

Gidge family fruit business saved

P7



New Elsie Austin changerooms opened

P6



Odour unit to tackle Vines foul smell

P5



Senior Noongar Elder Greg Ugle (RIP), with BNAA executive director Francesca Flynn at the rock shelter near the site of the proposed bridge. Inset: Artist impression of the bridge redesign.

Lloyd St Bridge approved

The Lloyd Street Bridge redesign is approved and aims to protect cultural heritage and the environment while improving Midland area traffic.

P3



Mundaring Junior Football Club

Mundaring Junior Football Club Inc
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ECHO Celebrations



**40th
ANNIVERSARY**

The Maida Vale Swimming Club is organising the annual event which is now into its 40th year.

Lake Leschenaultia Open Water Community Swim 40th anniversary

THE Lake Leschenaultia Open Water Swim is returning on November 8 and will mark 40 years since the annual Mundaring tradition was first organised by Maida Vale Swimming Club.

Maida Vale Swimming Club secretary Lynne Duncan said the event enjoyed good participation and had only grown throughout the decades.

"When we first started, it was simply a Sunday morning club swim followed by a barbecue," she said.

"My sister Andrea Williams is the president of the club and I am the club secretary and we've both been with the club almost since its inception, starting the swim in 1986.

"Originally we only held the 1.6km event, which replaced the traditional mile swim.

"As interest grew, we formalised the event under the Masters Swimming Australia open water swimming rules and invited other clubs to participate.

"Over time we introduced the 400m and 800m events, and around 34 years ago we added the 3.2km swim.

"The event has continued to grow in both participation and popularity and is one of the first swims on the open water calendar and the only freshwater swim on the calendar."

Ms Duncan said most of the other events were held in the river or the ocean.

"Participation has grown from around 40 swimmers to almost 300 in our biggest year," she said.

"Whether we reach those numbers this year remains to be seen, but we're certainly hoping."

Ms Duncan said the club was blown away by the support of the shire.

"The shire's grant is particularly important because it allows us to present every finisher with a commemorative towel celebrating the event's 40th anniversary," she said.

"It also allows us to cover the cost of Blue Chip Timing which provides the electronic timing system now expected at open water events.

"Years ago we used stopwatches and handwritten results but today, electronic timing is essential.

"Competitors expect accurate results that can be



uploaded online within an hour of finishing.

"We're absolutely delighted to receive the funding and we're still a bit stunned, to be honest."

Maida Vale Swimming Club is organising the event with four distances on offer in a non-competitive event.

Set against the stunning backdrop of one of the Perth Hills' most popular destinations, the event showcases the unique recreational opportunities available at Lake Leschenaultia while bringing visitors into the region to experience its natural beauty.

The Shire of Mundaring council voted on July 14 to endorse \$10,000 in funding for the event.

Shire of Mundaring President Paige McNeil said the anniversary event highlighted the important role community events played in bringing people together and celebrating local places.

"For 40 years, this event has encouraged people to get active, challenge themselves and experience everything that makes Lake Leschenaultia such a special place," she said.

"The 40th anniversary swim is a fantastic example of an event that has stood the test of time thanks to the dedication of organisers, volunteers and participants.

"This funding is about investing in experiences that strengthen community connection, support local tourism and celebrate the unique character of our hills communities."



INSIDE

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Due to lack of space, the crossword will not be running in this week's edition.

We apologise for any inconvenience.

Please check our website for the crossword and last week's solution.



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P18 Real Estate

ADVERTISING FEATURE

**2026 SWAN
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ADVERTISING FEATURE

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Lloyd Street Bridge project to progress

CONSTRUCTION of the Lloyd Street Bridge in Midland is expected to begin before the end of the year after an agreement on design principles was reached with local Traditional Owners.

The agreement follows four years of consultation, collaboration and design investigation to ensure the crossing avoids impact to culturally significant sites, including the Helena River and a seasonal pool located on the bridge's alignment.

The new design features a 180m long bridge, spanning most of the Helena River floodplain, with two sets of supporting piers to be positioned away from culturally sensitive areas.

According to the state government, the new design also significantly reduces the project's footprint, reducing the vegetation clearing requirement by around 20 per cent.

The bridge is planned to have two lanes in each direction, as well as paths for pedestrians and cyclists.

With key design principles agreed, the project will proceed to the detailed design stage.

This will be accompanied by site investigations and broader stakeholder engagement.

Subject to detailed design progression, construction works could begin around the end of 2026.

The project will be broadened to include the connection of Lloyd Street to the intersection of Great Eastern Highway Bypass and Abernethy Road, completing long-planned Lloyd Street link between the Great Eastern Highway and the Bypass.

It will also support the growth of the Hazelmere industrial area and reduce congestion on local roads, including Stirling Crescent, Military Road and Clayton Street.

By connecting the Lloyd Street and the Great Eastern Highway Bypass, the project will enable future construction of the proposed Roe Highway and Great Eastern Highway Bypass Interchange.

The Lloyd Street Bridge project is being delivered by Main Roads on behalf of the City of Swan and is co-funded by the state and federal governments.

West Swan MLA and Minister for Transport Rita Saffioti said the collaboration between state government and Traditional Owners on the bridge design was of a major scale.

"Back in 2022, Traditional Owners and other local stakeholders raised significant concerns about the impact of the bridge design on Aboriginal heritage sites and the environment," she said.

"This resulted in the submission of a Section 10 Application to the federal government under the Aboriginal and Torres



Artist's impression of the proposed Lloyd Street Bridge design.

Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act."

Ms Saffioti said the option was there to continue building the previous design.

"Instead, our government, Main Roads and the City of Swan listened, worked with the Traditional Owners to get a better understanding of their concerns and set out to work towards a design the whole community could be proud of.

"The agreed design, which will be one of the longest multi-span bridges in the state, is a result of collaborative co-design, and we thank the Traditional Owners and their advisors, the Bibbul Ngarma Aboriginal Association (BNAA), for working with us to achieve a much better outcome."

Midland MLA Steve Catania said the outcome was the result of a lot of work behind the scenes and thanked the Traditional Owners for sharing their stories and connections to the site.

Hasluck MP Tania Lawrence said the progression of the project was welcome news.

"The bridge will reduce congestion and bottlenecks on surrounding roads and make it easier for residents, workers and visitors to move around," she said.

"Importantly, the project design has been shaped through

collaboration with Traditional Owners, whose knowledge of the Helena River system has ensured improved connectivity does not come at the expense of protecting the Helena River and its banks."

BNAA executive director Francesca Flynn acknowledged Noongar Senior Elder, Greg Ugle (RIP) who made the bridge redesign possible.

"Uncle (RIP) was instrumental in the Section 10 process, and it was through his strong leadership, determination and advocacy that we were able to work with the state government to redesign the bridge and better protect Noongar cultural heritage."

Noongar Traditional Owner and son of Greg Ugle (RIP) Ben Ugle said for thousands of years, Noongar people had cared for our rivers through knowledge, respect and responsibility to Country.

"We support sustainable river protection.

"Protecting our river is not only about the environment, it is about preserving our living connection to Country and ensuring that our cultural responsibilities continue for the benefit of all Western Australians."

Call for transparency after Wattle Grove tree removal

BRAYDEN MOULD

CALLS for greater transparency have been made to the City of Kalamunda after trees earmarked for retention were cleared at a Wattle Grove development site following administrative sign-off by council staff.

Fight for Wattle Grove, a community group with more than 450 members, claimed vegetation on a lot on Lewis Road was removed despite explicit conditions requiring its protection under a previous development application panel (DAP) approval.

Fight for Wattle Grove spokesperson Kim Sinclair said the group's push for greater transparency stems from staff making the decision under delegated authority without public debate or an elected councillor vote.

He said residents were left blind-sided when chainsaw operations began on site.

"We participated in good faith in the original DAP process, and conditions protecting vegetation were put in place partly in response to community concerns," he said.

"Now those trees have been removed through what appears to be a staff-level process with no notification to neighbours.

"Why do we allow elements of planning approvals to be overturned by staff without the issue being returned to full council for consideration, debate, and transparency?"

The City of Kalamunda confirmed the removals were approved by staff under regulation 17 of the DAP regulations, which allow local government officers to determine minor amendments to previous panel approvals without elected councillor oversight or public notification.

Mr Sinclair argued there is no oversight regarding what constitutes a minor amendment.

"Who determines what is a minor amendment and what is a major one? In this instance, 15 trees were removed, we would argue that's a major amendment," he said.

In response, City of Kalamunda Mayor Margaret Thomas defended the city's handling of the application, maintaining that all decisions follow strict statutory requirements.



Following an arborist report submitted by the applicant, city staff approved the removal of trees on the lot.

"The city's assessment was limited to the amended landscaping application before it, the city considered an arborist report submitted by the applicant in assessing the proposed tree removals," she said.

"The city did not undertake a separate investigation into whether previous earthworks had impacted the trees' root systems.

"The city appreciates the strong community interest in this site and understands the concerns that have been raised. While these decisions are never taken lightly, the city is committed to ensuring every planning application is assessed fairly, consistently, and in accordance with the relevant legislation and the evidence provided as part of the assessment process."

The city declined a request by *Echo News* to inspect the arborist's report, citing confidentiality rules surrounding developer planning submissions.



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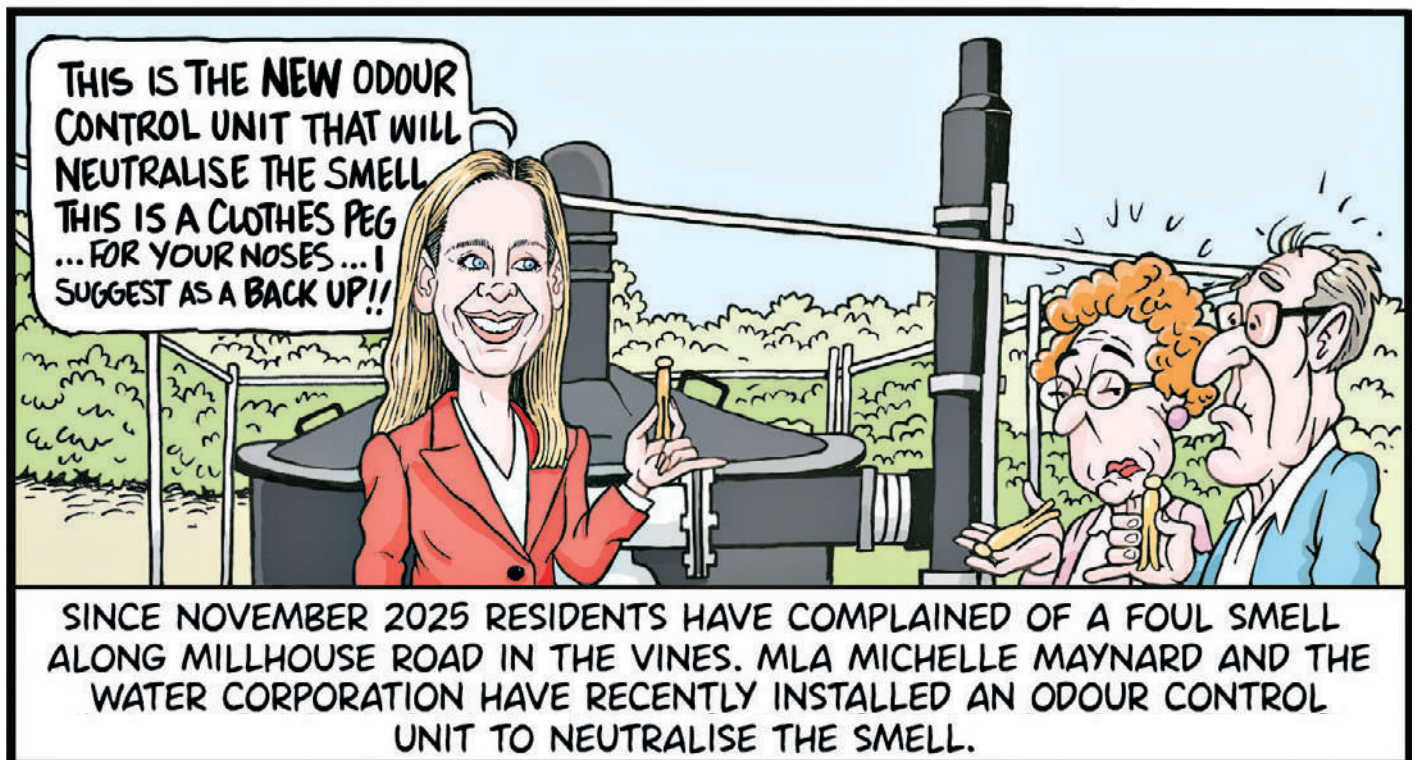


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ECHO YOUR THOUGHTS

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Tree trim is over the top

Dear Echo News,

Late last week, I reported a large branch off a tree in the big dog enclosure at Balfour Road had collapsed, but I wish I hadn't.

The Shire of Mundaring this week not only took the fallen branch away, they cut down the

whole tree and another tree as well!

Unless both trees were dead, (certainly not showing it), or had shot hole borer, the shire owes people an explanation of why the wanton destruction of healthy adult native trees at a time when scientists are pleading with us to save and create tree canopies.

G Ross
Swan View

Thought for the day

"Just when you think it can't get any worse, it can. And just when you think it can't get any better, it can."

- Nicholas Sparks

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

What's your view?

Email
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 and let us know.

From the net...

Echo News social media comments

In response to Success Hill Reserve weed control push:

Thank you Echo for quality journalism exposing environmental issues.

W Huber

In response to Kalamunda drops tree nursery plan:

Ridiculous idea if they think it was going to save them money trying to grow their own trees.

R Fagnani

The current set of councillors hate trees of any sort and seem to be actively looking for ways to chop as many down as they can.

Much better to have a McDonald's than large environmentally friendly trees.

A Blackburn

I actually don't care where they source their trees from. I just wish that they would protect and plant trees.

Give me one good reason why this should not happen.

If a tree 'absolutely' needs to go for safety or development reasons they should plant 10 new ones.

Look at what has just happened in Wattle Grove where photographic evidence proves that trees that were to be retained were deliberately damaged and were later felled with COK permission.

C Lewis

In response to Community petition for Slaughterhouse Bridge:

My question is why wasn't this fixed ages ago?

Will the people get any compensation for having to use extra fuel to get where they need to go?

That bridge has been under construction so many times.

Just rip it out and build another.

S Openshaw

In response to Chittering mining corridor environmental concerns:

Chalice Mining should be finding an alternative infrastructure corridor instead of proposing one that would impact new and existing private landholders' tree preservation areas and valuable black cockatoo habitat.

S Cee

Chittering you don't need another (mine), please see the damage Alcoa's done and little to no rehab at the cost of our beautiful bush and native creatures.

M Studd

Why does mining always get a free pass, subsidies and bending of rules?

The faux caring act is also tiresome because they don't and will do the bare minimum every time.

There needs to be stricter standards that prevent any damage to the environment or what's left of it.

K Anne

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Consumers urged to do groundwork on "DIY" prefabricated pods and buildings

With Commissioner for Consumer Protection Trish Blake

- "DIY" and "permit free" claims for prefabricated outbuildings may be misleading
- Building permits, council approval and installation by a registered builder may be required
- Consumers risk breaching safety rules and building compliance laws if they rely on false advertising

AMID increased consumer interest, WA homeowners are urged to do their research when considering installing prefabricated pods, tiny homes and other outbuildings, which may be subject to council approvals and other rules to ensure they are safe and compliant.

The Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety's (LGIRS) Consumer Protection and Building and Energy divisions have observed a rise in suppliers advertising these products as DIY projects that can be assembled in a weekend with "no permit required".

However, these claims may be false or misleading in breach of the Australian Consumer Law. Homeowners could end up installing unsafe structures or breaching building compliance or planning laws.

Consumers should contact their local government for advice on any approvals that may be required.

In many cases, if these structures are used as a building, or part of a building, they will require a building permit. There are no specific exemptions for prefabricated buildings, and local councils may take enforcement action if these structures are erected without approvals.

If a building permit is needed and the structure is a habitable building valued at more than \$20,000, or a non-habitable structure such as a shed valued at more than \$50,000, it must only be installed by a registered builder or an approved owner-builder. The builder named on the permit is responsible for ensuring the building complies with applicable building standards when completed.

Other local council approvals, such as under planning laws, may also be required.

Commissioner for Consumer Protection Trish Blake said consumers may be misled into believing they can simply purchase and erect these structures themselves.

"We're concerned that some homeowners may be led to believe these structures don't require permits or approvals, which may not be the case. That misinformation can create avoidable headaches for households and their councils," Ms Blake said.



The odour control unit installed by Water Corporation along Millhouse Road. Picture: Camila Egusquiza Santa Cruz

Odour unit to tackle Vines foul smell

CAMILA EGUSQUIZA SANTA CRUZ

FOLLOWING several complaints over a “disgusting” sewage drain odour, Water Corporation has recently installed an odour control unit (OCU) near the intersection of Millhouse Road and Corona Way.

As reported in *Residents’ concerns over foul smell* (Echo News, November 14, 2025), the smell was first reported around November last year, after upgrades were made by Water Corporation to pumping stations in the area.

The source of the smell was pinpointed to odour being periodically vented from the pump station through an overflow flap.

Swan Hills MLA Michelle Maynard has advocated for the issue to be addressed since residents first began raising concerns.

In June, Ms Maynard aired a grievance about the smell in the legislative assembly, where the Water Minister Don Punch announced that an OCU would be installed to address the issue.

“The unit is expected to significantly improve the odour issue experienced by nearby residents,” Ms Maynard said.

“It is designed to mitigate or eliminate odours without relying on chemical dosing or other temporary remedies.

“Water Corporation has advised that the installation of the OCU is intended as a long-term solution to mitigate or eliminate odours.

“The community has been very thankful for the improvement since the OCU was installed.”

Echo News visited the area after the unit was installed and did not detect any odour.

A Vines Residents and Ratepayers Association spokesperson said people in the area reported the odour was gone.

A Water Corporation spokesperson said the OCU was already benefiting the community.

“Monitoring undertaken since the unit was commissioned shows a significant reduction in odour levels, and we will continue to monitor odour levels to ensure the system is operating effectively,” the spokesperson said.

“The unit works by capturing odorous gases and passing them through specialised filters to neutralise compounds.”

Residents can report any odour concerns to the Water Corporation faults line on 13 13 75.

Farming is second most deadly job

AGRICULTURE is Australia’s second deadliest industry and on National Farm Safety Week (19-25 July), the nation’s peak workplace health and safety body is urging farmers and safety professionals to work together and save lives.

An average of 40 agricultural workers lose their lives on the job every year (2020-24), with 13 deaths already recorded since July 2.

The Australian Institute of Health and Safety (AIHS) chief executive officer Julia Whitford said this year’s theme, *Set the Standard: ‘Show ‘em How It’s Done’*, is a reminder that shortcuts on the job gets watched and copied.

“This campaign is about work health and safety professionals and farmers working together to show what safe, practical farming looks like. Farmers know their work better than anyone, by having conversations and learning from each other, we can make safety part of everyday farming,” Ms Whitford said.

Agriculture, forestry and fishing recorded the highest serious injury claims rate of any industry with 11.3 claims per million hours worked. It is almost double the national average.

Vehicle rollovers, falls, equipment incidents and being struck by moving objects remain the leading causes of farm deaths.

“Long hours, financial pressure, and the mental strain of isolation can also take a toll. Add unpredictable seasons and burnout, and you have a perfect storm for physical and psychological injury,” Ms Whitford said.

Industry Safety and Health Professor and AIHS Board member Marcus Cattani is driving change through his research into safer farming practices.

“Too many farmers still think getting hurt is just part of the job. It isn’t,



and it doesn’t have to be,” Professor Cattani said.

“You don’t need a computer, a budget, or to be an expert in agriculture to change that. Turning up, asking the right questions, and giving the people doing the work ten minutes with an exercise book is often all it takes to get safety moving.”

Professor Cattani’s simple steps anyone can follow this Farm Safety Week:

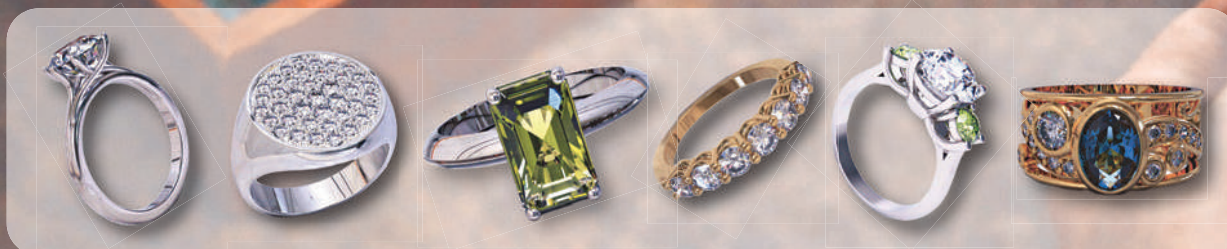
- Ask “what could go wrong?” Talk to the people doing the work and write down what could cause harm such as noise, heat, fatigue, mental strain.
- Be honest about what you’re already doing. Next to each risk, note what’s in place to prevent it. If the answer is nothing, that is where to start.
- Decide what needs to change, and check it happens. Get whoever holds the budget to agree to the fix, then check regularly that it is in place, not just written down.
- Investigate anything that goes wrong. Ask “why did that happen?” Then ask why again. Keep asking until you reach the cause.
- Keep a safety shopping list. Every fix identified, from a risk register or an investigation, goes on the list with who is doing it and by when. Then follow up.

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New Elsie Austin changerooms opened



Celebrations all round at the official changerooms opening.

THE Mount Helena community recently celebrated the official opening of the new Elsie Austin changerooms, marking an important milestone for local sport and community life.

Players, volunteers, families, sporting clubs and community members gathered at the oval to recognise the completion of the upgrade, which has delivered modern, accessible and inclusive facilities designed to support local sport for years to come.

The upgrade includes new change rooms and amenities designed to be inclusive, accessible and welcoming for all members of the community, along with improved facilities for players, officials, volunteers and spectators.

The project was delivered through a partnership between the Shire of Mundaring with the state government providing \$525,000 and \$410,000 through the community sport and recreation facilities fund (CSRFF) and PlayOn WA initiative, with the balance funded by the Shire of Mundaring.

Shire of Mundaring President Paige McNeil said the upgrade reflected council's commitment to supporting local sport and creating places that bring people together.

"Council is proud to deliver modern, accessible changerooms, additional storage and a new spectator viewing



area, ensuring supporters can cheer on their teams come rain or shine.

"Elsie Austin Oval has been part of community life in Mount Helena for many years, and this upgrade will help ensure it continues to be a welcoming place where people of all ages and abilities can participate, connect and enjoy local sport."

The official opening was also attended by Klasey Hirst MLC, representing the state government and acknowledging its contribution to the project.

"The shire and particularly Mount Helena has a strong sense of community, and it's important that the infrastructure reflects and supports that."

"This investment was shaped by community input, club members, volunteers and councillors to ensure it meets the needs of that community."

High Wycombe Community Hub receives nearly \$40m in funding



Artist's impression of the new High Wycombe Community Hub.

THE Cook Labor government has committed an additional \$9.55 million towards the delivery of the proposed High Wycombe Community Hub, set to be a major community facility for the growing High Wycombe station development precinct.

The proposed High Wycombe Community Hub is a joint investment between the Cook and Albanese Labor governments and the City of Kalamunda, with the project receiving \$30m in state funding and \$30m in Commonwealth funding in 2022.

The City of Kalamunda has also committed \$10m towards the project.

Located on state-owned land within the Metronet East Redevelopment Area adjacent to High Wycombe station, the proposed community hub will include an aquatic centre, community centre, gymnasium and café.

The proposed hub will provide important community infrastructure for Perth's growing eastern corridor while supporting the ongoing transformation of the area surrounding High Wycombe station.

The facility is expected to act as a catalyst for further development surrounding the station, building on work underway through the Metronet East program to create new housing opportunities, jobs and community amenities around major transport infrastructure.

Construction is expected to commence in early 2027 and the facility is anticipated to open in late 2028.

City of Kalamunda Mayor Margaret Thomas said the additional funding was a significant milestone that brings the proposed High Wycombe Community Hub another step closer to becoming a reality for the community.

"I thank the state and commonwealth governments for their continued partnership with the City of Kalamunda."

"The hub will provide generations of residents with modern aquatic, recreation and community facilities while supporting the continued growth and

transformation of High Wycombe as a thriving connected centre."

Forrestfield MLA Stephen Price said the government was pleased to be committing further funding to the High Wycombe Community Hub which will be a great facility for local families close to public transport.

"A new community centre, aquatic facility, gym and café will provide the space for our community to get involved, stay active and keep connected."

"It will further activate the High Wycombe Station development precinct and be a future focal point for residents."

Planning and Lands Minister John Carey said he was working with all levels of government to establish a liveable, well-serviced community in the High Wycombe station development precinct.

"Our additional funding guarantees the delivery of High Wycombe Community Hub, which will be a major community asset for Perth's eastern suburbs."

"The hub will complement the significant investment already made through Metronet and help create a vibrant, well-connected precinct with housing, community facilities and recreational opportunities."

"Alongside DevelopmentWA's work across Metronet East, this project is helping unlock the full potential of land around High Wycombe station and support long-term growth in the area."

Sport and Recreation and Transport Minister Rita Saffioti said the High Wycombe station has been a gamechanger for the community, providing eastern suburbs locals access to reliable and affordable public transport close to home.

"Metronet has also unlocked huge opportunities to deliver new community facilities and housing in High Wycombe that will help further activate this area and ensure it's a great place to live for local families."

"Investing in projects like this is part of the government's commitment to delivering quality infrastructure and services for our growing communities."

Call for volunteers at Woodbridge bushlands

MIKE PEETERS

CAN you spare a few hours to help rehabilitate the Woodbridge bushlands?

If so the Friends of Woodbridge Bushlands (FOWB) would love to hear from you.

FOWB are calling for volunteers to assist at the Devon Street reserve and on the Woodbridge green to help with planting and back filling, placing covers on the plants, weeding and mulching.

"Depending upon volunteer numbers, 'people power' on the day will determine which site, so we need people to confirm their availability and if they have a preferred site," FOWB facilitator and founding member Lynn Deering said.

"If volunteers are available on alternate days or times and especially during the week we welcome enquiries."

"It is a great way to meet the locals without being too committed and to make a difference to our neighbourhood. Work does not go ahead if raining."

The proposed dates for volunteer callout are Devon Street reserve: Sunday, July 26 from 2.30 to 4.30pm, and Woodbridge Meadows: Sunday, July 26 to Saturday, August 1 from 1.30 to 3.30pm and Sunday, August 2 from 1.30 to 3.30pm.

Volunteers are encouraged to wear suitable pro-



Volunteers are needed to help rehabilitate the Woodbridge bushlands.

ective clothing, shoes and gloves and to bring a shovel and small bucket.

Interested people should register via email at lynndeering@jobtactics.com or they can text or phone 0417 188 626 stating preferred site, day and time.

ECHO NEWS

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Lights out after Success Hill copper theft

CAMILA EGUSQUIZA SANTA CRUZ

SUCCESS Hill residents have been left without lighting along a shared path between the area and Guildford for more than six months, with Main Roads WA confirming the outages were caused by copper theft.

Earlier this year, Main Roads WA reported that 1200km of copper cable had been stolen from its electrical pit and conduit system.

A Main Roads WA spokesperson said the lighting outages were caused by copper theft, but restoration works were being prioritised in other areas.

"Given the extensive length of cable requiring replacement across the network, which includes key thoroughfares including our freeways and highways, Main Roads is prioritising restoration works in areas that provide the greatest community benefit," they said.

"Cable theft from street lighting and principal shared path (PSP) lighting circuits continues to be an issue resulting in widespread outages across Main Roads' road and PSP networks.

"Main Roads is installing theft mitigation devices, as well as carrying out trials of new technologies, including exploring new treatment options."

Bassendean resident Felix Clarke said the issue was reported to Main Roads WA more than six months ago, and he had recently noticed that electrical power pits had been dug out.

Mr Clarke said the lighting outage is a safety concern for many residents.

"Obviously not being able to see is a bit concerning, and there's always been a lot of dodgy activity and crime in the area, so walking outside on a footpath that's not lit at all is a bit concerning for some people," he said.

"It's dark when you walk down there at night time – you don't know what's going on, so it's good to bring a head torch or something."

Mr Clarke said more security is needed around the area.

"It would be good to have the cables reinstalled, but also some security on the actual pits themselves," he said.

"Perhaps a cover that doesn't just open when



Copper can only be sold legally to licensed scrap dealers and requires formal identification. Picture: Felix Clarke

you lift it – maybe it has a lock on it, and a security camera on the corner would be really good."

Copper theft is a persistent issue – Main Roads WA said that unprecedented levels of theft were being experienced across the state.

A WA Police spokesperson said reports of copper theft are thoroughly investigated, with a strong focus on identifying and prosecuting offenders.

"Community information plays a vital role in these investigations. Members of the public are encouraged to report any suspicious activity to police on 131 444 or through www.crimestopperswa.com.au," they said.

Copper theft can also be reported to Main Roads by calling 138 138 or at <https://www.wa.gov.au/service/transport/road-transport/report-road-fault-or-hazard>



The family is grateful for the community's support as they spent two years fighting for survival.

Gidge family fruit business saved

BRAYDEN MOULD

A LONG-running land use dispute that threatened the operation of a Gidgegannup family business has ended, with Macri's Fruit Shed securing official planning approval from the City of Swan.

The two-year planning battle came to a head earlier this year when the business's original planning application was denied, leaving Macri's Fruit Shed facing permanent closure, as reported in *Gidge family fruit business fights for survival* (Echo News, April 17).

That initial application – which sought a tourism facility land use exemption – fell through after a state scheme amendment in late 2025 rendered the pathway invalid right before the business sought to submit their application.

Left without a viable option forward and facing total closure, the family made an urgent public appeal on social media seeking advice or professional guidance.

"Calling out to the community was the best decision we could have made," Tahlia Macri, daughter of owner John Macri said.

"We were on the verge of giving up and closing our doors, but then this blew up in a way we could have never expected, including loyal customers creating petitions, media attention, political assistance, and most importantly Michael Clare from Forge Planning reaching out and then offering to take on

our battle pro bono."

Mr Clare took over the planning process and helped the family secure the necessary approval to remain open.

"He found options for our shop that had no restrictions and no costs, that were perfect for us," she said.

"He was able to do in less than three months, what we struggled with for over two years."

The community movement produced widespread local advocacy, generating a customer-led petition with over 3800 signatures as of July 21.

"The love and loyalty from our customers have been the biggest driving force to not give up," she said.

"We are completely overwhelmed by the love we have received whether it was signing a petition, writing a letter of support, contacting political members and media to assist, speaking up for us, and even just shopping with us regularly.

"It obviously goes without saying Michael from Forge Planning deserves our greatest appreciation and thanks. We never thought this day would come, and it finally has thanks to him."

With the business now approved, the family hopes to focus on expanding operations and pursuing deferred site projects.

"We are just looking forward to now being able to operate at full capacity without restrictions and without the fear of suddenly having our doors closed on us," she said.

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EVENT



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\$6m boost for new Binar Middle Swan hub



Binar Futures founder Adam Desmond (back row third) and Midland MLA Steve Catania (back row fourth) with former and current Binar Futures players at the Middle Swan site. Picture: Guanhao Cheng. Right: Artist's impression of the new Binar Futures Community Hub entrance.



GUANHAO CHENG

BINAR Futures' new multi-use sporting and community hub has received a further \$6 million funding from the state government to provide a place for people in the area to gather, belong, learn and bond.

The funding brings the total investment in Binar Futures by the state government to \$18.5m.

As reported in *Binar's mission at a larger scale* (*Echo News*, January 17, 2025) the \$12.5m hub was planned for a parcel of state-owned land on the corner of Henkin and Clayton streets.

The Aboriginal-lead Binar Community Hub will now be built in Middle Swan, neighbouring the Speed Dome and Moorditj Noongar Community College.

It is aimed to provide a modern, multi-use facility for students and the wider community.

Binar Futures original team player Efrem Garlett-Watson was one of the participants in the first team put together by

founder Adam Desmond during Binar's beginnings.

Mr Garlett-Watson spoke to *Echo News* and said the opportunity was exciting.

"As one of the first original kids who never had anything in Midland, now having a building that we can really call home and run actual basketball carnivals and competitions for young ones coming up is a great opportunity," he said.

Fellow original team player Kenny Griggs said he agreed and having been there during its humble beginnings, he couldn't have imagined the impact Binar would make.

"Who would have thought that starting off from 11 boys we'd have a stadium to call ours?" he said.

"Obviously Western Australian Basketball League's (WABL) already here, and then on the horizon, hopefully NBL1 will be here soon, and I think it's just awesome.

"It's going to be creating pathways not just for Indigenous youth, but disadvantaged youth in general that would be coming through our program."

Along with the cultural and social empowerment impacts of the facility, Mr Desmond said the facility also filled a need for a major facility in the state that could host games for players attending from the regions.



Artist's impressions of the inside staircase and painted basketball court.

formed in Midland and having the new home base be in the area was significant too.

"To be able to have the Midland community and something that is of such a grand scale, it's going to create jobs and giving great opportunities for local people, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, is such a positive thing," he said.

"A lot of thinking has gone into the venue and the design and what's actually included in it (such as the Hall of Fame)."

The proposed facility features eight indoor multi-purpose wooden courts for basketball and netball, dormitory-style accommodation for regional and remote participants, a gymnasium, an integrated health and education facility and an Indigenous Hall of Fame.

According to the state government, Binar Futures' Indigenous Pathways Program engages more than 5000 Aboriginal and disengaged young people across metropolitan and regional Western Australia through basketball clinics, tournaments, leadership and skills development initiatives.

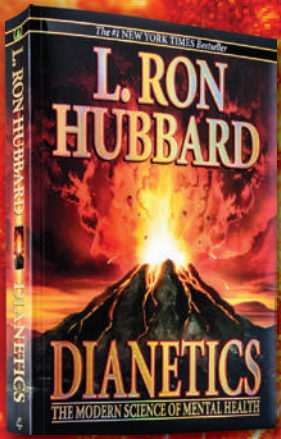
The program is part of Binar Futures' work in cultural education, youth leadership and community development, enabling the organisation to extend its impact across Midland, the Southwest, Goldfields, the Kimberley and Great Southern.

Midland MLA Steve Catania said Binar Futures do great work empowering young people and helping them stay connected to their culture and community.

"The Cook Labor government is proud to be supporting this new multi-use sporting and community hub, that will be an incredible local asset for the young people of Midland and beyond," he said.

"Facilities like these deliver long-lasting benefits for the community and will enable Binar to make an even greater impact on the lives of young Western Australians."

Can I improve my mental health?



Read Page 13



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"One of the big barriers for all people coming down from the regions is finding accommodation when there are sporting events or other things that they're involved with," he said.

"Having the dormitories here is going to take away a significant barrier and enable them to be able to engage in the activities here without the obstruction of not having anywhere to stay.

"For it all to be in-house as well will be really important because finding a place to stay when people from the regions come out to Perth is one of the big barriers."

Mr Desmond said the hub would solve logistical issues for Binar Futures too.

"We have very limited access to the facilities in Midland and only get a number of courts for a certain number of hours a week, whereas this will open it up," he said.

"We can run far more programs, far more sporting competitions, and enable the local clubs that now come under the Binar banner as affiliate clubs to grow as well.

"The importance of this hub is not just about Binar's needs, but the community's needs, and allowing them to grow too."

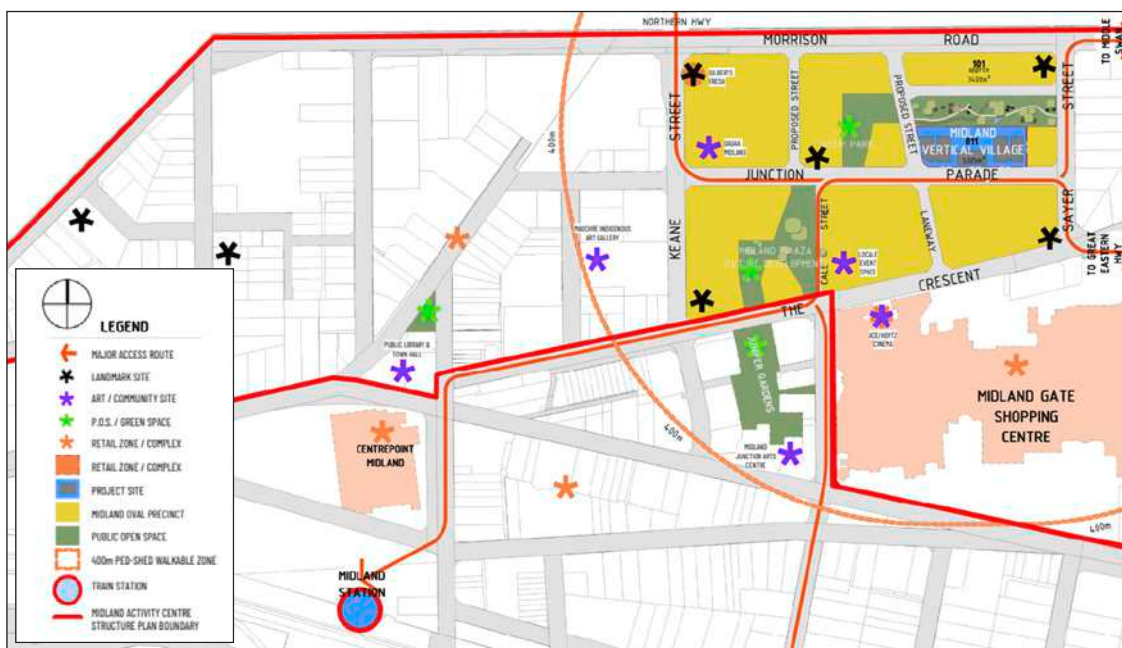
Mr Desmond said Binar Futures ran a health embassy alongside their tournaments in the regions and the metropolitan areas which provided help with a young person's health journey and any potential issues that could come up.

He said the new hub allowed a permanent facility dedicated to children's health, education and basketball along with pathways for students from Moorditj Noongar Community College.

"It'll fulfil a need for the community college," he said.

"They are currently primary school only and have a need for the kids to be able to have a pathway into high school."

Mr Desmond said the first team was



Midland vertical lifestyle village proposed layout. Picture: City of Swan

Midland's New Junction precinct hits road block

MIKE PEETERS

MIDLAND'S long-standing New Junction town centre precinct is making slow progress despite some recent upgrades, including roadworks on Grandstand Way and new utility and communications services on Morrison Road.

Plans for the precinct were first approved in 2018 for a series of high-quality parks, open spaces, community facilities and new living and business opportunities.

But with stage one of New Junction only just completed after eight years, there are questions about the precinct's long-term progress.

Stage one incorporates the eight-storey Catalyst apartment building, Junction Parade and upgrades to Midland's Weep Park.

Local real estate agent and Darlington resident Cambell Giles expressed concern about how long it is taking to complete the necessary roads and other infrastructure to support the new development.

"I am concerned about the lack of follow through regarding the road infrastructure which I believe is holding up commercial and residential development at New Junction," Mr Giles said.

"For example, while two roads to the north have been built for the development, there appears to be nothing similar completed to the south.

"How are developers supposed to have confidence in investing in the project in the future when the roads, footpaths and carparks they need are just not there?"

"When the Midland Railway Workshops' redevelopment was built there appeared to be no problem.

"If you build the roads they will come, but I am just not seeing that with New Junction at the moment."

To illustrate this, Mr Giles raised the issue of Verde Lane which is planned to link Junction Parade to The Crescent.

He said this was still incomplete more than two years after being put forward by the City of Swan.

Mr Giles also queried the promised Cale Street extension into the Midland Oval.

"That house and land was demolished and a car park resumed over 20 years ago for the extension into the oval but again very little appears to have been done," he said.

Stage two of New Junction is planned as a mixed-use urban precinct incorporating residential, commercial, retail, office and community uses rather than focusing on a single land use.

To complete this stage the City of Swan is working with several private stakeholders including Providence Lifestyle, who are considering the development of an 11-storey, over 55s 'vertical' lifestyle village with about 207 apartments on lot 811.

An 18-month option for the purchase of lot 811 opposite the current Catalyst building was approved by council in June 2025.

Providence Lifestyle managing director John Woods said while it was possible the lot could fall into the Providence portfolio it was a new innovation with a very different and more capital intense business model.

He said if it went ahead the project would be the first of its kind in Australia and developed under a new brand Xenium Vertical Living.

"I am doing this first vertical project outside of Providence to test the market and confirm that it is bankable," Mr Woods said.



3D view of Junction Parade entry.

"I will still be focused on building something really special for people without kids in their 50s, 60s and 70s.

"Xenium will be for people who would prefer to live in the heart of thriving places and be able to walk to every amenity."

He said his aim was to deliver the same experience and sense of belonging he had spent the last 25 years delivering into horizontal developments.

"As to whether it will progress and when – this will depend on the feedback I get from the market as to whether it hits the sweet spot for enough people.

"If it does I expect the entire project could be completed within three to three-and-a-half years."

When questioned about the height of the vertical village, City of Swan chief executive officer Stephen Cain said the adopted planning framework generally provided for buildings ranging from three to 10 storeys, with selected landmark sites accommodating greater height where appropriate.

"More broadly, the council-endorsed Midland Oval redevelopment precinct business plan, which underwent extensive public consultation, identifies long-term performance targets across the wider precinct of 750 to 1000 new dwellings, about 23,000sqm of retail floorspace, 12,200sqm of restaurant and hospitality space and about 75,000sqm of office accommodation.

In response to questions about the projected cost of stage two, Mr Cain said that like many major developments across Australia, construction and infrastructure costs had increased significantly since the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Industry estimates indicate increases of around 40 per cent across many civil and building construction activities," he said.

"Project costs continue to be reviewed and updated as works progress."

In terms of completion, Mr Cain said the city's current long term financial plan provided for the remaining major civil infrastructure works to be completed during the 2029/30 financial year, noting this program was reviewed annually by council as part of the budget process.

He said the timing of individual buildings would ultimately depend on the delivery schedules of the private developers.

Providence Lifestyle will hold a community engagement presentation on the vertical village proposal at Midland's Crooked Spire cafe in September.

For more information contact Providence Lifestyle at www.providencelifestyle.com.au/

European wasps - close of season



European wasps swarm a raw fish lure, carrying pieces straight back to their nests. Staff track this flight path to locate the nest.

The war against European wasps has been raging in the regions of WA.

The 2025-26 European wasp (*Vespula germanica*) surveillance season has wrapped up, with teams locating and destroying 73 nests across WA. More than half were found in regional areas, with surveillance spanning Geraldton, Hyden (Wave Rock), Bunbury, and the Albany region.

The Perth metropolitan area recorded 34 nests across 11 local government areas, with most clustered around industrial and commercial precincts. More than 2,800 surveillance traps were deployed to detect and delimit areas of activity.

Sixty traps were strategically deployed across Geraldton, with no nests detected. Geraldton remains a surveillance priority due to individual wasp detections and historical nest sites. In Bunbury, 100 traps were deployed and one nest located in Picton. A single nest was also found in Hyden (Wave Rock) following a public report. Both areas remain a priority area of concern.

The southern front remains active in the Albany region. Near the port, across Mira Mar, Mt Clarence and Yakamia, 15 nests were found and destroyed. Another 22 nests were eradicated in Napier, about 20 km north of Albany. More than 500 traps covered these areas. The Napier activity began in the 2023-24 season after a confirmed public sighting, and surveillance will continue next season with the same goal: detect, locate and eradicate every incursion.

Incursion pathways

European wasps are skilled hitchhikers. Fertilised queens can slip into the smallest gaps in pallets, freight, machinery, cars and caravans. Most nests appear in industrial precincts, but detections in port cities and tourist hotspots suggest queens are arriving in cargo or with interstate travellers towing caravans or equipment.

Look, report, adopt a trap!

Dedicated personnel, strong public reporting and detections from community 'Adopt-a-trap' participants are all helping in the fight against European wasps. With ongoing incursions from the eastern states and potentially overseas, we cannot drop our guard. Vigilance remains essential, particularly in port cities, industrial and commercial precincts, and tourist hotspots.

For more information about the eradication program, how to identify European wasps or how you can adopt and monitor your own surveillance trap, search online for '[DPIRD European wasps](https://www.dpir.wa.gov.au/pests-diseases/european-wasps)' or contact our Pest and Disease Information Service.



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2026 SWAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & CITY OF SWAN BUSINESS AWARDS

FINALISTS

Finalists announced for 2026 Swan Business Awards

THE Swan Chamber of Commerce has announced the finalists for the 2026 City of Swan Business Awards, recognising the outstanding businesses and individuals driving growth and innovation across Perth’s eastern region.

Now firmly established as the eastern region’s premier business awards program, the annual event celebrates excellence across a broad range of industries and categories, shining a spotlight on the people and businesses that help shape the local economy.

Swan Chamber of Commerce CEO Tom Smilovitus said the calibre of this year’s finalists reflected the strength and diversity of the local business community.

“Every year the standard of our finalists continues to rise, and 2026 is no exception. These businesses

represent the very best of what our region has to offer — innovation, resilience and genuine community spirit,” he said.

“The business awards are about more than recognition; they’re about connecting our business community and building the partnerships that will drive the eastern region forward. We congratulate every finalist and look forward to celebrating their achievements at the gala dinner.”

The finalists will be celebrated at a gala dinner on Saturday, July 25 at Sandalford Estate, where category winners

will be announced in front of the region’s business community.

Beyond the celebration, the awards play a significant role in fostering business connection and partnership across the City of Swan, bringing together operators, entrepreneurs and community leaders to recognise shared success and build relationships that support continued regional growth.

The Swan Chamber of Commerce congratulates all finalists on their achievement and looks forward to celebrating with them at the Gala Dinner later this month.

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2026 FINALISTS BY CATEGORY FINALIST SM EXCELLENCE AWARD IL EXPERIENCE AWARD LENCE IN ACCESS INCLUSION AWARD ESS OF THE YEAR AWARD R OF COMMERCE & CITY OF SWAN BUSINESS AWARDS   y relaxing ation. t it is today.   WELLNESS EXPERIENCES Reconnect. inspired	New Business Craft and Canvas; Wellness Unleashed; Scientific Body & Mind Transformations Australia; Arbor Urban; Oceania Film Company	Tourism Excellence Amaroo Retreat & Spa; The House of Honey & The Sticky Spoon Cafe; Motor Museum of Western Australia; Guildford Heritage Festival Council Inc	Hospitality Kellers Farm; Subzero Gelato in the Valley; Amaroo Retreat & Spa	Service Excellence Foothills Beauty; Robyn’s Creative Cakes; Snap Print Solutions Midland; Ultratune Ellenbrook; Step Flex WA; Wellness Unleashed; Oceania Film Company	Food or Beverage Production Robyn’s Creative Cakes; Keller’s Farm; Bully Butcher	Manufacturing SubZero Gelato in the Valley; Bonita Stone	Retail Experience Keller’s Farm; The House of Honey & The Sticky Spoon Cafe; IGA Ellenbrook; Macri’s Fruit Shed	Excellence in Marketing Manna Wellness; Oceania Film Company; Remi Aesthetics Pty Ltd; AES Equipment Solutions; Bully Butcher	Innovation and Creativity Bonita Stone; Robyn’s Creative Cakes; Arbor Carbon; Johnson Property Corporation	Environment and Sustainability Lockridge Community Garden; Arbor Urban Pty Ltd; Eco Fashion Week Australia; Arbor Carbon	Arts and Design Ellenbrook Cultural Foundation Inc; Craft and Canvas; Snap Print Solutions Midland; Oceania Film Company; Rebecca De Vries Photography	Health & Wellbeing Services Cosmedica Skin Midland; Remi Aesthetics Pty Ltd; Wellness Unleashed; Manna Wellness; Step Flex WA	Not For Profit Initiatives Award ROAR Inc; Midland Meals; Ellenbrook Cultural Foundation Inc	Community Spirit Award Lockridge Community Garden; Midland Meals; Gur Wirimalpa Dreamtime Warriors; Guildford Heritage Festival Council Inc; Motor Museum of Western Australia; Swan Suburbs Rugby Club	Excellence in Access and Inclusion Dome Ellenbrook; Ellenbrook Community Collective Inc; The House of Honey & The Sticky Spoon Cafe	Inclusive Employer Award Dome Ellenbrook; Malaga Print & Signs	Trade Services Award Ultratune Ellenbrook; Cullen Complete Services Pty Ltd; Precision Drilling Australia; Bully Butcher; Johnson Property Corporation; Ruff Road Communications	Transport Planning, Supply Chain and Logistics Water Supply Logistics Pty Ltd; SLW Transport Pty Ltd	Excellence in Training AES Equipment Solutions; Train & Retain	People’s Choice To be decided on the night	Apprentice/Trainee of the Year Patrick Noble; Genevieve Wallace-Neil; Jarrad Hill; Tayla Billingsley	Young Professional of the Year James Cullen; Tessa Johnson; AJ Jayalath	Employee of the Year Stacey Jackson; Cohen Edgill; Ingrid Boyle; Laughlan Mayne; Amber Lancaster; Aaron Meritt; Zarah Van Amerongen; Rardi Barber	Business Person of the Year AJ Jayalath; Leon Hansen; Corina Johnson; Ben Heptinstall	Business of the Year Arbor Carbon; Bully Butcher; The House of Honey and The Sticky Spoon Cafe; AES Equipment Solutions; Bonita Stone; Remi Aesthetics Pty Ltd
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ADVERTISING FEATURE



2026 SWAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & CITY OF SWAN BUSINESS AWARDS

FINALISTS

Foothills Beauty – Professional Beauty & Skin Treatments in Forrestfield

Foothills Beauty is your local destination for professional beauty and advanced skin treatments in a welcoming, private salon. With over 15 years of industry experience, owner Jasmin Harley is passionate about delivering personalised treatments that help clients look and feel their best.

Services include full body waxing, HIFU skin tightening, advanced skin treatments, skin needling, dermaplaning, lash lifts and tints, brow laminations, cosmetic tattooing, body contouring, teeth whitening and advanced body piercing. Every treatment is tailored to your individual goals, with a focus on natural-looking results and healthy skin.

Whether you're maintaining your beauty routine

or looking for advanced treatments closer to home, Foothills Beauty combines quality products, the latest technology and genuine care to provide exceptional results at affordable prices.

Conveniently located in Forrestfield, Foothills Beauty welcomes both new and existing clients. Experience professional treatments in a relaxed environment where your confidence and wellbeing are always the priority.



Treatment Menu

HIFU FACIAL

WAXING

FACIALS

LASH LIFTS

BROW LAMINATION

COSMETIC TATTOOING



FOOTHILLS BEAUTY FORRESTFIELD

Get in touch **0439 860 792**

Jasminharley@gmail.com | <https://www.foothillsbeauty.com>

18 DORCHESTER ROAD, FORRESTFIELD

House of Honey & Sticky Spoon finalist in four categories

THE House of Honey & Sticky Spoon is honoured to be recognised as a finalist in four categories at this Saturday night's Swan Chamber of Commerce and City of Swan 2026 Business Awards, to be held at Sandalford Winery.

Our nominations for Tourism Excellence, Retail Experience, Excellence in Access and Inclusion, and the prestigious Business of the Year reflect the passion, dedication and hard work of our entire team.

Since opening our doors, our vision has been to create a welcoming destination where visitors can experience the beauty of local honey, artisan products with a welcoming hospitality.

Being acknowledged across such diverse categories is a testament to our commitment to delivering memorable experiences while ensuring our

business is accessible and inclusive for everyone.

We are incredibly grateful to our loyal customers, local community, suppliers and supporters who have been part of our journey.

We look forward to celebrating alongside so many outstanding local businesses and wish all finalists the very best for what promises to be a wonderful evening.



Amaroo Retreat & Spa a finalist in two categories

Amaroo Retreat & Spa is proud to be named a finalist in the Tourism Excellence and Hospitality categories in the prestigious Swan Chamber of Commerce and City of Swan 2026 Business Awards, recognising excellence in business, innovation and community contribution across the region.

The nominations reflect an incredible year of growth, with Amaroo evolving beyond luxury accommodation into a destination centred on wellness, exceptional dining and meaningful experiences.

Recent initiatives include the launch of free community Women's Wellness Experiences, partnerships supporting local producers and tourism, and ongoing investment in sustainable and

Indigenous-led tourism.

Amaroo is honoured to showcase the Perth Hills while creating employment opportunities, supporting local organisations and welcoming visitors from across Australia and overseas.

"We're incredibly grateful to our dedicated team, loyal guests and local community who have supported our journey," owner Kirstin Westerman said.

"Being recognised alongside so many outstanding local businesses is a privilege, and we look forward to celebrating the achievements of all finalists at the upcoming awards evening," she said.



The Motor Museum of Western Australia

The Motor Museum of Western Australia is proud to be a finalist in the 2026 Swan Chamber of Commerce and City of Swan Business Awards in the Excellence in Tourism and Community Spirit categories. Located in Whiteman Park, just 30 minutes from Perth CBD, the museum offers an engaging experience for visitors of all ages.

Open daily from 10am to 4pm, the museum is home to more than 200 historic vehicles spanning the late 1800s to today. Highlights include Daniel Ricciardo's 2014 Red Bull RB10, the only Formula One race-winning car on permanent display in Australia. Knowledgeable volunteers enhance the experience, sharing stories and insights that bring the collection to life.

Visitors can also explore over 15,000 scale models, an extensive automotive library, and murals celebrating Western Australia's motoring heritage, making it an ideal stop when visiting the Swan Valley and surrounding attractions.

Plan your visit today.

Book online at motormuseumwa.com.au, gather family and friends, and experience a unique journey through motoring history. Group bookings welcome, phone (08) 9274 6060.



SEE DANIEL RICCIARDO'S 2014 RB10!

With over 200 vehicles and more than 15,000 scale models on display, the Motor Museum of Western Australia presents the most diverse motoring collection in Australia.



Open daily 10am – 4pm

Located in Whiteman Park

www.motormuseumwa.com.au

(08) 9249 9457

ECHO NEWS

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Advertisement

Trish Cook MP

Federal member for Bullwinkel



Caring for Community

Stay in touch!

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 trish.cook.mp@aph.gov.au
  trishcookmp
 Trish Cook MP

Authorised by T.Cook, Australian Labor Party (WA Branch), 2/14-16 Mead Street Kalamunda, Perth WA 6076

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Focus on Seniors




Supporting Our Seniors in Bullwinkel

I AM so grateful to my parents and their generation for all they have done to build our country. The Albanese Labor Government deeply respects older Australians, and we believe you deserve a secure, fulfilling retirement.

As your Federal Member for Bullwinkel, I am committed to delivering real support for our local community. To help ease cost-of-living pressures and ensure you receive the care you need, our Government has:

- **Raised the Age Pension** by over \$5,000 for full single pensioners.
- **Cheaper Medicines & Bulk Billing:** Expanded bulk billing and access to the Commonwealth Seniors Health Card.
- **Eased Rent Pressures:** Delivered the largest increase in Rent Assistance in over 30 years.

Here to Help
If you need assistance navigating federal services - like **Medicare, Centrelink, NDIS, ATO, Aged Care, passports, visas, or Veterans' Affairs** - please reach out to my office:
E: Trish.Cook.MP@aph.gov.au
P: (08) 7079 0480

Have Your Say: Seniors Forum
I will be hosting a Bullwinkel Seniors Forum to discuss local priorities, hear your ideas, and provide information about the support available through the Australian Government.

If you would like to attend, please scan the QR code to register your interest.



Senior Helpers for better home care

SENIOR Helpers are passionate about making a real difference in peoples' lives. Since 2011, they've helped connect thousands of Australians with compatible aged care and disability care, supporting clients in their wish to remain happy and healthy in their own homes.

As an international leader in professional home care services since 2002, they have been developing pioneering programs like our Senior Gems®, Parkinson's Care, and Multiple Sclerosis care programs.

Senior Helpers are also proud providers of services that are eligible for the Australian Government's Support At Home program.

Their mission is to ensure a better quality of life by providing dependable care and support.

As a trusted and respected organisation, they take a responsible role in supporting their clients, their families, their employees and the community.

Senior Helpers does this by focussing on the dependability of the service they provide as well as the continuity of their support workers.

The service provider is dedicated to providing compatible, compassionate in-home care that makes a real difference in people's lives, with a goal of supporting clients in their wish to remain happy and healthy, in their own homes.

Senior Helpers believe in putting people first, and above all we respect your decision to welcome us into your home.

They are located at 266 Kalamunda Road Maida Vale and for more information speak to your local Senior Helpers office on 0447 651 444, or visit <https://seniorhelpers.com.au/location/perth-central/>





HOME CARE, ONLY BETTER.

Now supporting seniors across Perth Hills and western suburbs.



Live LIFE

At Senior Helpers Perth Central, we provide **compassionate, personalised in-home care** that helps older Australians live safely, independently and with dignity in the comfort of their own homes.

Our experienced team delivers professional support tailored to each individual's needs, goals and lifestyle.

Whether it's a little extra help around the home or specialised care for complex health conditions, we're here to provide **trusted support** for you and your family.

OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Support at Home Services
- Personal & Companion Care
- Alzheimer's & Dementia Care
- Parkinson's Care
- Disability Support
- Multiple Sclerosis Support
- Respite Care
- Transition & Surgery Assistance
- Chronic Disease and End-of-Life Care.

WHY CHOOSE SENIOR HELPERS?

- Locally owned and operated
- Highly trained and qualified support workers
- Industry-leading dementia and Parkinson's care programs
- Flexible support tailored to your needs
- Compassionate, respectful & person-centred care.

CONTACT US TODAY

to discuss how we can support you and your loved one.

M: 0447 651 444
E: perthcentral@seniorhelpers.com.au W: seniorhelpers.com.au/perth-central



Focus on Seniors

Personalised & professional service at Foothills Denture Clinic

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

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

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

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

Special arrangements can be made for country clients to reduce the number of visits.



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

For a free quote call 9250 1733.

Connection Beyond Care at Dovidá

WHEN people think of home care, they often think of practical support.

At Dovidá, we know it's about so much more. Staying connected, maintaining independence and continuing to enjoy life's simple pleasures are just as important to a person's wellbeing.

Our activities are designed to bring people together, encourage new experiences and help clients continue living life their way. From morning teas and craft sessions to outings, games and seasonal celebrations, every activity provides an opportunity to build friendships, stay active and remain connected to the local community.

Many clients rediscover hobbies they once loved, while others embrace new skills they never thought they'd try. Just as importantly, they gain confidence, share experiences and create meaningful relationships with others who understand their journey.

Our Caregivers play a vital role in making these moments possible, providing encouragement, companionship and support every step of the way.

At Dovidá, we believe home care should empower lives, not simply assist with daily tasks. By creating opportunities for connection, purpose and belonging, we're helping older people across Perth remain engaged, independent and part of the communities they know and love. Everyone deserves to continue living life, their way.



SMILE

At Foothills Denture Clinic

New full dentures and partial dentures

New implant retained over dentures

Denture repairs and relines

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www.foothillsdenture.com.au

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HICAPS hbf medibank

Residential care is not the only option

With the right support, many older people around Perth are continuing to live safely and independently in the home they know and love.

Stay connected to treasured memories, beloved pets, familiar routines and the community that matters most to you.



- Local Caregivers
- Live-in & overnight care
- Personalised support at home

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17 Canning Road, **Kalamunda**
20 Bonner Drive, **Malaga**
49 Pinjarra Road, **Mandurah**
401 Great Eastern Hwy, **Redcliffe**
21 Cort Way, **Rockingham**



ADVERTISING FEATURE

Focus on Seniors

No frills, No fuss funerals @ Just Cremations

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

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

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

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

At Just Cremations, we wanted to build a quality brand, at a far more affordable price than was cur-



rently available.

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

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

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

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

Discover a New Lifestyle in Gingin

WITH the lack of new housing, those looking to downsize are moving more and more to the idea of taking advantage of the market and moving to a Lifestyle Village.

Usually, people will capitalise on a home they've spent years building equity in to move to a quieter lifestyle, perhaps in the country, where traffic is never a problem and there's plenty of room to breathe.

Gingin Eco Lifestyle Village is exactly that, with homes starting from \$425,000 that you own outright, with no stamp duty on the purchase and no exit fees if you decide to sell in the future.

The Village's outlook is quite different and is cutting edge when it comes to Green Energy, Water Use and Overall Design. Shire Rates, Water Rates, WiFi and power are all included in one low weekly fee.

From the developer, "We are committed to creating a friendly community with the best of country town living, 35 minutes the edge of Perth.



"Listening to what you say is important to us at Eco Lifestyle Villages and that's why we put you first. New homes have been recently completed and ready to move in now! Soon construction will be starting on the Clubhouse with a Gym and Pool."

You can also view all display homes by appointment on Wednesdays and Saturdays or a time to suit you by calling 0447 257 337.

Website: EcoLifestyleVillages.com.au

Facebook: facebook.com/ginginelv

LOOKING TO DOWNSIZE? TOP UP YOUR SUPER? TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE RED HOT PROPERTY MARKET AND SELL NOW!

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Clubhouse with Gym & Pool Commencing in 2026



eco
Lifestyle
Villages

- ✓ FULLY FENCED & LANDSCAPED
WITH WINDOW TREATMENTS
- ✓ LOW ONGOING OPERATING COSTS
- ✓ 5 GREAT VALUE HOME
DESIGNS ON DISPLAY



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EDGE OF PERTH**

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ARTS ENTERTAINMENT



Jeff Rose, Cain Munns, Robbie Corbet and Alan Rose of Gidge Rock will be playing at Gidgestock in October.

Gidge Rock releases new album

GUANHAO CHENG

GIDGEGANNUP band Gidge Rock has released their newest single Gidgestock Calling ahead of the Gidgestock music festival, hoping to raise funds for the festival's charities.

Gidge Rock is a band made up of musicians living in Gidgegannup and Toodyay.

Band vocalist and lead guitarist Alan Rose said he and his brother had played music in their childhood and the band was 50 years in the making.

"We formed the band in January last year, but the concept was 50 years in the making since me and my brother Jeff were kids in Newport, Wales," he said.

"Jeff has played in some massive bands in the UK, and we all pull our weight in the band but it's been really good having Jeff with us.

"He's recognised in the industry, having played in big bands like Dub War and Skindred, so that makes it easier for us to make connections and start the conversation."

After Alan travelled to Perth and built his own recording studio, he was joined by his brother Jeff and Gidge Rock grew from there with drummer Cain Munns and bass player Robbie Corbet joining too.

Alan said while the band respected artists who did covers, they were interested in releasing original music.

"There's a difference between playing in a pub with people talking over your songs and as an artist, you feel a bit like background music and I suppose that's what they're there for, but

there's a difference between that and writing original songs," he said.

"We've done the pub gigs and cover songs but I think we're more interested in Gidgestock and bringing out fresh music and our own originals.

"And it's going to a good cause, we've helped raise \$250,000 for the Royal Flying Doctors service before."

He said while Spotify was a good platform for exposure, for an up and coming band it paid next to nothing and revenue had to be found in other ways.

"Our solution was to use Bandcamp but that can be a bit of a platform not enough people know about.

"On there you can buy a track at a low price or you can pay however much you think it's worth.

"Funds earned on our Bandcamp will also go to the Gidgestock charities."

The band released their latest album Wabi Sabi in June, with CDs and vinyl copies produced, and held a live performance at the Midland Records.

The band's new rock single Gidgestock Calling is now available on Spotify and Bandcamp with proceeds to be donated to charities.

Gidgestock music festival will start on Friday, October 9 and run until Sunday, October 11.

Gidge Rock is scheduled to play at 2pm on Saturday, October 10.

Tickets and further information may be found at www.gidgestock.com.au

High Wycombe author to launch memoir

GUANHAO CHENG

HIGH Wycombe author and former midwife Susan Cudlipp is launching her memoir Beginnings, Endings and Everything in Between at High Wycombe Library at 10am on July 30.

Mrs Cudlipp said she has been a resident in High Wycombe for about 30 years and worked in several sites in and around Perth, including the Kalamunda Hospital.

"Parts of my story deal with my work experiences in this area," she said.

"I've had quite a lot of really good feedback from people who have read it so far, which is encouraging.

"A lot of the people who've read it so far are fellow midwives, or friends, or family, for whom it is much more pertinent, but people who don't fall into those categories also enjoyed it and found it quite interesting.

"The feedback is it makes people laugh, it makes people cry in places, and they found it quite interesting to read about my life."

Mrs Cudlipp said training to be a midwife in England in the '70s was very different to what the field was like now and she had always appreciated a retrospective look at her profession.

"I myself have got some very old books in my collection written by nurses and midwives who trained long before I was born and I find it fascinating to read about how things were for them," she said.

"Now I'm in the position where people in the field can read what it was like for my generation."

Mrs Cudlipp said that beyond the historical value of providing an insight into the life of a midwife from a previous generation, there were also moments that let other professionals know they weren't alone in their tough times.

"As a midwife, you're there at the most joyful times in families' lives but you're often also there at the saddest times and that goes for general nursing too," she said.

"Sickness and birth and death are part of everybody's exist-



First-time author Susan Cudlipp will launch her book at High Wycombe Library at the end of the month.

ence.

"There have been a few traumatic experiences professionally, and challenging times, and I've related one particular episode which was extremely painful.

"I thought long and hard about whether to include certain things.

"I included it because it could serve as an education or warning for others who might find themselves in similar situations."

Mrs Cudlipp hoped the book would encapsulate the fullness of life in its sad moments and its happy moments.

Interest in the book launch of Beginnings, Endings and Everything in Between may be registered through tinyurl.com/3eay4chy

The book will be self-published and copies may be obtained via contacting susancudlipp1@gmail.com

ENTERTAINMENT & GIG GUIDE

Your local Gig Guide

Fri July 24

Settlers House York
Lez Karski
From 5.30pm, Free
125 Avon Terrace, York

Hemingway & Co
Howie Morgan & Band
From 7pm, Free
6/7095 Great Eastern Hwy Mundaring

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

Woodbridge Hotel
Deadly Woodbines
From 8pm, Free
50 East St, Guildford

Parkerville Tavern
Matt Sofoulis
From 5.30pm, Free
6 Owen Road Parkerville

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Robert Hinton
6pm-9pm, Free
4260 Great Eastern Hwy Mahogany Creek

Sat July 25

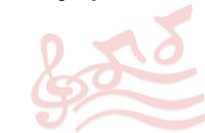
Hemingway & Co
Ben Bulla
From 7pm, Free
6/7095 Great Eastern Hwy Mundaring

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

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

Parkerville Tavern
Parties Kids Remember
From 1pm, Santa
From 2pm, Cush
From 5.30pm, Free
6 Owen Road Parkerville

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



Sun July 26

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

Parkerville Tavern
Grandstand Music
From 2pm, Free
6 Owen Road Parkerville

Chidlow Tavern
Carnaby Blue
12.30-3.30pm, Free
4 Thomas St Chidlow

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Sunday Session with Fenton
4pm-7pm, Free
4260 Great Eastern Hwy Mahogany Creek

Tues July 28

Parkerville Tavern
Next Generation Karaoke
From 6pm, Free
6 Owen Road Parkerville

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 July 29

Chidlow Tavern
Wednesday Night Jam Session
From 7pm, 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

Thu July 30

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
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Promote your event



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

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



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For Sale

Guildford Village Potters. Our retail space is now operating from the workshop at the back of 22 Meadow St Guildford. Open 10am-3pm weekdays, 10am-4pm weekends.

Employment



The Echo Newspaper is looking to fill the following position

JUNIOR - ADVERTISING SALESPERSON

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We are a small, privately owned and independent newspaper looking for an energetic and vibrant person to join our team.

The successful applicant will have:

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

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

Please email your resume with a cover letter to:
General Manager / Editor Peter Lewis
E: peter.lewis@echo-news.com
All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence.

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

Rose Pruning, many years experience, all areas, free quotes. Call 0416 855 335.

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



Gutter Cleaning

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

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Solar Services

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Window Cleaning

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

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION FOR DE-WATERING WORKS ON MALVERN STREET

Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914

The City of Swan has made an application for a licence under s5C to take 340,000 kilolitres from the Swan, Swan Valley, Perth - Superficial Swan for dewatering purposes to support drainage and the lowering of groundwater levels on Malvern Street, West Swan.

People who are interested in the application, may make a written submission within 15 days of this publication to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, 7 Ellam Street, Victoria Park, Western Australia, 6100, quoting DWERT22853. If you object to the proposal, you must in your submission specify what actions, if any, would overcome your objections.

General enquiries to Ellam reception on 6250 8000.

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

CITY OF SWAN

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST SOUGHT DESIGN REVIEW PANEL

The City of Swan is seeking expressions of interest from suitably qualified design professionals to join the City's Design Review Panel and provide advice and recommendations on the design and site planning of certain planning proposals.

We are seeking additional three specialists to form the 10 specialists Design Review Panel which, in an advisory capacity, will play a pivotal role in improving the design quality and functionality within the City of Swan. Membership is for a two-year period, although the Executive Director Planning and Development may recommend to Council to reappoint any member and members can serve more than one term.

A minimum of four panel members will be drawn on to review each item, providing the City with a range of expert advice on architecture, urban design, landscape architecture, sustainability, and other design aspects of proposals.

Prior to making a submission, applicants are encouraged to view the City's Design Review Local Planning Policy, which sets out the operations of the City's Design Review Panel and the terms of reference.

Panel members are expected to meet approximately 30-40 times a year and will be remunerated at an hourly rate set by Council. The **current remuneration fees** are subject to review. The City Design Review Panel meetings are held on Tuesday afternoons between 1pm-4pm.

Eligibility of membership is assessed on the following selection criteria:

- Demonstrated knowledge of the composition, character, heritage and desired built form from the City of Swan.
- Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the State's Planning Framework, relevant local government policies, development controls and design issues in the local area.
- Demonstrated high level of expertise and knowledge in their particular field of architecture, urban design, landscape architecture, town planning, sustainability and heritage relevant to the City. Other disciplines may include planning, transport, public art, accessibility or civil and structural engineering.
- The heritage expert member on the panel shall have local knowledge and experience of heritage of the City of Swan in particular the Midland, Swan Valley and Guildford localities and academic qualifications relevant to heritage to include at least one of the following particular fields of history, art history, archaeology, conservation science, heritage botany and horticulture and aboriginal studies.
- Direct experience in design review panel process.
- Experience in attending or assisting with State Administrative Tribunal proceedings.
- Demonstrated ability to provide high level of written, verbal and interpersonal communication skills to ensure that advice provided to proponents is clear and concise.
- Current registration with their relevant professional body is desirable. Where relevant, it is desirable that the applicant is eligible for registration with an appropriate professional body or organisation in Western Australian and/or holds good standing with the relevant professional body.
- Ability to work in a multi-disciplinary team.

Full details, including the Selection Criteria that must be addressed, information on the City's Design Review Policy can be viewed via the link below:

Design Review Local Planning Policy - [https://www.swan.wa.gov.au/awcontent/Web/Documents/Policies/POL-LP-1-13-Design-Review-\(1\).pdf](https://www.swan.wa.gov.au/awcontent/Web/Documents/Policies/POL-LP-1-13-Design-Review-(1).pdf)

An expression of interest can be submitted by sending a resume, covering letter responding to the selection criteria, and copies of relevant qualifications and certificates of currency to planning@swan.wa.gov.au, attention Rebecca Lodge - Coordinator Planning Process.

Expressions of interest close at 5.00pm (WST) on August 7th, 2026.

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

Public Notice

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO DA-399/2016 BULLSBROOK NORTH QUARRY LOT 5 (NO.91) WALYUNGA ROAD, BULLSBROOK

The City of Swan has received a proposal for the above land. Any interested persons are invited to view the documentation at the City of Swan Administration Centre, 2 Midland Square, MIDLAND between the hours of 8:00am and 5:00pm Monday to Friday or on the City's website: <https://swanengage.swan.wa.gov.au/proposed-development-applications>

Should you wish to comment on this proposal you may do so via the Online Feedback Form available on the City's website on or before **7 August 2026**.

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

RFT 06.2627 - SERVER INFRASTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT TENDER DEADLINE 12.00 NOON, WEDNESDAY 19 AUGUST 2026

Shire of Mundaring is seeking a proposed solution to replace its current server, storage and networking infrastructure. The solution should take advantage of a private fibre link between the Shire's Administration building server room and the server room at the Shire's Operations depot to share active-active workloads across both sites while having full site fail-over redundancy capability.

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

Further information regarding assistance with retrieving the Tender documents or using the portal to lodge Tenders can be obtained from Andrea Douglas - (08) 9290 6666 during office hours. All other enquiries must be lodged through the Tenderlink portal.

Tender submissions not received by the Tender deadline will not be accepted.

Canvassing of Council Members or Shire Officers will automatically disqualify the tender.

Jason Whiteaker
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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ECHO Notice Board Upcoming Events

- **Kalamunda Youth Swing Band** gives young musicians the opportunity to rehearse and play in a band. Rehearsals are Monday afternoon during school term. For more information call musical director Leah on 0432 973 395.
 - **The Ellenbrook Friendship Group** meets each Wednesday at the Community Centre, 27 Maffina Parade, Ellenbrook from 1pm to 4pm. All welcome to make new friends or just have a chat. Enjoy indoor bowls, afternoon tea and the occasional outing. For more information call Sheila on 0402 973 307.
 - **The Swan Woodturners Association of WA** meets every Tuesday at 1pm for a 1.30pm start at the Caversham Memorial Hall, 7847 West Swan Road, Caversham for men and women of all ages interested in learning the art of woodturning. Woodturning demonstrations are undertaken each week with demonstrations also displayed on large TV screens. Competitions are held for those members eager to improve their skill level. For more visit woodturner swa.org.au and then go to Swan Woodturners Group or contact the convenor on 0476 178 002.
 - **The Gidgegannup Men's Shed** at Ian Stannard Pavilion, Gidgegannup Showgrounds, 2171 Toodyay Road, Gidgegannup is a community-based Men's Shed providing opportunities for men and women to work on projects of their own, join in shed activities and tasks, or just share time, recreation and fellowship with other members. For more information email president@gidgegannupmensshed.org.au or visit gidgegannupmensshed.org.au
 - **Really Really Free Market** will be held at the Mechanics Hall, 20 Meadow Street in Guildford on Sunday, August 16 from 9am to 10am. Bring your unwanted items to give away, and take what you need or want. You do not need to bring an item to participate, everyone is welcome. For more information visit Transition Town Guildford's Facebook page.
 - **Talkie Tea Time** will be held at Midland Ascension Hall on Saturday, July 25 from 2.30pm to 4.30pm. The speaker will be Reverend Peregrin Campbell-Osgood who will explore how we mark changing seasons within our cultures, and the origins of popular celebrations. For more information and to RSVP text 0414 386 398, or email frances.cairwin2@inet.au
- 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



Bingo is a red cloud kelpie who is good with kids and cats. He has been trained as a sheepdog but is mainly a pet. Bingo's previous owner unfortunately can't keep him due to work commitments. He is sterilised, vaccinated, and micro-chipped. Costs apply. Contact Bakers Hill Dog Sanctuary on 9574 1438.

Read between the lines

By Pastor Ian Kirk
Harm's Way!



Our youngest daughter and her family are doing the "Big Aussie Lap". They have been enjoying north Queensland recently, seeing spectacular waterfalls and tropical rainforests of the Daintree, as well as exploring the splendour of the Great Barrier reef and tropical islands.

They also went to Hartley's Crocodile park. We recommended they go there to see big crocs, as well as to see other wildlife that inhabits north Queensland.

They saw keepers feeding big crocs, almost by hand, and jumping crocs. But the showstopper is "Croc attack". This is when a keeper goes into the pen of a big croc, which is laying deep in a pool of water. The keeper then stirs it up, while he stands in ankle deep water near the edge of the pool. Then suddenly, this big croc lunges at him. It's "edge of your seat" stuff!

No harm ever comes to the keeper, for he's able to read the croc's movements and keep out of harm's way. As I thought of this, it made me think of life and how we sometimes don't keep out of harm's way. For all of us, there have been times when we have made bad decisions, committed sin, that damages us and those around us.

I'm thankful for forgiveness through God's Son Jesus, and for His Spirit who heals us, and helps us make right choices to keep out of "harm's way". From the title of a wonderful hymn: "What a friend we have in Jesus".

ECHO Sports

9374 6666
editorial@echo-news.com

Cougars win against Lions in showdown



Chidlow Cougars won their match against the Lions concluding a competitive round 13 game.

BRIAN PALLISTER

THE Chidlow Cougars were up against the Mt Helena Lions at Elsie Austin oval for their round 13 clash.

Neither side was able to have much impact on the scoreboard with the Lions scoring the only first quarter goal.

The ball moved back and forth between the two backlines. Chidlow Cougar Tim Huntley worked in tandem with Luke Elliott, repelling most of Mt Helena's forward entries.

While at the other end Lion Marshall Hearne was taking some timely defensive marks as teammate Brendan Agnew mopped up the loose ball, clearing it back over the centre with his run and carry.

The Cougars hit the ground running to start the second quarter with five unanswered goals in the first 10 minutes.

The loss of Lions player Cooper Parker to what appeared to be a serious arm injury helped to unbalance the team's midfield.

Cougar Luke Elliott's move forward paid almost immediate dividends as he impacted the scoreboard with his first of five goals for the game.

Teammate Shane Fitzgerald came on for a run in the forward line almost immediately scoring a goal while Kaden Bonsack added another.

The Lions eventually broke through for a goal to Jess Cartwright.

The Cougars countered with another two goals for the quarter with the Lions having difficulty slowing down Steven Schorer's run away from the centre ruck contests, which was providing a constant supply for his forwards.

At the main break the Cougars had swung the momentum in their favour, opening up a 27-point lead.

The third quarter played out as an arm wrestle.

Chidlow players Reece Forbes and Lukaz Dymek started to collect possessions.

Mt Helena's Chase Brydson, Daniel Bulla and Bo Read ran hard to open up the play for the Lions and create opportunities for their forwards.

The Cougars had slightly extended their lead by five points.

The last quarter was another hard fought and even affair with both teams scoring five goals each.

Jess Cartwright continued his strong season down forward with his sixth goal for the game.

In the end the second quarter goal, run on by Chidlow proved almost the difference.

Mt Helena's coach would be pleased with three of their quarters, although come finals they will be looking for a more consistent four quarters.

The game can easily slip away in 10 minutes.

In the end, Chidlow defeated Mt Helena with a final score of 16.11(107) against 11.6(72).

ECHO Local Real Estate

**Residential
Commercial
Rural & Country**

Middle Swan family home offers comfort



TUCKED away in a quiet cul-de-sac, this inviting family home offers comfort, space and a lifestyle the whole family can enjoy.

This house sits on a 645sqm block and features three bedrooms along with a renovated kitchen and laundry.

The front features a spacious driveway and a lawn with a mature tree, adding to the family atmosphere and natural appeal of the home.

Outdoors, there is plenty of room for children to play and pets to roam, with a spacious patio area, freestanding pergola and an open block providing excellent everyday appeal.

The living areas are practical and welcoming, with a separate lounge and a meals and family area that flows through to generous outdoor entertaining spaces.

The home opens up to the lounge area as visitors enter the front door, and the open plan kitchen and dining area are positioned just beyond that.

The lounge area is carpeted with ample

lighting and enough room for several sofas, a coffee table and for a television to be positioned along the wall and retain comfortable walking space.

For the cooler months, the slow combustion stove in the corner of the dining room provides warmth and convenience while air conditioning provides year-round comfort.

The main bedroom features a ceiling fan and a carpeted floor while enjoying a direct connection to the bathroom for ease and convenience.

The spacious backyard provides plenty of space for growing families.

Fully fenced, with a mixture of brick floors and backyard lawn, this area could be made into a garden or a play space for children.

The shed provides utility for storage with plenty of backyard space to manoeuvre and store anything that spills out and requires the extra capacity.

Set in a cul-de-sac street, prospective buyers can enjoy reduced traffic and a quieter setting, while still being close to



Midland CBD and a wide range of local sporting and recreation facilities, including swimming, baseball, football, cycling, bowls, tennis, basketball and more.

**Address: 19 Sprint Close
Middle Swan
Price: From \$749,000
Agency:**

**Real Estate Plus
For more information contact
Milton Rendell on 9274 5000**

I Remember When...

Do you remember, as a kid, when winter sports were always wet?

It was funny watching the AFL the other night and listening to the commentators talk about the difficult conditions. I couldn't help but think, they never played footy on the old Guildford Rec near the river, or at Pauly Park in Midvale. And Midland Oval, with the cricket pitch in the middle, was pure mud. If you tried to bounce the ball, it would just stick. There was nothing quite like getting a face full of that stinking mud when you dived on the ball.

The local netball girls had it just as tough, playing on Marshall Park when it was either a mud pit or completely flooded. It would take a couple of washes just to get the mud and muck out of your jumpers.

We also didn't have the fancy guernseys they wear today. They're lightweight and don't hold water. Ours were wool and, once they got wet, they felt as heavy as bricks. At Guildford Football Club we even had long sleeves. Whoever thought that was a clever idea must have been a sadist!

At every break, you'd all huddle together just trying to keep warm, surviving on a small slice of orange that one of the parents had brought down to share. The coach would be rugged up under an umbrella, while parents sat along the boundary with their thermos flasks, trying to stay warm. In netball, the

poor old scorers would be sitting on a bench trying to write on a soaking wet scorecard with a pen or pencil. No doubt the other local sports were much the same.

Some of our local grounds were pretty testing at times, but that was all part of the fun for most of us. There were no hot showers after the game. You'd simply jump on your bike and ride home in the rain.

Sadly, in the middle of winter, the team managers had a hell of a job getting all the jumpers clean and dry for the following week. It was a tough role. They got all the horrible jobs and sometimes even had to be the runner for the team in pouring rain.

Yet, despite the cold and the wet, we loved it. Some of us couldn't wait to dive for marks into the puddles. I know I did. It also helped slow the fast kids down so you had a chance of catching them!

Mind you, I don't remember seeing too many handballs on a wet day. Most players struggled just to kick the ball because it became so heavy once it was soaked.

I miss those footy days. Looking back, I reckon they were some of the best days of our childhood.



Milton Rendell – CEO
Real Estate Plus Group

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