

# The Toodyay Herald

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Landscaping Outdoor and Hire Director, Steve Stanbrook at the premises

were going backwards faster than they were going forwards. We communicated this to the Shire, were honest and upfront with our intentions and reiterated our intentions to obey all Shire requirements. And despite being told verbally on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March that we have been granted planning approval, we still haven't received written confirmation, almost three weeks later."

An open letter to Council was read by a representative of the organisation at the March Council meeting, just prior to the announcement of 'new business of a confidential nature'. It urged the council to consider this action carefully as it may have a flow on effect upon development.

The letter addressed other issues such as the current economic climate, the financial burden the issue has placed on the business and the expectation that there will be a further recommendation to Council to ensure that all current businesses which are trading without planning approval or Building Classification certificates are also investigated and prosecutions instigated.

Director Rob Welburn is critical of the Council's decision to prosecute. "The Shire was very slow in doing their job, but very quick in seeking a decision to prosecute. This decision has repercussions for all new and existing businesses in Toodyay."

The maximum penalty for the stated offence is up to \$50,000 with a further \$5,000 per day for trading without a permit.

*Late addition: Mike Knowles of the Chamber of Commerce has announced that the Chamber meeting for the 20<sup>th</sup> April (7pm) will be held at Landscaping, Outdoor and Hire, with refreshments and a light meal. Guest speakers will be speaking about the actions that a business community can use to create a positive outcome for business and a presentation from Landscaping, Outdoor and Hire. All business people are welcome to attend.*



## Toodyay Pool Snapper Wins Award

Photographer Theo Fakos of the Sunday Times newspaper has won third place in the WA Press Photographer Awards for a photo taken at the Freemason's Hotel.

The award, which was presented in the category of Best News Feature Photograph, features a scantily clad Jim Bavin (Swimming Pool Action Committee) and other Toodyay locals during their campaign for a swimming pool in Toodyay.

Mr Fakos was one of three finalists in the Photographer of the Year main prize.

Five hundred of the best photographs from around WA are on display at the State Library until the end of April.

*Toodyay locals featured in the WA Press Photographer Awards*

## this month



'Grand Old Men', page 5



Ollie and friends page 34



Little Rascals visit, page 11



Tarts in a Troupie, page 9



Profile, page 5

## Business Not Rapt In Red Tape

Toodyay Shire Council will prosecute a small business in Toodyay for failing to comply with Council regulations, in a move that has shocked local business owners.

Landscaping and Outdoor Hire applied for planning approval in May of 2008. Three hundred and twenty days later, and after expending over \$40,000 to meet conditions imposed by the Shire, verbal planning approval was granted. Several days later, on 19<sup>th</sup> March, Council agreed to initiate proceedings against the occupants for non-compliance relating to the commencement of development prior to planning approval and

for commencing building works prior to the issue of a building license. The business had commenced trading in a limited format after three months of progressive and unsuccessful negotiations with the Shire.

Landscaping and Outdoor Hire Director Steve Stanbrook said yesterday that the business was left with little choice but to commence trading.

"At the 120 day mark of negotiations with the Shire," he said, "We made the decision to commence trade, and it's been vindicated by another 200 days to get to the conclusion. We didn't have a choice - we



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# school news



## Celebrity Chef Shares Wisdom with Kids

Toodyay District High School was honoured by a visit from world renowned Chef Alain Fabregues, Owner and Chef at The Loose Box restaurant in Mundaring.

Chef Fabregues addressed the group of Year 10 students at the school, sharing many aspects and stories of his interesting and challenging career as a Chef. He told of his early desire to be a chef and of his long and successful career as an Executive Chef, Restaurant Owner and visiting Celebrity Chef, sometimes to overseas countries and on occasion cooking for royalty.

The year 10 students were joined by the Year 8 and 9 Yummy Chummies catering students. Many of the students were interested in Chef's recent venture to grow truffles at his property in Toodyay. Brandon Hatton, a Year 8 Yummy Chummie catering student, is photographed with Chef after the talk.

The visit was organised by Ms Nicola Angel, coordinator of Career Education at the school. Chef Fabregues's talk was both educational and entertaining and gave inspiration to several of the students who may be considering a career in the hospitality industry.

Students expressed their thanks to Chef and look forward to his return, when he has promised to familiarise them with the famous truffle.

## Notes from the Principal

Over the last fortnight, we have been working hard to understand and make sure we take the best advantage of the Australian Government's Building the Education Revolution as part of the Rudd Stimulus Package.

Building the Education Revolution has three components. The first of these is the Primary Schools for the 21st Century programme. Under this programme Toodyay District High School hopes to attract \$2.5million in funds. The way the funds can be spent is limited to particular building designs. The timelines have limited consultation. However, School Council has been fully informed and asked for their guidance. By the end of this week, I will have finalised an application for building a new block comprising an Art/Craft room, a Music/Drama room and two or three teaching area rooms. We believe this would be a wonderful addition to our primary section of the school. I am also hoping to use some funds to improve the Undercover Area by installing doors to entries and sealing places where birds continue to get in and nest.

The second component of grants is the National School Pride Programme. I am hoping to attract \$150,000 to address issues of maintenance. Although we work very hard to keep our school neat and tidy, there are many issues of maintenance that we need to address. There are many areas that need painting and floors that need replacing because they are simply worn out. Our identified areas of maintenance will be discussed with School Council to make sure we address the most important areas.

We are still awaiting details on the third component which provides funds for language and science centres.

These programmes represent an exciting opportunity for Toodyay District High School to add to its existing facilities.

*Alan McLaren  
Principal*

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## Swimming Champions at TDHS

Secondary Faction Swimming Carnival

The Secondary Swimming Carnival was held at Wundowie Swimming Pool on Tuesday 3rd March. All students were expected to attend and were encouraged to participate in the swimming races or novelty events.

The day was most enjoyable and offered the opportunity for students, teachers and parents to work together to make the carnival a success. The following students were outstanding on the day:

- Girls 13 and under Champion – Kate Arber;
- Girls 14 Yrs Champion – Sara Catto;
- Girls 15 Yr and over champion – Samantha Glossop;
- Boys 13 Yr and under Champion – Jeremy Ferguson;
- Boys 14 Yrs Champion – Damon Geary;
- Boys 15 Champion – Ben Jenkins.

Congratulations to Drummond as the winning faction with 251 pts.

On Friday 6th March our students went on to excel at the Moore Districts Interscholar Carnival.

Kate Arber won the 13 yrs and under champion and Samantha Glossop was runner up for 15 yrs and over.

Well done to all our swimmers and thank you to the many parent helpers who assisted at both carnivals.

## National Assessment

National Assessment Program-Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is scheduled for 12th – 15th May. All students in year 3, 5, 7 & 9 will be assessed in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy, using common national tests. A major purpose of the NAPLAN is to provide schools, parents and caregivers with information about student performance in relation to nationally-agreed achievement bands. A parent information brochure has been included with the school newsletter. It contains more detailed information along with the testing timetable. If, for any reason, you would like your child to be excluded from testing, please contact Wendy Camenzuli.

## Chaplains Corner - Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is run on Monday mornings before School from 8.20am to 8.50am.

As its name suggests, Breakfast Club is a place where students can come and have some food before starting their School week. Breakfast Club, however, has more to offer than food alone.

It is also a place where all students, primary or secondary, can come and feel welcome. It is a place where students can build relationships with students from other year groups, with other adults (Breakfast Club volunteers) and the School Chaplain (Me!)

Breakfast Club is also a great place to come on a cold morning to warm up with a nice hot Milo!

If you would like to help out with Breakfast Club please contact me at the School on 9574 2296 on Monday, Wednesday or Friday.

As Chaplain of Toodyay District High School I make up part of the School's pastoral care team. My role is unique as I am not a teacher - rather I am a listener, carer and 'friend' to both students and staff, drawing from both my life experiences and my Christian faith. In doing so I help to promote and provide an inclusive and caring School environment.

*Benn Gladden - TDHS Chaplain*



## Bolgart School News

I sincerely apologize to all those people who missed our column last month.

The children have already been very busy since their return to school.

Swimming lessons have been and gone, and the children have participated in the Mortlock Swimming Carnival.

Monday 16 Feb the children participated in the school Blue day as a fundraiser for the victims of the severe bushfires that cost so many people so much. The children and staff were proud to send a cheque for \$237 and their best wishes to The Redcross.

The school breakfast club will be continuing each Wednesday morning providing weatabix, toast with various condiments and Milo to any child interested as it proved such a success last year.

Over the school holidays the new veggie garden was delivered and set up and more outdoor blinds were installed. The children will be growing various produce and then enjoy the fruits of their labor as they enjoy fresh produce. A special thank you goes out to Stuart & Selly Bain for their assistance in making this possible and to the P&C who are always supporting the children in many practical ways.

The outdoor blinds have previously been used to create an outdoor room along the veranda beside the Kindy room and are now enclosing the undercover area. When lowered they reduce the sun's impact and will stop the wind and rain. Thanks to Mr May

for doing such a wonderful job of installing them.

School photos are back and the kids look great.

The Yr7's have been to the Leadership conference in Perth and picked up many wonderful ideas. All seem to have been inspired by something they heard or saw and came back very excited and eager to share their experience.

At the P & C annual general meeting new office bearers were elected and re-elected. The P & C office bearers are:

President: Ms Monica Lee  
 Vice President: Mrs Yvette Dragster  
 Secretary: Mrs Dale McGill  
 Treasurer: Mrs Selly Bain

The important job of recycling has again been accepted by Mrs Karen Kesic. Thank you to all the previous office bearers whose efforts have been greatly appreciated.

The first school assembly for 2009 has been lovely to watch. The Echidna dance paired senior children with pre-primary children as they interlocked arms and danced. It was wonderful to watch the older children actively guiding & looking out for the younger children. There was also a play, a song and some children showed their work, along with certificates being awarded.

Easter time is fast approaching so please take care on the roads and have a wonderful time.



Nurse Karen visits Little Rascals Child Care Centre on our special visitor's day. Pictured with Nurse Karen is Joshua in background is Tyler, Josh Ty and staff member Jessica.



### Sing Australia Dinner Dance at Goomalling

A large contingent of Toodyayites attended a great night of singing, dancing and eating at the Goomalling Memorial Hall, on 21 March. Hosted by Colin Slater OAM, National Director of Sing Australia, and catered by the Goomalling Shire and community, over 100 singers, family and friends from Sing Australia groups in various Wheatbelt towns had a great night. A reminder of the good old days of country dances in local halls!

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# fire chat

## Toodyay Central Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Mrs Nina Paterson is to be congratulated for the tremendous amount of work she did to get 'up and running' the Fire Awareness Meeting held on Thursday March 19th 2009 at the Memorial Hall. Discussions and organisation with FESA staff, co-ordinating with the Shire of Toodyay and the many, many telephone calls resulted in a most successful day for all participants. THANK YOU, NINA!!!

A Basic Training Course for new fire-fighters was held at the Fire and Emergency Services Centre on Saturday 14th March; the Course was co-ordinated by Coondle Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Training Officer, Brian Salmond. The day-long training included very new residents of the Shire, established residents and weekenders. Several members of other Toodyay Brigades assisted Brian with the training which was an excellent day of information and learning. Ladies from the Central Brigade served a delicious lunch and superb eats for morning and afternoon teas.

Central's Training Officer, Kevin Hug, conducted a Volunteer Fire Fighter Induction Day on 29th March at the Fire and Emergency Services Centre welcoming new members.

The next training session is to be held on Thursday 9th April commencing 6pm. A senior officer of the Toodyay St John's Ambulance is taking a First Aid course that is to include education on heat stress (its prevention and treatment), cuts, abrasions, burns, etc, and the use of the Oxyviva. It is vital education and all members of the Brigade are encouraged to attend.

The next meeting of the Toodyay Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade, the Annual General Meeting, is to be held on Tuesday 28th April at the Fire and Emergency Services Centre commencing at 7.30pm. All members are asked to attend and new members, active and ancillary, are very, very welcome. Enquiries may be directed to the Secretary, Wayne Clarke, Ph 6364 3609.

*Compiled by Desraé Clarke*

## Coondle-Nunile Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Where has the fire season gone? It seems like only a few weeks ago I was saying that it had started.

Overall, it has been a good season. We have had a lot of call outs, but in the main they have been to small fires, a lot of which have been along the railway line from West Toodyay Bridge through to Morangup. Generally, the people of Toodyay seem to have been more careful on the really hot days. Perhaps it was just too hot to go out and work. Whatever the reason, thank you.

However, the season isn't quite over yet so don't become complacent - keep up the good work.

It is great to see the number of new members joining the Brigades. After a basic training course at the start of the season, another course was run recently with new members from most Brigades. Don't think that this means we don't need more members. At Coondle, new members are always welcome as I'm sure they are at the other Brigades. The more members we have, the more we can spread the workload around. And it's not just fire fighters that we need. There are many other jobs people can help with. In addition, we have recently been given the new FESA training schedule for the next year, so we can now start planning to get our new members in for more advanced training.

Regular training, after monthly meetings, continues to be both educational and entertaining. For the March training, we again looked at the "fend off" position. This is basically how to position the fire vehicle to protect the crew and any injured people from traffic on the road. The scenarios that Brian Salmond, our training officer, comes up with are great. This month, we had an injured driver, a dead body, a drive-off, smoke on the road - you name it we had it. Thanks, Brian.

Dinner after the March meeting was a dress up affair. Ladies in their finery and the men wearing ties, mostly wide and brightly coloured. It was great to see everyone get into the spirit of the occasion and a very enjoyable night for all those who attended.

Our next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting with election of officers and committee for the next year. Don't be afraid to come along. We already have nominations for people to fill most of the positions.

The AGM will be followed by the normal monthly meeting for April and our "end of season" dinner. The Brigade will supply the meat and those attending are asked to bring a salad, vegetable dish or dessert to share. For this one, you will need to RSVP, so put your name up on the list in the shed. If you have always said to yourself, "I really should go around to the fire shed," well this is the time to do it. If you have any queries, call Kerry Gregory, our logistics officer/social director on 9574 4470.

If you can't make it to the meeting, come and join us any Friday night for a bite to eat and a good social evening at the Coondle Fire Shed on Coondle West Road. No matter where you live, a visit to your local Brigade is a great opportunity to meet other people from around your area and obtain advice about maintaining your property to restrict the chances of fire.

If you can't get to the shed on Friday night, but would like to know more about Coondle Brigade or would like information about any aspects of fire prevention and safety, phone Peter Ruthven (Captain) on 9574 2951.

*Peter Ruthven*

## Bejoording Bush Fire Brigade

The end of the restricted fire season is approaching. First of May, unless there's an extension, will see cooking and campfires being lit. Please be aware that 6' high wild oats, grass and leaves, in general, do not have the capacity to understand the concept of 1<sup>st</sup> May. A number of years have seen the brigades attend more fires AFTER 1st May then during the danger period. Yes you can enjoy yourself, but please make sure you have a bare area, of 3m at least, around where you're going to light up, and be aware of weather conditions (you know, heat, wind etc.). You can add this Lighting Up Responsibly to your Drink Responsibly and Drive Responsibly campaigns. Having just re-read that previous line, it does sound like I'm advocating the lighting up of a spliff while you drink and drive. I'm confident you know what I really mean!

Still on the lighting up subject, Easter is approaching, and happy holidayers will be arriving at their vacant blocks for a bit of rest and recreation. Some of them, like last year, may not be aware of the fire ban and what the rules entail. If you see a neighbour lighting up during Easter, just wander over and have a friendly chat about the regulations. After all, everyone should be having an enjoyable weekend. If, however, you find they're not complying, then by all means ring or call up our brigade or the Shire. Oh, and if its all gone belly up and the fire's escaped... ring 000.

BRAG. Bushfire Response Action Group. This is a suggestion from the Shire in response to a Fire Emergency Evacuation Plan. Local areas around the Shire form a BRAG from the residents and formulate their own emergency action plan specific for their area. That's all I know at the moment. More details will emerge during the off-season, but if you have any queries, call in on us or phone the Shire.

Thursday night, 16th April is the date for the Shire Council Meeting which is being held at the Bejoording Fire/Community Shed. I believe the meeting kicks off at 7pm and I know everyone will be welcome.

Our next meeting is an AGM on Sat. 18th April starting at 6pm. BBQ will follow after, and we really, really, really expect everyone to be there! Members and Non-members alike.

Any enquiries you can call Capt. Lawrence on 9574 5106, or Lieutenant Barry on 9574 2149, Shire Ranger 9574 4555 or call us up on UHF 27, or even visit us at the Fire Shed every Friday from 6pm.

Have a safe Easter,

*Kim Leonhardt*

## Julimar Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Autumn has caught up with us and we're nearing the end of another fire season. This one, touch wood, has been a fairly benign one for Toodyay with only a few smallish instances occurring.

This is a great outcome for Toodyay, showing that, even with a large fuel load and some incredibly hot days, we can be careful about the results of what we do. The fires in Victoria may well have contributed to our increased awareness but it could have been so easy to say that that was in Victoria, not WA (despite the fact that, in Bridgetown, five houses were lost to fire in this last season.) Anyway, well done to all.

Brigade training for March consisted of some work on radio procedures and basic knowledge of the equipment we use. One of the downsides to having no call-outs is a lack of experience for fire fighters so we have to have Brigade level training. There was a pretty good turn out for the March training session so we can be assured of up-to-date and effective fire fighting crews.

April training will be held on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 10am at the Julimar Fire Shed. The programme for this training is still being developed so check the noticeboard and / or attend the meetings on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April for more details.

The Julimar Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2009 at the 'Fire Place' beginning at 5pm. All Brigade members are encouraged to attend. The AGM will be followed by an Ordinary General Meeting (OGM). This OGM is the last of the fire season monthly meetings. After the April meeting, the next OGM will be at 5pm on 4<sup>th</sup> July.

Despite the fact that the monthly meetings won't be occurring during the off-season, the BYO BBQs will still take place on the first Saturday of the month from about 6pm.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> May, all Toodyay emergency services have been invited to take part in the Shire of Toodyay's Freedom of Entry Parade. We shall be forming up at 10am on the corner of Hamersly St and Stirling Tce with the parade starting at 10.30am and proceeding down Stirling Tce to Duidgee Park for some formal proceedings followed by a BBQ. All members are encouraged to attend.

'The Fireplace' is open from around 5pm on a Friday night for crew changeover and for some quiet interaction with Brigade members. Even if you're not a member, come along and have a chat about your preparations for fire, find out about your bush fire brigade and, maybe, even join up as either a fire fighter or auxiliary.

*NB Training officer Grant Scobie will run training courses in April in rubbish bin arson, titled 'Arson Fire'.*

## AFS in Western Australia

6<sup>th</sup> March 2009 - One of the world's largest not-for-profit organisations wants young people from around WA to go live life - at our expense!

AFS Intercultural Programs Australia is offering WA high school students the opportunity to apply for 20 partial scholarships available across the nation. This exciting initiative provides individual students from the Toodyay community and surrounds the rare and unique opportunity to engage with cultures around the world in a more meaningful way without breaking the budget! It's not just student exchange or a standard issue holiday you could get at any travel agency - it's a chance to break out, be different and pave your own way forward!

This exclusive partial scholarship will award selected participants from the Toodyay community and surrounds with a \$2000 discount to live and learn overseas for a period of six months. Dip your feet into the vibrant cultures of Austria, Brazil, Chile, China, Costa Rica, France, Germany, Japan, Malaysia or Thailand - you choose the destination; you make the journey!

As participants, not only will you be stepping into a brave new world, but also places coloured by a diverse range of cultures, languages and peoples. Our programmes are personal learning experiences that last a lifetime and aim to empower an individual's cultural awareness and sense of justice.

AFS WA Chairperson, Darren Mudge ASM, says "the opportunity to go live life in another country with AFS; being a part of a local family, and going to a local school is something that opened the doors to the world for me.

'It is some 20 years ago since my AFS experience and even today, I look back on just how much my life has been influenced by this one-in-a-life-time AFS experience.'

With ten nations and even more cultures in regions across the world waiting to be discovered, what are you waiting for? Apply today at [www.afs.org.au](http://www.afs.org.au)

Competition for these scholarships is high and spots are limited. Applications for scholarships to Austria, Brazil, Costa Rica, France and Germany close on 1 April 2009. The deadlines for applications for scholarships to all other countries are as follows: Chile and Malaysia - 15 April; China - 30 April, Japan - 29 May and Thailand on 25 April.

For more information regarding programme eligibility and scholarships, please go to [www.afs.org.au](http://www.afs.org.au) or email us at [afsinwa@gmail.com](mailto:afsinwa@gmail.com)

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## Toodyay Swimming Pool Action Committee

Last month's special council meeting failed to get an endorsement of an application to apply for funds for a swimming pool from the Australian Government's infrastructure fund. The vote was lost 6/3, so the application for over \$2million for the central heritage interpretation plan still stands. We are hoping that this application, if successful, will not push the likelihood of a pool further down the list.

We will be holding an Easter raffle on 3rd and 4th April outside IGA and are looking forward to everyone's ongoing support. We also have our pens for sale for \$3 each at Makit Hardware and at Toodyay District High School. All funds raised by us go into our account at the Bendigo Bank and not to the shire.

Our next committee meeting is on 13th April at 12.30pm at the Freemasons. We do need some new members, so come along.

Meanwhile we are very envious of Narambeen Shire which has just opened their new pool. Below is some information from the document circulated for the opening.

The Shire of Narambeen commissioned a comprehensive inspection and subsequent report of the Narambeen swimming pool in August 2005. This followed a pool construction company inspection in October 2004. The aim of the second report was to assess in a very detailed manner the status of the pool, plant room and associated services.

The assessment undertaken in August 2005 provided the Shire with a clear picture of what needed to be done to bring the swimming pool's plant room, hydraulic and mechanical services as well as associated services to an acceptable standard. This also gave guidance to achieve far greater levels of access by all sections of the community including some realistic designs and additional facilities.

This enabled the community greater physical activity opportunities and improved the operational bottom line. The principal aim was to improve the service to the community and develop a management philosophy; professional in its approach to deliver

higher levels of service to the community and protect the Shire of Narambeen's vital resource.

The upgrade of the Narambeen swimming pool and the associated value to its community can never be under-estimated. The proven health benefits and community well-being by other Shires is priceless.

The Shire of Narambeen has conducted exhaustive consultation processes. Through this it demonstrated its commitment, understanding and value of providing a well-designed and managed facility. The Shire has developed a number of partnerships with professional leaders within the aquatic and recreation industry, which will serve well for the success of this proposal.

The financial commitment to this project by the ratepayers of Narambeen has been substantial. The overall project cost of \$1.5m would have been well out of reach had it not been for the State Government (\$333,333) and Federal Government (\$194,000). The Council has also taken out a loan of \$350,000 so that future generations also contribute to the facility.

The excellent contribution to planning and construction of this facility by Councillors, Staff, Swimming Club Representatives and Consultants must be mentioned, for this facility has resulted from numerous inspections, meetings and community consultation. It is hoped that, like its predecessor, this pool will be the centre of enjoyment for all those who utilise the facility for another 40 years.

I congratulate all who have been involved with the Narambeen Aquatic Centre and know that Council looks forward to the community and visitors fully utilising this venue well into the future.



Narambeen Aquatic Facility



### Recipe Corner

This cake is very easy to make and absolutely delicious. The most important thing to remember is that the orange must be a medium-sized fruit only. A large orange will still produce a delicious flavoured cake but it may have 'layers' through it that look a little 'stodgy'.

#### WHOLE ORANGE CAKE WITH CITRUS FROSTING

##### Ingredients:

- 1 medium whole orange
- 200 gms butter, melted
- 3 eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 cup castor sugar
- 1½ cups self-raising flour
- Citrus Frosting
- 1 tspn orange or lemon rind
- 1 cup icing sugar
- 2 tspns orange or lemon juice

##### Method:

Grease and line a 20cm cake tin. Wash and dry orange; cut into quarters and remove seeds. Process orange in a food processor until it becomes pulpy. Transfer orange pulp to a medium bowl and stir in butter, eggs, sugar and sifted flour until smooth. Pour mixture into prepared pan. Bake in a moderate oven 180°C or 160°C (fan forced) for 1 hour or until cooked when tested. Stand for 10 minutes before turning out on a wire rack to cool.

##### Citrus Frosting:

Beat butter and rind in a small bowl with electric mixer until creamy; gradually beat in sifted icing sugar and enough juice to make frosting spreadable.

Desraé Clarke

# Check out these great deals at Western Cellars

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<p><b>\$13.99 ea</b></p> <p>Stoneleigh Marlborough Wines 750ml</p>	<p>Mixed 6pk <b>\$22.99 ea</b> \$23.99 Single</p> <p>Grant Burge Pinot Chardonnay NV 750ml</p>	<p>6 for <b>\$50</b></p> <p>French Bubbly</p>	<p>Any 2 for <b>\$26</b></p> <p>Yalumba Reserve 2L Casks</p>	<p>Any 2 4pk for <b>\$32</b></p> <p>Jack Daniel's &amp; Cola Cans 4pk/375ml or Bottles 4pk/340ml</p>	<p>4 Pack <b>\$18.99</b></p> <p>Wild Turkey &amp; Cola Bottles 4pk/340ml</p>	<p><b>\$37.99</b></p> <p>Tooheys Extra Dry Stubbies Ctn/24 345ml</p>	<p>6PK <b>\$13.99 ea</b></p> <p>Budweiser Stubbies Ctn/24 355ml</p>	<p>6PK <b>\$15.99 ea</b></p> <p>Heineken Stubbies Ctn/24 330ml</p>

**LOOK FOR THE 4 PAGE PULLOUT IN THE WEST NEXT WEDNESDAY.**

**SEE INSTORE FOR MORE SPECIALS.**  
 Specials available from 1st April until 7th April 2009, or while stocks last. Retail quantities only. All prices inclusive of GST. Persons under 18 years of age not supplied. Beer Warm Cartons. Pics for illustration only. Prices may vary in Country areas due to freight.



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## Bulb Warning To Gardeners

Gardeners preparing to plant bulbs for spring should check to see the variety they intend to plant is not a weed before they make their purchase or place their order.

The Department of Agriculture and Food has a GardenNote on its website detailing potential bulb weeds, while those without internet access can either visit a department office or telephone the Pest and Disease Information Service for more assistance. Department research officer Rod Randall said many popular bulbs had become weeds in Western Australia.

"Common culprits are some of the most attractive bulbs like cape tulips, freesias, sparaxis, watsonias, the baboon-flowers, black flag, soldiers and arum lilies," Mr Randall said. "More recently, Chinchinchee has spread into pastures and caused health problems for sheep."

Mr Randall said these and other bulbs posed a serious agricultural and environmental threat. "In the garden these plants are grown for their flowers and their hardy, drought tolerant nature, but unfortunately they can escape and quickly invade natural habitats in adjoining bush or farmland," he said.

"Most bulbs are safe to plant, like daffodils, hyacinths and irises, but it's best to check first."

While bulbs have become so established in Western Australia it was impractical to ban them.

Mr Randall said gardeners could help protect the environment by simply recognising invasive species and not planting them.

"Some bulbs aren't stocked by nurseries any more but are sold at swap meets and markets by people who don't know they're an environmental threat," he said.

Fundraising catalogues and the internet are other sources for bulbs but while convenient could pose an even bigger biosecurity threat.

"If you do buy from overseas and interstate catalogues or the internet the bulbs may not even make it to your mailbox, as they could be intercepted by quarantine authorities," Mr Randall said.

A GardenNote detailing Bulbs and corm producing plants that become bushland weeds can be obtained from the department's website [www.agric.wa.gov.au](http://www.agric.wa.gov.au), alternatively telephone the Pest and Disease Information Service on freecall 1800 084 881.

## Young Professionals In Agriculture

An animal science student from the University of Western Australia has received the Young Professionals in Agriculture Forum's top award.

The forum, hosted by the Department of Agriculture and Food and the Australian Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology (AIAST), recognises the work of agriculture and natural resource management students in their final or honours year of university.

Students studying agriculture related subjects at all the State's universities were invited to submit an overview of their final year project objectives. The finalists then submitted a 3000 word paper and delivered a 15 minute presentation to the forum held this week in Perth.

Taya Clarke, from Perth accepted the top honours, for her paper on her work on how breeding to produce high clean fleece weight decreases fat reserves in pregnant and lactating Merino ewes and is likely to reduce their reproductive success.

In accepting the \$1000 award, donated by the department, Ms Clarke said she loved working with animals.

"I really enjoy what I do and I'm considering doing post-graduate work in the future," she said.

The winner of the \$500 second prize, also donated by the department, and the Best Presentation prize went to Robert Alderman, from Perth, for his work on a chemical compound from smoke, known as karrikinolide, which has shown to stimulate germination of important Australian weeds.

Third prize went to Tess Metcalf, from Wongan Hills, for her work on low emission farming systems and a whole farm analysis of the potential impacts of greenhouse policy.

WA Chief Scientist Professor Lyn Beazley was on hand to assist the department's acting research executive director Dr Mark Sweetingham present the prizes to the winners.

AIAST WA branch president, Don Burnside, commended the finalists on the quality of their work.



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with the

## Perth Hills Jazz Orchestra

Monday 27th April  
11.00am to 2.30pm



# Lions Club of Toodyay Annual Jumbo Auction

Auction date Saturday 18th April from 9am.

The 2009 Lions Auction will be held at the Toodyay Showgrounds/Oval

Items for auction to be delivered on Friday 17th April from 8 am. Up to 500 lots @ \$2 per lot. No livestock.



No dogs permitted.

Buyers tickets @ \$2.

For more information contact:

- Nuala 0429 386 317,

Ina 9574 5928 or Jim 9574 4695

# when and where they meet

## ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Every Saturday at 6pm in St Stephens Anglican Church Hall

## AAFC 708 SQUADRON

Australian Air Force Cadets 12 ½ to 17 year olds, male and female. Building J1, Northam Army Camp Grt Eastern Hwy. Friday 6:30pm to 9:30pm, during school term. 708squ@cadetnet.gov.au

## AFRICAN DRUMMING

Tuesdays children and adults 3.30 - 4.30pm  
Thursdays adults 7.30 - 9pm at The Factory Baptist Church  
Drums available. All welcome.

## ARTS TOODYAY INC

Meets first Tuesday of the month, 7pm at The Old Police Station in Duke St Sth. For all interested in arts/crafts, workshops. Enquiries to John on 9574 4664

## AUSTRALIAN BREASTFEEDING ASSOCIATION

For breastfeeding information and the company of other mums. 2nd Tuesday of month at Parent Information Centre, Gordon Street Northam 10am-noon. 4th Tuesday of month Toodyay Playgroup 10am - noon. Contact Louise for more details on 9574 0229

## AUTUMN CLUB

Every Wednesday.  
Toodyay Sports Pavilion  
Contact Ida Edwards 9574 2858

## AVON VALLEY ENVIRONMENTAL SOC.

3rd Friday of each month at Dept of Water, 254 Fitzgerald Street Northam, noon.

## AVON VALLEY VINTAGE VEHICLE ASSOCIATION

3rd Thursday every month, 8pm at the old engineers quarters, next to Northam Railway Museum, Fitzgerald Street, Northam. ph 96221192.

## AVON WOODTURNERS GROUP

Monthly meeting 4th Monday 7.30pm to 10pm, Workshops 2nd and 4th Sunday 9am - Wool Pavilion, Toodyay Sports Ground.

## BEJOORDING VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE

Meet at Bejoording Fire Shed, 3rd Saturday 5pm

## BINGO

Every Wednesday, eyes down 7.30pm Community Centre

## CENTRAL VOLUNTEER BUSH FIRE BRIGADE

4th Tuesday of each month, 7.30pm at the Toodyay Fire and Emergency Services Centre. Training 2nd Thursday of each month.

## CHILD HEALTH IMMUNISATION CLINIC

The next immunisation clinic will be held on: Tuesday 29th April from 9am-11am.  
No appointments required.  
Please call Sheree on 9574 4577 for any enquiries.

## COONDLE NUNILE VOLUNTEER BUSH FIRE BRIGADE

Meets 2nd Saturday of month from October to April, June and August, 5pm at Coondle Fire Shed.

## COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (CWA)

General meeting - 4th Thursday of each month, 1.30pm, C.W.A. Hall. New Members very welcome.

## CUBS, JOEYS & SCOUTS (only during school term)

Youth Hall, Showgrounds, Cubs & Joeys 4.00pm - 5.30pm  
Scouts, Thursday 6pm - 8.00pm Ph: 9574 2363

## DRAMA CLASSES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Monday 4-5.30pm, Call Anne on 9574 2458.

## FITNESS & FUN FOR THE OVER 55's

Wednesday 9am, Sports Pavillion.

## IDA'S HIDEAWAY

Every Saturday, 1pm to 4pm at Butterly House.  
Contact Ida Edwards on 9574 2858

## JULIMAR VOLUNTEER BUSH FIRE BRIGADE

Meets Saturday April/July 5pm at Julimar Fire Station. BYO BBQ 1st Saturday of every month 6pm. Training Sunday after meeting, 10am.

## MOERLINA

Every Tuesday and Thursday Toodyay Sports Pavilion

## MORANGUP VOLUNTEER BUSH FIRE BRIGADE

Meets 3rd Wednesday of every month 7pm at the Fire Station in Wallaby Way, Morangup.

## RAG BAGS QUILTING GROUP

1st, 3rd (& 5th) Wednesday, 10am Uniting Church

## SHIRE OF TOODYAY COUNCIL MEETING

3rd Thursday of each month Council Chambers 7pm (April meeting to be held at Bejoording Fire Shed instead of Morangup Community Hall.)

## SILVER CHAIN AUXILIARY

Meetings 2nd Tuesday of each month, 2pm at Toodyay Telecentre.

## SIMPLY MUSIC

Piano lessons for all ages. CWA Hall Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. Contact Jan 0416 054 942.

## SOCIAL TENNIS

Tuesday 8.30am Ladies and senior men

## ST STEPHEN'S MOTHERS' UNION/GUILD

3rd Tuesday of month, Anglican Hall, 2pm from March to November

## TOODYAY BALLET SCHOOL

Classes in Classical, Jazz and Tap held at 507 Julimar Rd, new studio. Ages from 4yrs to Adults, girls and boys. 9574 4459  
Saturdays 9am - 2.30pm (except school holidays)

## TOODYAY/CLACKLINE KARATE CLUB

Wednesday 3.30-4pm, under 8, 4-5pm under 11, 5-6pm under 14, 6-7.30pm seniors. Friday 3.30-4pm Peewees, 4-5pm juniors, 5-6pm intermediate, 6-7pm seniors at the Youth Hall

## TOODYAY DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL P & C

Every 3rd Wednesday (except school holidays)  
School Library, 7pm

## TOODYAY FRIENDS OF THE RIVER

3rd Sunday of each month Duidgee Park (near Bolgart Bridge) at 8am October to April and 9am May to September. Enquiries 9574 2578

## TOODYAY KINDERGym

Kindergym Fridays (except school holidays)  
Toodyay Sports Pavilion  
Contact: Debra Andrijich 9574 2676

## TOODYAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

3rd Wednesday of each month, 7pm Donegan's Cottage

## TOODYAY IRISH DANCING

Friday 5pm Anglican Hall. Contact: Lyn Johnson - 9574 2530.

## TOODYAY LIONS CLUB

1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month Hotel Freemasons

## TOODYAY MASONIC LODGE

3rd Friday each month (except Jan)  
Masonic Hall, Fiennes St, 7.30pm

## TOODYAY MINIATURE RAILWAY (Inc)

1st and 3rd Sunday commencing Easter Sunday.  
Enquiries 9574 4462

## TOODYAY MOTHERS' GROUP

Meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month from 1.30pm - 3.30pm. Baptist Church / Community Centre. Contact Sheree 9574 4577 for enquiries.

## TOODYAY MUSIC CLUB INC

2nd Friday of the Month from 7pm  
CWA Hall. Contact Teddy or Spencer 9574 4492.

## TOODYAY NATURALISTS' CLUB

3rd Saturday each month, at CWA Hall 7pm. Enquiries to President on 9574 5445 or Secretary on 6364 3609. Visitors and new members will be made very welcome.

## TOODYAY NEIGHBOURHOOD/RURAL WATCH

2nd Tuesday each month commencing 6pm Toodyay Police Station (General Meeting bi-monthly - Feb, April, June, Aug, Oct, Dec) Enquiries 9574 2212

## TOODYAY OLIVE GROWERS

Contact Francis Moran for meeting dates 9574 5786.

## TOODYAY PLAYGROUP

Tuesdays & Thursdays 9.30am - 11.30am, Playgroup Hall, Community Centre, Bindi Baxter 9574 4430

## TOODYAY RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (INC.)

General Meetings 3rd Tuesday each month @ the CWA Hall, 7pm. Committee meetings fortnightly on Tuesday evening. Contact Roger Bray (Chairperson) 9574 4562.

## TOODYAY RED CROSS

2nd Monday of month, Anglican Hall, 1.30pm

## TOODYAY SPINNERS

Wednesdays and 2nd Saturday from 9am Parkers Cottage.  
President: Greta Sauta 9574 2868  
Secretary: Rita Morald 0428 956 909

## TOODYAY SUB -BRANCH RSL

1st Saturday of March, May, July, September and November at 2pm at the Bowling Club. AGM second Saturday in February at the Bowling Club. Contact Lou 9574 4310

## TOODYAY SWIMMING POOL ACTION COMM.

12.30pm on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Freemasons Hotel.

## TOODYAY VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE

1st Monday of each month Fire Station, 8pm

## TOY LIBRARY

Tuesday and Thursday, 9am to 10am at Toodyay Community Centre. Contact Tracey Hunter 9574 5642

## UNITING CHURCH

10am, St Stephen's Church, Toodyay

## YOGA

Friday 9am Friday CWA Hall. 9574 4184



EVERY MINUTE. EVERY HOUR. EVERY DAY WE CARE.

## Monster Mothers Day Stall

When: Saturday, 18 April 2009

Where: Stirling Terrace, Toodyay (outside IGA store)

Time: Commencing 8.00pm

The Avon branch committee which raises funds for Silver Chain is proud to present their Monster Mothers Day Stall. Come along for a browse and a chat and collect some great goodies for your mum. There will be raffles to enter and quality home preserves, sewing and knitting for all ages - great for the oncoming winter season. Donations on the day will be accepted and greatly appreciated.

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DRAMA CLASSES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Weekly drama group (for ages 8 to 16 years) meets in Toodyay on Mondays 4 - 5.30pm. Classes facilitated by an experienced drama teacher who also has many years experience in teaching life skills. For more information contact Anne on 9574 2458

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# public notices

## TOODYAY SOCCER CLUB

NOTICE is hereby given that Kerry Green, PO Box 1425, Toodyay, Office Manager, being duly authorised by the above organization intends to apply to the Commissioner for Fair Trading on or after 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2009 for incorporation of the Toodyay Soccer Club Inc. The association is formed for the purpose of facilitating an organised soccer club in Toodyay.

## AVAS NEWS NEW EXHIBITION

Our new exhibition for April is the works of Andrew Bywater and friends from Wyalkatchem. AVAS invites you to the opening Sunday April 5 at 5pm. Light refreshments will be served. The art form used features mixed media: wood, acrylic and fibreglass, something a bit different. See you there.

## SHAPE IS BACK!

School Holiday Program SHAPE is back for April. Activities are held in the Old Girl's School with sessions twice daily 10am - 12noon and 1pm - 3pm. Only \$5 per session. Starting Monday April 20 through to Friday April 24. Arts and crafts with Anne and her team.

## COLOURS

Avon Valley artist Kaye Devlin is holding an exhibition 'Colours' along with artist Jeremy Holton. Held at the Jane Brook Estate Wines, Middle Swan. From March 21 to April 5.

St John Ambulance Senior First Aid Certificate courses will be held at Toodyay on the weekend of 16th & 17th May 2009. Anyone wanting to register for the next course can contact Jenny Willgoss at L J Hooker Toodyay Ph 9574 2455 or at home 9574 2412.

## TOODYAY THEATRE GROUP AUDITIONS

Wednesday 6th May 2009  
7/30pm

Memorial Hall (back door)  
"The Umprie Strikes Back"

A Musical Comedy Space Spoof  
Show dates: 7/8 & 14/15th August 2009  
CAST & CREW NEEDED

ALL POSITIONS UP FOR GRABS

If you've ever thought about getting involved with the Theatre Group, doing whatever, well now is your chance.

Come & have a Go...

Directed by Vicki Haggarty  
Enquiries: 95745230

## Best Wishes

To Greg Downie and the Makit Team. Although we're all looking forward to having a Bunnings in Toodyay, we'll miss your smiling face. Have a great holiday with the compulsory acquisition money!

## Birthdays

Rob Welburn  
Daryl Orr  
Raelene Fleay

Damien Higgins  
Murray Hasson

Julia Robinson  
Eryn Louise Evans  
Tim Downie  
Downie  
Gary Nelmes  
Nicholas Nelmes  
Janine Evans  
Evelyn Eddy

Damien Orr  
Steve Hide  
Michael McKone  
Steve Cullen  
Charlotte Hunter  
Angela Johnson  
Renee Watson  
Carolyn Mark Taylor  
Ben Sloper  
Elysha Watts  
Kiah Connor  
Carole Plackett

## 2Jers

Next casino trip - 20/4/09. All welcome. For more information please ring Ida on 9574 2858.

## Julimar Jewels

Ladies Only. 3rd Tuesday of the month at 10am. All ladies welcome - this month at Wendouree Tearooms. Contact Shirly 9574 5077.

## Engagement

David & Sharon Wade, Ron & Debbie Zarella, sisters Jessica Wade & Karen Zarella are all happy to announce the engagement of Bronson Wade to Claire Zarella on 21st March 2009.

## Internet Spring Cleaning

Internet users will be inconvenienced for a short period of time between March 29 to April 2 - whilst the Internet is closed down for 'spring cleaning'.

"The cleanup is necessary to clear out the electronic flotsam and jetsam that has accumulated in the network," said Interconnected Network Maintenance Chief Eric Spawn. "Maintaining the network is complicated but necessary." Dead email and inactive ftp, www, and gopher sites will be purged. The cleaning is carried out by five very powerful Japanese-built multi-lingual Internet-crawling robots (Toshiba ML-2274) situated around the world.

Users are warned to disconnect all devices from the internet during this period. If electronic files will be needed during that period of time, it is advised that back-up systems be used, without attempting to access them through the Internet.

## Toodyay Spinners Inc

Not much to report this month. We are still busy organizing our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary Spin-in which will take place on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May. Only one person contributed to the share table in March, with quite a few items, so we hope to see more contributions next month.

Margaret Masterlerz had made some beautiful leadlight Christmas tree decorations, 1 skein of white alpaca fleece and 3 machine knitted scarves from handspun, hand-dyed alpaca fleece.

If you are interested in joining the Spinners or wish to learn to spin, we meet every Wednesday from 9am to about midday at Parker's Cottage in the Toodyay Showgrounds. For those who can't make Wednesday, there is also a group who meet on the second Saturday of the month at the same times.

President Gretta Sauta 9574 2868  
Secretary Rita Morald 0428 956 909

## Ida's Hideaway

Back in March a few of our friends had birthdays namely Margaret McKay, Jean Hubie, Peter Edwards, Alice Spears, Maureen Langham and Christina Wright. In April we have Helen Evans (20<sup>th</sup>) and Tom Langham (24<sup>th</sup>). We hope you all have a happy birthday.

Last Saturday we had a sing-a-long, thanks to Fred and Shirley Hacking and Jim and Trish Page. Thanks to all our volunteers and the baker for the cake for the sing-a-long.

Hoping Margaret McKay and Lynette get well soon.

We wish you all a happy Easter.

*Greasy Sleeve*

*Graham Boston*

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*102 Fitzgerald Street Northam*

*(Opp Red Rooster)*

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**NEW COMMUNITY  
CHOIR in  
TOODYAY**

Open invitation to sing for fun

**Come along and join this  
exciting new choir.**

**We meet each Thursday at  
7.45 pm  
The Factory Baptist Church  
Stirling Terrace**

If you love singing - always wanted to be in a singing group - want some good friendly company - been told you can't sing - been a bit shy - have singing experience but want a fun approach ... This choir is for you! You have nothing to lose and much to gain.

*No musical knowledge or previous  
singing experience is needed*

You will receive a warm welcome and lots of encouragement

Contact Christina on (08) 9574 2141 a/h  
For more information on Sing  
Australia 1300 552 296  
www.singaustralia.com.au

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- Freshly roasted coffee
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- Baby Bee Hinds nappies
- Moltex Eco nappies
- Miessence organic skincare & cosmetics
- Bokashi systems

**MASSIVE Clearance sale on selected  
WA and organic food lines  
including butter, flour, olives, oil, rice,  
coffee, oats, honey, nuts, jam!!**

-March 26 until April 9 or sold out-

**TOO HOT FOR THE WEB** so email us for a list or come to the Markets.

\*Buy 1 get 1 free Biobaby Eco Wipes  
\*Older style Moltex nappies discounted

Shop online 24/7. Orders home delivered or collect at the Northam Markets. See us in Dowerin, May 1 from 2pm, Women's Expo.

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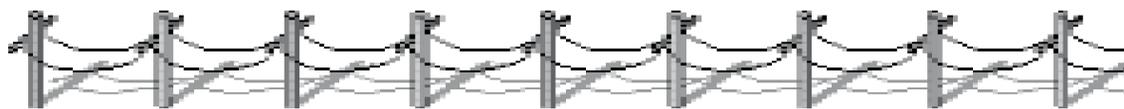
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## Fly on the Wall Special Meeting

An extraordinary meeting of Council was held at the Shire Chambers on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2009. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the possibility of changing Toodyay's application to the Federal Government for funding under their Infrastructure Incentive Package. Late last year the Federal Government announced a scheme where \$50m was made available for Local Government to apply for funding for projects which were ready to proceed. The minimum application needed to be \$2m, with only one application per Shire. The application had to be in Canberra by the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December 2008. With almost no time to consult with the community, Toodyay applied for the Central Toodyay Interpretation and Heritage Tourism Plan.

Early in February this year that scheme was amended, which raised the pool of money to \$550m and the deadline was extended to 6<sup>th</sup> March. That announcement was made on or about 13<sup>th</sup> February. Our administration did not let our Councillors know of the changed scheme. It was not until the Council Forum of Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February that the minimum requirement of three Councillors formally asked the Shire to hold a special meeting the following day.

For administrative reasons this meeting could not be held on Friday 27<sup>th</sup>. In fact the meeting was delayed until Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March, only about 20 hours before the deadline to have a hard copy in Canberra. No reason has, at this time, been given for calling the meeting too late to make any realistic chance of changing the application, even in the unlikely event of Councillors changing their mind.

The meeting, which commenced at 4pm, was subjected to some deplorable behaviour at question time. The need for Toodyay to have some recreation/pool facilities is a very emotive issue. It has been an ongoing saga for about 40 years. However that does not excuse bad behaviour. Thanks to some leadership qualities by Councillor Panizza the heat was dissipated and calm was restored. Councillors then moved to suspend standing orders so as to allow a thorough

discussion. Some Councillors tried to use the 'rule book' (standing orders and the Local Government Act) to stymie debate. However, quite often, using the rule book signifies a weak argument. Other Councillors used reasoned and logical debate to put their case, both for and against changing the funding application. It was clear early on that Councillors Firms, Tanner and Lloyd were going to be left on their own. Councillor Firms led the argument to change, but shot himself in the foot when using terms such as 'we can cross that bridge when we get to it'. With a commitment of this magnitude (around \$9m) all the I's need dotting and the T's crossing before the proposal is presented to a funding body.

With a larger pot of money being available from the Federal Government it was felt by some that a pool/recreation facility could be a viable alternative to the Streetscape project. There were, of course, risks with changing applications at the last minute. The chance of being successful with a \$2.1m request, compared with a \$9m request to a scheme which was well oversubscribed, is significant. However, that does not mean that the debate was not worth having. The public at least got a chance to hear both sides of the issue. The real problem had to do with the quality of any last minute application. Although much of the work on a recreation proposal had been done previously, bringing it up to date and making it fit all the criteria at the last minute would not be fair on the Shire staff. The C.E.O. and Shire President should not be asked to sign off on such a rushed funding application. It would not look good for Toodyay; it may harm our reputation and our chances in the future.

The debate raised some interesting points. The one which stuck in my mind the most was to do with the availability of funds for different types of projects. It was pointed out that it would be easier to attract funds for a rec/pool facility from 'normal' sources than the streetscape project. Therefore it is better to apply to this 'special' fund for the streetscape project.

Councillor Lloyd expressed a view which I think many people have when she asked 'why was recreation always being pushed off the top of the priority list'. Let's hope that when the Recreation Strategy Committee gives its final report, the Shire acknowledges

the dearth of recreation facilities in town and gets that issue back on top of the list. All Councillors and the C.E.O. (on behalf of all the staff) expressed their support for rec. facilities in Toodyay. The C.E.O., Mr. Merrick, said that as soon as the Council adopted a position on rec/pool concept plans for Toodyay, then he and his staff would be 100% committed to the project. Let us all keep in mind this unanimous support and see if, over the next year, actions match the sentiment.

After a good discussion, standing orders were resumed to allow a motion to be voted upon. It was then that one Councillor let forth with a salvo of attacks against three other Councillors. This was totally unnecessary as everyone knew well before then that the motion was going to be lost. This attack then fired up Cr. Firms of course. If Councillors can't be civil to each other and use reasoned debate, how can they expect the community to be civil? Cr. Panizza again pleaded for calm and reason. I spoke a couple of months ago about the need for healing in this fractured and fractious community and that healing needs to come from the Councillors and administration as much as from the general community.

We live in the best town in W.A., so let us all work together to make it FEEL like the best town in W.A.

*Peter Robinson*

## Fly on the Wall

The behaviour of the public in the gallery and councillors was a great improvement on the recent special meeting. Question Time had its now usual brace of accounting questions, along with some other points for clarification. There were also a couple of submissions. The first being from Ironbridge Property Developers of River Hills Estate. The reason for the cessation of works on this site has nothing to do with money problems. They have stopped work until they have clarity on what they need to do in order to get bonding and block releases. The second submission had to do with a confidential item. More on that one later.

The next item on the agenda was the adoption of policy LPP5 Foggarthorpe Design Guidelines (River Hills Estate). There was a whole range of amendments moved, but none of them was passed, except one which disallows unpainted smooth finish tilt up concrete panels. It is hard to imagine anyone wanting their house to look like a factory. The motion was passed 8 to 1.

The proposed grouped dwellings in Herbert St came next. The proponents asked that the four-unit development has permission for several variations which included higher retaining walls, weatherboard wall cladding and some eaves less than 300 mm. These variations were agreed to by the administration apart from the wall cladding. Councillors, however, allowed the weatherboard wall cladding on the back three units. The unit fronting Herbert St must be a smooth render finish. Leeders Well, which is situated on this block, is to be filled to preserve any artefacts and a plaque is to be erected at the Herbert St frontage noting the existence of the well.

What are you allowed to do on a rural residential zoned property? In Toodyay it seems not much. A property owner in Morangup has been trying for some months to get permission to build a 345 m<sup>2</sup> shed to store a piece of specialist agricultural equipment in the off season. Our administration decided that their request was a 'not permitted use'. The proponents tried three times with amendments to get approval. They then applied to the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT). The Shire had to attend a meeting of SAT where the proponent was ordered to supply additional information to the Shire and the Shire was invited to reconsider its decision at the March Ordinary Meeting. Councillors discussed the issue but we all got a bit confused between 'nonconforming' and 'unlisted' rights. However, they agreed unanimously to change the administration position. We are now willing to accept the proposal as a 'nonconforming' right. If SAT agrees it will then require a public consultation period. Putting aside all the policy documents, it would be fair to say that requesting permission to build a shed, to make safe and secure and out of sight equipment which has been on the property for some years, would be a positive for the amenity of the area. It all looked like common sense to me. The perception is that the administration is attempting to make life difficult and expensive for people trying to

run a business in Toodyay, and that is hard to understand. Whether it is true or not, the perception is that Toodyay is not the place to come to if you want to start a business. The other unfortunate effect this could have is that some people will do what they want to without seeking Shire approval.

Main Roads has again requested that the Shire support the proposal to close Black Swamp Road. This is a shortcut onto Morangup Road from Toodyay Road when travelling from the Toodyay direction. It is considered unsafe because the turnoff is too close to a bend in Toodyay Rd. This time Council approved the request to close Black Swamp Rd. Even though I'm one of those who use the shortcut, it will only make about a minute difference in travel time. The fewer intersecting roads onto a busy 110 km/h road the better. For all that, I can think of worse hazards on that road, including having 110 km/h past Salt Valley Road and Sandplain Road intersections. These are both well used bitumen roads.

The Quit Targa West Tarmac Rally is on again this year. Council has approved the request from the organisers. It will be held on the weekend of August 22 and 23.

At this meeting there were three months of monthly financial statements to be passed. This time they were all accepted. We also had the 2008/9 budget review and a compliance audit return. This made the agenda look like a phone book.

Last but not least the confidential business. However before that started Councillors had to pass a resolution to extend the meeting beyond the four hour limit. That's right it was 11.00PM before they moved behind closed doors. Going back to the submissions presented near the beginning of the meeting, a representative of the business for which prosecution was to be discussed spoke in defence of that business. It was easy for the business to work out that they were to be discussed, when the agenda revealed an item 14 (confidential business) because they had been advised of the possibility of prosecution some months ago. If you look at the way the State handles prosecutions we see that the police (shire senior staff) prepare a brief for the DPP (Council). There is no approach to the defence, the DPP can choose to move to prosecution or not. Remember not all breaches of law are prosecuted; it is up to the DPP to ascertain the chances of success and the **public good**. The accused have the right to mount a defence when and if the prosecution is proceeded with. I won't comment further at this time, it is up to the Shire and the magistrate (if it goes that far). Your paper will keep you well informed, however, because this is an issue with effects well beyond an alleged breach by one business.

I can remember a time when there was some humour around the Council table. The members acted as a team even though there was still plenty of debate. They also went through a period when it looked like there was a competition to have the record shortest meeting (before Cr. Firms was elected)! There was also a time when Staff, Councillors and Gallery socialised after the meetings (before some members of the administration were appointed!)

*Peter Robinson*

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Andrew and Jordan wending their way through Julimar Fores

## Bejoording Babble

Steak Night was a resounding success. Can you imagine actually biting into a steak sandwich, ( with or without onions, mushrooms, eggs, salad and toasted or non-toasted bread or roll) and having the remaining steak stay in your sandwich and not be dangling from your bottom lip like some regurgitated piece of shoe leather! No! I bet you can't! And all this for \$5 for non-members. Don't you see what your missing out on! Our celebrity Chef for the night was Small Paul, (do you really want me to explain to you why we call him Small Paul? Other then of course, that his names Paul... and he's small?) doing a fantastic job of lighting and turning off the BBQ about 16 times before Linda gave him the go ahead to start creating his works of art. Small Paul may have been the Chef, but Linda was the procurer of the top quality meat, and no steak was to cooked until a recipient was ready and waiting. Top job by all!

Our 4wd Picnic was held in the Julimar Conservation Park last month. A recce the day before revealed the Toodyay Tornado that came through last month, felled a lot of trees' over the tracks. Getting around them required a bit of effort... and scratches. So on the morning we were to start, I warned people of the chance of scratches. The men, obviously, said "well whats a 4wd for", laughing as they furtively glanced at their wives. Well, the trip went off without a hitch. At each stop the wives would jump out and find a stick to measure how deep the scratches were in the paintwork, and the blokes would spend their time making sure they didn't look their wives in the eye. Nothing really went wrong, which doesn't give me much to write about. We arrived at our picnic destination, where after lunch myself and Darb had to leave to pick up Ash from work. Everyone was cheery and waved us goodbye. Next Wed. night arrived... and here was where I got something to write about. Linda rcked up to me and said "Don't you ever @#\$%^@# leave us in the middle of @#\$%^@# nowhere again!" "Why? What happened?" Says I, thinking, 'Cool! I've got a story!' This where I have to stop all that symbol writing, as it'll take another 4 pages to finish. Apparently, on their way home, they drove up the hill and turned left instead of right. The picnics from Perth were stoked, coz this back road took them right to Pearce, and they weren't far from home. The picnics from Bejoording were gob-smacked, coz this back road took them right to Pearce, and they weren't anywhere near @#\$%^@# home!

On my way to work Monday morning, I saw that the V8 Supercar Season must have started. The flag pole on the corner was

exhibiting a rather limp Ford flag. Limp, I was rather pleased to find out, because Holden came 2nd and 3rd. I noticed it wasn't anywhere to be seen during the Bathurst 12 hour. 18th I think, was their highest position wasn't it Geoff?

Our AGM and Taco night is on Wed. 1st April, 6pm and so obviously, you've missed it! April seems to be a rather quiet month, other than the Shire Council Meeting at our Shed on Thursday 16th April, from 7pm. Our next Feast Night is Wed. 6th May. \$5 a head for non-members, but really, its the cheapest meal in town. Don't forget the Shed's open every Wed. night from 6pm.

Hope to see ya soon,

Kim Leonhardt.

## Toodyay Kindergym

The surf's up and the fish are biting at Kindergym! Rene prepared an exciting lesson based on beach activities, to complete this term's theme. There was beach volley ball, surfing, sailing, fishing and sandcastle building. Our last day of term is Friday 3rd April and we will be enjoying a picnic in the park. So bring a healthy plate to share and meet us in Duidgee Park at 9.30 am for a play.

We had a very successful AGM on 6th March. Thank you to everyone who participated and especially to those who agreed to take on active roles in the committee. We would like to welcome our new committee members as follows; President Karen Gale, Vice President Nyaree Lawler, Secretary Kelly Jefferies, Treasurer Bronwyn Gavlik, Fundraising Coordinator Lisa Giorgi, Head Coach Rene Jackson, Coach Lisa Giorgi and Committee Member Gillian Dickinson.

Toodyay Kindergym is a fun, interactive, safe environment for children aged up to 5 years. Classes are held every Friday, during school term, in the Pavilion at the Showgrounds at 9.30 am. Remember, your first class is free. For more information, please contact our Head Coach, Rene on 9574 4708.

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## Rachel's Roamings

It's hard to believe that one whole year has already come and gone. But it was no ordinary year; it was a year full of travel, adventures, meeting new people and experiencing new things. My exchange year in Germany would have to have been the best year of my life (so far) without a doubt. When I think back on it, I feel like I am thinking back on some wonderful dream. Sometimes I find it hard to believe that it ever actually happened. But it did. And I have so many amazing new friends, family and memories to show for it.

It feels like my exchange year just flew by. Which it did. But at the same time, when I think back on who I was when boarding the plane for Germany last year, and who I am now, a year ago feels like a decade ago. I never thought it possible that so much could happen and change in just one year. I overcame so many obstacles to gain the qualities and learn the things that I know now. I enjoyed the freedom and took on the responsibilities of being independent. I opened my mind and tolerance and therefore reaped the rewards of truly becoming a member of each of my four host families. I pushed myself out of my comfort zone and tackled a new language in order to make new and lifelong friendships. Sure, there were times when it was tough and I wouldn't have minded the familiarity of my home environment again., but behind every obstacle is a pot of gold: a valuable lesson to be learnt, a quality to be gained, character to be built and a sense of fulfillment to be achieved.

I started the year as a foreigner, in a foreign country, where everyone was a stranger to me, speaking a language that I could not understand. When it came to leaving at the end of the year, I had to cry, because these people that I was leaving behind had become my family, some of my closest friends, the country now felt familiar and someone could now talk to me in German without me looking like a stunned mullet. It really had become my second home.

I would like to say a BIG thank you to the Rotary Club of Northam for making such an incredible year possible for me. It is something that I am sure to remember for the rest of my life. To anyone else interested in exchange, I highly recommend it. You have nothing to lose and so much to gain.

I hope you have enjoyed this column over the past year. I hope it has given you some inspiration to pack your bags and explore the world. Or simply reminisce over your past travels. Either way, I'd like to say for the final time: Auf Wiedersehen!

Rachel Michael  
Rotary Youth Exchange Student to  
Germany 2008



Happy Mothers Day to all our Toodyay Mums!

Mother's Day Thoughts and Quotes

\* The advice your son rejected is now being given by him to your grandson.

\* Working mothers are guinea pigs in a scientific experiment to show that sleep is not necessary to human life.

\* Parents often talk about the younger generations as if they didn't have anything to do with it.

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## Reflection on the martyrdom of Christ

By Baha'u'llah, the Founder of the Baha'i Faith.

"Know thou that when the Son of Man yielded up His breath to God, the whole creation wept with a great weeping. By sacrificing Himself, however, a fresh capacity was infused into all created things. Its evidences, as witnessed in all the peoples of the earth, are now manifest before thee. The deepest wisdom which the sages have uttered, the profoundest learning which any mind hath unfolded, the arts which the ablest hands have produced, the influence exerted by the most potent of rulers, are but manifestations of the quickening power released by His transcendent, His all-pervasive, and resplendent Spirit. We testify that when He came into the world, He shed the splendour of His glory upon all created things. Through Him the leper recovered from the leprosy of perversity and ignorance. Through Him, the unchaste and wayward were healed. Through His power, born of Almighty God, the eyes of the blind were opened, and the soul of the sinner sanctified. Leprosy may be interpreted as any veil that interveneth between man and the recognition of the Lord, his God. Whoso alloweth himself to be shut out from Him is indeed a leper, who shall not be remembered in the Kingdom of God, the Mighty, the All-Praised. We bear witness that through the power of the Word of God every leper was cleansed, every sickness was healed, every human infirmity was banished. He it is Who purified the world.

Blessed is the man who, with a face beaming with light, hath turned towards Him."

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All contributions and advertising may be left at the office of *The Toodyay Herald*, 92 Stirling Terrace, Toodyay, or posted to P.O. Box 100, Toodyay, 6566, faxed to 9574 4574 or emailed to toodyayherald@westnet.com.au. Website :toodyayherald.com.au

## The Toodyay Herald

*The Toodyay Herald* is a community paper and as such welcomes contributions of letters, articles and photographs from all members of the community. Contributions on computer disk are appreciated. There is no charge for articles which appear in the paper.

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## RURALPRESS

## THANK YOU

Thank you to the volunteers who helped with the April edition of the *Toodyay Herald*: Les Hyde, Grant Scobie, Nuala Ennis, Jim Bavin, Speedy Cox, Samantha Connor, Paul Sutton, Annette Avery, Wayne Clarke, Beth Ruthven, Peter Ruthven, Shirley Banks.

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ISSUE 269  
 Tuesday April 28

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### News From Bolgart and Surrounding Areas

A little bird whispered to me that Val and Leo Camerer (late of Bolgart and now living at Toodyay) had celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary recently.

Congratulations, both of you and I feel very sure that you are a great example of what can be achieved if one really sets one's mind to it.

Was sorry to hear that Rachel Micheal (who had been an exchange student last year in Germany and who had done all those wonderful write-ups for the Herald) had been involved in a traffic accident on her return to the State. We hope you are on the mend Rachel.

Bolgart came alive on the weekend of 6th - 8th of March when four members and descendents of the Clarke family celebrated their respective 50th birthdays. Beginning with dinner on the Friday evening and barbeques elsewhere, a barbeque and dance at the Bolgart Hall on the Saturday evening and ending I believe with brunch on the

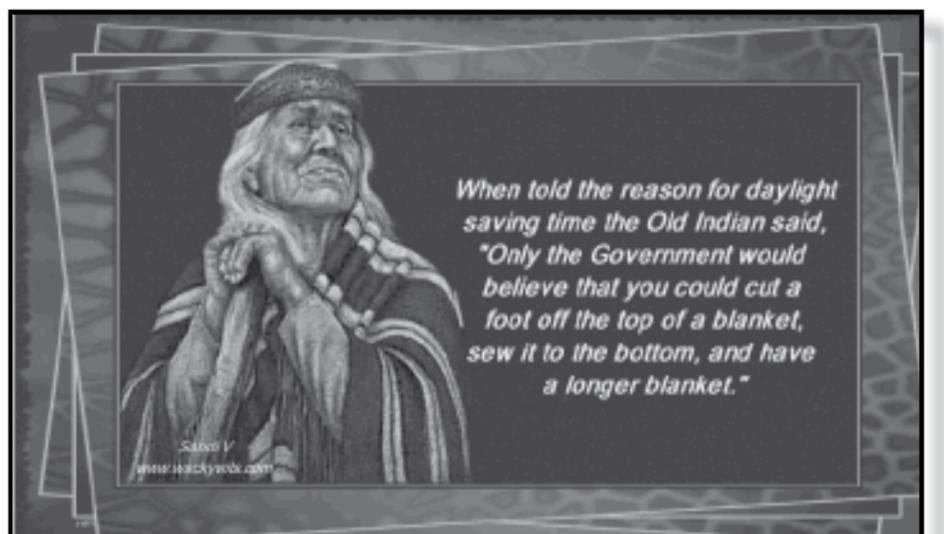
Sunday for those who were still on deck by then. The celebrations were for Robert Clarke, son of Robert and Dianne; Laurie Clarke, son of Cliff and the late Shirley Clarke; Denise Lister, daughter of Des and Janet, and Phillip Cousins, son of Jack and Shirley Cousins.

Folk travelled from near and far for the celebrations and I believe it was an enjoyable weekend. My daughter Carol and son-in-law Jeff Harris of Karratha (friends of birthday boy Robert Clarke) were in attendance and stayed with us, although it was a rushed weekend as they flew back to Karratha on the Sunday afternoon.

Neil Martin, whose 21st birthday was on 14th March, celebrated at home in Bolgart with family and that weekend played football for Swan Districts on the Saturday. Congratulations and good on you Neil. Turning 1 is also very important, so happy birthday to Tristan Roy Snooks who turns 1 on 26th March and is also up and walking and trying to stock-take (I think), in his parents' store in Bolgart.

Bolgart library has now been introduced to broadband on their computer system, so users will enjoy a much speedier service when using the internet.

Doris M Martin





Past and present volunteers at the Toodyay Op Shop celebrations

## Toodyay Op Shop Turns Thirty

Past and present volunteer members of the Toodyay Op Shop celebrated their 30th birthday in style at a celebration held at the Freemason's Hotel. The celebration, which was held on

Friday 27th March, 2009, was very well attended by volunteers and recipients of funding from the last 30 years. Over that period, over \$200,700 has been returned to the community as donations.

## Toodyay - Chittering Structural Reform

The Toodyay and Chittering Councils recently put forth a request for submissions from suitably qualified consultants, interested in undertaking a community benefit analysis to investigate the benefits, or not, of merging the two Shires.

Significant interest in the project resulted in a total of fourteen submissions being received. These submissions were reviewed by members of the Toodyay and Chittering Shires, including Shire Presidents Cr Charlie Wroth and Cr Don Gibson, Deputy Shire Presidents Cr Bob Somers and Cr Judi Tomlinson and Chief Executive Officers Mr Graham Merrick and Mr John Merrick, in a meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2009.

As a result of this meeting, consultancy firm ACIL Tasman has been appointed to carry out the community benefit analysis. Shire of Toodyay Chief Executive Officer Mr Graham Merrick says "We are looking forward to working in co-operation with ACIL Tasman. Both Bob Smillie and Jan Grimoldby bring extensive local government knowledge to this project, having both consulted on the feasibility of the Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup amalgamation in 2007, experience which we believe will bring additional credibility to their findings."

In addition, Mr Smillie's experience includes appointments as the CEO of the Town of Kwinana and the Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley and Acting CEO of Halls Creek Shire. Ms Grimoldby has spent eleven years as CEO with three councils, in a career spanning over twenty years in local government. Working with Mr Smillie and Ms Grimoldby will be Ms Antonia Hodby, who is experienced in economic analysis with a particular interest in agribusiness and resources, and Dr James Fogarty, who holds a PhD in Economics and has consulted on numerous state and territory government projects.

The analysis will consider the social, economic and regional implications of a merger between the two Shires, in an objective manner to ensure that all possible costs and benefits to the communities are fully investigated. A final report is due to be delivered to the Joint Steering Committee within twelve weeks of the date of appointment, prior to being presented to the respective councils for consideration.

## Confusion Continues in Local Government

Ratepayers across Western Australia could face reduced services and representation as a result of the local government structural reform, Shadow Minister for Local Government Paul Papalia said today.

"The structural reform guidelines released by Local Government Minister John Castrilli this week are completely devoid of detail," he said. "Elected officials and local government employees around the State remain in the dark as to what he wants to achieve through the reform process."

"Despite his over-bearing threat to force amalgamations of local governments, the Minister is now trying to suggest the process will be somehow voluntary."

Mr Papalia said the Minister's actions were incredibly unhelpful during a time of global economic uncertainty.

"He has reduced the complex issue of sustainability in the local government sector down to a superficial argument based on the need to reduce the number of councils," he said.

Mr Papalia said achieving sustainability in the local government sector required a wide range of actions and amalgamation should only be considered where it is appropriate and beneficial.

"In many instances councils may be forced to waste time, money and effort developing amalgamation proposals for the Minister which will never proceed," he said. "Why for instance, should Albany or Geraldton councils even consider the Minister's proposal when they have already engaged in an amalgamation process? Why would the City of Stirling, which already serves more than over 180,000 people, consider amalgamation?"

Mr Papalia said Labor would seek the support of the Nationals and the Independents to defeat any forced amalgamation legislation.

"The Minister should admit he has made a mistake with his threat and return to a co-operative approach to local government reform," he said.



photo finish

Renovations - the Victoria Hotel verandah, currently under construction

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## MARRIAGE CELEBRANT

JOHN MITCHINSON

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# letters

IS OPTION SEVEN of the Recreation Strategy Plan really dead in the water?

At the Council meeting held last Thursday the 19th March, this question was asked on behalf of residents whose homes were listed for possible acquisition by Council as part of Option 7 and were seeking reassurance that this would not now happen.

The Shire President stated that he could not give such reassurance as the Recreation Strategy Advisory Committee was still considering all options. The unconfirmed minutes of the meeting of this committee held on the 19th February also indicate that Option 7 could well be resurrected.

This is only the second meeting of this committee some 12 months after it was proposed to be formed. I don't know if there are any terms of reference for this committee but the minutes indicate probably not.

It appears that the current (and perhaps only) objective of the committee is to recommend a suitable site and three are being considered, one of them being a revised Option 7.

The racecourse is not being considered because of its distance from Town despite the Shire President naming it as a perfect site.

Is this distance really a problem? Currently groups are commuting to Northam and Goomalling to use the facilities at these locations. It seems to me it will make little difference to residents in Morangup or West Toodyay for example whether they travel to the showground site, Drummond Street site or the Racecourse site and this probably applies to residents in the new planned subdivisions.

If this is considered to be the perfect site, able to be developed to provide all of the recreational facilities required at a competitive cost, then do the residents really object to the distance from the centre of Town?

The key point of consensus reached by the committee so far is that the co-location of all recreational facilities is a necessity. There is little to support this decision, only vague suggestions of reduced on-going expenses. Co-location of all recreational facilities may be desirable, even highly desirable, but is it a necessity?

Having made this decision it seems to me that the committee has placed themselves in a position where they can now only recommend a site that is capable of achieving it – welcome back Option seven!

It appears that the committee will report back to Council with their recommendations and there is no suggestion of inviting further public comment.

If any resident feels that they would like to comment on the recommendations of this committee, I suggest you contact the Councillors and ask them to make it available for public submissions as the recreation facilities project is probably the most significant and important long term project to be undertaken by Council.

*Phil Coffey, West Toodyay*

TOODYAY STONE IS a beautiful and unique material found nowhere else in the world.

For 60 years it's been used in places like the Supreme Court Gardens, Parliament House, the Araluen Country Club and some of the finest houses in Perth. It is extracted sustainably with a day's digging providing three months employment splitting, sorting and stacking.

The current Streetscape Proposal does not even mention Toodyay Stone nor does it seem to involve any local industries, tradesmen or artists. What about some bench seats made with jarrah and stone? Rudd is giving us 2 million to stimulate local employment. Why are we importing it? Why can't we be creative and use our own materials and local talent to sign our names on our own town?

For that matter, why are we not building a swimming pool instead?

*Stirling Hamilton*

## LOTTERY WINNER

I saw an interview on TV with an old farmer who won ten million dollars in the lottery.

Naturally he was asked what he was going to do with all that money.

He scratched his head and said, "Not sure as I know right off. Guess I'll keep farmin' till it's all gone."

*Tony Lush*

I UNDERSTAND THAT the Council moved to prosecute a local business last week for trading without permission. I understand that the business concerned applied for permission more than 300 days ago and that they waited for 120 days before giving up waiting and commencing trading. I understand that the previous occupant was trading from the same premises without seeking permission and was never prosecuted.

Does council understand that a business can't survive without trading? To put it in perspective could a farm survive a 300 day vehicle movement ban. Could a transport company survive 300 days without fuel?

If our local government doesn't become 'business friendly' don't be surprised when the businesses aren't there. Or am I missing something?

*Paul Michael*

I WOULD LIKE to comment on the reckless behaviour of some drivers in relation to the Toodyay West railway crossing.

I am tired of drivers either overtaking me while I have stopped at the crossing or not stopping at the crossing at all. I witness this behaviour several times a week.

This railway line may only be used four times a day during the harvest season but the times that are used vary. If drivers don't stop at the crossing on a regular basis, they will, one day, come to regret their actions. After all, the stop sign is placed there for everyone's protection.

*Mrs Susan King*

CONGRATULATIONS to Councillors Firms, Lloyd and Tanner for calling the special meeting of council to increase public awareness of the funding opportunity provided by the Federal Government when it increased the funding for local government infrastructure projects from \$50 million to \$550 million and gave an extension of time to give councils the opportunity to substitute a new project to take advantage of this increase in available funds.

Given the significant increase in funds to be made available and the extension in time to submit a substitute application for funds one would have thought that all councillors and community organisations would have been notified immediately to give them time to consider and discuss the opportunity.

This however was not the case. Despite the best efforts of Councillors Firms, Lloyd and Tanner the special meeting of council to consider substituting a more significant project for funding, was arranged by the CEO for 4.00 pm on Thursday the 5th March, less than 24 hours before the application was to be received in Canberra.

Consequently it was decided that, once again, there was no time to make an application for a significant community project such as a swimming pool or recreation facilities.

At this special meeting of council questions were asked by residents in an attempt to establish when notification of the changes was received by council and when councillors were informed of the changes.

Both the CEO and Shire President suffered from memory loss and could not recall when this occurred.

It is now known that the CEO was made aware of the pending announcement on the 3rd February and the Shire President received notification by way of a letter from Senator Mark Bishop received on the 13th February.

There have been a number of complaints from residents about the short notice for the meeting. Given the potential significance of the change in available funding they have a right to complain and should perhaps pursue enquiries as to how and when Councillors were notified and how it took from the 3rd February to the 5th March to organise a meeting so the issue could be considered in an open and transparent way.

There still seems to be a question mark in Toodyay as to who runs the council and the failure to provide timely information to Councillors must be a concern for anyone wanting their local government to be open and transparent and wanting to have significant issues properly drawn to the attention of interested residents.

It seems clear that a policy or procedure needs to be in place that directs the administration to provide councillors with information in a timely manner.

Congratulations to Councillors Chis Firms, Frank Panizza and Neville Tanner on their



I'M WRITING TO publicly thank Nina Paterson for her initiative and persistence in calling for, organising and promoting the Fire Awareness Meeting held at the Memorial Hall on Thursday 19th March.

Nina was the driving force behind this excellent gathering. She requested and coordinated the presence of the FESA speakers who presented a very useful, interesting and informative session to an audience of around fifty community members.

Nina was also responsible for gaining the consent of the Shire to have free use of the Hall, and for promoting the event with posters, flyers and phone calls.

Thanks are due to the FESA staff who attended (and I believe provided lunch), and to Shire Ranger, Alan and Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, Murray for their input.

None of this would have happened without Nina, and I take my hat off to her, as an example of what one concerned community member can achieve.

*Lee Francis*

*Locals at the Fire Awareness Meeting, held at the Toodyay Memorial Hall*

I WOULD LIKE to sincerely thank Nina Paterson for organising the Bushfire Awareness day at the Memorial Hall recently. I also thank the FESA representatives for an incredibly informative and entertaining morning. I certainly learned a lot and it has made me realise just how unprepared we are in the case of a fire or other disaster.

I believe more of these information sessions are to be held during the evening and on weekends for those who work or only visit on weekends. Please, don't think you 'know it all'. Attend these sessions. I thought I was fairly cluey about what was needed to prepare for fire. How wrong I was.

Don't think it won't happen to you. We've already had a major fire only a couple of years ago where a life was lost. I'm sure the Victorians didn't think it could happen to them either.

*Kathy Robinson*

practical and relevant contribution to the debate on the items on the agenda.

Congratulations to Councillor Panizza on his intervention when one councillor verbally attacked Councillors Firms, Lloyd and Tanner for calling the special meeting of council and seemed to imply that their reasons for doing so were in some way improper.

Councillor Panizza's calming and conciliatory influence displayed a leadership that was not forthcoming from the top table.

The councillor making the attack also appeared to have suffered a loss of memory as all the reasons why he considered the meeting to be inappropriate also applied to the previous special meeting of Council held on the same subject when he had no such complaints.

I don't believe that Councillors should be subject to personal attacks such as this from any source but particularly not from a fellow councillor.

I hope that Councillors Firms, Lloyd and Tanner continue to call a special meeting of council whenever they consider it the only way to get open debate and community involvement.

*Mona Coffey, West Toodyay*

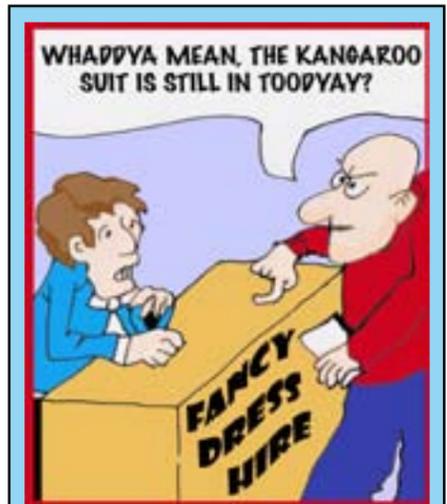


SOME GREAT NEWS! You may recall I published the attached photo in the Can You Help section of the West Australian back in November 2008 seeking info on the two standing Troopers. The photo was my Grandmother's, Athole Louisa Patton (nee Ellery), niece to Trooper James Wilkerson, seated to the right with Trooper Lionel Beardman seated to the left. I have been able to confirm that the Trooper standing to the left, as one is looking at the photo, is William Ernest Greedy, No. 276 "B" Squadron, killed in action at Russell's Top Gallipoli 17th August 1915.

This photo is just one of two known photo postcards that exist today, the other is held with Robert Wilkerson of Northam. Many thanks to everyone who has helped in the search for the identity of the two unknown Troopers - just one more to discover! I have also sent this photo to Ian Gill who is currently writing a new historical record of the 10th Light Horse.

Lest we forget.

*Jamie Patton*



*We've been highly amused by the number of photographs of a dead kangaroo we've received this month. It's not really news, though, that someone hits a roo on the way home from work! We're glad that there was a good outcome and that noone other than the roo was injured. - Ed*



## Old Bike Week – A Long Ride

As part of Old Bike Week (21<sup>st</sup> March – 28<sup>th</sup> March), members of the Albany Vintage & Classic Motorcycle Club descended on Toodyay for a series of rides around the area.

After riding from Albany to Toodyay, they made a series of loops to various towns in the vicinity (overnighting in Toodyay) including Bindoon, New Norcia, Wyalkatchem and Corrigin before returning home to Albany.

*Photo caption: Grand Old Men; members of the Albany Vintage & Classic Motorcycle Club with a couple of their classic motorcycles staying at the Toodyay Tavern during their Long Ride.*

*L-R: Keith Graham (BMW R90), Jim Sharpe (BMW R90S), Bob Jackson (BMW R75), John Barber (Kawasaki ZA1 900), Colin*

## Local Photographer Exhibits in Hedland

Toodyay photographer, Tom Carter was profiled last month at the grand opening of the exhibition *The Journey Is the Destination* at the Port Hedland Courthouse Art Gallery.

Five hundred people attended the opening night at the Port Hedland Courthouse Gallery on Friday 20 February. The highly anticipated photographic exhibition included over 100 images reflecting the industrial town of Hedland, the unique Pilbara landscape, and the diverse people who make up the community.

Renowned mentor photographers, Paul Parin and John Elliott, attended the event, sharing their views and experiences with guests and budding photographers alike.

Tom is opening a Photographic Studio and Gallery at 112 Stirling Terrace, inside the new Whole Foods Division of Toodyay Home Fresh. The new shop opens on the 3rd of May (Moondyne Festival).

The studio will be offering Themed Portrait



*Photographer Tom Carter with one of his pieces in the exhibition. "1Cp Susuki"*

Photography for all ages as well as family portraits, pet photography, weddings, ceremonies, events and festivals.

Tom held his first solo exhibition 'Native Orchids and the Noise of a Dog' in Toodyay at the former Empire Tea Rooms in 2007.

Last year Tom spent 11 months in Port Hedland where his photographic talent was quickly recognised by the local newspaper, *The North West Telegraph*, who called upon him to capture many of the local social events.



*Our house... Ryan and Aidan pose at 74 Stirling Terrace, Toodyay*

## Do You Know This House?

Information is being sought about a historic house which is currently under renovation.

The house is located at 74 Stirling Terrace and has had a variety of owners, including the Leeder family. The owners

would like to hear from anyone who has information about the house, especially the name of the house. Contact the owners by writing to the Herald at PO Box 100, Toodyay.



**Sunday  
May 3**

**Sunday May 3,**

*Escape to* **MOONDYNE**

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# A *Big Welcome* to Grant McLeod, the new manager of Toodyay & Districts Community Financial Services Ltd.

Grant comes to us with a career spanning 14 years in the banking and finance industry. He has a Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Economics and Financial Modelling.

Working at St George and National Australia Bank, Grant's knowledge extends from business/corporate finance, wealth business management to relationship and development management.

***Everything you need for your business and home banking !***

Grant, his wife Tamara and three boys are seeking to move to the area as soon as possible and look forward to becoming part of the local community.

Grant will be commencing full time in the branch as soon as his initial Bendigo Bank training is completed, which is anticipated to occur in the first half of April.

*We all look forward to working with Grant*



## Don't forget to register for

# Footy Tipping WIN



## A TRIP FOR 2 TO THE AFL GRAND FINAL Including flights and accommodation

### Join 'OUR BANK TOODYAY' Competition Online

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## Each week the winning tipper will receive

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### Make your dreams a reality

Whether you're looking for a home with three big bedrooms, a gourmet kitchen or just great potential, at the Bendigo we're here to help you own your own home sooner.

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Ask us for your free copy of 'Your House: The First Home Buyers Guide'

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So call in and see us at **108 Stirling Terrace, Toodyay** or phone **9574 4077** – and U can own your own home sooner.

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(26/02/2009)

## U can own your own home sooner



## Whistling Turnip Causes Controversy

Local farmer Neil Trew has his own opinion on the transportation of genetically modified canola, as discussed at last week's Council meeting – he'd prefer to transport his own, genetically modified, Toodyay turnips.

Mr Trew, who has successfully developed a genetically modified 'whistling turnip', has been the centre of controversy recently with environmental organisations and public interest groups actively protesting against the novelty food. The turnips, which have been specially engineered to grow with tapered airholes in their side, have been developed in line with government regulatory procedures for the approval of GM foods. When fully cooked, the airholes cause the vegetables to whistle.

"GM foods are most commonly modified to enhance desired traits such as increased resistance to herbicides or improved nutritional content," says Mr Trew, who holds a position on the Australian Board of Biotechnics. "We developed the Toodyay Turnip to challenge the public consciousness and to allow people to investigate the possibility of a world which includes GM foods."

Australian environmentalist and anti GM lobbyist Emma Royd disagrees. "People in Toodyay do not need GM," she says. "The hazards are primarily environmental and to human health, but I maintain that the benefits of having novelty foods such as whistling turnips and carrots cannot outweigh the many concerns and potential risk of harm to non-target organisms."

The Toodyay whistling turnip is scheduled for release in June, 2009. For more information or for a list of distribution outlets, contact Mr Neil E. Trew at PO Box 100, Toodyay.

*A Toodyay turnip is peeled by Neil's wife, Jan*

## Lions Lines

TOODYAY LIONS JUMBO AUCTION  
APRIL 2009

We look forward to it all year and we know you do too! Yes, it's the Lions Club of Toodyay Annual Jumbo Auction. This year you'll be able to use the Easter break to sort through your possessions and decide what's to go. Remember that one man's trash is another man's treasure. And with the economic downturn we can all do with an extra few dollars in the coffers.

The Lions will only receive goods for sale on Friday 17th April. This allows the team to record all items, enter them into a computer database and have the auction ready to roll for a prompt 9am start on Saturday 18th. With buyers arriving early to look over the goods last minute deliveries will not be allowed.

From the early days the auction has evolved into a highly sophisticated event. With computers and cash registers provided by Gary Oliver of Budget Cash Registers the auction's office is a slick, stream-lined affair.

But the main action takes place on the Oval. For 12 long years Tony Maddox of Ray White Real Estate offered his services as auctioneer to the Lions Club. Year-in, year-out Tony regularly lost his voice for the cause, going down in club annals for his dedication, skill and the great good humour he brought to the occasion. The Club will be forever grateful for Tony's services.

The auctioneer's mantle has now passed to long time local Nathan Martin who demonstrated last year that he is more than able for the task. Nathan's even warmed up this year with the Charity Auction at the Freemasons Hotel in aid of the Victorian Bushfire Appeal.

Each lot still costs the seller a \$2 entry fee with 10% of the selling price also going to the Lions cause. Buyer tickets cost \$2 and we advise that you purchase yours early to avoid that last minute rush. Remember that all unsold items must be removed from the Oval that evening.

Proceeds from the auction goes to our local community. This year the Club has already decided to donate the auction proceeds to St John's Ambulance. Our local life-savers are the proud owners of a brand new ambulance for which they fundraised long and hard. But it's an empty shell - not even a stretcher!

When you see an ambulance arriving at an emergency scene on TV you'll notice the officers hurry out carrying a handheld container that looks like a small tool box. Which in effect it is as it is a portable Oxy-Viva, providing the benefits of resuscitation, suction and oxygen therapy in one compact unit. But that little tool box alone costs thousands of dollars.

Lion Rachel Oliver has taken charge of catering the event this year. She will combine the auction with the Lions Biggest B-B-Q for the Childrens' Cancer Institute.

So come along to the Lions Auction, have some fun, morning tea, lunch, buy an item or ten and go home again with the satisfaction of knowing that you have supported two great and worthy causes.

### ST PATRICKS NIGHT MEETING

The Club's last meeting just happened to fall on St Patricks night. With an Irish President the occasion could not be ignored. Five prospective members and two guests joined club members in turning on a night to remember. Jill in the hotel kitchen produced the best Irish stew I've had since leaving home and I am told the Guinness & Beef Pie was the goods as well. Adorned in all forty shades of green the party competed in a quiz on all things Irish. They're a good mob but their knowledge of Irish arts, sport, culture, geography and history left a lot to be desired. The evening was an education for them!

### GUEST SPEAKER BEN GLADDEN

Between a drink or ten the Club did what it does best - it gave money away. We were delighted to have an old friend, Ben Gladden, with us for the evening. Ben is the son of late Lion, Garth Gladden, who was a well-respected and well-loved member of the Toodyay Lions for a long number of years. Ben addressed the Club, reminiscing about the years Ben & his brother Dan tagged along with his Dad to Lions working bees etc. Ben went on to talk about his work as the Chaplain with Toodyay District High School. The Lions were pleased to present Ben with an annual sum of \$500 in support of his good work.

### MEETING DISCUSSION

An issue affecting the Club was up for discussion. A lively debate demonstrated how passionate the members felt about the matter. With follow-up on the following day the subject under discussion was resolved to everybody's satisfaction.

Lion Darren Crossley also addressed the

Club regarding a local resident in need of the Club's assistance. Darren got immediate support, both monetary and practical, and undertook to report to our next meeting on the finer details. This is what the Club does best, following our motto "We Serve".

Hopefully, for our prospective members, the evening demonstrated the benefits of belonging to a club committed to serving the community and again showed why the Lions Club of Toodyay was presented with the Community Group of the Year Award.

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*Personal Training*

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**22 Stirling Terrace**

**Toodyay**

# Lions Club of Toodyay Annual Jumbo Auction

**Auction date Saturday 18th April from 9am.**

The 2009 Lions Auction will be held at the Toodyay Showgrounds/Oval

**Items for auction to be delivered on Friday 17th April from 8 am. Up to 500 lots @ \$2 per lot. No livestock.**



**No dogs permitted.**

**Buyers tickets @ \$2.**

**For more information contact:**

**- Nuala 0429 386 317,**

**Ina 9574 5928 or Jim 9574 4695**

# ARE WE BUSY? YES WE ARE!

▶ **SOLD SOLD SOLD** ◀



104 Horton Way Lancelin



64 Avro Anson Road Mokine



12 Scaveola Road Toodyay



67 Toodyay West Road Toodyay



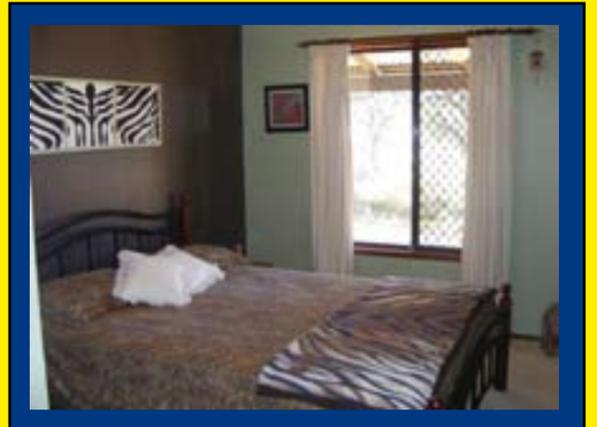
661 Coondle West Road Toodyay



113 Timber Creek Cres Toodyay



100 Hasson Place Toodyay



**HOT PROPERTY!**

**Keen vendors say  
SELL SELL SELL!**

Lovely 4 bedroom 1 bathroom home nestled on 5 acres with stunning views, situated on the Perth side of Toodyay.

Beautiful pine kitchen with large pantry open plan living area and formal lounge. Large bedrooms. Ducted air conditioning throughout. Separate air conditioned media/home theatre room AND a fully fitted brewing room. Must see!

# Ray White

Phone 9574 2917

## Avon Valley

Fax 9574 4081



## Toodyay Playgroup

We have had our Toodyay Playgroup Annual General Meeting and now have a new committee. They are as follows:  
**PRESIDENT** - Amanda Donegan  
**VICE PRESIDENT** - Tracey Hunter  
**SECRETARY** - Cassandra Duckworth  
**VICE SECRETARY** - Sandy Pike  
**TREASURER** - Martina Bretschneider  
**VICE TREASURER** - Brenda Hutchinson  
**FUNDRAISER CO-ORDINATOR** - Jean Galloway  
**ACTIVITIES CO-ORDINATOR** - Krystle Sherwood  
**GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS** - Rene Jackson and Sarah Gardiner  
 We would like to welcome all the 2009 committee members and hope they enjoy their new positions.  
 A big thank you to all last year's committee members for all their dedicated work

throughout the year.  
 On Thursday 2nd April we will be having our annual Playgroup Easter Egg Hunt, so join us at 9.30am. We will also be making Easter baskets for the children to put their eggs in.  
 Toodyay Playgroup would like to give a special thank you to Jason Pike and Rowan Hunter for putting up our new shade sail. Thanks guys you have done a wonderful job.  
 Birthday wishes for this month go to Charlotte Hunter, Olivia Timms and Cody Bottell.  
 Wishing all members a happy and safe Easter. We will be open on the school holidays as well.  
 For all enquiries about Toodyay Playgroup please ring our new President, Amanda Donegan, on 9574 4869.



## Two Tarts in a Troupie

**Two Women, One Well Loved 4WD and Endless Kilometres of Dirt Road.... What Could Go Wrong??**  
 What happens when you take two determined women, one well worn 4WD and endless kilometres of rugged dirt roads? The 2009 Coleman Variety 4WD Challenge of course!  
 In the outback anything can happen, and when you are one of only two female teams entered in this year's Coleman Variety 4WD Challenge set to take on some of WA's most rugged and remote roads the possibilities are endless.  
 The 2009 Coleman Variety 4WD Challenge is held each year in WA raising much needed funds for sick, disadvantaged and special needs children. The majority of participants are males but this year sees the entry of an all female team set to shake things up.  
 'Two Tarts in a Troupie' was formed by long time friends and now teammates Di Campbell and co-driver Coleen Pearce aiming to show the other teams what a lively

pair of determined women are really capable of.  
 The Challenge will be held from 23-31 May 2009 and will see teams trek through the Gascoyne/Pilbara regions via the Canning Stock Route, and through to Coral Bay.  
 As part of the challenge each team is required to raise \$10,000 to assist WA kids before setting off. To date both Coleen and Di have done a variety of fundraising activities and have several sponsorship packages still available for anyone interested which includes fantastic signage opportunities throughout the Challenge.  
 On Saturday 2 May the ladies will be hosting Horses for Causes, a fantastic cocktail function at the Golden Nugget Room, Gloucester Park. Tickets are \$70 each and include entry to Gloucester Park, canapés and a cocktail on arrival. Darren Reid and the Soul City Groove will be performing and it's a great opportunity to support the kids and have a fun night out at the track. Anyone interested in purchasing tickets or a table should contact Di on p: 0418 948 959 or via email at e: di@aaps.biz  
 For any further information please contact Di Campbell on di@aaps.biz or 0418948959.

Thank you to the observant community members that pointed out that the Editor MAY have published her own telephone number instead of Dr Richard Walkey's. Please replace the Plan on your fridge with the one below. And if you're on fire, please call Richard, not me. - Ed

# Household Emergency Plan

COMPLETE THIS PLAN WITH ALL MEMBERS OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD

1. If we cannot make it home or contact each other we will meet or leave a message at: \_\_\_\_\_

---

2. An out of town person that our family can contact if we lose contact with each other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact number: \_\_\_\_\_

3. The person responsible for collecting the children from school : \_\_\_\_\_

---

4. The person responsible for checking and replenishing the emergency survival items is: \_\_\_\_\_

In an emergency we will remain in our home/leave our home, unless advised otherwise. We will need to prepare to look after ourselves for three days or more. In an emergency we will:

- \* Secure our home
- \* Collect our emergency survival items for our Emergency Kit
- \* Listen to the radio for advice and information

---



---

If we have to evacuate our home we will:

- \* Take our Emergency Kit and important documents with us
- \* Turn off water, electricity and gas (always seek professional advice before reconnecting)
- \* Make a list of contact details for neighbours that may need our help or can help us

A plan of our house showing :

- \* Places to shelter \* Exits \* Assembly area \* Fire extinguisher
- \* Where to turn off water, gas and electricity \* Emergency kit

PLAN OF OUR HOUSE

\* IN CASE OF EMERGENCY DIAL 000 \*POISONS INFORMATION 13 11 26 \*DR WALKEY 089 574 2223