ECHO NEWS

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Local Business Supporting Local People

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York tip works approval bid

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Woodbridge residents discuss issues

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Aboriginal patient accommodation plans

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Picture: Stan Prennors

Competing in the treetops

The best tree climbers in WA will take to the treetops in Mundaring for the 2026 WA State Tree Climbing Championships next month.

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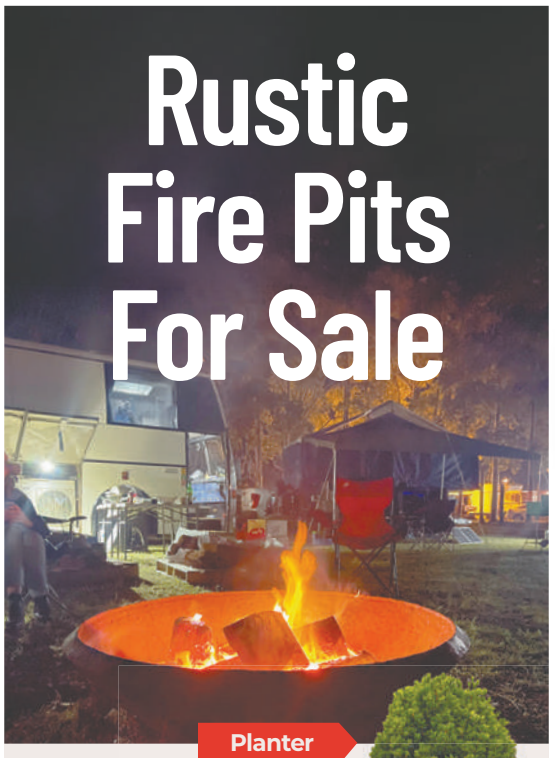
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ECHO Celebrations



Paull and Warner celebrates 70 years

GUANHAO CHENG

BASSENDEAN emergency vehicle manufacturer Paull and Warner Body Builders has marked 70 years in business, with generations of family and staff celebrating the milestone.

The company brought together employees, clients, suppliers and family members for a golf day and celebration at Hillview Golf Course earlier in October.

Paull and Warner managing director Mike Paull said the anniversary reflects a working life that began on the workshop floor 58 years ago.

"I didn't start in an office, I started on the workshop floor, getting my hands dirty, learning the trade tool by tool, and understanding what it truly takes to build something of value," he said.

The business began in 1956 when founders Keith Paull and George Warner bought the company from their employer, R.S. Greenwood.

A few months later, Mr Warner asked Mr Paull to buy his share.

Mr Paull and his wife Ivy raised five sons, who each worked in the business over the years with their children and grandchildren following their footsteps and working there during the business' lifespan.

Mike Paull completed his apprenticeship in 1972 and became workshop manager in 1980.

He said his father taught him every part of the business, from building vehicles to sales, quoting and managing finances.

"Because of his teachings and his strict guidance, I didn't just learn how to build vehicles, I learned how to run a company," he said.

Mr Paull and his wife Marita acquired Paull and Warner Body Builders in 2000 and bought the Bassendean premise in 2006, developing it into a purpose-built manufacturing facility.

The company manufactures ambulances and other emergency response vehicles for St John Ambulance and the mining and health sectors.

Mike and Marita's daughter Katherine Speck said seeing her 73-year-old father continuing to work alongside staff on the manufacturing floor was a testament to his work ethic and the spirit at its core.

"It is pretty rare to see the 73-year-old owner of a business still out on the manufacturing floor, working alongside everyone else," she said.

"We might all think Mike's slightly crazy for still doing it, but there's also something pretty special about it."





An old ambulance and a patient transfer built by the company.

Ms Speck said her parents had given many people jobs and opportunities, building relationships with employees and subcontractors that had lasted for years.

Operations manager Brad Dufall said he valued the support and opportunities he had received since joining the company in 1982.

"I've learned so much over the years, and I'm so grateful for the laughs, the hard work, and the constant support," he said.

"It has been a privilege to contribute to our shared goals and work alongside such a dedicated team."

The company also sponsors the Mining and Emergency Response Competition, supporting volunteer mine rescue teams and community charities.

Mike credited Marita and his family with helping him through the challenges of running and growing the business and upheld that the philosophy passed down by his father remained central to its work.

"If you build quality vehicles and look after your people, the rest will follow," he said.



Front of Bassendean premises with Paull and Warner ambulance builds at the front.

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Swan Aboriginal patient accommodation plans

GUANHAO CHENG

A PROPOSED facility in Henley Brook would provide supported accommodation for Aboriginal people travelling to Perth for medical treatment, addressing a gap in culturally appropriate care.

To facilitate the proposal, amendment 16 to the Swan Valley Planning Scheme seeks to rezone land from priority agriculture to special use.

The Foundation for Indigenous Sustainable Health (FISH) aims to rezone their two existing properties which is also set to be a November Swan council meeting agenda item.

In response to questions from *Echo News*, FISH said the facility would accommodate Nyiyaparli people travelling from the Pilbara, with staff support and a permanent presence on site.

The organisation said patients travelling long distances could face inadequate accommodation, separation from family and community, and a lack of culturally appropriate support.

"To clarify, this is not a drug or alcohol rehabilitation facility," they said.

"The facility is not a hospital.

"Residents will attend existing hospitals and medical services across Perth for their treatment."

FISH said the accommodation would support people receiving treatment for conditions including heart disease, cancer, kidney disease and diabetes.

They said the premises would be drug- and alcohol-free, with security arrangements.

FISH said Henley Brook was chosen for its rural setting and connection to the organisation's adjoining Two Swans Estate, formerly The Olive Estate, housing Maali Café which showcases dishes with Indigenous ingedients.

The organisation said the properties would work together through cultural activities, hospitality, Aboriginal art and opportunities to grow and harvest native foods.

"The Swan Valley's peaceful rural environment, open spaces, gardens and natural surroundings are important elements of the healing and wellbeing environment we want to create," they said.

FISH said its plans included productive planting and the harvesting of traditional foods and medicines on 2ha of the property, aiming to retain the agricultural aspect.



Impression of the proposed facility which amendment 16 would facilitate. Picture: Foundation for Indigenous Sustainable Health

They also anticipated Aboriginal employment and opportunities through tourism, hospitality and its social enterprise shop.

Residents who were artists could also join programs at the adjoining property which form part of their cultural tourism initiatives, alongside the accommodation's purpose of supporting patients travelling to Perth to access medical treatment.

FISH said further development approvals and technical assessments would be required before construction.

EPA chair Darren Walsh said the amendment did not require formal environmental assessment after preliminary investigations.

"The EPA stated that it considered potential impacts on black cockatoo habitat and mature trees could be managed through recommended scheme provisions and other statutory processes," he said.

"This includes where a development application proposes clearing that an assessment of black cockatoo habitat is undertaken in accordance with state and commonwealth guidance."

Rural landscape impacts could be addressed through future planning, including setbacks from West Swan Road.

A Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage spokesperson said the proposal will be assessed against the objectives of the Swan Valley Planning Act 2020 and the Swan Valley Planning Scheme 1.

"(This includes) the protection of productive agricultural land and the Swan Valley's rural character," they said.

"Approval of the amendment would not approve the development.

"A separate development application would still be required, allowing the detailed design, operation and potential impacts on neighbouring properties to be assessed."

City of Swan chief executive Stephen Cain said the amendment was due to be discussed at the city's ordinary council meeting on November 11.

Public submissions on the proposed amendment may be made until November 23 via haveyoursay.dplh.wa.gov.au/svpsamend16

Kalamunda pauses hills mining protections

THE City of Kalamunda has deferred a decision on whether to support permanent mining avoidance zones, voting seven to two at its ordinary council meeting on October 27 to delay the matter until late November for further briefings on potential unintended consequences.

The move follows a vote by the neighbouring Shire of Mundaring earlier this month, in support of Kalamunda MLA Adam Hort's campaign for state-level mining protections across the Perth Hills and the Mundaring Weir catchment, as earlier reported in *Mundaring backs permanent mining protections* (*Echo News*, October 16).



The City of Kalamunda has delayed supporting permanent mining avoidance zones across the Perth Hills until late November. Picture: Brayden Mould

Under the initial officer recommendation, council was asked to request that the state government introduce binding statutory protections to prohibit all future exploration, investigative drilling, mine pits, and associated infrastructure regardless of the proponent.

However, the original motion to support the protections was lost four votes to five after several councillors raised concerns that elected members lacked sufficient information regarding potential impacts on community access and the overall legal complexity of state-level mining leases.

Following the defeat of the officer recommendation, council carried the alternative deferral motion, with officers now set to present a detailed briefing prior to the November meeting.

Responding to the deferral, Mr Hort welcomed the council taking time to consider the matter fully.

"I appreciate the City of Kalamunda taking the time to give this important matter further consideration and fully respect council's independent decision-making process," Mr Hort said.

"I look forward to hearing the outcome at the next council meeting, and whatever the outcome, I remain committed to working towards permanent protection of the Perth Hills from future mining and exploration."

His comments follow a grievance he raised in the Legislative Assembly on October 22, where he questioned whether the state government would commit to permanent protections to give Perth Hills communities long-term certainty.

"Will WA Labor support my calls to permanently protect our part of the Perth Hills from future mining and exploration, because that is what our community is asking for - a commitment that the places we live, work, and raise our families will be protected for generations to come," Mr Hort said.

In response, Minister for State Development David Michael said the state government was actively working with Alcoa to update its regulatory framework but cautioned that altering longstanding State Agreements required careful negotiation.

"I understand that the member's chief concern is that Alcoa's self-declared mining avoidance zone internal company policies mean Alcoa could change its position anytime and re-enter these areas for exploration and mining, as they remain part of Alcoa's Mineral Lease 1SA," Mr Michael said.

"Again, we must remember that the mining lease was granted to Alcoa through a State Agreement, and we need to negotiate with Alcoa on any change to that as part of State Agreement negotiations."

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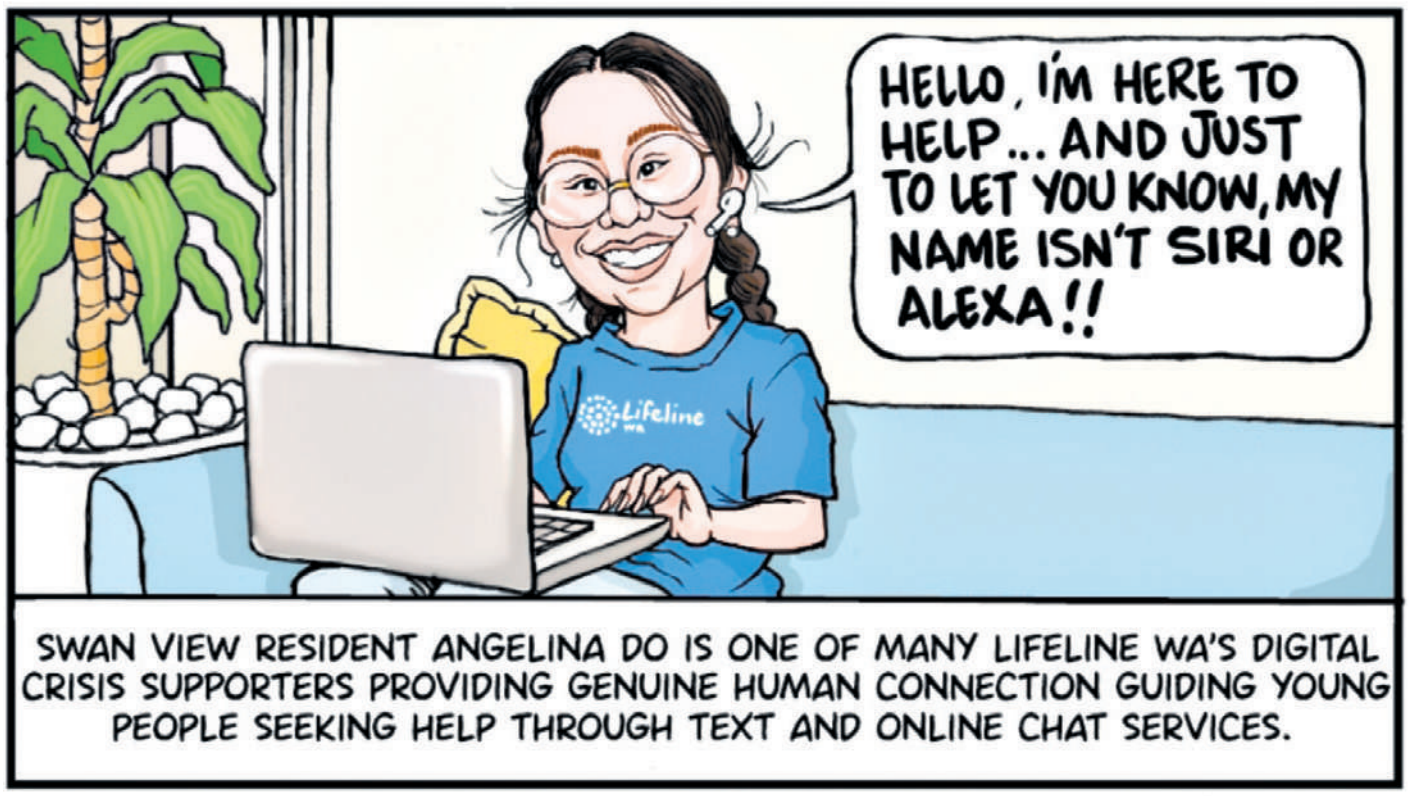
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ECHO YOUR THOUGHTS

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Olive trees out of control

Dear *Echo News*,

I write relating to planting and maintenance of Olive Trees in the Bennett Springs area and widely in other areas managed by the City of Swan.

Roughly 23 years ago Bennett Springs was developed as a new suburb, and the landscape plan was for native plants.

After I moved into my home the City of Swan planted street trees including over 100 olive trees. I questioned this as they are dangerous planted near areas of natural vegetation.

The fallen olives and olives from the trees are carried by birds to large native trees and after eating the olive the seed is pooped out.

This is perfect for establishing olive seedling which grow into large olive trees. They will continue to grow for a hundred years and continually fruit.

Take a look at the size of the olive tree at Government House which is a testament to the size height and width after being managed by a team of certified arborists for many years.

I objected to the olive trees being planted after they commenced to fruit and asked for them to be removed and replaced with suitable native plants.

My request was denied.

As they grew the olive and litter drop was enormous - tonnes a year.

I requested a weekly cleanup by the city and was denied.

As mentioned in their policy documents, they are not responsible for cleanup of fallen fruit and litter.

The olive tree is identified as a woody weed in many jurisdictions throughout Australia.

The Margaret River Nature Conservation Group embarked a program to fully remove all olive trees growing on roadside verges and educate property holders to remove and destroy the trees.

They have exactly documented and have a leaflet explaining how to remove and poison them to ensure they are properly destroyed.

I'm a member of the group who are proactive and lawfully removing the trees.

All I have ever wanted from the City of Swan is an outcome, but they seem to want to argue and not answer any questions asked, then accuse me of wasting their time.

I have never wasted their time and if they acted professional, ethically and gave clear honest advice we would not be in this mess. They have refused to talk to me from the outset.

I won't give up the fight to have these olive trees removed.

When gone I hope the community who have given me their continual support will understand I did my best to get the desired outcome.

R Carson
Bennett Springs

Thought for the day

"Start by doing what's necessary, then what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible."

- St Francis of Assisi

Need for police on bikes

Dear *Echo News*,

I am writing about the idea of bike police in the city of Midland and riding in the inner city from the area centred around Midland Gate and Centrepoint Shopping Centre.

I have over the years written to the WA Police Commissioner with no reply to the matter and also various officers-in-charge at the Midland Police Station as well.

The area of Centrepoint Shopping Centre is an area for really bad antisocial behaviour and behind the Woolworths pickup point I have noticed arguments, screaming, fighting and people under the influence of substances.

It is on a daily basis and is frightening for pedestrians walking past and drivers on the road as I have seen people walking in front of cars and recently I had to call Midland police as a woman was intoxicated and laying on the narrow strip between the car lanes.

The other day late in the afternoon I was riding my bike in the carpark of Centrepoint and noticed a security guard trying to calm down and remove a woman from that area who was angrily screaming abuse and would not leave.

I noticed a young woman close to me that was standing by her car with an empty pram.

I spoke to her and said I would stay with her thinking also that she was putting the pram back into her car.

She then took a baby out of her car into the pram and we walked around to the other side of the car where there was a small girl. When the child got out of the car she was shaking with fear.

This is not the first time at that shopping centre that a disorderly person has frightened a small child.

Basically, a parent goes shopping and their child is traumatised from an event out of their control.

There were three security guards on that day and I know they do the best in these circumstances.

Having more of a presence outside these areas with the bike police would greatly assist these antisocial behaviours and make shopping a good experience as well as being able to move safely around.

Don't even get me started on a recent situation of a man coming down the escalators wildly waving a garden rake at the Midland Station.

I am aware when speaking to an officer at Midland Police Station that 24 hour move on notices are issued but that would be difficult to monitor.

I am fed-up with the attitude that its just Midland with these behaviours acceptable. That is not good enough and never should be.

I gather there is no longer a community policing unit at the Midland Police Station it is much needed and should never ever been taken away in the first place.

A Brown
Guildford

Please remove rubbish

Dear *Echo News*,

Despite repeated phone calls for more than four weeks the Mundaring Shire still won't remove rubbish from an abandoned car, including needles putting local kids at risk at Greenmount.

Why is the shire so unresponsive and non-accountable to ratepayers?

No wonder few see the point of voting in council elections.

Dr C Hughes
Greenmount

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

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Chittering council backs opposition to Gonneville

BRAYDEN MOULD

IN a major development for the Chittering community, council voted unanimously at its Ordinary Council Meeting on Wednesday, October 21 to formally oppose the placement of the Gonneville Project infrastructure and transport corridors within the shire.

Introduced by councillor Nicholas Grayer, the seven-point motion rejects the use of local roads for heavy freight transport and details serious concerns regarding impacts on private property, water resources, native bushland, and community amenity.

Council also resolved to decline direct corporate sponsorship arrangements with Chalice Mining involving promotional branding at shire events, while preserving its ability to seek financial contributions for council-managed impacts, emergency services and road repairs.

The council decision follows an escalating parliamentary push by residents, with a petition to the state government seeking an independent investigation into the project's cumulative effects, as reported in *Chittering mining corridor petition* (*Echo News*, October 23).

A Protect Our Valley – Chittering spokesperson said the decision by council was a step in the right direction for families whose homes and properties were threatened by the proposed infrastructure corridors.

"For families whose homes and properties are threatened by proposed infrastructure corridors, and for residents concerned about the future of the Chittering Valley, this decision is enormously significant," a spokesperson said.



In a 5-0 vote, the Shire of Chittering officially backed opposition against the Gonneville mine project and its subsequent infrastructure and transport corridors.

"These concerns extend well beyond individual properties and involve the cumulative consequences of industrial infrastructure and heavy transport for an established semi-rural community, its natural environment, agricultural activities, road safety, and way of life.

"Council has now made its position clear. The proposed infrastructure and transport corridors are not supported by Chittering's elected representatives.

"We particularly welcome council's decision concerning corporate sponsorship, as community confidence should never depend on financial relationships with a project proponent whose development is generating substantial concern among residents.

While the vote established the shire's position, final environmental approval rests with the EPA, who are currently reviewing the project before opening the report for public comment, which is expected later this year.



The meeting held at Woodbridge House facilitated discussion between residents and staff from CDC and Perth Airport.

CDC and Perth Airport present in Woodbridge

GUANHAO CHENG

RESIDENTS of Woodbridge spoke with CDC and Perth Airport staff members last Sunday about their respective data centre proposal and new airport runway project.

More than 30 Woodbridge residents attended alongside City of Swan councillors Ian Johnson and Sarah Howlett, and Midland MLA Steve Catania.

They joined the Woodbridge Ratepayer's Association committee at the historic Woodbridge House for the annual local issues workshop.

Woodbridge resident Wayne Dierden said Perth Airport staff gave a presentation on the third runway extension to the airport and how it will affect residents.

"They fielded questions and concerns from the community around noise levels, and what can and can't be done about it," he said.

"Flight regulations determine the flight paths so they can't flex that much.

"What they can do is adjust the frequency and address the noise issue through scheduling, but that's just one option we were shown."

A Perth Airport spokesperson said they were pleased to provide the community an overview of their passenger growth, role in the state economy and transformation underway at the airport to support the state's growth.

"The presentation also outlined the third runway project's history and how Perth Airport will support Airservices Australia to engage with communities on preliminary flight path designs next year," they said.

"While the runway location has been set for a long time, the flight path design process is an opportunity to explore what routes, modes and measures can reduce noise impacts."

Mr Dierden said CDC continued their engagement during the Sunday meeting with residents and attempted to address the concerns of the Woodbridge community.

"Whilst it is arguably a better proposal than the one recently withdrawn in Hazelmere, the consensus was that fundamental issue remains the same," he said.

Mr Dierden said the proposed use-case, the water use and noise considerations that were made improved on the rejected proposal however the placement was still an important point of tension.

"It's the wrong location for that sort and scale of development and it is not in line with the wishes of the local residents," he said.

CDC has been holding ongoing community consultation since the new data centre was proposed in the City of Swan.

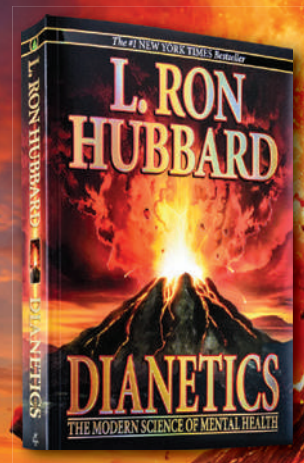
A CDC spokesperson said Sunday's session was another opportunity for to listen to the community and better understand residents' views.

"We appreciate residents recognising some of the ways our proposal differs, while also hearing the concerns raised about the proposed development," they said.

"We are actively considering those concerns and will continue to engage with the community as the proposal progresses."



Why do people act against their own best interest?



Read Page 65

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Mundaring's proposed visitor centre and museum



Concept drawings of the new Perth Hills Mundaring Visitor Centre and District Museum.

SHIRE of Mundaring has unveiled an early look at the proposed interior of the new Perth Hills Mundaring Visitor Centre and District Museum, offering a glimpse of how local stories, history and culture will come to life within the Mundaring Cultural Hub.

"The cultural hub represents a major step in the broader revitalisation of the Mundaring town centre, helping create a vibrant cultural and community heart that brings people together, supports local businesses and strengthens Mundaring as a destination for visitors to the Perth Hills," a spokesperson said.

At the heart of that vision will be the new Perth Hills Mundaring Visitor Centre and District Museum, bringing the shire's existing visitor centre and museum together in a contemporary space designed to celebrate what makes Mundaring unique.

As the project moves into delivery, the shire is working with specialist exhibition and interpretation consultants Impeller, alongside the visitor centre team and Mundaring & Hills Historical Society, to develop the internal layout, exhibition spaces, stories and overall visitor experience.

The project team is also working closely with the Aboriginal Reference Group to help shape the Noongar history and cultural displays within the facility, ensuring these elements are developed with guidance from local Aboriginal representatives and reflect the significance of Country and local cultural heritage.

Shire President Paige McNeil said the new Perth Hills Mundaring Visitor Centre and District Museum was an important part of the bigger vision for Mundaring.

"This is about creating a place that feels distinctly Mundaring, somewhere that celebrates our stories, our culture and our connection to the Perth Hills," Ms McNeil said.

"The cultural hub is the first major step in a broader transformation of the Mundaring town centre, creating a vibrant place for our community while strengthening Mundaring as a destination for visitors.

"Our community has helped shape the vision for the cultural hub over many years, and it's exciting to now see that vision moving closer to reality."

The current concept includes a mix of interactive displays, digital experiences and museum exhibits exploring themes including Aboriginal history and culture, Mundaring Weir and the Golden Pipeline, railways and personal stories, war and local industry, heritage trails, local history and key landmarks.

A purpose-built darkroom is also proposed as part of the visitor experience, creating an immersive environment for storytelling, interpretation and digital displays.

The sketches released this week provide an early look at how these elements could come together as detailed design and planning progresses.

The hub will ultimately bring together the Perth Hills Mundaring Visitor Centre and District Museum with a contemporary library, art galleries and workshop spaces, community and civic spaces, a café, meeting rooms and flexible-use areas.

Positioned opposite Sculpture Park, the hub will become a central destination for community life and an important part of the broader revitalisation of the Mundaring town centre, supporting culture, connection and new opportunities for tourism and local businesses.

Find out more on the Mundaring Cultural Hub project page on the shire website.



The Reid Highway Interchanges project is ahead of schedule.

Reid Highway Interchanges project moves ahead

THE Reid Highway Interchanges project in Perth's north-eastern corridor is making strong progress, with works tracking six months ahead of schedule.

Jointly funded by the federal and state government the project is delivering two new grade-separated interchanges to replace the signalised intersections at Altone Road and Drumpellier Drive/Daviot Road.

The project will improve cyclist and pedestrian access to the Swan Valley, with new sections of shared path to create an uninterrupted path network from West Swan Road to Malaga and better connect the Caversham, Middle Swan, Stratton and Jane Brook communities

The upgrades will improve safety and connectivity for those communities, while enhancing freight efficiency by removing two of the remaining five sets of traffic signals on Reid Highway.

Entry and exit ramps with connecting roundabouts will maintain access to local roads and residential areas.

The project is expected to be substantively complete and fully operational by the middle of 2027, some six months ahead of the project's original completion date of early 2028.

The project has achieved some significant construction milestones in recent months, with bridge beams now fully installed on the new bridges at Drumpellier Drive and on Reid Highway over Altone Road.

The complex beam installation work was carried out with minimal impact to Reid Highway and other adjacent roads, minimising the disruption to road users.

With the beams now in place, work is progressing to complete each new bridge.

From late 2026 to April 2027, various traffic changes and some temporary local road closures will be required to complete the project.

These include the staged opening of new interchange access ramps and the eventual removal of the temporary roundabouts that have managed traffic at the intersections during the project.

These works will be communicated in advance through site signage and notifications to residents and road users.

Construction is also ongoing to complete new sections of shared path and to install noise walls at various locations around the project boundary.

Midland MLA Steve Catania said improving road infrastructure and traffic movement across his electorate was one of his highest priorities, and the project was a key part of that plan. **Cont. p18**

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Feedback sought on proposed Gonneville amendments by EPA

THE Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) is seeking community feedback on proposed amendments to the Gonneville nickel-copper-platinum group element (PGE) project in the Shire of Chittering.

The Chalice Mining Limited proposal is currently under assessment by the EPA.

The proponent's requested amendment - submitted under section 43A of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 - includes the realignment of the proposed infrastructure corridor and consolidation of water, power and access road infrastructure into a single corridor.

EPA chair Darren Walsh said consultation on changes to the infrastructure development envelope and mine disturbance footprint was warranted because of the high level of local community interest in the project.

As reported in *Chittering mining corridor petition* (*Echo News*, Oct 23), Chittering residents have petitioned the Legislative Council for an independent investigation into the cumulative impacts of Chalice Mining's newest proposals.

The parliamentary petition formally requests the state government to examine and investigate the broad environmental, agricultural, and human health impacts of the proposed mine and linear infrastructure routes across the region.

In regards to the current EPA assessment Mr Walsh said it was important to note that the EPA was only seeking information on the proposed amendments to the proposal it already have before them.

"There will be a further opportunity to make submissions on the broader proposal during an eight-week public review next year.

"Feedback during this two-week consultation should focus on whether the amendment would result in any new environmental factors or potential impacts."

Mr Walsh said the EPA would consider feedback relevant to the amendments before deciding if the proposal could be altered during the assessment process.

"If these changes are accepted, they would only change what is already under assessment," he said.

"The EPA would still continue with its assessment of the proposal with any amendment as part of its considerations."

The EPA consultation hub will accept public submissions for the proposed amendment until November 5 via www.consultation.epa.wa.gov.au/open-for-submissions/gonneville-pge-s-43a/

York tip proponents apply for works approval



The York community has continued to oppose the landfill proposal for more than a decade.

PETER W LEWIS

THE Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) has called for public comments following a recent application from Alkina Holdings Pty Ltd for a works approval for the York landfill proposal on Great Southern Highway.

The application is in relation to the construction and operation of a Category1 64 premises for the purpose of a Class II or III putrescible landfill site.

The Shire of York said it was aware the proponent has submitted a works approval application to DWER.

"The submission of this application does not authorise works to commence on the site," a spokesperson said.

"The proposal remains subject to the relevant planning approval processes, including matters currently involving the Joint Development Assessment Panel (JDAP) and the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT)," they said.

"These are separate approval processes, and the submission of a works approval application does not remove the need for the necessary planning approvals."

Avon Valley Residents Association spokesperson Keith Schekkerman said while DWER could issue a 'draft approval', no works approval can be issued as no valid development approval is in place.

"Any approval issued years ago have all lapsed and as such are not valid," Mr Schekkerman said.

He said according to legal advice received from the Shire of York prior to commencing any works on the site the proponent will have to obtain both development approval under the shire's local planning scheme and a works approval under the EP Act.

The advice said there was nothing preventing the proponent from progressing the works approval application concurrently with the development application.

It said typically, DWER will not grant a works approval until the development approval is in place, however it is possible that they will prepare a 'draft' works approval pending approval of the development.

Central Wheatbelt MLA Lachlan Hunter said the Cook Labor government had betrayed the people of York and the wider Avon Valley.

"At the last election, Labor told the community this project would not be approved. Now, they have done exactly the opposite. A broken election promise and a complete betrayal of regional Western Australia," Mr Hunter said.

"This decision raises serious concerns about the potential impacts on our precious water resources, including Perth's drinking water catchment, increased heavy vehicle traffic, wildlife, the environment and the rural amenity of the entire Avon Valley.

"And with capacity still available at Red Hill, the question must be asked: Why is Labor determined to dump Perth's rubbish on the people of York?"

Mr Hunter said the people of the Avon Valley should not have to pay the price for Perth's convenience.

"York is not Perth's rubbish bin, and regional Western Australians are not second-class citizens," he said.

"Labor made a promise before the election and broke it afterwards. It is little wonder regional communities are losing trust in this government.

"As the local Member of Parliament, I will continue fighting this disastrous decision and standing up for the people of York and the entire Avon Valley."

Feedback and comments on the proposal must be forwarded to DWER by Monday, November 2 by email to info@dwer.wa.gov.au quoting APP-0036334.





International delegates, community leaders and trail representatives gathered at the Bibbulmun Track in Kalamunda to celebrate the Friendship Trail partnership.

Bibbulmun Track celebrates international friendship trails

THE Bibbulmun Track Foundation has celebrated two significant international milestones with the official opening of friendship trail partnerships linking the iconic Bibbulmun Track with Taiwan's Raknus Selu Trail and Brazil's Transcarioca Trail.

Last week two ceremonies were held in Kalamunda and Northcliffe to welcome international delegates, government representatives, trail managers, volunteers and community leaders to recognise the growing global connections between some of the world's most celebrated long-distance walking tracks.

Established through the World Trails Network's Friendship Trails initiative, the partnerships promote cultural exchange, tourism, environmental stewardship and the sharing of trail management knowledge between trail communities around the world.

The Transcarioca Trail has been twinned with the Kalamunda to Dwellingup section of the Bibbulmun Track while the Raknus Selu Trail has been twinned with the Pemberton to Northcliffe section.

Bibbulmun Track Foundation chair Kathleen Broderick said the friendship trail agreements recognised the power of walking tracks to connect people, cultures and landscapes across international borders.

Bibbulmun Track Foundation chief executive officer Su-Mita Hill said the events highlighted Western Australia's place within a growing international network of world-class walking destinations.

"Ultimately, the Bibbulmun Track is about community and connection: connecting Kalamunda to Albany and to all the towns along the way, connecting to each other and to ourselves, connecting people to planet and to place, and now, connecting people who walk these sections of the Bibbulmun Track to trail experiences and communities in Taiwan and Brazil."

The Northcliffe ceremony was attended by representatives from Taiwan's trail organisations, including Raknus Selu Trail Association acting president Ming-Chien Hsu, and Taiwan Thousand Miles Trail Association chief executive director Sheng-Hsin Chou.

At Kalamunda, representatives from Brazil's trail community joined local dignitaries and trail supporters for the official ceremony at the Bibbulmun Track Northern Terminus.

Speakers included Kalamunda MLA Adam Hort, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions parks executive director Luke Bentley, Brazilian Trails Network director Pedro Menezes, City of Kalamunda Mayor Margaret Thomas, and Bibbulmun Track Foundation chair Kathleen Broderick.

The ceremonies celebrated not only international cooperation but also the volunteers, land managers, community organisations and supporters who contribute to the long-term success of the track.

Future of trails under the spotlight

WA has taken centre stage in the global trails community with last week's 2026 World Trails Conference bringing together international trail leaders, government representatives, researchers, tourism operators and conservation experts to explore the future of trails.

Hosted by Outdoors WA in partnership with the World Trails Network, the conference attracted more than 260 delegates, with 54 per cent travelling from overseas and representation from 25 countries.

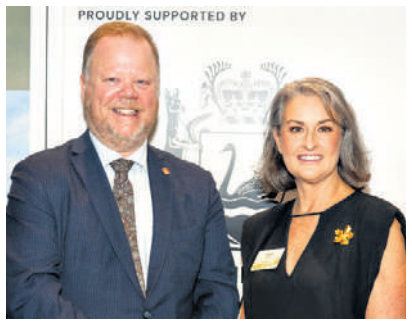
Under the theme 'Trails to the Future: Connection, Culture and Conservation', the three-day program explored how trails can connect people and communities, support sustainable tourism, protect natural environments and strengthen cultural understanding.

Outdoors WA chief executive officer Katie Brown said hosting the conference was an important opportunity to share Western Australia's experience with the world while bringing home ideas and perspectives that could benefit local trails and communities.

"Trails are about so much more than getting from one place to another. They connect people with nature, culture, community and Country, while supporting outdoor recreation, tourism and regional economies.

"Bringing this international community here gives us the chance to showcase the incredible work happening in WA, learn from experiences around the world and build connections that will help shape the future of trails."

The conference program featured 107 speakers and more than 65 sessions and workshops, covering trail planning and management, conservation, nature-based tourism, community participation and the evolving role of trails in connecting people with the outdoors.



Environment Minister Matthew Swinbourn and Outdoors WA CEO Katie Brown.

First Nations knowledge and culture were an important part of the conference, recognising the deep and enduring relationships between Aboriginal people, Country and the landscapes through which trails travel.

Beyond the conference sessions, delegates experienced Western Australia's trails firsthand through guided tours and outdoor experiences, with opportunities to discover the state's diverse landscapes, meet local operators and learn from the people who care for and manage its trails.

The event also provided an opportunity to showcase the contribution of trails to outdoor recreation, nature-based tourism and regional communities, while strengthening relationships between Western Australia and the international trails industry.

Supported by the Western Australian Government, the conference is part of a broader effort to strengthen the State's outdoor recreation and adventure tourism offering and share its experiences with an international audience.

Opened by Environment Minister Matthew Swinbourn, the conference marked the first time this biennial global gathering has been held in the southern hemisphere, placing WA's trails, landscapes and outdoor industry in the international spotlight.

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ECH30110261

One in five seeking crisis support under 15

PETER W LEWIS

SWAN View resident Angelina Do is one of many Lifeline WA digital crisis supporters who are guiding young people seeking help as new figures reveal that almost one in five people requiring assistance through its text and online chat services is under 15.

The figures also reveal that 55 per cent of digital help seekers are under 25, highlighting how young people are turning to digital services for support.

Twenty-three year-old Ms Do has gained firsthand insight into the challenges young people are facing, including anxiety, navigating relationships, self-identity and major life transitions.

She said volunteering at Lifeline WA had given her an insight into the complex pressures young people are carrying.

"Young people are in a period of constant change, learning to navigate and understand the world as they gain experience, and it can be overwhelming trying to make sense of so much at once," she said.

"They often reach out about issues regarding navigating social relationships and their self-identity. Many young people also reach out about anxiety with transitions in their lives, such as going from primary to high school or moving away from home."

Unlike an AI assistant, Lifeline WA's Digital Crisis Support service connects help seekers with a trained person equipped to listen with care, respond safely and provide genuine human connection during a crisis.

Young Western Australians are increasingly turning to their screens when they need support, with new figures revealing that 55 per cent of people seeking support through Lifeline WA's text and online chat services are aged under 25.

The 2025/26 figures also reveal almost one in five digital help seekers is aged under 15, providing a picture of how early young people are reaching out and the channels they are choosing to use.

The figures come as Mineral Resources (MinRes) renews its partnership with Lifeline WA, committing $600,000 over three years, which includes support for the training of 300 new digital crisis supporters.

The investment will help Lifeline WA continue responding to strong demand for support via text and online chat, with thousands of Western Australians seeking help through the organisation's digital crisis support services each year.



Lifeline WA digital crisis supporter and Swan View resident Angelina Do.

The role of digital technology in how young people seek support, connection and information extends beyond mental health services.

Research released by Australia's eSafety Commissioner in August found 78 per cent of Australian children aged 10 to 17 had used an AI assistant.

Among children who had used AI assistants or companions, 54 per cent had used them for personal or social reasons, including talking about their feelings, seeking advice, discussing physical or mental health.

Lifeline WA chief executive officer Sarah Fordham said the challenge was to ensure that when someone made the decision to seek help digitally, a trained person was there to respond.

"Behind every text or online chat is a person who has made the decision to reach out for support and trust someone with what they are going through" Ms Fordham said.

"Our digital crisis supporters are trained to listen with care, without judgement, and to support people through some incredibly difficult moments.

MinRes head of mental health April Jones said as demand for mental health support grows, the compay was proud to help fund the training that means Lifeline WA can connect more Western Australians with a real person when they need one most.

Lifeline WA is encouraging people interested in becoming a digital crisis supporter to consider volunteering.

Training includes comprehensive e-learning followed by practical development and ongoing support and can take approximately two months to complete online.

To find out more, visit: https://lifelinewa.org.au/volunteer/digital-crisis-supporter/

Research to support our black cockatoos



The Carnaby's black cockatoo is one of three species to be studied as part of the research project.

PETER W LEWIS

SUPPORTING urban greening and helping to preserve the three threatened black cockatoo populations is the aim of a new $670,000 partnership between the state government and leading researchers from Murdoch University.

Funded through the Let's Grow program, the Black Cockatoo Conservation and Green Links projects will provide new data, mapping and practical planning tools to help communities and governments create greener, cooler and more liveable places.

The three-year Black cockatoo conservation project will use movement, health and habitat data to identify priority conservation areas and inform actions to protect and enhance habitat for all three threatened south-west black cockatoo species.

The findings will support more targeted conservation efforts while improving understanding of how urban landscapes can better support native wildlife.

The two-year Green Links project will identify opportunities to strengthen habitat connections across the urban landscape, supporting wildlife movement and biodiversity while helping create cooler, leafier neighbourhoods through a more connected network of vegetation across Perth.

Working alongside local governments and communities, these projects will translate research into practical action, delivering urban greening benefits at local and regional scale, and contributing to the government's target of 30 per cent tree canopy by 2040.

Planning and Lands Minister John Carey said by partnering with Murdoch University the government is bringing specialist expertise together to deliver more co-ordinated urban greening and protect Black cockatoo numbers.

"This complements a number of measures by this government to boost canopy, including the adoption of Perth and Peel's first greening strategy, changes to the residential codes to incentivise tree retention, the Treebates incentive, and the tree recovery program," he said.

Environment Minister Matthew Swinbourn said connecting and strengthening habitat across the urban landscape will support biodiversity and help protect threatened black cockatoos and the many other native species that share our city.

"These projects will also help inspire people across the community to take urban greening action, creating a more nature-rich city for generations to come," he said.

"Every tree and patch of vegetation can make a difference, but when we plan and connect those efforts across our urban neighbourhoods, they can achieve much more for people and nature."

For further information, visit www.wa.gov.au/letsgrow

A resort lifestyle at the gateway to the Swan Valley



Artist's impression of Xenium Living

Xenium Living is a new vertical living concept in Midland, designed for over 50s who want more from this chapter of life. Perfect for empty nesters, early retirees and rightsizers.

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Fri October 30

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

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

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

Sat October 31

Settlers House York
The Big Top Freakshow
From 4pm, Free
125 Avon Terrace York

Woodbridge Hotel
The Pointy Heads
From 8pm, Free
50 East St, Guildford

Hemingway & Co
Spooky Saturday
From 7pm, Free
7095 Great Eastern
Hwy, Mundaring

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

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

Sun November 1

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

Chidlow Tavern
Shangri-la Road
From 12.30-3.30pm, Free
4 Thomas St, Chidlow

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Table for Two
4pm-7pm, Free
4260 Great Eastern Hwy
Mahogany Creek

Tues November 3

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

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

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

Wed November 4

Chidlow Tavern
Wednesday Night
Jam Session
From 7pm, Free
4 Thomas St, Chidlow

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

Thu November 5

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

Mahogany Inn & Distillery
Neil Adams
5.30pm-8.30pm, Free
4260 Great Eastern Hwy
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Woodbridge Hotel
The Pointy Heads
From 6pm, Free
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ECHO NEWS

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Tree climbers to converge on Mundaring

WA's best tree climbers will take to the treetops in Mundaring for the 2026 WA State Tree Climbing Championships, showcasing speed, strength and extraordinary skill in one of the state's most exciting sporting competitions.

The free event is hosted by the Arboricultural Association of Western Australia (ArbWest), with the championships taking place on Saturday, November 14 at Perth Hills Discovery Centre, Mundaring.

Thirty-five competitors will tackle five disciplines – speed climb, work climb, aerial rescue, ascent and throwline – competing for the chance to enter the Australian National Tree Climbing Championships in Perth in April 2027, and potentially progress to the World Championships.

"People are often amazed when they see what these climbers can do. It's fast, it's exciting and it takes an incredible amount of skill," ArbWest vice president and event organiser Nick Hayes said.

"We want families to come along, enjoy the action and discover something they may never have seen before."

Visitors can enjoy the climbing action alongside a kids' climbing wall, face painting, food trucks and arboricultural machinery displays. Entry and children's activities are free.

Supported by around 50 volunteers, sponsors and exhibitors, the event is expected to attract a huge crowd and will also give visitors the chance to learn about careers in arboriculture.

ArbWest hopes to spread the important message of caring for our trees, wildlife, growing and looking after our tree canopy for generations to come.

The event will be held at the Perth Hills Discovery Centre in Mundaring on Saturday, November 14 from 9am to 3pm.

For further information go to www.arbwest.com.au



Tree climbers in action.



The West Australian Mandolin Orchestra.

WA Mandolin Orchestra comes to Kalamunda

THE West Australian Mandolin Orchestra have a very special 50th anniversary matinee concert coming up at the Kalamunda Performing Arts Centre on Saturday, November 14.

Fifty years ago, Robert Schulz founded the Fremantle Mandolin Orchestra which has since become the West Australian Mandolin Orchestra.

In the years since, the orchestra has grown and flourished and performed for many appreciative audiences in Perth and beyond.

"Sadly, our founder passed away in 2025 - but his spirit lives on in the piece of music he composed in anticipation of this event - '5 Decades 5 Moods'," a spokesperson said.

The program also features additional works by Mr Schulz, as well as a delightful selection of music by other composers.

The orchestra will also be joined by Japanese mandolin virtuoso, Masataka Hori who will perform a breathtaking solo set as well as conduct the orchestra for the composition by Mr Schulz.

Under the baton of Ana Milas, this is a wonderful opportunity to experience the unique sound of the mandolin orchestra and celebrate five decades of music making.

The concert will be held at the Kalamunda Performing Arts Centre, 48 Canning Road on Saturday, November 14 commencing at 3pm. The bar will be open from 2.30pm.

Tickets are $40 and available at https://kalamundapac.com.au/events/5-decades-5-moods/ and via the Kalamunda Performing Arts Centre website.

More information on the orchestra is available at www.wamo.com.au



Get yourself Melbourne Cup ready at Kimbo's Fashion

Kimbo's Fashions has been a fashion name in Western Australia for 38 years with stores in Midland & Willetton.

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The friendly staff all share many years of experience within the fashion industry.

They hold regular fashion shows, parades and morning teas so you can see the latest in fashion for the season and they take great pride in always giving back to the community.

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Begin with sparkling wine and delectable canapés on arrival before indulging in a beautifully curated three-course luncheon.

Enjoy live music, all the excitement of the race on the big screen, sweepstakes and our highly anticipated Fashions on the Field competition.

Dress to impress! Fabulous prizes await, including a stunning Atlas Pearls bracelet for one of our most stylish guests.

With an elegant atmosphere, exceptional cuisine and a picturesque bushland backdrop, Melbourne Cup at Amaroo is the perfect excuse to frock up and celebrate.

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Tuesday 3 November 2026

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Book your seats now.

Food Menu

Entree

Kingfish ceviche, avocado, finger lime, ponzu dressing

Main

Eye fillet steak, pommes anna, broccolini, sauce béarnaise

-

Cos salad, salad champagne vinaigrette

Dessert

Sticky toffee pudding, butterscotch sauce, vanilla ice-cream

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FRIDAY 6TH NOVEMBER

Tickets $95p/p

Come for dinner, stay for the music, and settle in for a Friday night of good food, beautiful company and a little la dolce vita.

An evening dedicated to good food, great wine and the art of taking your time.

Set in the hills, this special Italian dinner brings together a beautifully curated four course menu, live music from an Italian singer, and an atmosphere made for long dinners and even longer conversations. Wine pairings are available for those who want to take the evening to its full Italian potential – one course, one glass, at a time. Additional $35pp

High Tea in the Hills

14 NOVEMBER I 5 DECEMBER

Join us for a truly indulgent experience with a selection of delicious delights, accompanied by a drink of your choosing.

$79 p/p

Includes all food, one drink & hot beverage.

$114 p/p

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21 NOVEMBER I 12 DECEMBER

10:30AM - 11:45AM

Prepare to unleash your inner artist as you are guided through a fun, relaxing painting session by a talented Perth creative. As you create your masterpiece treat yourself to a glass of bubbles. The session will conclude with a delicious two course lunch.

Tickets $135 p/p

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SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 1PM

The Pool Pass $30

- Pool access.
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- Complimentary glass of bubbly on arrival.

The Private Cabana $250

Take your pool day to the next level with a private cabana for up to 6 guests.

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On the trail

What's happening in the Shire **October 2026**

From the President

Springtime is a reminder of everything that makes our community special. We have been enjoying a fantastic line-up of events, celebrating our local artists, producers and community groups. Council is proud to invest in the arts, culture and experiences that make the Shire of Mundaring such a vibrant place to live and visit.

Congratulations to everyone involved in another successful Mundaring Hills Open Studios. It was great to see so many visitors exploring local studios, meeting our talented artists and celebrating the creativity that enriches our community.

The Slow Food Festival in Sculpture Park showcased the very best of our region, celebrating local food, wine, spirits and produce while providing an opportunity for community groups to share their work and connect with residents.

There is plenty more to look forward to, with the Darlington Arts Festival on 4 and 5 November offering another weekend of art, culture and community connection, and be sure to save the date for the Day in the Forest Music Festival on 5 December, a celebration of live music and local talent, under the trees in Glen Forrest.

I hope to see you at these community events, proudly supported by the Shire of Mundaring, as we continue celebrating the creativity, connection and community spirit inspired by the unique beauty of our Perth Hills.

Paige McNeil
Shire President



Community voices kick-start Future Mundaring



What should our communities look and feel like in the years ahead? That conversation has begun through the Shire's new Future Mundaring initiative.

Residents recently took part in the first series of community workshops, sharing what they value about their local areas, what they would like to see improved and what their communities may need in the years ahead.

The feedback will provide an important starting point for Place Plans across the Shire. These plans will help identify the differing priorities of communities throughout the Hills, Foothills and Rural areas and guide thinking about local infrastructure, services, facilities, public spaces and community development.

The workshops are just the beginning of an ongoing conversation. Over the coming years, Future Mundaring will bring together important projects and planning conversations, giving residents a clearer way to contribute ideas and see how community feedback informs future decisions.

Scan QR to keep an eye out for more opportunities to get involved on the Future Mundaring website.

Celebrating our older adults this WA Seniors Week

WA Seniors Week is back from 8 to 15 November, and we're celebrating the older adults who make such an important contribution to our community.

Back by popular demand, the Shire's Living Well Series will offer a range of free and accessible activities throughout the week, with plenty of opportunities to connect, participate and enjoy something new.

To mark the occasion, *The Hills Talk* podcast will also feature local senior Jamie Brindle, who founded Bicycles For Humanity in retirement and has since helped gift more than 14,000 bikes to communities in Africa and remote WA.

06 November

Outdoor Movie Night: Kangaroo

5pm • Mundaring Primary School

Enjoy an outdoor screening of 'Kangaroo' under the stars, with free inflatable sports games and food trucks serving tasty treats.

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

08-15 November

WA Seniors Week: Living Well Series

Hub of the Hills and Brown Park Community Centre

Seniors Week returns with free, accessible activities celebrating older adults and their contributions to our community.

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

18 November

Living Well Expo

10am - 1pm • Brown Park Community Centre

Discover a range of local services, support and information for older adults and join in the fun with free tai chi and line dancing sessions.

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



ADVERTISING FEATURE

Focus on Seniors



Celebrating Exceptional Care with Dovida

In every community, there are people whose kindness and dedication quietly make a difference in the lives of others. This year, one such person is Deb, who was recently recognised as Dovida WA's Caregiver of the Year at the Heart of Dovida WA Awards.

Known for her reliability, compassion and willingness to go above and beyond, Deb has earned the trust and admiration of both clients and colleagues. Her approach to care extends far beyond daily tasks, focusing on meaningful connections that help people maintain their independence, dignity and quality of life.

The impact of her work is perhaps best reflected by the words of one grateful client, who describes her as "wonderful" and "marvellous", praising the confidence and comfort she brings to each visit.

Deb's recognition serves as a reminder of the vital role that Caregivers play in our community. Their work often happens behind the scenes, yet it has a lasting impact on the lives of older Australians and their families.



Deb was recently recognised as Dovida's WA caregiver of the Year.

If you or a loved one could benefit from compassionate in-home support, contact Dovida today on 08 6310 0410.

WA Seniors Week and help for seniors

WA Seniors Week is held annually in mid-November, recognising the important role that older people play in society.

This year WA Seniors Week will run from Sunday, November 8 to Sunday, November 15 encouraging people of all ages to acknowledge and celebrate the contributions of older people to the community.

The Department of Communities plays a leading role in helping ensure that older Western Australians are safe, respected and valued in the community.

This includes the funding of support services, grants programs and initiatives across the seniors' portfolio, including initiatives to prevent the abuse and mistreatment of older people (elder abuse).

The department also administers the WA Seniors Card which enables members to access a range of state government concessions and exclusive business discounts to assist with the cost of living.



Seniors Card holders can also access rebates on local government rates, water service charges and free off-peak travel and concession rates at all other times.

Seniors can also use the Seniors Information Resource to navigate information about a wide range of services and programs, along with concessions and rebates available to them.

It includes information about housing, health, aged care services, elder abuse, technology and communication, transport, connecting with community, end of life planning and a range of other topics.

Further information is available at www.seniorsinforesource.wa.gov.au

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2 Give notice to your current provider and confirm changeover

3 Call My Aged Care to inform them and get your unique referral code

4 Give your referral code to your new provider and sign a new agreement

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Focus on Seniors



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Department of Training and Workforce Development

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muresk.wa.gov.au

Scan the QR code to learn more

Building the workforce of tomorrow on a century-long foundation



John Murphy General Manager outside of the Muresk Institute which is celebrating 100 years of training this year.

As Muresk Institute marks its centenary, we celebrate 100 years of training, skills development and workforce growth supporting Western Australia's agricultural industry.

Since 1926, Muresk has trained generations of farmers, machinery operators, technicians, apprentices and agricultural professionals. Its success lies in adapting to industry needs while delivering hands-on training.

Modern agriculture relies on advanced machinery, precision technologies and data-driven systems, creating demand for skilled workers. Muresk connects industry, training providers, employers and learners to develop a competitive agricultural workforce.

The State Government's $10.3 million Agriculture Machinery Training Centre, opened in 2023, has strengthened Muresk's position as Western Australia's leading agricultural training hub, supporting mechanical apprenticeships and specialist training with contemporary equipment.

As we celebrate this milestone, the future remains our focus. A strong pipeline of skilled workers is essential to agriculture's success. Whether starting a career, undertaking an apprenticeship or upskilling, visit muresk.wa.gov.au to explore opportunities to build the next generation of agricultural workers.





Muresk Institute students during training in years gone by.



ADVERTISING FEATURE

Focus on Seniors



Celebrating Seniors: Free Activities to Bring Community Together





Try some new activities and meet some new people at the Shire of Mundaring's Celebrating Seniors program this November.

Join the Shire of Mundaring's Celebrating Seniors program from November 10 - 18 and enjoy free activities that support wellbeing, connection and active ageing.

To celebrate Seniors Week, the Shire has waived participation fees for selected regular programs at the Hub of the Hills and Brown Park, giving older adults and carers the opportunity to try new activities, meet people and strengthen community connections.

The program also recognises the contribution of local volunteers and community groups, including the Active Ageing Network, whose dedication helps create a vibrant and connected community.

Celebrations begin on November 10 with a Book Café fundraiser supporting the Mundaring Volunteer Fire and Rescue Cadets from 9.30am. On November 11, local seniors and Active Ageing Network volunteers are invited to a special morning tea from 10am.

Visitors can also enjoy friendly competition with pool and table tennis at Brown Park Community Centre in Swan View from 9am on November 11.

The program concludes with the Living Well Expo in Swan View on November 18 from 10am, featuring local service providers, community groups, tai chi and line dancing sessions. The first 200 attendees will receive a complimentary barista-made coffee or tea.

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Advertising Features

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NOVEMBER 11, 2026
We will Remember them
6 November 2026

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6 November 2026

Call Karon on 9374 6610 or
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Shire of MUNDARING

Celebrating Seniors Week

November 10 - 13

Join in the fun during Seniors Week as we celebrate the valuable contributions of our senior community with free, accessible activities across the Shire!

Free activities available this week









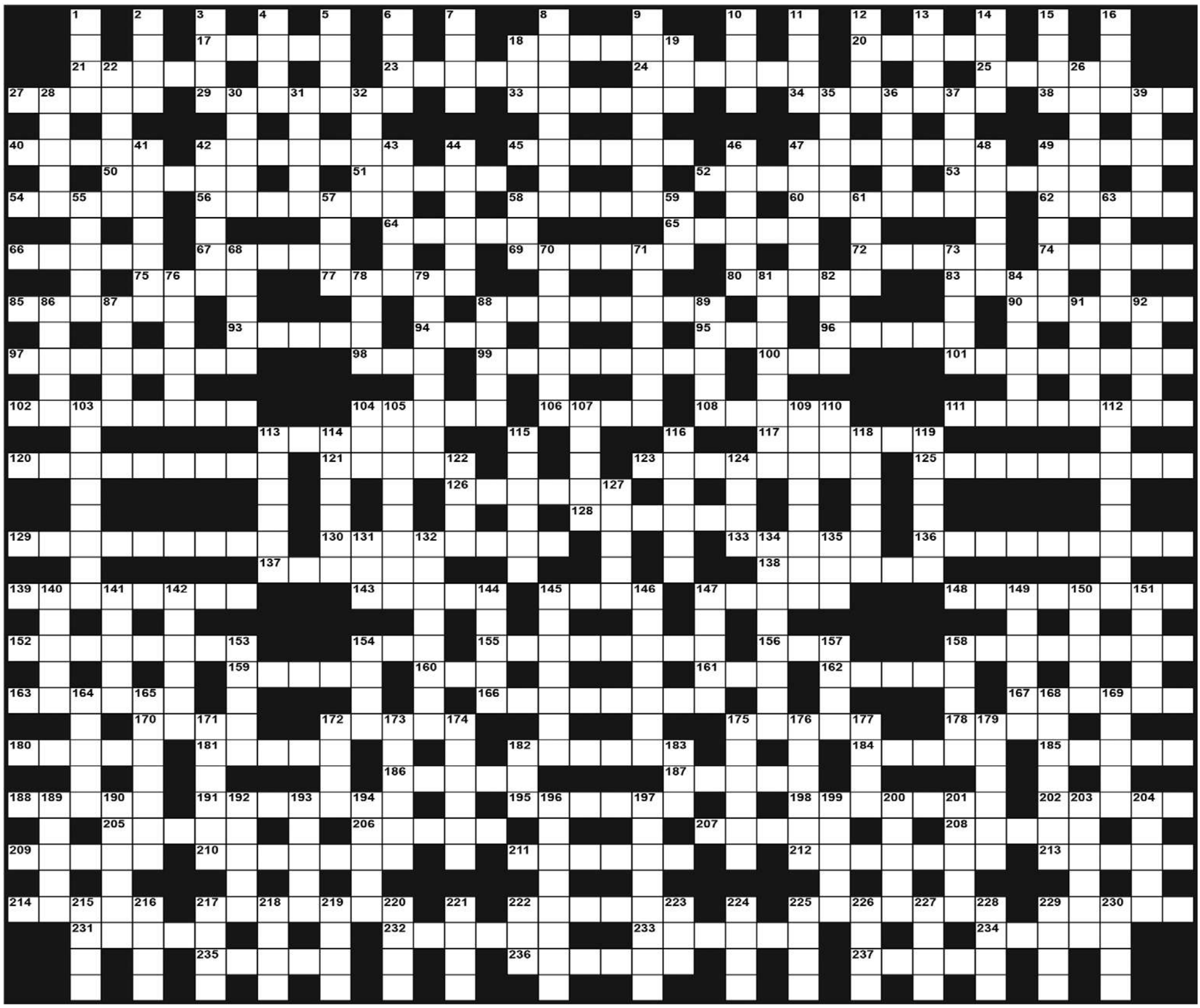




Scan QR to view the program of free activities

mundaring.wa.gov.au

ECHO Mind Boggler Crossword 1292



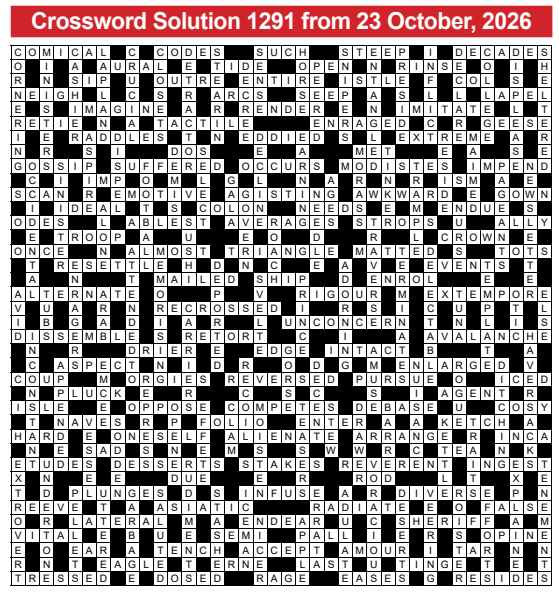
ACROSS

17 Worth
18 Levelled off
20 Springs
21 Mix up
23 A boiler
24 Liquid measure
25 Chinese bear
27 Cartons
29 Posers
33 With gathered trim
34 Retainers
38 River mouths
40 Presents
42 List ingredients
45 Something unreal
47 Called together
49 Less
50 Make amends
51 Donate
52 Gambled
53 Disease carrier
54 Walk casually
56 Classifying
58 Thawed
60 Young hare
62 Trials
64 Harden by use
65 A relative
66 Sadistic
67 Large bird
69 Three-legged stand
72 Speak with lisp
74 Undergrowth
75 A car
77 Surrender
80 Woodland nymph
83 Spoken
85 Players on stage
88 Abusive speech
90 Condition
93 Pretence
94 Compete
95 Drinking vessel
96 Electrical motor part
97 Long-term companions
98 Take to court
99 Helpful drug
100 Hurry
101 Berating
102 Dead
104 Learner
106 Betrays (coll)
108 Actions
111 Those interfering
113 Self-contained part
117 Went off course
120 Confusing situation
121 Those inheriting
123 Pointed weapon
125 Sleep too late
126 Excursion
128 Horse gait
129 Shared out
130 Meaner
133 Unaccompanied items
136 Sign for ‘and’
137 Bush hut
138 Leguminous seed
139 Rubs the body
143 A lure
145 Small insect
147 Set of beliefs
148 Hideaway for sweethearts
152 Way with words
154 Sticking agent
155 Put in layers
156 Head movement
158 Early morning
159 Measuring tool
160 Type of tree
161 Wet dirt
162 A watercourse
163 Remove locks
166 With feelings
167 Strengthening piece in garment
170 Give way
172 A resin
175 Way to fish
178 A pace
180 Mad rush
181 Rebuild
182 Wooded area
184 Came up
185 Legal papers
186 In plenty
187 Greek letter
188 Make sacred
191 Fatter
195 Splash in mud
198 A bishop or abbot
202 Catarrh
205 Raised bank
206 Corrupt
207 Use foolishly
208 Musical work
209 Wallaroos
210 Type of US snake
211 Games
212 Shooters
213 Fine material
214 Helpful part
217 Notched like a saw
222 Make spirits
225 Adhesive material
229 Riding horse
231 Minor
232 Disagrees
233 Holy
234 Takes orders
235 Raised area
236 Wandered
237 Annoyed

DOWN

1 Fibre plant
2 Youths
3 Previous evenings
4 Thin wood strip
5 In this place
6 Writing fluids
7 Biblical name
8 Extra hours
9 Sleeping attire
10 Pretty flower
11 Sudden pull
12 Pleasure
13 Storm
14 Snakes
15 Coarse gravel
16 Shut up
18 Gnome
19 A time
22 Of the teeth
26 Work out
28 Strong dislike
30 Bury
31 Nervous
32 Got up
35 Keep away from
36 Throb
37 Put rope in ring
39 Have faith in
41 Like a star
42 Take inside
43 Motor
44 Round
46 Particles
47 Ease up
48 Waver in speech
49 Able to change
55 Not sharp
57 Very black
58 Came across
59 Failure
61 Move sideways
63 Move railway trucks
68 Hinged tool
70 Cooked
71 Dangerous
73 Entrances
76 Guides
78 Freezes over
79 Sweet-smelling shrub
81 Make unhappy
82 Thread
84 Pay for
86 Want badly
87 Coarse in manner
88 Traded
89 Correct
91 Of the tides
92 Inside material
103 Small compartments
104 Billiard stick
105 Send away
107 Unpaid
109 Itemised
110 A group
112 Curse someone
113 Heaps
114 Truth in Buddhism
115 Beat harshly
116 Ex-Russian dictator
118 Strong and healthy
119 On the back
122 Inner self
124 Parts of races
127 Haggard
131 Finish
132 Type of fig tree
134 A shrub
135 Or nearest offer (abb)
140 Once more
141 An ointment
142 Tender
144 Egg parts
145 Relic
146 Warming devices
147 Hilltop
149 A trip
150 Intelligent introverts
151 A ... to fashion
153 Master of ceremonies
154 Unsmiling
157 Sketched
158 Waste metal
164 Feel
165 Lays charges against
168 Towards the sky
169 Nastiness
171 Cloth seller
172 On highest part
173 Carrier
174 Annul a law
175 Surgical tool
176 Changes to suit
177 Limping
179 Doctrines
182 Not many
183 Pull along
189 Oafs
190 Steadier
192 Go away
193 Mother (L)
194 Turn inside out
196 Gave information
197 Non-resident
199 Of the kidneys
200 Ambles
201 Short in speech
203 Jovial
204 Join
215 Metal fastener
216 Lean to side
217 Olden farmhand
218 Coarse
219 High point
220 Merit
221 Wide-eyed
222 Moisture overnight
223 A cover
224 A creeper
225 Unwanted thing
226 In the middle
227 Grasp
228 Was carried on
229 Look for
230 See

Crossword Solution 1291 from 23 October, 2026



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People who are interested in the application, may make a written submission within 15 days of this publication to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, 7 Ellam Street, Victoria Park, Western Australia, 6100, quoting DWERVT23627.

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All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence.



Do you have something to Celebrate?

Why not announce it in the Echo?
Call 9374 6666
to share your special news.

Reid Hwy Interchanges project moves ahead

From p6.

"Once complete, these interchanges will not only make travel smoother and safer for motorists but improve the ride for people walking or cycling along Reid Highway.

"We're delivering new shared paths, bridges and underpasses that will better connect the Caversham, Middle Swan, Stratton and Jane Brook communities, making it easier than ever to move through our eastern suburbs."

Transport and Major Infrastructure Minister Rita Saffioti said it had been incredible to see how quickly these two new interchanges have taken shape on Reid Highway, with the project team working hard to minimise disruptions to road users while construction has powered ahead.

"Removing the traffic lights will make a real difference to the almost 40,000 motorists that use this stretch of Reid Highway every day, delivering a smoother flow of traffic and cutting travel time for residents, commuters and truckies," she said.

Hasluck Tania MP Lawrence said Reid Highway is one of Perth's most important east-west links, and these new interchanges will make a significant difference for residents, businesses, and freight operators moving through our northern-eastern suburbs.

"The transformation of these intersections will deliver smoother, safer journeys while improving access for cyclists and pedestrians in the area."

Bassendean MLA Dave Kelly said Reid Highway was an important route for commuters and freight operators, and these upgrades will improve safety, reduce congestion and provide a smoother journey for the thousands of people who rely on this road every day.

"This project has also generated hundreds of local jobs as part of our government's commitment to keeping Western Australia's economy strong."

Read between the lines

By Pastor Ian Kirk

A Challenging Build



I enjoy constructing Lego models. A while back, I bought a non-Lego model of a cherry blossom tree. Its construction was of mini blocks – 1182 of them.

It was a challenging build. The blocks were small. Sometimes I had to use tweezers to fit a block into a tight space. The blocks don't even fit well. Worst of all, the instruction manual and images were not accurate. Several times, I had to strip things back and rebuild the model.

The completed construction looks great – the 1182 blocks produce a beautiful model of a cherry blossom tree. Colleen loves it and has put it in a prominent place in our home. But it was a challenge to build. I almost gave up on it. But with patience and endurance I finally completed it – after 15 hours.

The build reminded me of the patient and enduring work of God in our lives. He knitted us together in our mother's womb. We come forth and God is there to help us build our life well. Most of us refuse His help or ignore Him.

But for those who turn to Him and trust in His Son Jesus Christ, He begins a good work in us. There are parts in our life that can be frustrating to Him. But He patiently works, never giving up. We read in Philippians 1:6 *"He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."*



ECHO Notice Board

A free service for non-profit organisations
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Upcoming Events

• **Kalamunda Youth Swing Band** gives young musicians the opportunity to rehearse and play in a band. Rehearsals are Monday afternoon during school term. For more information call musical director Leah on 0432 973 395.

• **The Ellenbrook Friendship Group** meets each Wednesday at the Community Centre, 27 Maffina Parade, Ellenbrook from 1pm to 4pm. All welcome to make new friends or just have a chat. Enjoy indoor bowls, afternoon tea and the occasional outing. For more information call Sheila on 0402 973 307.

• **The Swan Woodturners Association of WA** meets every Tuesday at 1pm for a 1.30pm start at the Caversham Memorial Hall, 7847 West Swan Road, Caversham for men and women of all ages interested in learning the art of woodturning. Woodturning demonstrations are undertaken each week with demonstrations also displayed on large TV screens. Competitions are held for those members eager to improve their skill level. For more visit woodturnerswa.org.au and then go to Swan Woodturners Group or contact the convenor on 0476 178 002.

• **The Gidgegannup Men's Shed** at Ian Stannard Pavilion, Gidgegannup Showgrounds, 2171 Toodyay Road, Gidgegannup is a community-based men's shed providing opportunities for men and women to work on projects of their own, join in shed activities and tasks, or just share time, recreation and fellowship with other members. For more information email president@gidgegaupmensshed.org.au or visit gidgegannupmensshed.org.au

• **Midland Lawn Tennis Club's** summer season has commenced at 21 Patterson Drive, Middle Swan. All ages and standards of play are offered. Social play from 9am on Wednesday, and 1pm on Saturday (shortly to be changed to 9am). Coach Jak Kerrigan offers a fun, active junior club. For more information, visit their website www.midlandtennis.com.au

• **The Really Really Free Market** is on again on Sunday, November 22 from 9am to 10am at the Mechanics Hall in Guildford. Bring any items you no longer need. Take what you need or want. Everything is free. For more information visit their facebook event, https://tinyurl.com/y4axav5y

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.

Woofer of the week



Roxanne is a large 7 yr old poodle cross, and could live with another male dog. She is used to cats and small children. Roxanne is sterilised, vaccinated, and microchipped. Costs Apply. Contact Bakers Hill Dog Sanctuary on 9574 1438.

ECHO Sports

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Helena Valley resident wrestles his way to silver



Wolves Wrestling Club wrestler Brett Humberston (left) with coach Jadranko Tesanovic (right) and fellow Wolves club teammate.

GUANHAO CHENG

HELENA Valley wrestler Brett Humberston has claimed a silver medal in Greco-Roman wrestling after returning to martial arts through the sport about a year ago.

Humberston finished second after two matches at the recent United for Wrestling competition, where he faced one of the sport's promising young wrestlers.

Humberston said the silver medal was an encouraging result.

"It was a good hard battle," he said.

Having practised boxing, Muay Thai and mixed martial arts throughout his life, Humberston was first introduced to wrestling through his brother, who encouraged him to train under coach Jadranko Tesanovic.

Mr Tesanovic of Wolves Wrestling Club, known to his students as coach Adrian, described Humberston as a talented athlete and one to watch in future competitions.

"He is a Greco-Roman wrestler and is very dedicated," he said.

"He is a role model for all Wolves wrestling club members."

A former Yugoslavian Greco-Roman wrestling champion, Mr Tesanovic has also twice been recognised as community coach of the year.

After spending time away from martial arts, Humberston returned through wrestling with a new motivation and setting an example for his children.

He now travels from Helena Valley to Balcatta for training, bringing his children along to sessions.

Unlike freestyle wrestling, Greco-Roman wrestling prohibits holds below the waist, placing greater emphasis on upper-body techniques and throws.

"It's a lot more physical, I feel, and harder on the body," Humberston said.

He said fatherhood had reduced the time available for himself, but sharing the sport with his children made the commitment worthwhile.

"It's good me being able to set an example for my kids and get them into it," he said.

"Doesn't matter if you win or lose, just keep trying, trying and you keep improving and getting better."

Humberston's next goal is to prepare for the state titles, where he hopes to improve on his silver medal performance.

He said consistency, refining his technique and learning from competition experience would be key to his progress.

He also encouraged newcomers to try wrestling, describing the club's atmosphere under its lead coaches as friendly and welcoming.

Reflecting on the lesson he most wanted to pass on to his children, Humberston said perseverance was crucial.

"Try something, stick to something and just never give up," he said.



Brothers Amiel and Elrad Safaniev represented Australia at the Youth Compatriots Games in Russia, winning gold and bronze in wrestling.

Swan-based wrestlers win Australia medals

TWO young brothers training out of Malaga and Ellenbrook have proven their mettle on the international stage after delivering an outstanding performance at the 10th Youth Compatriots Games in Russia.

Eleven-year-old Amiel and 9-year-old Elrad Safaniev, who honed their combat skills across freestyle wrestling, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, and sports sambo, represented Australia at the international tournament held in Khimki, where Amiel won gold and Elrad won bronze.

Their success in Khimki adds to a growing international record for the pair, who both won gold at the Singapore Open freestyle wrestling in March, where Amiel also claimed the top spot in sports sambo.

Both brothers also previously tested themselves against elite global competition at the World Championships in Abu Dhabi last year, where Amiel placed ninth in a field of approximately 60 competitors.

Their father and coach Marc Safaniev said winning on the mat in Russia carried special weight for the young athletes.

"Winning anything in a sport like wrestling in Russia is special because it's kind of like the leading nation in that sport," he said.

"Coming from a nation where we don't really have a system for it and we're basically self-trained, to get ourselves in that position does make it special."

Mr Safaniev coaches both boys alongside trainers Professor William Dias and Master Goioere at Perth Martial Arts Centre in both Malaga and Ellenbrook.

The international trip involved navigating tight visa approvals received just hours before departure, with Mr Safaniev expressing gratitude to sponsors MAS Labour Hire, Studio Combat Wear Sydney and Rossotrudnichestvo for helping provide uniforms and travel support.

Amiel and Elrad have now returned to their regular training schedules as they prepare for upcoming national and international competitions.

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Alongside the lounge, dining room and kitchen are a separate sitting room, a pool room and an enclosed activity area, providing options for quiet evenings, family activities or entertaining.

A covered patio extends the living area outside beside mature, carefully tended gardens which make the backyard a natural place for gatherings or an afternoon at home.

A garden shed adds to the home's storage capacity and the carport provides covered parking to keep vehicles out of the elements.

The three bedrooms include built-in robes and furniture and the home also has air-conditioning, a laundry and a listed building area of 101sqm.

The owner is relocating and some furniture may be available to purchase under a separate arrangement.

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