

Nannas call for native forest protection

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Mundaring sculptures stolen

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Swan backs data centre policy push

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CITY of SWAN
Administration Centre



One of the BoorYul-Bah-Bilya rangers. Picture: Emily Wilson Photography

Seasonal wetland along Mandoon Bilya in Midland. Picture: Francesca Flynn

Boost for river restoration

Helena River is being restored in a major project aiming to mark the Perth bicentenary with a legacy of environmental and cultural healing. **P4**

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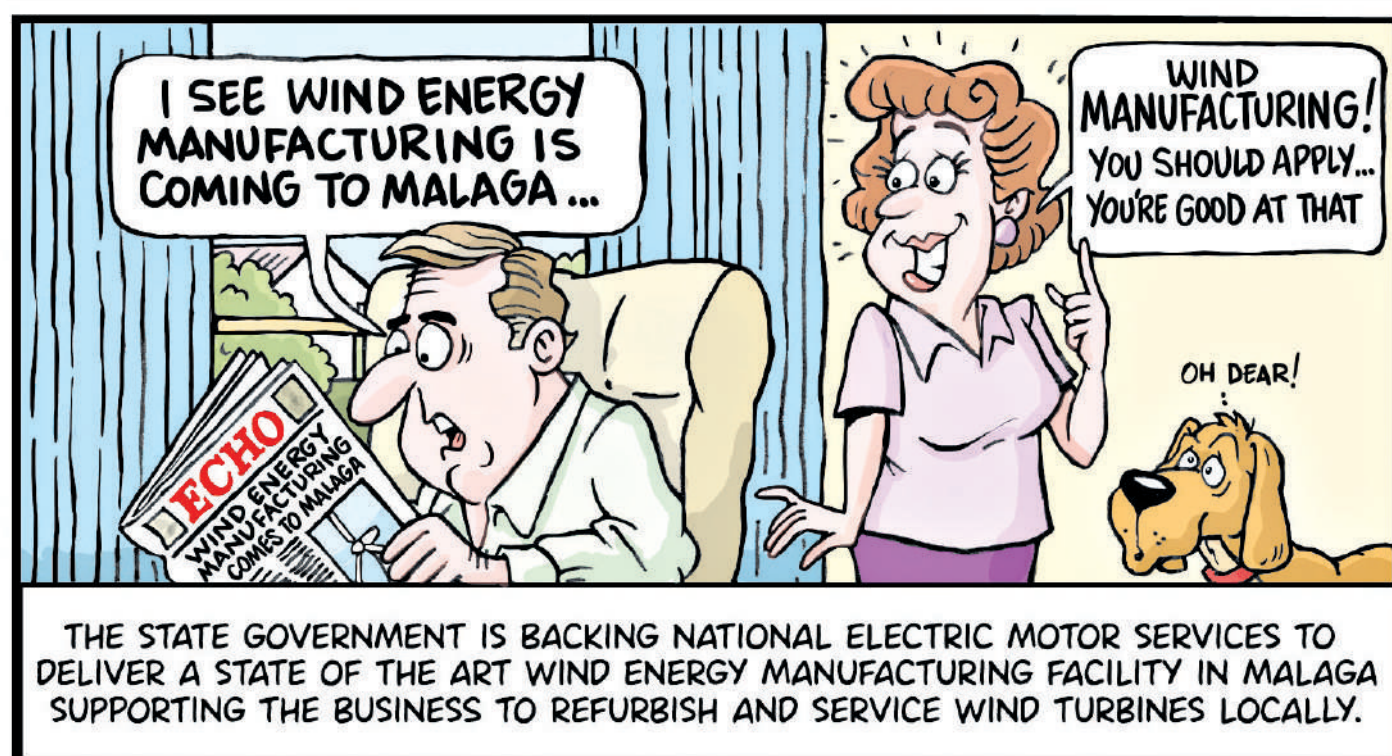
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ECHO YOUR THOUGHTS

Have your say:
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Appetite lost over fast food

Dear Echo News,
Seeing the 'McDonald's coming soon' signs in Kalamunda town centre is making me anything but McHungry.

The state planning system is failing us again and again; significant local community opposition, warnings from the Cancer Council and countless studies showing the linkage between fast food consumption and chronic disease are being disregarded in favour of development.

Recent approvals in Kalamunda, Cockburn and Kwinana mirror similar levels of vehem-

ent community rejection – yet all three fast food developments are proceeding.

Whilst on face value the planning system provides opportunity for input from both community and health professionals, in practice these are rarely given a look-in when it comes to final planning outcomes.

Political courage is needed to overhaul our planning framework, to halt this damaging trend allowing the interests of multinational, fast food corporations from being given precedence over the long-term health of our communities.

**H Lill
Kalamunda**

Thought for the day

"Wisdom comes from experience. Experience is often a result of lack of wisdom."
- Terry Pratchett

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Don't let gift cards become a scammer's payday

With Commissioner for Consumer Protection Trish Blake

MOST of us have picked up a gift card at some point.

Unfortunately, scammers are increasingly using gift cards to steal money, and older Western Australians are among those being hit the hardest.

One of the biggest concerns is romance scams. These fraudsters can spend weeks or even months building trust and developing what feels like a genuine relationship before asking victims for financial help.

Others take a different approach, pretending to be from a government agency, a business or even a CEO or manager from your workplace.

Stores have been encouraged to

display warning signs and train staff to be aware and speak with customers who are buying large numbers of gift cards.

Don't assume a person you are dealing with on the phone or online is who they say they are. They can even make calls appear as though they're coming from an Australian phone number.

It's important to know that no legitimate employer, business or government agency will ask for payments using gift cards. Treat any unexpected request for gift cards, whether it comes from a supposed boss, family member or online partner, with caution until it can be verified in person.

From the net...

Echo News social media comments

In response to Tree clearing prompts Kalamunda planning review

Council don't seem to be able to get this clear, from the over-reaching tree policy that saw them take lots of rate payers to court, to this where even when we really try to keep the trees, we still get rid of them.

Just one important note, delegated authority does not mean delegated responsibility so the council is obliged to understand, also you would have thought these decisions would be documented somehow.

X Porter

In response to Swan ward boundary review moves forward

Support appropriate representation for the growing Whiteman area, but don't achieve it by reducing Midland/Guildford's voice.

Give the community an option that retains three councillors for Midland/Guildford while planning appropriately

for Whiteman's future population growth. Talking a 33.3 per cent reduction.

B Kelly

In response to New FOGO rules create a stink

All households should be given the normal 240 litre bins, and it needs to be collected weekly not fortnightly especially in warmer months.

I never understood why they decreased the size of the red bin as well as fortnightly collection.

R Sokil

A genuine question why have the changes come into place?

If it was ok at the commencement what is the government's reason for the new changes. No reason was given for people to have an understanding of the new changes.

C Lucas

In response to Kalamunda facilities spared demolition

I saw something from the council saying that only three people have used the skate park in

three months.

I'm not sure what time the council person went to check each day but obviously not outside of school time. I drive past the old skate park every single day and every single day there are kids/adults enjoying the area.

Keep the old skate park!!

As cool as the new skate park is there is no half pipe there, just look at the Bayswater half pipe and the people it has brought to the community, City of Kalamunda should have done something similar or better.

D Collins

There are some great sections of the new park and some really poor decisions made, that half pipe should have been incorporated into the new park or something similar made.

M Loring

Then they wonder why kids are riding electric bikes and scooters on the road, stop taking away places for them to ride and have fun. That's why we were riding motorbikes around, but they still don't get it.

N Atkinson

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

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Swan backs data centre policy push

GUANHAO CHENG

CITY of Swan councillors have unanimously backed a motion calling for a local planning policy to guide future data centre applications.

Midland-Guildford ward councillor Sarah Howlett moved the notice of motion at the September 9 ordinary council meeting, asking the city's chief executive to prepare a draft local planning policy for data centre development applications within Swan.

The motion follows the withdrawal of the proposed Hazelmere data centre earlier this year, which drew strong community opposition as reported in *Swan rally opposes Hazelmere data centre* (Echo News, April 24).

Cr Howlett said data centres were becoming a major part of Australia's digital infrastructure, with WA well placed to attract future investment.

"However, the scale of this investment boom is unprecedented," she said.

"With growth of this scale comes a responsibility to put sensible guardrails in place now so we protect existing communities from incompatible land uses and ensure the long-term interests of the City of Swan are not compromised."

The motion asks for a draft policy to address location, siting, scale and built form, with regard to potential impacts on surrounding land uses and the broader environment.

It also calls for consideration of noise impacts, mechanical plant and cooling systems, emergency and standby generators, generator testing and maintenance, acoustically treated plant rooms, low-frequency noise and cumulative noise impacts where multiple data centres are proposed in the same locality.

Other matters listed include light spill, exhaust heat, emissions and heat rejection, cultural heritage, flora and fauna, ecological values, fuel storage, refuelling frequency, fuel odour mitigation, buffers from residential areas, waterways and sensitive land uses, and end-of-use planning.

Cr Howlett said Swan should take a proactive approach in the absence of clear state government guidance.



The City of Swan council passed a motion to draft a data centre local planning policy. Inset: Midland-Guildford ward councillor Sarah Howlett.

CITY of SWAN
Administration Centre

ance.

"A local planning policy for data centre development will provide certainty for residents, industry and investors alike, while ensuring future data centre applications meet appropriate planning criteria and minimise environmental, infrastructure and amenity impacts," she said.

"This motion is not about stopping investment. It is about ensuring investment occurs in the right places, under the right conditions and with the best interests of the City of Swan."

Other Perth councils are also grappling with how data centres should be assessed. The City of Stirling rejected a push in August to investigate a city-wide ban, while the City of Gosnells is preparing a proposed

data centre policy for community consultation later this year.

Whiteman ward councillor Hayden Miles raised a possible amendment asking the chief executive to consider federal and state government guidelines for data centres and AI infrastructure while drafting the policy.

Cr Howlett said she would not accept the amendment, saying the motion had been circulated for about two weeks so councillors could provide feedback before the meeting.

Cr Miles later withdrew the amendment.

Cr Howlett's motion was carried unanimously.

The draft policy will return to council for consideration before public advertising and again before adoption.

Bassendean fire station sale despite community hub push

CAMILA EGUSQUIZA SANTA CRUZ

THE former Bassendean fire station in Parker Street has been listed for sale, despite the Town of Bassendean's efforts to acquire it to turn it into a community hub.

In February 2025, Mayor Kathryn Hamilton moved a motion to request the state government to gift or sell the fire station for a nominal fee, which passed unanimously.

The motion stated that the site had been left vacant and disused since 2013, with cracks, water damage and mould sighted throughout the building.

A Town of Bassendean spokesperson said the town then entered a 12-month engagement with the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) to understand the site's level of contamination and potential remediation costs.

The spokesperson also said the town had only recently become aware of the sale and was disappointed by the lack of consultation involving this decision.

"The current public disposal process does not adequately account for the site's broader strategic considerations, including its potential for community use and benefit, the need to facilitate active development rather than land banking, and the opportunity for the site to contribute meaningfully to transit-oriented development objectives," they said.

The station is considered significant for its architecture as it represents two major periods in the history of the Western Australian fire service: the intense post-Depression building program of 1934-38 when the station was first built, and the restructuring of Metropolitan fire services in the 1950s when the building was altered to accommodate staff.

In 2018, the station was added to the state's heritage list.

Long time Bassendean resident and heritage advocate Gerry Coleman said he was disappointed to learn the site had not been acquired by the town.

"It's unknown what's going to happen with it now, and unfortunately, it feels like our history is slowly being eroded," he said.

"The station has been there for such a long time and it's part of our community. I am afraid some-



The Bassendean former fire station at 10-14 Parker Street. Picture: Camila Egusquiza Santa Cruz

body could buy it and use it for commercial purpose. It should be brought back to its former glory."

A DFES spokesperson said all parties interested in the old Bassendean fire station site have been advised DFES has the responsibility under the Fire and Emergency Services Act 1998 to realise a market value return for the sale of any property.

"DFES has since advertised the property to the open market. Surplus funds from the sale of the Bassendean site will be allocated to other capital works projects to enhance community safety in Western Australia," they said.

However, despite the town's disappointment, Mayor Kathryn Hamilton acknowledged that the sale of the site is a step in the right direction for future redevelopment.

"While Council remains hopeful of exploring alternative pathways that enable a stronger community outcome, we are encouraged that the State Government has begun taking steps toward the site's future redevelopment," she said.

"For many years, our community has expressed concern about the ongoing vacancy and deterioration of this historic building. We want to see a future that respects the building's heritage significance, while delivering meaningful benefits for the community."

The town said it would continue to monitor the sale process and was considering whether to make its own market offer for the site.



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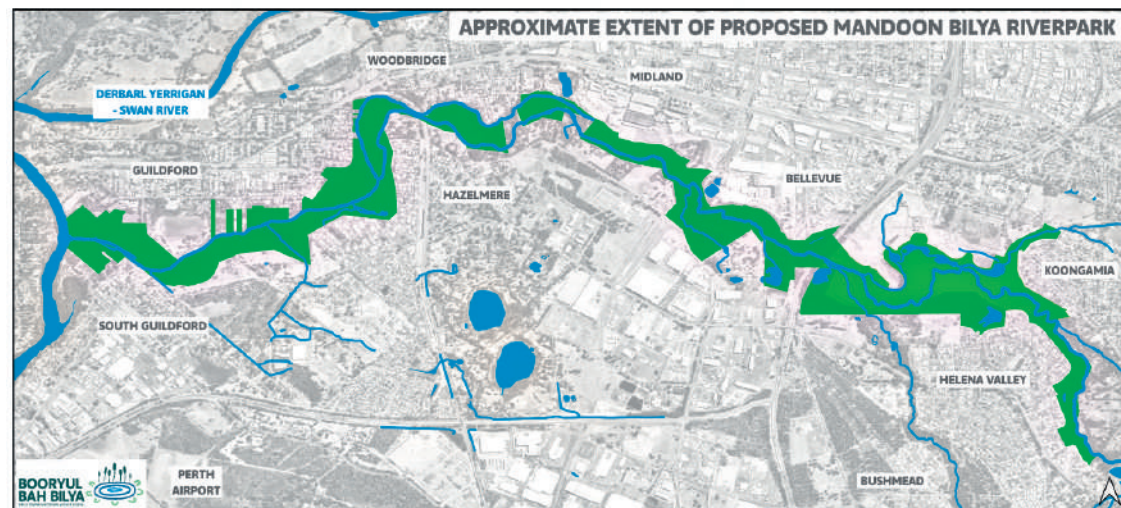
Perth Airport's Community Boost program is now open for applications, offering grants of up to \$2,000 to local charities, clubs and not-for-profit groups.

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Perth Airport

Boost for bicentenary Helena River restoration project



BoorYul-Bah-Bilya rangers are restoring the Helena River as part of the major project. Picture: Bibbul Ngarma Aboriginal Association

GUANHAO CHENG

THE Helena River is being restored in a major Bibbul Ngarma Aboriginal Association (BNAA) project marking 200 years since the establishment of the Swan River colony.

The Mandoon Bilya Riverpark project has secured a \$550,000 Lotterywest grant to help transform 10km of the Mandoon Bilya (Helena River) into a thriving community, cultural and environmental asset.

The grant will support development of a comprehensive masterplan, foreshore management plan and business case, providing a clear roadmap for restoration, revitalisation and long-term investment in the riverpark.

The restoration forms part of the Riverpark initiative that also aims to put environmental custodianship back in the hands of Noongar Traditional Owners.

The initiative equips young Indigenous rangers with the training, knowledge and network to restore culturally significant sites such as the Helena River and maintain its health.

Led by Noongar Traditional Owners and scientists, and supported by local communities, schools, businesses, community groups and government agencies, the project aims to deliver lasting environmental, cultural, social and economic benefits while creating new opportunities for people to connect with the river.

BNAA chair and Noongar Elder Walter McGuire said Country is not just a place, but it is also Moort (family) and the major project aims to revive a spiritual connection to the land while fostering mutu-

al care and respect in the community going forward. "This environment is our family (and) we are part of it and it is part of us," he said.

"BoorYul-Bah-Bilya is reconnecting the magical essence that this land has for all peoples.

"BNAA has story, song, heart, spirit, soul... we speak, we stand, for this environment.

"If you got story, heart, spirit, soul, then speak yourself for the old, the now and the future. Stand for it."

The planning builds on restoration work already underway through BNAA's BoorYul-Bah-Bilya (BBB) rangers, Perth's first dedicated Aboriginal ranger team.

As reported in *Extinct fish found in Helena River* (Echo News, May 29) BNAA's major riverpark project is helping uncover returning species and contributing to departmental knowledge while fostering Indigenous community-led land care.

Working alongside Swan and Perth Hills community volunteers, schools and partner organisations, the rangers are improving the health of the river corridor through weed management, revegetation and trail creation.

The riverpark is expected to restore more than 265ha of degraded foreshore, improve biodiversity, habitat connectivity and water quality and expand tree canopy.

The project also targets the strengthening of culture and heritage, increasing recreation opportunities, active transport connections and community wellbeing alongside their push for new education, tourism and employment opportunities.

Cont. p18

Caversham poet off to Abu Dhabi

PETER W LEWIS

CAVERSHAM's award-winning bilingual Sudanese-Australian writer, poet, playwright and dramaturg Afeif Ismail has been invited to attend the Abu Dhabi International Book Fair in the United Arab Emirates later this month.

He will be promoting his new book published in Arabic, Afeif Ismail, Al-Amal al shiaaria alkamila, or Afeif Ismail: The Complete Poetry Collection.

This collection consists of seven poetry books published in Sudan and Egypt between 2001 to 2025, titled, Traps and some Tracks, Bet of the Argil, A Passage to the Aroma of Invisibility, It's your Bird, There! Where the Storm sleeps without Cover, What we Learned from the Wings, and The River is Another Name for Her.

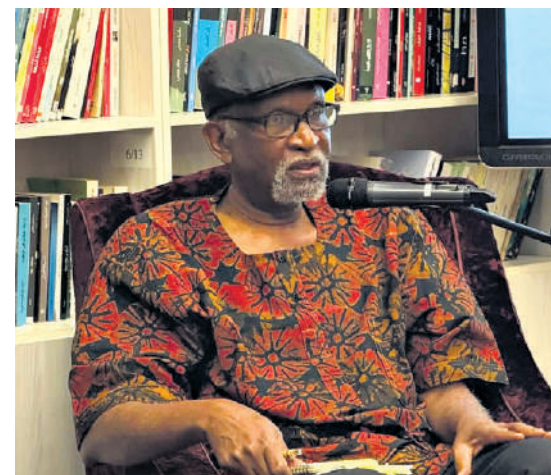
The invitation comes off the back of his trip to France last year reported in *Playwright off to French festival* (Echo News, March 14) where he shared his experiences at the Bright Generations Performing Arts festival for Children and Young People.

After signing his poetry books at the Abu Dhabi event, Mr Ismail will continue his artistic tour and attend the Slash Festival organised by ArteVOX Teatro from September 18 to 27 in Milan, Italy as an international theatre professional.

Slash Festival director and vice chair of International Inclusive Arts Network Marta Galli said he believed that Mr Ismail's expertise and vision align perfectly with the festival's mission to foster dialogue, break down artistic barriers, and create meaningful connections between diverse creative communities."

Mr Ismail said his aim in attending the two significant festivals in person was to engage with information exchange and networking opportunities.

"My work creates outlets for artists from non-English linguistic backgrounds to share experiences of the creative translation process. It is vital work in today's globalised world, as I aim to raise a richer understanding and appreciation across di-



Sudanese-Australian playwright and poet Afeif Ismail.

verse communities by bridging languages and cultural narratives through theatre and poetry," he said.

"The works I create are a cultural bridge that celebrates identity and shared experiences while exploring significant social topics. Through this, I contribute to enriching the multicultural creative landscape in Western Australia and beyond."

Afeif's accolades include the 2022 'Ballina Region Refugees Seeking Asylum Poetry Prize', and the 2015 Naji Naaman's Literary Prize (Lebanon) with his work translated into French, Spanish and German.

He was a recipient of the inaugural WA Theatre Development Initiative for his play Shrouds or the Dead while his children's play, The African Magician, was nominated for the 2011 Australian Writer's Guild Award for Best Children's Play.

His productions have been staged at The Blue Room Theatre, Nexus Theatre, 459 Theatre, Fringe world Festival WA, and Barking Gecko Theatre WA, and in 2008 he won the 2008 Australian National Playwrights' Conference Bursary.



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The sculptures featured in the black and blue shirts were both stolen in the early hours of Friday, August 28.

Mundaring sculptures stolen

BRAYDEN MOULD

MUNDARING Police are investigating the theft of two long-standing bronze statues from the Mundaring Community Sculpture Park, taken late last month.

Two of the five figures from the Tourists in Mundaring installation were taken in the early hours of Friday, August 28 after offenders dug out the cemented footings.

Police believe the heavy artworks were dragged towards Phillips Street before being loaded into a waiting vehicle.

Created by Stoneville sculptor Stuart Elliot and commissioned in 1988 as part of the Mundaring Art Centre's bicentennial project, the statues have stood in the park for nearly 40 years.

Shire President Paige McNeil expressed the deep impact of the loss amongst the Mundaring community.

"These sculptures hold a special place in the hearts of our community and have been enjoyed by generations of local families," she said.

"Their theft has been deeply upsetting, particularly to children who have grown up with them."

"It is difficult to understand why anyone would take something that brings so much joy and con-

nection to our community," she said.

Designed to reflect the people who come to appreciate the region, the artwork has long served as a symbol of the natural pull and community spirit of the area.

Ms McNeil said the outpouring of public emotion following the incident only highlighted how deeply embedded the statues were in the daily lives of residents.

"The sculptures have become an iconic part of the Sculpture Park experience and are representative of the visitors who come to enjoy the natural beauty of the park and the Perth Hills," she said.

"Since sharing the news of their disappearance, we have received an overwhelming response from the community, with residents expressing their sadness and frustration while sharing memories and stories about the role the sculptures played in their lives."

Local authorities are urging anyone who was in the area during the early morning hours of August 28 and noticed suspicious activity to come forward.

Information can be provided directly to Mundaring Police Station or reported anonymously to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or via www.crimestopperwa.com.au

Shire calls for speed limit reduction on Sawyers Rd following fatal crash



The 80km/h section of Sawyers Road runs between Sawyers Valley Primary School and the Mount Helena town centre. Picture: Camila Egusquiza Santa Cruz

CAMILA EGUSQUIZA SANTA CRUZ

THE Shire of Mundaring is once again seeking to reduce the speed limit on Sawyers Road after young Perth Hills man Luke Jones died there as a result of a crash.

A Shire of Mundaring spokesperson said the shire had not nominated a specific alternative speed limit but had sought consideration of a lower speed limit for the 80 km/h section of Sawyers Road.

"The shire's concerns relate to the characteristics of this section of road, including the S-bend curves and the Heritage Trail crossing," they said.

In 2016, the shire asked Main Roads for a speed limit assessment, following requests from the Mount Helena Residents and Ratepayers Association.

Main Roads concluded its assessment at the time, and the speed limit remained unchanged.

Shire president Paige McNeil said the shire has received further community requests for the speed limit to be reviewed following the crash.

"My thoughts are with Luke's family and friends at what must be an incredibly difficult time. It is always tragic when a young life is lost, and I know this loss has deeply affected many people in our community," she said.

Ms McNeil said concerns about the section had been raised by local residents, the Sawyers Valley Primary School community and Mt Helena Parkrun participants for a number of years.

"Council has advocated for a review of the speed limit and I have recently submitted a further request to Main Roads WA on behalf of our community," she said.

A Main Roads WA spokesperson said the agency would consider any request from the shire to review the speed limit on Sawyers Road.



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Matthew overcomes learning barriers

FOR Matthew Evans becoming a qualified automotive mechanic in Midland was about much more than completing an apprenticeship.

It was the result of years of persistence, practical learning and determination to overcome challenges that had followed him throughout his education.

Mr Evans, 32, has ADHD and did not follow a mainstream schooling pathway. He attended a gap program and received education support, which meant returning to formal study as an adult was not always straightforward.

When he began his automotive apprenticeship, he quickly proved himself in the workshop, enjoying the practical work and developing the hands-on skills needed for the trade.

The theory component of his Certificate III, however, was much more difficult and written assessments, technical language and the amount of reading required became significant barriers.

After progressing through most of his apprenticeship, Mr Evans found himself unable to pass one of the remaining theory units needed to complete his qualification.

Rather than giving up, he sought additional support through Read Write Now.

Working one-to-one with a volunteer tutor gave him the opportunity to revisit the course material at his own pace, break complex information into manageable steps and strengthen the literacy and study skills he needed.

Over time, he completed the outstanding theory work connected to his apprenticeship and has now successfully completed his apprentice-



Matthew Evans.

ship and is a qualified automotive mechanic.

For Mr Evans, this achievement has created new possibilities and with practical experience, technical knowledge and a recognised qualification behind him, he is now looking for white-collar opportunities within the automotive sector.

His journey is a reminder that learners do not all succeed in the same way or at the same pace and he was able to move beyond the barriers he had experienced and take an important step towards the career he wants.

Read Write Now provides free, confidential one-to-one support for adults who would like help with reading, writing, maths or basic digital skills. Call 1800 018 802 or visit <https://read-write-now.org.au/>



The NEMS workshop and motor testing.

Wind energy manufacturing comes to Malaga

THE state government is backing National Electric Motor Services (NEMS) to deliver a state-of-the-art wind energy manufacturing facility in Malaga.

NEMS will receive \$500,000 through the wind energy manufacturing co-investment program, supporting the business to refurbish and service wind turbine generators locally.

The facility will reduce reliance on international service providers and improve turnaround times for wind farm operators who currently are required to ship their repair works overseas.

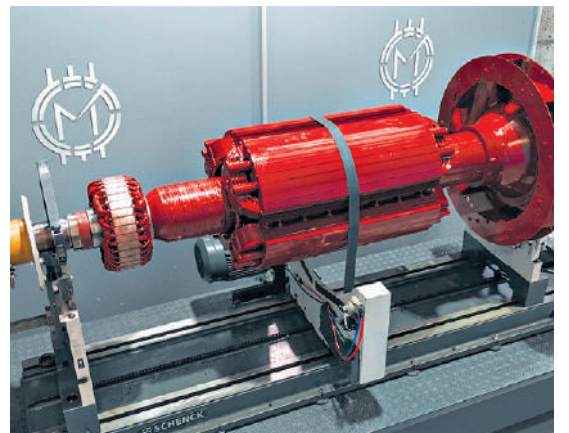
The funding will assist NEMS to expand its current capabilities to heavy lifting and handling, automated high-capacity testing, thermal processing, and advanced quality assurance systems for the wind energy sector.

The program offers up to 50 per cent of eligible project costs and industry partners are required to match the level of funds and has provided more than \$5.5 million in co-investment, stimulating investment of more than \$14m into the local wind energy sector.

Previous recipients of the program are Australian Winders, Turbine Solutions, RCR Mining Technologies and CamCo Engineering.

WA currently has 25 large wind farms which are scheduled for development over the coming decades, with some projects above 1 gigawatt in scale.

Manufacturing Minister Amber-Jade Sanderson said the program was about putting WA first and supporting the growing wind energy sector, while



creating quality local manufacturing jobs.

West Swan MLA Rita Saffioti said this was fantastic news for Malaga and the surrounding community, with a local business expanding its capabilities and creating more opportunities for skilled jobs right here in our suburbs.

"NEMS is an important local business, and this investment will help it grow into a state-of-the-art facility servicing the wind energy sector."

"As WA's wind energy industry continues to grow, we want more of the jobs, skills and economic opportunities that come with it to be created here in WA and this project is a great example of that in action."

For more information go to <https://www.amgc.org.au/wind-energy-program/>

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"Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ & thou shalt be saved" Acts 16:31

Community boost grants closing soon

PERTH Airport has doubled the value of grants available through its long running community boost program to \$2000.

Applications have opened for local charities, clubs and not-for-profit groups to apply for the next round of grants and close at the end of the month.

Organisations in local government areas close to the airport or flight paths can apply for grants of up to \$2000 to help support community projects, programs and initiatives.

Perth Airport chief executive officer Jason Waters said supporting local communities around the airport was a key objective for the business.

"While our main job is connecting Western Australians to the world, we're also focused on how we connect with our local community," he said.

"As Perth Airport continues to grow, so does our responsibility to the suburbs and neighbourhoods around us."

Perth Airport provides ongoing support to a number of major charitable organisations, including Foodbank, Telethon, Lifeline and Perth Children's Hospital Foundation.

"Community boost grants are about spreading the benefit to a



Students from Matthew Gibney Catholic Primary School used their funding to go towards three new sustainable garden beds and a worm farm.

grassroots level where a small contribution can make a huge difference," Mr Waters said.

"We want to help, whether it's in the form of better sports gear at a junior club, upgraded equipment for a local charity, or even a new tool at a men's shed."

Applications are open until COB on Wednesday, September 30 and can be submitted via the online form on the Perth Airport website, with groups

encouraged to check the eligibility criteria before applying to ensure they qualify for funding.

Since the community boost program began in 2018, Perth Airport has provided more than \$255,000 in grants to 335 local schools, sporting clubs, charities and community groups.

For further information visit www.perthairport.com.au or email community.partner@perthairport.com.au

Dry winter leaves dams low

WITH the start of spring, Water Corporation is urging households to keep their sprinklers off throughout September to help save water.

Below average rainfall over winter has seen a decade low streamflow into dams, with only 12 billion litres reaching dams in Perth and southern WA.

It's a marked difference to 30 years ago, when Mundaring Weir overflowed in 1996 for the last time.

Little more than 12.5b litres have flowed into Perth's scheme water dams this year, with total storage down 5 per cent to its lowest level since 2017.

It is a far cry from the 75b litres of streamflow averaged over the last decade and barely a trickle compared to the average 420b litres that flowed annually prior to the mid-1970s.

Rainfall now provides around 15 per cent of Perth's drinking water, with most coming from desalination and groundwater.

Perth's water use has regularly exceeded forecast demand this winter, prompting Water Corporation to ask households to keep reticulation systems switched off during September.

Waterwise programs manager Damien Postma said southern WA's dry winter was another reminder that we can no longer rely on rainfall alone to meet our drinking water needs.

"While the state government invests in new climate-resilient water sources, such as Perth's third desalination plant at Alkimos, it does not mean we can afford to waste the water we already have," Mr Postma said.

"Households must get into the habit of using water efficiently all year round.

"With around one-third of household water use



Mundaring Weir hasn't overflowed for 30 years.

occurring in the garden, billions of litres could be conserved by keeping sprinklers switched off during September.

"The weather is still fairly mild, there is moisture in the soil and most gardens do not need regular watering due to the seasonal rainfall. By hand watering as required, gardens can continue to thrive.

"There are also simple ways to save water indoors by keeping showers to four minutes, turning off the tap while brushing, and only running dishwashers and washing machines with a full load.

"The small changes we make now can make a big difference to saving precious drinking water ahead of another hot summer."

For practical water-saving advice, visit www.wa.tercorporation.com.au/waterwise



Shire of Mundaring CEO Jason Whiteaker, Environmental officer Daniel Pekel, Agriculture and Food Minister Jackie Jarvis, Environment Minister Matthew Swinbourn, Shire of Mundaring President Paige McNeil, Manager environment and sustainability Michael Pengelly.

Funds to protect Mundaring native wildlife

SOME of the Shire of Mundaring's most important natural areas will receive an extra helping hand thanks to new funding from the state government's community stewardship grants program, administered by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD).

The shire has secured \$150,000 over three years to deliver its coordinated fox management in Mundaring bushlands project, helping protect native wildlife and strengthen biodiversity outcomes across several shire-managed reserves.

The funding will support work at Lake Leschenaultia, Carter Road Reserve, Mayo Road Reserve, Quail Street Reserve and Alps Street Reserve, combining targeted fox control, environmental monitoring and community education initiatives.

Foxes remain one of the most significant threats to native wildlife in bushland environments, with small mammals, ground-nesting birds and reptiles particularly vulnerable to predation.

In areas like the Perth Hills, where bushland is often surrounded by rural and residential properties, managing those impacts requires a coordinated, long-term approach.

Shire president Paige McNeil said the project would help protect the natural environment that makes the Perth Hills such a special place to live, work and visit.

"We've heard from our residents about the impacts feral animals can have on our natural environment and local wildlife, and this funding allows us to take meaningful action in response," she said.

"I'd like to thank the Western Australian Government and DPIRD for supporting this project and investing in practical on-ground programs that help protect the unique environment we all value here in the Perth Hills.

"This funding will enable the shire to deliver a coordinated, long-term approach across a number of important reserves, helping protect native wildlife while improving our understanding of how we

can achieve the best environmental outcomes."

Manager environment and sustainability Michael Pengelly said the project would allow the shire to take a more coordinated approach to protecting biodiversity across multiple reserves.

"We know our community values the incredible biodiversity found throughout the Perth Hills, and this project is about taking practical action to help protect it," he said.

"Foxes can have a significant impact on native wildlife, and this funding gives us the opportunity to look beyond short-term or isolated control measures and take a coordinated approach across several reserves.

"It means we can combine on-ground action with monitoring, education and community involvement to achieve stronger long-term outcomes for both wildlife and the environment."

Environmental officer Daniel Pekel, who developed the successful grant application, said the project would build a better understanding of how wildlife protection efforts can be targeted and improved over time.

"This is about creating healthier bushland ecosystems and giving native wildlife the best opportunity to thrive," he said.

"The funding enables us to combine monitoring, community engagement and carefully planned management activities across a number of reserves, helping us better understand what works and where we can make the biggest difference.

"Importantly, it's a long-term project that will help build knowledge, strengthen partnerships and deliver benefits that extend well beyond the life of the grant."

The project will also involve Aboriginal rangers from the Noongar Land Enterprise Group, who will assist with monitoring activities alongside shire officers and specialist contractors.

Works are expected to commence in 2027 and continue through to 2029, helping protect native fauna and strengthen biodiversity outcomes across some of the shire's most valued conservation areas.

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Nannas call for native forest protection

GUANHAO CHENG

THE Nannas for Native Forests are sewing and delivering letters and leaf badges to all state parliamentarians in their annual push to promote environmental protection.

Coinciding with National Threatened Species Day on September 7, the push involved the creation of 97 fabric leaves to provide one for each politician in both houses of parliament to wear in recognition of the day.

Accompanying the leaves was a letter of concern about the condition of the ecosystem in the state and a call to protect it.

Long-time member Wesley Huber said the leaves were a labour of love that symbolised the fragility of the state's forests.

"Each leaf a few hours work, hand stitching a form of craftism, so a lot has gone into this reminder of just how valuable and fragile our forest is now," she said.

"In 2021 the Nannas for Native Forests were the primary instigators in the battle against Simcoa that resulted in halting the logging of our forests.

"We are very active in the protection of our environment, campaigning mainly in public places helping to enable a better understanding of the serious and real man-made threats that are currently being faced by our wildlife and flora."

Ms Huber said the leaves were a tool to open discussion about conservation efforts and environmental impacts on wildlife.

"Quietly sitting stitching leaves is our way to engage with people who stop and ask, 'what are you doing?'" she said.

"One stitch, one conversation at a time is becoming our motto.

"What a lot of people don't know is we have a very small population of mainland quokkas – the few that remain are in isolated pockets of the Northern Jarrah Forest.

"With the strip-mining activities destroying their habitat they along with other species struggle for survival.



Nannas for Native Forests are stitching leaf badges and calling on state parliamentarians to protect the environment from habitat destruction.

"As we sit and stitch, we care deeply and spread the word."

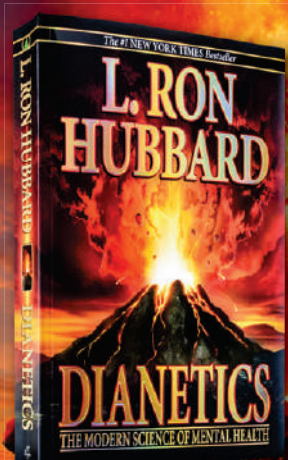
National Threatened Species Day marks the death of the last remaining Tasmanian tiger in 1936.

Under the Biodiversity Conservation Act, native species are listed as threatened when they face a high to very high risk of extinction in the wild, and ecological communities are listed as threatened when they face a high to very high risk of collapse.

According to the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, 255 total species were recognised as of July this year by the state as threatened and being further monitored.



Is it possible to fully overcome anxiety?



Read Page 207



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HUBBARD DIANETICS FOUNDATION PERTH

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Photo: Sisters from the Valley, Walking Beyond was launched on September 4 in Ellenbrook.

New women's project launches in Ellenbrook

CAMILA EGUSQUIZA SANTA CRUZ

SISTERS from the Valley, Walking Beyond was launched earlier this month in Ellenbrook by community service organisation Sister Project with federal Multicultural Affairs Minister Anne Aly and Venezuelan cook and journalist Tamara Rodriguez in attendance.

The project seeks to support women in building a strong sense of belonging, connecting with the local community, developing new skills, and feeling empowered as they build their new lives in Australia.

Part of this entails facilitating experiences and conversations between Indigenous, migrant, refugee and other Australian women through art, cooking and craft.

Sister Project's Communication Director Paloma Jiménez said around 80 people attended the launch.

"It was very beautiful and showed what the project is all about," she said.

"The man who came to do the welcome to country came with his wife who is Italian, so it was so interesting and nice to see how we are all mixed and connected, which is the aim of this project.

"In this moment of global social tension about migration, where migrants are seen as different, it is important to create spaces to get to know each other. Show that we can work together through things like art, cooking, conversations...show what Australia really is as a multicultural and rich place and see how we can develop that cultural

wealth in positive ways."

Ms Jiménez said the project has generated interest within the Swan Valley community.

"We are lucky to have well-known artists from the Swan Valley involved in this project. For example, Jude Taylor, she does lino cuts and she's going to share her knowledge with the ladies. Sculptor Trudy Hardman is also involved and we also have an Indigenous chef who is going to share her cooking and bush tucker knowledge," she said.

Sister Project provides multiple services to women, including English classes, psychological counselling, and financial and legal resources.

Ms Jiménez said funding is a big challenge for them.

"Each woman brings a different story, so they all need different solutions," she said.

"The big challenge is to maintain the organisation. We work with what we earn from the enterprises we create, but if we were to receive more grants our work could be more continuous. Sometimes some of us have to step out to do other things for ourselves, so the work stops a little. But issues in women's lives don't stop. We have many cases of FDV and they come to us and we do our best to help them."

The project is funded by the federal government's multicultural grassroots initiatives grant program and is set to conclude in October 2027 with an exhibition of the women's artwork.

More information on the project and future events can be found at <https://www.sisterproject.org.au/>

Easing cost-of-living pressures for WA families and drivers

The State Government is offering the third round of the WA Student Assistance Payment and a one-off \$100 Fuel Support Payment.

The WA Student Assistance Payment

\$150

For each Kindergarten and primary school student

\$250

For each secondary school student

Available to parents and carers of school aged children to help you get the things your kids need for school including stationery, excursions, backpacks and other education-related expenses.

\$100 Fuel Support Payment

\$100

For anyone with a valid WA driver's licence

Available to anyone with a valid WA driver's licence, including learners and P platers. You can also choose to donate your one-off \$100 Fuel Support Payment to charity in the ServiceWA app.

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Tarmac West

Road Closures



Get ready for an adrenaline-charged day as rally racing roars through the scenic Perth Hills!

To ensure the safety of residents, spectators, and racers, road closures will be in effect on:

- Wednesday 16 September 2026
- Friday 18 September 2026

Affected Roads:

- Zig Zag Scenic Drive (Lascelles Drive to Ridge Hill Road)
- Mundaring Weir Road (Paulls Valley Road to Croxton Road)
- Haynes Street, Kalamunda

During the event, detours will be in place and marshals will be on-site to guide you smoothly through the area.

View the Spectator Guide at tarmacevents.com.au to get the best vantage points on the day.

Please follow marshal instructions to help keep the event safe and enjoyable for everyone.



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First Nations lessons for Hazelmere students



Helena River Waldorf School were immersed in cultural learning beside the Mandoon Bilya (Helena River). Picture: Emily Wilson. Inset: Students made mosaics during class.

AT Helena River Waldorf School, children, families and staff have been deepening their connection to Country, culture and language through immersive lessons with First Nations mentors.

A Helena River Waldorf School spokesperson says the school has built a strong connection to the Bibbul Ngarma Aboriginal Association (BNAA) and member Lucy Arnall.

Ms Arnall is a musician, storyteller, mentor and descendant of the Kungarakan (NT) and Bibbulmun Nyoongar (WA) people.

"Ms Arnall has been working with students, staff and the school community to deliver a series of on-Country learning experiences and events that aligns with BNAA's BoorYul-Bah-Bilya Program for healing Country, which is focused on the Mandoon Bilya," the spokesperson said.

"Ms Arnall is helping children and staff to learn about three important truths.

"Firstly, kaartdijin or knowledge' sharing, and the responsibility of being learners and keepers of the knowledge.

"Secondly, the importance of djinniny or seeing. Learning to truly see, not just with their eyes, but also with their koort (heart) and wirrn (spirit).

"And lastly, waangkan or speaking. Telling the stories, sharing their discoveries and speaking to Boodja, their nature kin."

During Ms Arnall's regular visits, the children and teachers spent time on the banks of the Helena River.

Staff and students would listen, share and engage in a kind of learning that allowed them to let go of the normal school day rhythm and be present.

"Thank you to Ms Arnall and BNAA for their commitment and engagement with the school," the spokesperson said.

Another immersive experience is being carefully guided by MaOchre Gallery Midland founder Arron Yarran who is a Nyiyaparli-Nyoongar woman from Ethel Creek and Roy Hill in the Pilbara.

Ms Yarran is professionally known by her artist's name Warjirri-Yarra.

"Arron grew up in Geraldton and the Southern

Wheatbelt Regions of Western Australia and is a renowned artist, and the founder of MaOchre Gallery in Midland, Western Australia," the spokesperson said.

"Arron has been working with the children during the first half of the year to create six gorgeous mosaiced letters that read 'Wanjoo', or 'Welcome', with every letter representing one of the Nyoongar six seasons.

"We are so grateful to Arron for working with each class from 1 to 6 to design a letter. The beautiful sign now proudly stands at the very front of the school, welcoming everyone."

Ms Yarran said it was a joy to introduce the children to working with mosaics and incorporating the Noongar seasons into the project.

"I think it is very important to learn about First Nations culture and how important the traditional ways (were for looking) after Country," she said.

"Back in school in my day, we didn't learn about our culture.

"It was (about) some other country and learning some other country's language (but) not our own country."

The spokesperson said staff had also been engaging with Sister Kate's Home Kids Aboriginal Association director Jacinda Blurton during the cultural sessions.

Ms Blurton is a stolen generation descendant who works with Stolen Generation survivors and youth in the areas of generational trauma and truth telling.

"Our staff were deeply moved by Jacinda's inspirational work and are so grateful for these opportunities," the spokesperson said.

"These meaningful and authentic experiences are providing students, staff and the wider community an opportunity to engage in a living process, one that requires a revitalised approach, an active listening and meaningful reflection.

"We are so grateful to Lucy, Arron and Jacinda for their wisdom, care and guidance as we walk the path to reconciliation at Helena River Waldorf School."

WA's small business sector grows

THE state's small business sector is generating a record \$87.2 billion in annual economic activity, cementing its position as one of the state's biggest economic drivers – up almost 75 per cent since 2020.

New research commissioned by the Small Business Development Corporation shows small businesses account for 97.3 per cent of all businesses in Western Australia, employ more than 540,000 people and generate 35 per cent of all private sector jobs.

The research also highlights the breadth of small business across the economy, contributing \$25.5b through mining, \$10.8b through construction and \$5.2b through agriculture, underscoring the sector's importance across every industry.

Small Business Commissioner Saj Abdoolakhan said the findings reinforced the vital role small businesses play in Western Australia's continued prosperity.

"Small businesses are the engine room of Western Australia's economy. They create jobs, strengthen local communities and drive economic growth – and their contribution is growing every year," he said.

"Five years ago, small businesses contributed around \$50b to our economy. Today it's more than \$87b. That growth reflects the ambition of hundreds

of thousands of Western Australians who backed themselves, created jobs and invested in their communities.

"It also demonstrates how the robust economic environment and government investment in economic diversification has paved the way for opportunities and growth with 30,000 more small businesses added to the WA landscape over the last five years.

"Behind every small business is someone willing to take a risk, back an idea and create opportunities for others. Their impact reaches far beyond their own business."

Construction remains WA's largest employing small business sector, generating \$10.8b in annual value added, while health care and social assistance has entered the state's top five employing sectors for small businesses, replacing agriculture, forestry and fishing and other services.

Although no longer among the top five employing sectors, agriculture remains overwhelmingly a small business industry.

More than 80 per cent of people working in agriculture are employed by a small business, with the sector contributing \$5.2b annually to the WA economy.

"When small businesses succeed, Western Australia succeeds," Mr Abdoolakhan said.

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There will be plenty of action in the Perth Hills as part of the event.

Lance East Exotics Tarmac West confirms 70 competitors

SEVENTY crews will contest the 2026 Lance East Exotics Tarmac West, the biggest field since 2014 for Western Australia's premier tarmac rally, held in Perth and hills districts from September 17 to 20.

The stages will be held in Whiteman Park, Ellenbrook, Parkerville, Kalamunda, Toodyay, Maryville Downs, Bullsbrook, Malaga and in the heart of Perth's CBD.

Sixteen of the 70 crews are rookies competing at Lance East Exotics Tarmac West for the first time, making up 23 per cent of the field, a strong sign of new blood coming into the sport.

The entry list spans six decades of motor-ing, from a 1964 Ford Anglia to a 2024 BMW M4, with classic Datsun 240Zs and Ford Escorts lining up alongside modern Porsches, from a 1988 944 Turbo S to a 2023 992 RGT, and two Teslas.

"Getting 70 crews on the start line is a big deal, but what is most encouraging is that nearly a quarter of the field is competing in their first Tarmac West, and that tells us the sport is growing," Tarmac Events WA director Ross Tapper said.

"Rallying can look intimidating from the outside, but categories like TSD and the Rookie Rallye give newcomers a genuine way into the sport."

From spinning balls to spinning wheels, one rookie competing in the Time Speed Distance (TSD) category is ex-Australian cricketer Brad Hogg, with co-driver Lachlan White.

Introduced in 2024, Tarmac West's TSD category is for those who like spirited driving. Designed for standard road cars, the category requires only a helmet and an Australian Auto-Sport Alliance General Speed Licence to qualify for entry.

TSD competitors need to complete each stage as close as possible to the time allowed and are penalised for an early finish more so than finishing late.

Mr Hogg said he is grateful for the opportunity and thanked GMW Racing for supporting him by providing a 2016 BMW M140i.

Family runs deep on the entry list, with 15 crews, 20 per cent of the field, sharing a surname, including father-and-son, brothers, cousins and husband-and-wife pairings. The

Hawily and Moltoni families are each fielding two cars.

There are six categories in Lance East Exotics Tarmac West: the main T200, the T185 Modified Classics, which is new this year, T165 where drivers are restricted to 165km/h, T130 with a 130km/h speed restriction, TSD, and the 2Day Rallye for those who only want to compete on Saturday and Sunday.

Defending outright champion Bryce Moore is absent from the Tarmac West entry list, but his winning car, a 2022 Toyota Supra A90, is not.

The car that finished fastest last year will be driven by 22-year-old rookie Anthony Jewell with experienced co-driver Rachael Ferrante, their entry supported by Ayani Car Collective and GMW Racing.

Mr Jewell, who is making a name for himself in circuit racing, has never done a tarmac rally, but has a feel for the car having competed in short-format rally sprints. He will be in the T165 category and looking for a class win.

In the same GMW Racing team but in the top T200 category, Mark Cirillo is driving his

2024 BMW M4 with Daymon Nicoli calling pace notes.

In March, Cirillo and Nicoli finished equal first at Lance East Exotics Tarmac South West in Pemberton and the duo are hoping to repeat their winning result in WA's premier tarmac rally.

Rally drivers will race the clock along about 215km of closed roads over four days. Forrest Place hosts a ceremonial start and the rally action includes spectator favourites in Ellenbrook (Thursday evening, September 17), Malaga (Sunday morning, September 20) and in the City of Perth (Sunday afternoon, September 20), as well as tight technical stages that require deft driving, and long flowing stages where drivers can really find their rhythm.

The rally weekend culminates with the Celebration of Motorsport at Langley Park on Sunday, September 20, which drew a record 45,000 spectators last year, who marvelled at 600 vehicles on display alongside the rally's final sprint-style stages in the City of Perth.

To be kept up to date with Tarmac West events, please visit www.tarmacevents.com.au

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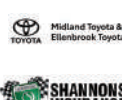
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Hazelmere warehouse plan raises river concerns



GUANHAO CHENG

RESIDENTS have only days left to comment on a proposed 12,495sqm warehouse in Hazelmere with submissions closing at 5pm on Wednesday, September 16.

The City of Swan is seeking public comment on a development assessment panel application (DAP) for a warehouse and incidental office at Lot 822 Stirling Crescent.

DAPs decide some major planning applications instead of local councils.

According to the Swan Engage listing, the proposal includes a 12,495sqm warehouse with an overall height of 13.7m.

It also includes a 650sqm office, two 10m crossovers onto Stirling Crescent, two estate signs and 80 on-site car bays.

The applicant is proposing 135 new trees as part of the application.

Stormwater from the roof, hardstand, access and manoeuvring areas is planned to be directed to a treatment area in the north-eastern part of the site.

The treatment area is proposed to sit outside the foreshore boundary.

The application is estimated to generate about 88 vehicle trips during both the morning and afternoon peak hours.

Trillion Trees chief executive officer Mark Hullett said the organisation was concerned about the proposal's location on the banks of the Helena River.

"The time afforded to neighbours to appraise and respond to the application is exceptionally short, with a letter arriving from the city only on Tuesday, September 8 for comments by Wednesday, September 16," he said.

Mr Hullett said the site formed part of a special use zone which was created to provide a buffer between residential and sensitive land uses and the wider Hazelmere industrial precinct.

He said eight lots fell within the zone, including Trillion Trees and Helena River Waldorf School and each lot backed onto the Helena River.

"The interface of the proposed development with the Helena River foreshore is a significant environmental concern," he said.

The subject site is zoned special use zone 15 under the City of Swan's local planning scheme 17.

According to Swan Engage, subdivision and development in the zone must be in accordance with a structure plan.

The structure plan must include all lots in the special use zone and must also be approved before additional land use, development or subdivision, apart from limited exceptions.

The listing said a structure plan had not yet been prepared or submitted for precinct 2A of the Hazelmere enterprise area structure plan.

Precinct 2A is known as Helena River.

The precinct earmarks light industrial uses, institutional uses relating to education, health, research and recreation, and a road along the river.

Mr Hullett said Trillion Trees believed aspects of the proposal were inconsistent with the Hazelmere enterprise area structure plan and special use zone requirements.

He said those concerns included the treatment of the local road and shared path near the river foreshore.

During public question time at the City of Swan's September ordinary council meeting, Guildford Association president Christine Hughes said the warehouse application abutted the floodplain and included 13 separate reports and about 200 pages.

"Who will accept responsibility for confirming accuracy of the claims made in those reports on behalf of the applicant?" she said.

City of Swan statutory planning manager Philip Russell said the city checked that the required matters were generally addressed in the documents before advertising for public comment.

Mr Russell said it was not the city's role at the outset to test every claim made in applicant documents.

"That's what the assessment process is for, not the vetting process at the outset," he said.

The city is not the decision maker for the application.

The application will be determined by the Metro Outer Development Assessment Panel.

The city's role is to provide a recommendation to the panel through a responsible authority report.

Community comments will be included in that report for the panel's consideration.

Swan residents may leave feedback about the application and access the application's documents on Swan Engage via tinyurl.com/bdzytzes

Online H5 bird flu advice for pet bird and poultry owners

HOUSEHOLDS with pet birds and poultry are encouraged to take simple steps to help keep their animals safe from H5 bird flu.

Practical advice and information are available on the WA Government's H5 avian influenza (bird flu) in Western Australia website, including a useful step-by-step video on preventative measures.

Importantly, current detections of H5 bird flu in WA remain limited to wild migratory birds and there have been no detections in poultry or WA's agricultural system.

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) chief veterinary officer Michelle Rodan said the key biosecurity measure to minimise risk to pet birds and poultry was to prevent wild birds mixing with domestic birds and implementing strict hygiene practices.

"The most effective way to protect pet birds and backyard chickens is to ensure wild birds cannot access their housing, feed, water, bedding or general environment," Dr Rodan said.

"It is also important to regularly clean aviaries, pens and equipment, as well as cleaning your boots and washing your hands thoroughly with soap before and after visiting or handling birds.

"We also ask the community to continue monitoring birds for signs of illness and report any observations to the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline."

Other pets may also be at risk of H5 bird flu from infected wild birds so it is best to keep them away from wildlife, including preventing cats from roaming and keeping dogs on leads in wildlife areas.

In line with overseas experience, local transmission and mass mortality events in wild birds are not unexpected as detections of H5 bird flu increase.

H5 bird flu is expected to remain an ongoing wildlife disease that will require continued monitoring and management as it cannot be eradicated from wild birds. Human infection with H5 bird flu is rare as the virus does not spread easily from animals to people.

Anyone who sees sick or dead birds or marine



Online information and advice for is available on the H5 avian influenza (bird flu) in Western Australia at www.gov.au/birdflu

mammals should AVOID and not handle the animals but RECORD and take photos or a video and REPORT to the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888. More information is available at wa.gov.au/birdflu

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Shire of York 6.6% rate hike

CAMILA EGUSQUIZA SANTA CRUZ

THE Shire of York has adopted its 2026/27 budget, determining a 6.6 per cent increase in rates for gross rental value (GRV) properties.

Unimproved value (UV) properties will also see higher rates due to increased property valuations, despite no change to the rate percentage applied to them.

The budget expects rate revenue to increase from \$8.9 million to \$9.6m, which will account for 55 per cent of the shire's total revenue.

The increase is higher than the City of Swan's 4.95 per cent increase and the Shire of Mundaring's 3.9 per cent increase.

Major projects listed in the budget include the capital roads program (\$2.7m), which will provide improvements to Quellington Road, Greenhill Road and Macartney Street.

Around \$1m is allocated for the purchase of large, long-term machinery such as 11t and 7t trucks.

The design, business case and grant preparation of the aquatic facility will incur \$650,000 with a further \$314,635 set aside for future construction.

Waugal Rising phase 2 has been allocated \$467,899 as part of heritage trail infrastructure and the CBD will also receive an upgrade of \$425,000.

During the meeting, concerns over rising rates amid cost-of-living pressures were raised by several residents.

Shire of York president Chris Gibbs read a resident's feedback given to council.

"A significant increase in council rates will place increased strain on families, small business, growers and pastoralists and potentially have a negative impact on economic growth," he read.

"This at a time when households especially pensioners, families and small businesses are needing to tighten their budgets, it seems the Council should at this time also be making some hard de-



Property owners in the Shire of York will see an increase in their rates this year. Picture: Camila Egusquiza Santa Cruz

cisions and reviewing spending and project priorities, identifying savings and efficiencies and delivering services and projects within the means of a sustainable budget for the ratepayers and residents."

Cr Gibbs acknowledged these concerns but said it was necessary to deliver a budget that could sustain the shire and not compromise its future.

"It is not an extravagant budget. It is not a budget that has huge surpluses or massive wish lists of things that we would like to happen. It is a budget that allows us to keep up," he said.

The finance officer's recommendation said rate revenue needed to increase due to the impact of rising prices for goods and services on the shire's expenditure.

The minimum rate remains unchanged at \$1,395.

Residents can pay in full for a 1.5 per cent discount or through instalments, which will incur an \$11 administration fee for each instalment after the first and a 5.5 per cent interest on outstanding instalment balances.

eye on crime



Glen Forrest serious crash investigation

MAJOR crash investigation section officers are investigating a serious crash that occurred in Glen Forrest on Friday, September 4.

About 1.55pm, a white BMW motorcycle was travelling eastbound on Great Eastern Highway when a white Volkswagen Caddy, also travelling eastbound, moved into its path, causing the rider to lose control and crash.

The 75-year-old male rider of the motorcycle was taken to Royal Perth Hospital for treatment of serious injuries received.

The 40-year-old male driver of the Volkswagen was not injured.

Major Crash investigators are conducting an examination of the scene and are appealing for any witnesses to report information online at www.crimestopperswa.com.au or call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Dash-cam or mobile phone vision relating to this crash can be uploaded directly to investigators via this link: <https://wapf.au.evidence.com/axon/community-request/public/seriouscrashglenforrest>

Mount Helena fatal crash investigation

OFFICERS from the major crash investigation section are investigating a fatal crash that occurred in Mount Helena on Thursday, September 3.

About 8.35pm, a red Mazda 3 sedan was travelling north on Sawyers Road, near Goodwin Place, when it left the roadway and collided with a power pole before rolling.

The 20-year-old male driver of the vehicle died from his injuries at the scene.

Major Crash investigators are conducting an examination of the scene and are appealing for any witnesses to report information to Crime Stoppers via www.crimestopperswa.com.au or 1800 333 000. Reports can be made anonymously.

Dash-cam or mobile phone vision relating to this crash can be uploaded directly to investigators via this link: <https://wapf.au.evidence.com/axon/community-request/public/crash-mounthelena-03092026>

Muchea fatal crash under investigation

OFFICERS from the major crash investigation section are seeking the public's assistance for information as they investigate a fatal crash that occurred in Muchea on Friday, August 21.

About 3.25pm, a silver Ford Falcon utility towing a trailer and a grey Toyota Hilux utility collided at the intersection of Muchea East Road and Wandena Road.

The 57-year-old male driver of the Ford Falcon died at the scene as a result of injuries sustained in the crash. His 56-year-old female passenger was conveyed by ambulance to Royal Perth Hospital.

The 32-year-old female driver of the Toyota Hilux was conveyed by ambulance to Joondalup Health Campus.

Major Crash investigators are urging anyone who saw the crash, or the silver Ford Falcon utility towing a trailer or grey Toyota Hilux utility travelling in the area prior to the crash, to contact Crime Stoppers online at www.crimestopperswa.com.au or by calling 1800 333 000.

Anyone with dash-cam, CCTV or mobile phone vision relating to this crash is asked to upload the vision directly to investigators via the following link: <https://wapf.au.evidence.com/axon/community-request/public/mcis-2026-218>

If you or anyone you know has been affected by a road crash, contact Road Trauma Support WA on 1300 004 814.

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



Ballajura Community Fair is back!!



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Sunday 18th October 2026 | Gates open 10 am

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Your local Gig Guide

Fri September 11

Settlers House York
John Sloper
5.30pm, Free
125 Avon Terrace, York

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

Woodbridge Hotel
Cillian Geaney
From 8pm, Free
50 East St, Guildford

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

Sat September 12

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

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

Lyric's Bar
Howie & Dave
From 7pm, Free
22 Lyric Lane
Maylands

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Shane Turner
6pm-9pm, Free
4260 Great Eastern Hwy
Mahogany Creek

Sun September 13

Settlers House York
Kyle Hearn
12pm-3pm, Free
125 Avon Terrace, York

Chidlow Tavern
Adele & John
From 12.30-3.30pm, Free
4 Thomas St, Chidlow

Woodbridge Hotel
Briann Finn
From 3pm, Free
50 East St, Guildford

Sun September 13 cont.

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Velvet Muse
4pm-7pm, Free
4260 Great Eastern Hwy
Mahogany Creek

Tues September 15

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

Woodbridge Hotel
Hills Trad and Irish
Singing Songs
From 6pm, Free
50 East St, Guildford

Hemingway & Co
Jazz Tuesday
From 7pm, Free
7095 Great Eastern
Hwy, Mundaring

Wed September 16

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 September 17

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
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Mahogany Creek

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ECHO NEWS

ARTS ENTERTAINMENT

Bassendean artist's focus on young onset Parkinson's

A BASSENDEAN artist has launched his first solo exhibition next month in a bid to give people a unique insight into life with Young-Onset Parkinson's Disease (YOPD).

Andrew Grero, who was diagnosed in his mid-thirties, will use a collection of bold, expressive and deeply personal artworks to encourage visitors to follow in his footsteps by experiencing how even simple everyday tasks can require a new approach or use up all of his energy.

Held at Inglewood Arts Hub, 'Signal Lost: Finding my way with Parkinson's' will run until Saturday, September 19 on Wednesday to Saturdays from 10am to 3pm.

With his diagnosis strongly influencing the passion and direction of his craft in recent years, this exhibition supports Mr Grero's mission to inspire others and reframe the idea of what it means to live and thrive with Parkinson's.

"When I was diagnosed in 2022, I didn't really know much about it apart from perhaps hearing that legends like Michael J Fox and Muhammad Ali had the condition. Little did I know that I was in for a rapid learning curve trying to navigate family life, work and attempting to be the same old me," he said.

Mr Grero hit the headlines in 2024 for his huge mural on Railway Parade to celebrate West Coast Suspensions' 100th birthday.

"Despite all the challenges, I feel lucky I can still paint and create art with Parkinson's and this, in a way, is my superpower for initiating conversations and promoting a greater awareness of what it is like for a young person."

He said 'Signal Lost' was a massive moment, not just for him personally but for the opportunity to raise greater awareness of this condition.

"The artworks speak a thousand words for every difficult moment, frustrating challenge and feeling of loss that comes with Parkinson's and I hope it sparks some interesting conversations about perceptions and how we understand and support others."

"It also celebrates how we can overcome these hurdles and live a life that is still meaningful, fun and full of adventure, something I know only too well after the birth of my son Jules nearly two years ago."



Andrew Grero has launched his first solo exhibition at the Inglewood Arts Hub which will run until Saturday, September 19.

"The first four paintings in the exhibition really represent the 'young-onset' element... the can, the shoe, the burger and the watch. Putting on my favourite 'Jordans' isn't easy anymore, going to the local burger joint with friends isn't as simple and a heavy burger can affect the impact of my medication, whilst the Swan draft represents my changing relationship with alcohol and how it can compound symptoms."

"The watch represents the clock ticking down whilst you wait for your next dose of medication or, on the flipside, realising you only have a few minutes left until the positive effects wear off."

'Signal Lost', supported by MSWA through their Life not Limits Grant in memory of Ros Harman, uses mixed media and a range of contrasting styles to form a versatile body of work.

Drawing on influences from pop culture and artists such as Arthur Boyd and Andy Warhol, subjects feature still life, everyday items and self-portraits exploring a changing sense of self.

Mr Grero, who is also known by his artistic name 'aerogrero', said: "I want this exhibition to be a celebration of what is possible and to say thank you to all the people - my wife Erin, my family, my friends and my work - who stand by me and help me still be 'Andz'."

"I've had fantastic support and ongoing

mentoring from Louise at DADAA that has made a real difference to the quality and focus of my work on display, whilst Inglewood Arts Hub has really got behind what we are trying to achieve with 'Signal Lost'.

"MSWA has also been amazing throughout my journey and played a pivotal role in making this exhibition happen."

MSWA chief experience officer Tony Millar said he was delighted to see this exhibition come to life.

"Andrew truly embodies the spirit of MSWA's Life not Limits grant, a program designed to recognise the talent, determination and creativity within our neuro community."

"We're proud to work with Andrew, not just with support and services throughout his journey with Parkinson's, but also with this grant, allowing him to do what he loves most."

"We can't wait to see his vision come to life, bringing people and community together to spark new conversations and raise awareness for our neuro community."

Mr Grero continues to combine his day job in the public sector with painting commissions and murals for people, local businesses and sports clubs, such as Bassendean Bowls Clubs and Perth Wildcats.

For further information, please visit www.aerogrero.com or follow his social channels.



The Magical World of children is a free festival opened to all families. Picture: Polish Club Sikorski

The Magical World of Children returns

THE third edition of the ("Magiczny Świat Dziecka") The Magical World of Children will take place on Saturday, September 12 at the Polish Club Sikorski in Bellevue.

The festival is a free community event for children and families and will also include the official opening of the club's new community playground.

A Polish Club Sikorski spokesperson said the event is opened to the wider com-

munity and aims to create a fun and welcoming environment.

"This year's program will include children's entertainment, constable care educational performances, and free snacks for registered children. We are currently finalising the performance program with Wheely Safe Adventure and Screen Name among the planned shows," they said.

The event will begin at 10.30am with a puppet show in English, followed by the

opening of the playground at 12.00pm.

After the official opening, children can explore the new playground.

Free snacks and drinks will only be guaranteed for those who register before the event.

Parents can register their children at <https://polishclubsikorski.com/2026/07/20/magical-world-of-children-childrens-festival-saturday-12-september/>

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An amazing new music initiative has hit the City of Kalamunda



Introducing a fabulous new music initiative in the City of Kalamunda, curated by award-winning composer, Emma Jayakumar, and featuring a superb roster of West Australian chamber music talent.

Supported by principal sponsors City of Kalamunda and Lotterywest, the Arboria Chamber Music Festival on 3rd and 4th October, is taking place across multiple venues including the Zig Zag Gallery, Seminar Rooms, Kalamunda Library, St Barnabas Church, and Holy Family Church. With venues walking distance apart, audiences effortlessly take in several concerts in one or both days, whilst engaging easily with wonderful Kalamunda Artisan Markets

(Saturday), Farmer's Markets (Sunday), and fantastic Kalamunda hospitality.

Our dedicated family ballet events are all held at the Kalamunda Community Centre (Saturday only) meaning limited fuss with parking and moving about on festival day.

Tickets are reasonably priced, with discounts for seniors, groups, and families. Weekend and day Festival passes are also available, along with single tickets if preferred.

Special offer for early birds: Use the code BIRDY until 18th September for a 10% discount on all tickets.

For all information and tickets go to www.arboriafestival.org.au.

Rooted in community, branching into creativity



Arboria Chamber Music Festival

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Participating Venues: Zig Zag Cultural Centre, St Barnabas Anglican Church, Holy Family Catholic Church, Kalamunda Community Centre.



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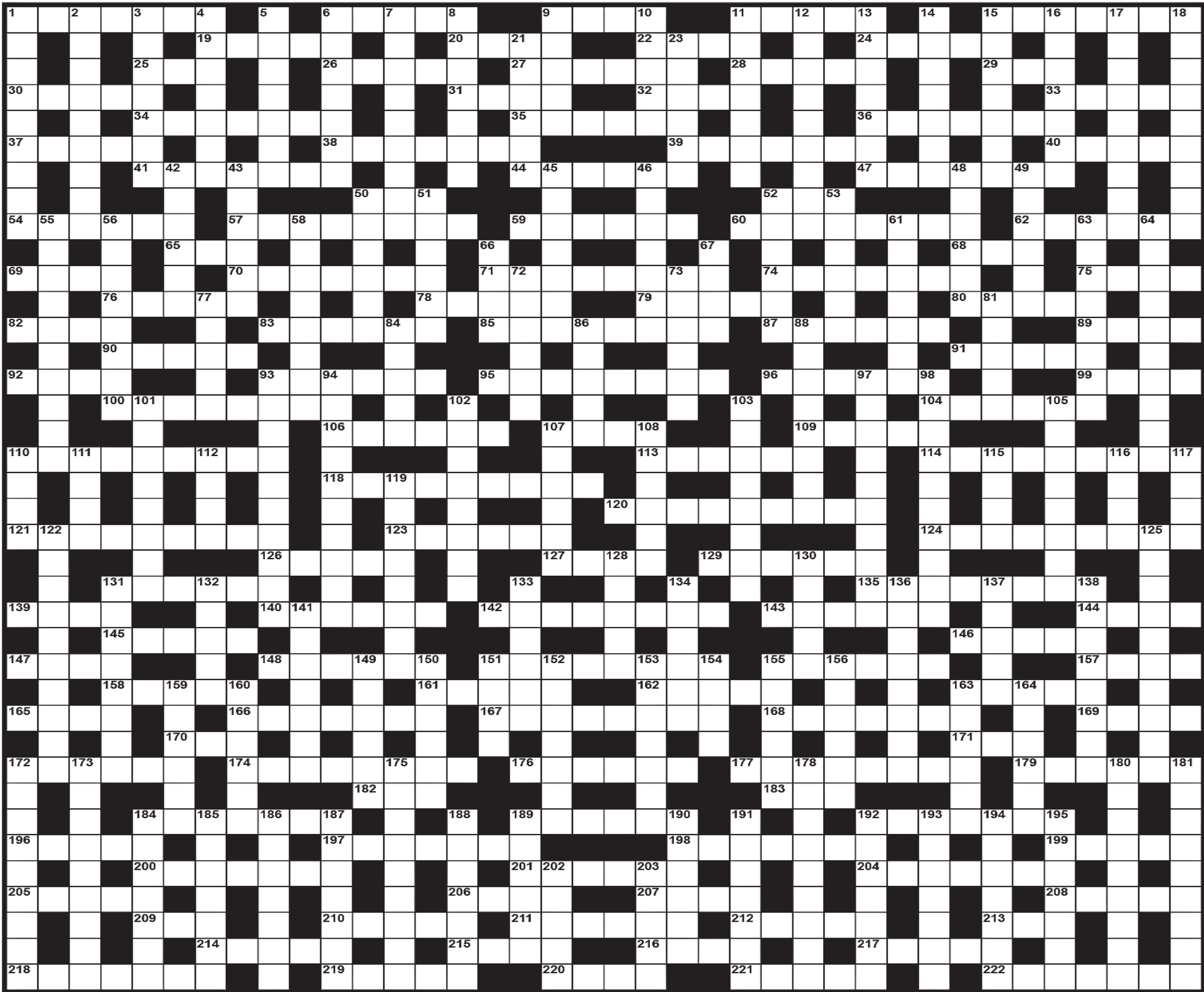
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ECHO

Mind Boggler Crossword

1285



- ACROSS

1 Aged

6 Parts of a tribe

9 Cry of pain

11 A type of tree

15 Amount left over

19 Discharge

20 Poor journalist

22 Slight pain

24 Quickly

25 A firearm

26 Papal order

27 Like a lout

28 Illegal burning

29 Pitch

30 An echo sounder

31 A nodule

32 Type of powder

33 Local language

34 Put up with

35 One of two

36 Nautical rope

37 Ways to leave

38 Obvious

39 Not Jewish

40 Arabian chief

41 Put burden on

44 Way of standing

47 Sealed bags

50 Crow call

52 As well as

54 Waver

57 Horrified

59 Showed pleasure

60 Placed in front

62 Belong

intrinsicly

65 Battery charge

measure

68 Crowd

69 Amaze

70 Turned inwards

71 Things used

74 Tree coverings

75 Strong cord

76 Fear greatly

78 Live coal

79 Social group

80 Girls' toys

82 Amplifiers (coll)

83 Be present at

85 Way through

87 Type of jacket

89 Looked over

90 Waste meat

91 Amulet etc

92 First man

93 Things to discuss

95 Chided

96 Scatters around

99 Other than one

mentioned

100 Made lovable

104 Surgical drill

106 Spoken slur

107 Former cloth

measures

109 Coconut product

110 Sweats

113 Total

114 Forms an opinion

118 Rivals

120 One seeking job

121 Of a mind disease

123 Together

124 A gift

126 Kingdom

127 Strong flavour

129 Deed

131 Several types

135 Providers

139 Bring up

140 Large boar

142 Type of fruit

143 Cringes

144 On top

145 Friendship

146 Neckband

147 Female deer

148 Smart

151 Remodelled

155 Large number of

157 Be unsuccessful

158 Golf clubs

161 Stop at sea

162 Battery pole

163 Brownish colour

165 Pool of money

166 Drink vessels

167 Learners

168 One in control

169 Massages

170 Historic time

171 Naughty child

172 A punter

174 Church spires

176 Pebble

177 Relied on

179 Whirlpools

182 Form of address

183 Bright colour

184 Women's

garments

189 Climb up

192 Stopped suddenly

196 Stop from entry

197 Levelling out

198 Rejected by

society

199 Celebrate loudly

200 Very old

201 With desires

204 A calendar

205 Type of flower

206 Defensive ditch

207 An illness

208 The sea

209 Outfit

210 Woodwork tool

211 Swipe

212 Pigs

213 Mistake

214 Wear away

215 Learning by

repetition

216 Prefix "formerly"

(arch)

217 Mineral finds

218 Posers

219 Comes up

220 Tear apart

221 A fibre

222 Tree products

DOWN

1 Dampened

2 Not permanent

3 Go back

4 Removed

coverings

5 Not engaged in

war

6 Fixed with studs

7 Sensible

8 Set aside

9 Type of giraffe

10 Hurry

11 Warning lights

12 Strong

13 Looks after

14 Casual in speech

15 Go over again

16 Long steps

17 Attention to task

18 Count up

21 Heavenly bodies

23 Fee

42 Roughen

43 Hung loosely

45 Moods

46 A crack

48 Damaged

49 Of clans

50 Put covering on

51 Joined metals

52 Type of horn

53 Slander

55 Frighten

56 Good-looking

58 Good standing

61 Exact copying

63 Equine riders

64 Holding in

66 A dice

67 Whispered call

72 A riddle

73 Pierced a boil

77 Lessen

81 Type of earth

84 Lumpy pieces

86 Put on list

88 Thought likely

93 One well-

respected

94 Paper articles

97 Sight

98 Invoices

101 Drink of

forgetfulness

102 Tribal

103 Wisdom

105 Strength of Air

Force

107 Still existing

108 Malayan wrap

110 Practical test (abb)

111 A break

112 Horse colour

115 Made into enough

116 Rescue

117 Tender

119 Fattest

122 Loyalty

125 Can be discussed

128 In want

130 Satire

131 A slope

132 ... John

133 Prettiest

134 Fervent

136 Put in order

137 Pleat in garment

138 Endured

141 Do better than

149 Undermines one's

position

150 Christian festival

151 Grate

152 Artists'

workrooms

153 Portable light

154 Medicine portion

155 One of a club

156 Travelled over

159 Do too much

160 Circulation

stoppage

163 Of a bride

164 Hamper

172 Houses of ill-fame

173 Mixed wildly

175 Sets free

178 Fines

180 Cheeky behaviour

181 Guards

184 To rustle loudly

185 Tells from

memory

186 Voter

187 A pioneer

188 Stews lightly

189 Appalled

190 Dutch fishing

vessel

191 Gives evidence

192 Victorian town

193 Types of nuts

194 Lengthiest

195 Good behaviour

202 Sea mammal

203 Unclothed
- Crossword Solution 1284 from 4 September, 2026

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Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF LAND

Notice of proposed lease of land section 3.58 of the Local Government Act 1995

Property: Portion of Lot 29 West Swan Road, West Swan 6055

Annual rental amount: \$180 per annum (pa) + GST

Valuation: \$180 per annum (pa) + GST

Purpose: Grazing Land

Term: One (1) Year plus One (1) Year plus One (1) Year

Submissions in writing and addressed to the undersigned may be lodged on or before, **Monday September 28, 2026.**

Sarah McQuade
Chief Executive Officer (Acting)
City of Swan
PO Box 196, Midland, 6936



PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF LAND

Notice of proposed lease of land section 3.58 of the Local Government Act 1995

Property: Suite 4, Stafford Court, 8 Stafford Street, Midland WA 6055

Lessee: Training Alliance Group Australia Pty Ltd

Annual rental amount: \$20,280 per annum (pa) + variable outgoings + GST

Valuation: \$19,500 per annum (pa) + variable outgoings + GST

Purpose: Commercial Office

Term: One (1) Year + One (1) Year + One (1) Year

Submissions in writing and addressed to the undersigned may be lodged on or before, **Monday September 28, 2026.**

Sarah McQuade
Chief Executive Officer (Acting)
City of Swan
PO Box 196, Midland, 6936



Read between the lines

By Pastor Ian Kirk



Staircase to the Moon

Our youngest daughter Heidi and her family were in Broome recently, as they travel around Australia. They were about to leave, when I suggested they stay a few more days to witness the "staircase to the moon".

This so-called "staircase" is a natural phenomenon that occurs with the rise of the full moon over the horizon. It also coincides with a low tide. With the tide receded, it leaves a large mud flat area in Broome's Roebuck Bay, with patches of water and mud. As the light of the full moon reflects off the pools of water and the mud differently, it gives the appearance of a staircase leading up to the moon.

When Heidi and her family saw it, they were so impressed by it. But their five-year-old daughter Tahlia was not so impressed. She said to her mum "I can't see a staircase" - she was looking for a real staircase that you could ascend up to the moon.

There's, of course, no literal staircase to the moon; although a rocket could get you there. But more important than getting to the moon, is getting to heaven. God's Son Jesus paved a way for us, a "staircase" if you will, by dying on the cross for our sins so that we could be forgiven, and by rising from the dead. When we put our faith in Him, we are promised of ascending into heaven when we die. Through Jesus, we have a staircase to heaven.

Boost for bicentenary Helena River restoration project

From p4.

The grant funding will also support the development of a catchment plan that marries Noongar knowledge, contemporary science, community values, cultural heritage, recreation, community well-being and environmental restoration.

BNAA executive director and environmental scientist Francesca Flynn said the restoration came as part of the charity's bigger plan to foster community and legacy.

"The Mandoon Bilya Riverpark is about much more than restoring a river," she said.

"It's about truth-telling, reconnecting communities and creating a living legacy for future generations.

"We're incredibly grateful to our community, supporters and families, and especially to our Elders and the old people who are no longer with us.

"Their wisdom, leadership and legacy continue to guide and inspire our work every day."

Swan Coastal Plain stable fly management

PRIMARY producers and residents along the Swan Coastal Plain are urged to keep up to date with the latest strategies to reduce stable fly, including management of organic waste materials such as plant matter and animal manure.

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) is strengthening measures to tackle stable fly and is calling on the community to play its part in reducing breeding sites and limiting the pest's impact.

Stable fly (*Stomoxys calcitrans*) is a pest that feeds on the blood of livestock, including cattle and horses, as well as people and pets, causing painful bites, stress and reduced animal welfare.

It is well established across the Swan Coastal Plain, both north and south of Perth. Populations can increase rapidly where moist organic material is present, including animal manure, compost, grass clippings and vegetable waste, which provide ideal breeding conditions.

DPIRD Invasive Species Director Ron Shepherd said the Stable Fly Management Plan had recently been amended to reflect best practice pest management strategies and incorporate new local government areas into the declared area.

"Stable fly is a declared pest under the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act (2007) across 15 local government areas, which now include the shires of Dandaragan and Victoria Plains," Mr Shepherd said.

"Stable fly remains a declared pest in the cities of Armadale, Cockburn, Kwinana, Rockingham, Swan and Wanneroo, the shires of Capel, Chittering, Gingin, Harvey, Kalamunda, Serpentine-Jarrahdale and part of the Shire of Murray.

"We urge all landholders in these areas to fulfill their biosecurity obligation and use the prescribed control measures in the Plan to manage this declared pest on their land, improving the quality of life for affected communities.

"DPIRD consulted with a range of stakeholders to update this plan and continues to work with horticultural industries, landholders, local governments and affected communities to reduce stable fly breeding to support long-term management of the issue."

More information on stable fly management, including the amended Plan and a companion guide, is available on the DPIRD website at www.dpiird.wa.gov.au/stablefly

Employment



The Echo Newspaper is looking to fill the following position

ADVERTISING SALES REPRESENTATIVE to join our small sales team

This current sales position is a full-time position, working with a locally owned and proudly independent newspaper; the successful applicant will be based in our Midland office.

- The successful applicant must be a self starter, have a strong work ethic with excellent time management skills, plus have the ability to work in a small sales team environment, with a dedicated team.
- A special area will be allocated, where the successful applicant will be required to canvass and service this area, plus have the ability to achieve weekly sales targets.
- A current "C" class drivers licence is required.
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- Strong negotiation verbal/written skills.

A salary package, including a commission structure with a weekly car allowance, will be provided. If YOU feel you have all the above qualities and are looking for a change, 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.

ECHO Notice Board

Upcoming Events

- Kalamunda Prostate Cancer Support Group** meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at Falls Farm, 41 Cagney Way Lesmurdie from 10am-1pm. For more information call Roy 9295 2522 or Ray 0427 095 892.
- Mundaring CWA** meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 10am at the CWA Centre (Sculpture Park), Jacoby Street, Mundaring. There is a general meeting and cuppa with craft and social to follow until 3pm. New members and visitors welcome. For more information call Marg on 0417 956 628.
- Midland Men's Shed Social Tuesday** is every Tuesday from 9.30am to 11.30am

in the Baptist Church Hall, Bellevue. Our workshop at 34 Swan Avenue, Midvale is open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 8am-11am. Call Andy on 0419 921 805.

Midland Lawn Tennis Club meets for social tennis 9am every Wednesday and Saturday at 21 Patterson Drive, Middle Swan. All ages and standards of play welcome, and they have senior and junior teams that compete in Tennis West pennants. For more information email playtennis@midlandtennis.com.au

Revival, Guildford's new monthly second-hand market, is back on Saturday, September 12 at St Matthew's Hall, Stirling Square, Guildford from 8.30am to 12.30pm. You can find fabulous pre-loved fashion, accessories and jewellery from

around 20 sellers, plus enjoy morning tea from our pop-up cafe. Gold coin entry, proceeds go to the St Matthew's Church restoration fund.

Midland Friendly Garden Club meets at 9.30am on alternate Thursdays at Bruce Douglas Pavilion, Brown Park, Salisbury Road, Swan View. The next meeting will take place on September 17. The guest speaker will be Graham Blair owner of Swan View Plant Farm, a renowned grower of various sought after ornamental plants. For more information call Jenny 0424 553 002 or Barbara 0482 935 686.

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.

A free service for non-profit organisations

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Woofers of the week



Misty is an eight-year-old chihuahua that needs a new home as her current owner is unwell and unable to care for her. Ideally she would be better suited in a retired couples home. She has never been around children. Costs apply. Contact Bakers Hill Dog Sanctuary on 9574 1438.

Roos and Lions face-off at preliminary finals



Mt Helena and Mundaring faced off against each other in a competitive game that resulted in a five-point gap at the end of the match.

BRIAN PALLISTER

THE Lions were quick out of the blocks with the first two goals.

Mt Helena player Hamish Duncan had returned to offer teammates Bo Read and Clem Cook solid back up in the ruck against Roos players Oli Aitken and Oscar Jenkins.

Mundaring's Sateki A'Vard collected several early possessions from the ruck contests.

As often as the Roos managed to move the ball into their forward line, Lions players Brendan Agnew, Ryan Schwagereit and Marshall Hearn were there to repel it.

Mt Helena's Cooper Parker scored an early goal, while Mundaring's Kyle Tenardi was covering plenty of ground around half forward, kicking a long-range goal.

At the first break the Lions held a 14-point lead.

Mundaring reversed the trend during the second quarter outscoring Mt Helena by 16 points.

Roos captain Dylan O'Loughlen took control at fullback, ably assisted by Lachlan Walter.

The Lions had their chances, although could only manage one goal from five attempts.

Leading Lions goal kicker Jess Cartwright and teammate Ryan Watters were being choked for room as the Roos' back men crowded the marking space.

The Lions accuracy issues continued after half time as they could only manage five straight behinds while the Roos were accurate

with their two attempts.

Lions players Michael Hine and Bo Read managed to lock the ball in their forward line as their team maintained control in that area.

As is often the case when that happens suddenly the ball will come out and go the other way.

This happened for the Roos as they moved the ball forward through Lachlan Nicol, allowing teammate Kyle Tenardi to run onto the ball and convert his kick at goal.

With only 10 points separating the two teams heading into the last quarter the game was still wide open.

Mt Helena continued to attack the goals but were still having trouble finding the big opening.

Mt Helena Lion Dakota Pollard played on from a mark and drove the ball deep into the forward line only to see the only player waiting on the goal line was Mundaring's A'Vard.

One goal from six attempts wasn't the return that the Lions were looking for.

Once again the ball managed to find its way out allowing Mundaring to move it forward to kick one of the only two goals kicked during the last quarter.

The Mundaring Roos defeated the Mt Helena Lions with a final score of 9.3 (57) to 6.16 (52).

The Roos managed to hang on by five points to book their place in next Sunday's grand final against Chidlow.

Swan United claimed an early lead but couldn't keep it against North Perth's mounting offense.



Swan United defeated by North Perth

NORTH Perth United have consolidated third spot, after a come-from-behind 3-1 win against Swan United at the Swan Italian Club on Francis Street.

The hosts found the opener early, with Tyler Buckley on target, but North Perth levelled just before half time.

Ben Green and Barry Boggan combined and found Yanich Jordan, who cut in from the left and curled a looping drive over the Swan keeper Nick Stone into the net.

The visitors hit the front just after the hour, the referee spotting handball in the box, and Boggan confidently converted the resulting penalty.

They sealed the points twenty minutes from time, a long through ball from Tim Fowler was flicked on by Jordan, and Tomas Carroll raced through and slid the ball under Stone.

North Perth coach Chris Bat-

ten said it was a game of two halves.

"I thought we played some good stuff in the first half, but we lost Cameron Hendry early due to quite a bad facial injury, and while he was receiving treatment, we conceded a very scrappy goal," he said.

"We started knocking the ball about really well and our attacking three started causing a lot of problems and we managed to find an equaliser.

"After half time we came out and we just reiterated to the boys to continue doing that they are doing, knock the ball about and stretch the back four, and scored a penalty to take the lead.

"I was really pleased how we continued to knock it around and with striker John Harris leading the line we knew another goal was imminent, and it duly came.

"All in all, really proud of the workrate and to be able to secure third place."

ECHO Local Real Estate

**Residential
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Space to grow in Midvale

THIS Midvale home is set on a generous 844sqm block and offers three bedrooms, one bathroom and plenty of space to move.

The property presents a practical option for first-home buyers, young families or investors looking for a property with room to grow.

Inside, the home has been freshly updated with new paint, brand-new floating floorboards and a refurbished kitchen, giving the interiors a clean and welcoming feel.

Wooden cabinetry and blue-green tiles add an easy atmosphere to the kitchen and create a comfortable space to whip up meals throughout the day.

The space is well lit and modern, with ample sunlight coming through the window over the sink.

The layout includes a light-filled sunroom, which adds a flexible extra space for a sitting area, study, playroom or quiet spot for a morning coffee.

Comfort features include split-system air conditioning, solar hot water and roller shutters, while single-car accommodation adds everyday convenience.

Outside, the large block will appeal to buyers wanting more room for family life, pets, gardening

or weekend entertaining.

Two separate outdoor areas provide extra flexibility, while established gardens add privacy and character.

Step outside to breathe in the fresh air and enjoy the greenery of mature trees providing cooling in the yard.

A brick barbecue gives the backyard a relaxed social focus for casual gatherings with family and friends.

Potential buyers can move in and enjoy the home from day one, while still having scope to shape the block to suit their lifestyle.

The location is convenient, with the home positioned close to local schools, Midland's main shopping precinct, public transport and major transport links.

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