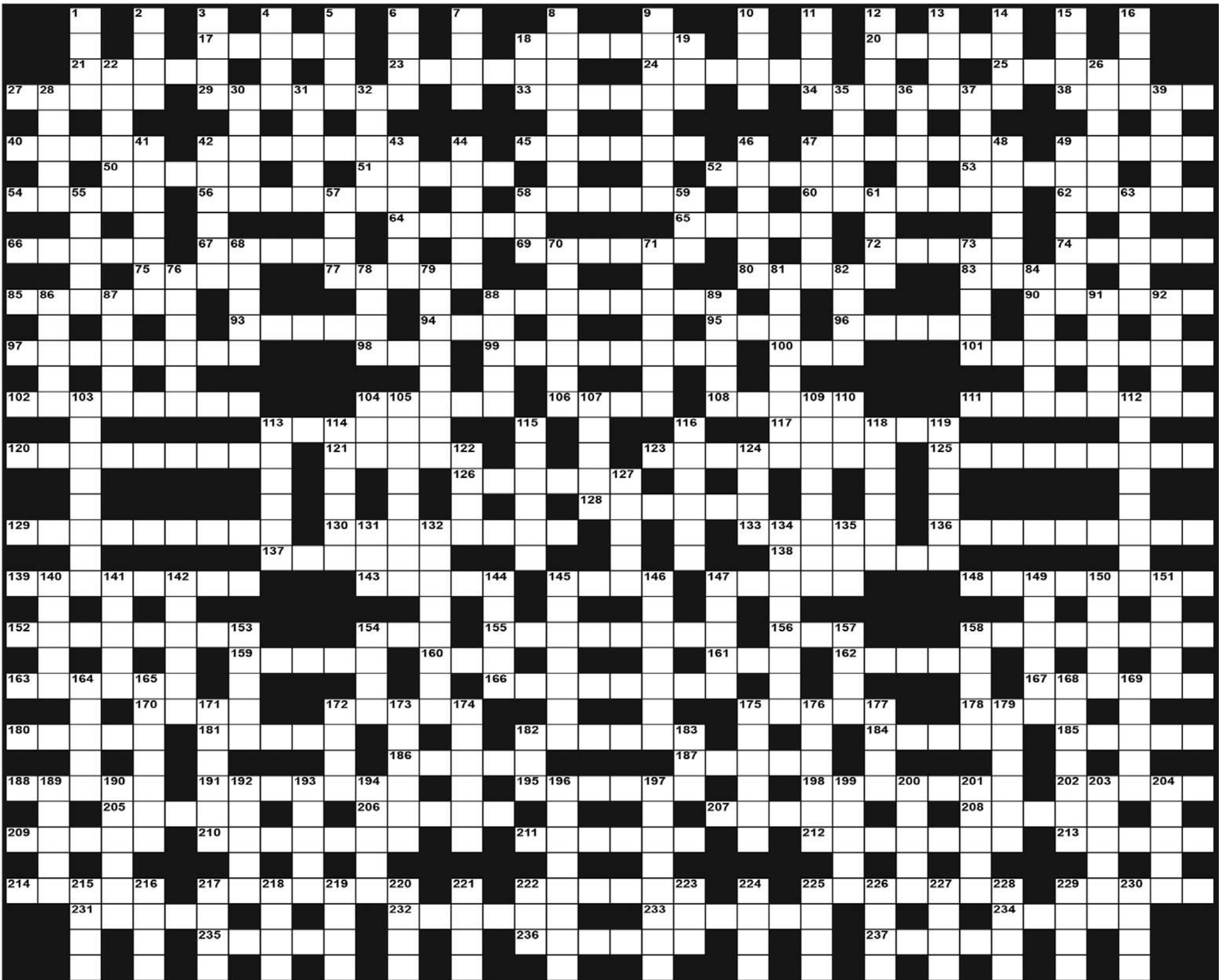
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ECHO NEWS



Mind Boggler Crossword

1270



ACROSS

- 17 A fruit
- 18 Money for favours
- 20 Sports area
- 21 A weapon
- 23 Meal server
- 24 Piece of bacon
- 25 Hot bath
- 27 Following
- 29 Dog sheds
- 33 Headwear (3,3)
- 34 Superintend
- 38 Tribal emblem
- 40 Thorn
- 42 Facades
- 45 A ploy
- 47 Gets to destination
- 49 Skilful
- 50 Rental agreement
- 51 Looking at
- 52 Defeats
- 53 Damage
- 54 Steep
- 56 Killers
- 58 Deviates
- 60 Leaving a will
- 62 Spins around
- 64 A clan
- 65 Type of stone
- 66 Skin rash
- 67 Cites
- 69 Gave long low sound
- 72 A fragment
- 74 Ways to leave
- 75 Snare
- 77 Domesticates
- 80 A groove
- 83 Votes in favour
- 85 Types out
- 88 Quietened
- 90 Scatters around
- 93 Develop
- 94 Pitch

- 95 Away
- 96 A rodent
- 97 Whinge
- 98 A title
- 99 Copied
- 100 Little drink
- 101 Leaking slowly
- 102 Sneaky followers
- 104 Cap
- 106 Storm
- 108 Type of car
- 111 Found an answer
- 113 Undamaged
- 117 Legal decrees
- 120 Good food
- 121 Overweight
- 123 Vote out
- 125 Moved around
- 126 Bound around
- 128 Smokestack
- 129 Gatherer
- 130 High position
- 133 One dining
- 136 Paying attention
- 137 Layers
- 138 Adore
- 139 An alcoholic drink
- 143 Funeral fires
- 145 Regrets
- 147 Huge crowd
- 148 Was unfaithful to
- 152 Act of believing
- 154 Also
- 155 Pertinent
- 156 Energy
- 158 Boaster
- 159 Gambling game
- 160 Draw
- 161 Biblical name
- 162 First paragraphs
- 163 Type of car horn (tm)
- 166 Adorns with garlands
- 167 Courage

- 170 A malady
- 172 Building block
- 175 Urged
- 178 Mark on body
- 180 Forepart
- 181 Group of lions
- 182 Sicknesses
- 184 Famous musical
- 185 Hits into
- 186 Rasp
- 187 Wear away
- 188 Old weapon
- 189 Everlasting
- 195 Wriggle around
- 198 Artillery attack
- 202 Of the tides
- 205 Hurry
- 206 Raised bank
- 207 Very good
- 208 Command
- 209 Track
- 210 Uncivilised people
- 211 Hide from view
- 212 Joins metals
- 213 A vision
- 214 Use a broom
- 217 To carry
- 222 Bores holes
- 225 Seafarer
- 229 Rate of progress
- 231 A willow
- 232 Sour
- 233 A card game
- 234 Friendship
- 235 Loafer
- 236 Read over
- 237 Blood vessels

DOWN

- 1 A direction
- 2 Large jug
- 3 Brand
- 4 On top of
- 5 Dry

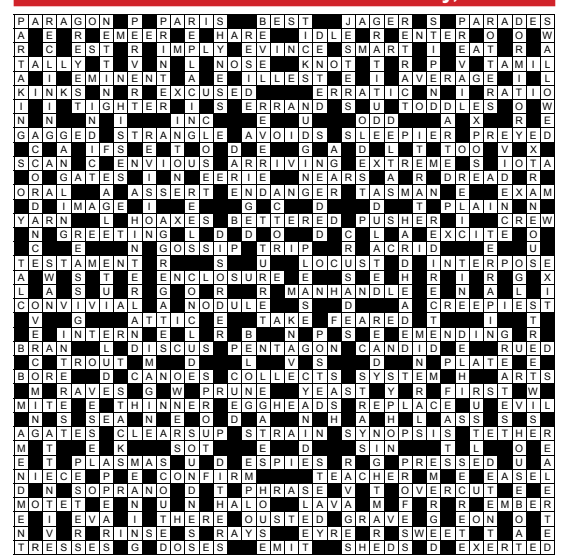
- 6 Pulls along
- 7 Greet
- 8 Overbearing
- 9 Truthfulness
- 10 Resound
- 11 A hairdo
- 12 A fruit
- 13 Colours
- 14 Restfulness
- 15 Touch on
- 16 Flooded trench
- 18 Wager
- 19 Took a seat
- 22 Small stone
- 26 Piece of pasta
- 28 Bright light
- 30 Artist's stand
- 31 In want
- 32 Not yet
- 35 Piece of poetry
- 36 Be rowdy
- 37 Bring out
- 39 Send away
- 41 Attendant
- 42 Agreement
- 43 Method
- 44 Pranks
- 46 Get back
- 47 Give evidence
- 48 Fast
- 49 Best ventilated
- 55 Boredom
- 57 A direction
- 58 Stitch
- 59 Unhappy
- 61 Waistband
- 63 Speak badly
- 68 Very pale
- 70 Lifting with effort
- 71 Give a right to
- 73 Hurried
- 76 Get away
- 78 Top cards
- 79 Competitors
- 81 Non-resident

- 82 Temporary home
- 84 Catches sight of
- 86 Perch
- 87 Asian country
- 88 Prepare to fire
- 89 Extinct birds
- 91 Turn back
- 92 Show pain
- 103 Things
- 104 Tap lightly
- 105 Sourness
- 107 Withdrawn
- 109 Praised highly
- 110 Nothing
- 112 Speed of motion
- 113 Brings on
- 114 Hard worker
- 115 King's residence
- 116 Gain payback
- 118 Middle
- 119 Horse shed
- 122 Otherwise
- 124 Part in play
- 127 Throb
- 131 Chart
- 132 A drug
- 134 Coming to
- 135 Day before
- 140 Type of silicate
- 141 List of contents
- 142 Refining sound
- 144 Twist
- 145 Give rest to
- 146 Use lavishly
- 147 Abhors
- 149 Mental agony
- 150 Predict
- 151 Get on list
- 153 Young eel
- 154 Holiday travel
- 157 Older distance
- 158 Speak with pride
- 164 Seed of oak tree
- 165 Cereal food
- 168 Travelled around

- 169 Tried to hit
- 171 Overturns
- 172 Type of sprout
- 173 Fireplaces
- 174 Rascals
- 175 Mass migration
- 176 Water-birds
- 177 Expensive
- 179 Types of shrubs
- 182 Not many
- 183 Church district
- 189 A shaft
- 190 Rings as a bell
- 192 Torment
- 193 Move in reply
- 194 Wide-awake
- 196 Put on record
- 197 Inattentive
- 199 Smell
- 200 Lines across circles

- 201 European shrub
- 203 Suddenly intrude
- 204 Ease off
- 215 Long times
- 216 Fret
- 217 Stern
- 218 Alone
- 219 Distinctive air
- 220 Therefore
- 221 Cut
- 222 Go down
- 223 Take to court
- 224 Cast off
- 225 Only
- 226 Wander
- 227 A fastener
- 228 Skin blemish
- 229 Go down
- 230 Australian lake

Crossword Solution 1269 from 22 May, 2026



On the trail

What's happening in the Shire

May 2026

From the President

It's always wonderful to see our community and region recognised for the things that make the Perth Hills such a special place to live, work and visit.

Recently, our Shire was acknowledged by the Office of the Auditor General for its strong financial management, an achievement our whole community can be proud of. This recognition reinforces that the Shire is guided by responsible governance, transparency and sound financial stewardship, ensuring we continue to build a sustainable future together.

Congratulations to the Mundaring Firefighters School as it marks an incredible 30 years of supporting firefighter training across Western Australia. For three decades, dedicated volunteer trainers have shared their time, skills and experience to equip our volunteer bushfire brigade members with the knowledge they need to keep our community safe. Their commitment is a powerful reminder of the strength and generosity that define our community.

A spectacular new attraction has just opened at John Forrest National Park with the launch of a 250 metre elevated walkway over Glen Brook, a breathtaking way to experience the natural beauty of the Perth Hills from an entirely new perspective. It invites people to slow down and truly connect with the landscapes, wildlife and serenity that make our environment so extraordinary.

Our community continues to shine, not only through the recognition we receive, but through the people, places and shared values that make our Shire the true heart of the Perth Hills.

Paige McNeil
Shire President



Up to \$100,000 available for signature events

Shire of Mundaring is investing in the future of local events, with up to \$100,000 now available through a new Signature Event Funding stream as part of the Shire's Arts Culture and Event Funding Program.

The funding will support larger-scale events that attract visitors, celebrate local culture and strengthen the Shire's reputation as a vibrant and creative destination in the Perth Hills.

The program aims to support events that deliver long-term community, cultural and economic benefits while encouraging sustainability, accessibility and inclusiveness.

Shire President Paige McNeil said the funding reflected direct community feedback and the Shire's commitment to building a thriving and connected community.

"Our community told us they wanted to see more events and experiences across the Shire,

and this funding is about responding to that feedback and investing in opportunities that bring people together," President McNeil said.

"We want to see events that inspire people to explore the Shire, connect with our unique communities and experience the creativity, hospitality and natural beauty of the region.

Applications are now open. More information, including eligibility criteria and application details, is available on the Shire website.

Scan QR code and apply now



06 June

Water Saving & Reuse at Home

10am • Shire of Mundaring

Turn the tide on water! Explore rainwater, greywater, and reducing water use in the home and garden, simple steps for a waterwise home.



Scan QR code or visit mundaring.wa.gov.au/events

20 June

Winter Warmers: Cooking Workshop

10am • Shire of Mundaring

Cook up cozy winter magic! Learn induction cooking with hearty seasonal produce & delicious plant-based options in this hands-on workshop.



Scan QR code or visit mundaring.wa.gov.au/events

23 June - **04** August

7 Week Wellbeing Program

9:30-11:30am • Swan View Youth Centre

This healthy ageing program is designed to increase quality of life for older adults who want to live independently in the community they love



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Read between the lines
 by Pastor **Ian Kirk**
The Filling

It's such a blessing to have dentists and dental care. But I'm sure I'm not the only one who finds going to the dentist quite challenging, even for a scale and clean.

During the clean you must keep your mouth open for a considerable time, keep your tongue away from the activity and there seems to be the constant need to swallow. Then they probe about in sensitive areas to check the state of your teeth.

The other day, after a scale and clean, they did an X-Ray and the dentist discovered tooth decay in one of my molars that required a filling. I haven't needed one for decades. The filling has now been done and it wasn't too bad.

I'm so grateful that I had the filling, otherwise my tooth would have decayed further, and then that could lead to an abscess forming and to very expensive dental work being required.

As I think of my recent dental experience, I am conscious of another kind of decay. We decay from bad choices and sinful behaviours. Even so, I'm grateful that there is one, the Lord Jesus, who can deal with our decay. He forgives us for our sins, through what He did for us on the cross, and fills us with His love and Spirit to make us whole again if we would turn to Him and trust in Him. He is our healer; as we read in Exodus 15:26 "I, the Lord, am your Healer".

ECHO NEWS

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Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY BARRIER CLOSURE OF A ROAD - PORTION OF LOSINO BOULEVARD, HENLEY BROOK

Notice of Request for temporary barrier closure of a road - portion of Losino Boulevard, Henley Brook is hereby given in accordance with section 3.50 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

The closure is required to facilitate the construction of the Gnaragara Road and Losino Boulevard intersection as part of the Gnaragara Road Duplication Project.

The proposed closure period is for a 14-week duration commencing July 21, 2026, with completion expected by October 27, 2026.

A plan showing the location of the road proposed to be closed can be inspected online at <https://swanengage.swan.wa.gov.au>, at the City's Administration Centre, Morrison Road, Midland, or at any of the City's libraries, during office hours.

Submissions may be lodged in writing at <https://swanengage.swan.wa.gov.au>, via email to assetmanagement@swan.wa.gov.au, or addressed to the undersigned, City of Swan, PO Box 196, Midland, WA 6936, by close of business Friday, June 19, 2026.

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



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EC14844

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Employment



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E: peter.lewis@echo-news.com
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ECHO NEWS

"Let's keep local people in work"

To advertise your situations vacant call 9374 6666.

Extinct fish found in Helena River

From p3.

BNA executive director and environmental scientist Francesca Flynn said the discovery of the Balston's pygmy perch in the Mandoon Bilya (Helena River) was incredibly significant.

"It highlights the importance of investing in long-term, community-led programs like BoorYul-Bah-Bilya, and the power of community and government working together, led by Noongar Traditional Owners and informed by modern scientific techniques like eDNA, to achieve the best outcomes for Country.

"It also emphasises the importance of protecting groundwater-dependent ecosystems, which provide critical refuge for threatened species across the southwest, including the Perth Hills. In our drying climate, these ecosystems are more important than ever," she said.

"This discovery strengthens the case for the long-term protection of the entire Mandoon catchment as one of the most significant and relatively intact natural landscapes on Perth's doorstep."

BNAA BBB ranger Trei Winmar said being out on Country as a young Noongar ranger and finding the Balston's pygmy perch was a really great opportunity.

"We have only just started as BoorYul-Bah-Bilya rangers, so to have already found this fish has been great timing for us. Not many people get to see this fish, so it was amazing to be there and be part of the discovery.

"This finding will make our rangers team work even harder to care for our rivers and the beautiful Country up there in the hills.

"Hopefully, it will lead to us doing more of this kind of work - getting out on Country, discovering what's still out there, and learning how we can better protect our rivers."

Ellenbrook parents finding support

From p8.

"Speaking with the many mothers at the event, it's clear how valuable programs like Parent Pathways are to build connection, confidence and strong local support networks. The Albanese Labor government is proud to support the Parent Pathways program and the difference it's making for families in our community."

Ms Maynard said as a mum of two, she understood how important it was to support mums and parents at a particularly vulnerable stage of life.

"Being a new mum is a complete culture shock. We are more than just mums, and that's okay. Having support like Parent Pathways to figure out what you can do and where you are going in the future is incredibly important.

"I hope more young mums take the opportunity to see how Parent Pathways can help them."

The local Training Alliance and Parent Pathways office can be found at 3/8 Commercial Road, Ellenbrook.

Available across WA, Parent Pathways is a free and flexible program that empowers mums, dads and carers with mentoring, financial assistance and connections to support services, personalised to their goals and circumstances.

To find out more and apply, go to <https://traini.galliance.com.au/parent-pathways> or call 1300 436 756.

ECHO Notice Board

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

Upcoming Events

- **The Kalamunda Ladies Probus Club** meets on the second Thursday of each month at St Barnabas Church Hall, Railway Road, Kalamunda (entry off Spring Road) at 9am for 9.30am start. They have morning tea and a guest speaker at each meeting and a monthly bus outing to different interesting places. Socially they meet for coffee monthly and lunch also monthly at different venues in the area. Probus is a social club for retirees who enjoy life. For more information call Trish on 0468 309 823 or Juliette on 9293 4438.
- **CWA Kalamunda** meets on the second Friday of each month at 10am on Central Road, Kalamunda behind Aldi, look for the blue tree. Go along to join in the fun and meet new friends.

- **Mundaring Garden Club** meets every second Tuesday of the month at Mundaring Church of Christ, 1470 Stoneville Road, Mundaring. The annual program includes guest speakers who present on a variety of topics, workshops and outings to nurseries and gardens. Presentations are followed by morning tea in the club café. For more information call membership on 0413 358 085.
- **The Mundaring Country Women's Association** meets every second Wednesday at 1pm at the CWA Centre (Sculpture Park) in Jacoby Street, Mundaring for a craft and social afternoon. Take your craft ideas to share on your favourite craft or hobby. Visitors are always welcome anytime to have a cuppa and a chat. For more information call Marg on 0417 956 628.

- **Midland Ascension Craft Group** meets in the parish hall, 17 Spring Park Road, Midland every Tuesday of school term from 1pm to 3pm. All are most welcome to join for a chat, cuppa, any craft and sometimes a guest speaker. Call 0433 265 683.
 - **U3A Swan Hills** is a group dedicated to playing Mahjong every Thursday afternoon at Hazelmere Hall, Bushmead Road, Hazelmere at 1pm. If you are an experienced player, a little rusty, or have never played before we'd love for you to join. For more information call or text Catherine at 0400 952 585.
- 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



Max is an eight-year-old staffy cross. He has primarily been an outside dog but would love to be allowed inside on the couch. Max has been kept as a watch dog but he isn't the best at it. His previous owner's health has taken a turn so now Max must find another home. Max is sterilised, microchipped, and vaccinated. Costs Apply. Contact Bakers Hill Dog Sanctuary on 9574 1438.

Cougars win home game against Hawks



A motivated Chidlow team joined by past captain Matthew Mallaby played a winning game against the Pickering Brook Hawks in round seven.

BRIAN PALLISTER

PICKERING Brook Hawks found themselves up against an in-form Chidlow Cougars team for their round seven clash, resulting in a 3.2 (20) to 24.24 (168) loss.

Chidlow came into the game with the extra motivation of one-time captain and coach, Matthew Mallaby celebrating his 300th game for the club.

It was a culmination of 18 years of dedication and a feat not achieved for some 10 years since Wayne Sowden from the Mt Helena club.

The Cougars were on song from the first ball up with Luke Elliott running rampant on a wing.

He collected the loose ball, driving it forward to the leading Blake Offer who converted his kick at goal.

Pickering Brook Hawks player Jackson Shilling seemed to be having the better of the ruck duels only to see Mallaby and Jake Forman sweep the ball away.

Steven Schorer and Tim Huntley intercepted most of the Hawks' forward entries, carrying the ball deep back over the centre.

Hawk Ben Bowness was doing what he could to slow down the Cougars' hard running midfield.

The Hawks entered the first break scoreless against Chidlow's 30 points.

Hawks Joshua Vellinga and Mitchell Shilling defended stoutly allowing Jonathon Vecchio to

get into the game.

Vecchio moved the ball forward to Logan Pfeiffer who got the Hawks' goal scoring started.

Multiple Cougars players joined in the goal scoring and seemed to be lining up to take turns with Huntley, Schorer, Mallaby and Blake Offer all kicking goals.

Hawks William Nuttall and Ben Harffey battled hard although as soon as they could push the Hawks forward the ball was going back over their heads.

Chidlow outscored Pickering Brook by 16 points for the second to enter the main break holding a 46-point lead.

The Cougars continued the pressure after the break kicking another six goals to one.

The stand out highlight was the mark of the game taken by Cougar Jedd Simmons.

The last quarter was all Chidlow as they piled on another 10 goals to the Hawks' nil.

Chidlow's Joshua Liddle became dominant with successive goals, Mallaby rounded out his four-quarter game with his fourth goal.

Cougar Thomas Self enjoyed his running role deep in his backline precisely delivering the ball out to teammates Elliott, Forman and Jack Langridge.

Pickering Brooks' Bowness, Jonathon Vecchio, along with Jackson and Mitchell Shilling tried hard all day.

In the end it was Chidlow home by 148 points.



The victorious mother and daughter with their awards.

Family success at combined horse driving championships

MIKE PEETERS

MOTHER and daughter Tracey and Niamh Tester of Paulls Valley won two separate national awards at the Australian Combined Driving Championships combined driving event (CDE) in Dwellingup last month.

The event, originally pioneered by the late Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, featured 19 competitors.

It was held over the ANZAC day long weekend from April 24 – 27 and consisted of three phases: dressage, marathon and cones.

Tracey Tester competed in the novice large pony class on her horse Brackenhurst Griffin (known as Sid), while Niamh Tester was in the intermediate horse class on Trapalanda Downs Quo Vardis, (Quo).

Niamh Tester said the dressage on Saturday was very similar to a ridden dressage in the Olympics.

"The marathon on the Sunday was an endurance and speed event consisting of three sections," Niamh said.

"The total distance was over 13km with certain sections containing marathon obstacles where drivers memorised routes and raced as quickly as

possible through the obstacle course.

"The third day was the cones and was similar to a show jumping course for riders (where) drivers navigated 20 sets of cones with balls on top.

"The drivers needed to use speed and precision to drive the course as quickly as possible without hitting the cones and knocking the balls off the top."

She said judges combined all scores from each phase of the competition to determine the overall winner.

Tracey and Niamh won both of their classes overall becoming Australian champions.

"This win means an incredible amount to both Tracey and me," Niamh said.

"The hours of practice that went into preparation for these national championships were immeasurable.

"There were multiple trips to Kendenup, North Dandalup, Dwellingup, York and Darling Downs to ensure our equines were in the best possible state to compete.

"We would also like to thank the many members who donated their time to create such a fantastic event and to say a big thank you to the sponsors."

ECHO Local Real Estate

**Residential
Commercial
Rural & Country**

Strut into a Stratton home

THIS three-bedroom, one-bathroom home in Stratton sits directly opposite Kangaroo Park and is being offered to first home buyers, retirees and investors looking for a property with solid bones and room to make it their own.

Set on a 514sqm block, the home's position on Kangaroo Entrance gives it a pleasant parkside outlook and places it within easy reach of local amenities, making it a practical choice for a range of buyers.

Inside, the kitchen has been renovated with updated finishes, making it a functional and presentable space for everyday use.

Stone benchtops and ample cabinetry help make dinner times a breeze with enough space to move, store and prepare dishes for the whole family.

The living area features a wine rack and a gas fitting for a heater, adding comfort and character to the main living space.

The three bedrooms are generously sized, with the main bedroom benefiting from a walk-in wardrobe.

Storage is ample throughout the home, keeping the floor plan practical for day-to-day living.

The home has also been rewired, giving

buyers confidence in the property's electrical infrastructure from the outset.

Out the back, a spacious patio area is well-suited to entertaining or simply enjoying the outdoors, with a good-sized backyard providing room for children, pets or future landscaping ideas.

The home comes with a shed and a backyard area that is open, fully fenced and ready to be personalised.

A garage with a roller door and a shopper's entrance also provides convenience and peace of mind with vehicles secured inside the premises.

There is still opportunity throughout the home for buyers to add finishing touches and customise the property to their own taste and needs.

Positioned opposite parkland and within easy reach of schools and shops, 10 Kangaroo Entrance offers a comfortable and convenient base to build a life in Stratton.

**Address:
10 Kangaroo Entrance, Stratton
Price: From \$649,000
Agency: Real Estate Plus
For more information contact
Sebastian Doust on 0409 004 424**



I Remember When...



Do you remember when looking for property there was a rush to the local newsagency to get your weekend newspaper to see when the home opens were on and what was new to the market?

There was also the Realtor Magazine that was in all the local agencies. It was in black and white and was later renamed Homebuyer magazine. Otherwise, you would wander around the windows of the local real estate agents to see what they had on display.

As agents, we were the gatekeepers to information about what was on the market. We had scrappy handouts, which were just typed lists photocopied. The window cards had photos stuck on a card.

When I started as a sales representative back in 1987, the prices seemed high then, but now to the current generation they seem a steal. I was doing opens in areas like Midland, for properties in North Street for around \$48,000, and in Swan View for around \$50,000. It all seems impossible based on today. Mind you, people's incomes were around four hundred and fifty dollars a week gross, and there were many single-income families.

I remember when blocks in Clayton Estate, Bellevue, started around the \$6,000 mark. Mind you, there was heavy earthwork required to build, which today would cost a fortune.

It was common for an agent to put buyers in a car and drive them around showing homes during the week. Trust me, for the agent it wasn't the most exciting experience. It felt like being a taxi driver, especially when they bought

something you didn't show them, so you earned zero.

There were no mobile phones in those times, but I did have a two-way in my car, as Roy Weston agents used to be able to call the office and they would coordinate appointments for you and get what was called a conjunctional between agencies, where they shared the commission. This is a rare occurrence these days.

We also had what was called a multi-list book. As a salesperson, there was a book that came in with details of properties all over the metro area that you could access, supplied by REIWA.

It had all the contact details of owners and where keys could be located. Keys were under flowerpots, in magnetic boxes hidden in gutters, or Clipsals in meter boxes and lock box combinations. Hmmm, not sure we would want these methods today.

On a side note, the weekend papers on Saturday used to be over one hundred pages plus, full of ads, and Sunday between forty to fifty. Picture ads came many years later.

Mind you, the descriptions were pretty basic, with the suburb name on one side and, on the other, the price. An ad could read like this as the main text: 3brm, 1bth, garage, pool, close to all amenities.

So, the ads were without the headline and company recognition on the base, about two to three lines. The ability for a salesperson to match buyers to property required was quite a skill.



Milton Rendell – CEO
Real Estate Plus Group

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FROM \$765,000



RENOVATE IT, LEASE IT, FLATTEN IT, DEVELOP IT.....JUST BUY IT! 64 Great Northern Highway

This three bedroom one bathroom 1930's built home is the perfect buy. It can be modernised, personalised, extended and landscaped. It has extensive water, termite and structural damage, so renovation work would be extensive, but not inconceivable.

- 1032sqm
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- As Is Condition
- R20

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