

Alexis takes Miss Galaxy crown

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WALRPA celebrates 50 years

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Swan planning concerns raised

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P10

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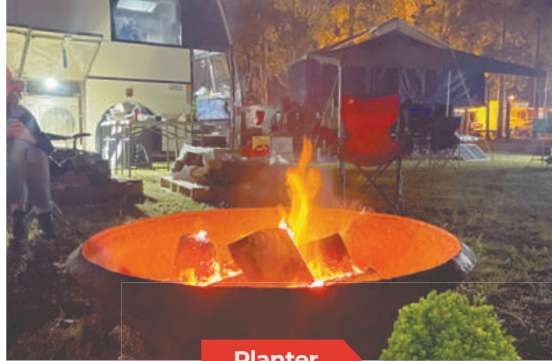
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Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions



ECHO

Celebrations



The WALRPA volunteers aim to preserve heritage railway.

Western Australian Light Railway
Preservation Association turns 50

CAMILA EGUSQUIZA SANTA CRUZ

FOUNDED by a group of friends in 1976, the Western Australian Light Railway Preservation Association (WALRPA) is celebrating five decades of driving, restoring and preserving locomotives, carriages and heritage railway infrastructure.

The association owns and operates the Bennett Brook Railway in Whiteman Park, providing a 6km scenic ride throughout the park seven days a week.

WALRPA treasurer Bob Baker said the community is excited to celebrate.

"From that small beginning in 1976, it's come a long way. That's one of our major achievements to grow the place over the years. When we started out, it was a virgin site. There was no railway there. It really started from nothing compared to what it is today," he said.

On September 20 the association will celebrate its anniversary and also the commissioning of a historic signal cabin at Whiteman Village Junction.

The cabin's origins trace back from 1923 when it was used to control trains from Subiaco to Fremantle.

In July 2000, it was acquired by the Bennett Brook Railway, which set out to restore it.

"The single cabin is a massive task that we've undertaken – I've been working on the project for 10 years, which gives you an idea of how big of a job it is. Mind you, it's not five days a week. It's only volunteer time, but it has been a challenge from start to finish," Mr Baker said.

The association currently has 110 members with 60 active ones.

Mr Baker said they've struggled to engage a lot of young volunteers since the Covid-19 pandemic.

"A lot of our volunteers started way back in 1984 (when the railway started to operate), and now we've got to the stage where we can't drive trains anymore because we can't pass the



Bennet Brook Railway's oldest locomotive dates back to 1901.

medical due to our age. We're relying on trying to get younger people so that we can renew our membership, which we're doing, but it takes a lot for people to come in and start learning because you've got to learn from scratch," he said.

Despite this, the young volunteers involved with the association are committed to their work.

"Our youngest driver is 21, who started volunteering when they were 13 with their mum," Mr Baker said.

Mr Baker is looking forward to celebrating the anniversary with the community and seeing the signal cabin fully operational.

"I hope the association keeps going long past when I finish, and it will. It'll keep going. Everybody likes to ride behind a steam train. You know, these days you're travelling in an aluminium cocoon with air conditioning and you can't hear a thing. Whereas these our old trains clickety-clack as they go around with open windows. The steam engines are a living beast. They talk to you. They really do," he said.



The signal cabin will be one of only two operational signal cabins in WA.

Swan planning concerns raised at community meeting

GUANHAO CHENG

COMMUNITY representatives have raised concerns they want addressed through the City of Swan's independent planning process review as the consultant continues to work toward findings.

The Swan Community Environmental Alliance meeting heard discussion about planning decisions involving The Vines, Midway Ford and the withdrawn Hazelmere data centre proposal.

Swan planning process review committee (SPPRC) community representative Dixon Lowe said the community's focus was on the processes used by planners rather than whether residents agreed with individual decisions.

"If (city planners) can defend their process, that's fine.

"Then we can understand why they've done things."

Mr Lowe said the review itself was an unusual opportunity to examine the city's planning processes.

"Consider the fact we've got our (City of Swan) council reviewing the performance of their staff... which other council has formed a committee in Perth doing that?" he said.

Mr Lowe said community members were not opposed to development but wanted balanced planning appropriate for the areas affected.

"The point is we're not against housing," he said.

"The problem is it's got to be appropriately suitable to the circumstance and to the area.

"It needs this balanced planning and balanced planning means looking at everything."

According to the state government, the WAPC's state planning policy framework is the basis for coordinating and promoting land use planning, transport planning and land development in a sustainable manner.

The framework provides guidance for

public authorities, local governments, proponents and the public.

Mr Lowe said the community did not want the planning framework changed but wanted the review to examine how it had been applied.

"The framework is a good framework," he said.

"We don't want to change it but we want to ensure the authorities are obeying their own rules so the review will hopefully look at whether the planning framework was applied as intended."

Fellow SPPRC community representative Gavan Troy also raised concerns about what he described as a loss of broad-based planning and the role of elected councils in planning decisions, including through the Development Assessment Panel (DAP) system.

Mr Troy said the issue was not confined to Swan.

"You go around the metro area (and many) councils have got the same problem," he said.

"So there needs to be very concrete evidence there to win any change because there is enormous political pressure from the state government on housing."

Development assessment panels explained (Echo News, June 26) reported concerns from the WA Local Government Association, Shire of Mundaring President Paige McNeil and Kalamunda MLA Adam Hort about the DAP process and the erosion of local council decision-making power.

Under the DAP system introduced in 2011, proponents of eligible development applications worth \$2 million or more can apply to DAP.

The DAP system was intended to provide greater transparency, consistency and reliability in decision-making on development applications and the panels originally only assessed higher-value projects.

Local governments assess the applications and make recommendations, while the panel



Swan planning process review committee community representative Dixon Lowe says it's not about what planners say they do but about what was actually done.

makes the final decision.

Community groups across Swan, Kalamunda and Mundaring previously raised concerns about community input and the real influence elected council members had on final decisions.

In *Kalamunda's McDonald's and car wash approved despite opposition* (Echo News, November 7, 2025), Kalamunda North Ward councillor David Modolo, not speaking on behalf of the council, said the final approval showed a disconnect between community expectations and the DAP process.

Darlington residents are frustrated at DAP outcome (Echo News, June 6, 2025) reported community disappointment at a decision made to approve the childcare despite strong local opposition and Mundaring council re-

jection in mid-2025.

In 2024, *Swan votes against Guildford childcare* (Echo News, December 13) reported City of Swan council voted against approval of a childcare application.

The application was approved later that year by the DAP.

Mr Troy said Swan's review could potentially inform wider discussions later.

"My proposal is the City of Swan get a good report and adopt it, and go to the local government association for assistance," he said.

Mr Lowe said lessons from the review could provide a basis for whatever came next.

"If we can learn through that, it then gives us a platform to go to the next stage," he said.



Councillors voted unanimously last Tuesday to investigate the decision-making process behind the tree clearing.

Tree clearing prompts Kalamunda planning review

BRAYDEN MOULD

THE City of Kalamunda has initiated a formal review into its administrative decision-making processes after councillors voted unanimously at the August 25 ordinary council meeting to investigate how planning delegations permitted the removal of protected trees.

The debate came to a head in July when a decision to clear vegetation from a Wattle Grove property was approved through delegated authority without going to council for a decision as reported in *Calls for transparency after Wattle Grove tree removal* (Echo News, July 24).

Responding to concerns over the Lewis Road approval, councillor David Modolo presented a motion requesting a full account into how the amended landscaping plan was processed.

The motion directed the chief executive officer to present a report, detailing the precise statutory authority, delegated power, and administrative rational used to allow the tree clearing.

It also called for an audit into delegated decisions involving vegetation removal over the preceding three years to determine how frequently similar approvals have occurred.

Councillor Modolo emphasised that council must fully understand the current administrative and statutory process before considering any formal changes to its planning delegation.

"I think the deputation by Mr Sinclair raised questions about the exact way this decision was made," he said.

"Rather than try and impose council into the decision-making process, I think the first step is for council to understand exactly the circumstances under which that decision was made.

Fight for Wattle Grove spokesperson Kim Sinclair welcomed the move, noting that investigating the specific breakdown in process was a vital step forward.

"The changes we were pushing for were most likely not going to get adopted by council, for fear it would add more roadblocks for developers," he said.

"However, the approach that's been taken by council, to look into why and how this occurred is useful to make it really obvious how this happened."

Mr Sinclair said the group recognised the practical realities facing local planning, but advocates for the need for careful community consideration.

"We recognise that developers need certainty and that removing processes like delegated authority could slow down the administrative process," he said.

"But we also want developers to take their time and think things through, and that the communities' concerns are recognised and listened to.

"Modolo's motion makes it clear he is on our side here; to make the problem obvious so council just can't ignore it.

"We are looking forward to seeing what this future report will identify, so meaningful changes that support developers and the community can be made."

The report outlining the decision-making process is expected to go before council later this year.



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ECHO YOUR THOUGHTS

Have your say:
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Thought for the day

"You cannot control the behaviour of others, but you can always choose how you respond to it."

— Roy T Bennett

Repurpose old Swan Hospital

Dear Echo News,

I agree that the cost for security for the old Swan Districts Hospital of \$4.5 million even if it is over many years needs to be addressed.

The Liberal MLC Spagnolo is correct in highlighting this issue.

Personally, I would like to see most of these buildings stay. My reasoning is when I first came to Midland there was an Indigenous night shelter next to the hospital that has now gone. It was a very good service and should have remained.

Night after night when I am travelling through the dark streets of Midland I am seeing homeless people in shop doorways on street verandahs in the inner city not necessarily by choice given high rents and lack of housing.

I usually stop and speak to them if they are awake when I ride past on my bike. Some nights I will take a flask of a hot drink especially on freezing nights.

I can't see why there can't be an alcohol and drug service, counselling service and homeless support service on the grounds of the old hospital.

The wards could be used as a hostel with employment of day and night staff as well as a couple of security on the premises.

There could be a small 20-seater bus to transport there and back from Midland central township with a route that would encompass the Midland train station, Centrepont and

other places like outside near City of Swan office.

As homelessness affects people of all races in Midland the service does not have to be Indigenous only.

I don't believe the buildings need to be demolished as Mr Mike Match suggests as shelter is needed now as it has been a hard winter and therefore for the grace of God it could be anyone that ends up lost and alone on the streets.

There are some very supportive services in Midland but there is need of a shelter for male and female adults with services close to assisting with what these people may need.

A Brown
Midland

Pedestrian deaths are a concern

Dear Echo News,

I was very shocked to find out about these pedestrian deaths from a local friend this morning.

Two pedestrian fatalities in a shopping centre carpark are unusual and call for further review.

I am a Lesmurdie resident and have lived with my family in the area since 2003.

I am 72 and keep a keen eye on our locality for any improvements I think will enhance the amenity of the area for all parties.

I have increasingly become concerned about the lack of pedestrian friendly infrastructure in the Kalamunda CBD, especially the following three.

The underground carpark is not well lit and now increasingly busy

due to Kalamunda Central having leased off a portion to a carwash business creating much more movement and business right at the entrance/exit of the undercover carpark.

There originally was a footpath for pedestrians alongside Coffee Club from the mall entrance down to the carpark roadway and for access to the footpath in front of the hotel.

The original designers obviously thought this was necessary to enable pedestrian movement to and from parked cars and for access to the front of the hotel and the footpath along Railway Road.

This footpath was surprisingly removed a few years ago by Central which redevelopment surely City of Kalamunda must have had to approve?

This redevelopment removed a pedestrian walkway for all customers with the sole intention of enabling creation of an alfresco area for the Coffee Club tenancy to the detriment of customers/pedestrians.

Now one is forced to walk on the carpark access roadway to get from the Central mall to the hotel, or past the hotel to continue on the footpath along past the Railway Road shops to Haynes Street.

Both of these additional leasing actions by Central have impeded pedestrian/customer access and movement.

Like the confusing pedestrian unfriendly walkways on Meads Street, Railway Road and Haynes Street.

These are trouble waiting to happen as they give vehicles right of way over pedestrians while looking very much like a pedestrian walkway.

A vehicle driver may or may not give you access at their whim and the signage to pedestrians says give way to vehicles.

I have never seen such a design anywhere in Australia.

The walkway across the entrance to the undercover carpark is not clearly marked and further there is only a very narrow pedestrian unfriendly footpath adjacent to 777 Pharmacy, alongside the main access road from Haynes Street forcing pedestrians at times onto the road to walk to Haynes Street.

Given the ageing demographic in our area I

think the City of Kalamunda and Kalamunda Central need to urgently review the precinct and in particular the above problem areas.

B Lovel
Lesmurdie

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

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Retirement village residents to gain more say and faster payouts

WITH COMMISSIONER FOR CONSUMER PROTECTION TRISH BLAKE

IMPORTANT changes to WA's retirement village laws have begun rolling out, with a stronger focus on residents' rights, financial security and involvement in decision-making.

Consumer Protection will implement the reforms in five stages over the next two years, giving residents and operators time to understand and adjust to the new requirements.

One of the biggest changes took effect on September 1 and retirement village operators must now pay exit entitlements and complete buybacks of strata-titled properties within 12 months of a resident moving out, unless an earlier date applies.

In exceptional circumstances, operators can apply to the Commissioner for an extension of, or exemption from, these requirements.

For many residents and their families, these funds are needed to help pay for their next living arrangement, so the new timeframe provides greater certainty and reduces lengthy delays.

The reforms will also help residents transitioning into aged care. Eligible residents can request that up to 85 per cent of their unpaid exit entitlement be paid directly towards aged care accommodation costs, helping to ease financial pressures during a significant life change.

This request can be made before moving into aged care, or within 60 days of entering a facility.

Residents will also have more input into how their village is run. Operators will be required to consult residents before finalising annual budgets, giving them a greater say in decisions that affect their community.

New rules of conduct will set clear expectations for operators, staff and residents. Stronger village closure laws will also require operators to have approved plans in place before closing a village, adding protection for residents and their families.

The next stage of reforms begins on December 1 and includes new rules covering village modifications, reinstatement and renovation of units and property condition reports.

Future stages will introduce a public retirement village register, additional disclosure requirements and stronger rules around capital works expenses.

Spagnolo welcomes debate on Swan Valley water issues

GUILDFORD-based Liberal MLC Anthony Spagnolo has welcomed a major parliamentary debate on Swan Valley water management, saying there is now broad recognition that the longstanding problem needs to be addressed.

The issue was debated extensively in the Legislative Council recently during consideration of two disallowance motions moved by Brad Pettitt MLC relating to proposed Metropolitan Region Scheme amendments for North Ellenbrook.

While the Liberal Party opposed the disallowance motions, Mr Spagnolo said the debate demonstrated significant agreement across the Parliament about the underlying water management concerns in the eastern corridor.

"There were different views in the chamber about the right solution, but there was very little disagreement that we have a problem," he said.

"That is significant. Residents have been raising these issues for years and we have now had them debated properly on the floor of state Parliament.

"My position is straightforward. We need more homes in Western Australia, but we also need to get water management right. We can do both."

Mr Spagnolo told Parliament he had asked 61 questions on notice on the issue, written to more than 10,000 residents across Swan Hills and West Swan, visited affected properties and met with residents, businesses and UWA professor Sally Thompson.

He said the debate was an important step in bringing greater attention to the concerns of residents who have experienced rising groundwater and waterlogging across parts of the Swan Valley.



Liberal MLC Anthony Spagnolo.

"We have seen productive land affected, businesses impacted and residents left dealing with problems they did not create.

"The important thing now is that the debate leads to action."

Since the debate, Mr Spagnolo has lodged a further seven questions specifically on Swan Valley water management, bringing the total number of questions he has asked on the issue to 68.

Mr Spagnolo said his most recent questions on notice were directed to the new Water Minister Daniel Pastorelli, seeking to establish whether he shares the concerns expressed by West Swan MLA Rita Saffioti in *Saffioti eager for action on Swan flooding and new review* (Echo News, July 31).

"The Deputy Premier appears to have now acknowledged the need to look at whether our urban water management policies are fit for purpose.

"I now want to know whether the new Labor Water Minister shares those concerns and what he intends to do about them.

Kalamunda facilities spared demolition

GUANHAO CHENG

KALAMUNDA council has delayed the demolition of four community facilities after concerns were raised about consultation and information used to justify removal.

The Canning Road skate park, Kostera Oval kiosk, Forrestfield scout hall and Edinburgh Road centre were among five assets nominated for rationalisation and demolition at the City of Kalamunda's August ordinary council meeting.

The officer recommendation wasn't moved and lapsed before councillors unanimously backed an alternate motion from councillor David Modolo to defer consideration of the four sites.

The demolition of an administration building store and toilet block was approved.

Cr Modolo said he supported the principle of asset rationalisation given the city's ageing buildings, maintenance and renewal obligations and limited resources.

"We can't simply keep every asset forever because it's always been there," he said.

"That's why the alternate motion still allows for the demolition of the admin building store and toilet block.

"(The block and building) doesn't have any community use. It's surplus to needs and it's in a very poor condition but I am asking council to defer the other four.

"Demolition is irreversible and I don't think we yet have a sufficiently consistent process or enough information to make that irreversible decision."

Cr Modolo said community consultation was particularly important and feedback he received after posting about the proposed demolitions on social media ran contrary to staff reports on how frequently certain facilities were used.

The City of Kalamunda staff report recorded only three sightings of users across more than 180 patrols at randomly selected times of the day including weekends.

Cr Modolo said a coffee van operator told him he was at the location six days a week and saw people using the skate park "practically every day".

He also said residents in Forrestfield and High Wycombe had not been given the same opportunity through his social media post to comment on the



City of Kalamunda staff have reported only three sightings of Canning Road skate park users across more than 180 patrols.

proposed demolition of Forrestfield scout hall and Edinburgh Road centre.

"We're not in a super rush here," he said.

"Let's get a bit more info and then let's make the decision under sound information."

Cr Josh Clark supported the alternate motion and said the city did have too many buildings and rationalisation should happen but the order things were done in was important too.

"Looking at the report, we have 230 buildings to a population of 64,000 so, that's one for every 278 people," he said.

"We're not arguing that rationalisation shouldn't happen (as) it absolutely should.

"I just want to make sure we're doing things in the right order."

During debate, councillor Sue Bilich asked whether delaying demolition could create a liability if someone was injured at the Canning Road skate park.

City of Kalamunda staff said assets were subject to scheduled inspections and anything considered immediately unsafe was dealt with.

City of Kalamunda chief executive Anthony Vuleta said access would be restricted if the risk became too high.

"If we feel the risk is too high, we will do what we need to do to actually rope the area off," he said.

"If we feel it's reasonable and appropriate, we will leave it as it is. So, it'll depend on the condition of it at that particular point in time.



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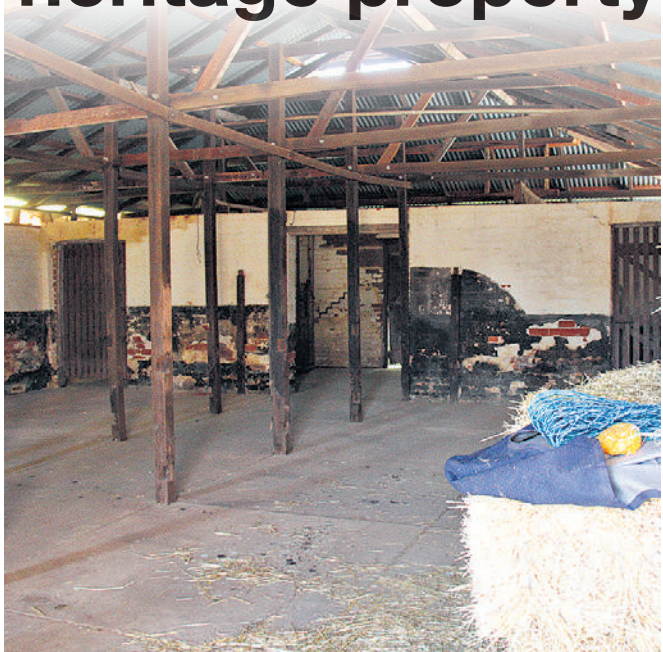
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Guildford families set out to restore heritage property



Nicole Laurence and Pip Snooke on what is now known as The Guildford Farm. Pictures: Camila Egusquiza Santa Cruz

CAMILA EGUSQUIZA SANTA CRUZ

THREE Guildford families – the Snooke, Laurence and Yuen – have come together to restore what was formerly known as the Garden Hill Estate.

The property was first purchased by Alfred Waylen in 1842, with the existing buildings constructed circa 1896 as a gardener’s cottage and stables for his son. Further developments were added in 1902 by the Padbury farm.

In 1998, Guildford Grammar School Foundation acquired the property before selling it to the three families in 2026.

The site sits on 9ha of the Swan River floodplain and has four historic buildings on site – the stables, the dairy shed, the dairy store, and the cottage.

Property owner Nicole Laurence said the families knew each other before purchasing the land as they all lived around the area but didn’t all have close ties with each other.

“It was actually the property that brought us together,” she said.

“It was more the wanting to get possession of the land and try and keep it in our families. We just kept talking and seeing if we could bring it to life and make it happen, so

when this opportunity came up, we knew it was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.”

Ms Laurence said uncovering the history of the site has been both overwhelming and exciting.

“The property has almost been revealing its story to us. As we have been cleaning up the area we found things like an old brick road, which we didn’t know about,” she said.

“You really have to be open to seeing what comes up and engage with the relevant people like the locals who have been living here for a long time, the heritage architects and the Swan-Guildford Historical Society – it’s all about gathering information and learning.”

Future plans for the property are still undecided.

“At the moment there’s lots of options and people are throwing around a lot of ideas from a wine bar to a wedding reception to a veterinary hospital to equine therapy, but I think the first step is just restoring the buildings and we’re going to be applying for heritage grants to help us do that,” Ms Laurence said.

“We’re also going to be environmentally focused. There’s a wetland here we really want to restore. We want to take care of it and the birds and combine that with caring for the

land and trees.”

Ms Laurence said their biggest challenge has been drainage.

“The land is very wet and the clay holds the water so a lot of the work we’ve been doing is earthworks to try and fix the drainage because that’s undermining the foundations of the buildings,” she said.

“We are then going to repair or replace the old yards that were there – they were originally sheep, cattle and horse yards, so we are going to replace them with new ones that are not rotten and falling over.”

The families have experienced a lot of support from the neighbours adjacent to the property with some even volunteering their time to help in the restoration process.

According to Ms Laurence, a lot of the neighbours didn’t know each other but have now met through the project.

She also said that although there is a lot yet to be decided, they really want the place to ultimately provide value to the community.

“I think what’s coming out is how beautiful the place used to be back in its day and I think it’s on us to try and bring that back, care for it and protect it,” she said.

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Machinery Preservation Club of WA



Gary Williams, Gail Powell, Warwick Ingram, Mary Richmond, Kingsley Porter, Beverley Bending and Jeanette Lamont at their old classroom. Picture: Glen Forrest Primary School

Glen Forrest Primary School 70-year reunion

CAMILA EGUSQUIZA SANTA CRUZ

EIGHT former Glen Forrest Primary School students reunited last week, 70 years after leaving the school.

Former student Gail Powell said she organised the reunion after Kingsley Porter, her old classmate, prompted her to do it.

“We hadn’t seen each other in many years. I would say it’s been 20 years since some of us saw each other as the last time was at Kingsley’s 60th birthday,” she said.

“It was great fun tracking everybody down. A little bit stressful, because, you know, it was a bit tricky, but we found them all.”

The former students met at the school and had the opportunity to visit their old classroom.

“The headmistress there kindly allowed us to go in, so we were able to reminisce about where we sat and what we did,” Ms Powell said.

“And one of the boys, Warwick, I wasn’t going to say anything, but he brought it up. When we were studying there, I had long pigtails, and he used to sit behind me. And guess where my pigtails ended up? In the inkwell.”

Ms Powell said they all shared fond and happy

memories of the school, from winning the marching band prize to getting into mischief with beloved old teachers.

“And then after that, we all went up to the Mahogany Inn for lunch. One of the great things was that one of the boys looked like he may not be able to make it. He said, I will do the best I can, and in the middle of the afternoon, he walked in and the welcome that he got was fantastic,” she said.

Four of the former students still live around the area in Glen Forrest, Mt Helena, Stoneville and Koongamia.

Although the school has changed since the class graduated in 1956, Ms Powell is happy to still see some of its old history remaining.

“The school is massive, but thankfully they kept our school room. They’ve kept the huge Moreton Bay fig tree that we used to play under. The flagpole is still there and the school bell is also there,” she said.

The former students hope to stay in touch and organise more reunions soon.

“We feel really lucky to have friendships that have lasted so long and they’re still very precious to us all,” Ms Powell said.



East Rockingham waste to energy facility.

Eastern councils join forces to divert waste from landfill

FOUR eastern regional councils have joined forces in a major development to divert waste from landfill, creating significant environmental and financial benefits for ratepayers.

The cities of Swan, Kalamunda, Belmont and the Shire of Mundaring have begun sending waste to the east Rockingham waste to energy facility (ERWtE), designed to support the diversion of residual waste from landfill while recovering energy from waste that cannot be practically recycled or otherwise recovered.

Approximately 96 per cent of the councils' waste taken to the facility is diverted from landfill by conversion to energy and the recovery of useful materials.

As well as the new arrangement providing environmental benefits, financial incentives are also anticipated as the cost of landfill rises – the waste to energy process involves recovering metals for recycling and the remaining ash potentially used to build roads and produce construction materials.

The cities of Kalamunda, Belmont and the Shire of Mundaring began directing their general waste to the ERWtE site in July 2026, with the City of Swan commencing deliveries in August.

The ERWtE project addresses two major challenges facing Australia: delivering sustainable and affordable solutions for both electricity generation and waste management.

The new facility aligns with the objectives of

the WA waste avoidance and resource recovery strategy 2030, which prioritises waste avoidance, increased recycling and resource recovery and reducing the amount of waste disposed of as landfill.

The councils are playing an important role in supporting these objectives by working together to improve waste management outcomes and provide a long-term solution for residual waste generated across the Perth metropolitan area.

Australia disposes more than 23 million tonnes of waste to landfill every year, with Western Australia having the highest waste generation rate per capita coupled with the lowest recovery rate.

When fully operational, the East Rockingham facility will be capable of generating 29MW of baseload electricity to the grid – enough to power more than 36,000 homes.

City of Swan chief executive officer Stephen Cain said the city's strategic community plan 2025-35 includes a commitment to achieve resource recovery and minimise waste to landfill.

"By adopting this new process we're actively diverting waste from landfill and supporting preservation of our natural environment.

"We're pleased to be working alongside three of our neighbouring councils to move forward with this major recycling initiative."

More information on the ERWtE project can be found at <https://erwte.com.au/>

New early learning centre for Greenmount Primary



Greenmount Primary School principal Natalie Astle, federal Early Childhood Education Minister Jess Walsh, Bullwinkel MP Trish Cook, Midland MLA Steve Catania with Greenmount Primary School pre-primary students.

GREENMOUNT Primary School is set to get a new early learning centre following a historic agreement between the state and federal governments to invest more than \$38 million to deliver four centres in WA.

This is the first time the Australian and Western Australian governments have partnered to make 0-5 early education available on WA public school sites.

This landmark commonwealth funding complements the WA government's commitment to provide land on school sites for co-located early childhood education and care services.

Partly funded by the \$1 billion Building Early Education Fund, the centres will be co-located with schools to help families avoid double drop-offs and help children smoothly transition to school.

"The fund provides capital funding to build or expand early learning services in areas of need, helping families access quality early learning close to home," a spokesperson said.

"These investments will support workforce participation, strengthen regional communities and help more children get a great start in life."

Early Childhood Minister Sabine Winton said the Cook Labor government was committed to supporting Western Australian children and families

with access to high-quality early childhood education and care services.

"Putting early learning services alongside schools is a practical way to make life easier for families and help children build familiarity and confidence before they start school.

"As a former teacher and a mum of three daughters, I know how crucial the early years are, and I'm really pleased more families will have these services closer to home."

Federal Early Childhood Education Jess Walsh said the Albanese Labor government was building more quality not-for-profit services where families need them most.

"Our \$1b Building Early Education Fund is delivering more early learning centres for more families in more places, particularly in our outer suburbs and regions.

"These projects mean more families can access early learning close to home and children can get a great start in life.

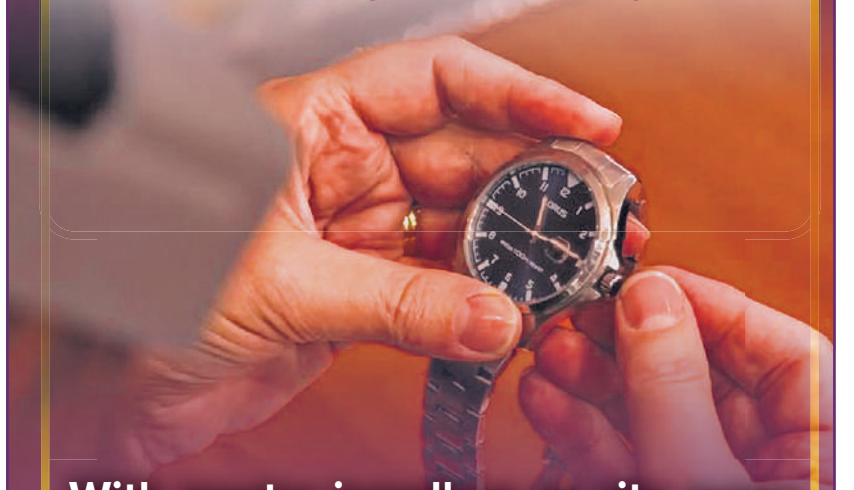
"And co-locating early learning services with schools helps children transition smoothly to school and gives families a one-stop drop."

More information about the fund is available at www.education.gov.au/early-childhood/about/building-early-education-fund

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The upgraded Kalamunda Bulldogs Rugby League club rooms. Picture: Luke Stewart

Hartfield Park sport complex upgrades are now complete

UPGRADES at the City of Kalamunda’s Hartfield Park Sporting Complex are complete, supported by a \$620,000 Cook Labor government community sporting and recreation facilities fund (CSRFF) grant and \$80,000 in election commitments.

The completed works include upgrades to the Kalamunda Bulldogs Rugby League club rooms, with new change rooms, umpire change rooms, a first aid room, accessible toilet facilities, and a pavilion refurbishment.

The \$700,000 funding delivers a modern, accessible sport and recreation space to meet the growing need for unisex changing rooms at Hartfield Park and deliver fit-for-purpose, co-located facilities which support the long-term sustainability of local sports clubs.

Work is continuing across the broader Hartfield Park redevelopment, with construction of a new shared pavilion for the Forrestfield Football Club and the Little Athletics Club underway and expected to be complete next year.

Little Athletics long jump pits and throwing circles for discus and shot put have also been completed, with remaining works expected to be finished

by mid-2027.

Forrestfield MLA Stephen Price said the upgraded facilities were a fantastic outcome for the local community and the many clubs and volunteers who call Hartfield Park home.

“The new pavilion and upgraded amenities will help ensure local sporting groups have modern, accessible facilities that can support growing participation for years to come.

“I’m proud to see this investment supporting community sport in Forrestfield and creating a welcoming space for people of all ages and abilities to come together, stay active and connect.”

Sport and Recreation Minister Rita Saffioti said this was an exciting development for the City of Kalamunda and represents the government’s commitment to providing local communities with the quality sporting infrastructure they need to thrive.

“The Cook Labor government is proud to support Hartfield Park’s new sporting complex, and we look forward to seeing the community come together to exercise, compete, and enjoy these new facilities for many years to come.”

Alexis takes Miss Galaxy crown

LOCAL charity worker Alexis Perovic, 14, has made history at the Galaxy International Pageant in Nassau, Bahamas where she was crowned Junior Miss Galaxy International 2027, the first Australian to win the global title.

Her international achievement follows her national success at the Galaxy Pageants Australia finals in Sydney, where she won the title of Junior Miss Galaxy Australia and the honour of representing Australia on the world stage.

Upon returning home, Alexis has continued her community work by partnering with the Swan Volunteer Resource Centre.

In one high efficiency volunteer session, she joined 30 volunteers to prepare more than 1600 cheese sandwiches for the Eat Up Australia program, helping provide free school lunches to students experiencing food insecurity.

Through her youth platform Kindness Counts, Ms Perovic has completed more than 180 hours of verified volunteer work and raised almost \$10,000 for charities supporting families and children across Western Australia.

“Standing on that stage in the Bahamas was a dream come true, but the real reward is bringing that momentum back to Western Australia to work alongside incredible charity groups and volunteers,” she said.

“Prepping over 1600 sandwiches together proves that small actions multiply into massive community impact when we work together.”

Community members are encouraged to get involved through upcoming volunteer sessions and outreach opportunities via the Swan Volunteer Resource Centre portal.

Programs include Eat Up Australia, which delivers free school lunches to students in need, and Act Belong Commit, WA’s leading mental health initiative promoting active community participation.

Ms Perovic believes these initiatives will continue to strengthen community resilience across Midland and surrounding suburbs, helping ensure vulnerable children and families receive consistent support – a mission that sits at the heart of her Kindness Counts platform and the youth driven values she champions.

For further information go to www.kindnesscountshub.com



Alexis is the first Australian to be crowned Junior Miss Galaxy International.



Alexis volunteered to prepare more then 1600 cheese sandwiches for Eat Up Australia.

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Middle Swan sculptor honoured

MIDDLE Swan sculptor Ron Gomboc was recently invited by NSW Governor Margaret Beazley to attend a reception to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Sculpture by the Sea organisation at Government House, Sydney.

He was honoured by the governor for his contribution in being the only Australian sculptor with continuous involvement in this major cultural international exhibition, as a Double Decade member for Bondi and a Double Decade member for Cottesloe.

Mr Gomboc is the only Australian sculptor to be selected to exhibit at Sculpture by the Sea from the first exhibition in 1998 at Albany coordinated by founding director David Handley where he was awarded the Director’s Prize with a special invitation to exhibit at Sculpture by the Sea Bondi 1999.

This exhibition led to his participation in 23 annual Sculpture by the Sea Bondi exhibitions and all 21 Sculpture by the Sea Cottesloe events.

As Sculpture by the Sea is a major international event and Japanese sculptor Keizo Ushio (pictured with Ron at NSW Government House) is a major international exhibitor and has been involved in all the Sculpture by the Sea Bondi and Cottesloe exhibitions, he was also honoured by the Governor.

Both Mr Ushio and Mr Gomboc are preparing for the next Sculpture by the Sea Bondi exhibition in October 2026.



Sculptor Ron Gomboc, Japanese sculptor Keizo Ushio and the NSW Governor Aide de Campe.



Swan Chamber of Commerce's September Hour of Power speakers AJ Jayalath, Deborah Whitburn and Tessa Johnson.

September talks from Swan business award winners

GUANHAO CHENG

THE Swan Chamber of Commerce's Hour of Power will return on September 9 with three Swan business award winners sharing the stories behind their work.

The speakers are Midland Snap Print owner Deborah Whitburn, Oceania Film Company director AJ Jayalath and Johnson Property Corp property consultant Tessa Johnson.

The upcoming session's speakers were all award recipients during this year's Swan Chamber business awards.

Swan Chamber of Commerce chief executive officer Tom Smilovitis said it would be a return to basics for the format.

"We are really returning to the heart of the Hour of Power, featuring three great speakers who are from the area and part of our business community," he said.

"Speakers are given 10 minutes each to share their story and as usual we will have a questions and answers session at the end."

Ms Whitburn was awarded the chamber's service excellence award and has previously been recognised by Snap for her community involvement.

Ms Johnson said her talk would focus on the person behind the business and her path into property.

She grew up in the Swan Valley in a family with a strong business background but said her journey into real estate was not straightforward.

"I initially wanted to do something different because my mum, my grandad, my auntie, my brother, my dad's even done a little bit, everyone's been in the property business," she said.

"But I just kept having this pull back to real estate and property consulting."

Ms Johnson said she was eager to talk about her own motivations while building a future in the area.

"I think my future is my why," she said.

"It's one of those things that as a young person in the chamber, it makes you confront that big question."

Mr Jayalath said his talk would reflect on his journey from an international university student to running a production company in the Swan Valley.

He said one of the main lessons from that journey was the value of consistency.

"You make your own luck by showing up," he said.

"You get to meet a lot of new people, you get exposed to businesses, new ideas and new opportunities."

"That's luck, but the luck happened because I showed up."

Mr Jayalath said another lesson was to remain open to learning.

"I show up to any meeting, shoot or anything in my life with an open mind of, 'I'm going to learn something here today,'" he said.

"You never stop growing as a person and as a business."

His connection to the area began soon after arriving in Australia 12 years ago, when a drive through the Swan Valley reminded him of Sri Lanka.

He later joined the Swan Chamber as a university student and said it became an important part of his development as a business owner.

"It gave me that exposure and a safe space to make enough mistakes at the start, to know what to do and what not to do," he said.

The Hour of Power will be held at the Crooked Spire, Midland on September 9 and run from 10.30am to 11.30am.

Ellenbrook primary school named in air conditioner row

THE Opposition have slammed the Cook Labor Government for upgrading five out of 45 schools selected for its Cool the Schools program however Education Minister Sabine Winton says the program is on track.

Opposition education spokesperson Liam Staltari said conversations in parliament revealed years of neglect and underinvestment in basic school infrastructure.

According to the WA Liberal party, Freedom of Information documents detailed three consecutive summers of air-conditioning breakdowns at Malvern Springs Primary School in Ellenbrook, where classroom temperatures reached 39 to 40 degrees.

"What happened at Malvern Springs is unacceptable – students being sent home, classes disrupted, and a school forced to beg the department for portable air-conditioners just to get through the heat," he said.

"Summer is fast approaching and too many WA students and teachers are facing another season of sweltering classrooms."

Ms Winton said the commitment to upgrading air-conditioning at 45 schools across the state was a commitment only the state Labor party made at the 2025 election.

"Malvern Springs Primary School is a relatively new school, which was built under the Liberal Nationals who did not prioritise installing superior reverse-cycle air-conditioning in their school," she said.

"We're fixing the mess inherited from the former Liberal National government, who prioritised cheaper and less effective evaporative air-cooling systems in public schools which are now being replaced."

"This work is significant, with the majority of schools requiring substantial power upgrades and



The Cool the Schools program is ongoing.

planning to minimise disruption to learning.

"Our government's priority is delivering upgrades to all 45 schools as part of the Cool the Schools program as quickly as possible."

"I will always consider all requests for new air-conditioning as part of any future expansion of the program."

Within Swan, Kalamunda, Mundaring and Bassen-dean the schools captured by the program are Ashfield Primary School, Dawson Park Primary School, Eden Hill Primary School, Ellenbrook Secondary College, Embleton Primary School, Herne Hill Primary School, High Wycombe Primary School, Kalamunda Primary School, Morley Senior High School, Mount Helena Primary School, and Mundaring Primary School.

Upgrades have been completed at Ardross Primary School, Booragoon Primary School, Burrendah Primary School, Newborough Primary School, and White Gum Valley Primary School.

Works at Embleton Primary School are set to reach practical completion this week.

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Mr Rowbottom with the Australian aviation support business of the year award.

Midland company takes out aviation award

MIKE PEETERS

MIDLAND-based Rowbottom Aviation Service and its founder Mick Rowbottom were recognised for excellence at the Australian Aviation Awards earlier this month.

At the awards Mr Rowbottom was confirmed as a finalist in the executive of the year category and his company won the Australian aviation support business of the year 2026.

Mr Rowbottom's independent aircraft maintenance management company specialises in airworthiness control and technical support.

"As a proudly local business, this recognition is particularly meaningful," Mr Rowbottom said.

"While the awards acknowledge the success of the company, they are really a reflection of the dedication, professionalism and hard work of the entire Rowbottom Aviation Service team.

"We have been fortunate to work with fantastic clients and industry partners who have supported our growth and success over the years.

"We believe this achievement highlights the capability and excellence that local businesses from the Midland region can bring to the national stage.

"It is also a great opportunity to recognise the contribution of our staff whose commitment to delivering high-quality aviation support services made this award possible."

The prestigious awards were held at the Star Casino in Sydney on August 6 and are a national program recognising outstanding individuals, businesses and organisations across Australia's aviation industry.

The awards celebrate excellence in areas such as aviation safety, piloting, engineering, training, technology, innovation, leadership, airports, airlines and aviation service.

Trillion Trees open nursery hub

TRILLION Trees in Hazelmere is celebrating the grand opening of their new community nursery hub on Saturday, September 19 coinciding with their annual open day.

Trillion Trees chief executive officer Mark Hullett said the new building would help the organisation achieve their new tree planting targets.

"The opening of the new building marks a major milestone in the story of our for-purpose organisation, and will provide modern, inviting facilities for our volunteers to continue their brilliant work, helping us towards our goal of growing more than 200,000 native trees and plants next year," he said.

Trillion Trees announced in October, 2024 site-works commenced for their Lotterywest-funded nursery redevelopment, complete with a new nursery office and vastly improved working area for our dedicated volunteers.

"The first idea for this redevelopment was seeded in 2017, and many of our valued volunteers have played an important part in the planning and preparation to get us to this point," they said.

"The redevelopment will provide a larger, purpose-built propagation area, new soil bays, pot wash, storage area and nursery admin building."

Trillion Trees communications and fundraising coordinator Kate Herren said volunteers propagated over 180,000 native trees and plants in 2026.

"We are confident we can increase this number with improved facilities across our community nursery including reticulation upgrades, changes to shade cloth and new propagation facilities," she said.

"We are fortunate to have a dedicated and experienced volunteer team, with 120 people helping us every week to reach our goals.

"Demand for native trees and plants continues to grow and our order book was full this year.

"In 2026 we used over 60,000 of the plants we grew in our own restoration projects across Perth and the Wheatbelt.

"The remainder were supplied to local councils, landcare groups, landscapers and more for urban greening, restoration and plants to residents pro-



Trillion Trees will be holding their annual open day and celebrating their new nursery hub.

grams. "Perth has the lowest canopy of any Australian capital city at 22.5 per cent and the WA government has a target to increase canopy cover to 30 per cent by 2040, so we are confident demand for our native plants will continue to increase."

The annual open day will have native plants available for sale, and community members can also enjoy free children's activities, market stalls, barbecue and coffee van.

Visitors will also have the chance to see behind the scenes at the charity's Hazelmere community nursery, and get a first glimpse of their new building, developed with support from Lotterywest.

Five local finalists in WA training awards



Three of the local finalists: Breanna Zoethout, Marliisa White and Timothy Rowberry.

MIKE PEETERS

FIVE finalists from the Perth Hills and surrounding areas have been recognised in this year's WA training awards for their achievements in the WA vocational education and training (VET) sector.

They are among 30 individual finalists across eight award categories including the WA apprentice, trainee and vocational student of the year.

The finalists have been acknowledged for their outstanding achievements in vocational education and training and are among the state's leading students, apprentices, trainees and trainers.

Breanna Zoethout (23) of Wattle Grove has been nominated for WA vocational student of the year award.

Ms Zoethout said she chose to train and work in events because she believes it's an industry that brings people together and creates shared experiences that extend beyond the event itself.

She is currently working as an events officer at Football West and said her studies in events management at South Metro TAFE had really helped her career.

"I have always been drawn to events especially in the sporting arena and my study really helped me gain hands on, practical learning to prepare me for the workforce," Ms Zoethout said.

"Completing my diploma also gave me more confidence to go out and get a job – which I was extremely fortunate to find at Football West – as I am really passionate about football and especially the women's game."

Other local training award finalists include Hannah Usher of Northam (WA apprentice of the year), Timothy Rowberry of Glen Forrest (WA trainer of the year), Marliisa White of The Vines (WA school-based apprentice of the year) and My Quyen Pham of

York (WA cultural diversity training award).

Mrs Usher said she is now working as a line worker at Western Power after completing a four-year combined apprenticeship at Midland TAFE and the power training centre.

"My studies have given me a strong foundation for my current job, while working in the Northam area provides me with plenty of variety," Mrs Usher said.

A mother of two and trailblazer in a largely male dominated field, Mrs Usher was Western Power's apprentice of the year in 2025.

WA trainer of the year nominee Timothy Rowberry said his background in teaching and as a former captain in the Royal Engineers had helped him in his current role as director of technologies at John Curtin College in Fremantle.

"One of my passions is Vocational Education and Training (VET) along with helping our high school students achieve the very best they can," Mr Rowberry said.

"I would also like to see better training available in rural areas with more rural communities receiving some of the training advantages we have in the metro areas."

This year, 11 organisations were also shortlisted in four categories at the WA training awards including the WA small employer of the year and the large training provider of the year.

This month's awards recognise the outstanding support, commitment and contribution training providers and organisations make to building WA's workforce.

The winners will be announced at a ceremony at the Perth Exhibition and Convention Centre on September 10 with individual recipients also taking home a \$3000 cash prize.

For more information go to www.dtwd.wa.gov.au/watrainingawards/winners-and-finalists

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Northam mourns recent loss of two local swans

GUANHAO CHENG

THE Shire of Northam says they were deeply saddened to confirm that the cygnet recently injured in the Northam town pool died from its injuries.

"These losses are heartbreaking for residents, visitors and shire staff who care deeply about the wellbeing of the swan population and the important place these birds hold within our community," the Shire of Northam said.

"The shire would like to thank the dedicated rangers' team, wildlife carers, veterinarians, volunteers and community members who assisted in the care of the injured cygnet. "The welfare of the remaining swans remains a priority (and) the shire is continuing to work closely with relevant wildlife experts and agencies, with every effort being directed towards ensuring the health, safety and wellbeing of the remaining birds."

The shire said it was grateful to the Northam community for its ongoing care, concern and support and encouraged residents to continue reporting any concerns relating to the wellbeing of wildlife in the area.

Earlier in the month, the Shire of Northam confirmed one of Northam's much-loved white swans passed away.

The swan was known as Grandpa Nick by the community and was part of Northam's mute swan colony before he passed at the age of 20.

At this stage, the cause of Nick's death remains unknown. The shire is investigating the circumstances surrounding his death and will provide further information should additional details become available.

The shire said they were grateful for everyone who assisted in searching for Nick.

"The concern shown by community members highlights the special place that the swans hold in the hearts of many residents and visitors," they said.

"Special thanks are also extended to the Northam Swan Guardians for their efforts."



White swans are a protected species.

The Shire of Northam had been working with wildlife experts to support the long-term wellbeing of Northam's remaining mute swans.

Earlier in August, the shire announced that several swans would be relocated to Kanyana Wildlife Sanctuary, a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions licensed wildlife facility, as part of contingency planning and future population management efforts.

The shire continues to work closely with Kanyana Wildlife Sanctuary and other relevant experts to develop an appropriate management plan for the Northam swan colony.

According to the shire, former Northam mayor Oscar Bernard brought white swans to Northam in the early 1900s, which was the only place in Australia that the species survived and went on to breed naturally.

The shire said there were at one point around 80 swans on the Avon River but the population had decreased over time.

The white swan became a protected species in 1950 which outlawed removal of white swans from the wild, keeping them as a pet or releasing a swan into the wild without appropriate licensing.

Eden Hill woman fined \$13k for animal cruelty

A 32-year-old Eden Hill woman has been convicted on four charges of animal cruelty and fined \$13,000 for failing to provide two dogs, a cat, and a kitten with sufficient food and water, leaving them emaciated, malnourished, and dehydrated.

She has also been banned from being in charge of an animal for two years.

The Midland Magistrates Court heard RSPCA WA inspectors attended the offender's home in January after a WA Police officer reported concerns for a "skeletal" dog who was wobbly on his feet.

They saw a two-year-old brindle and white large mixed breed dog named Nala and a seven-year-old tan Mastiff cross named Neil in the backyard. The outlines of Nala's ribs, hips and spine were clearly visible; Neil was in a similar emaciated state and was lethargic. There was no food or water available to the dogs.

Both dogs were seized for immediate treatment and care. It took 15 minutes to be able to coax Neil to stand up and walk.

Vet examinations found the dogs were emaciated and dehydrated; it was also suspected the lack of fluids meant Neil's heart wasn't pumping enough blood to his body and his prolonged starvation had caused severe muscle loss.

A two-year-old black and white cat named Francesca and an eight-week-old black and white kitten named Fergus were also found at the property.

They were seen by inspectors inside the house frantic and pacing and were also subsequently seized.

Both cats were dehydrated; Fergus was in poor body condition, and it appeared his prominent source of nutrition had been insects. Francesca was found to be pregnant and also in poor body condition.

All four animals have since recovered. Nala gained nearly 14kgs in the first three months in RSPCA WA's care and Neil more than 20kgs.

Francesca gave birth to five healthy kittens four weeks after being seized. Neil, the cats, and kittens are all in foster care, Nala remains under vet care at the RSPCA.

In sentencing, Magistrate Paul Lyons said photos



Nala on arrival at RSPCA WA.

of the emaciated dogs revealed "quite frankly an appalling state of malnutrition and dehydration".

He said, "The extent to which the animals must have suffered was significant" and "the animals must have been starving".

RSPCA WA inspector manager Kylie Green said this was a shocking case of neglect.

"The offender offered up several excuses for the animals ending up in such an appalling state, but when all is said and done, they were starving and dehydrated – one of them carrying five kittens and another barely able to stand and walk," she said.

"Animals don't end up in the state these were in overnight – this was prolonged suffering which the offender ignored. It's awful to think what these animals went through."

The offender was convicted under sections 19(1) and 19(3)(d) of the Animal Welfare Act 2002. She was found to have been cruel to Nala, Neil, Francesca, and Fergus by not providing proper and sufficient food and water. She was also ordered to pay an additional \$4732 in costs. The ownership of all animals was forfeited to RSPCA WA.

The maximum penalty for a conviction of animal cruelty is a \$50,000 fine and five years in prison.

The RSPCA relies on the community to report incidents of suspected cruelty and neglect. Report cruelty on 1300 CRUELTY (1300 278 358) or at rspcawa.org.au

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Huge thanks to Kevin and the team from **Bullsbrook Water Carriers** for sponsoring Tarmac West and the Bullsbrook Water Carriers Bullsbrook Stages this year! Kevin has been a fierce competitor and a loyal supporter of our sport for many years, and we're thrilled to have him on board. For all your water-carrying needs, be sure to give Kevin and his crew a call. 💧

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READY TO RALLY 2026

Lance East Exotics Tarmac West Schedule

DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4
THURS 17 TH SEPT	FRI 18 TH SEPT	SAT 19 TH SEPT	SAT 20 TH SEPT
• Start Forrest Place • Whiteman Park Stages • Ellenbrook Stages • Ellenbrook Family Festival	• Parkerville Stages • Kalamunda Stages • Zig Zag Stages • Kalamunda Street Festival • Yarrimbah, Bullsbrook • Shannons Forrest Place Show'N'Shine	• Toodyay Stages • Lower Chittering Stages • Bullsbrook Stages • Bullsbrook Service Park	• Celebration of Motorsport – Langley Park • Celebration of Street Machines & Hot Rods – Langley Park • Shannons Classics on the Swan • Tarmac + ACC Auto Picnic • Malaga Stages • Perth City Sprint – Speed Event • City of Perth Stages • Champagne Finish – Riverside Drive • Gala Presentation – Ritz Carlton, Elizabeth Quay

Bullsbrook Water Carriers proudly support Tarmac West

Bullsbrook Water Carriers are a water utilities support company with a network of contractors across the state, providing support services for the provision of potable water ranging from domestic supply to major system failures.

Again, this year the company has sponsored Tarmac West with their sponsorship of the Bullsbrook Water Carriers Bullsbrook stages of the event.

Bullsbrook Water Carriers have been instrumental in managing water supply following major incidents such as cyclone, bushfire and infrastructure failures.

With a shared commitment to excellence, Bullsbrook Water Carriers ensure that clean and safe water is readily available to homes, businesses, public facilities and for emergency services.

Their extensive network and delivery systems ensures a continuous supply of water, even in challenging conditions.

Bullsbrook Water Carriers are trusted partners of major utilities such as Water Corporation and



DFES, known for their professionalism, integrity, and dedication to customer satisfaction.

Whether it is ensuring uninterrupted water supply or responding to emergencies, they are always ready to provide efficient and reliable solutions.

Their combined expertise and commitment make them the top choice for water supply logistics, supporting the growth and development of the community they serve.

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.



kalamunda.wa.gov.au

TARMAC
EVENTS
WA Pty Ltd

City of
Kalamunda

Tarmac West Rally Returns to the Hills

The roar of rally cars will echo through the Perth Hills once again as the Tarmac West Rally returns to Kalamunda this September, bringing high-speed action and excitement to the region.

With competitors tackling some of the area's most iconic roads, the event is expected to attract motorsport enthusiasts and spectators from across Western Australia.

To ensure the safety of residents, visitors and competitors, temporary road closures will be in place on Wednesday 16 September and Friday 18 September 2026. Affected roads include Zig Zag Scenic Drive (between Lascelles Drive and Ridge Hill Road), Mundaring Weir Road (between Paulls Valley Road and Croxton Road), and Haynes Street in Kalamunda.

Motorists are encouraged to plan ahead and allow extra travel time, with detours in place and event marshals available to assist throughout the closures. Residents and visitors can also access the official spectator guide at tarmacevents.com.au to find the best viewing locations and event information.



The City of Kalamunda thanks the community for its patience and cooperation while this exciting event takes place and looks forward to welcoming competitors and spectators to the Hills.

READY TO RALLY 2026

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 surrounds from 17 to 20 September.

Sixteen of the 70 crews are rookies competing at 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 motoring, 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 there are 16 rookies. Nearly a quarter of the field is competing in their first Tarmac West, and that tells us the sport is growing," said Tarmac Events WA Director Ross Tapper.

"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. Hogg is sponsored by GMW Racing and will be driving a 2016 BMW M140i.

An all-rounder noted for his fitness, Hogg represented Australia in 123 One Day International, seven Test matches, and 99 other first-class games before first retiring from international cricket in 2008. He came out of retirement to play T20 for Australia and in the BBL for the Perth Scorchers.

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 (AASA) 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.

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.

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 215 kilometres of closed roads over four days. Forrest Place hosts a ceremonial start and the rally action includes spectator favourites in Ellenbrook (Thursday evening, 17 September), Malaga (Sunday morning, 20 September) and in the City of Perth (Sunday afternoon, 20 September), 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 20 September, 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.

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

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

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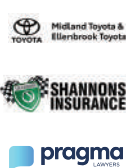
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@tarmac.events.wa



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Kalamunda View

News from your City | September 2026



Mayor's MESSAGE

We are deep into Djilba and, with the warmer weather arriving and wildflowers beginning to bloom, spring is just around the corner.

There is plenty to look forward to across the City of Kalamunda over the coming month.

The changing season signals the return of the highly anticipated Perth Hills Spring Festival, as the Hills come alive with colour, activity and community spirit. Over six magical weeks, a series of events and activations will showcase the very best of our natural environment, local culture and vibrant community.

Running from 18 September to 7 November 2026, the festival will conclude with an exclusive long table dinner. More details will be shared in the coming weeks. For more information visit www.perthhillsspringfestival.com.au/

The school holidays are also fast approaching, and our libraries and Hartfield Park Recreation Centre are busy preparing a fantastic range of activities to keep kids engaged and active over the holidays. To see what's on, visit www.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/events and select the 'School Holiday' tab.

The warmer weather is also a timely reminder to prepare your property for bushfire season. With the City transitioning to the Restricted Burning Period from 1 October, now is a great time to complete any necessary maintenance and ensure you're ready for the months ahead.

I am also pleased to share that nominations for the 2027 Community Citizen Awards are now open. If you know an individual or group making a positive difference in our community, I encourage you to nominate them for the recognition they deserve.

Submit your nomination at www.citizenshipawards.com.au.

Nominations close on Saturday 31 October 2026.

Until next month, stay safe, enjoy the warmer days ahead, and I look forward to seeing you out and about in our beautiful City of Kalamunda.

PERTH HILLS SPRING FESTIVAL COMING SOON!



The Perth Hills are warming up, ready for the return of the annual Perth Hills Spring Festival.

The Perth Hills will come to life through a series of events and activations celebrating the very best of nature, culture and community.

The festival will run from 18 September to 7 November 2026. More details will be released in the coming weeks.

Explore the full program at www.perthhillsspringfestival.com.au. Please note that some events may require registration or tickets.



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS IN KALAMUNDA

With the warmer weather arriving, our local libraries, History Village and Recreation Centre are lining up their activities designed to spark creativity, encourage learning and keep kids active.

From hands-on workshops and imaginative adventures to energetic recreation sessions, there's something for every age and interest.

Simply scan the QR code to explore the full program. Be quick, places are limited, registrations are essential, and some activities may incur a small fee.



TARMAC WEST - ROAD CLOSURES

Start your engines, Kalamunda! The Tarmac West Rally is back for 2026, bringing the thrill of high-performance motorsport to our hills once again.

To keep racers, spectators and residents safe while the action is in full swing, temporary road closures will be in place throughout Kalamunda on Wednesday and Friday.

For information on the road closures, scan the QR Code.



BUSHFIRE READY - STREET MEET

Come along to a Street Meet organised by your local Bushfire Ready Group and find out what you can do to help keep your family and community safe.

Enjoy a sausage sizzle, get your questions answered and be prepared this summer!

- Kalamunda Bushfire Ready Group - Street Meet
- Sunday 13 September 2026 9.30am - 11.30am
- Kalamunda Primary School



Have Your Say

Join the conversation and contribute to matters happening in your City.

Scan the QR code for more or visit engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au

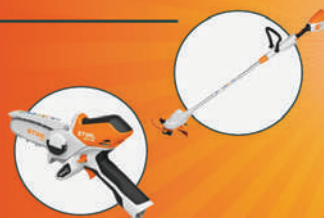


Are you bushfire ready?

Complete our short survey for your chance to win some amazing prizes*:

The competition is open for the duration of the survey, from 9am Monday 27 July 2026 to 5pm Saturday 31 October 2026.

*Terms and conditions apply. Visit the website for more details.



Community Citizen of the Year Awards



Nominate today!



Public Agenda Briefing Forum
6:30pm, Tuesday 8 September
Ordinary Council Meeting
6:30pm, Tuesday 22 September
Administration Centre, Council Chambers

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

Burning Permitted
1 June 2026 – 30 September 2026
During this period no permits are required. Conditions apply.

Contact Us

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



ARTS ENTERTAINMENT

MAC Inc presents Weir on a High Place



Five Tides Collective artists, Annette Wiguna, Junko Kitamura, Carolyn White, Diane Keating and Nadia Rasheed, 2025. Picture: Trevor Morgan. Right: Mixed media, Uisce Beatha. Picture: Annette Wiguna

MUNDARING Arts Centre Inc invites audiences to experience the Mundaring Weir from the different perspectives of five multi-disciplinary artists who form Five Tides Collective, for their exhibition, Weir on a High Place taking place from September 6 to November 8.

Named after the five seas, or rather the five cultural heritages they hail from, this collective of artists from across Perth, includes Diane Keating, Junko Kitamura, Nadia Rasheed, Carolyn White and Annette Wiguna.

Unpacking this layered, environmentally diverse and historically rich location, the exhibition explores the Weir as a meeting place between water, nature, history and industry, as it intersects with the artists' personal histories and experiences.

The artists developed this new body of work through repeat visits and collaborative fieldwork – responding to the Weir through observation, walking, cataloguing, sketching and collecting – they have each uncovered personal connections to a landscape that is both familiar and ever changing.

Featuring painting, printmaking, digital collage, textiles, ceramics and mixed media, Weir on a High Place reveals the many ways a place can be experienced and recorded.

The artists consider the Weir through themes of migration, belonging, spirituality, heritage, water security and the relationship between built and natural environments, and informed by their own context and everyday practice, each artist encounters the site through a unique artistic lens.

For Keating, the Weir becomes a place to reflect on migration and the search for home, drawing parallels between human movement and the seasonal migration of birds.

Kitamura responds to the quiet tension between the industrial structures and surrounding forest, blurring the lines between natural and human made, while Rasheed turns her attention to the Weir's architecture and infrastructure, exploring the site's heritage, water security and ideas of containment.

For White, the site is encountered through all five senses – collecting artistic impressions of the natural environment through a process of repeated observations and exploration.

Whilst Wiguna, returning to the Weir in search of solitude, healing and renewed perspective, reflects on the fragile balance between human intervention and the forces of nature.

Together, Five Tides Collective reveal Mundaring Weir as more than a feat of engineering or a familiar and beloved Perth Hills' landmark.

Rather, through their different perspectives and practices showcased in the exhibition, they consider how landscapes hold stories, memories and meaning, and how our relationship with water connects us to place, history and one another.

Weir on a High Place is on display at Mundaring Arts Centre 7190 Great Eastern Highway, Mundaring from September 6 to November 8.

For further information and public program details visit the website www.mundaringartscentre.com.au or contact cultural program coordinator Georgina Taylor at gtaylor@mundaringartscentre.com.au

Annual Vintage Machinery and Powerhouse Open Day

THE Machinery Preservation Club of WA (MPC) will be holding its annual Vintage Machinery and Powerhouse Open Day on Sunday, September 13 from 9am to 2pm at the Old Midland Railway Workshops.

The day will include vintage cars and motorcycles along with historical equipment, live music and plenty of food and drinks available.

The club was formed in Perth in 1982 and has been located in various buildings within the old West Australian Government Railway (WAGR) Midland Workshops complex since 1996.

In 2021, the club relocated to the heritage listed Powerhouse complex which is comprised of an engine room, boiler house and elements building.

The club's mission is to promote, restore and display historical working machines to the general public at their heritage listed Powerhouse complex and elsewhere at shows and venues throughout the state.

MPC also provides access to their historical venue to other community-based clubs to support their endeavors and aims to preserve, restore, make safe or rebuild to operating condition, any historically significant plant or machinery that had been used by the WAGR, on farms, in automotive or marine applications and to display any object worthy of exhibiting to the public.

Activities also involve the restoration of some of the old machines (lathes etc) from the Railway Workshop and these machines are used by members to fabricate parts in order to restore both the clubs' and their own personal machinery collections.

MPC displays historical operating ma-



Plenty of vintage machinery will be on display.

chinery and other antique objects within the complex with regular public open days and also attends numerous state-wide local and agricultural shows throughout the year.

The club also promotes ongoing opportunities for school excursions, community group visits, musical events and similar.

MPC provides a suitable venue to enable their affiliated club partners to conduct their club activities and services to the community, including blacksmith courses, hand tool demonstrations, cater-

ing and woman support services, and the preservation of the history of Midland and surrounding districts.

The club also meets every Tuesday morning from 9am at the Powerhouse complex to allow members to carry out work on a variety of projects generally related to machinery preservation.

All members of the public are welcome and most Tuesday morning work sessions are followed by a sausage sizzle lunch.

For further information go to www.machinerypreservationwa.com

ENTERTAINMENT & GIG GUIDE

Your local Gig Guide

Fri September 4

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

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

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

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Table for Two
6pm-9pm, Free
4260 Great Eastern Hwy
Mahogany Creek

Sat September 5

Settlers House York
Kyle Hearn
12pm-3pm
The Remotes
6pm-10pm, Free
125 Avon Terrace, York

Parkerville Tavern
Jammin with Charlie
From 5.30pm, Free
6 Owen Road
Parkerville

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

Lyric's Bar
Darryl & the Devil
From 7pm, Free
22 Lyric Lane
Maylands

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Bill Chidzey
6pm-9pm, Free
4260 Great Eastern Hwy
Mahogany Creek

Sun September 6

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

Lyric's Bar
Cactus Hack
From 1pm, Free
22 Lyric Lane
Maylands

Chidlow Tavern
Jam Session
From 12.30-3.30pm, Free
4 Thomas St, Chidlow

Sun September 6 cont.

Woodbridge Hotel
Kane Cahill
From 1pm, Free
50 East St, Guildford

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Rhay Rom and Chantel
4pm-7pm, Free
4260 Great Eastern Hwy
Mahogany Creek

Tues September 8

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 9

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 10

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

Hemingway & Co
Blues Thursday
From 7pm, Free
7095 Great Eastern
Hwy, Mundaring

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

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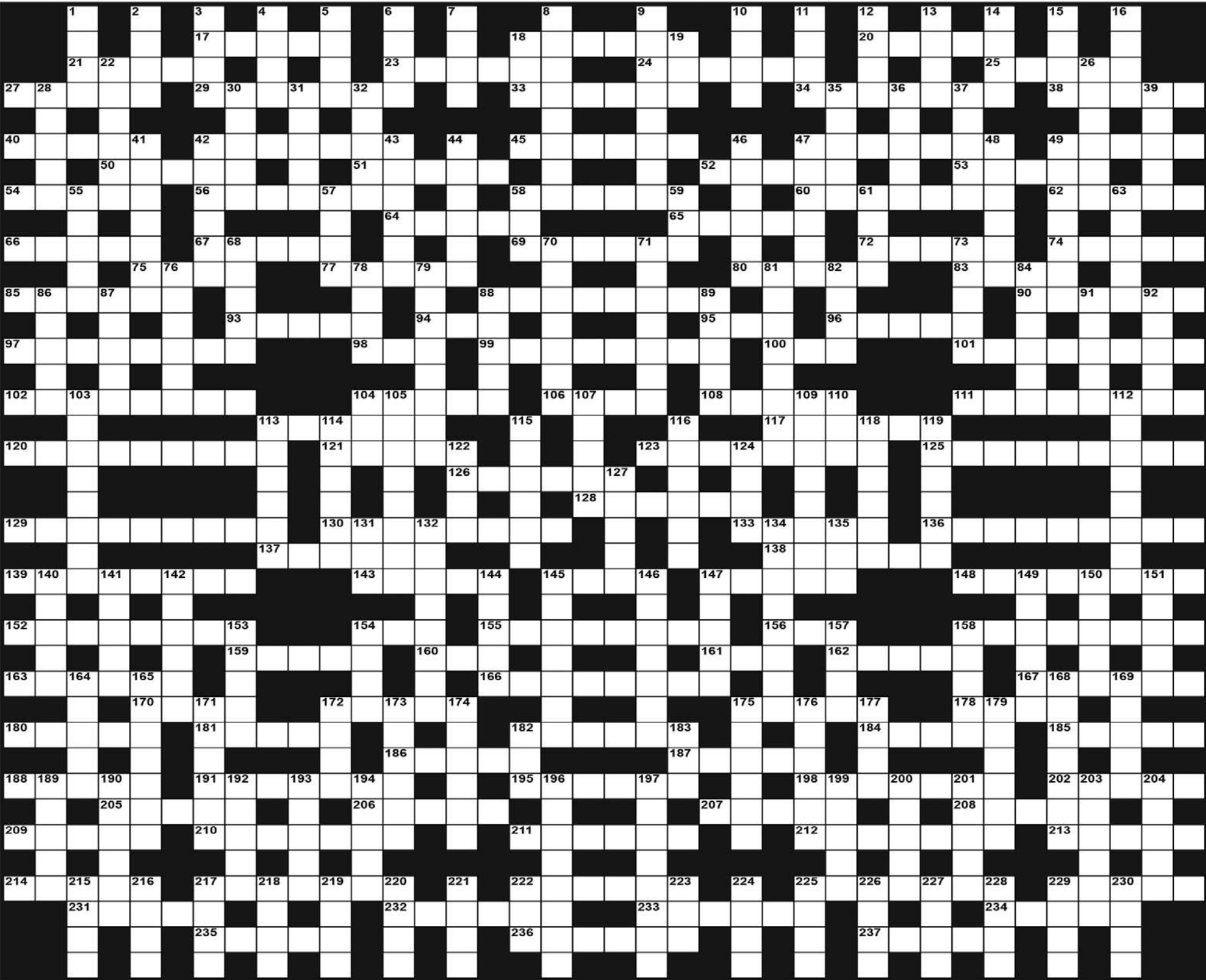
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www.echonewspaper.com.au

ECHO NEWS

ECHO

Mind Boggler Crossword

1284



ACROSS

17 Fireplace

18 Branched horn

20 Speak well

21 Gentleman's attendant

23 Put in custody

24 A shape

25 Fear greatly

27 Board game

29 One buying

33 A heist

34 Tastes

38 Walk heavily

40 Keep away from

42 Manufacturing plant

45 Rash person

47 An arrow

49 Type of card

50 A memorial

51 Tiny pieces

52 Released

53 Governed

54 A guide

56 Teased

58 Strangest

60 Turns back to

62 College masters

64 Mistake

65 A drug

66 Wanderer

67 Stay put

69 Save hay etc

72 Of birth

74 Unwanted meat

75 Always

77 Tree exudation

80 Filled

83 One courting

85 Cherry-red colour

88 Argues against

90 Church songs

93 Bury

94 Supplement

95 Small vegetable

96 A tile

97 Deeply respectful

98 And not

99 Kinsman

100 Plaything

101 Growing molars

102 Heights

104 Bring

106 Bushman's burden

108 Sag

111 Milliners

113 Ruling body

117 Doctrines

120 One of little value

121 Type of compound

123 Playing lead role

125 Tiny parts

126 Tame

128 Stress

129 Rout

130 Personal quarrel

133 Powders

136 Aimed at

137 Way of standing

138 Flat dishes

139 Chairs meeting

143 Satan

145 A petition

147 Follows orders

148 Remove riding gear

152 Cloudy

154 Use a chair

155 Not well-ordered

156 Performed

158 Abnormal people

159 Cuban dance

160 A newt

161 A garland

162 Ease off

163 Wire fastener

166 In sulky manner

167 Chat idly

170 Body parts

172 Out-of-date

175 Urged on

178 Small drinks

180 Best part

181 Type of plant

182 Silly talk

184 Gather up

185 Tell-tales

186 Over

187 Introductory writing

188 Old philosopher

191 Animal snarer

195 Flier

202 Assistants

205 Horsemen's show

206 Awry

207 Of Iranian ancestry

208 Senses

209 A port

210 Extreme pleasure

211 Long thin line

212 Fully please

213 A pick-me-up

214 Test metals

217 Modish

222 Animal body

225 Those sending out

229 Small projectiles

231 Battery pole

232 Choice

233 Unsavoury

234 Love greatly

235 Playful stunt

236 Used foolishly

237 Punish a child

DOWN

1 Possess

2 Wise birds

3 Funny people

4 Malady

5 Scan

6 Expensive

7 Drill

8 Not fitting

9 Answers of "No"

10 Big defeat

11 Freezes

12 Usual amount

13 Annoy greatly

14 Sleeping places

15 Aid in felony

16 Was on

18 Fire remains

19 Tear

22 Hope to get

26 Shopping street

28 Busy places

30 Quietness

31 Took stock of

32 Weird

35 Dwelling place

36 Older coins

37 Use strength

39 Tree nut

41 Sneers at

42 Last part of play

43 Sings Swiss style

44 Married lady

46 Parts of head

47 Allow

48 Slight sound

49 Hard to stand

55 Type of pigeon

57 Ogle

58 Mineral base

59 Part of foot

61 Sell

63 Horrid

68 Planet's path

70 Pieces of pasta

71 Enduring

73 Declare null

76 Shiny covering

78 Merit

79 Repeated

81 Slaughtering place

82 Catch sight of

84 Add onto

86 Choose for office

87 Not moving

88 Roost

89 Rate of progress

91 Nagging pains

92 Skin disease

103 Make very unhappy

104 Mend

105 Protruding piece

107 Water suppliers

109 Sickeningly

110 Writing tool

112 Clever

113 Kingdoms

114 Nude lady rider of fable

115 Find a place

116 Reach

118 Horrified

119 Sudden dashes

122 Rim

124 Tear

127 Musical beginning

131 Last piece

132 Great fans

134 Overturning

135 Australian state (abb)

140 A stud

141 Morsel

142 Cloth seller

144 Oafs

145 Well-liked

146 Lack of attendance

147 Strangely

149 Wise person

150 Sketch

151 Measure of liquids

153 Tie firmly

154 Olden tale

157 Titled lady

158 Pieces pushed in

164 Scene of action

165 Cast scorn on

168 Road material

169 Scared

171 Head of school

172 A support

173 Not in plenty

174 Spoke emotionally

175 Complete

176 Sounds of pain

177 Spanish painter

179 Sea eagle

182 Natural moisture

183 Tell an untruth

189 Oozes out

190 Surgical drill

192 Cooked beef

193 Part of a flower

194 Minor royals

196 Sensible

197 Breaks in line

199 Glass containers

200 Farewell

201 Tender

203 Line on weather map

204 Legal decree

215 Crushed rock

216 Part of an egg

217 Tribal group

218 A time

219 Writing fluids

220 White with frost

221 Sore eye

222 Bovine animal

223 Wet dirt

224 Poems

225 Still

226 Waistband

227 School test

228 Japanese drink

229 Fate

230 Smell highly

Crossword Solution 1283 from 28 August, 2026

As the crossword was not included in last weeks edition the crossword and solution can be found on the *Echo's* website at:

<https://echone newspaper.com.au/category/crossword>

or by scanning this QR code:

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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: Suite 180 Stafford Court, 8 Stafford Street, Midland 6056

Lessee: Karene Elaine Primrose

Annual rental amount: \$4,758.00 per annum (pa) + variable outgoings + GST

Valuation: \$4,575.00 per annum (pa) + variable outgoings + GST

Purpose: Commercial Office

Term: Two (2) Years plus One (1) Year

Submissions in writing and addressed to the undersigned may be lodged on or before, **Monday September 21, 2026.**

Sarah McQuade
Acting Chief Executive Officer
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: 27 Junction Parade, Midland WA 6056

Lessee: Active Hearing Pty Ltd

Annual rental amount: \$58,000 per annum (pa) + variable outgoings + GST

Valuation: \$47,000 per annum (pa) + variable outgoings + GST

Purpose: Retail Sales

Term: Three (3) Years + Three (3) Years

Submissions in writing and addressed to the undersigned may be lodged on or before, **Monday September 21, 2026.**

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Read between the lines

By Pastor Ian Kirk

A Beautiful Bond



While on holidays, Colleen and I spent a few days at the Gold Coast – it was our first time staying there. As you do when you're there, we went to some theme parks – namely Sea World and Movie World. Even though we are past going on exhilarating roller coaster rides, we enjoyed the shows and performances at each theme park.

At Sea World, we loved the seal show. With simple instructions and hand movements from their human handlers, the seals would do amazing things from saluting and dancing, to diving deep and coming out of the water at speed to touch a ball suspended high above the pool.

The dolphin show was also incredible. With instructions from their handlers, we enjoyed seeing them do synchronised jumping out of the water, performing spectacular flips and somersaults, grabbing a rugby ball with their mouth and throwing it, and propelling their handlers through the water by pushing on their feet.

Humans have such a bond with certain animals. We're able to relate to them in a most wonderful way. As I thought about that, it made me marvel at the bond we have with our Creator God. He made us more special than anything else so that we can relate to Him.

Although our sins damaged this bond, God's Son Jesus died for us on a cross so that we can be brought back to that beautiful bond we were made for – if we put our faith in Jesus.

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ECHO Notice Board

Upcoming Events

- Midland CWA** meets at the Midland Railway Yards Blacksmith Lane (West) Midland on the third Wednesday of each month at 10am. CWA flags are displayed on Yelverton Drive, Midland on meeting days. CWA offers a diverse range of interests and each branch works to meet local community needs. Call Cathy on 0460 777 557 or email cwa.midland@outlook.com
- Mahogany Creek Art and Craft Group** meets weekly on Wednesdays 9.30am to 12.30pm during school terms at the Mahogany Creek Hall on Jacoby Street. Everyone brings along their art or craft to work on in a friendly social

group with tea and coffee provided. For more information call Mary on 0431 201 814 or Jan on 6279 4031.

- The Rosehill Ladies Golf Club** meets each Tuesday at 8am at Hillview Public Golf Club, Kalamunda Road, Maida Vale. The season runs from March to November. For more information call Roz on 0419 915 623 or Julia on 0419 954 106.

- The Kalamunda Lapidary Club** at 3 Recreation Road, Kalamunda is a club dedicated to collecting, polishing and creating jewellery from natural gem stones and Australian minerals and crystals which they collect in the field. They have an open day on the first Saturday of each month where possible with examples for sale. You can check their Facebook page for current

events. For more information call Richard on 0422 181 200.

- The Swan Guildford Historical Society** will be hosting a talk by Dr Steve Errington at St Matthew's Hall, Stirling Square, Guildford on Monday, September 14 at 7pm. The talk will be on Captain Mangles and his visits to his cousins at the Swan River. He was a cousin to Ellen Stirling who married Captain James Stirling, James Mangles' visit in 1831 led him into contact with George Fletcher Moore, James Drummond and Georgina Molloy. Those connections enabled him to promote the exotic plants and flowers as found by the colonists, in expanding a London business.
- The Red Hat Ladies of Kalamunda and Mundaring** meet monthly and hold many social events including lunch-

es, bus trips, visits to interesting places, weekends away, etc. If you are over 50 and looking to have a better social life and make new friends phone Kerry (Kalamunda) on 0411 227 814 or Denise (Mundaring) on 0424 969 747.

- Southern Organ and Music Club** is hosting a musical afternoon at Gosnells Uniting Church Hall, 142 Sticks Street, Gosnells from 2pm to 4.30pm on the first and third Saturday of each month. Entry is \$5 a month which includes refreshments. For more information call Kaye on 0422 436 533.

Noticeboard is for non-profits and community groups advertising free/low cost events/programs. Entries must be emailed to editorial@echo-news.com two weeks before the event.

Woofers of the week



Gem is a three-year-old staffordshire bull terrier who is good with kids. Her owners are going back to England and think its better to find her a new home. Gem is sterilised, vaccinated, and microchipped. Costs Apply. Contact Bakers Hill Dog Sanctuary on 9574 1438.

A free service for non-profit organisations

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Lions win semi-final thriller

BRIAN PALLISTER

MT HELENA Lions defeated Gidgegannup Bulldogs by two points in a thrilling Hills Football Association first semi-final.

The Mt Helena Lions won 9.12 (66) to 9.10 (64), while Chidlow Cougars defeated Mundaring 20.13 (133) to 7.9 (51) in the second semi-final.

Warm conditions, a slight breeze and a good crowd greeted the clubs for the first day of the HFA finals.

The first quarter was a tight, hard struggle, with neither team able to take control.

Gidgegannup's Declan White went head-to-head with Mt Helena's Bo Read in the ruck, with White having the early impact.

He fed the ball to Gidgegannup's Liam Marriott, who kicked it forward before Mt Helena Lion Brendan Agnew intercepted.

Agnew moved the ball to fellow Lion Charlie Read, who spotted teammate Cooper Parker on the lead.

Parker marked and converted his kick at goal.

The Bulldogs had trouble with their accuracy, managing one goal from six scoring shots for the quarter.

The Lions held a slender four-point lead at the first change.

The second quarter was another arm wrestle, with both teams kicking three goals.

Mt Helena's Clem Cook moved into the ruck, bringing teammate Blade Elzer into the game.

Elzer combined with Mt Helena's Matthew Elwood, who found teammate Julian Maturo in a scoring position.

Gidgegannup's Dylan Cahill found himself on the end of a 50m kick from teammate Tim Tanner, while Gidgegannup's Andrew Style was accurate with his kick at goal.

The Lions extended their lead to five points by half-time.

The low-scoring trend continued in the third quarter, with the teams kicking two goals each.

One of the game's highlights came when the HFA's leading goal kicker took the mark of the day before converting his kick at goal.

Gidgegannup's Matthew Broderick worked hard, while teammates Josh Carter and Alan Rigg repelled many of Mt Helena's forward entries.

The last quarter was set up for a classic finish, with



Mt Helena Lions held off Gidgegannup's charge to secure their semi-final win this season.

the Lions still holding a five-point lead.

Mt Helena's Jess Cartwright kicked his second goal of the game before teammate Cooper Parker added another.

The Lions suddenly held a 17-point lead and appeared to have all the momentum.

The mood changed quickly as Gidgegannup sprang into action.

Gidgegannup's Tim Tanner moved forward and had an immediate impact, kicking a long-range goal.

Within minutes, the ball was back in Tanner's hands, and he added another six points.

With the final siren approaching, Gidgegannup's Liam Marriott pushed the ball forward from another contest.

Tanner marked, played on and kicked his third goal in five minutes to put the Bulldogs one point ahead.

The Lions needed an immediate response to stop Gidgegannup's charge.

A behind to Mt Helena levelled the scores and raised the possibility of another extra-time final for Gidgegannup.

The Lions missed their next two set shots at goal, but the resulting behinds were enough to give them a two-point win.

Despite the disappointment for Gidgegannup, both teams could leave knowing they had produced a great game for supporters and given the contest their all.

Mt Helena will play Mundaring in the preliminary final at 2.30pm on Sunday, September 6 at Mundaring Oval.



Swan United capitalised on the building momentum and won against the Kelmscott team who put up a strong contest.

Swan fights against Roos

SWAN United have consolidated fourth spot after a hard-fought 3-2 win against Kelmscott Roos at Frye Park.

Kelmscott raced to a two-goal lead inside the first 20 minutes, with Brodie McRae and Ben Bolt on target.

But Swan found a lifeline in the shadows of half time when John Monterosso was fouled in the box, and the striker picked himself up to score from the spot.

Swan restored parity 15 minutes from time.

Good work from Jedd Romeril saw him drive into the box and get tripped, and Monterosso added his second from the spot.

Monterosso thought he had a hat-trick late on, but his effort was ruled offside in a tight call from the assistant referee.

It looked like the points would be shared, but in the final minute, Swan won it.

Dami Afolabi made space

down the left and found Thomas White in the box, and he turned well to finish into the bottom corner.

Swan United coach Lee Taylor said despite a tough early half, the momentum swung in Swan's favour as the game progressed.

"Pleased to come away with the three points," he said.

"Not an ideal start, going down 2-0 in the first 20 minutes, but we managed to work our way back into the game just before half time and completely dominated the second half.

"Credit to the players for turning the game around and continuing to keep pushing for the winner after we had a goal ruled out.

Our away form has been really good this season (but) unfortunately, our home form has let us down.

"We will try to finish on a high next week in our last home game."

Local Real Estate

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Bassendean home with space and potential



THIS Bassendean home sits on a 910sqm block offering updated interiors, outdoor space and future improvement potential.

The property includes five bedrooms, one bathroom and two toilets and oozes heritage character.

Stroll past the garden, the wooden veranda and appreciate the historic appeal of the building through its construction detail and the gentle glow of the entrance's wall lantern.

The home has been freshly painted throughout and includes a renovated kitchen, bathroom and laundry however touches of its old appearance remain.

The white stone benchtops in the kitchen add modern flair to the space, with three windows above the sink area letting in natural light.

An air conditioner is positioned overhead allowing for temperature regulation during cooking and the grey cabinetry complement the white ceilings, walls and wooden floor.

Character features include high ceilings and pressed tin, a fireplace with classic presentation while the bathroom has double vanity sinks.

The main lounge area features floral shaped chandeliers to keep the space well-

lit and double doors with wrought iron designs inlaid into it that add to its charm.

The dining area connects directly to the outdoor space, providing a practical layout for everyday family living and entertaining.

A veranda adds sheltered outdoor space, while the backyard includes established fruit trees and a powered shed with a loft.

The spacious yard is alive with natural features, and has canopy, shrubbery and a grassy lawn area suitable for play or gardening.

The shed may suit storage, workshop use or a future conversion into a granny flat, subject to council approval.

A water tank is positioned at the front of the property, and there is parking space for multiple vehicles.

With renovated internal spaces, a large block and room for further improvement, the home offers flexibility for buyers wanting to move in now and future options for development.

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- Impressive, large and luxurious renovated residence
- Over 470 sqm of just internal usable living area alone
- Situated on 4000 sqm's in Helena Valley's dress circle
- Stunning kitchen with top of the range appliances with scullery
- Massive upstairs multi-functional room with bar
- Huge adjacent covered outdoor alfresco with built-in BBQ
- Lagoon style pool with waterfall and spa opposite pizza oven
- Side access to 3 phase powered 100 sqm shed & stacks of parking

5 Atoifi Gardens,
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144 Acres, Two Homes, Ancillary Accommodation & A Whole Lot More

🏠 9 🛏 5 🚗 20 📏 58.38 hectares

- 144 acre estate with grazing land and natural bushland
- First Home - Beautiful Architecturally Designed 3 or 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom home
- Gorgeous Master Bedroom Suite with Direct Double Door Access to Verandah
- Kids or Guest Wing, separate theatre and striking well appointed Kitchen
- Infinity Style Swimming Pool and large Alfresco and Lounge Area
- Second Home- Charming and Full of character 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom home
- Separate Self Contained Studio/Granny Flat adjacent to the Home
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5 6 5 4.65 acres

- Set on nearly five secluded acres and surrounded by approximately 25,000 acres of State forest
- Designed as either a grand family sanctuary or an established retreat and accommodation business
- Plus two separate dwellings ideal as a studio, office, library, treatment space or private retreat
- Purpose-built swimming pond, Jarrah decking, sauna, gym, therapy rooms
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- Beautiful established gardens & a productive fruit orchard
- Perfect for luxurious family living, a boutique bed-and-breakfast, eco-retreat or wellness sanctuary



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