

# The Toodyay Herald

VOLUME 273

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Targa West, 2009...Brendan Templeman and Peter Howlett in Car number 96 (Mitsubishi Lancer Evo 8).  
For Targa West race results, turn to page 3.

## this month



Toodyay Picnic Races, page 11



Katherine on Doulos, page 3



Stolen Oz Tent, page 5



Eight lives left, page 7



A Telethon Trip to Kokoda, page 15

## Residents Meet to Discuss 'Option 6½'

Samantha Connor

TOODYAY residents will attend a Special Council meeting this week to discuss a decision by Council to commence planning for sport and recreation facilities at the Toodyay Showgrounds site.

The meeting, which is restricted to Council administration staff and affected landowners in the immediate area, will be held to discuss the impact of redevelopment.

CEO Graham Merrick indicated an unwillingness to discuss the issue at a community information session last week, citing the upcoming meeting as critical when considering the impact upon residents. Concerns raised by residents include possible compulsory acquisition of homes they are unwilling to sell, the possibility of demolition of heritage listed buildings and devaluation of property because of the impending development. Letters to the *Herald* this month were strongly critical of the decision and the process used to arrive at the decision.

The decision was made after a recommendation from the Recreation Strategy Advisory Committee which asked Council to consider redevelopment of the Showgrounds site or development of a green field site.

The recommendation was for Council to commence detailed planning for sport and recreation facilities with practical co-location on the one site, a minimum land holding consideration of 10 hectares and to ensure that the site was adjacent to a property that



Approximate area calculation for the extension of the Showground location; Shire of Toodyay Recreation Strategy Advisory Committee

was already serviced by utilities and road infrastructure.

It revokes an earlier decision by Council (in August last year) where Council agreed that 'Option 7 is dead in the water'. The Option 7 area has been slightly modified to include less area in the new plan, but will still impact upon 18 homes.

The decision has shocked community groups and residents, who say that the community overwhelmingly rejected Option 7 (the Showgrounds site) for the location of recreational facilities in Toodyay.

"What doesn't the Shire of Toodyay understand about the word 'No'," asked Graeme Buchanan, a resident who lives close to the affected area. 'Sporting complexes

should not take precedence over peoples homes and heritage buildings.'

The Toodyay Ratepayers and Residents Association released a statement last week which raises concerns including lack of community consultation, poor project management in the planning and implementation of the proposal and the possible cost of acquisition of property.

One home in the Option 7 catchment area has recently been listed on the property market for \$750,000.

The Toodyay Historical Society (Inc) declined to make comment until after their general meeting on September 19, 2009.

To read letters about the proposal, turn to page 4.



**Ray White**  
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The *Toodyay Herald* is a monthly publication. The deadline for all contributions is the **DAY BEFORE THE LAST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH** and the paper will be on the streets on the **THURSDAY OF THE FOLLOWING WEEK**.

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## 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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## Toodyay Ratepayers and Residents Association

### Important information for the community to consider.

There are currently two issues under consideration by Council that will have a significant influence on the community of Toodyay in the future.

#### 1. AMALGAMATION.

The first is the issue of AMALGAMATION of Local Governments.

There have been mixed messages emanating from the State Government over the past months which have caused confusion and uncertainty in the minds of the Councillors and administration in some Local Governments. The Shire has organised two more public meetings so that announcements made by State Government representatives at the recent Local Government convention can be conveyed to the community.

It seems from the Shire Presidents report at the August meeting of Council that the Shire is once more going to propose to the community that the Shire is going to have to amalgamate.

The question the Toodyay Ratepayers and Residents Association asks is: why has the information contained in the announcements not been made available to the community prior to the meetings so that the community has time to consider this information properly?

Recent announcements made by both Colin Barnett and Brendon Grylls since the Local Government convention are important.

The Premier, Colin Barnett has placed his position on amalgamation on the public record during an interview on ABC radio.

He stated:

No forced amalgamations

Local Governments with a population of 2000 or less are expected to amalgamate voluntarily.

Future State Government funding, in particular funds from the Royalties for Regions program, will be directed to those Local Governments with a population of less than 2000 that do amalgamate.

An important comment made by the Premier in this interview was that there were a couple of Councils with a larger population that had shown that they were unsustainable.

The Minister for Regional Development, Brendon Grylls, also clarified his position during an interview on ABC radio.

He is not looking to force amalgamation but wants to see Councils form Regional Groupings so that the funds from the Royalties for Regions scheme can be used to develop significant Regional Infrastructure of long term benefit to the Region rather than small amounts being allocated to individual Councils. Councils can remain autonomous but need to consider the long term needs of their region and not just those of their own local community.

Structural Reform of Local Government is not just about financial strength or saving monies through economies of scale; it is about managing the Local Authority in accordance with good management principles.

The Local Government Structural Reform Committee considered that there were 12 guiding principles that a Local Government should conform to in order to demonstrate that they are managing their Council in accordance with Best Practice and in doing so were able to satisfy the current and future needs of the community.

To allow the Reform Committee to assess how each of the Local Governments conform to these 12 principles a checklist was developed with 12 sections, each section containing questions relating to one of the guiding principles.

This checklist was sent to each Local Government requesting that they be completed and submitted to the Structural Reform Committee.

Based on the information supplied by the Shire of Toodyay in the completed checklist the Reform Committee assessed the Shire as being a Category 3 Council, which means that the Council is not considered to be sustainable unless significant structural reform is undertaken. This does not mean amalgamation necessarily but significant changes in the way the Shire is managed are required.

The completed checklist submitted by the Shire together with the assessment response

sent to the Shire by the Reform Committee are both being made available on the Council Web Site.

The Toodyay Ratepayers and Residents Association urges each member of the community that is able to access the Shires web site to read both these documents.

It is the opinion of the Association that the lack of information provided to the Reform Committee by the Shire left the Committee with no option but to assess the Shire of Toodyay as a category 3 Local Government. Key questions that arise from this are whether the completed checklist submitted by the Shire accurately reflects the management status of the Council or was the checklist extremely deficient in the way it was completed?

#### 2. RECREATION FACILITY.

The second significant issue is the decision made at the August meeting of Council to adopt the recommendation of the Recreation Strategy Advisory Committee to co-locate all recreational facilities at the showgrounds site - Option 7 of the CCS Strategic Management consultants report.

This option was rejected by the community in March 2008 and has now been adopted without any further community consultation.

The Advisory Committee was asked to 'examine the suitability of any other strategy as an alternative' to option 7 previously recommended by the Consultants.

It was the proposition that all recreational facilities must be co-located on a single site that caused the consultants to recommend the showground site as the best of a set of poor options available to them.

There is no evidence in the report completed by the Committee and submitted to Council that they considered any strategy other than that of co-locating all recreational facilities at a single site.

A number of options regarding a suitable site to achieve this were considered by the Committee but, apart from a site at Lot 3 Drummond Street that Council does not own, all the options had been evaluated previously by the consultants so there seems to have been little benefit in repeating this and the inevitable conclusion was the recommendation once again of the showgrounds site.

The community previously rejected the showgrounds site because of the disadvantages that the consultants identified in their report together with the disadvantages that the residents themselves raised in their submissions.

Questions the community should ask are:

- Is it good management to undertake a major development project over many years without first securing the land that is required to guarantee its completion?
- Is it good management to leave the ratepayers in a position where they may have to pay a large premium to purchase a property that is essential to allow the development of a facility to proceed?
- Is it good management to commence a major project without knowing the costs involved and therefore committing the ratepayers to unknown expenditure in the future?
- Is it good management to spend ratepayers' funds on the acquisition of land rather than the development of recreational facilities, particularly when doing so impacts on the amount of grant funding available from other sources to develop recreational facilities?
- Should this report have been made available for community consultation before being submitted to Council?

It is recorded in the minutes of the August meeting of Council that the Shire President stated that the Committee evaluated an alternative dual site strategy. This strategy was the retaining of field based sports at the showgrounds site whilst co-locating the recreation/aquatic centre and other related facilities at Lot 1 Drummond Street which is owned by the Council and is reserved for recreational use.

The Shire President further stated that the advantages, disadvantages and costs of this strategy are detailed in the report of the Advisory Committee.

Members of the community should examine this report and see if they are able to adequately compare the two strategies.

The Toodyay Ratepayers and Residents Association will be asking the Shire President, who was chairperson of the Advisory Committee, to provide details of the alternative strategies in a simple comparison of Advantages, Disadvantages and Costs in the same format as the options were presented by the CCS Strategic Management in their report.



Katherine and the children at the kindergarten

## On the Doulos In Cambodia

Katherine McDougall

### Kindergarten

THE kindergarten building was the only 'building' in the village; very simple with tiled floors, 4 walls and a roof. We had no electricity or running water. Outside under the gutter pipes were huge 44-gallon plastic containers that caught the rain water used for drinking, showering, cooking and flushing the toilet. The toilet was a squat toilet which was on ground level and alongside it was a bucket of water and a scoop which was used to flush. Interesting to start with but we got used to it! There were no locks on the doors either, so you just had to be prepared for... anything. Ok, moving on. Enough details. I just want you to picture it, the real experience.

Our week's program was packed! From 6.30am onwards, the small children started arriving. Some walked alone and others were dropped off by their parents on scooters and bikes. We helped out with morning classes which consisted of exercise, bible lessons, craft, morning tea and learning the Khmer and English alphabet and numbers. The kids were so clever and cute. They always wanted



Katherine playing with the children

to sit next to Miranda and me and hold our hands. I loved these children. It reminded me of my childcare work at home. Everything I had learnt in Toodyay and my dream one day to work in an orphanage in a poor country was kind of like this kindergarten experience. Oh, I was so happy.

After lunch, we had teachers' training. They'd asked for input into ways of organising / structuring programmes for the week including new, interesting craft activities, teaching numbers and the alphabet in more exciting ways and controlling the children. Well, this was right up my alley. We had a lot of fun talking and sharing ideas with one another. Then, at 3pm, we taught English to the 7-13-year-old children. It was a bit challenging as these children didn't speak much English and were very shy. Although we had fun teaching them very simple sentences like, "What is your name? My name is...", we had to speak very slowly and I think we sounded really stupid, but it was successful.

Then, around 5pm, after the rice planting was finished, the 13-17-year-old youths started arriving ready for their English class. They could speak enough English to communicate with us and understand some of what we were teaching. Bible verses and stories were our main focus as the children were new and passionate followers of Christ. You should have heard their prayers - they prayed that their families and villages would come to Christ! It was incredible. These were the same youths who organise and run the

Sunday services. They were so polite and friendly! Really excited to learn more about God!

Contact me: Katherine.McDougall@gbships.org, www.mvdoulos.com.aucom.org



Kate Arber in England

## Dreams Come True

IT may be true that it is every little girl dream of becoming a beautiful ballerina, wearing glorious costumes and magnificent tiaras and jewellery. Well, a few weeks ago two little girls from Toodyay District High School took one more major step to realising their dreams of becoming professional dancers. Kate Arber (12) and Madelyn Sheahan (10) were both accepted into The Australian Ballet School Interstate Programme for gifted and talented students from the hundreds of children around Australia who auditioned.

The Australian Ballet School is seen as the hardest school to get into because of their amazingly high standard of acceptance. It is such a thrill to have not one, but two students accepted from all the children who auditioned last month. Usually there is a three month wait until children are notified by mail as to whether they have been successful or not. It came as a big surprise that these girls were actually telephoned by the ABS to let them know. The surprises just kept coming as the lady on the phone informed Madelyn that they would like her to audition as an extra for the Australian Ballet Company production of Swan Lake in October at Burswood theatre and that Kate is automatically in as an extra.

Wow, not only accepted into the highest level of training in the whole of Australia, but also going to hopefully perform with a ballet company recognised as one of the most technically perfect in the world.

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Stephen Brown and Jeffery Brown (Ford Falcon GT)

## Targa Toodyay 2009

Steven Jones and Ruari Souter-Dawson have taken back to back titles in the Modern Competition class of QUIT Targa West.

Jones, who became the youngest winner of the event in 2008, took the win ahead Dean Herridge (WA)/Chris Murphy (QLD) and Alister McRae(WA)/Bill Hayes(WA)\*\*.

Competing in a Nissan GTR 35 Jones had an early lead snatched by Tony Quinn (QLD)/Naomi Tillett (SA), also in a Nissan GTR 35, during Leg 1 on Friday before re-taking the lead during Leg 2 on Saturday. Heading into Leg 3 this morning he had a 22 second lead and didn't look back, taking the win and his second QUIT Targa West title.

"There's no way to explain this victory, it's just hard work," Jones said at the finish. "Those Queenslander's (Quinn) they're just like a dog with a bone, they don't give up. We just had to keep our foot down all weekend and he kept us honest big time, but that's what it's all about you've got to have competition like that."

South Australian Kevin Weeks has taken his first QUIT Targa West title winning the Classic Competition class by 3 minutes 11 seconds. Weeks and co-driver Rebecca Crunkhorn made the switch from a modern Lamborghini

Superleggera in QUIT Targa West 2008 to a 1975 Porsche 911 RSR in order to compete in the new Australian Classic Tarmac Competition.

Rounding out the top three in the Competition Classic class were husband and wife team David Moir/Vicki Moir (Datsun 240Z) in second and Gary Tierney/David Carra (Porsche 911 Carrera RS) in third.

Mark Conacher (Nissan GTR 35) flew his brother Andrew in from Texas to compete in the Modern Challenge and it paid off with the pairing winning the class by 3 minutes 35 seconds in a Nissan GTR 35. Robert Darrington/David Abetz (Audi S4) finished the event in second (for the second time) and husband with husband and wife team, Razvan and Ioana Vlad, (Hyundai i30 SX CRDi Turbo Diesel) third.

Rohan Green and Andrew Cutten (Porsche 911) took outright honours in the Classic Challenge class, winning by 11 minutes. Luke Reymond/John Reymond (Volkswagen Golf) and Martin Eyer/Sharon Eyer (Triumph Stag).

\*\* An exhaust irregularity on the Nissan GTR 35 of Tony Quinn/Naomi Tillett (Car 90) has seen them excluded from the results, making Alister McRae/Bill Hayes winners of the section.

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# letters

## Hospitality Professionalism

WITH THE TOUGH economic climate many businesses find it hard to survive. Some businesses also say they find it hard to survive due to council regulations. I would think most businesses would do all they could to make a profit.

Standing out the front of your place of business and smoking is not likely to draw in customers. Letting your staff, who cook the food, stand out the front smoking is not likely to draw in business either. I won't be returning to any business where I see the people who cook the food I order smoking immediately beforehand. It is unhealthy.

I find it surprising that any business would be happy to watch its profits go up in smoke.

*Name and address supplied*

## Encouraging community involvement?

THIS IS A copy of a letter sent to Hon John Castrilli, the Minister for Local Government.

Dear Minister

I recently read your press release, dated Mon 13 July, 2009, titled "Minister encourages community involvement in local government reform".

According to the press release, you said that "it was important to ensure communities were involved in local government reform and that they contributed to the future vision of local government and how services could best be delivered to Western Australian communities.

Furthermore, you said, "Local governments exist to serve the community and a community voice is essential to shape the future of local government in this State."

I agree with the sentiments expressed in the above statements. However, I particularly commend you on your statement "that local governments should consult and listen to their communities as they considered the best way to progress the opportunities of reform."

I believe that this is most important statement that you have made as there is a general community perception that governments at all levels fail to listen to community views. I only hope that you are now going to follow your own advice.

Are you going to listen to the community as you have told local government to do?

The Shire of Toodyay has held public meetings at Morangup and Toodyay to consult with the community. At these meetings, the community voted overwhelmingly against amalgamation with any shire—unanimously against amalgamation with the Shire of Chittering.

The Shire has done as you wanted and consulted the community. Will you now guarantee us that you will adhere to your stated opinion and support the community's expressed views?

Yours sincerely

*Peter Ruthven*

## No means no

WHAT DOESN'T THE Shire of Toodyay understand about the word 'No', as in the vote 15 months ago, eight nil to Option 7 of the sporting & recreation study?

To now identify this area of the original Option 7, which is residential & Heritage, is deplorable.

A vote eight nil will tell any normal person this is out of bounds and to look elsewhere.

Would Councillor Somers please call a meeting of all the property owners of the original Option 7 and tell them why he has now changed his vote and now wishes to see his constituents lose their properties to a sporting complex?

Is it any wonder the Shire of Toodyay is the laughing stock of the Avon Valley and is featured regularly on the television programme - 'A Current Affair' - where Toodyay rate payers happen to find out what is happening in their own shire, as City Hall is closed to all common sense and communication?

Sporting complexes should not take precedence over people's homes and heritage buildings.

No means NO!

*Graeme Buchanan*

## How's the Serenity

The August Agenda contained two major items; the Local Planning Policy for the Central Toodyay Heritage Area and the Recreation Strategy. The Councillors are planning to purchase 18 lots and have not told us what they plan to do with the houses, whether the residents are supposed to happily move out or whether the homes will be destroyed.

It amused me to notice that some of the old homes earmarked for acquisition and/or possible demolition are also pictured in the Central Toodyay Heritage Area Planning Policy as examples of what to do to comply with heritage guidelines. Letters went out to homes in the area this week, including some old railway homes which were built in the 1940s, asking if they would like to be on the Council's Heritage Register. Apparently the criteria for preservation of historic homes in our town depends on who you're talking to. What a joke.

*Gary Williams*

## No Dam Construction Policy in Toodyay in 2009

An early May complaint to the Shire about the dumping of tons of earth across a natural waterway and the blocking of a stream in what the Department of Water terms as a Proclaimed Area, has exposed a number of serious flaws in the way in which the Shire of Toodyay deals with such matters.

Perhaps the most alarming of these is that a Planning Officer confirmed that even in 2009, the "Shire does not have a policy on dam construction".

The undeniable significance of water and all related issues, and the Shire's amazing failure to either thoroughly investigate or to prevent the damming a natural waterway that is a gazetted Avon-Swan Catchment Area source, has Shire-wide significance for the majority of Shire Ratepayers.

When my Shire Rates bill for 2009 for my Coondle property was substantially higher than my Rates bill for my City Beach property, I was troubled.

I have owned our Church Gully Road property since 1987. As I have often stated in letters to both the 'Herald' and the Shire, this dirt road remains very poorly maintained and thus, it is dangerous for much of the year. We are too far from Town to have scheme water hookup and now that the Shire has arbitrarily decided to cease maintaining the Strategic Break firebreaks, despite levying a charge for this, I am left wondering exactly what value I do receive for my very high Rates.

Given the recent experience of my neighbour and me in relation to our complaint about the blocked stream uphill from our adjoining properties, I definitely know that worthwhile value, pursuit of the duty of care and genuine efforts to protect the best interests and rights of long-time ratepayers who now pay through the nose, are not forthcoming from the Shire in 2009.

And being told in writing three times – the last by the CEO – that the Shire considers

the matter as "finalised" when it is aware that the Department of Water is continuing its detailed investigations is hardly a glowing example of either courtesy or service.

That, and the alarming reality that two Shire Planning Officers conducted a site inspection and saw first-hand that a stream had been blocked by a new earth dam and then failed to take appropriate corrective action, should be of considerable concern to all Toodyay Ratepayers and Residents.

Perhaps the only positive within the Shire to come from all of this so far has been – yet again – the active and intelligent interest of East Ward Councillor, Frank Panizza, and his genuine efforts to continue effectively representing the best interests of Ward Ratepayers through his pursuit of the facts and the truth.

Pending the findings and subsequent actions of the Water Department's Northam Office (a quality advice and reference resource on 9622 7055) and the submission of Statutory Declarations to the Shire disputing the claims by two Planning Officers and the CEO, it would be well worth all rural property owners learning what the Department – as opposed to the Shire – decrees about such key water issues.

Accessing this excellent and very informative Web site will be of great information value: <http://www.water.wa.gov.au>

A key component of this quality site is titled – very ironically given the Shire's lack of policy and the related failures that have unfolded since May – 'Looking After Our Waterways'.

Perhaps the overly eager to "finalise" CEO and his Planning Officers should spend some time accessing, reading and fully understanding the following Department Web site link:

<http://www.water.wa.gov.au/Waterways+health/Looking+after+our+waterways/default.aspx>

*Graham Hornel*

## Community Doesn't Count?

I WAS SURPRISED and saddened by the decision of Council at the last meeting to return to Option 7 for the recreation facilities in Toodyay. Surprised as to the apparent short sightedness of the decision and saddened that the wishes of the community no longer count for anything in Toodyay.

In March 2008 the community, during the submission process, voted overwhelmingly NOT to support Option 7. In April 2008 at the Ordinary Meeting held in Bejooring, Council supported these community views by rejecting Option 7.

Now in August 2009, they voted in favour of Option 7. This will require the purchase and demolition of up to 18 houses. These houses are more than just bricks and mortar, they are people's homes, places where memories have been created and in some cases, where people have spent their whole lives. To be uprooted from these homes will be devastating for some.

Some of these homes and buildings such as Donegans and Parkers Cottages are historic buildings and the Historical Society has already discussed the ramifications of losing this entire precinct of cultural heritage significance in North Toodyay with some councillors. Ramifications could include Toodyay losing its official Historic Town designation. Many of those beautiful mature trees that add to the ambience in and around the showground area would be lost too.

This plan rests on Council being able to purchase all the required properties. It will only take a few home owners not wishing to be uprooted to make this plan unviable. One house was on the market recently for around \$500,000. No figures have been forthcoming as to how much the administration has estimated to purchase the required properties. The properties won't come onto the market until the real estate values have increased. Even allowing for purchases over a number of years, the costs will escalate rather than fall.

By then, it may be too late to take advantage of the once in a lifetime opportunity to secure an ideal site at Lot 3 Drummond Street.

Option 7, as shown on the map, is highly irregular in shape with many sharp angles which will mean a substantial loss of available recreational areas. Initial compromises have been discussed in the unconfirmed minutes but these are not specified, something that worries me as it could lead to later costs.

With regard to the duplication of facilities, that would be up to a future Council to decide. There is no reason why the Toodyay Show cannot move to the new facility. Has it been on the present site for all of the past 150 plus years?

Lot 3 Drummond Street will undoubtedly provide an ideal site with room for later (30-50 year) expansion. Yes it will cost more to begin with and no, it is not serviced at the moment. These are not insurmountable barriers. The committee itself unanimously agreed that a greenfield site would be ideal. They also stated that this may be the best solution for meeting the long term future demands for collocated recreational facilities. Toodyay has been waiting for so many years for its recreational facilities, I'm sure they would wait a little longer to get the best facilities. I'm also sure that come next summer there will be grumbles at not having a swimming pool. But the community made their wishes known last year about Option 7.

Yes, hard decisions need to be made. Listen to your community. If necessary, ask for further submissions. Some of our councillors are up for re-election next month. It is up to all of us to decide whether they wish to re-elect them to represent our community views.

If a job is worth doing, it is worth doing right the first time. *Kathy Robinson*

## Black Cockatoos

SETTLEMENT ON OUR home in Coondle took place on 19<sup>th</sup> August, so this is my final letter re the nesting Carnaby Black Cockatoos (White-tailed) outside our lounge windows.

It is 8.40am on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August and the parents and juvenile have just returned to their nest after last year's successful breeding. After nesting, they fly to the western suburbs of Perth for the winter, returning inland to nest in August. Fortunately, for the first ten months of a juvenile's life, it follows its parents very closely, making a wheeze or harsh rasp, and does this constantly. I say 'fortunately' because it alerts me immediately to their return.

As usual, the father is at the top of the tree, the mother at the edge of the hollow, and then disappears down into it, and the juvenile near the hollow making its harsh call. After about ten minutes, the mother comes out, looks around to make sure everything looks OK and then, after a soft call, flies off followed by the other two.

They have successfully nested here for three of the last five years, so there is a good possibility, after checking out all the other local real estate that they will return and set up home. Like us really!

This has been a unique experience, to see their coming and going over the last five years. I watch them from my lounge seat, just 50 metres away, and have been able to observe so much of their habits.

It's also nice to have shared this with my very tiny fan club. I'm going to miss them, and the beautiful Black Cockatoos.

*Roy Webb*

## Sheep Dumping

HAVE ANY OTHER RESIDENTS noticed the increasing number of sheep carcasses being dumped on Conservation areas within the Shire? On our regular walks, at this time of the year to photograph the wild flowers and fungi growing in the bush, we have come across, or smelt from a distance, the decomposing bodies of sheep and their lambs – in particular along the Coondle railway line and in the reserve adjoining Eucalyptus Road.

In the opinion of the members of the Avon Valley Environmental Society, many of whom are farmers of long standing, this practice is illegal. Even if it is legal, surely such actions are extremely anti-social and show little regard for others who use the footpaths and reserves.

I appeal both to the owners of the sheep to either make an effort to bury the animals or to dispose of them on their own property and to other users of the Reserves to report the bodies to the Department of Conservation in Northam and to try to find identification marks on the animal. I have spoken to the Department of Conservation and although they displayed some reluctance to take any action they will do so if pushed hard enough.

*Janet Wilkinson - Vice-President, Avon Valley Environmental Society*

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### Thank you to the Toodyay Community

ON BEHALF OF Stan Collard and his sons I would like to thank the Toodyay Community for the generosity and overwhelming support that they have provided to the family during what has been a very difficult time.

To name each person individually would be an enormous task given the large number of people that have helped out over the last few weeks and it would be extremely unfair if someone was forgotten in the process. However having said that to each and every person that has assisted in any way no matter how small, a very big 'THANK YOU'

Also deepest condolences to the Watson family on their recent very sad loss; although I had only known Troy for a brief period of time, I can fully understand and appreciate why he was so popular in Toodyay.

Finally, to the surviving member of the tragic accident, hopefully a few words of comfort. No one goes out and plans to have an accident and that is why it's called exactly that, an accident. I am sure that if your mates Wok and Watto were still here today they would both want you to remain strong and eventually add to what is a great and caring community.

*Charlie Collard (on behalf of Uncle Stan, Brenton, Russell, Stanley (Fam) and families.*

### Welcome Back Option 7

DEMOCRACY CAN BE A fragile thing. In March 2008 the community overwhelmingly rejected option 7 (the showgrounds site) for the location of recreational facilities in Toodyay.

The rejection was such that option 7 was stated to be 'dead in the water'.

At the August 2009 meeting of council the council, by a vote of 5 to 4, passed a motion to reject the views of the community and adopt the recommendation of the Recreation Strategy Advisory Committee and locate the recreational facilities at the showgrounds site.

The terms of reference of the Advisory Committee were to 'examine the suitability of any other strategy as an alternative'.

The first resolution passed by the Committee in February 2009 was that co-location of all recreational facilities on a single site was essential.

What was the purpose in passing this resolution? The co-location of facilities could have been adopted by the Committee as a guiding principle.

The fact is that passing the resolution ensured that the Committee was locked in to a single strategy in contradiction to the terms of reference.

It was so obvious that this resolution would result in a decision to locate the recreation facilities at the showgrounds site that a letter was published in the Herald in March 2009 titled 'Is Option 7 really dead in the water' and which predicted this would be the recommendation of the Committee.

An alternative strategy that should have been considered by the Committee was the continued co-location of field sports at the showgrounds site and the co-location of the Recreation/Aquatic centre and other related activities at Lot 1 Drummond Street. This site is already owned by Council and is reserved for recreational purposes.

The Committee in this report has addressed

none of the concerns that the residents expressed previously relating to the showgrounds site.

One of the key disadvantages that the Consultants identified in Option 7 was that it accepted significant property acquisition.

The five Councillors who have now voted for the showgrounds site have committed to develop recreational facilities on land that the Council does not own, and may never own.

Recreational facilities that are dependent on the acquisition of properties for development may never be built.

This decision also commits the ratepayers, and future ratepayers, to an open budget with the cost of the acquisition of each property unknown.

The report of the Advisory Committee advises that funding grants for the developments of recreational facilities are available such that grants can meet 50% of the cost of developing the facilities. Grant money is not however available for the acquisition of property.

Council already owns Lot 1 Drummond Street.

The cost of acquiring the properties at the showground site is conservatively estimated to be \$4.4 million at current value.

Allowing for site costs at Lot 1 Drummond Street this means that \$4 million of Council funds is not available to be spent on recreational facilities plus another \$4 million in lost grant funding.

Therefore \$8 million that could have been available to develop recreational facilities for the Toodyay community is being sacrificed to the Holy Grail of co-location of all recreational facilities at a single site.

- Consider that:
- The Advisory Committee did not adhere to its Terms of Reference.
  - There is no community consultation
  - Council has committed to a long-term project without the ability to ensure its completion.
  - Council has committed ratepayers to an unknown expenditure for property acquisition.
  - Council is effectively redirecting \$8 million that could be spent on developing recreational facilities to the acquisition of property.

Does this look like good management to you?

In my opinion this is a poor decision made for the wrong reasons.

Two of the Councillors that voted for this decision are due for re-election in October.

The democratic process still gives the community the ability to express their concerns at the ballot box.

*Phil Coffey*

### Question Time

I ATTENDED AN ORDINARY meeting of Council at the Council Chambers on the 20th August 2009 to ask a question of CEO Graham Merrick.

I asked Graham Merrick to respond in writing as English is my second language. In addition, I have a hearing problem and often do not understand what Graham Merrick or Charlie Wroth are saying.

I asked a question and was told that Council would not accept the question or answer it. My question related to whether Graham Merrick was a truthful person and whether he should hold the position of CEO of the Shire of Toodyay.

I would still like a response.

*G. Kirchner*

### Targa West Rally

Some of you may remember my letter of last year with regard to the Targa West Rally. I emphasised at the time that I was willing to accept the majority view on the holding of the rally on public roads around Toodyay and the inconvenience caused by road closures.

Last year it was proposed by Targa West and supported by a majority of the Council to extend the Rally to Timber Creek Crescent in Coondle. However, more than 80% of the adjoining property owners objected strongly and Targa West withdrew the proposal.

Although I have no opinion towards the holding of the Rally as it no longer directly imposes itself on me I have been motivated to write this letter because of phone calls I have received in the last couple of days regarding the noise and disturbance which can be heard several kilometres away.

I am aware that many residents of roads closed by the Rally have no wish for it to happen but lack the neighbourhood network to take decisive action. It raises the question as to how much support there really is for the Rally and that perhaps the Council or Targa West should re-survey the residents concerned before next year – after all many properties would have changed ownership since the last survey. As I suggested previously, perhaps the Council or the supporters of the Rally could open their properties for the special stages rather than hold it on public roads!

*Richard Wilkinson*

### Ninth Road Upgrade Bejoording

A FULL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT study should be conducted before any decision by the Council has been reached to upgrade Ninth Road. We are concerned that changes proposed for Ninth Road Bejoording will cause irreversible salinity, ruin ecosystems and rather than increase safety, road widening will cause speeding. There is already a problem with speeding hooners, young locals or weekenders driving mainly unregistered cars. Our little dead end road will become a drag strip, as the bends are slowing them down. I've had three incidents which have threatened my safety already. Not to mention expensive ongoing cost for the Toodyay Shire for the upkeep of the road after the upgrade.

The upgrading of our road will affect the water table which is very high, spikey sedges are taking up the saline water, and big old trees ensuring drainage because Ninth Road is a low wetland, half of the 1.3km of the entire road. Removing trees (some over 200 years old) and sedges will require a new drainage system, which will be costly to maintain. Nearby freshwater springs which feed Bejoording Brook will turn salty, threatening wild life, vegetation, real estate values and our local economy.

Most of the large trees grow close to the

middle of the road which if the planned upgrade of the road goes ahead it will defeat the planting of bird attracting trees which the Bird watchers have undertaken which not only helps the endangered species but the land forming helps to reduce salinity.

The Bird Watches have witness many birds including endangered species, Crested Bellbird, White Browed Babbler, Yellow Plumed Honeyeater, Tawny Crowned Honeyeater and Hooded Robin.

A family of long necked tortoise lived under the road in the creek set to be destroyed by this upgrade. There could also be numerous more species of plant and wild life which rely on this truly unique eco system.

Eight out of Nine landholders gaining access from Ninth Road believe it should remain as it is (I have signed petitions). Funds would be better spent on a busier road, only four residences are permanent, and are happy with the current grading done by the shire. We believe that the funds could be directed to roads servicing more permanent populations and have no impact on a very unique and valued asset.

*Lee Baird*



*The tent stolen from Toodyay in July*

### Beware of local bargains

NEAR NEW! HAVE YOU purchased one of these tents privately since Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> July? If you have, or someone tries to sell it to you, please note the car rego or any other details and advise Toodyay Police on 9574 2212. It is stolen. If possible, please quote report number 140709 1600 7566.

Receiving stolen goods is a crime. Community of Toodyay, be alert; the brazen thief came into our carport, which has a sensor light, dogs that bark and is visible to neighbours and walked off with a 2 metre long bag with the tent in it! The tent was not lightweight.

Keep your eyes and ears open, note anything suspicious and advise police asap or you could be the next victim.

*Karen Jacomelli*

### Thank you

SINCE MY ILLNESS I have come to be even surer of the shire and town in which I live. The get well cards, calls and good wishes have made me more certain that I chose correctly; in case of even perceived need there is someone to offer help. To all please accept my grateful thanks.

*Jim Bavin*

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## DRAMA FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Weekly drama group (ages 10 to 16 years) meets in Toodyay on Mondays 4 - 5.30pm.

Drama is a wonderful way to increase self-confidence, team skills, problem solving skills and self-expression.

Classes will be facilitated by an experienced drama teacher who also has many years' experience in teaching life skills.

For more information and to register your interest in this unique opportunity for you child, please call Anne on 9574 2458

## Option 7 is Dead – Long Live Option 7

Peter Robinson

THE August Ordinary Meeting of Council will go down as a dark day in the history of Toodyay. This is the day Council thumbed its nose to the wishes of the community and voted in favour of adopting Option 7 (the showgrounds site) to develop our future recreation needs. It was only 16 months ago, at the Bejoording Fire Shed Council Meeting that Option 7 was rejected because the public didn't want to see the North Toodyay residential area demolished. Option 7 was pronounced dead at that meeting. Our C.E.O. Mr Merrick certainly looked upset at that decision last year, which led many people to believe the showgrounds site was probably not really dead.

A Recreation Strategy Committee was formed, and met for the first time late last year. At that first meeting the administration presented 3 important criteria. (1) The collocation of all recreation facilities at one site. (2) A minimum of 10 Ha was needed. (3) Headworks had to be provided.

To achieve 10Ha at the showgrounds will require the purchase of about 18 residential properties in North Toodyay, including several very old homes which help make Toodyay a tourist attracting heritage town. The tear down everything old mentality went out of favour 25 years ago. It will only take a few people refusing to sell to throw this site into a debacle. The historic Parker's and Donegan's cottages will almost certainly go as pressure for facilities increases over time.

Part of the argument used to justify this decision was the urgency of getting projects underway. However it has been just as urgent for the last 15 years. Making a poor and short sighted decision is not in the long term interest of the community.

Lot 3 Drummond St. is an undeveloped 24 Ha piece of land, on the market, near the school with sufficient relatively flat ground to provide the 10 Ha needed for recreation facilities. The remaining 14 Ha could be developed and sold as residential blocks. The profits would cover the purchase and headworks costs.

Cr. Panizza, a strong advocate for the Lot

3 site, pointed out that 7 years ago we could have purchased the whole Foggarthorpe property for the same cost as the 24 Ha will cost today. In another 7 years time we will all be wondering why we didn't buy the perfect site when available for such a bargain price?

Once new ovals are built, the Agricultural Show could move to the new area. A collocated facility would have a bigger and better building than the present pavilion. The poultry, sheep and wool buildings could be easily shifted while the bar and LeeSteele sheds need to be relocated across the river to the waste transfer station. The historic grandstand has already been moved once and can be moved again.

## Toodyay Olive Growers

Margaret McKeown

### News

ONE of the earliest agricultural documents produced in Western Australia was a manual for the cultivation of grape vines and olives published by a Mr Lochee in 1845. Since those early days, olive oil has been produced in Western Australia and in the last ten years production of olive oil has increased significantly.

There are many very old olive trees in the Toodyay district dating back to the early days of settlement and some of these trees have attained impressive sizes. All these old trees are located near old home sites or were planted along old roads and railways.

The new generation of olive growers in Toodyay has planted olive groves with hundreds or thousands of trees. Methods of harvesting the olives from these groves dictate that the trees should be maintained at a size and shape that allows for machine harvesting or easy manual harvesting. This requires pruning which is appropriate to the particular harvesting method used in each grove. Pruning also promotes new growth on the trees and it is on the new growth that olives are borne.

Now that the olive harvest is well and truly complete and the time for pruning the trees has arrived it is worth remembering the old Roman saying: never send a coward to prune an olive tree. Pruning requires decisive action tempered with judgement to achieve the best results.

### This Month's Recipe

Here's a novel recipe for making a chocolate cake in a coffee mug in your microwave in 3 minutes!

- 4 tablespoons of self raising flour
- 4 tablespoons of sugar
- 2 tablespoons of cocoa
- 1 egg
- 3 tablespoons of milk
- 3 tablespoons of olive oil

Mix the flour, sugar and cocoa in a coffee mug. Add the egg and mix with a fork. Add the milk and oil and mix well with the fork. Microwave for 3 minutes in a 1000 watt microwave oven. Wait until the cake stops rising and sets. The cake may rise up out of the top of the mug!

## Inside the Shed

"BLOKES SUPPORTING BLOKES"

Karl Walsh

WELCOME to this second edition of the progress of the Toodyay Men's Shed.

Since the last edition went to print, the Steering Committee has formed and is well under way with the Aims and Objectives, the Constitution and gathering information needed to bring everything together.

A letter was forwarded to the Toodyay Op Shop seeking a seeding donation and their committee has approved and presented a cheque for one thousand dollars! How marvellous is that?! We are really under way now with a vengeance. So ladies of the Op Shop, our heartfelt thanks and gratitude for this generous gift.

Our Men's Breakfast will have been undertaken at the time of reading, with a few hiccups regarding a speaker. We had an approach from Mr Owen Catto of the Wheat belt Men's Health Office and he put himself up to address us. Thank you, Owen.

Your correspondent was approached by the President of the Toodyay Race Club and offered secure premises for any equipment we receive until such time as our own accommodation is ready. I believe that we have been donated some work benches, solid jarrah with steel tops as well as some tools. These will be needed to be housed.

A project was also offered by the Club if we wish to take it up. This will be put to the next meeting.

Membership is now open and it was decided by the committee to offer membership for the fee of \$5 (five dollars) in order to commence our membership register, a requirement of the Department of Commerce for our incorporation. Anyone wishing to become a member please contact Karl Walsh 95745767 or Barrie Bodle 95744628.

After accepting the position of delegate to Muckinbudin for the WA Men's Shed Association Conference, I have had to hand over to Bob Adair and I am sure he will give us a full Report on his return.

Until the next edition, fellas, good health and hope to see you Inside the Shed.

## Chaplaincy Notes

Millie Heath

THE Quiz Night held on 25<sup>th</sup> July was a great success and our grateful thanks to all who attended, approximately \$2000 was raised which was a great boost to our funds. The night was a success due to the efforts of many people, too many to thank individually, but some must be acknowledged. Many thanks to the Baptist Fellowship for the use of their Factory Church, Terry Greenhill for donating two cameras, Toodyay Classic Cars for donating a car service and Amcap for donating three Holden jackets to be auctioned on the night. Thanks to the wonderful workers, providing supper and preparing the venue, etc. Our thanks to Joy and David Street for all their help, and Joy for producing the tickets. And special thanks to Richard Dymond, our Quiz Master, and his helpers (I still think the questions were too hard). We do appreciate the wonderful support we receive from the community.

By the time this goes out to print the Ball will have been and gone, we are hoping for a good turnout on the night. Our sincere thanks to Sheena Hesse for organising the music, venue, tickets, etc. for this event.

The next event will be the Family Concert. This will be held on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 2:30 pm and once again this looks like being a very enjoyable afternoon with some new people offering their time and talents, together with some of our old favourites. All welcome, gold coin donation, light afternoon tea at the completion of the concert. A good time guaranteed.

## Arts Toodyay

Margot Watkins

THE big news is that our art exhibition, 'Vino' is on this month at Coorinja Winery (6km towards Perth on the Toodyay Rd). So put on your most colourful attire and come and enjoy the offerings and vote in the People's Choice Award. The exhibition is open Saturday, Sunday and Monday (26 - 28<sup>th</sup>) from 10am to 4pm, when you can view at leisure, choose your favourite, vote, buy art, wine, listen to the babbling brook...

Are there any artists out there who have not managed to come to our meetings to find out what it's all about? There's still time to put in an entry. Closing date is 18<sup>th</sup> September and forms are available from the Library, the Toodyay Herald or can be emailed to you by Samantha Connor at moondyne@inet.net.au.

The theme for the exhibition is wine, grapes or viticulture (lateral thinking is encouraged!) and no commission is being charged. Neither will late entries be accepted - sorry. Full details are on the form.

The Northam Art Prize was won this year by Toodyay artist and member, Greg Warburton, for the oil/acrylic section. We warmly congratulate him for his winning portrait 'Masters of the River'. Fantastic achievement, Greg. All are proud.

To those stuck and feeling like Lawrence Calgario who said, "As an artist it is central to be unsatisfied", also take heart from Robert Motherwell, "In the brush doing what it's doing, it will stumble on what one couldn't do by oneself". You do have to pick it up though!

Exhibition enquiries to Bettina on 9574 5531.

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## Toodyay Kindergym

A BIG welcome to our new Kindergym members!

While the usual winter bugs have kept some children at home, the rest of us have been keeping warm by dancing with the 'Bananas in Pyjamas' and playing with hoops. The children have been swinging, scooting, rolling, sliding, jumping and climbing (and that was just in one session!).

A big thank you to everyone who stays behind after class to help the coaches pack away or to look out for the coaches' children while they are packing away.

We can never say a big enough thank you to Daphne Lee and I'm sure we will say it again. Daphne is a bright light that turns up at the end of class to help the tired coaches to pack away. Not only that but she always supports our fundraising efforts and donated a lot of biscuits to our cake stall last term (which were soon bought!) And if that isn't enough, Daphne always has a kind and friendly way of interacting with both the children and their parents/carers.

Our next fundraising event is a money tree raffle on 19<sup>th</sup> September, outside the IGA. Your continued support for our club is appreciated, so please buy a ticket or two.

Toodyay Kindergym has classes every Friday during school term in the Pavilion at the Showgrounds at 9.30am. Remember, your first class is free. For more information, please contact our Head Coach, Rene on 9574 4708.

## Toodyay Agricultural Society

**Pam Jackson**  
Committee Member

LESS than 40 sleeps until the Toodyay Agricultural Show!!

Have you decided which sections you are going to enter into this year? Various sections are available for all age groups, from pre-primary to adults (sheep, wool, cattle, agriculture, poultry, fruit and vegetables, cookery, hobby crafts, china painting, photography, children's sections to name just some of the sections.)

Entertainment at the show will be provided by:

- Ring Events
- Toodyay Karate Club
- Toodyay Music Club
- Toodyay Gymnastics Club
- Toodyay Ballet School
- Toodyay Irish Dancers
- Dazzling Deb Face Painting
- Climbing Wall
- Incredible Creatures
- Sydney or the Bush
- RAAF Flyover (12.30pm)
- Circus Challenge
- Red Eagle Jazz Band
- Uptempo
- Sing Australia Toodyay
- Black String Puppet Show
- Mini Auction
- Prelude to Fireworks - Charge on White Horse
- Fireworks (7.30pm)
- Bridging the Gap

## Butterly Bits

**Jo Sutton**  
Secretary

ANOTHER month gone by and all is well at the cottages.

We will be having another fundraiser soon and we need volunteers to help on a street stall at a date to be advised.

Also, our AGM is to be held on Monday, 28th September at the Anglican Church Hall at 1pm, followed by a general meeting. All are welcome to attend.

Our tenant, Jim Bavin's health continues to improve, thanks to our ever vigilant Doctor Walkey, and it's nice to have him home again.

Any information about the Association can be accessed by calling me on 9574 2698 or any other member of the Committee.



## Cat Shot With Crossbow

**Morgan Goodman**

A cat that went missing from its home on Wednesday has turned up with a crossbow bolt through its back.

The fortunate feline survived the attack, with the bolt passing beneath the spine and missing all major organs.

"We are looking for people to come forward

with information," said Kelly Oversby, media spokesperson for the RSPCA. "If anyone has any information about the incident, please contact the RSPCA on 9209 1300."

Ms Oversby mentioned several other crossbow attacks in Australia, including the well-publicised shooting of kangaroos in Melbourne several months ago and more recently the shooting of a duck in Perth's northern suburbs.

The maximum penalty for cruelty to animals is a \$50,000 fine or up to five years in prison.



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<b>2nd - 11th</b>	<b>12th - 18th</b>	<b>19th - 25th</b>

Remember, we are "Just over the Road"  
Parking behind the Bendigo Bank. Home Delivery Available.

For the first week, check out our two extra birthday specials!

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Toodyay Baptist Church

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Sunday Service

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Arts Toodyay

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Saturday 26th - Monday 28th September  
10am - 4pm

# fire chat

a look at events from our local volunteer bush fire brigades

## bejoording

Kim Leonhardt

WE might start this edition with a brief, or not so brief, comment on the Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission. Specifically the media coverage of the 'controversial' stay or go policy. First off, what is written here can only be suggestions or guidelines. No hard written document or policy can cover all the variables in your decision. Be aware however that your decision CANNOT be made instantly at the time of an approaching fire front! You must already have in place an action plan that all of your family or residents are aware of. Things to be considered are: If your house is made of wood, has no verandah, has overhanging trees, has two foot high wild oats surrounding it, has your firewood and fuel stored against the side... then it's a fair bet you or the fire brigades are not going to be able to defend it. Probably you should even think about leaving when you light your barbecue! However, if your house is made from steel, has 6m paved verandas, a view that extends for miles because all your paddocks look like Scarborough Beach, and you store nothing on your veranda... then by golly, I think you should be able to stay and defend it! Your assessment of the house you live in, and your locality (forest or farmland), requires you to place your house somewhere between the two extremes previously mentioned. Your assessment however, doesn't end there. You must have in mind an escape route. I don't mean just from your house, I mean from your locality. What you must remember, is no matter what area you live in, standing timber, fallen logs, dry grass and wild oats line every road in Australia. We've already had one loss of life from being caught on a road, even more sadly was the fact that her house ended up being unscathed.

If you do decide to stay and defend, your very first piece of fire fighting equipment has to be a generator. Wherever there's a fire, there's a good chance of a power failure. Electricity is what powers most people's water supply to the house. If a power failure means that your homes water supply is compromised, then your action plan must favour leaving.

So, you now have a generator and your still staying. Panic is the next thing you'll have to subdue. Both yourself and your family. Here are some panic things to be aware of. The noise of an approaching fire front is tremendous and knee wobbling... but you'll be safe. The smoke could be so thick that you'll see nothing out your windows... but you'll be safe. The heat could be enough to crack your windows... but you'll still be safe. Be prepared inside your house: Bathtubs of water with towels soaking in them... these can be used to reduce smoke entering the house through gaps, extinguish spot fires and be used in first aid. Your house could eventually catch fire... but you'll still be safe... for a little while. Part of your action plan will be knowing where to run to once the fire front has passed. Wear suitable clothing. Long sleeved cotton shirts and pants (jeans etc.) do not wear anything nylon or polyester. Do not use doonas for any protection, even if they are wet they'll still either ignite or melt.

Finally, all of the above can be screwed up and thrown in the bin if the Police or Fire Brigade knock on your door and say 'It's time to go.' They have all the information from people at the firefront, helicopters, weather bureau and nowadays bushfire modelling programs. Please don't argue... just go.

A reminder of the farmers and brigade meeting on Tuesday, 22nd September. 6pm for Burgers and drinks, 7pm starts the meeting.

By the time you read this you'll have missed the Training Day, Sunday 30th 3pm, naughty, naughty. But you'll have plenty of time to jot down 3pm, Sunday 27th Sept.

Fire breaks should start to be attended to, especially if your spraying them. Please don't get fined or burnt out. Remember 3m wide by 3m high. 3m wide of BARE earth, and 3m high allows access by our fire trucks if the proverbial should hit the fan.

Our next meeting is Sat. 19th Sept. 6pm. See ya there.

## coondle

Brian D. Salmond

WELL, another month has come and gone. No pager messages for winter fires – great.

Our August meeting was not so well attended, but those that did come along and stay for the 'Oz Dinner' afterwards, had a 'bloody good time'.

The next day's training was slightly better populated with the same faces turning up and the same faces still not bothering. I hope it's because it's off-season and not "because we know it all". Mop up and blackout was the theme for the day and what a day we had. Unfortunately we only picked up 958 red bottle caps, so there's still 42 of the little red 'embers' out there somewhere left on the fire ground. Well done.

We've had lots of fun through the month as well. Thanks to the Avon Descent, Max and Ross, Colin B and JB, Tracey and I spent time looking after the happy campers at Cobblers Pool overnight campsite, rostered on from 1800 Friday to 1200 Sunday. We had some excitement on Saturday night when some 'kind soul(s)' set four of the six chemical toilets on the hill alight. Wow! Just like roman candles. At least it warmed up a very cold night!

Commiserations to one of our own, Greg W who attempted the long paddle. Unfortunately, he broke his paddle on the Sunday morning just two kilometres into the second leg. We bought a new one but he was unfortunately timed out on the second leg. Then 'someone' appropriated his new paddle, the buggers!

August also saw the Targa West Rally cars visit town again. Max and Ross helped out with fire control on the Coondle legs. Hopefully, they managed to stay on the level, unlike, as rumour has it, one of our sister brigades.

September will see JB turn 70 and, contrary to one young bloke down at Cobblers Pool who said to Max, "Aren't you too old for this," we hope JB knows he isn't.

Our next meeting won't be until October and we're holding it a week early on Saturday 3rd October, because of the Toodyay Show. Training will still be held on the 11th, though, because I will be involved in parking at the Toodyay Races on the 4th October and the Show on the 10th. Hopefully we will see everyone pass by on Show Day.

Remember call down to the fire shed on a Friday night or contact Peter Ruthven (Captain) on 9574 2951 if you would like to know more about the Coondle Brigade or would like information about any aspects of fire prevention and safety.

## central

Desraé Clarke

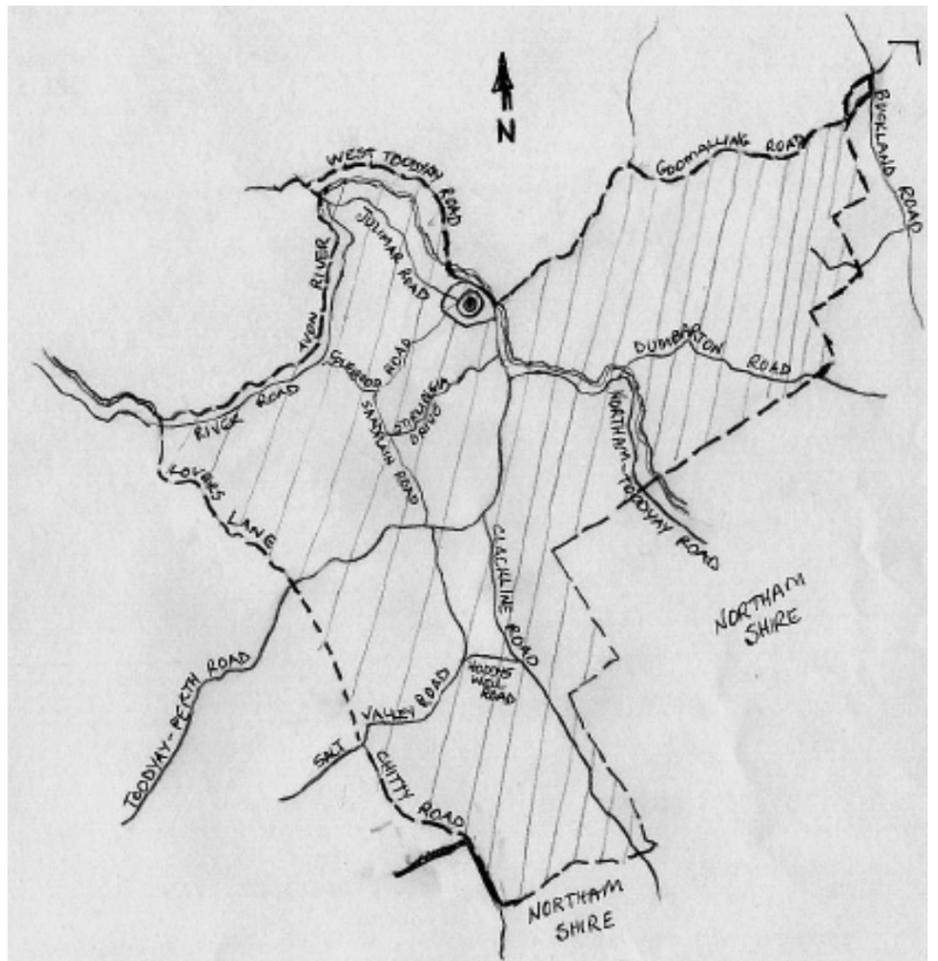
THE winter months are a time to prepare for the forthcoming fire season by cleaning up long grasses from around the home, out-buildings, sheds and around fences. It is also the time to rid the area of debris that may have accumulated beneath trees, fallen trees and checking risky growth around power lines. With the latter, please get professional advice from either your electrician or Western Power.

Fire breaks need planning to ensure they meet the Shire requirements. Book a contractor early – it is unfair to be expecting that a contractor can be phoned at the last minute for your work to be attended!!!

PROHIBITED BURNING is from Sunday 1st November 2009 until 8th March 2010 with both dates subject to Shire of Toodyay variations.

Over the weekend of 8th and 9th August Wayne, along with other Bush Fire Brigade and FRS members, attended a day-long course at Northam TAFE on 'Fire Incident Reporting System', an electronic reporting of fire incidents; the course is a Nationally Accredited Course.

Central's next training session is to be held on Thursday 10th September 2009



commencing at 6pm to be held at the Fire and Emergency Services Centre. Enquiries may be made to Captain/Training Officer Kevin Hug on 9574 2612.

The next General Meeting is to be held on Tuesday 22nd September 2009 commencing at 7.30pm and held at the Fire and Emergency Services Centre.

The Toodyay Central Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade needs YOU! The map designates the area that our Brigade covers. Joining a brigade is 'doing something for my community', gives one a feeling of 'belonging', the camaraderie of a team and a great learning experience. For more information on joining our brigade contact Secretary, Wayne Clarke 6364 3609.

## julimar

Grant Scobie

AS the fire season approaches at a pace, we are still waiting for news of the replacement to our Light Tanker, the 1.4.

Having been told of its imminent arrival, we believe there is some problem with the tyres and we won't see it until they've been approved or replaced. It's hard to believe that the vehicle has been ready for some months, now, with just this one small point holding up its delivery.

The work on the Julimar 2.4 has been a success according to those who have driven it. It's been out on a couple of occasions during the month, not for fires but for some precautionary work.

Firstly, it went out to have a check on all the stand-pipes in the Shire. Tests on how full the tanks were, flow-rate and accessibility were carried out and a report handed to Ranger Services. Some were full and in good order but some were less than perfect. We should see some improvement in these over the next couple of seasons.

The second outing was to be a stand-by for any possible fires caused by accidents or other means during the Targa West Rally. On the Saturday, it was pouring with rain all day and so the chances of a fire taking off were extremely slim. Just as well, too, because where the vehicle (Julimar 2.4) was made to park turned into a quagmire and needed a tow to get out! The Sunday was a better day with the crew refusing to park in the same spot. The weather was better, too, with only a few intermittent, light showers. Still, the chances of an out-of-control fire were well in the background.

For anyone who ordered shirts, caps or jackets and hasn't already picked them up, they're now available from the fire shed at the usual times.

With the season starting next month, Heather will be contacting everyone to get their availability for the roster and their medical information. Please, when you get these, get them back as soon as you can. The roster will start from Friday, 9th October.

The next general meeting of the Brigade is on Saturday, 3rd October at 6pm. The pre-season brief will be included in this meeting. Training will begin on Sunday, 4th October at 10am.

'The Fireplace' is open from around 5pm on a Friday night for some quiet interaction with Brigade members, standing around the fire and keeping cosy warm!

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.

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what we do!

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### Little Rascals

Coral Grundy

LITTLE Rascals Child Care Centre's special visitor for August was a dancer.

A big thank you to Bonnie McGeady from the Toodyay Ballet School for coming in and

dancing for and with the children. We were so privileged to have had such a special dance session with Bonnie.

*Pictured with Bonnie is Eileesh.*

**TALK LIKE A PIRATE DAY  
SEPTEMBER 19**



### Recipe Corner

Desraé Clarke

#### BREAD AND BUTTER CUSTARD

THERE are many people who would remember Great Grandma making delicious Bread and Butter Custard. It was easy to cook up quickly (especially for unexpected visitors), filling for a hungry family, tasty and inexpensive. Although I have suggested using 12 slices of bread in the recipe, you may need slightly more or slightly less, depending on the size of the bread and the size of your ovenproof dish. This dessert freezes beautifully.

#### Ingredients:

- 12 slices of buttered, white bread (with crusts removed)
- 1 cup sultanas
- 2 tblspns white sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup milk
- Nutmeg

#### Method:

Lightly grease an ovenproof dish (I like to use a shallow, oblong-shaped Pyrex dish). Cut each slice of bread into three and lay pieces side by side in the base of

the ovenproof dish (there will be enough slices remaining to make another layer when needed).

Sprinkle the sultanas evenly over the slices of bread then sprinkle the sugar evenly over the sultanas.

Lay the remaining slices of bread on top of the sultanas and sugar.

Beat the two eggs in a small bowl (remember to firstly break each one into a cup to check that it doesn't have any problem blood specks!). Warm the milk slightly - add it to the bowl with the beaten eggs and stir to mix the eggs and milk together.

Spoon the egg/milk mixture, through a fine sieve, over the top layer of bread then sprinkle nutmeg on top. (Spoon the egg/milk mixture through a fine sieve catches small globules of egg white - the pudding looks so much nicer without them!)

Stand the pudding for half an hour to allow the egg/milk mixture to thoroughly saturate the bread layers.

Cook the pudding in a moderate oven till it becomes a lovely golden colour - approximately 40 to 50 minutes. It is delicious served with ice-cream or whipped cream.



## TOODYAY FOOTBALL CLUB

## BALL & PRESENTATION NIGHT

SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

6.30pm - LATE

Memorial Hall

\$60 PER PERSON



Ticket bookings can be made by calling

Tracey Wacura

(08) 9574 2444 or 040 9089 534

STRICTLY FORMAL




# school news

## Toodyay District High School

IN recent times our school community has faced some difficult challenges. We are now facing a new challenge which comes with the news that, over the past weekend, our Principal, Alan McLaren, suffered a heart attack. We are able to report that he is doing as well as can be expected and is in good spirits. Mr. McLaren, with the support of his family, will now need to take time to recover and rest. We wish him every good wish and a full and speedy recovery.

It is expected that Mr McLaren will be absent from school for the rest of this term. While he is on leave, I have been appointed as Principal. During this time, Miss Whitney is appointed to fill the Deputy Principal vacancy and Mrs. Stanbrook is appointed as Miss Whitney's replacement. We trust that these arrangements will provide stability and minimise any disruption for our students and school community. I would like to acknowledge the support of staff and the wider school community during this difficult time.

We have many students away sick. Currently, some classes have only half their students attending. We sincerely thank parents for their support in keeping home their unwell children. Please continue to do so as this minimizes the risk to others.

Yours sincerely

Wendy Camenzuli  
Principal

### From Alan McLaren prior to his illness:

Thank you to parents for the great support we have had in ensuring unwell students are kept at home. Unlike many schools, we have managed to keep our school relatively free of the spread of illness. Having said this, there is some advice that indicates the spread of flu is inevitable. If your child has a fever with a sore throat, runny nose, cough or other flu-like symptoms, you are encouraged to seek medical advice and to keep your child home until all symptoms have passed. This usually takes a week.

It is timely to remind our school community that we are approaching magpie breeding season. In previous years, there have been some very aggressive magpies in the vicinity of the school. Magpies swoop instinctively to protect their nests and usually only swoop within a 30 to 50m radius of their nest. Swooping increases if magpies are teased or threatened. A swoop is designed to threaten or bluff the intruder to go away. A strike is different to a swoop and usually follows a period where the magpie hovers above a target.

Swoops and strikes can cause injuries. Magpies usually attack with their beaks and aim for the scalp, face or eyes. If bike riders are swooped they could lose their balance, fall off or ride into the path of cars. A bird swooping can be a frightening experience for children. Swooping birds can also spook

horses.

All native birds are protected under the Wildlife Act 1975 and there are serious penalties for taking, harassing or injuring native wildlife. It is illegal to kill birds, destroy their nests or eggs without a permit or authority.

There are ways to minimise attacks:

- Avoid the swoop area – try walking or riding in a different direction.
- Cyclists should always wear a helmet. It is better to dismount and walk your bike past a swoop area.
- Walk in a group. Most birds only swoop individuals.
- Do not panic and run. It will only encourage a swooping bird to continue its attack.
- Wear a hat in an area where there are swooping birds.
- Magpies appear to be dissuaded from swooping when they are being watched, so try wearing a hat with 'eyes' painted on the back of it. Sunglasses worn backwards have a similar effect.
- Holding a stick or umbrella stationary over your head will often cause the bird to keep its distance.

Ways that do not tend to work:

- Do not harass, interfere or throw stones at birds as this only makes them more aggressive and defensive.
- Do not feed or befriend swooping birds.

### Internet Safety

Before students at school are issued with a username and password to access the internet, they sign and agree to conditions of appropriate use. Schools have site filters to block sites such as Facebook. The use of programmes to bypass security blocks represents a serious breach of our Internet Policy. Students who do this will have their internet accounts disabled.

Regards

Alan McLaren  
Principal

### Registrar's Ramblings

I hope all parents have had time to look at the pie graph that was included in the last newsletter. As you will have seen, the school uses a number of sources to obtain income for the running of the school and its education programme. Parent contributions are a vital source of income and I call on all parents who have yet to pay their contributions to come in and see either Kate or Larissa. We are open to payment plans, direct debit to our bank account no and even Centrepay. If anyone would like more information about the pie graph, I would be happy to oblige.

TDHS currently has two Cleaner Level 1 positions and a fixed term CIC part time position open for application. For more information please see [Jobs.wa.gov.au](http://Jobs.wa.gov.au) website for further information.

### Canteen Helpers

We are seeking helpers for our canteen from 9am to 1.30pm. It is a wonderful, casual way to meet other parents and we promise to make you feel welcome. It is not all hard work; we have lots of laughs as well and your

support is a visible sign to the children of your willingness to participate in all aspects of their education. Helpers are entitled to a free lunch and drink and their children's lunch half price on the day they help. I realise that some of you are not able to commit on a regular basis, but you may like to place your name on our emergency list. Please contact us also if you are able to assist on a regular basis and helpers from previous years, please let us know of your continued support.

Many thanks for your cooperation and assistance and I look forward to seeing you.

Charissa Robbins  
Canteen Manager

### Sensory Survey

As part of the Staff Professional Development Day for Term 3, staff completed a workshop on the sensory input and processing of students. This takes into account input from all seven senses and how students need to activate or filter these inputs to learn more effectively.

As part of integrating these new strategies into the classroom, we would like to survey the Year 8 and 10 English and Year 9 Science classes. Once students' sensory processing preferences are found, we will explain to students how this can be used to help them study more effectively. We will also send information home to parents about how they can help their student study effectively for their sensory preference at home.

If you would like any more information or do not want your child surveyed, please contact us during school hours on the school contact numbers.

Niomi Pratt/Rachel Bishop  
English and Science

### Big boxes needed!

Anyone with big boxes that they do not require anymore, please call Niomi Pratt at school as we need them for our Drama/Set Design class.

### P & C Report

The P&C meeting was attended by guest speaker Graeme Merrick, Shire CEO. Graeme spoke on some interesting topics including the situation with the foot bridge, the amalgamation of the shire and the possible consequences. He also spoke about the Toodyay recreation plan which included a discussion on the swimming pool.

### Principal's Report:

Alan informed the meeting of the inevitable "Independent Public School" initiative, discussing the affects the system will have on Teachers, Students and Parents. He also enlightened the meeting about the state government Attendance Strategies as well as further discussion on the Recreational Strategy for Toodyay and how it could affect the school.

### Fundraising:

P & C has agreed to provide lunches and afternoon tea at the Toodyay Races on 4th Oct. The fundraising committee are seeking donations of cakes, cool drink, bottles of water etc. Donations can be left at the school office or with Larissa Leyland.

P & C is once again assisting the Toodyay Ag

Society with the preparation and dismantling of the Agricultural Show. Any assistance would greatly be appreciated on Friday 9th October and Sunday 11th October.

These are our biggest fundraisers for the year. The money earned from events like these is used to subsidise school activities, provide equipment for classrooms, and stock the uniform shop. If you can assist on any of these days, please contact Larissa Leyland at home on 9574 4286 or at the front office at school

Other topics discussed at the meeting included the 2009 presentation evening, a disco and a St John's first aid course.

The next P & C meeting will be on Wednesday 16th September, held in the Staff room at 7pm. Please come along and support the group.

Sharon Screaigh  
P & C President

### Library

At the present time we have a large number of students with long outstanding overdues due to lost/damaged books. The fair is an ideal time for parents to clear any outstanding accounts by contacting the library and organising the purchase of an item that may be of a similar value for the library to retain. Please contact Julie Wood in the library if you wish to take this opportunity.

Julie Wood - Library

### Toodyay Netball Club

Can all players from the Toodyay Netball Club please return their uniforms to either Samantha Glossop (Yr 10), Bonnie Glossop (Mr Cording's class) or ring Fiona on 9574 2623 to arrange pick up.

### Chaplaincy News

Many thanks to all who supported the Quiz night held on Saturday 25th July. We had a very successful night and raised approximately \$2000.00.

### Dad's Breakfast:

Term Three is really rocketing along!

You may have noticed (in this newsletter and around town) a flyer for the upcoming Dad's Breakfast on Friday 4th September. Dads are valuable and positive contributors to the School community, however are often unfortunately lacking in numbers.

Schools are often seen by Dads as a feminine environment, but studies have shown that when Dads and father figures become involved in school life, children's engagement and performance improve.

The Dad's Breakfast is an opportunity for Dads and father figures (including coaches, uncles, grandparents etc) to come into the School environment for a free breakfast, a chat with other blokes, and to watch a 15 minute DVD aimed at getting Dads thinking about how they can be more involved with their kids' lives.

I hope to see you there!

Benn Gladden - TDHS Chaplain  
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.

### Eisteddfod 2009

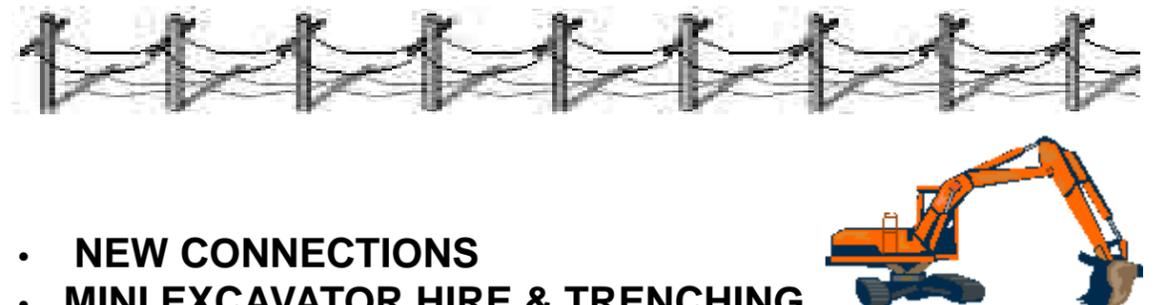
Seven students from Toodyay D.H.S participated in the Avon Valley Arts Festival Eisteddfod on Monday 10th August. Congratulations to Catherine Fletcher, Amy Denton, Lachie Fraser, Jasmin Aguis, Megan Moffet, Andrea Chitty and Dresden Moffet for their performances which were Highly Commended.

All students performed solos as well as duets with Mr Alan True, the adjudicator, giving encouraging and valuable advice to help students in the future. Awards of Excellence were given to Catherine Fletcher, Lachie Fraser, Dresden Moffet, Megan Moffet, as well as outstanding for their solos. Jasmin Aguis and Megan Moffet received an Excellent for their Duet. All students performed extremely well and should be proud of their efforts.

Therese Chrimmes  
...cont'd page 13

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# TOODYAY PICNIC RACES

## 4TH OCTOBER 2009



This year, on the 4th of October, the TRC launches the Toodyay Picnic Races at the Toodyay Race Track, possibly the Avon Valley's favourite sporting event, featuring an exciting day of thoroughbred racing action for all the family.

**All the women love it** - as this is one of the few times of the year that the ladies can dress glamorously if they so desire to enter the fashions in the field and win some great prizes. A lot of mums and dads bring the kiddies along with the knowledge that they will be looked after with the bouncy castle and the wiggly worm train ride.



The Toodyay Picnic Races will also welcome back this year a bevy of social organisations that set up various food stalls to assist the TRC in making sure all patrons are well catered for and at the same time make some hard earned dollars that will assist in these organisations going forward into 2010.



Amongst other entertainment, between races, will be the very popular **Rued Avey "dash for cash" with footballers from all over**, each representing their clubs in the 100m sprint down the home straight for the \$1000 prize money. Entertainment for patrons after the last race will feature the **live band MONEY FOR JAM**, who will kick into gear with a variety of lively dance music.



The Toodyay Race Club is expecting another massive crowd this year. Gates open at 10am. Parking will be available in the middle of the racecourse as well as the outside areas. The racecourse is a licensed area, so there is no B.Y.O.

**Spectacular racing this year will feature seven races including the \$18,000 "Toodyay Small Business Cup".**

Everyone that makes the trip to Toodyay loves the exciting atmosphere that this premier social event provides. Once again, the TAB on-course betting will be available together with the bookies in the ring and SKY Channel will provide LIVE coverage of seven races.

This year entry into the race course will cost \$20 per head with children under 16 admitted free.

ID is required and children must be accompanied by their legal guardian.

Marquees and corporate tickets can be organized by phoning Nicole at the Northam Race Club on 9622 7765 or Gary on 08 477 7777.

You can also visit the website [www.northamraceclub.com](http://www.northamraceclub.com)



Toodyay & Districts **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch



# At the Bendigo it starts with U

At Toodyay & Districts **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch we support a variety of local community groups and projects. This month we are taking a look at one of our oldest local events and one of our newest sporting clubs.



### The Toodyay Show

With the 156th Annual Toodyay Show being finalised for Saturday October 10th 2009, the usual packed schedule of events have been planned.

Being a traditional Agricultural Show the Toodyay Agricultural Society has over the years been able to maintain the Country feel and show off Toodyay's long association with traditional farming, along with entertainment for the whole family.

Some of this year's attractions will include horse events on the oval, cattle, sheep and grain produce, an old machinery display, vintage vehicles, various stage performances during the day, side show alley and local stalls, food outlets, and of course the finale 'Austral Brick Fireworks' display in the evening.

Remember to mark the date in your diary!



### Toodyay Soccer Club

The Toodyay Soccer Club has proven very popular this season with both players and parents enjoying the 2009 season. Games are played at 9.00am each Sunday morning at the Toodyay oval and this season has seen an increased number of supporters turning out to cheer the players on. The spectators haven't been let down with some great quality games with players showing their talents. Thanks to all those parents and supporters who make the games possible by pitching in to coach and umpire games. Please come down and see the fun for yourself!



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Toodyay & Districts **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch



...School News, cont'd from page 10

### VACSWIM Classes

An information booklet is being sent home with this newsletter to advise you on the VACSWIM Program 2009-2010. If you have not received a copy, please see the front office staff for a brochure.

### Nurse Meg

Hoping everyone is well rested after the holidays and have enjoyed your break. This term I will be continuing in the kindy screening sight and hearing. If any new students to the school require screening please do not hesitate to contact me.

Flu vaccines are still being offered for the under 5-year-olds and no, the swine flu vaccine is not available yet. Please stay at home if you are unwell so as not to transfer any of those nasty germs. Hand washing can help to stop the spread of these germs as well.

Please contact me for any questions regarding health at any time. Phone 96901627 or email meg.melvin@health.com.au.

Meg Melvin

Community/School Health Nurse

### Instant Tantrum Tamers

When your kid's in the middle of a tantrum, it can be tough to keep yourself from having your own meltdown, too. Meltdowns are terrible, nasty things, but they're a fact of childhood. Young kids, namely those between the ages of 1 and 4, haven't developed good coping skills yet. They tend to just lose it instead. And what, exactly, sets them off to begin with?

Every single tantrum, results from one simple thing: not getting what they want. For children between 1 and 2, tantrums often stem from trying to communicate a need – more milk, a nappy change, that toy over there – but not having the language skills to do it. They get frustrated when you don't respond to what they're 'saying' and throw a fit. For older toddlers, tantrums are more of a power struggle. By the time kids are 3 or 4, they have grown more autonomous. They're keenly aware of their needs and desires and want to assert them more. If you don't comply? Tantrum city!

Preschoolers are natural protesters, but you can get your stubborn kid to calm down and cooperate in just seconds if you learn these fun ways to distract them.

### Go for the giggles

Making your child laugh is a particularly effective technique for brushing her teeth or giving medicine, since laughing not only takes her mind off the task but gets her mouth open too.

### Let your imagination wander

A calm, creative approach is best for stay-still activities such as taking your child's temperature. Using an ear thermometer? As you approach her ear, say, "Oh my, I see Elmo in there. Do you know what he's doing?" Then keep the conversation going for the few seconds or minutes you need to stall: "Elmo just did a somersault. Wow! Now he's standing on his head!"

### Accentuate the positive

Does your child hate washing her hands before dinner or having her hair shampooed? A good old-fashioned compliment might do the trick. Try saying, "Whenever you wash your hair, it looks so pretty and shiny. And it smells so yummy too." At this point, a dollop of shampoo should be in your hand and slowly approaching the top of her head.

Article provided courtesy of Parents.Com, for more information please visit <http://www.parents.com/preschoolers/>

**Missing:** 1 new country week jacket; it has initials inside.

If your child has mistakenly taken this jacket please return it to the office or call 08 9574 5394 and leave a message please.

## Ida's Hideaway

### Greasy Sleeve

IDA'S Hideaway will celebrate its 8<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 12<sup>th</sup> September. My goodness how time flies; it just seems like yesterday that we started.

Also celebrating birthdays this month are Glenyce Bosnjak (5<sup>th</sup>), Peg Nelligan (13<sup>th</sup>), Michael Cox (23<sup>rd</sup>) and Veya Due (27<sup>th</sup>). We wish them all a happy day.

We held our AGM on the 15<sup>th</sup> August and we are happy to say that things are still going strong. So a big thank you to all who have supported us; we really do appreciate you. Thank you very much, again.

One lady told me the other day that she has seven boyfriends each day. She said, "I get out of bed with Will Power, then I go to my John, have breakfast with Uncle Toby followed by Billy T. Then I spend the rest of the day with Arthur Ritis or Al Zymer and then it's off to bed with Johnny Walker."

## Fly on the Wall

### Peter Robinson

AS Council meetings go, the August Ordinary meeting was in fact extra ordinary for a number of reasons. Confirming the July Minutes took what felt like forever. Cr Firms requested a correction in the Minutes to reflect what had transpired the previous month in relation the agenda item on Lot 61 Goomalling Road. This produced much discussion; I can't elevate it to use the word debate. At the July meeting Cr Firms tabled a document in support of his argument relating to Lot 61 Goomalling Road. He also asked that it appear in the Minutes. This was denied by the CEO as no debate material, either spoken or written is permitted to be recorded in the Minutes by the Local Government Act. Cr Firms wanted the Minutes to say, "Cr Firms requested that the document he was reading from be included as a tabled document in the Minutes. The C.E.O. denied the request," instead of, "Cr Firms requested that the document he was reading from, and had disseminated to Councillors, be tabled so as to become a public document." The Minutes, like the Agenda, has all the officers' background notes, policy implications and comments. Any amendments, points of order, declarations of interest, etc and the voting outcome is all that is recorded from the actual meeting. Cr's can also have their vote recorded.

There were two submissions presented. The first dealt with a sign at the Extracts Light Industrial site and the second was to do with the Recreation Strategy Committee report.

The first substantive agenda item was the report from the Recreation Strategy Committee. At their 2nd meeting it was unanimously agreed that collocation was a necessity. They also agreed that 8-10ha was a minimum area required. The site needed to be adjacent to roads, water, power, sewerage. Their Recommendation to Council was as follows:

1. Council commences detailed planning for Sport and Recreation Facilities with the following parameters:
  - i. Practical collocation of all facilities on the one site;
  - ii. A minimum land holding consideration of 10ha;
  - iii. Site to be adjacent to property already serviced by utilities and road infrastructure.
2. If Council wishes to proceed in a prompt manner with the development of Recreation Facilities, the only practical option is the utilisation and extension of the existing Showground location

It should be noted that Part 2 was a recommendation from the administration. Part 1 was moved separately and passed 5/4. Part 2 was also passed 5/4. However there was considerable debate and strong argument before the votes were taken. I think there will be considerable debate and strong argument in the community over this issue also. One point to be noted from the Committee report reads quote: "The purchase of a Greenfield site would prohibit the development of facilities in the short to medium term due to the restricted financial capacity of Council and the requirements for the development of essential infrastructure to the site. However, this may be the best solution for meeting the long term future demands for collocated recreational facilities." It was interesting to note that the motion setting up the Recreation Strategy Committee stated that the committee was to be made up by the President, the CEO (or a nominee). 3 elected members and 3 community members. The minutes of the Recreation Strategy Committee reveal that the Manager of Community Services not only attended every meeting along with the CEO, she also participated in the discussions. For one meeting, there was yet another staff member present.

Not surprising signage has raised its head again. This time retrospective permission was being sought for a sign at the Extracts Industrial Site. The sign is larger than the guidelines for signage outside the Central Toodyay Heritage Area permits. The rules state that a sign must be no more than 3m high from the natural ground level. However when a property needs a 2m security fence then the extra 1m is not practical or fair on businesses. Being overly restrictive does not encourage badly needed new enterprises to start up in Toodyay. Fortunately common sense prevailed and Councillors allowed the sign to be 3m above the fence, with a 7/1 vote. Cr Larkin requested her vote against

the motion be recorded. During this debate Cr Tanner requested, on several occasions, to see the letter alleged to have been written to the proponents from the administration in January this year. This was denied. Cr Tanner was told that he could see the letter the next morning. The CEO, Mr Merrick, told Cr Tanner not to be ridiculous. When challenged on this, Mr Merrick neither withdrew the comment nor apologised. He simply said that he could have worded it differently.

A Notice of Motion from Cr Lloyd produced some good debate. Her amended motion read:

1. Council endorse the guidelines provided "Handbook of Environmental Practice for Road Construction and Maintenance Works";
2. Council develop its own road verge policy based on the said guidelines.

There was some discussion on the meaning of the word endorse. Cr Panizza commented on how the subject of the environment produced so much passion. He wanted to see the discussion take a more pragmatic approach and view it as simply the third part of the triple bottom line. The motion does not seem that radically green to me as the administration will be the ones developing the policy using the handbook as a guideline. It will then come back to Council for adoption or modification before it becomes policy. The motion was carried 7/2. Once again Cr Larkin requested that her no vote be recorded.

Although there were not many recommendations on the agenda, the meeting took nearly 4½ hours. There was some good debate but also some pretty ordinary waffle. I wish councillors would keep their focus on what they genuinely believe is in the best interests of the community and leave point-scoring to the politicians.

Don't forget the public meetings at Morangup on 7<sup>th</sup> September and Toodyay on 8<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm. The subject is once again Shire amalgamation. There is also a special meeting of Council on 24<sup>th</sup> September to discuss amalgamation.

Other community meetings include Strategic Waste Management Plan in Morangup on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 7pm and Toodyay Community Centre on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm. See the Shire pages in this paper for more details.

## AVAS Eisteddfod

### Peter Robinson

THE Avon Valley Arts Society annual Eisteddfod was held in the Northam Town Hall on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August. The Society is to be congratulated for their efforts in giving the mainly young and very young people an opportunity to perform on stage in front of an audience.

The programme had a variety of choral singing, dance (both individual and group), various musical instruments and solo singing. There was a piano scholarship presented, along with five encouragement awards.

Special thanks must go to Northam Pharmacy, Healthway Act Belong Commit, Water Corporation, Shire of Northam and Country Arts WA.

Several of the artists were Toodyay residents and pupils of Teresa Chimes (piano) and Alison Johnson (Irish dance). It is very good to see the performing arts alive and well in our community.

Once again congratulations to all participants and organisers.



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**Bahá'u'lláh**, the Founder of the Bahá'í Faith, remained a prisoner of the Ottomans to the end of His life. Only one European journeyed to Akka in Palestine to meet Him. In the spring of 1890, Edward G. Browne, Fellow of Pembroke College, Cambridge, and the eminent orientalist of future years, reached Akka. This is his account of his first interview with Baha'u'llah:

"The face of him on whom I gazed I can never forget, though I cannot describe it. Those piercing eyes seemed to read one's very soul; power and authority sat on that ample brow; while the deep lines on the forehead and face implied an age which the jet-black hair and beard flowing down in indistinguishable luxuriance almost to the waist seemed to belie. No need to ask in whose presence I stood, as I bowed myself before one who is the object of a devotion and love which kings might envy and emperors sigh for in vain!

A mild dignified voice bade me be seated, and then continued: - 'Praise be to God that thou hast attained! ... Thou hast come to see a prisoner and an exile ... We desire but the good of the world and the happiness of the nations; yet they deem us a stirrer up of strife and sedition worthy of bondage and banishment... That all nations should become one in faith and all men as brothers; that the bonds of affection and unity between the sons of men should be strengthened; that diversity of religion should cease and differences of race be annulled - what harm is there in this?... Yet so it shall be; these fruitless strifes, these ruinous wars shall pass away, and the 'Most Great Peace' shall come... Do not you in Europe need this also? Is not this that which Christ foretold?... Yet do we see your kings and rulers lavishing their treasures more freely on means for the destruction of the human race than on that which would conduce to the happiness of mankind... These strifes and this bloodshed and discord must cease, and all men be as one kindred and one family... Let not a man glory in this, that he loves his country; let him rather glory in this, that he loves his kind...'

Such, so far as I can recall them, were the words which, besides many others, I heard from Beha. Let those who read them consider well with themselves whether such doctrines merit death and bonds, and whether the world is more likely to gain or lose by their diffusion."

For information, please email: [info-toodyay@wa.bahai.org.au](mailto:info-toodyay@wa.bahai.org.au) or call 08 9330 6999 or visit [www.perth.wa.bahai.org.au](http://www.perth.wa.bahai.org.au)

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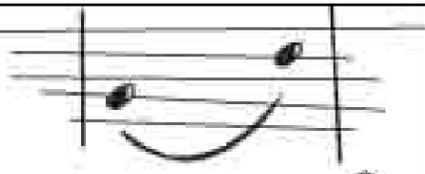
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## Seniors Card Holder Competition

SENIORS Card holders have the chance to win a meal for two at the Fremantle Fishing Boat Harbour thanks to Kailis and the August Seniors Card website competition.

Valued at \$110, the prize includes a barbecue seafood platter for two, plus a bottle of Kailis Semillon Sauvignon Blanc. Located on the waterfront, Kailis provides the finest seafood available, excellent service and a memorable dining experience. Kailis offers a 10 per cent discount to Seniors Card holders from Monday to Friday.

Entering the competition can be done in one of two ways:

Send an email with your name, Seniors Card number, address, telephone number and the competition month to: seniorscardcomp@communities.wa.gov.au

Write your name, Seniors Card number, address and your telephone number on the back of an envelope and send it to:

September Seniors Card Website Competition  
WA Seniors Card Centre  
Department for Communities  
Level 1 Albert Facey House  
469 Wellington Street  
PERTH WA 6000

This competition is only open to Western Australian Seniors Card holders, and the last date for valid entries is Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September. Entries are limited to one per household.

There are more than 270,000 seniors currently enjoying the significant State Government concessions and business discounts that the Western Australian Seniors Card has to offer. Seniors Card holders can save up to \$1500 in State Government concessions.

To be eligible for the WA Seniors Card, you must be a permanent resident of WA, 60 years of age or more, and working no more than 20 paid hours per week.

Contact the Seniors Card Hotline on 6217 8855 (metro), 1800 671 233 (free call for country callers) or visit the Seniors Card website [www.seniorscard.wa.gov.au](http://www.seniorscard.wa.gov.au) for application forms for further information on the WA Seniors Card.

## Autumn Club

### Autumn Leaf

WE have been out and able during August first went to Wannamal Seniors Club, where we met members from Wanneroo and Bindoon Clubs, after morning tea we got down to a few games of carpet bowls before lunch then more games before it was time to go home. Our second outing was to the Tivoli Club in Applecross to see a variety show we used the Toodyay bus but only go half way down the Toodyay road when it broke down so we made our way back and went down by cars. Apart from that we had a great time. In September we have a number of birthdays they are: - Glenyce Bosnjan - 5th, Peg Nelligan- 13th. Val Kissane - 14th, Michael Cox - 23rd, Ron Kissane - 24th, Veya Due - 27th, and Jim Bavin on 3rd October and Aileen Smith on 10th. We wish them all a very happy birthday.

On the 24th September we are off to Wanneroo Senior Club for another visit and them we have a visit from the Wannamal Seniors Club on the 30th.

PLEASE NOTE we will be holding an open day on the 14th October at 1 pm.

## Wood Turners' Notes

HI from the Avon Wood Turners.

All is going well at the Wool Pavilion and our turners are working well. Our Raffle project is well underway, with only the painting to do. Fred Cook, who is doing the painting, is waiting for a bit of fine weather to get this done and then we will see if we can get it on display in town somewhere so you, the public, can see what has been built. We are going to sell raffle tickets on the Friday before the show in Main St.

Also a reminder that, on the Saturday after the show, we will be holding the Western Australian Woodturners' Assoc. day at the Town Hall and you, the public, can come and see what some of our State's top turners can do, so please drop in for a look-see.

David Evers has been a busy boy making toys for the underprivileged for Christmas and once again Fred Cook is busy painting some of these.

Well, that's about all from the Wood Turners for this month, so will say bye for now.

Max Heath

## Lion Lines

**Jim Silvester  
President**

### Avon Descent

THE Lions Club again managed the Avon Descent overnight camp at Cobblers Pool.

It was a very successful weekend with a great effort from the members and other community groups such as the scouts and cricket club. Many thanks to everyone who helped out.

The next community event that the Lions club will be participating in will be the Toodyay show.

### Victorian Bushfires

The amount of money raised by Lions Clubs in Australia for the bushfires and Queensland floods was approximately \$1.1 million. The amount coming from our district was \$92,000 of which nearly \$10,000 came from Toodyay.

Our Lions District covers all the communities from Toodyay through to Kunnarra.

If you are interested in joining the Toodyay Lions Club please contact President, Jim Silvester, on 9574 4695, Secretary, Ian Harrower, on 9574 5082 or Treasurer, Rachel Oliver, on 95742828.

## Toodyay Miniature Railway

### June Eastwood

THE first eager passengers on the Saturday of Avon Descent arrived at 8 a.m. Over a day that did not conclude till after 4 p.m. we carried slightly more than last year. Sunday we had to do it all again and surprisingly, there were still many who arrived so that it was equal to a normal Sunday run.

Vern Witney has supplied me with the following gem - a true story.

When the Clackline - Toodyay railway line was opened in 1888, the region's mailman vowed to race his mail cart against the new train, knowing he would soon be replaced. Surprisingly - he won!

The reason? Ettie Demasson, daughter of one of Toodyay's Councillors, was standing against one of the train doors when it came open. The child fell from the moving train, though fortunately only suffered minor cuts and bruises. However, the delay from the accident was just enough for the mail cart to pull into town one last time before the train arrived.

Vern's Note: If the above incident happened in modern times I suppose the Demassons would have sued the railway company for not having child proof locks on the carriage doors and the R.S.P.C.A. would have fined the mailman for stressing his horse or horses by racing them un-necessarily and recklessly.

Micaile also supplied some interesting facts.

When the American Central Pacific railroad constructed a difficult section through Nevada, the whole project's success was down to an Indian chief. The engineers explained they were going to build a trail through the mountains and a huge iron horse would be able to pull the load of over a thousand ponies. They promised the Indians could ride in this monster anywhere they liked except the main passenger car, as often as they liked and as far as they liked if they would help the engineers. The tribe were enthusiastic and showed the best routes, brought water and wood and guarded the crews through the building from other hostile Indians or sabotage. It was said that freight trains would sometimes pull into Reno with a good deal more Indians than freight.

A question. Which do you think would be the most economical method of transport - a train, a truck or a barge. Answer: The winner is the barge. A study found the barge carries 1 ton of freight 576 miles on 1 gallon of fuel while rail roads can go 413 miles and trucks 155 miles. This is just the weight of the freight, not the weight of the conveyance used.

And our last gem - A Melbourne tram was taken to the U.S. but they were not allowed to run wires to power it so the it became a biodiesel streetcar run on animal fats from local restaurants which lead to one wit with the famous "Streetcar named Desire" in mind suggesting it should be named "A Streetcar Named Deep-Fryer!"

## Toodyay Chamber of Commerce

PLANS are under way for the Chamber's 2009 Christmas Street Party. If you would like to have a Street Stall on the evening please contact 9574 4488 or 9574 2148. The date for the event is Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2009, 5pm until 9pm.

The Avon Valley Dairy has ceased selling pasteurized milk and is now selling from the farm and home deliveries of Naked Bath Milk. If you would like to order this type of milk please contact Lisa on 9574 2340.

The Chamber welcomes Linian Fencing & Contracting and Innovations in Meat to our Membership. Please support these businesses. Have you seen, bought and tasted the range of dinner alternatives at Innovations in Meat. They sure take the hard work out of deciding what to have for dinner!

The children from Toodyay District High School are holding a 2 day Literacy and Numeracy Showcase on September 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Memorial Hall. Please take the time to call in and see what the children of Toodyay are capable of.

The Chamber's last meeting was well attended and it was lovely to see so many people come out in the cold and contribute to the meeting. We congratulate Toodyay Homefresh for their recent Awards. Keep up the good work. Have you seen the range of products now available to purchase. If not, then call in and browse.

The Chamber's next meeting will be in the Dining Room of the Freemasons Hotel at 7pm on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2009. We would love to see as many businesses there as possible. The Chamber is all about you! Supper is provided at a cost of \$5.00 per person. The AGM will be held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2009. It will commence with a three course meal at 7pm at the Freemasons Hotel. Bookings need to be made on 9574 4488 and 9574 2148 by 5<sup>th</sup> October 2009. Cheers. Stay Well.

Toodyay Chamber of Commerce & Industry (Inc.) AGM  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2009  
7pm Dining Room, Freemasons Hotel, Stirling Terrace, Toodyay.  
Members attending need to be financial.  
Bookings - 9574 4488 and 9574 2148

## Toodyay Spinners

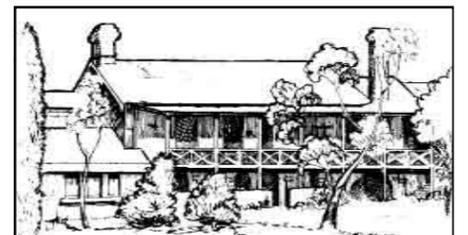
The AGM was conducted on the 29<sup>th</sup> July. New officers and members were elected. Pres. Carol Worrell, Vice Pres. Andrew McCann, Treasurer Anne Pope and Secretary Phil Harmer.

A big thank you to the outgoing members: Great Sauta, Carol Worrell, Carol Davidson and Rita Morald and also Maragaret Grassick for stepping in for Rita while she was away. Enjoy all your free time.

On the Share Table: three skeins of alpaca, one with copper filaments, by Margaret Masterleiz; a knitted V-shaped bag out of bits of hand-spun wool by Carol Worrell; crocheted jumper of commercial wool and hand-spun wool on the bands and neck by Carry Mitchell (our blind member); and a round crocheted floor rug from merino silk by Berenice Robertson. Great work everyone.

The spinners meet every Wednesday at Parker's Cottage at the Showgrounds between 9am to approx. 12 midday. We also meet every second Saturday, same place and time.

Pres. Carol Worrell - 0407 429 047  
Sec. Phil Harmer - 9574 2015



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Paul Steele at Isurava (Kokoda)

## Kokoda Trek for Telethon

**A Kokoda Adventure**  
Paul Steele

AFTER a few years of planning, finally the day had arrived for me to leave to walk the Kokoda Trail; but first, let me start at the beginning.

Kokoda has a special place in the hearts of many Australians due to the efforts and sacrifices of Australian troops during WWII, many of whom had only trained using broomsticks instead of guns. The battles fought along the trail were significant for a number of reasons, including the facts that the Australian troops were hugely outnumbered by the Japanese. It was the first time that the Japanese army was defeated on land during the war.

Like many other Australians, I have for a long time had a desire to walk the track. Earlier this year I was talking to some friends who had walked last year and were going to go again this year, but with the added aim of raising money for Telethon. What more

could I say but 'count me in'! There were eight of us in the group, seven from W.A. and a South Australian.

The adventure started with a flight to Cairns via the Alice, then up early the next morning to get to the airport for my first flight out of Australia; not on a 747 or even a jet but on a Dash 8! It took about two hours but was a pretty good flight. The first thing you notice about PNG is that it's hot and humid even in the middle of July, so it was a good thing we had a few days in Port Moresby to get used to the weather and to look around. Moresby is a bit of an eye opener after coming from W.A. with a huge difference between the rich and the poor. During this time we got to meet our tour leader Les, a cop from Perth, our tripmaster Chris from Efogi village and our three other travelling companions from Qld and NSW.

After two days in the capital we were all very happy to be getting on our way up to the start at Owers Corner - we were walking south to north. We stopped in at Bomana War Cemetery on the way, what a moving place. The trip up into the mountains was a bit of an adventure in itself as it was a very narrow, winding road with blind bends, sheer cliff

faces and one lane bridges sometimes all three at the same time. We headed off from Owers Corner with about an hour's daylight left and one and a half hours walking to do to our first stop at Goldie River. As we got in and started setting up our tents it started raining quite hard and non-stop for about half an hour. This didn't inspire us with much hope of a dry trip and was luckily the only serious rain we had for the trek. The start of our first full day of walking was a good (not too challenging) walk 'til we got to the Golden Stairs; this was steep hard work in slippery, sloppy mud and took about two and a half hours to get to Imita Ridge, a distance of only a few km. this was to be our lunch stop on the first day and more significantly was as far as the Australians withdrew to during the war.

After lunch it was mostly downhill, not as slippery as the uphill but very steep and tiring. This was to set the pace for most of the rest of the trip, steep uphill followed by steep downhill or just for a change the other way around. As well as the haunting feeling we got in visiting places like Ioribaiwa, Brigade Hill, Efogi, Myola (the site of an aerial supply dump and known from Damien Parer's Photographs), Templeton's crossing and Eora Creek, places that only weeks before had to be names on a map and in history books and now were very real. The terrain and the scenery were breathtaking and the villagers possibly the most warm and friendly people I've met. Along the way we saw places where warplanes had crashed and where fierce battles had been fought in terrain that I had difficulty standing, all the while we were coming to terms with the fact that our soldiers fighting over here where from as young as 16 and into their 40's had to carry all of their own gear as well as their rifles. This was a lot more weight than most of us carrying a daypack with our lunch, a camera and some water; they didn't have the luxury of high tech hiking gear nor of being able to get out of the rain nor hike along at a comfortable pace. Our last significant stop of the trek was at the Isurava War memorial, a very haunting place - we spent an hour or so here paying our respects to the fallen soldiers and to the Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels for what they did for our country. The freedom that we enjoy today was toasted with a sip of rum from a hip flask carried with one of us. We conducted a very moving observance that included our carriers singing a Hymn

followed by the PNG national Anthem, both in lovely harmony and concluded with us singing our anthem followed by the ode from "For The Fallen" (as said during ANZAC ceremonies). From here we had the long downhill trek into Kokoda village where we touched the wall of the Kokoda District office and our last night in tents. Dinner was a wonderful spread of local food and a few very deserved and enjoyed beers, our first since leaving Port Moresby 10 days before. The next morning we were up early for a short hike to Kokoda airstrip then back to Moresby to clean our clothes and gear and out to dinner in town, up early again the next day for our trip back to Perth via Cairns and Sydney.

I would like to take this final opportunity to thank our guides and carriers for their help and patience, to remind you all that this was done for the aid of Telethon and any support you can give is greatly appreciated, with donations made directly to telethon stating our trek for Telethon or to me via The Herald.

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# when and where they meet

## 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, 1pm to 4pm. Toodyay Sports Pavilion  
Contact Glenyce Bosnjak 9574 4587

## AVON VALLEY ADULT RIDING CLUB

Meets 4th Saturday of each month (Feb - Nov) at Toodyay Race Course. Contact: Sandra 9574 4429

## 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: 30th September from 9am-11am. Please call Sheree on 9574 4577 to book an appointment.

## 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.

## EARTH SOLUTIONS - AVON VALLEY

Third Tuesday of each month, 6pm at the PB Kirby Centre, cnr Gordon and Wellington Sts, Northam. New members welcome. Contact Caroline Barr on 9622 8043 or Belle Moore on 9622 5203 for additional information.

## 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 / TOODYAY JEWELS

Ladies only. Tuesday 15th September at 10am, Wendourie Tea Rooms. All ladies welcome. Contact Shirl on 9574 5077.

## JULIMAR VOLUNTEER BUSH FIRE BRIGADE

Meets Saturday 3rd October 6pm at Julimar Fire Station. BYO BBQ 1st Sat of every month 6pm.

## MOERLINA

Every Tuesday and Thursday Toodyay Sports Pavilion

## RAG BAGS QUILTING GROUP

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

## ST STEPHEN'S MOTHERS' UNION/GUILD

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

## SHIRE OF TOODYAY COUNCIL MEETING

3rd Thursday of each month Council Chambers 7pm

## SILVER CHAIN AUXILIARY

Meetings 2nd Tuesday of each month, 10am 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

## 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 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

## Call for Country Foster Carers

THE benefits of the bush have much to offer young people according to Hon Philip Gardiner MLC, Member for the Agricultural Region, who is calling for country people to give thought to becoming a foster carer.

Foster care provides a caring home while the child's parents and family member receive help. The ultimate goal is to return the child to his or her parents wherever possible.

According to the Department for Child Protection there are currently more than 3000 children in the care of the State, a number expected to increase to around 4000 by 2011.

Although more than 1000 enquiries have been received from the general public since the start of a new campaign aimed at recruiting foster carers, there remains a significant need for more people to become involved.

"Every child innately seeks the opportunity to grow up in a loving household, with food on the table, a bed to sleep in and plenty of hugs," Mr Gardiner said. "Sadly, for various reasons, not all parents are able to provide this resulting in the need for dedicated people from the community to become foster parents."

Mr Gardiner said the value of a country lifestyle to a young person should not be discounted.

"Regional towns offer wonderful environments for raising young people. Opportunities to play and develop in the country air can enrich a child's formative years, helping them grow into well-adapted and well-rounded adults," he said.

Foster carers are expected to:

- Provide unconditional love, emotional support and care to meet the child's everyday needs
- Help the child communicate and behave in positive ways
- Support the child in their schooling and recreational activities
- Help the child maintain contact with their parents and extended family
- Support the child's cultural and religious needs.

"Providing appropriate foundations for young people is paramount to the future of our State," Mr Gardiner said. "I strongly encourage suitable members of the community to get behind this most important campaign, especially those from regional areas."

People interested in obtaining further, no-obligation information may contact the Department on 1800 024 453.



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Institute of Clinical Psychologists  
Registered Clinical Psychologist

Medicare provider

0427 447 190

(business hours)

# public notices

## 4WD AERIAL – NUMBERPLATE T3

If part of your car is missing, please come claim it from the Herald. A small (older model) 4x4 drove around the corner of Oddfellows Street last year and the fibreglass aerial fell off into the road. Herald staff recovered it and it is sitting next to the front counter.

If you're the owner, come pick it up!

## AVON VALLEY ART SOCIETY

You are invited to come and view a body of work from Northam's TAFE art students that will be on show at the Northam Arts Centre, Wellington Street. Opening night is Tuesday September 8 at 6.30pm. The 'Steps' exhibition is on display until September 24.

Calling all songwriters. Showcase your talent by entering the 2009 Healthway Act-Belong-commit songwriting competition for Avon Rock. Great prizes! Entries close 4pm Friday November 6th. Contact AVAS on 9622 2245 or email avas1@wn.com.au to receive your information pack.

Wanted - Original and underage bands to compete in Avon Rock 2009. Great prizes \$\$\$s and recording opportunities!!! Entries close 4pm Friday October 30. Contact AVAS for your info.pack. Phone 9622 2245 or email avas1@wn.com.au

## TOODYAY MENS SHED

Notice is hereby given that Michael John McKone, of PO Box 1244, Toodyay 6566 (Wool Miller Owner) being duly authorised by the above named association intends to apply to the Commissioner for Consumer Protection on or after 5 October 2009 for incorporation of Toodyay Mens' Shed. The association is formed for the purpose of mentoring and assisting men of the area.

## 2JERS

Next casino trip – 21<sup>st</sup> September 2009. All welcome. For more information, please ring Ida on 9574 2858.

## AGM

The AGM of the Toodyay Telecentre will be held on September 29<sup>th</sup> 2009 at the Toodyay Telecentre (Community Resource Centre) at 7.00pm. All positions will be open and all are welcome to attend.

## ART EXHIBITION

VINO VINO VINO Exhibition. Support your local business and artists / craftspersons and come to the show (check Arts Toodyay Column for details.) It's in your interest and free.

## FIRST AID CLASSES

The next Senior First Aid Course is to be held on Saturday and Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> September.

The next Senior First Aid Flexible Learning Day for those whose current First Aid Certificate is due for renewal is to be held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October.

Both are being held at the Toodyay sub centre. Registrations available from Jenny Willgoss at L.J.Hooker Toodyay.

## TOO SLOW

Are you interested in belonging to the Toodyay Slow Food Group? See 'The Cook and the Chef', ABC, 19<sup>th</sup> August for ideas. Ph. 9574 4184.

## TOODYAY COMMUNITY BUS (INC)

### Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Toodyay Community Bus (Inc) will be held at **Butterly House** on Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> September 2009, starting at 10.30am.

Please come along and support the committee to enable us to maintain this community asset.

Any constructive complaints or suggestions on how to improve this service would be most welcome.

## TOODYAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Toodyay Chamber of Commerce & Industry (Inc) AGM Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2009. Freemasons Hotel dining room, 7pm. Members attending need to be financial. Prospective members welcome. Bookings 9574 4488 or 9574 2148

AVON TEE BALL ASSOCIATION is once again looking at having our enrolment days to get all of our current and upcoming Tee Ball stars on board for another exciting season of teamwork and fun.

Toodyay enrolment days are as follows: TDHS grounds on Oval near bottom of car park - Thursday 20 August 2.30-4.00pm.

Outside IGA. – Saturday 12 September 9am – noon.

Registration cost is \$55, with a \$10 deposit on registration, balance to be paid by first game. Uniforms can also be ordered on Registration day. All shirts are supplied by each team sponsor. Please bring your Birth Certificate to confirm age groups for team placement. Registration forms are also available from your school office if you want to complete your details ahead of time – get your friends together to form a team, for a great season of sporting fun.

If you cannot make either of these registration times, please call Zeta Armstrong on 0417 095 515 to arrange your registration.

We, Faye and Milton Baxter, formerly of 2 Ethelwyn Street, Hilton, wish to announce that as from Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2009, we have become permanent residents of Toodyay.

After searching for over a year, we have taken up a nice little house and a property of 11.3 hectares at Mountain Park estate. We have found the inhabitants and the trades people of Toodyay to be both friendly and helpful, the general atmosphere really convivial and the town site and surrounds clean and safe. There is no doubt in our minds that making the transition from the metropolitan area to the rural lifestyle of this unique town is the best decision we could have possibly made. We extend a special thank you to our daughter Bindi and all those people, both private and in real estate, who endeavoured to find our place in the country.

Our street address is Lot 121 McDermott Road, and our postal address is PO Box 1068, Toodyay.

## Wanted

SILVER Chain Avon Auxiliary Branch Committee require a fun and energetic person to fulfil the position of Voluntary Secretary. There will be some training, and be prepared for some good times, So if you can spare some time to help out a good cause please give Louise a ring on 9574 5750.

PIGEON flyers wanted to form racing pigeon club in Avon Valley, contact Bob, phone 0419 140 205.

## Thank you

THE Op Shop now has a new kitchen! We would like to thank Michael from "Rural Cabinets" for installing it and freely giving his time for the little extras. We also have new power points and would like to thank Sean from "Ask Sean Electrical" for installing them. We realise that both these tradesmen have very busy schedules and we really appreciated their help. Greg from Makit Hardware once again came through for us and supplied the plumbing requirements. His generosity and support has been and is very much appreciated. Once again many thanks to all from The Ladies of the Op Shop.

## THANK YOU TO THE TOODYAY COMMUNITY

ON behalf of Stan Collard and his sons I would like to thank the Toodyay Community for the generosity and overwhelming support that they have provided to the family during what has been very difficult time.

To name each person individually would be an enormous task given the large number of people that have helped out over the last few weeks and it would be extremely unfair if someone was forgotten in the process. However having said that to each and every person that has assisted in any way no matter how small, a very big 'THANK YOU'

Also deepest condolences to the Watson family on their recent very sad loss, although I had only known Troy for a brief period of time, I can fully understand and appreciate why he was so popular in Toodyay.

Finally, to the surviving member of the tragic accident hopefully a few words of comfort. No one goes out and plans to have an accident and that is why it's called exactly that, an accident. I am sure that if your mates Wok and Watto were still here today they would both want you to remain strong and eventually add to what is a great and caring community.

Yours truly,  
Charlie Collard (on behalf of Uncle Stan, Brenton, Russell, Stanley (Fam) and families.

## THANK YOU

SINCE my illness I have come to be even surer of the shire and town in which I live. The get well cards, calls and good wishes have made me more certain that I chose correctly; in case of even perceived need there is someone to offer help. To all please accept my grateful thanks, Jim Bavin.



## Anniversary

Peter and Veronica Dymond celebrated their 50th Wedding anniversary on 29th August by renewing their vows in front of family and friends at St John the Baptist Church in Toodyay. This was followed by a family party, the "bride" danced into the night while the "groom" complained of a dodgy knee.

## Engagement

NEVILLE and Donna of Bolgart, together with Alex and Gill of New Zealand are pleased to announce the engagement of Chantelle to Kereopa. Congratulations to you both.

## Births

CONGRATULATIONS to Jessie House and Dylan Street on the arrival of Joey Ellen Street. What a beautiful granddaughter and niece you have given us. Much love to you all.  
Mum, Chelsea and Oliver.

Congratulations to Jessie and Dylan on Joey's arrival. You have your own Little Rascal and she is beautiful.  
Love from all at Little Rascal's child care centre.

## Bereavements

### WATSON (Troy)

Loved only grandson of Jim (Spot) (dec.), and Doreen Watson.  
Sympathy and love to Vicki and Brendan. Tiesha and Renee and families and Troy's children Sharna and Josh.

### WATSON (Troy)

I won't ever forget our late night laughs.  
Miss you bro.  
Grundy.

### WATSON (TROY)

Passed away 20-8-09. Nephew and cousin to Phil, Terri and family.

Our deepest sympathy to Brendan, Vicki, Latiesha, Renee and Troy's children, Sharna and Josh.

Love from,  
Phil, Terri and family

LIFE is a time to remember,  
As your time upon us we shall not forget  
By your spirit and soul  
You're unforgettable for the love, caring  
Sharing good memories which we can cherish.

You will always be in our hearts. Wok we will miss u my friend.

We "Shall" meet again. xxx  
Sonia Openshaw.

...cont'd overleaf

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# public notices

## Birthdays

### 21<sup>ST</sup> BIRTHDAY

Congratulations Darren on your 21<sup>st</sup> birthday.

Lots of love,  
Mum, Dad, Shane, Tanya and Peter

Happy Birthday Darren for your 21<sup>st</sup>.  
Love,  
Grandma and Sherry!

Stan Eastwood	Ricky Bowden
Ned Bowden	Amy Douglas
Paul Sutton	Russell Johnson
Taylor Ferguson	Samuel Ferguson
Liz Ferguson	Michael Cox
Anastasia Buettner	Di Hamlyn
Paul Stacey	Jeremy Ferguson
Patrick Ferguson	Charles Danger
Ray Vesperman	Julian Beveridge
Charlotte Watson	Leanne Sloper
Rachelle Chitty	Joel Welburn
Mathew Welburn	Audrey Elson
Shelley Kingston	Ashlee Leonhard
Mavis Farstad	Peter Morris
Darren MacGregor	Joe Paulsen
Margaret Paulsen	Eva Beveridge
Peg Nelligan	Val Kissane
Michael Cox	Ron Kissane
Veya Due	

### Anniversaries

Joe & Margaret Paulsen  
John & Gwen Sizer  
Lea-anne & Ian MacGregor  
Joanne & Martin Stacey  
Sharon & Patrick Ferguson

Paul. If you do not clean your room by September 11, 911 will look like a walk in the park by comparison.  
Signed: Paul's mum

## Toodyay Ballet School

### Lani McGeady

KATE lives the dream at the English National Ballet School.

What an amazing year Kate Arber (12yrs old) has had so far in 2009. Not only did she travel to New Zealand to compete in April, but she has just returned from Russia and England where she took part in the English National Ballet Schools Summer School. Kate won the scholarship to England last year when she travelled to Port Maquarie to take part in the Marianne McIntyre Memorial Classical Ballet Scholarships. Plans are already underway for Melbourne, Sydney, Port Maquarie and possibly America next year for at least four of our students, so as you can see these country kids have the same, sometimes more opportunities than their city cousins.

Congratulations to all the students who travelled to Perth last week to take part in the WA State Medal Test for Cecchetti students. The students all took part in an hour and a half class with the examiner for this year Mr Willoughby from Victoria. The levels started from Gde 2 ballet and go right up to Intermediate which is the first major exam level and is seen as the beginning of professional training.

It was such a thrill to have winners and placegetters from the Toodyay Ballet School.

Gde 2 – winner – Ashleigh Pankiw  
Runner-up – Jasmine Watson  
Honourable Mention – Emily

Blechynden

Gde 3 – winner – Madelyn Sheahan  
Honourable Mention – Isla Cooke

Finalist – Isabelle Ferguson  
Gde 4 – Honourable Mention – Madelyn Sheahan

Gde 6 – Winner – Rhyce Toovey  
Runner-up – Bonnie McGeady  
Intermediate Scholarship – winner – Rhyce Toovey

Rhyce won a \$500 scholarship which takes his cash winnings for the year to \$1700.

There are two Toodyay District High students who are now classified as being among the most elite dancers in Australia. Kate Arber and Madelyn Sheahan have been accepted into the very prestigious Australian Ballet School Interstate programme. These children auditioned in Perth with many other hopefuls and are one step closer to having their dreams of becoming a professional dancer come true. Not only does this open the door to a whole other world of opportunity for these children, but it also gives them a real taste of the full time life of dance training.

As if the phone call to tell them this great news was not enough, the lady on the phone had an even bigger surprise in store. Madelyn was asked to audition for a part in Swan Lake and Kate was accepted as an extra with no audition!!!!

The long awaited return of The Australian Ballet Company is happening in October when they will be travelling to Perth to perform Swan Lake at Burswood. Toodyay Ballet School is travelling en masse to see the production, but when I booked the 40 tickets for us, I had no idea that any students of mine would have the amazing opportunity to perform in this lavish production!!!!

What an amazing opportunity for these students from a small country town. The Toodyay Ballet School Family is thrilled to bits for these very lucky students, and hope that the people of Toodyay are also very proud of these high achieving students.

little jutting out piece on the intersection of Goomalling Road, Smith Street and MacPherson Street, Bolgart a nuisance, may I ask that once having manoeuvred this obstruction that they then return to their own side of the road - especially if their aim is to turn right at the foot of the street, as on several occasions there has been the odd driver who has caused drivers on the main road coming from the direction of Toodyay and turning right into MacPherson Street to have precious little space (if any), to turn into. Last time I looked, the Toodyay/Bindi Bindi Road was a main road.

Congratulations to Pam McGill on having celebrated a birthday recently.

## Sing Australia Sings For CWA

SING Australia Toodyay singers sang for their delicious Vietnamese lunch at the CWA's Avon Valley Division International Meeting, on 17 August, hosted by the Toodyay CWA. We successfully performed our first two part song Never Let Go of Your Dream. The audience joined in with a couple of our well-known partner songs Pack Up Your Troubles / It's a Long Way to Tipperary, and our Blue Moon round. We extend our thanks to the CWA for allowing us to be part of their meeting. The displays about Viet Nam were very well done, and extremely interesting.

By the time you read this, we would have wowed everyone at our last Gig for August on the 29th: the Black and White Ball, raising funds for the TDHS Chaplaincy. We are all busy learning the words of Chattanooga Choo Choo by heart (I hope).

If members we haven't seen for awhile intend to return, or new people are thinking of paying us a visit, do call Beth or Christina first, so we can give you the latest and most up-to-date info.

Written by Beth Frayne. For more information: Contact Co-Leaders: Beth Frayne (9574 5971), or Christina Armstrong (9574 2141). Sing Australia website: www.singaustralia.com.au

## Bolgart News

### Doris M. Martin

The Annual VPSSA Cross Country event held at Calingiri on July 31, saw several of the Bolgart Primary School students do well in this area. Amongst the top ten runners for each section of this event were:-

IN THE UNDER 7 GIRLS' 500M RACE - Alex Kennedy came 1st.

IN THE UNDER 7 BOYS' 500M RACE - Joshua Hay came 3rd and Brendon Quadrio came 9th.

IN THE UNDER 9 GIRLS' 1,000M RACE - Toni Westerside scored 6th place.

IN THE UNDER 9 BOYS' 1,000M RACE - Reagan Clarke came 1st.

IN THE UNDER 11 GIRLS' 1,500M RACE - Kate Bain came 1st with Renae Kesic 7th, Sarah Jackson 8th and Chloe Denning 9th place.

IN THE UNDER 11 BOYS' 1,500M RACE - Nathanael Mudgway came 2nd and James Bain 5th.

IN THE GIRLS' OPEN 2,000M RACE - Caitlin Donovan scored 9th place.

IN THE BOYS' OPEN 2,000M RACE - Kyle Martin came 2nd, Christopher Jackson 8th and Paul Cullen 9th.

Well done Bolgartarians!!

I was very touched at my last talk on the Building of the Bolgart Belltower at the Bolgart Hotel on August 11 to receive a nice gift of chocolates from The Elite Tour Group and a speech of Appreciation.

Over the years there have been folk from all walks of life who have visited the town:- Ex - Bankers, Postal Officials, Tax Agents, School Principals, Newspaper Editors, Social Welfare Officials, Business owners, Farmers and the like of Probus Groups, Housewives, and yes even bellringers from the Swan Belltower in Perth. I leave my voluntary position with a little sadness, but also some excitement that I will be entering a new phase of my life.

A fax I sent to WA Newspapers thanking them for all the help that they'd given originally to help get the Belltower Project underway, triggered the West Australian to do an article in 'Inside Cover' in their paper of Wednesday, August 12. I was surprised to receive an early morning phone call from one of my sister's friends in Perth telling me about the article.

Congratulations to Mrs Rica Erickson (Ex resident of Bolgart), on having attained the age of 101 recently. What a truly remarkable lady she is.

For those folk who find the horrible



**AVON VALLEY VETERINARY CLINIC**

**9574 5055**

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## Office Hours

Monday	9am to 5pm
Tuesday	9am to 5pm
Wednesday	9am to 5pm
Thursday	9am to 5pm
Friday	9am to 5pm
Saturday	9am to 11am

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## Toodyay RSL Sub Branch

Lou Kidd  
Sec/Tres

18th Aug was the Anniversary of the Battle of "Long Tan" which involved The newly arrived 1st Australian Task Force who had established its' Phuoc Tuy operations base in 1966 at Nui Dat, a piece of high ground surrounded by rubber plantations.

The Viet Cong had achieved dominion in the province and decided to inflict a politically unacceptable defeat on the Australians. On the night of 16/17 August 1966, the Viet Cong fired a barrage of shells into Nui Dat, wounding 24 Australians. On 18 August 1966 D Company of 6RAR was patrolling in the area of the Long Tan rubber plantation when, at about 3.15pm, the lead platoon (11 Platoon, commanded by 2Lt Gordon Sharp, a national serviceman) encountered a small group of Viet Cong who fled leaving one of their number killed by the Australians. The aggressive patrolling continued until, at about 4.08pm, the main body of the Viet Cong 275 Regiment was encountered. The Viet Cong attacked vigorously with mortars, rifle and machine gun fire. In pouring rain, the Australians returned fire with platoon weapons and artillery which was firing from the Nui Dat base, some five kilometres to the west. Close air support was also called for but couldn't be used because the target was unable to be identified accurately in the conditions.

The combination of aggressive fire from D Company soldiers plus devastating artillery fire from Nui Dat had swung the battle in the Australians' favour but the Viet Cong continued to manoeuvre to gain the upper hand. Meanwhile, A Company of 6RAR had been ordered to move to the support of the beleaguered D Company. They did so mounted in armoured personnel carriers from 1st APC Squadron which forded a flooded stream and then shortly afterward encountered a substantial enemy force. 2 Platoon of A Company dismounted and advanced on the enemy who fled. Although the Viet Cong could still be seen massing in failing light at 6.55pm as the relief force arrived in the D Company area, the enemy force melted away as darkness descended. The battle of Long Tan was over. Morning revealed that the Viet Cong force, estimated at 2,500, had been badly mauled. 245 Viet Cong bodies were found in the battle area. It was apparent that the Viet Cong commanders had failed to appreciate the effectiveness of artillery fire and had paid dearly as a result. The Australians had lost 18 killed, 17 from D Company (including the young platoon commander of 11 platoon) and one from 1st APC Squadron, and 24 wounded.

The above account has been compiled primarily from information contained in Diggers - From 6 June 1944 to 1994 by George Odgers

The Australian Government decided that the Anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan would become Vietnam Veterans' Day. We commemorated the day with a small service at the Toodyay War Memorial. The weather was reasonably kind to us, the rain only sprinkled during our service. There was a small gathering of Vietnam Veterans, Members of the RSL and a small representative group from the Toodyay Tennis Club. At the completion of the service we retired to the Vic to take part in some fellowship.

The next item we have on our agenda is

our Annual General Meeting which will be conducted at the Toodyay Club on Saturday 5th Sept at 2 o'clock. All positions will be declared vacant, so if you don't want that job, you had better be there to defend yourself. We invite all the members of the Toodyay Veterans community to join us and maybe become members of our small organization.

### The Caribou retires from service after 45 years

In February 2009, Defence Minister, Joel Fitzgibbon, announced that the RAAF's 13 remaining DHC-4 Caribou transport aircraft would be retired from service in December.

For 45 years the Caribous have supported Australian military operations, throughout the south-west Pacific and in south-east Asia, including active service in Vietnam, humanitarian relief in Kashmir, Cambodia and Papua New Guinea, and also in support of peacekeeping operations in the Solomon Islands and East Timor.

Most Australian soldiers who served in Vietnam travelled in a Caribou at some time during their tour. The No. 35 Squadron aircraft were nicknamed "Wallaby Airlines", after the red kangaroo outline painted on their RAAF roundels and the transport flight's radio call sign of "Wallaby". To sit near the raised rear cargo door of a Caribou during a flight over the Vietnamese landscape was an unforgettable experience for many.

THE PRICE OF LIBERTY IS ETERNAL VIGILANCE



## Montessori Puggles Playgroup

WE have all had such an enjoyable month even with all the rain trying to dampen our spirits. Singing songs to waken our voices and minds, then stretching our bodies to warm us up, were wonderful ways to start the day.

With the great range of bright, colourful and interesting wooden puzzles and shelf toys to entertain even the fussiest of our children, mat time was always much loved. Craft time has been really creative and a favourite with all the children. From stain glass window, painting, printing with recycled materials, paper rockets, glueing and working with scissors to name a few, puggles playgroup time has never been tedious.

We have a few places available on both Monday and Wednesday, so come for a visit and experience the Montessori way.

To arrange a suitable session or if you require more information please contact Puggles Playgroup leader, Felicity on 9574 4254.

Felicity will also be running an extended day session for four year olds.

So contact her for more information. We found this a great way to ease our selves into the concept of schooling and separation from our beloved children.



## Toodyay Music Club

Jenny Edgecombe

The Rock and Roll theme evening in August was such a buzz that many members are keen to have something similar in the programme for next year. The walls were hung with life-size Elvis Presley and Marilyn Monroe photos, to set the period, and many performers arrived in appropriate gear for the Fifties and Sixties. I'm probably biased, but I thought President Joe threatened to steal the show with his terrific mop-top wig for the rocking Beatles numbers he had in store. It looked so realistic that one visitor was heard to heave an almighty sigh of relief when assured that this was not in fact his normal hair!

Some great jiving by Linda and Gerard from Northam, in quite spectacular costumes, was a special treat. A number of performers joined them to dance during some of the later items like 'The Hucklebuck'.

There was an enormous variety across the theme: Allan and Leila singing 'Willie and the Poor Boys' to guitar and double bass, Peter's 'Be Bop A Lula', Gale's 'Bernadine', Nancy's 'Delilah' on the accordion, and Spencer with 'Why do Fools Fall in Love?' Jeanette branched out from her accustomed style with 'Ferry Cross the Mersey', and she and Gale combined to present 'Love Letters

Spencer in fine form

in the Sand'. Joe ranged through 'Rock and Roll Music' to 'Black is Black', and Trish gave us a new slant on an old song with 'He Was Only Sixteen'. Good to see Teddy back in action with the ukulele group as well, as they performed classics like 'Green Door'.

Members of the Happy Notes singing group were a welcome addition to the performance list in their lovely colorful, swirly skirts, with some great songs of the period, including a bouncing 'Hit the Road Jack' and a slightly unusual rendition of 'Doo Wah Diddy'.

As always, there were some light-hearted offerings, including a Parents' Lament from Jenny in the Allan Sherman version of 'Downtown'. And what did the Missing Notes and Chords come up with this time? No less than 'Little Egypt', complete with spruiker Bob in a boater and each dancer with a 'picture of a cowboy tattooed on her spine'!

Sing-along sessions and a sumptuous supper were the usual convivial features and the evening was voted a great success.

**Next Meeting:** Starts early at 6.30pm on 11<sup>th</sup> September, so the AGM can be held before the usual evening of performances. Any style of singing or instrumental performance is welcome, so long as it is 'acoustic'. Come to our monthly meeting as performer or listener - Second Friday of each month at the CWA Hall. For further information contact Teddy or Spencer on 9574 4492.

Sunday 27 Sept 2009

Aven Valley Baseball Club Inc



Home Ground - Northam  
Steve Fish - Baseball WA  
Perth Heat Coach and  
"Go for 2&5"  
High Performance and  
Development Coordinator  
for Little League Baseball  
will be holding a Skills  
Workout at 11.00am  
at Jubilee Park, Northam  
followed by Baseball WA  
State Competitors at 1.00pm

Wanneroo Giants vs. Swans Districts  
Exhibition Baseball Match

Family Day Out!  
Free Sausage Sizzle  
Hot Dog/ Refreshing drinks on sale.

Contact Details : Pamela Walsh  
9574 5767 or Craig Wall 96225153