

History advocate receives award

P6



Sawyers Valley mural completed

P8



New Mundaring community sculpture

P4



Picture: Brayden Mould

Perth Hills saved

The State Administrative Tribunal has rejected the North Stoneville plan following 35 years of consistent opposition from Perth Hills residents. **P3**



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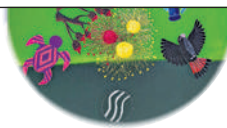
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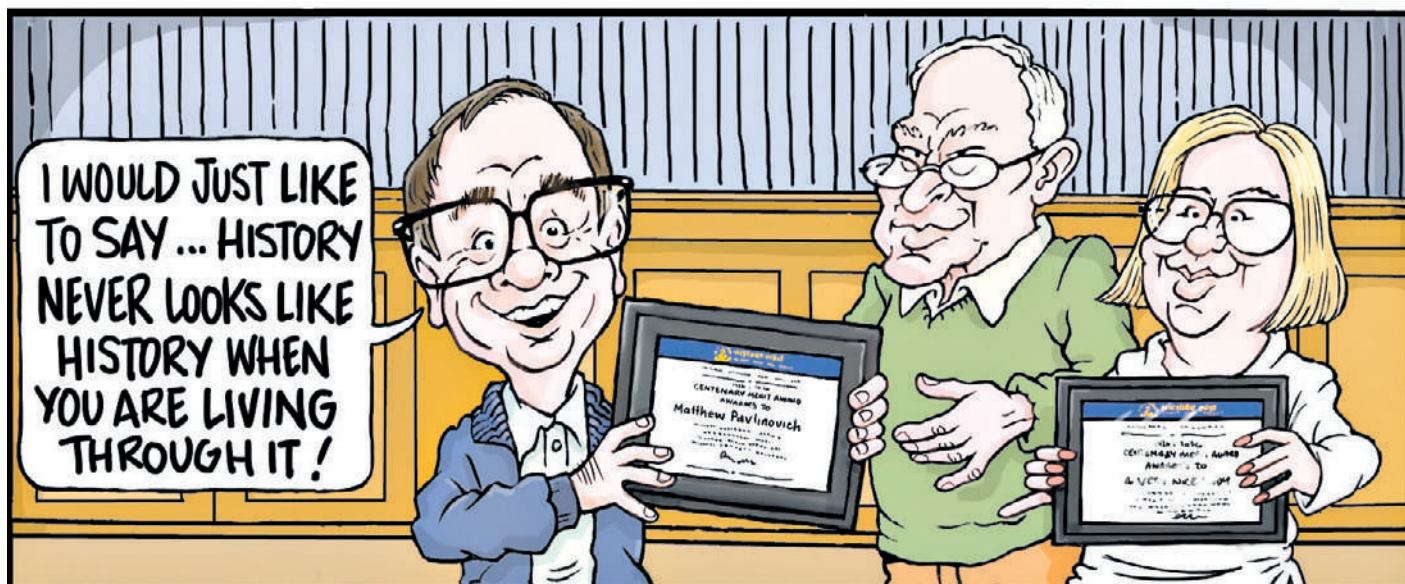
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LOCAL HISTORIAN MATTHEW PAVLINOVICH WAS AWARDED THE CENTENARY MERIT AWARD FROM THE ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY IN RECOGNITION FOR THE CONTRIBUTION HE HAS MADE TO LOCAL HISTORY.

ECHO YOUR THOUGHTS

Have your say:
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Thought for the day

“The problem with people is they forget that most of the time it’s the small things that count.”

- Jennifer Niven

Bassendean groundwater concerns

Dear Echo News,
When is the state Labor government going to take responsibility for its poor irresponsible decision making in regards to environmental contamination?

In 1989, the Labor government’s environmental minister approved in Bassendean the stockpiling of 250,000 cubic metres, 20m high, 4.5ha and between 400,000 and 500,000 tons of toxic contaminated waste after a fertiliser factory was demolished.

The developers of the site stated that it was too costly to remove the waste and so applied for state government permission to stockpile it on-site in this enormous ‘containment cell’ which astonishingly was granted.

As a result of this irresponsible, ridiculous decision the groundwater is now contaminated with arsenic, heavy metals, copper, zinc, iron, aluminium, ammonia, fluorides, sulfuric acid, all by-products of superphosphates.

This groundwater enters what is known as the underground Chapman drain which resurfaces nearby and enters the Swan River via the Ashfield flats-wetlands only 800m (approximately) from contamination point.

I’ve written many letters to the editor over the years, emails to our local council and local members of parliament.

I had questions asked

in parliament about this problem back in 2014 (Hansard, question without notice number 493 asked in the legislative council on May 7, 2014 by Hon Lynn Maclaren) with little response from East Metropolitan MLC Helen Morton representing the Minister for the Environment.

In 2016 Bassendean council started discussions on the removal of the cell but nothing has happened since.

Last week the mayor of Bassendean put out a statement by way of social media advocating for the removal of containment cell after meeting with heads of agencies event in the city.

Time to do the right thing in my opinion!

**G Coleman
Bassendean**

Creek fails to run

Dear Echo News,
In a dire warning from mother nature the winter creeks that 20 years ago ran from April to November down the western Greenmount side and the southern Coulston Road side of Greenmount Hill have barely run this year and have now stopped due to record low rainfall.

One creek that used to cascade down a pretty rock waterfall hasn’t flowed at all.

In another sign that a record-breaking El Niño is approaching, I have never seen as many xanthorrhoea kangaroo tails bloom as mother nature tries to set seeds for the coming bushfires that used to generate new growth.

Sadly, the Department of Conservation and local politicians have dropped the ball when it comes to watsonia eradication and now the Coulston Road side is a mass of what will become tinder dry watsonia.

This means that any fire will be increased in temperature and intensity destroying any native seed.

Don’t worry – the taxpayer will pay for all those helicopters and fire trucks to protect our homes by increased insurance.

What if the greatest danger to our society were not evil but stupidity?

Stupidity occurs when an individual voluntarily renounces their own capacity for judgement.

“Change can only occur by accepting responsibility for self-examination,” said Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

As the cries call for relief from \$3 a litre diesel as we fill our gas guzzling cars, we have no one to blame but ourselves.

Tell me again that climate change is a hoax.

**Dr C Hughes
Greenmount**

Weeds need to be controlled

Dear Echo News,
Environmentally destructive weeds such as freesia and bridal creeper need to be controlled urgently to protect the hundreds of high-quality bush reserves in the hills.

Freesia isn’t just a verge weed, it rapidly gets far into good bush, blocking out the local natives and leading the way for many other weeds.

Bridal creeper is spread far and wide

by birds. It grows over bushes and small natives, completely smothering them.

The result is a weed patch where previously there was a great density and diversity of native plants.

Stopping this destruction is not rocket science and we already know what to do.

The materials and equipment are cheap, but council budgets provide very few weed control staff.

Please join a bush-care friends group, we need a lot more volunteers including manual weeders and authorised volunteer herbicide sprayers.

Always begin by targeting the peripheries or leading edges of a weed infestation to stop it spreading and give the natives a chance to come back in, even if this means you run out of time to tackle the middle.

Don’t let them spread.

**MD Jones
Friends of John Forrest National Park**

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

What’s your view?

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Due to lack of space, the crossword will not be running in this week’s edition. We apologise for any inconvenience. Please check our website for the crossword and last week’s solution.

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Focus on Seniors

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Community members gathered for a celebration hosted by Save Perth Hills following the tribunal's decision. Picture: Brayden Mould

North Stoneville appeal rejected

BRAYDEN MOULD

THE long-awaited decision on the North Stoneville development by the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT) came to its conclusion on Wednesday with the tribunal officially rejecting the controversial Structure Plan 34.

The ruling marks the end of an extensive legal battle between developer Satterley Property Group, the Western Australian Planning Commission, Shire of Mundaring, and community group Save Perth Hills over the proposed 1001-lot urban townsite.

Central to the tribunal's decision was the evaluation of severe bushfire evacuation risks and the feasibility of proposed modifications, including an on-site refuge, as reported in *North Stoneville SAT hearings conclude* (Echo News, January 9).

Following closing arguments in December, the process was delayed by a string of procedural hurdles, including an April attempt by the developer to reopen the appeal to introduce survey strata vegetation management by-laws, as reported in *North Stoneville appeal reopening bid rejected* (Echo News, May 1).

Save Perth Hills chair Debra Bishop welcomed the rejection, describing it as a common-sense decision against an outdated and dangerous townsite proposal situated in an extreme, proven bushfire zone.

"North Stoneville's tenth rejection draws a definitive line under develop-led planning that seeks to put profits ahead of people, while placing people, knowingly, in harm's way," she said.

"Today's victory is for bushfire-prone communities everywhere. Now we can begin with

planning that's fit for the future, built to the realities of increasing bushfire risks and climate challenges, and above all, prioritising the safety of people."

In his written decision, the judge acknowledged the severity of the housing crisis and noted that Satterley's plan to deliver new homes for the community was a vital step, but ultimately ruled the proposal failed to prove the community could be built without exposing residents to unacceptable risk.

Now Satterley's remaining legal recourse is to challenge the ruling on a matter of law, which would require proving the judge made a specific legal mistake during the decision-making process.

Shire of Mundaring President Paige McNeil said council's position was guided by the community's long-held concerns about bushfire risk, evacuation capacity and the potential loss of habitat.

"On behalf of council, I thank our community for its steadfast commitment to raising and advocating its concerns."

"Community safety remains central to council's position."

Kalamunda MLA Adam Hort said the outcome was a momentous occasion that validated the community's rejection.

"Today's decision reinforces the longstanding concerns about bushfire safety and whether a development of this scale is appropriate for the Perth Hills," he said.

Mr Hort urged all parties to accept the ruling.

"The umpire has now made its decision, and there needs to be a lasting resolution," he said.

"We cannot have the future of North Stoneville remain in limbo indefinitely."

Community engagement begins for new Hazelmere data centre

GUANHAO CHENG

MONTHS following GreenSquareDC's withdrawal of their Hazelmere AI data centre, another data centre operator CDC is proposing a new facility within the industrial area off Bushmead Road.

According to the CDC September community update, 178-196 Bushmead Road was chosen as it is an industrial area close to everything needed to build and operate a data centre.

Trillion Trees chief executive officer Mark Hullet said their organisation met with the proponents on Tuesday alongside other Hazelmere residents, and associations.

"We were joined by representatives from Woodbridge Ratepayers Association and the Lower Helena Association," he said.

"The proposed location is one of the last remaining pockets of precious established native vegetation on private land in Hazelmere, and known locally to provide critical habitat for threatened species of wildlife including black cockatoos and snake necked turtles"

Mr Hullet said their organisation was concerned about potential amenity and environmental impacts due to the scale of the proposed building.

"Throughout the successful campaign against the successful (GreenSquareDC proposal), the community's voices were consistent and constantly concerned about the significant amenity and environmental impacts of a noisy, polluting, heating data factory adjacent to a school, bushland and residential homes."

CDC chief operations officer Glenn Uidam said community engagement was underway.

"We're in the early stages of engagement with the Hazelmere community and have appreciated the opportunity to hear directly from local residents, businesses, community groups and stakeholders," he said.

"These conversations are helping shape our proposal and are informing how we communicate about the project, including the information we provide on our website and through community



An artist's project render for the proposed data centre in Hazelmere.

materials.

"We're learning more about what people want and need to know, the questions they have and the issues that matter most to them."

"That feedback is valuable and is helping us better understand how we can be a positive contributor to the Hazelmere community as the project progresses."

"We are committed to continuing those conversations and providing clear, accessible information."

RMIT University school of global, urban and social studies Vice Chancellor's senior research fellow Sarah Burns, as cited in *The Conversation*, said data centres were increasingly being built near residential areas due to proximity aiding speed and convenience.

"The majority of existing data centres in places like Australia were built for another era: for things like streaming and cloud hosting," she said.

"These applications kept things feeling instant by holding copies of popular content close to users, while the heavy lifting happened far away."

"Yet another factor here is power. Connecting a new site to the grid can take years, so operators favour locations where high-voltage transmission and substation capacity already exist."

More information is available via cdc.com/hazelmere

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New Mundaring community sculpture celebrates stories of the jarrah forest

A SIGNIFICANT new public artwork celebrating the natural and cultural heritage of the jarrah forest has begun and will become a place for learning, gathering and connection in the heart of Mundaring.

The Jarrah Leaf, a community sculpture by Western Australian artist Jason Maxlow, draws inspiration from the publication 'The Nature of the Jarrah Forest' by respected local naturalist Eric McCrum and his daughter Janine McCrum, a textile artist based in Denmark.

Designed as both a work of art and an outdoor learning space, the sculpture will invite visitors to discover the remarkable story of the jarrah tree and the rich web of life it supports.

More than an artwork, The Jarrah Leaf represents a vision for creating stronger connections between people of all ages, place and culture.

Through storytelling, environmental education and creative collaboration, the project aims to foster a greater sense of belonging, wellbeing and stewardship of the local environment.

"The sculpture will become a focal point for environmental education, cultural activities and community gatherings, encouraging conversations about local biodiversity, Indigenous knowledge and the importance of protecting the jarrah forest for future generations," a spokesperson said.

Inspired by the enduring legacy of Eric McCrum's work documenting the ecology of the jarrah forest, the project celebrates the diversity of local plant species and the relationships between plants, animals and people.

"This project is about creating a place where people can gather, learn and share stories," Mundaring Arts Centre Inc project manager Jenny Kerr said.

"By combining art, nature and community participation, The Jarrah Leaf will help strengthen connections to Country and encourage a deeper appreciation of the extraordinary environment we all share."

Throughout the design, development and fabrication process, the goal has been to engage a cross-section of the community.

First Nations Elders will play a role in guiding cultural knowledge, storytelling and the confirmation of Noongar names for local plants and animals, including bush tucker species providing opportunities to learn the traditional names of local plants and deepen understanding of Country.

Wheels – Seniors on the Move instigated the project which includes the Mundaring Ratepayers Group, Mundaring Men's Shed, Friends of Sculpture Park West Landcare Group, Happy Hills Home Schoolers, and Aboriginal students and teachers from Mundaring Primary School which have and will actively contribute to the creation of the artwork.

Images of local species created during community workshops will become part of the finished sculpture, leaving a lasting legacy of community involvement.



Artist Jason Maxlow. Picture: Jen Kerr

"The jarrah forest belongs to all of us, and this project reflects that," artist Jason Maxlow said.

"Every workshop, every story and every contribution becomes part of the sculpture. It's not simply about creating an artwork – it's about creating a place that continues to inspire curiosity, learning and connection."

Installation of the sculpture will be delivered through collaboration between the project team, the Shire of Mundaring, landscape architects and contractors, ensuring the artwork is carefully integrated into the surrounding landscape and becomes a lasting landmark for the community.

The project is managed by MAC Inc, with project management by Jenny Kerr, and is made possible with funding support from the Shire of Mundaring, Lotterywest, and MAC Inc.

"Council is proud to support this exciting community project with a grant of \$47,000. The Jarrah Leaf will create a unique place for people to gather, learn and connect while celebrating the stories, knowledge and natural beauty that make the Perth Hills so special," Shire of Mundaring President Paige McNeil said.

"It's wonderful to see local organisations, artists and community members working together to create something that will benefit future generations."

As both a public artwork and a community meeting place, The Jarrah Leaf will stand as a lasting symbol of Mundaring's commitment to celebrating its natural environment, recognising First Nations knowledge and building stronger, more connected communities.

A community event will be held to celebrate the completion of the artwork and to acknowledge all contributors to the project.

Ballajura Youth Outreach wins award

THE City of Swan and Kids First Australia have been recognised with the Youth Focus Sector Collaboration Award at the 2026 WA Youth Awards for their work supporting young people in Ballajura.

The award recognises the Ballajura Youth Outreach Project's place-based approach to improving youth wellbeing, safety and connection, while empowering young people to have a meaningful role in shaping their community.

The project has delivered hundreds of engagements with young people across schools, parks, the library, youth spaces and community events, while the Ballajura Youth Committee has provided young people with opportunities to co-design programs, develop resources, lead events and influence decisions that affect their peers.

The project has also contributed to a 94 per cent reduction in antisocial behaviour at the Ballajura Hub, demonstrating the value of early intervention, consistent outreach and strong partnerships.

City of Swan Mayor Tanya Richardson said the award recognised the collective effort behind the project.

"This award is a wonderful recognition of what can be achieved when local government, community organisations, schools, service providers and young people work together towards a shared goal," she said.

"The Ballajura Youth Outreach project has shown us the value of meeting young people where they are, building trust and giving them genuine opportunities to have their voices heard."

"The Ballajura Youth Committee has been particularly important in ensuring young people are not



City of Swan award-winning team members Nick Horsnell, Debbie McCabe, Ethan Collins, Monique Williams and Annie Martella.

simply participants in a program, but active contributors and decision-makers in their community."

Mayor Richardson acknowledged Kids First Australia and the many community partners who have contributed to the project, including Ballajura Library, Ballajura Youth Committee, local Community College, community organisations, WA Police and local service providers.

"The success of this project is a reflection of the strength of those partnerships and the willingness of organisations to work together to achieve better outcomes for young people," Mayor Richardson said.

"Most importantly, we thank the young people of Ballajura who have shared their ideas, challenged us and helped shape the work. Their contribution has been invaluable."

Cont. p16.

Hatch Court development to go for public comment



Hatch Court's LSP will proceed to public advertising after a unanimous vote by council. Picture: Brayden Mould

BRAYDEN MOULD

CITY of Kalamunda council has unanimously approved a motion to split the proposed local structure plan (LSP) for a High Wycombe precinct into two separate processes.

This will allow public advertising for the Hatch Court light industrial area to proceed while delaying consultation on the adjacent Stirling Crescent residential zone.

The decision at the September 22 ordinary council meeting gives the green light for formal public consultation to begin strictly on the 25.8 ha Hatch Court industrial hub, while deferring advertising for the 6ha Stirling Crescent residential plan.

The move marks the latest shift for the High Wycombe site since nearby residents first raised concerns over road links, heavy traffic, and industrial buffers, as reported in *Hatch Court precinct road access to be reviewed* (*Echo News*, February 20).

Councillors David Modolo, Josh Clark, and Sue Bilich put forward the motion to revoke an August 25 decision that had frozen the entire LSP for 60 days while council staff communicated with Stirling Crescent residents.

Residential property owners on Stirling Crescent previously urged council at the meeting to freeze the proposal, citing a severe lack of consultation prior to the draft's release.

In response, supporters of the split argued at the September 22 meeting that Hatch Court landowners have not objected to advertising and that ongoing delays were stalling active development applications across the site.

Hatch Court landowner Rodney Sully in a deputisation to council said he supported the motion to revoke the August delay so landowners could gain planning certainty.

"The Hatch Court precinct landowners, who have a significantly larger stake holding, have not objected to the proposed advertising of the long-awaited local structure plan at all," he said.

"For quality light industrial development to occur in Hatch Court, buyers and developers do not want the risks associated with a precinct still in limbo; they are looking for the certainty of a finalised LSP."

Community members will be able to submit feedback on the draft Hatch Court light industrial precinct LSP once the public advertising period officially opens in the coming months.

Swan rejects bid to pause ward review consultation

GUANHAO CHENG

CITY of Swan council has rejected a bid to delay public consultation on a ward boundary review, defeating the revocation motion nine votes to six at a special meeting.

Midland/Guildford ward councillor Rashelle Predovnik said a pause would allow the city to address governance concerns and errors in the discussion paper before residents were asked to comment.

"The concerns this revocation motion has raised are not emotional. They are based on governance concerns," she said.

She questioned how councillor-generated options were assessed and whether changes to the review's scope had been formally communicated to all councillors.

After the meeting, Cr Sarah Howlett said the paper misrepresented Whiteman's position.

"The fact is, Whiteman is actually over-represented not under-represented as staff have shown in red throughout the paper so in fact any correction need not affect the Midland/Guildford ward," she said.

Public speakers raised concerns about data clarity, boundary changes and reduced Midland/Guildford representation.

Acting chief executive Sarah McQuade acknowledged the paper contained an incorrect definition but maintained the under-

lying figures and modelling were correct.

"As we have said the descriptor we have used in the paper was incorrect but the formula itself does not need to change and is not incorrect," she said.

Staff said corrections would be made before consultation and emphasised the options were examples rather than final decisions.

Opposing the revocation, Cr Cate McCullough argued consultation would allow residents to respond to, amend or propose alternatives to the options.

"Council remains free to amend, remove, or add options once feedback comes in," she said.

"No final decision has been made."

Cr Predovnik maintained the community deserved an accurate paper before consultation began.

The debate also revisited her unsuccessful August motion, which sought further work, a broader range of options, a status quo option and updated data.

That motion did not specify two additional options, as reported by *Echo News* last week, and was defeated eight votes to six, with Cr Shaynon Dean among its supporters.

The September revocation was supported by councillors Jennifer Catalano, Dean, Howlett, Ian Johnson, Nav Kaur and Predovnik.

The remaining eight councillors and Mayor Tanya Richardson voted against.



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Midland history advocate receives Centenary Merit Award for efforts

CAMILA EGUSQUIZA SANTA CRUZ

MIDLAND and Districts Historical Society chair **Matthew Pavlinovich** received the Centenary Merit Award at the Affiliated Societies State History Conference.

The award is presented by the Royal Western Australian Historical Society and recognises significant contributions and dedication to local history through volunteer work.

Mr Pavlinovich said he was delighted to receive the award, but wasn't expecting it.

"I do what I do for the love I have for Midland and for the areas in the 6056 postcode. I don't want the history to be forgotten, so that's why I do it. I don't expect individual awards, but I'm happy to see Midland's name being recognised," he said.

Mr Pavlinovich has lived his entire life in Midland and his fascination with history started in 2013 with a Remember Midland page on Facebook, which then evolved into the Midland and Districts Historical Society in 2016.

"Growing up, I saw the area before Great Northern Highway was (changed) and when that was the main part of Midland – the traditional heart," he said.

"I can remember everything here from the shops to the hotels to the people, and I want to keep that alive and make sure those stories are not forgotten."

He is also pleased to have contributed to the society's projects, from the Midland Railway Company commemorative line to recognising Wexcombe to saving the Midland oak tree and getting it relocated.

However, the people are at the heart of what he does.

"The best part of what we're doing is how we get



Matthew Pavlinovich at Midland Town Hall. Picture: Camila Egusquiza Santa Cruz.

to bring people together and reunite them. We've got members on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland and in Lismore in New South Wales. They all used to live in Midland," he said.

"I tell everyone that if you leave this place, if you go and live somewhere else in the metro area or country area, this is still your home and you can't take that away. That's why there's a lot of interest from people that aren't living in this area anymore."

The society currently has 90 members and hopes to one day open a museum and research centre in Midland.

"I want to thank the society committee for nominating me for the award, and also thank every individual that's contributed and helped, not just through my journey, but through the society's journey over the last 10 years because without their help, I wouldn't have this award," Mr Pavlinovich said.

Third win for Rullo at Lance East Exotics



Peter Rullo took his third outright win with co-driver Steve Glenney.

THE finale of Lance East Exotics Tarmac West delivered thrills, spills and champions with 70 competitors, the biggest field in 12 years.

Rally cars ranged from classics such as 1964 Ford Anglia and 1969 Ford Falcon to modern Subaru WRXs and Mitsubishi Evos to powerful Porsches and electrifying Teslas.

In the open class T200 competition former Gooseberry Hill resident Peter Rullo took his third outright win at the 2026 Lance East Exotics Tarmac West, following wins in 2018 and 2021.

This year he competed in his new 2023 Porsche 992 RGT with Steve Glenney as co-driver, finishing 25 seconds ahead of Heuson Bak and Roger Tan in their 2017 Lotus Exige S 350.

An elated Mr Rullo said it wasn't an easy win.

"We definitely didn't do it the easy way. We made a mistake on the hairpin turn in Kalamunda on Zig Zag when we tried to attempt a handbrake turn and got it wrong and then couldn't get it into reverse and lost 30 seconds or so there," he said.

"We had a big slog the next day to try to come back, and unfortunately a few stages were cancelled but we ended up with a win, so we're happy."

In the T185 category, introduced this year for modified classics, Byron Ellement and Dean McLardy in the rally's oldest car, a 1964 Ford Anglia, led from day one and were never headed. They won all nine day three stages and stretched their margin over Mike Doyle and Brett Hale in a 1991 Subaru Liberty RS over the event.

In the T165 category, partners in the car and partners in life, rookie Simon Brennan and Sylvia Hamerlik maintained their lead in their 2021 BMW

M4 to take the class win with a 3:46 minute margin.

The duo also finished the rally in fifth place outright.

In the T130 category, rookie Daniel McGuckin and his father and co-driver Colin McGuckin from Gooseberry Hill maintained their lead in their 1996 Nissan 180sx to finish 23.5 seconds ahead of Gavin Dixon and co-diver Joe Crabtree in their 2021 Toyota GR Yaris.

Rounding out the top three in the T130 class was another father-and-son duo Jack Oehme and Anthony Oehme in their 2014 BMW M235i 3:29 minutes off the leading pace.

The rally's biggest category T130, with 21 starters including 15 rookies, saw father and son crew Daniel and Colin McGuckin in their 1996 Nissan 180sx, take over the lead on day 2, holding it through day 3, and finishing the marathon day 22.7 seconds ahead of rookies Gavin Dixon and Joe Crabtree in their 2011 Volkswagen Golf, who won five of the nine day 3 stages to McGuckin's four. Jack and Anthony Oehme in their 2014 BMW M235i held third.

In the Time Speed Distance or TSD Teresa and Timothy Lupton in their 2014 Peugeot 208 GTi finished four days of driving the same stages as rally competitors with the closest time to the set target time.

Peter Hay and Gene Schneider in their 2020 Tesla Model 3 Performance finished in second place.

Former Australian cricketer Brad Hogg and co-driver Lachlan White in their 2016 BMW M140i rounded out the top three.

For full results and to be kept up to date, visit www.tarmacevents.com.au

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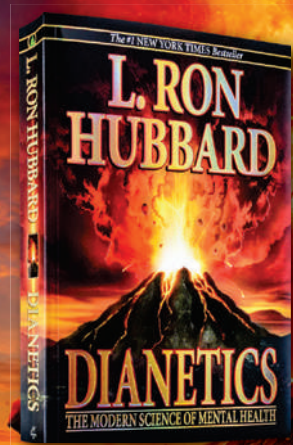
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Gonneville project concerns raised in council

CAMILA EGUSQUIZA SANTA CRUZ

CHITTERING residents have called on council to advocate for ratepayers' concerns regarding Chalice Mining's Gonneville project infrastructure.

During question time at last week's council meeting, residents said they felt that the shire wasn't doing enough to advocate on behalf of ratepayers, and asked council to clarify its role.

As reported in *Infrastructure corridor concern in Chittering* (Echo News, July 3), on June 17, council passed a motion to advocate against mining infrastructure through private properties and for existing or underground infrastructure to be used as preference.

Lower Chittering resident Atika Poole said council should look at its own history and other local councils as an example.

Ms Poole cited the council's refusal of a bauxite mine within the shire in 2009 and the Shire of Mundaring's advocacy against Alcoa in 2025.

"We hope this council will be remembered for its leadership, like those in 2009 and 2025, as a council that understood what was at stake, had the courage to take a stand and put the long-term interests of their community ahead of the commercial interests of a mine," she said.

"Does the shire support the Gonneville mine and its associated infrastructure through our valley? If not, will it advocate for the protection of Chittering's established identity, environment and the future our community has spent generations planning for?"

Shire of Chittering President David Dewar said council will remain impartial on the Gonneville project, as the mine itself is outside the shire's boundaries, but that it will still advocate on behalf of residents.

A Chittering Rise resident asked if Gonneville project infrastructure was in accordance with the shire's local biodiversity strategy.



Residents attended Chittering's last council meeting to discuss Gonneville project infrastructure.

"The strategy mentions that the greatest threat in the shire is subdivisional development or other types of development that require clearing of native vegetation," they said.

"Has the shire assessed the proposed Gonneville infrastructure corridor against its own... strategy, including the potential fragmentation of habitat relied upon by local fauna, and has that information been provided to state authorities assessing the proposal?"

Cr Dewar said the shire had not assessed the infrastructure corridor in relation to its biodiversity strategy, but that it had raised tree preservation areas, wildlife habitat, vegetation, drainage and cumulative impacts with the relevant state ministers.

Wisteria Way resident Sonia Cook raised concerns regarding access to public information.

"Much of the work of identifying and communicating developments about the Gonneville project to residents has fallen

to unpaid community volunteers," she said.

"As regular public reporting does not require council to support or endorse the project, will council commit to regular public reporting so ratepayers can see what action is being taken, what responses are being received and how this project is progressing?"

Cr Dewar said significant developments would be reported when reliable information, a submission, an advocacy position or council direction is required.

Residents also raised concerns about pollution affecting drinking water and water catchments, increased traffic affecting emergency responses, impacts on the rural character of the Chittering Valley and potential destruction of Carnaby's black cockatoo habitat.

Council said these were matters for state assessment processes and that separate shire-funded assessments could duplicate those processes and create a significant unbudgeted cost for ratepayers.

Cont. p16.

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Scan QR to check
collection dates

mundaring.wa.gov.au



Project renders for the Tonkin Highway Corridor project.

Six lanes for Tonkin Highway

GUANHAO CHENG

MAIN Roads will widen Tonkin Highway to six lanes and construct new grade-separated interchanges at Hale Road and Welshpool Road East as part of the Tonkin Highway Corridor project.

The upgrades will also deliver a new shared path for pedestrians and cyclists.

The works are aimed to improve safety, reduce congestion and provide more reliable travel times along the transport and freight corridor.

The corridor upgrade includes improvements at three intersections along Tonkin Highway at Hale Road, Welshpool Road East and Kelvin Road.

Main Roads is widening Tonkin Highway from four to six lanes between Roe Highway and south of Welshpool Road and is constructing a full interchange at Welshpool Road East and Hale Road.

The project team is also installing safety barriers, lighting and drainage infrastructure and performing landscaping and noise mitigation treatments as needed.

Development work and environmental approvals are also ongoing for a new interchange at Kelvin Road, which will be delivered as a future stage of the corridor upgrade.

Kalamunda resident Milton White raised concerns last year about accessing Hale Road to get to Forrestfield following the upcoming changes, as reported in *Tonkin Highway upgrade impacts on Kalamunda residents* (Echo News, January 31, 2025).

According to Main Roads, south-facing ramps were investigated during project planning which led to identifying impacts including property acquisi-

tion, impacts to Hartfield Park and surrounding conservation areas and impacts to Welshpool Reserve and relocation of major infrastructure services.

The north-facing ramps at Hale Road are aimed to avoid the identified impacts with access to Tonkin Highway planned via the Welshpool Road East interchange for drivers going southbound.

The Main Roads project timeline has scheduled the completion of the Hale Road to Welshpool Road construction for 2029.

Main Roads began site establishment works on September 21 and are scheduled to continue until November 27 this year.

During site establishment works, project signs will be installed on road verges and medians while a secure temporary base for the project workers, known as a site compound, will be established.

During sign installation works, a temporary footpath detour on Hale Road will be in place for approximately one day.

Traffic controllers will be on site to assist path users and direct them to nearby safe crossing points.

Early works will also include potholing, geotechnical investigations, and pavement sampling as well as groundwater monitoring, preliminary fencing and bore drilling works.

Main Roads said additional travel time should be allowed during the site works, with care cautioned through the work area.

Up to date information about traffic impacts may be found on the Main Roads travel map accessible via travelmap.mainroads.wa.gov.au

More information on the project and its scope may be found online via tinyurl.com/ydu3z7s6

Sawyers Valley mural completed



Michael Le Vaux, Paul Benson, SVRRA president and project coordinator Jen Schwagereit, artist Tayla Beynon, Shire President Paige McNeil, shire grants officer Ashleigh Sexton and Bendigo Bank's Lyndall Wills.

PETER W LEWIS

A PLAN in February by the Sawyers Valley Residents and Ratepayers Association (SVRRA) to paint the town water tank has come to fruition with the completion of a mural reflecting local flora and fauna, the town's timber history and an ANZAC memorial by Mount Helena artist Tayla Beynon.

SVRRA President and project coordinator Jen Schwagereit said the Shire of Mundaring provided great support by taking on the necessary preparation work on the very old concrete tank to ensure the stability and longevity of the mural for years to come.

"The 50-year-old-tank was leaking and flaking paint so it was sanded back and repainted, the shire will also be applying an anti-graffiti coating," she said.

"The project aims to reflect the well-known wildlife that locals love to see in everyday life as well as the local flora with the banksia grandis and spider orchid."

The ANZAC memorial seen from the east side is a tribute to the six local men who fought in both World Wars and never returned home.

"We have a historical portrait of local man Robert Kent who was a

sleepers hewer and firewood contractor in the early 1900s. He also enlisted in WWI and was part of a large early pioneer family," she said.

She said grants were obtained from the Mundaring Community Bendigo bank and the Shire of Mundaring, without these grants such projects could not be undertaken.

"The Bendigo Bank gave the biggest share - \$7500 which is what we were quoted for the flora and fauna and the ANZAC part which was actually the reason for starting the mural," she said.

"Then members wanted a historical element, so our two councillors John Daw and David Grills advised us to approach the shire for an additional \$3000 to add the timber worker and his horse - horses also being an important part of hills life."

The SVRRA's next project is to plant more native shrubs along the Great Eastern Highway.

The shire has recently upgraded the reticulation on the oval and extended it to water the verge plants as well.

The association also plans to add an information sign next to the mural to highlight the pioneer families in the area and to acknowledge the former existence of their old hall which stood on that site from 1914 to 1970.

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For each secondary school student

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\$100 Fuel Support Payment

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Learn more at wa.gov.au/servicewaoffers

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On the trail

What's happening in the Shire

September 2026



From the President

Our community have been celebrating the State Administrative Tribunal's decision to refuse Structure Plan 34 – North Stoneville because of bushfire evacuation risks. On behalf of Council, I thank our community for its steadfast commitment to raising its concerns, many which were reflected in the Tribunal's decision including our responsibility to protect and enhance our biodiverse forest in the Perth Hills.

Spring is a spectacular time of the year in the Perth Hills. Our trails are alive with wildflowers and local businesses are buzzing so be sure to get out and about and support local. With the warmer months also comes the anticipated return of the Season of Entertainment, providing families with plenty of free activities to participate in, as well as outdoor movies and live music. Check out mundaring.wa.gov.au/season for a full list of events and save the dates now.

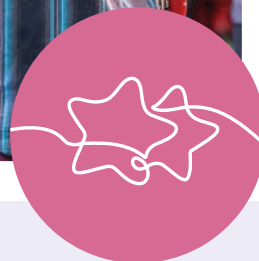
I had the pleasure of attending the All Abilities Expo at Mundaring Arena. The Shire is committed to creating an inclusive and accessible place for all and it was great to see so many initiatives and providers on display who are improving participation across our community.

I also look forward to the official opening of the new Brown Park cricket nets next month. The cricket nets are just one part of the Master Plan that will see improved facilities for the community to enjoy.

Paige McNeil
Shire President



Save the date! The Season of Entertainment is back



Due to popular demand, the Season of Entertainment will return this Spring and Summer.

Supported by Act Belong Commit and Perth Airport, the season will feature lots of free family entertainment and activities including outdoor movie nights, with plenty of pre-show fun, from face painting to petting zoos and giant inflatable sports games. Bring your appetite with a great selection of food trucks serving dinner, snacks and sweet treats. Lock 19 December into the diary for our flagship 'Silent Night, Party Bright' Christmas event which will include a silent disco, laser tag, a caricature artist, face painters, arts and craft stations, a visit from Santa and a fantastic selection of food trucks offering something for everyone.

Scan QR for a full list of event dates and details



Mental Health Month: Supporting wellbeing in the Hills

October is Mental Health Month, providing an opportunity to raise awareness, start conversations and recognise the importance of mental health and wellbeing in our community.

Over the month, the Shire will support a range of activities to boost wellness, including a Mindful Swirls workshop at Boya Community Centre on 14 October, Mindful Jigsaw and Art every Wednesday at Lesser Hall, Sound Meditation

for Seniors every Friday at The Hub of the Hills and weekend Social Up Lift Walking Groups along the On The Rail Trail. Check out the events calendar on our website for more information.

As part of Mental Health Month, The Hills Talk podcast will also feature a special episode with ROAR Inc. founder Kate Kendrick and coach Abbey Cartland-Hore, who are doing incredible work to build mental resilience and wellbeing among young people in the Perth Hills. Keep an eye out for the special Mental Health Month episode on our Spotify channel and join the conversation about how we can all contribute to a healthier, more connected community.

17-25 October

Mundaring Hills Open Studios

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18 October

Slow Food Festival

11am - 9pm • Sculpture Park

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23 October

Outdoor Movie: The Magic Faraway Tree

5pm • Parkerville Primary School

Enjoy a magical outdoor movie night with free activities, food trucks, face painting and a petting zoo.



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Seniors Week is a time to celebrate the older Australians who have contributed so much to our families, communities and way of life. It's also an opportunity to reflect on how we can better support people to live well as they age.

At Dovidia, we know that growing older shouldn't mean giving up independence, routine or connection to the people and places that matter most. That's why we provide personalised in-home care that helps older Australians continue living safely and comfortably in their own homes. Our services include companionship, personal care, home help, dementia care, live-in care and respite care, tailored to each individual's unique needs and goals.

What sets us apart is our relationship-based approach to care. We focus on building genuine connections through consistent Caregivers who take the time to get to know the people they support. We also work closely with families and health professionals to create a Circle of Care that keeps the individual at the centre of every decision.



This Seniors Week, we celebrate the resilience, wisdom and contributions of older Australians and reaffirm our commitment to empower people to live life with dignity, confidence and independence.

If you or a loved one could benefit from personalised in-home care, companionship or support to remain living independently at home, contact Dovidia to learn how we can help. Call us now on 08 6310 0410.

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Arboria Chamber Music Festival is fun for everyone!

The Arboria Chamber Music Festival is held next weekend Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th October.

Come up to Kalamunda and experience a superb roster of West Australian talent, including fabulous soprano Emma Matthews, the captivating beauty of Robert Zielinski's wonderful violin compositions (pictured), glorious H.I.P Company playing replica viols, the hilarity of J.S Bach's Coffee Cantata with Australian Baroque (pictured), and a brand new work "Celestial Bodies" by award-winning composer Emma Jayakumar, performed by the fantastic Darlington Quartet, who are hot off their recent European tour.

Supported by City of Kalamunda and Lotterywest, festival venues include the Zig Zag Gallery, Seminar Rooms, Kalamunda Library, St Barnabas and Holy Family Churches. Venues are walking distance apart and make it easy to engage with wonderful Kalamunda Artisan and



Farmer's Markets and Kalamunda hospitality venues.

For kids and families, we have Big Little Ballet's "Little Red" and "The wonderful World of Mr McGee" all held at the Kalamunda Community Centre (Saturday only). With ample parking, there's limited fuss moving about on festival day.

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

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ADVERTISING FEATURE

Focus on Seniors



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

Website: EcoLifestyleVillages.com.au
Facebook: facebook.com/ginginelv

Rooted in community, branching into creativity



Arboria Chamber Music Festival

SAT 3 & SUN 4 OCTOBER

Two days of chamber music, opera, song and creative workshops in the heart of Kalamunda. Also including dedicated children's ballet and music events for the whole family.

FEATURING

Freeze Frame Opera • H.I.P Company • Rob Zielinski
Australian Baroque • Chimera Ensemble
Soprano Emma Matthews • Darlington Quartet
New compositions by Emma Jayakumar
Big Little Ballet Company & many more!



arboriafestival.org.au @arboriafestival



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



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Your local Gig Guide

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125 Avon Terrace, York

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

Woodbridge Hotel
Blue City Wailers
From 8pm, Free
50 East St, Guildford

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

Sat September 26

Settlers House York
Jukes of York
From 5.30pm, Free
125 Avon Terrace, York

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

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

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Neil Adams
6pm-9pm, Free
4260 Great Eastern Hwy
Mahogany Creek

Sun September 27

Settlers House York
Jukes of York
12pm-3pm, Free
125 Avon Terrace, York

Sun September 27 cont.

Lyric's Bar
Howie & Dave
From 5pm, Free
22 Lyric Lane
Maylands

Chidlow Tavern
Urban Blues Band
From 12.30-3.30pm, Free
4 Thomas St, Chidlow

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Nathan Gaunt
4pm-7pm, Free
4260 Great Eastern Hwy
Mahogany Creek

Mon September 28

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

Tues September 29

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

Wed September 30

Chidlow Tavern
Wednesday Night
Jam Session
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Thu October 1

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ECHO NEWS

ARTS ENTERTAINMENT

Hills teen sparks national music movement

WHAT began as a simple social media post has quickly grown into an ambitious national project for 18-year-old Perth Hills singer-songwriter Elanie Watson, who is leading plans for an Australian-made music festival that champions female and gender-diverse artists while supporting charitable causes.

Inspired by Olivia Rodrigo's Daisy Chain Fields festival, which united music, community and philanthropy, Elanie (her stage name) shared her vision of creating a similar not-for-profit event in Australia.

Within just 24 hours, the response exceeded her expectations, attracting more than 100 expressions of interest from artists and industry professionals across the country, along with an interview by Triple J to help build momentum.

The overwhelming support included interest from well-known Australian artists such as Amy Shark and The Buoy, alongside emerging musicians, creatives and event professionals keen to help bring the concept to life.

"My social feed was completely full of moments from Daisy Chain Fields and the energy and sense of community on show was so heartwarming," Elanie said.

"I am passionate about showcasing local female talent and spotlighting local charities. With everything happening in

the world right now, it would be wonderful to bring the community together for a celebration of talent and organisations doing good in the world."

Community input has already begun shaping the festival's vision, with suggestions focused on making the event welcoming and accessible for everyone.

Ideas include creating an all-ages experience, providing dedicated sensory-friendly chill-out spaces, and featuring a Women Who Inspired Me interactive art installation, where festival goers can share the names of women who have influenced their lives.

For Elanie, the enthusiastic response highlights a strong appetite for an event that celebrates music, connection and positive social impact.

"It's been incredible to see so many people connect with the idea," she said.

"The support shows there's a real desire for festivals that are inclusive, community-focused and create opportunities for artists while giving back."

Elanie's musical career has gained momentum in recent years, supporting major acts including Keli Holiday, Thelma Plum, Budjerah and Drax Project.

She won the WAM Pop Act of the Year Award and Shire of Mundaring's Robert Juniper Award for the Arts in late 2025. She is also set to be an upcoming guest in the Shire of Mundaring's new podcast The Hills Talk.



Perth Hills singer-songwriter Elanie Watson.

Elanie is now inviting artists, volunteers, sponsors, community organisations and industry professionals to help shape the festival's next chapter.

To get involved, complete an expression of interest via her Instagram page @elianiemusic

Gidgestock Music Festival down to last tickets



Gidgestock Music Festival throughout the years.

THE Gidgestock Music Festival is back this year with only 100 tickets left.

The event is set to take place on October 9-11 in Giddegannup and is set in a natural bushland amphitheatre, featuring 22 live bands, campfires, rustic camping and dancing.

Headliners this year include Charlie Youngson, Jet Lang, Pentology, Coastal Drift, Dr Soul and Moth Street Artists.

Currently in its 11th year, Gidgestock began in 2015 after four friends – Steve and Jo Mitcham and Jim and Veronica McGuire – shared their love for Woodstock over a long lunch.

Mr and Mrs Mitcham then decided to lend their 50-acre property in Giddegannup for the festival where it continues to take place today.

The 3-day festival is family-friendly and donates all profits to the West Giddegannup Volunteer Fire Services, the Leukaemia Foundation, Parkerville Children and Youth Care, Shalom House and the Callum and Jake Robinson Foundation.

All musicians, stage crew and organisers are volunteers.

Festival-goers can purchase food and soft drinks from various vendors at the grounds or can also bring their own food if they wish.

Merchandise is also available for sale as well as the Kookaburra pre-loved store.

Toilets are located at the site, but no shower facilities are available.

Water for washing and drinking will be completely free throughout the event.

The kids will also have special activities with an interactive performance by Charlie Youngson on Saturday morning.

Tickets can be bought for one single day or the entire weekend with or without camping and start at \$115.50 for adults.

More information and tickets are available at <https://www.gidgestock.com.au/>

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Read between the lines

by Pastor Ian Kirk

The Unique Café

While in Brisbane recently, Colleen and I went to a café for breakfast. We found one and it had an interesting name "These Three Things". I wondered what the "three things" were. Was it the coffee blend, the milk at the right temperature or good service? Mind you, my thinking wasn't crystal clear, as we had just arrived in Brisbane after a "red-eye" flight.

As we entered the café, we were greeted by friendly staff, and then I saw another sign in the café that read "the greatest of these is love". Immediately, I realised what "these three things" was a reference to. It wasn't the coffee blend, but to faith, hope and love. These three things are highlighted in a Bible verse, 1 Corinthians 13:13 "Now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."

Faith, hope, and love are core qualities in those who follow Jesus. We have faith in God and trust in Jesus. We have a sure hope that God will care for us here and bring us into heaven through what Jesus has done for us. We have love as a distinguishing behaviour, being commanded to love all people, including our enemies; just as Jesus did.

But the greatest of these is love - that's because one day, in heaven, faith and hope won't be needed. There will just be love in the presence of the God who so loved us that He sent Jesus to save us.

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Public Notice

Grants Selection Committee Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the above meeting will be held on Tuesday 29 September 2026 at 5pm for the purpose of assessing applications for the Shire's Community-wide Event Grants.

The meeting will be held in the Committee Room at Shire of Mundaring, 7000 Great Eastern Highway, Mundaring.



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You can apply for a permit online on the City of Swan website www.swan.wa.gov.au/Fire or in person by visiting your local Volunteer Bushfire Brigade. Station opening hours and additional fire related information is available on the website or by calling the City of Swan Customer Support Centre on 9267 9267.

Note: Due to seasonal weather conditions, permits may not be issued in some instances, or further conditions may be imposed at the discretion of the Fire Control Officer. Restricted Burning Period dates may also change due to seasonal conditions.

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



PUBLIC NOTICE

REVIEW OF WARD BOUNDARIES AND COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION

The City of Swan is conducting a review of its wards and representation and invites public participation in the review.

Ward boundaries and the number of offices of Councillor for each ward will be reviewed against the following five factors:

- Community of interest
- Physical and topographic features
- Demographic trends
- Economic factors
- Ratio of councillors to electors in the various wards.

Feedback on the current ward names and suggested changes are also welcome.

A discussion paper outlining the current context, factors to be considered in the review, and options for wards and representation has been prepared. The discussion paper is intended to facilitate community consultation and obtain public feedback on the options included, as well as any other options the community may identify for Council's consideration.

A copy of the discussion paper is available on the City's website or can be viewed at all City Offices or any public library within the City of Swan during their opening hours.

Submissions can be provided to the City between September 23, 2026 and midnight on November 6, 2026 via the following channels:

- On the City's Swan Engage page www.swanengage.com/wards-and-representation-review
- Emailed to swan@swan.wa.gov.au
- Posted to City of Swan, PO Box 196, Midland WA 6936
- Hand-delivered to City's Administration Centre, 2 Midland Square, Midland.

For more information, please visit www.swanengage.com/wards-and-representation-review or contact the City on (08) 9267 9267.

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



Do you have something to Celebrate?

**Why not announce it in the Echo?
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Gonneville project concerns raised

From p7.

A Protect Our Valley – Chittering spokesperson said the community felt disappointed with the council's responses.

"We understand that the shire is not the authority responsible for approving the mine, but the shire has a stronger institutional voice than individual residents," they said.

"It should be using that voice strongly and consistently while the project is still being assessed and while alternatives can still be considered.

"Residents should not have to repeatedly use public question time simply to establish what information council has received, what discussions are occurring and what advocacy is being undertaken on their behalf.

"For some residents this is intensely personal. Proposed infrastructure could run straight through or alongside their properties. Others could potentially experience increased heavy traffic or other impacts. These are people's homes and communities, not simply lines on a project map."

Mid-West MLA Shane Love, whose electorate includes Chittering, also weighed in on the concerns, saying he recently met with concerned residents and the council.

"I have also met with Chalice Mining to discuss the proposal directly and to better understand the company's plans. I have a further meeting scheduled in October and will continue to engage with all parties as more information becomes available," he said.

"My focus is ensuring that local residents have the opportunity to have their concerns properly considered and that any decisions are made transparently, with a clear understanding of the impacts on the community."

According to Chalice, the proposed infrastructure corridors remain under assessment, with route options and mitigation measures under active investigation and consultation.

The Environmental Protection Authority is assessing the adequacy of Chalice's environmental review document before it is released for public comment, which is now expected to happen late 2026.

Ballajura Youth Outreach wins award

From p4.

The recognition comes as the City of Swan continues to expand its Youth Outreach work to strengthen the city's capacity to engage with young people in their communities, build connections with local services and provide pathways to support leadership and participation.

Mayor Richardson said the continued investment in Youth Outreach reflected the city's commitment to working collaboratively with young people and the wider community.

"Receiving this award is a significant achievement, but it is also an opportunity to build on what we have learned," she said.



Woofers of the week

Bruno is a one-year-old staffordshire bull terrier that needs some training but is eager to learn. He is very friendly, loves everyone, and would make a wonderful pet to staffy lovers. Bruno is sterilised, vaccinated, and micro-chipped. Costs Apply. Contact Bakers Hill Dog Sanctuary on 9574 1438.

ECHO Notice Board

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Upcoming Events

- **Kalamunda Youth Swing Band** gives young musicians the opportunity to rehearse and play in a band. Rehearsals are Monday afternoon during school term. For more information call musical director Leah on 0432 973 395.
- **The Ellenbrook Friendship Group** meets each Wednesday at the Community Centre, 27 Maffina Parade, Ellenbrook from

1pm to 4pm. All welcome to make new friends or just have a chat. Enjoy indoor bowls, afternoon tea and the occasional outing. For more information call Sheila on 0402 973 307.

• **The Swan Woodturners Association of WA** meets every Tuesday at 1pm for a 1.30pm start at the Caversham Memorial Hall, 7847 West Swan Road, Caversham for men and women of all ages interested in learning the art of woodturning. Woodturning demonstrations are undertaken each week with demonstrations

also displayed on large TV screens. Competitions are held for those members eager to improve their skill level. For more information visit woodturnerswa.org.au and then go to Swan Woodturners Group or contact the convenor on 0476 178 002.

• **The Gidgegannup Men's Shed** at Ian Stannard Pavilion, Gidgegannup Showgrounds, 2171 Toodyay Road, Gidgegannup is a community-based men's shed providing opportunities for men and women to work on projects of their own, join in shed activities and tasks,

or just share time, recreation and fellowship with other members. For more information email president@gidgegannupmensshed.org.au or visit gidgegannupmensshed.org.au

• **The Save the Hills Children's branch** will be holding a fundraising stall at Mundaring Shopping Hall outside Woolworths between 9am and 3.30pm on Friday, October 2. The stall will include our popular second-hand books, hand knits, crochet rugs, and plants. No EFTPOS available but there is an ATM machine nearby

• **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 October 1. The guest speaker will be Neil Boyd, chair of the Western Australian Horticultural Council and breeder of Hibiscus. For more information call Jenny on 0424 553 002 or Barbara on 0482 935 686.

• **Headspace Midland** will be hosting Headspace Day 2026 on Friday, October 9, from 10am to 2pm at Tur-

quoise Cafe in Midland. This year's theme is 'Do Nothing', encouraging young people to take a break, slow down, and spend some time chilling out. The event is free and will give young people a relaxing space to play with lego, board games, colouring, and to connect with others. Only for ages 12 to 25.

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.

Swan juniors into grand finals



U14 girls finished the season as the league champions.

SWAN United Football Club is celebrating a strong season for its junior program, with three teams progressing to their respective grand finals.

The U14 girls, U16 boys and U18 boys have all secured places in their season deciders.

The U14 girls finished the season as league champions before defeating Mandurah City in their semi-final at the Swan Italian Club.

The U16 boys also reached the JCL Cup final this season before defeating Wanneroo FC in their semi-final to book a grand final appearance.

The U18 boys completed the club's trio of grand finalists with a 5-2 semi-final victory against top-placed Dianella.

Swan United president Ben Kelly said having three junior sides competing in grand finals was a significant achievement for the club.

"To have three teams all playing in grand finals is a fantastic result for Swan United," he said.

"These players have worked hard all season, but so have the coaches, managers, volunteers and families behind them.

"Our junior program is a massive part of the future of Swan United.

"We want young players from our local



The U18 boys team won against Dianella.

community to have a pathway where they can start in juniors, develop at the club and hopefully one day progress into our senior teams.

"The 14s girls winning the league and now reaching the grand final is also a great reflection of how far our girls' program has come.

"We are committed to continuing to grow opportunities for girls and women at Swan United."

The club is encouraging members, families and supporters to attend the grand finals and support the three junior sides.



John and Carole Parsons with their Life Membership awards at the club's 55th Annual General Meeting.

Lifetime membership awards for Mundaring bowling couple

MUNDARING Seniors Incorporated members John and Carole Parsons have capped off nearly two decades of local sporting dominance by receiving Life Membership at the club's 55th Annual General Meeting.

The husband-and-wife duo joined the association in 2007 at the ages of 73 and 67, going on to secure multiple carpet bowl titles, Eight Badges, and interclub victories.

Mr Parsons won his first singles championship title in 2026, adding to his previous triple's championship wins in 2012, 2022, and 2023.

Ms Parsons competitive records include four Four titles, five Triple crowns, four Pairs trophies, and two Singles Championships won in 2012 and 2025.

The pair earned their most recent Eight Badge in June 2026 alongside Eric Stein and Pauline

Craigs in a match against Beckenham.

During his four-year term as Bowls Captain beginning in 2010, John expanded interclub competitions to include 17 regional clubs and introduced Mundaring Seniors to the annual Narrogin Carnival.

Mr and Ms Parsons also secured the club's tournament format from a basic knockout system into the championship model used by members today.

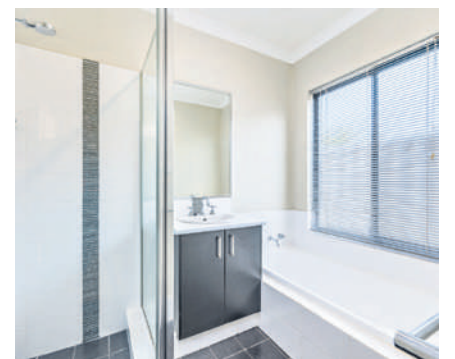
In addition to their sporting roles, Mr Parsons served as vice president from 2010 to 2011 and president from 2023 to 2024, while Ms Parsons served on the management committee from 2011 to 2012.

For 19 years, Mr and Ms Parsons have been mentors, organisers, competitors, volunteers, and friends to the Mundaring Seniors community.

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THIS three-bedroom, two-bathroom Midland villa offers easy access to the area's business district and is tucked away in a neat, well-kept complex.

Walk through the tidy villa courtyard with neat bushes that add a dash of nature and greenery to the front of the home.

Step inside to find a comfortable central living area with plenty of room to relax, along with a separate meals area adjoining the kitchen.

The kitchen is modern and features a combination of wood-ven cabinetry that adds an accent to the clean white countertop, wall tiles and stovetop space.

The positioning next to a large glass backyard door allows ample natural light into the area and shares a space with the dining area.

The main bedroom is carpeted and has its own ensuite, while the remaining bedrooms provide good space for family, guests or perhaps a home office.

Outside, the private rear courtyard is easy to maintain and provides a pleasant place to sit back and enjoy without spending weekends looking after a large garden.

A clothesline folds in neatly against the wall and allows for ease of drying laundry out in the open air of the rear courtyard which is fully fenced.

The multiple bathrooms have a black and white palette with black tiled floors that complement the white tiles and porcelain to give the space a comfortable and modern look.

The double garage is another strength of the property, with enough room for two vehicles plus some extra space for a

small workbench or storage.

Previously held as an investment property, the villa is now being offered with vacant possession, making it ideal for those wanting to move straight in, downsize, start out or add to their investment portfolio.

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I Remember When...



Do you remember when the Regent Theatre stood on James Street in Guildford?

The cinema closed in 1966, and the building has taken on a few different roles since then. Today, it is home to the Museum of Natural History, easily recognised by the dinosaur out the front and a popular stop for visitors to the area.

Over the years, the old theatre has also been known as Garne Hall, where dances were held during the 1980s, and at one stage it became the Slovenian Centre. For many years, the building was also used for bingo on Thursday nights. I remember Mum loved her Thursday night bingo.

Not long ago, I was talking with my sister Janet and she reminded me about another popular local haunt next door - the Guildford Home Made Centre, known locally as the HMC. Janet recalled how the young guys in the area would often hang around out the front, and apparently a few things, mainly smokes, had a habit of going missing.

I remember the HMC more as a bakery in the 1970s, making some great cakes and milkshakes. It must have been a popular place to meet on a Friday or Saturday night. Across the road was, and still is, Alfred's Kitchen, with both the Stirling Arms and the Guildford Hotel only a short walk away.

In many ways, that little stretch of Guildford was the entertainment centre of town for a while.

The current shopping centre wasn't there either. There were only a handful of shops, including the local fish and chip shop. It was there you could buy what they called "scrappies" - the leftover scraps of food from the shop. You certainly wouldn't see that being sold today.

I also remember people ducking around to our family bakery, opposite the Rose and Crown, buying a tank loaf, pulling out the middle and filling it with hot chips.

Simple things, but great memories of a Friday night in Guildford.



Milton Rendell - CEO
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A LITTLE BEAUTY
3 / 34 Mathoura Street

Property Features:

- 3 bed, 2 bath
- Ensuite to main bedroom
- Central living area
- Meal's area
- Kitchen
- Laundry
- Separate WC
- Private rear courtyard
- Double garage

- Clothesline
- Easy-care surrounds
- Vacant possession

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19 Carwell Avenue

Property Features:

- 3 bed, 2 bath
- Ensuite & Walk-in robe
- Generous central living area
- Meals area adjoining kitchen
- Courtyard flowing from living area
- Separate theatre room with barn-style door
- Manual roller shutters
- Split-system & ducted air conditioning
- Gas hot water system
- Reticulation system

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SPACE AND POTENTIAL
47 Ivanhoe Street

Property Features:

- Five bedrooms
- Updated bathroom
- Two W/Cs
- Renovated kitchen & laundry
- High ceilings & pressed-tin features
- Fireplaces, leadlight French doors and jarrah detailing
- Updated paintwork in key areas
- Generous verandah
- Powered shed with loft
- Established fruit trees
- Water tank

David
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Mundaring Hills Open Studio

SATURDAY 17TH OCTOBER
TO SUNDAY 25TH OCTOBER
10AM TO 5PM

Amaroo comes alive with local art for nine days of creativity, conversation and Perth Hills beauty.

Meet our artists, watch them paint live and discover original works, while enjoying coffee, cocktails, breakfast, lunch or dinner at The Lounge Restaurant. Come for the art, stay for the bush setting, the artist chats and the very real chance you'll leave with something you love.

FIRE & FEAST HALLOWEEN Special

SATURDAY 31ST OCTOBER
5.30PM OR 7.30PM

For an earthy & interactive dining experience. A celebration of food & fire. This interactive "fire-to-table" dining event includes:

- Slow-cooked and hung meats
- Farm-fresh, fire roasted vegetables and seasonal sides
- Dessert cooked over coals

Tickets
\$98 p/p

High Tea in the Hills

10 OCTOBER
14 NOVEMBER | 5 DECEMBER

Join us for a special High Tea event - a truly indulgent experience featuring a selection of delicious sweet and savoury delights, complemented by your choice of specialty teas, barista-made coffee, hot chocolate, and sparkling wine.

PACKAGE OPTIONS

- \$79pp – includes all food, one drink & hot beverage.
- \$114pp – includes all food, unlimited drinks & hot beverage for 2 hours

Art and Lunch Experience

3 OCTOBER
21 NOVEMBER | 12 DECEMBER

Get ready to unleash your inner artist!
A talented Perth creative will guide you through a fun, relaxed painting session where you'll craft your very own masterpiece while sipping away on a glass of bubbles.

After painting up a storm, settle in for a delicious two-course lunch.

Art session kicks off at 10:30am and flows through to 11:45am

Tickets
\$135 p/p

Melbourne Cup

TUESDAY 3RD NOVEMBER
FROM 10.30AM

Celebrate the Lexus Melbourne Cup 2026 in picturesque Perth hills. Join us for fashions on the fields, live music, live race coverage, sweepstakes and more.

PACKAGE OPTIONS

\$125pp – includes bubbles on arrival, roaming canapes and 3 courses Luncheon

\$165pp – includes bubbles on arrival, roaming canapes, 3 courses Luncheon and unlimited beers and wine for 2 hours. *Book your seats now.*

POOL PARTY

SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER – 1.00PM

Get ready for the ultimate poolside experience! Spend the day soaking up the sun with refreshing drinks, great company, and live beats from our DJ.

YOUR POOL PASS INCLUDES

- Pool access • Complimentary glass of bubbly on arrival • Fresh towel hire.

UPGRADE YOUR EXPERIENCE

\$250 Private Cabana. Take your pool day to the next level with a private cabana for up to 6 guests.

Relax in style, enjoy the music, and make the most of the day with my friends. Cabanas are limited, so be sure to book yours early!

Pool pass
\$30

Tickets
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Celebrate Christmas in the Perth Hills!

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