

The Toodyay Herald

VOLUME 287

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December 2010

Toodyay Lights Up for Christmas!



Grant Scobie

“WHERE’s Sean?” The question came across on the PA system at various times throughout the night.



Sean’s up there

Where was Sean? Well, it seems, Sean Byron was just about everywhere. He was checking his lights, making sure the fire survivors he’d seconded to help coordinate the ‘Switching On the Lights’ were all ready, doing this, doing that. After all, this was his dream to get Toodyay lit up for Christmas, to have a night everyone would remember.

And what a night it was! It was truly a family event. There were lots of people, stalls, entertainment, Santa Claus and there were the lights.

The entertainment was for everyone: carols were sung by Toodyay’s own Community Singers and broadcast over the PA; there were bouncy ‘castles’ (some were not really castles but bouncy nonetheless); people were way up in the air as they attempted to scale the climbing wall, abseiling down after reaching their goal; there was Greek music that had everyone’s toes tapping and, possibly, some trying to do a bit of Greek



Sean’s there

dancing (the theme from *Zorba the Greek* will always do that); the Lions ‘wriggly worm’; magician; the fire-eater/acrobat/



Here’s Sean

juggler kept the crowd enthralled, especially cracking his whip of fire.

Many shops stayed open, some of the various community groups were able to set up small stalls to hold raffles and inform passers-by of what they do and one shop-owner, whose premises are out of the general ‘Street Party’ area, set up a tent from which to sell a small selection of her wares. And Courtyard Markets were in full swing. Food was supplied in the shape of a free sausage

sizzle, ably manned by one of our volunteer bush fire brigades, fairy floss, popcorn and, of course our own various food outlets, restaurants and hotels.

Santa Claus was seen, roaming the street, talking to children young and old alike, handing out lollies and, at last, taking up his usual position asking the kiddies what they wanted for Christmas. Photos of the lucky children on Santa’s knee were also free of charge.



Vollies with a completed wreath

But what about the lights? Why was Sean in such demand?

Continued Page 2

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The Toodyay Herald

is a community paper and as such welcomes contributions of letters, articles and photographs from all members of the community. Contributions via email or on flash drive are appreciated. There is no charge for articles which appear in the paper.

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DEADLINE

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Toodyay Lights Up - Cont. from Page 1

Well, at 7.30, when the lights were due to be turned on, he wasn't there! Well, he was there but not where he was expected to be. Finally, he arrived, the countdown was begun and finally the bevy of switchers around the town, remote controls in their hands, pushed the 'On' buttons to turn on a wonderful display - a true Christmas display of lights.

Those wreaths, made by volunteers (who else?) and strings of tinsel came to life. Toodyay looked a million dollars. Forgotten for the moment, the sadness of just under twelve months ago, forgotten in the joy of a 'Christmas Wonderland of Lights'.

While putting the *Herald* together, I received many enthusiastic letters about the night. Here are some of the high points:

It was the best Christmas street party ever. Nobody wanted to go home!

I would like to congratulate Sean Byron on the success of 'The Festival of Plenty'.

The street lights and surgery were spectacular. What a mighty undertaking that was to get it all ready.

Thank you Sean and your band of helpers for a wonderful night, you all out did yourselves and I can't wait for next year's party.

I went to the Street Party this year as I do every year but this time the atmosphere seemed charged with excitement.

All the children were having so much fun and everyone waited in anticipation for the lights to be turned on.

Congratulations and thank you to Sean for a night to remember.

Toodyay lights up for Christmas - in all respects.

Financial Assistance Package Update

A Brief Ministerial Statement from the Premier of Western Australia: 25 November 2010

I RISE today to inform the House of the progress made since I announced a financial assistance package for people directly affected by the Toodyay bushfire of 29 December 2009.

I announced details of the financial assistance package of up to \$10 million on 11 October 2010.

This package will provide ex gratia payments of up to \$190,000 for losses suffered in the fire, including up to \$150,000 for homes and \$30,000 for contents. It compares very favourably to support provided to victims of the Victorian bushfires, which provide up to \$85,000 for homes and \$15,000 for contents.

The assistance package is jointly funded by Western Power and the Government and it builds on the immediate assistance provided by the Government after the fire. On 30 December 2009, one day after the fire, the State Government announced up to \$3,000 in emergency help for affected households and declared the fire a State Natural Disaster. This declaration triggered support under the WA Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements including emergency accommodation, food, essential clothing and counselling.

Since I announced the package, RiskCover has begun the process of registering and assessing claims from those who suffered losses. RiskCover has a direct phone line - (08) 9264 3879 - for residents to register details of their claims. RiskCover has placed advertisements in the West Australian and community newspapers outlining the scheme and providing contact details to register claims.

A number of property owners or their representatives have been in contact with RiskCover and I am advised that approximately 90 registrations have been received so far. RiskCover has appointed a loss adjusting company to provide a fair and independent assessment of claims. Claims will be assessed and resolved as quickly as reasonably possible. I understand the loss adjuster has spent a considerable amount of time in Toodyay and has already met with many residents.

I am pleased to inform the House that the loss adjuster has completed some of the assessments and I have signed off on \$599,000 for the first six payments, which should be received by property owners shortly. These payments range from \$29,000 to the maximum \$190,000.

I remind the House that, given the differing reports and investigations into the cause of the fire, any questions of negligence and liability can only be resolved in a Court of law. Claiming assistance through the Government's package will not impact on any person's legal right to take action in relation to the fire. People receiving payments will not have to sign any deed waiving their rights to future legal action.

While the payments are not intended to cover the full extent of people's losses, I believe the offer of financial support is fair. The strong response to RiskCover since the package was announced gives support to the government's approach.

The package is targeted at property losses. I know that there have been media reports about injuries sustained in the fire by a visiting Chinese student. I reiterate that the State funded her medical treatment despite her non-resident status. We were happy to do this.

We are now again entering the bushfire season. There have already been fires. On behalf of the Government, I would like to acknowledge once again the invaluable contribution made by both the professional and volunteer fire fighters of Western Australia. We are deeply grateful for their efforts and community spirit.

All residents of our fire prone bush regions need to support the fire fighters by heeding their advice, and the advice and requirements of local governments, as regards preparation. It is vital that people play their part by preparing their own properties and their own bushfire plans.

It is also timely to remind people to review their own insurance cover.

We have had a very dry winter and we can expect a severe fire season. Let's make sure that there is no repeat of last year's losses.

Merry Christmas

and a

Happy New Year

from

The Toodyay Herald

Fire Emergency Services Medals



Allan Henshaw, Susanna and Kim Maddrell

Peter Robinson

SHORTLY after the commencement of the November Council meeting, standing orders were suspended to allow for the presentation of National Medals for long term volunteer Fire and Emergency Services. A National Medal was awarded to Allan Henshaw for 15 years service. Allan is a member of the Coondle/Nunile Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade.

Kim and Susanna Maddrell each received their First Clasp which is in recognition of a further 10 years of service beyond the initial 15 years. Kim and Susanna are members of the Morangup Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade.

The Presentation was made by the Shire President, Councillor Kevin Hogg. The recipients were warmly applauded by Councillors, staff and the gallery. All our volunteers are to be congratulated for the fine effort they do in protecting the life and interests of all of our citizens.

Fly on the Wall

Peter Robinson

THE November Ordinary meeting of Council was held on Thursday 18 November, back at the Council Chambers.

Before the Councillors moved into debating the Officer's Recommendations there was a presentation to three of our long serving volunteer fire-fighters. This is reported on elsewhere in this edition.

It's hard to believe that there were no questions taken on notice at the October meeting. How times have changed!

Festival of Plenty

This year's Street Party was renamed the 'Festival of Plenty' and incorporated the turning on of the street Christmas lights. What a fantastic display it promises to be. The road closure application for this event was a little late being presented to the Shire, necessitating a decision of Council. Councillors approved this event, 9-0 without debate.

Temporary Mailbox Room

Early in the New Year the Post Office will be moving in to the new Supermarket complex.

But, in the meantime, the small room of post boxes at the back of the post office had to have its temporary permit renewed. We all look forward to the new facility but it will be a little sad not to have the post office in the Post Office building after 113 years. The renewal was granted.

Commercial/Residential Development

For a second time, there is a proposal for a mixed use development on the site between the Bendigo Bank and Shoemaker House. Similar to the previous application, approved by Council, this one involves the use of part of the Bendigo Bank car park area. However, this time the Council is demanding much more from the developers. It is interesting to note that the Council has both a direct commercial interest as the owners of the land and building (the Bendigo Bank) and the regulatory responsibility for planning approvals – in other words, a conflict of interest. Toodyay could benefit from having a different type of accommodation available, what we might call 'executive style'. There was also an interesting discussion about access to the river and having the view to and across the river (river bed this year) as a feature. In the 19th and quite a bit of the 20th century, the river bank was very much the back yard and even the rubbish dump. The idea of beautifying and making public access to the river and its environs has long been the dream of many. After many meetings and much discussion between the developers and the Shire, it will be interesting to see if the development goes ahead.

Extractive Industry License

An application for an extractive industry license has been approved for a sandpit on a property along Mount Road. The Shire has a sliding scale of charges for extracted earth material. It ranges from no charge for less than 2,000 tonnes per year to 50 cents per tonne for over 10,000 tonnes. Councillor Prater asked if that meant the first 2,000 tonnes was free, the next 8,000 tonnes charged at 25 cents per tonne and any tonnage over 10,000 at 50 cents per tonne. The President, Councillor Hogg, didn't give a yes or no answer, (he was a lawyer in a previous life, where they never give yes or no answers, they only make witnesses do that.) but referred to the words in the schedule of fees and charges. That document is ambiguous so it took quite a time to work out what the answer is. I'm still not sure, but I think it's YES. All of that was a side issue to whether the application was granted or not. The motion was passed 9-0.

Home Business

An application for a furniture-making, home business was the next item on the agenda. This is in the Julimar area in a Rural Residential zone. The proponents will have to get a noise report from a qualified expert before going ahead with their project.

Dog Policy

Local Planning Policy 15 (LPP 15), keeping of three to six dogs came up for discussion again. This subject brings out a bit of bark and snarl and has taken some time to resolve. Some minor changes were made to try and clarify things for the Shire staff. It does not change

the fact that the keeping of more than two dogs has to be applied for.

Standpipe Charges

The Water Corp has informed the Council that the one and only standpipe in the Toodyay area has had its status changed from a country standpipe to a commercial standpipe. This means a significant increase in costs (nice of the Water Corp in a drought year). The new charges commenced on 1 December 2010. Consequently, the Shire has to raise its fee to the water carriers from \$2.50 per KI, to \$4.50 per KI. The Water Corp is also going to increase its annual service charge from 1 July 2011, so that will come up in the next budget. Unbelievably, Councillor Firns had some difficulty in getting the Council to agree to a letter being sent to the Water Corp seeking an explanation and justification for the change in status. We all know that the decision won't be changed, but simply allowing it to happen without a whimper would not have served the best interests of the Toodyay residents.

New Works Depot

A lot of work and planning has been done by our administration staff to fix the mess that the works depot had become under the previous CEO. Amongst other things, the Toodyay Race Club is to be offered one of the sheds as a replacement for fire damaged infrastructure at the Race Course. Community groups are to be offered some land at the western end of the complex.

Community Radio

The previous item leads straight on to this item as the community radio will be one of the community groups to occupy part of that western portion of the new Works Depot.

Toodyay Policeman Named WA's Top Cop

A FORMER Toodyay policeman was named Western Australia's Officer Of The Year.



Paul McComish was the officer in charge of Toodyay police station during last December's devastating bushfire which destroyed 38 homes.

Sergeant McComish says he feels humbled to

have been nominated for the award by the Toodyay community.

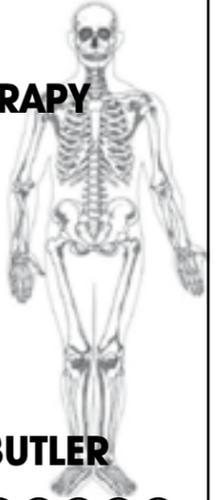
"I was blown away when I was nominated. I knew the community were very thankful of my role but I certainly didn't expect it," he said. "I knew a lot of the people that were fire affected, it was something that was very close to home, so you couldn't help but be involved in it. I had the time and the need was there."

Wheatbelt Superintendent Catherine Bullen said Sergeant McComish displayed all the hallmarks of a true community leader during the period of recovery after the disaster.

"When you get people like Paul who actually live and work in the community and become a part of the community, people actually see them as humans and recognise that they are supportive of the community and they certainly see people like Paul as a leader," she said.

Sergeant McComish has since taken up a supervisory role at the Wanneroo police station in Perth's northern suburbs.

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letters

I WAS NEARLY scammed the other day when an Indian man, claiming to be from Windows technical support, called me and said they had been receiving a lot of error messages from the router on my computer system.

He told me to go to start, run, type in eventvwr and it would show me all the errors and warnings from my computer; there were a few so I got slightly sucked in. Then he said he would pass me on to their technician and he would guide me through the process to check for viruses.

The technician said to type into the address bar of my internet explorer www.ammyy.com and click on 'run ammyy admin'.

Just before I did this, I asked if it was going to cost me anything. He replied that it wouldn't cost me anything if my computer was still under warranty. My computer is a few years old, so he said I would have to buy a two-year warranty extension. I said, "No thanks," and he hung up.

I then typed 'ammyy' into the Google Search Engine and could see straight away that it was a scam. Apparently these people are linked to credit card scams and, once you accept, they have remote access to your WHOLE computer including your personal information. Apparently they are targeting WA at the moment.

I have since found out that they called a friend's mother who is in her 70s. She received an email that looked like it was from her daughter and was caught. At the time of the email, she had already lost \$120 and, although believed she'd removed most of the programme, she has no idea if it is all gone.

DON'T BE SUCKED IN - IT WILL COST YOU DEARLY.

Misty Rogers

IT IS FRUSTRATING that a decision was made to close Newcastle Bridge with only four weeks remaining of the school term. Surely the structure is no more dodgy now than it has been for many, many years! What was the council's rationale?

Closure of this important bridge means that children walking home from school now have to travel an extra two and a half kilometres in the heat.

They are not allowed to cross the river bed because of snakes and, going the other way around, down Drummond St, is also a significantly increased distance. Parents collecting children from school now have an extra 18 or so kms per week to travel and there is noticeable congestion in the school car parks.

Instead of being barricaded up and left to further deteriorate - what a half-arsed, easy way out - the bridge needs to be properly assessed and repaired as soon as possible. Who will take responsibility for this?

Naomi Millett

WHAT A WONDERFUL display of colour the town has become with the Christmas decorations taking shape up and down the street.

In the past few years, the medical centre and a few hardy individuals were the only bright spots during the festive season.

I cannot wait until the lights are turned on and the colour comes alive. Well done to all the people involved in arranging and erecting them.

Jenny Willgoss

TO JIM AIKMAN, his wife Sussan, Penny and all their employees, we wish to thank you for the wonderful work you have done on building our new home on top of the hill.

Thank you for going out of your way for us, getting the best possible prices on all your work including floor coverings, vertical blinds and light fittings. We will recommend your company very highly to anyone wanting a home built.

To the majority of the Toodyay community, many of whom my husband and I thanked by name in May's edition of the *Herald*, thank you once again for your support and for your caring. It will never be forgotten.

Yours sincerely

Janine and Jeff Plummer

THE 'GOSSIP MILL' in Toodyay is again alive and so very, very wrong.

It is absolutely unbelievable that people are talking from their 'boots' and know nothing about what the Toodyay Men's Shed represents or stands for. Perhaps those who profess to know it all should really tell us because how misinformed these people are.

Firstly, at this point in time, there is or has not been any mention or consideration as to where the Toodyay Men's Shed will be housed permanently. Secondly, when the Men's Shed is built, it is strictly for MEN only. The women in our town are catered for very nicely with CWA, Craft Groups, etc. Thirdly, under no circumstances will the Shed be using loud machinery and working into the night; the hours will be strictly during daylight and possibly only for a few hours during the week. Also, it should be noted that there will be no loud music or other loud and aggressive noises to cause problems to others.

To put it in a 'nut shell', the Toodyay Men's Shed is for the wellness of our male community and for the friendship and fraternity that will do what our motto calls for: "Blokes supporting Blokes".

Where the notion of enormous industrial sized sheds to run machinery early morning to late evening together with loud music, orgies and dance parties has come from, has got us completely puzzled.

Should anybody hold these ridiculous views, I invite their enquiry with me at any time, as I would be pleased to convey to them the truth and to allay any of their fears.

The male populace of this area needs the Toodyay Men's Shed. The fact remains that 18 or 19 suicides in this region this last five years is a dreadful statistic. It may be well to note the Australian Men's Shed Association, of which we are a part, is now in excess of 400 Sheds and over 35,000 persons strong and involved and is supported by 'Beyond Blue' as well as Federal, State and Local Governments throughout Australia.

*Jeff Robers,
Chairman,*

Toodyay Men's Shed.

Toodyay Men's Shed

The Toodyay Herald received 6 letters regarding the Toodyay Men's Shed and its disputes over location. Due to lack of space, not all have been included.

Ed

A Notice of Grievous Harm

IT IS WITH deep regret that, following November's Council Meeting, I have to tell you good people of Toodyay that the *Toodyay Men's Shed* is dying! Stabbed with the KNIFE of Council disinterest and STRANGLED by Council Administrative bureaucracy.

Sixty members, aged, frail, veterans, disabled and younger men are without real hope.

We started, with great hopes and aspirations, in March 2010 with a submission to the Council Forum where a nineteen page list of requirements, including detailed drawings of a shed were presented to all present, Councillors and CEO. Since then, after much to-ing and fro-ing, further presentations to the council and administration of aerial photos of likely areas for the location of a men's shed, we are told that what we have presented is NOT concise... Without ever having the Council come back to us with their requirements.

I submit the information that Brookton, Beverley, Northam, Goomalling and Wundowie have all raised Men's Sheds and have had their shires place quickly at their disposal sheds or land in or very near the heart of their towns. What is happening in Toodyay?

Absolutely Nothing!

Our only verbal offers from the shire were to join the Toodyay Race Club and build a shed there. The Racing Club has no lease agreement with the Shire at this time. Too far from town and no guarantee of tendance. Then, the western end of the new Shire Depot, if we pay part of the \$96,000 needed by the shire to join to Western Power, also too far from town and can you see Gophers competing with trucks, graders and rubbish trucks on the road from town? I think not!

What has happened to this town has growth cancelled out compassion?

The State flag of Carolina has a snake and the motto, 'Don't Tread On Me', perhaps the Toodyay Men's Shed should adopt this motto with due regard to our own Shire.

Fred Fellowes

I BELIEVE OUR Shire Council is doing the men of this Community a disservice by denying (either permanently or temporarily) them the opportunity of having a 'Men's Shed' erected on a site easily accessed in town by any man who wishes to do so.

This organisation does much to improve the physical, social and mental health of our men of all ages, encouraging and mentoring young men as well as providing a gathering place for the elderly men among us where they can feel useful and needed. Not all town men can drive or have cars to attend an 'out of town' venue.

I believe the Shed should be seen as a necessary 'drop in' centre that will add to the value of our town, rather than be a nuisance - after all, we don't try and stop the trains coming through, do we? I would urge all Councillors to get behind the Men of the Shed.

Elvina McFaul

I WOULD LIKE to bring to the notice of the citizens of Toodyay the problem of initiating a course of action by our Shire Council.

I do not intend to single out any one individual or to make any unsubstantiated statements but I would like to point out to the good citizens of Toodyay that we of the Toodyay Men's Shed Committee have so far been very tolerant, respectful and patient with our dealings with said Shire Council.

Our problem is this.

We now have 59 members who range in age from approximately 45 to 80+, some in good health whilst others less so, some with a motor vehicle, some without, looking for somewhere to call 'home' in the form of premises where we can BUILD our shed.

This 'shed' is called a 'shed' symbolically so as to be associated with the Australian concept of every man has his own shed at home. However, this is not a personal shed but a 'group one' where men of ALL nationalities, creeds or religions can come together to enjoy each other's company, to seek advice, mentoring for our youth or counselling or just to get 'something' off their chest! It would appear that these aims of the membership are creating a threat to some in their ignorance as to what our AGENDA is; let me tell you, we do not have one.

We have made several submissions to the Shire only to be enmeshed in local prejudice to anything that may be of value to the community being under suspicion of getting something for nothing or "what's it going to cost me"

Again the answer is nothing.

What we are trying to do is get the Shire Council to give/lease for a 'peppercorn rent' land on which we can build a structure, fully in keeping with Shire guidelines to house our organisation and tools to facilitate the use as previously stated.

We will get financial funding from several sources thus not placing any financial burden on the Shire.

We have over 3,800 years worth of life experience here amongst us to fall back on; give us a chance to put it to good use helping each other.

There are a lot of good men here in Toodyay just waiting to be heard and considered worthy to have the Shire actually do something constructive and farsighted in assisting in every way to be associated with the Toodyay Men's Shed sooner rather than later.

Yours faithfully,

BP Bodle

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Toodyay Gets Revved Up!

MOTORCYCLE enthusiasts from near and far were treated to a day out in one of WA's best known bike destinations at the first Toodyay Motorcycle Festival last weekend.

The one-day festival attracted around 2000 people to the main street of Toodyay, and the afternoon rain certainly did nothing to dampen people's moods.

A whole range of things to see and do kept visitors entertained throughout the day; and the atmosphere was exactly what you'd expect from a town that has experienced hard times, but was not letting that stop them. Comments from visitors and locals praised the efforts of organisers in bringing the festival to Toodyay and giving the locals something to talk about for weeks to come.

Show organiser, Peter Woods, said the main focus of the Toodyay Motorcycle Festival was that it was a charity event, with the Making a Difference ride being a main feature of the day.

"The Making a Difference (MAD) rides are held regularly to raise money for spinal injury research at Shenton Park Hospital," he said. "This MAD ride had around 800 bikes in a massive convoy that started in Stratton and finished on the main street of Toodyay - which was an impressive sight when they arrived at the Show."

The proceeds raised for the Shenton

Park Rehabilitation Unit and Spinal Care amounted to \$15,000 from this event.

The Toodyay Motorcycle Festival featured a range of exhibitors in stalls along Stirling Terrace plus local businesses were open for trade. Live bands could be heard all day, and the numerous pubs and cafes did a roaring trade as visitors dined in comfort while having the best seats to view the Show.

Exhibitions included Hunter Motorcycles, who showed their Hunter Spyder; naXsaX clothing, with their range of specifically designed and tailored motorcycle clothing and accessories; Pachamama Garments, who were selling leather jackets and vests; and Adventure Cams who were demonstrating the latest in technology. Other exhibitors included Honda, Perth Street Bikes and the

Motorbike Rider's Association of WA.

The entertainment for the day was everything an adrenalin junkie could

want, with moto trials giving crowds a demonstration of what can be achieved on a bike; plus the awesome and exciting freestyle motorcross demonstrations. Riders from ASPEXtreme performed two main shows, giving crowds a thrill as they jumped, flipped and performed amazing aerial stunts on their purpose built track in the middle of Stirling Terrace.

Peter Woods has been involved in motorbike festivals for many years, having built up the Perth Motorcycle and Scooter Show, plus the well known Northam Motorcycle Festival. Peter said plans were underway for the next Toodyay Motorcycle Festival; more details would be released soon.



Bridge Maintenance Under Way

TRANSPORT Minister, Simon O'Brien, recently announced that the State Government had awarded Regional Bridging Pty Ltd a \$900,000 contract to undertake repair and refurbishment works to 24 timber bridges across the northern Wheatbelt.

"The work includes repairing bridge substructures and superstructures, as well as routine and specific maintenance on 22 bridges, and constructing approach slabs and upgrading the off-bridge guard rails on another two bridges," Mr O'Brien said.

In the Shire of Northam, the programme includes bridges over:

- Mistake Creek - Northam-Toodyay Road
- Wongamine Creek - Irishtown Road
- Spencers Brook - Trimmer Road

• Tink's Bridge - Northam-Toodyay Road.

In the Shire of Toodyay, bridges over:

- Koondinee Creek - Northam-Toodyay Road
- Harper Brook - Northam-Toodyay Road
- Jimperding Brook - Toodyay Road
- Avon River - Goomalling-Toodyay Road
- Boyagerring Brook - Goomalling-Toodyay Road
- Harper Brook-Lloyds Creek - Toodyay Road
- Waters Brook - Toodyay-Bindi Bindi Road
- Nambling Brook - Toodyay-Bindi Bindi Road
- Avon River - Julimar Road
- Boyagerring Brook - Woodendale Road
- Toodyay Brook - Wattening Road.

In the Shire of Goomalling, bridges over:

- Wongamine Creek - Goomalling-Toodyay Road
- Mortlock River - Goomalling-Toodyay

Road.

In the Shire of Dandaragan, bridges over:

- Caren Caren Brook - Brand Highway
- Hill River - Munbinea Road.

In the Shire of Moora, bridges over:

- Moore River-Hospital Bridge - Dandaragan Street
- Yadgena Brook - Midlands Road.

In the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu, bridges

over:

- Kalguddering Creek - Northam-Pithara Road
- Hornsby Creek - Northam-Pithara Road.

"The works will ensure the safety of motorists and increase the lifespan of the bridges," the Minister said.

Works are under way and should be completed by March 2011.



Wishing you a safe, happy and enjoyable Christmas with family and friends. All the best for the New Year

Hon Brian Ellis MLC
Member for the Agricultural Region

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Beginner's Luck at Show?

Paul O'Sullivan

LOCAL lass, Kath Chitty (one of the weekly regulars at the Moerlina group run by the local Silver Chain) has shown one of her hidden talents by taking first prize in the Knitting section at the Toodyay Show and second prize in the Crocheting Section – despite being a true novice.

She had only recently taken up the new hobby under the tutelage of fellow Moerlina regulars, Marjorie Roberts and Greta Baker in the different sections and was surprised when other non-knitting members of the group suggested she enter the results in the Show.

What a shock when she received the prizes in the two sections! But not a shock to all the other regulars at Moerlina who could see the quality work of this gifted novice.

Moerlina meets twice a week on Tuesday and Thursday at the Toodyay Sports Pavilion.



Kath Chitty (standing) with Greta Baker and one of her winning creations

News from Bolgart and Surrounding Areas

Doris M Martin

BEST wishes are extended to the following folk who celebrated their birthdays this month:

Happy birthday to Mr George Westlake of Calingiri who, a little bird tells me, turned 95 recently; happy birthday also to Mrs Lil Edmonds of Calingiri who also celebrated her birthday (ladies seldom reveal their ages, so we will keep it a secret this time); also celebrating a birthday recently was Mrs Jean Broomhall of Bolgart and several folk visited her to help her to celebrate.

At the recent Melbourne Cup luncheon held at the Bolgart Hotel, Mrs Roxanne Jackson was chosen the best dressed lady whilst Mrs Pam Meston was runner up. Congratulations to you both. The luncheon, I believe, was highly successful. Unfortunately, due to family commitments, I couldn't attend but, to please my husband, still donned my hat to watch the cup from the recliner in my own home – must have looked rather strange with a tracksuit and bare feet. At least, without a crowd to drown out the calling of the cup, I really got a bird's eye view this year.

Not much of the rain that hung around recently actually fell over Bolgart, not that the farmers would want it at this time of the year. I could have done with a cloud burst over my garden; it has just been so hot and dry this November.

Back from the Northwest is Amanda Martin who will be returning to her place of employment at Northam.

Congratulations to Kyle Martin who recently collected the most Coles vouchers for the Bolgart School in the sporting promotion run by Coles recently. The idea was to collect the vouchers to enable one's school to receive sporting equipment. I believe a total of about 7,000 vouchers were collected to aid the Bolgart School.

School holidays are looming closer and preparation for end of the year concerts and the like are in progress. Watch out for young folk on the roads and make it a safe and happy Christmas for everybody. See you in the New Year.

Film and Bushfire Project Meeting

TUCKED away from the noise and crowds, the film 'At the Coalface' was screened in the Memorial Hall on Sunday 21 November.

Documenting parts of the bushfire recovery effort in Victoria, it showed how the arts helped in rebuilding and engaging communities and assisted them with coping with changes wrought by the fires.

Witnessing the evident power of the different projects in engaging and reuniting fragmented communities was very moving.

Questionnaires were available for those attending to indicate what they would like to see happen here and whether they would be happy to participate in some way.

There was an excellent response and some very positive ideas have emerged. Importantly many are also keen to be actively involved.

Generally most people want historical records, our stories etc, to be documented and accessible, and for an interpretative panel to be set up in a prominent place. The idea for some sort of public artwork to be constructed was popular.

Environmental aspects were also a concern for many. Other more specific and (excellent) suggestions have been put forth. We invite anyone who was unable to come to pick up the same form from the library and complete the questionnaire. Please return by 20 December to the library or email your suggestions.

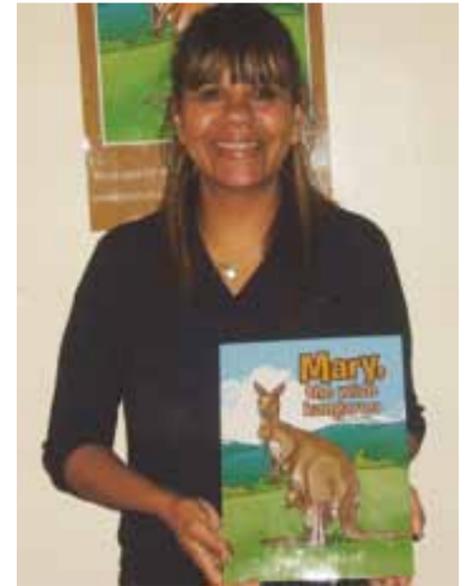
We can then move towards the next stage of doing what is required to make these ideas into reality.

There is still time to have your input. We also need to set up a way of keeping people informed so your contact details will be important. If you have any more immediate questions, please contact Brian Shepherd on 9574 2601 or email b.shepherd@optusnet.com.au or Robyn Taylor on 9574 2578 or email rdtaylor@inet.net.au.

Mary, the Wise Kangaroo

SELF-PUBLISHED author, June Stack (née Ryder) has just received the first copies of

her first children's book, *Mary, the wise kangaroo*.



June grew up in Toodyay, her parents and grandparents already residents prior to her birth. She went to Toodyay District High School before doing Year 11 at Northam Senior High. She and her family left Toodyay for other climes in 1985.

After the breakup of her marriage and bringing up her four children on her own, she found she needed a goal in life and, in December 2009, decided to write a book which she began in January 2010.

On completion, she found that the best course of action to get it published was to do it herself. Her research led her to an American, self-publishing company, Xlibris, the project finally got going in July 2010.

Mary, the wise kangaroo is available from the Xlibris website, www.xlibris.com.au/Mary,theWiseKangaroo.html.





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Seasons Greetings

We would sincerely like to express our gratitude for the loyal support and fun times our customers from Toodyay and surrounding districts have once again given us.

We wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Christmas week we will open Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd in addition to our normal days.

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Tuesday 28/12 (the day it happened)

9.00am Short commemorative service in the fire area (cnr Sesselis St. and Racecourse Rd)

10.00am to 12.30pm Memorial Hall

Bring photos, artefacts, stories, artworks* and memorabilia, for an informal sharing of your past and present experiences relating to the bushfire that affected so many.
(* Framed works - please read article for delivery details)

All Welcome

Enquiries: Robyn 9574 2578 Brian 9574 2601

RSL Toodyay Sub Branch

Lou Kidd
Snr Vice President

THE Toodyay RSL Sub Branch has just been presented with the 'Colonel Collett Trophy' for being the best performing country Sub Branch in Western Australia. For our small Sub Branch it is a huge honour. We have to thank you, the great Toodyay community, because this award would not have been possible without your support. So therefore the honour of this award belongs to us all.



President Gary Holland receiving The Colonel Collett Trophy from Avon Region State Executive Representative, Donna Prytulak

We have had a very good year to date. The Shire installed our much awaited park benches at ANZAC Park with one each for all three services: Army, Navy and Air force. We are still coming to grips with how big they are.

We have also installed all of the World War I



One of the new park benches at ANZAC Park

Honour Plaques; these commemorate all of the World War I diggers who gave their lives for their country and who had a link to Toodyay.



President Gary Holland laying the wreath on Remembrance Day

During the dedication service we were made aware that we had missed a couple of diggers; this will be rectified when we do the World War II diggers.

We have just completed our Annual Poppy Day Appeal which was again supported so well by our marvellous Toodyay community. Our normal Remembrance Day service was held at ANZAC Park on 11 November at 11am and was very well attended by our community with approximately 60 individuals paying their respects.

Our annual Street Stall and raffle was on 12 and 13 November. The amount of support we got for this event was exceptional. Since I have been involved with the RSL, this was by far the most successful stall conducted. We sincerely thank all the members of the Toodyay community for the support you have given us. I must say a special thank you to the RSL members' partners who supplied so much produce on the day. I give a very special thank you to the individuals in the community who do not belong to our organisation and still supply us with such a lot of produce to sell. It makes us feel so humble to belong to this community.

THANK YOU, TOODYAY.
Our next function will be the War widow's Christmas luncheon at the Memorial Hall on the first Sunday in December.

We are also planning an extension to the Honour Plaques in ANZAC Park. We will be adding those individuals who gave their lives for us in the Second World War. And we are also fundraising to send a student from Toodyay District High School to attend the ANZAC Day service in Memory of the

Dorizzi brothers and Reg Ferguson who all lost their lives so tragically on the Sandakan Death Marches at the end of the Second World War. Sara Cato was the winning recipient in 2010; she had a marvellous time and gave a presentation at Toodyay District High School on the 8 November. She will also be making the same presentation to the Lions Club. This will be the third year we have sent a student to Sandakan.

The first year, 2009, we sent two students, Morgan Goodman and Jakob Kidd. This was not very successful as far as getting feedback to the other students as Morgan was home-schooled and Jakob went to Northam Senior High School the year he went to Borneo. This year, 2010, we sent Sara Cato who again was not attending Toodyay District High School when she went to Borneo. But Sara has been very good with her time; she has made time to go to Toodyay District High School and given her presentation to the RSL and other organisations.



RSL Toodyay Sub Branch

We wish to thank all of our sponsors for their ongoing support: The Toodyay Lions Club, The Toodyay Shire, The Toodyay Bendigo Bank, The Toodyay Op Shop, The Toodyay Brewbakers, our dentist, Dr Michael McGuinness, our local State Government representative, Mr Grant Woodhams MLA and, last but not least, you, the great Toodyay community.

If there are any organisations interested in supporting this great Sandakan Scholarship Project to lessen the burden on our current sponsors, could you please ring our President, Mr Gary Holland, on 9574 5025 or Secretary, John Adams, on 9574 5681.

The members of the Toodyay Sub Branch of the RSL would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Forgotten Remembrance

Cameron Forbes

FOR Jim Hughes, Vic Dey, Keith Langdon and their surviving Digger mates, there is a particular poignancy about Remembrance Day. Their war is called the Forgotten War. In June, 1950, short years after the mass slaughter of World War II, the Korean War burst upon a wearied world. It ended in bloodied stalemate, back where it started, in July 1953.

It was a war where the strategic and ideological stakes were enormous. As waves of fighting and waves of death swept up and down the Korean peninsula, an arena for tyrants and titans, there was the threat of using the atomic bomb. There was talk of World War III. This was the Cold War's hot war, where the confrontation of words and ideas between Communism and democracy turned violent. Perhaps four million died.

Yet the Korean War has been lost in the shadows of the giant global conflict and in the glare of the bitter divisiveness of the Vietnam War that came after. Memory and mourning have been left mostly to those who fought and their families.

Consider the story of Vic Dey, a working class boy from the Melbourne working-class suburb, Preston. Dey had been born in 1930 on April 25, the day which grew to become the celebration of Australia's national identity. Dey went to fight in Korea, a volunteer, as all Korean Diggers were.

Dey went into action for the first time on the night of 12 July, 1952. He was a member of 3 RAR (3rd Royal Australian Regiment). Fighting patrol Oboe's mission was to attack a Chinese-held ridge and attempt to snatch a prisoner. The Chinese position had been bombarded for some hours. What the 25 men of fighting patrol Oboe did not know was that the Marine pilots had strafed Hill 115 inaccurately and that intelligence that the ridge was lightly defended was plain wrong.

Patrol leader Lieutenant Laurie Ryan arranged the patrol with two sections

Continued Page 8

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'Forgotten Remembrance' - cont from Page 7

forward. Ten metres from the trenches, the Chinese opened fire with light machine guns and burp guns. Ryan was shouting orders when he fell. Dey's mate, Vince Cherry, a strapping 23-year-old Queenslander, leapt into a trench.

Dey tells the story without dramatics: "A little Chinese lad poked his head up and Vince put the Owen gun to his belly and went POW and said: 'Stitch him up, Blue.' I had red hair in those days. I just stood and spewed. It was my first time. It sort of hit me then what it was all about."

Cherry fell, mortally wounded. Dey took Cherry's Owen magazines and grenades and started his war. He dragged his mate to the rear. Hill 115 was alive with bullets and grenade blasts and littered with wounded. Ryan's body was never recovered. Cherry died four days later. In all, fight patrol Oboe lost four men killed. Thirteen were wounded. No Chinese prisoner was taken.

Some years later, Vic Dey was back in civilian life, back where he belonged, in Preston. These were the days of six o'clock closing in Victorian hotels, in a doomed Government attempt to keep the working class sober. It produced the six-o'clock swill.

One evening Vic Dey had a thirst. He thought of the Preston Returned Services League. "You beauty," he said. He put on his uniform and knocked on the door and a bloke who had been with his brother in the air force in World War II opened it. Vic Dey said: "I'd like to come in." The bloke looked at Vic and shut the door, saying: "Korea wasn't a war."

Yes it was. It was a war of bombs and napalm and devastation, of grand miscalculations and great reverses. Weeks after Communist North Korea had stormed, with Soviet Union blessing and backing, across the 38th Parallel, the post-World War II border which divided a nation which had been united for centuries, the remnant South Korean forces and an American rescue mission barely held a toe-hold in the south-east.

America organised a United Nations intervention and Australia was one of 16 polyglot nations to answer the call. The Korean War was the last hurrah for General Douglas MacArthur, called the American

Caesar and hailed in World War II as the saviour of Australia. In a masterstroke, he sent the Marines in to the port of Inchon, well behind enemy lines, and drove the North Koreans back close to the Chinese border; in a massive mistake, he insisted the Chinese would not intervene.

They did, and for a time it looked as if the United Nations forces would be swept off the peninsula. The war was frozen in armistice more or less along the 38th parallel.

Some American soldiers said, with bitterness, that they had been there to "die for a tie" but the UN intervention certainly had an impact on the Cold War and it prevented the swallowing of South Korea by the dictator Kim Il Sung, founder of a brutal dynasty.

Australians fought with distinction. The Battle of Maryang San, where Jim Hughes, newly graduated officer from the Royal Military College Duntroon, won the Military Cross, was described by official historian Robert O'Neill as "one of the best battalion battles in our national military history of over a hundred years". In an earlier iconic battle at Kapyong, 3 RAR, in a desperate stand, help blunt a massive Chinese offensive.

There was a blood cost: 340 Australians died in the Korean War. Keith Langdon, who fought in both battles, remembers in particular Denis O'Brien. O'Brien who fought underage in World War II, volunteered for Korea, was wounded and repatriated to Australia, but rejoined his mates.

Twenty-five years old, O'Brien was the first Digger to die in the Battle of Maryang San. His family mourns still, but takes comfort in the knowledge that Denis believed he was fighting for a cause. A left-wing Catholic, he wrote to his family saying he was opposed to communism: it was discrediting and destroying the socialist tradition and what it stood for in terms of human dignity.

South Koreans are saddened by the continuing division of their country but remember with deep gratitude the United Nations soldiers who enabled them to take the path to freedom and democracy.

Cameron Forbes's book, "The Korean War: Australia in the Giants' Playground", was released in November.

emergency services

Fire Brigades to Get 100% Pay Increase! St John Ambulance

Karen Jacomelli

DO we have your attention? Before you start ringing the Shire to complain about how they spend your rates, 100% of nothing is still nothing. There are no paid firefighters in the Shire of Toodyay.

Coondle-Nunile Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade (VBFB), Julimar VBFB, Toodyay Central VBFB, Morangup VBFB, Bejoording VBFB, Toodyay Fire and Rescue (FRS). What is the common theme here? It's the word 'Volunteer'.

Who are they and what do they do?

The people you see on the fire vehicles, men and women, ranging in age from 17 to 70 or thereabouts are all volunteers, members of their local community just like you. Many people help our community in different ways. The only difference is that these people have decided to help our community by fighting fires.

How do the brigades operate?

How brigades conduct their internal administration varies. The consistent thing is that members, after undergoing training, make themselves available and respond to calls through a pager system and SMS messages. Some people are only available on weekends while others are available mid-week as well. Others operate radios, clean sheds and vehicles, prepare food during the major fires and lots more.

Who pays for the brigades?

In the long run, we, the ratepayers, provide the majority of brigade funding. With our rates, we all pay an Emergency Services Levy (ESL). This is what is used by FESA to provide vehicles and major equipment. The Shire is also allocated money from the ESL to provide uniforms and to maintain the equipment and basic fire sheds. For anything extra, such as buying fridges and freezers, tables and chairs, first aid equipment, building toilets, building and fitting out a kitchen, setting up a radio room, etc, the brigade members undertake fundraising.

Why does it take brigades so long to get there when you call 000?

Remember that these people are all volunteers. We don't have firefighters waiting in uniform at the fire sheds for a fire call to come through. Firefighters have to stop they're doing, drive to their fire shed, put on their uniforms and then drive to the fire. It will take about 10 minutes to turn out and then there is driving time to the fire, so there might be another 10 minutes before the first vehicle arrives. For the person being threatened by fire, this can seem like hours.

What's the difference between bush fire brigades and FRS?

FRS have red trucks whereas bush fire brigade vehicles are white and FRS members do additional training in relation to structural fires, but they are still volunteers and turn out to structural fires throughout the Shire not just in town.

Please remember that there are no paid fire fighters in the Shire of Toodyay. There are five Volunteer bush fire brigades scattered throughout the Shire and a Fire and Rescue Services (FRS) brigade in town.

Can you help your local brigade?

Don't say you don't know what to do - we all started there - because you will be given training before you are allowed to attend a fire call-out. Those who can't be firefighters can still help.

Even if you are unable to join, a visit to your local brigade is a great opportunity to meet other people from around your area and obtain advice about maintaining your property to reduce the chances of fire.

CAN we find you in an emergency?

All '000' calls go to the Belmont Communications Centre. They get your details and forward them to us so we can respond. They do not have local knowledge so we rely on the caller to provide them with as much information as possible so that we can find the location as quickly as possible. For example, Bejoording can be particularly challenging for crews.

Are you giving them the rural or lot number? Is it displayed on a gate? Are there any distinguishing features to your entry point? Is the access actually via another street or entrance? Which is the nearest cross road and how far from there? At night, is someone able to flag us down by torch at the gate? Do you have a phone number we can ring if we cannot find you? You may not have all these details and that is okay but Any additional information which assists us in locating you is appreciated because it reduces delays in getting to your location.

In October, the St John volunteers were called out to 36 cases comprising of 9 trauma, 17 medical and 10 cardiac. Toodyay attended 28, Bolgart 2 and Morangup 6, travelling a total of 3,640kms.

As if the shock of a health scare is not enough, people need to be aware that it can also involve added financial costs. The average cost for transportation from Toodyay to Northam Hospital is \$370, Swan Districts \$700, Royal Perth or Princess Margaret \$1000. These figures are from the town of Toodyay so it can be considerably more depending on your location. Some think that their private health insurance covers these costs but ambulance cover in a private fund usually only covers urgent ambulance. Considering local membership is \$40 single and \$70 family (dependants under 18) per annum it is a worthwhile investment if you do not want to get a shock when you get a bill! Please drop in to our local pharmacy or see Pam at the office (if she is not out on a call) and get covered.

Last but not least, on Saturday 4 December at Federation Square, join Fletch and some of the crew for a sausage sizzle and find out about the service and how you can become a volunteer. It's not just ambulance work as there are other valuable roles which service the community.

So to one and all have a happy Christmas and New Year but please be safe and careful, especially on the roads. We are looking forward to seeing you around Toodyay not as a statistic.

Coondle - Nunile VBFB

John Henderson

ANOTHER month and, happily, not a lot of action. Our heavy unit was out of action for a while - broken axle - but is now back on the road.

Membership is looking good: we have signed up several new members, both active and auxiliary.

The social side is also going well. Kerry, our social convenor, comes up with some good ideas. The latest was a Mexican theme, with some excellent food and imaginative costumes after our November meeting. A lady by the name of Margarita put on a great show.

My wife and I were in Brisbane last month, she in her "G'day from Toodyay WA" T-shirt, and me in my fire shed shirt, and a

Continued Page 9

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wheatbelt natural resource management CARING FOR OUR COUNTRY

Community Small Grants now open!

Community Small Grants are now open for projects that aim to achieve an environment in the Avon River Basin (ARB) that is healthier, better protected, well managed, resilient and provides essential ecosystem services in a changing climate.

The emphasis of this incentive scheme is on developing community capacity to engage in natural resource management in the ARB. Projects must demonstrate a strong NRM focus.

Natural Resource Management (NRM) is the sustainable management of Australia's natural resources (our land, water, marine and biological systems). NRM is vital to ensure our ongoing social, economic and environmental well being.

Applications can be downloaded on the web address below or by contacting Taryn Beagley tbeagley@wheatbeltnrm.org.au or phone Taryn Beagley on 9690 2257

Applications close 10th December 2010

www.wheatbeltnrm.org.au/funding_csg

It's Xmas at Trees Cafe Bolgart

Open first weekend in December
Sat 10am-3pm Sun 10am-3pm
Sat night 6.30pm-11pm

Three course set Xmas menu \$40 per head BYO
Night bookings essential Ph: 9627 5187
Market Sunday December 5th

We are taking bookings for Xmas wind-ups of 10 or more until 19 December

Thank you to all our supporters—have a wonderful Xmas & see you after our summer break in April 2011

TOODYAY LAND CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMITTEE

••••• PUBLIC NOTICE •••••

The Annual General Meeting of the Toodyay Land Conservation District Committee will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 7 December 2010, at the CWA Rooms, 113 Stirling Terrace. All persons actively engaged in, or affected by, or associated with land use (land users) within the district (Shire of Toodyay) are eligible, and encouraged, to nominate. There is provision for the appointment of 5 members in this category, however this can be amended prior to the Committee being reappointed. Appointments will be forwarded to the Commissioner for Soil and Land Conservation for consideration, prior to being appointed/reappointed.

emergency services

Coondle VBFB - cont from Page 8

gentleman approached and asked were we from Toodyay? Yes. Do you know Grant Scobie? I was tempted to say, "Na, never heard of him," but good manners prevailed. Cec and Pat Molloy send their regards, Grant.

Our next meeting is on 11 December at 5pm, with our Christmas party afterwards. Kerry needs to know how many to cater for so, if you plan on being there, call her on 9574 4470 or, better still, call in on Friday night and put your name on the board.

New members are always welcome so call our Captain Peter on 9574 2951 or, as above, call in to the shed on Fridays from 5pm.

Be fire wise, and help us all to have an incident free festive season.

Toodyay Central Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Desraé Clarke

HAVE you prepared your 'bushfire survival plan and kit' yet?

The final General Meeting for 2010 was held on Tuesday 23 November with a disappointingly small attendance. However, over the previous month members have been busy with a number of call-outs and two controlled burns.

The Brigade is always pleased to welcome new members for both active and ancillary support and on this occasion we welcome new young member, Mitch Giles. Welcome, Mitch, it's great to have you come on board!

As was printed in last month's Herald the list of subdivisions that are incorporated in the Central Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade area of our Shire of Toodyay is significant.

- Moodyne Estate
- Lozanda Heights
- Vernon Hills
- Majestic Heights
- Majestic Waters
- Nardie (including Glencoe)
- Dumbarton (including Mountain Park)
- Wicklow

We need new members and we need new young members!

Over the past month there has been training in 'drafting' and on Saturday 5 December 5 there is to be a 'joint training day' with the Julimar Brigade. Enquiries may be made to our Captain, Kevin Hug 9574 2612.

The Christmas get-together is to be held Saturday 11 December commencing 6pm; members are asked to please RSVP the Secretary, Wayne Clarke 6364 3609.

The first General Meeting of 2011 is to be held Tuesday 25 January at the Fire and Emergency Centre, Stirling Terrace, Toodyay commencing at 7.30pm.

Toodyay Emergency Services Cadets



Faith Kelly, Taylor Ferguson and Jessica Brown

THE Emergency Service Cadets would like to let the community of Toodyay know who we are and what we do. The Cadet Unit is made up of year 8, 9 and 10 students from Toodyay District High School who meet every Friday afternoon for Cultural Projects.

During the first term, the Cadet Unit went to swimming lessons at Northam's local swimming pool. These swimming lessons were taken to build the cadets' confidence in swimming and also because we had our first camp coming up and it involved water. The Cadets' first camp was a one night camp at Lake Leschenaultia.

When we got to the camp we unloaded the bus and set up our tents. We then had a barbecue dinner before we played a couple of night games.

The next morning we got up, had a morning march around the lake then a yummy breakfast. We all got into the water to go canoeing, swimming, jumping off the pontoon and floating on giant, blown up tyres. Sadly, we had to leave too soon but it wasn't our last camp!

For ANZAC Day, the Cadets marched for the men whose lives were taken for our country. The day was fairly hot but the service was great.

In second term the Emergency Service Cadets went on a six day camp to Kalbarri. While on the camp we went abseiling, canoeing, hiking, had a movie night, played

food games involving people putting stockings over their heads and sucking jelly out of a bowl, went to an aquarium and saw fish, crabs, sea horses and starfish and then, on the last night of camp, we had a bonfire where we all sat around and talked about how camp was, what we enjoyed and what we had learnt. At the bonfire the cadet leaders gave each cadet a certificate to recognise what the student has done or achieved during camp.

In third term, the unit had an overnight camp at Hoddywell Archery Park. We challenged ourselves with a number of targets. Most years there is always an overnight camp!

The last camp for 2010 was the Bike Hike Camp. On 15 November, 24 cadets along with the leaders, Mr Jasinski, Vicki, Simon, Benn and Jazmine went on camp. It was a very tiring three days.

The first day we travelled down to Ern Halliday, split into two groups where one went to the beach and played games while the other went to challenge themselves on the rock climbing wall. After lunch we swapped over. After the awesome activities, we set up camp and had some relax time. Vicki, along with some of the cadets, cooked a lovely dinner, and then we went to Lazer Tag (Darklight). This was so much fun. We came back to camp and had a good sleep for the 42km bike ride the next day.

On Tuesday, the big bike ride was the challenge and a few more teachers came and helped out: Mr Wadley, Mrs Knowles and Mr Poutney. Our first stop was Trigg Beach and we had a snack and a drink and set off for Scarborough. Cottesloe was where we had our big break. After a nice relaxing lunch-break on the grass, overlooking the clear, blue water we rode off again to other places for a quick stop and, soon enough, we got to Woodman Point (south of Fremantle). That night we did a scary tour of Fremantle Prison. Next day, beach and climbing activities finished us off.

A big thank you to all the leaders and teachers who helped make this camp possible.



Introducing 1st Class Constables Matt Bruse and Charlie Ambrose who are part of the team that provides the community with Policing Services within the Shire of Toodyay. They are happy to be approached if members of the public have concerns or wish to introduce themselves as they are also community members and residents of Toodyay. Currently they and their colleagues have a team in the Community Sport Challenge and Matt also plays basketball for the local Toodyay team.

Police Beat

NOVEMBER 2010 has been a busy period for the staff at Toodyay Police Station responding to various reports of crime throughout the sub-district.

Of note and concern is continuing damage to infrastructure at Duidjee Park. Police ask that members of the community keep an eagle eye out for people moving through the park, particularly late at night. Police are keen to identify offenders that have smashed lights and targeted the miniature railway in the park throughout the month.

The Toodyay District High School also continues to attract attention from offenders, particularly on weekends. Constant damage to the school costs our community dearly. Police remind the community that the school is not a public place. Police have spoken with the school and are advised that students and members of the community have to seek permission from the School Principal to enter the property out of school hours. This

Continued Page 10



Xmas Street Party Goers

Authorised Distributor



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Ends 17 Dec

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		Before	NOW!	Before	NOW!
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10% off
standard tanks GT110 or larger



*Sale valid for standard tanks GT110 or larger and ordered in WA between 15 Nov - 17 Dec 2010. Price includes GST and installation. Additional delivery charges (from \$1/km return) will apply if the site is remote (more than 100km from a Pioneer Distributor) or difficult to access. Tank must be installed by 25 March 2011. Not valid with other offers.

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www.pioneertanks.com.au

Wedlake Plumbing
Tel: 9574 2092
Mob: 0407 448 565

Toodyay Christian Fellowship

GETTING BACK TO BASICS

We welcome everyone to join us for communion and worship at 9.30am Sunday mornings in the Toodyay Community Centre

If you are interested in getting to know more about God then we have groups that meet informally.

For further information call 9574 5002
We are a child friendly church

emergency services

Police Beat - cont from Page 9

is contrary to the common belief that the school is a public place. It is not, and police ask that we all as a community keep an eye on the school to help identify those persons who enter the school without permission.

Reports of stealing from rural sub-divisions are still coming to police attention. The trend that police are observing is that items that tend to be stolen are not locked up properly, are often left lying around in the open with ready access to persons who choose to commit offences. The old story of lock up, lock up, lock up still applies!

The new staff members at the Toodyay Police Station have been enjoying getting out and about and meeting people in our community. We are working hard to encourage the philosophy that the police station is a place that you can come and stop by for a chat, particularly if you have something to share with us that may lead to us identifying persons responsible for local crime. Come in and say hello, and meet your local police officers.

Hopefully you will have noticed an increase in police presence as your local police conduct foot patrols of the town site. We are focusing on getting out and about, talking with you about what is happening in your community. You are our eyes and ears so tell us what's happening!

On that note, police still hear that there is an expectation in the community that the station is open every day for front counter inquiries. The reality is that police have to maximise their staffing levels to provide the best level of service for the community. This means that Toodyay Police Station aims to have police working every day of the week. Our administration support is limited to 3 days so, at this point of time, the station is open for inquiries Monday to Wednesday between 9am and 3pm. There are signs on the station door indicating whether the station is open, or, whether police are out and about on patrol.

Outside these times, you can visit the station but police may not be present to field your inquiries. At all times you can ring police on (08) 9574 9555 and your call will be attended to. Crimestoppers is always another reporting option – you can call them on 1800 333 000.

Crime statistics for the Avon Valley from October 28 to November 24.

Northam: Assault x 9; Burglary x 2; Damage x 20; Robbery x 1; Stealing x 10.

Toodyay: Assault x 2; Damage x 4; Stealing x 2.

York: Assault x 3; Burglary x 1; Damage x 4.

If you have information in regard to these offences or any criminal activity call local police on 131 444 or Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000.

Julimar Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Grant Scobie

If you've ever wondered about the fact that people have used peat for their cooking and heating for as long as can be, it's possible to see why/how in the Malkup Reserve in Julimar.

As I mentioned in last month's paper,

a number of brigades held a controlled burn in the reserve during September. The creek was dry-ish but with lots of green vegetation. We were surprised at how well the vegetation actually burned, in fact.

Anyway, the bottom of the creek is made up of peat which, according to Wikipedia is "an accumulation of partially decayed vegetation matter." The problem with peat is that it is dense but has air pockets throughout and so, even when covered with water, it can remain alight under the surface and reignite. And it does! It has and will continue to do so for some time.

It's also sparked a few small outbreaks that have caused some concern to neighbours of the reserve. We've been down there quite a few times, now, and will probably be heading in that direction a few more before the thing finally burns itself out.

Training in November was a special session entitled, "How to put out a peat fire." We had a pretty good turn-out of inexperienced firefighters and were able to show the benefits of teamwork and using the right tools for the job. We still didn't put all the peat out, just the bits that we could see. December training (Sunday, 5 December, 10am – 12) will involve OSH issues such as the 'fend-off' position, placement of road cones and signs, parking on the fire ground and some other things. Please wear PPE.

The Brigade had a presence at the 'Toodyay Festival of Plenty' on 26 November, doing our usual thing, selling raffle tickets and handing out brochures, DVDs and such. More next issue.

The next Brigade meeting will be on 4 December at 6pm followed, as usual, by the BYO barbecue.

If you wish to know more about your fire brigade or more about fire and how it may affect you in your community or even if you just want to get to meet some of your neighbours, get down to your local fire shed.

'The Fireplace', behind the Julimar Fire Shed is open from about 5pm on Friday nights for some casual interaction with Brigade members. Even if you're not a member, come along and have a chat about your fire prevention plan, find out about your fire brigade and get to know the people who are just like you, residents of Toodyay.

Toodyay Neighbourhood Watch - Rural

Neighbours looking after Neighbours

Desraé Clarke

THE State Conference of Neighbourhood Watch was held at the City of Bayswater Council Offices on Saturday 6 November, with a welcome from the Mayor, Cr Terence Kenyon JP. Cr Kenyon emphasised the fact that the Bayswater City has always recognised the importance Neighbourhood Watch and the assistance of the community in keeping the area a "wonderful place in which to live."

Key topics of the Conference included the development of an alert strategy, known as 'Motify', that is in its final stages of development, security patrols in the City of Cannington, the importance of partnerships and an extremely interesting, but disturbing,

presentation by Detective Senior Sergeant Glenn Swannell, WA Police Chemical Operations on Clandestine Laboratories.

The Alert Strategy was presented at the 2009 conference and has come a long way in the previous 12 months. Its concept is to have a reception tool on an ordinary mobile phone that can be activated to provide information to a relevant body, eg Police or CRIMESTOPPERS, of suspicious happenings in an area in which the mobile phone is at that time.

The City of Canning has used Security Patrols for a number of years and finds them of great benefit; they work in conjunction with the Neighbourhood Watch.

The presentation on the clandestine laboratories was supported by film which gave graphic evidence of the destructive qualities that illicit drug making, and taking, has.

Toodyay is a wonderful place to live - let's keep it that way with Neighbourhood Watch - Rural!

'Neighbours looking after Neighbours' is the strong message of Neighbourhood Watch - Rural. The group needs to be revitalised in Toodyay! Please ask your questions and demonstrate your interest by contacting Desraé Clarke on 6364 3609 or contact our Toodyay Police Service.

The Toodyay Police Service cares for YOU, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

EMERGENCY	000
NON-EMERGENCY	9574 9555
CRIMESTOPPERS	1800 333 000
GOODBYE GRAFFITI	1800 442 255

Office hours

Monday	9am till 2pm
Tuesday	9am till 2pm
Wednesday	9am till 2pm

If, for an unavoidable reason the office is unable to be attended on one of the designated days above, a notice will be affixed to the office door.

If your phone call is diverted to the District Office, Northam, please do not hang up! Give the necessary information to the Officer and your call will be attended as assessed.

Our Toodyay Police may be in the next road from where you have called!

Toodyay Community Safety & Crime Prevention Committee

Compiled by Wayne Clarke

AFTER nearly two years of consultation and hard work, the Toodyay Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan (TCSCP Plan) 2010-2015 has been completed and is with the Office of Crime Prevention (OCP) for endorsement and funding approval. This is a great tribute to the Working Group who have developed it and a credit to all those involved.

The story behind the evolution of the Plan goes back more than two years. The local community group, Toodyay Investing in Communities (TIC), began advocating participation by the Shire of Toodyay as far back as 2005. When the Shire was unable to commit to that involvement, the TIC Committee resolved to seek funding on behalf of the community. In January 2009

an agreement was signed between the OCP and TIC to develop the Plan, with funding provided by the OCP.

TIC looked at other plans developed for local governments throughout Western Australia, in most cases by consultants. \$10,000 was allocated to develop Plans, with the consultants being awarded the bulk - if not all - of this funding. TIC was adamant that this money should stay in the community, so agreed to develop the plan themselves. In the process, TIC undertook to revise their own charter, and agreed to change their name to the Toodyay Community Safety and Crime Prevention Committee (TCSCPC).

Development costs of the Plan were kept to a minimum, and after allowing for printing, the TCSCPC should come out with over \$7,000 to add towards the implementation of the Plan, with the OCP adding a standard contribution of \$20,000 in initial funding.

It may not be until mid-December before the TCSCPC is advised by the OCP of the endorsement of the Plan, and they won't meet until the New Year to begin the task of implementation. Meanwhile, the committee members may have something extra to celebrate at Christmas.

Regional Volunteer Fire Brigades Benefit from Grants

VOLUNTEER bush fire brigades from across rural WA will benefit from a total of \$80,000 worth of funding as part of Western Power's annual Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Grants program.

Western Power Managing Director, Doug Aberle, said each year the organisation provided local volunteer bush fire brigades the opportunity to apply for up to \$5000 each in funding to assist in the purchase of much needed equipment and supplies.

"This year we are pleased to be able to grant a total of \$80,000 to 27 brigades across regional WA," Mr Aberle said.

"Volunteers who donate so much of their time and hard work are pivotal in communities and these grants are one way we can acknowledge and support their efforts."

Over the past four years Western Power has provided \$380,000 in funding to 117 volunteer bush fire brigades.

Western Power's grants have enabled brigades to purchase vital equipment including subsidised connections to the Western Power grid, hand-held radios, office supplies, GPS systems, trailers, water tanks and portable water pumps.

"We know bushfires have the potential to devastate communities, and the danger can escalate if electrical infrastructure is threatened," Mr Aberle said.

"Western Power recognises the important service these volunteers provide the community over the bushfire season, and we have committed to continuing this support into the future."

All grant submissions were reviewed by a panel of representatives from FESA, The Association of Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades and Western Power.

Twenty-seven Brigades were recipients of the 2010 Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Grant. In Toodyay, the Coondle-Nunile Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade received \$2170.

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frank venn memorial awards

Desraé Clarke
Co-ordinator

Short Stories

A SHORT story should be a piece of fiction which concerns a vitally important problem or goal of one person, the proponent, and will comprise three parts: the beginning, the middle and the end, each of which has a role.

The Title should indicate something about the story and entice a reader to pick up the document and read it.

The Beginning introduces the proponent with a word on age and appearance, if relevant, sets the scene and time (2000BC or 2010), the tone, and discloses the problem or conflict the proponent is struggling with.

The Middle section reveals the motivation of the actions which the proponent will try to use to solve his/her problem. But things will get worse or more complicated and, before

a solution is in sight, the complications will pile up to a climax. A hint might be given towards the end of this section as to how the problem could be resolved.

Then, in The End, the proponent finds a solution, bringing the story to its conclusion. This section should be short, and keep the reader guessing. It should show how the proponent has changed his/her attitude or expectation, thus allowing the resolution of the problem, or the goal, to be reached.

In assessing a story the following elements are usually considered:

- Title
- Opening
- Plot
- Resolution
- Setting
- Characterisation
- Theme/tone
- Suspense, tension

- Use of the five senses
- Point of view
- Show versus tell
- Structure of the text
- Grammar and spelling

The above, 'easy to follow' guidelines have been given by the judge of the Adult Section of the Frank Venn Memorial Awards for Local Writers. The guidelines are very much appreciated and will be of great assistance to future participants.

Although there was no winner for the Adult Section, a 'Highly Commended' award was given to Sara Whincup who unfortunately submitted her entry untitled. As the judge commented, a 'title' is an extremely important requirement in a short story.

The winner for the Middle Primary Section Yrs 4 and 5 was Samuel Bowman with his work entitled, 'MANEATER';

the Judge's comment was: "This was an imaginative, well-written piece about aliens (fascinating subject for writers this age.) Well done!"

The winner for the Upper Primary Section Yrs 6 and 7 was Lia Bannister with her entry entitled, 'Across The Country': the Judge's comment was: "This was a positive, confident, well-written piece about promotion in employment, but the writer left a question over the final outcome. Well done!"

The 'Highly Commended' awards were: Rheuben Street with his entry entitled, 'My Best Friends'; the Judge's comment was "This was an imaginative, well-written piece. Well done!" And Ryan Laurin with his entry entitled, 'On The Run': the Judge's comment was "A confronting piece of writing, needs work but also needs encouragement!"

Across the Country

Lia Bannister

"EIGHT dollars", the boy behind the counter mumbled. *Eight dollars?!*

"This better be the best latté I've ever had," I said quietly to myself hoping he didn't hear me.

"Huh?" he asked looking puzzled. But before I had a chance to make something up he just yawned and shook his head. I reached into my purse to get the money when I caught sight of my watch. *Ohmygosh!* I was already fifteen minutes late! Without thinking, I threw a ten dollar note at the mahogany counter, snatched my *eight-dollar-latté* and spun around and started to sprint (which wasn't going to be very fast, seeing as how I was wearing high heels) toward the lift.

"Keep the change!" I called over my shoulder. As soon as my impatient wait was over in the lift, I resumed my attempt to run in heels without spilling my *eight-dollar-latté* (I wasn't going to forget that price for a while).

I opened one of the two opaque glass doors that led to the Bank's over-sized conference table. As I took my seat, I apologetically put my hand up and mouthed the words, "Sorry I'm late." I ignored the annoyed glances my colleagues threw me.

Olivia ever-so-slightly leaned over and whispered, "Hollie, got a call from the estate agent this morning!" As she spoke my eyes darted to the pile of stacked papers and files that were in front of Olivia. They looked so neat and professional. (As she was determined to be, since she basically convinced herself that she was going to be promoted to State Manager).

I looked unwillingly to the pamphlet that read, 'SYDNEY'. "Really?" I forced myself to say. "What did they say?" Olivia reminded me of a small child on Christmas morning that couldn't contain their excitement. She could hardly sit still.

"I fly next Wednesday." Olivia pronounced every word slowly and carefully as if she was speaking to someone who was hard of hearing. She automatically whipped her head around, turning away from me. Probably fighting a grin, I imagine.

The State Manager position was in Sydney. It was either me or Olivia that would get the promotion. I mean, I wouldn't turn it down or anything, but... it wasn't exactly... my *top* priority. Olivia had already planned her residence in New South Wales. I suppose if it were me who got the promotion, I wouldn't be *that* fussed either way. Unlike *some* people. I looked tow-

"State Manager, Hollie Jackson." My train of thought was interrupted. My heart skipped a beat. Did I hear correctly? Or was the faint 'Hallelujah Chorus' crescendo in the back of my head affected my hearing? After what seemed like a long minute of clapping and cheering, I soon realised I was grinning from ear to ear. I then stood up to start my speech of thanks and appreciation (which I had practised enough times in front of the mirror, just in case I *did* get the promotion, *which I did!*)

As soon as I sat back down in my seat, I thought of what it would be like being a State Manager. That way, I could tune out the tedious and dull monotone presentations that often took place during the Bank's seminars. Okay, so perhaps I understated that just a *tiny* bit earlier. What I really meant was, 'I suppose if it were me who got the promotion

I would really be fussed either way.

"This Friday, the Bank will be hosting its annual Christmas Party." Jordan announced. "I hope to see you all there," he continued, "and enjoy the rest of your day." He finished. I turned to my right to speak to Olivia, but she was already out the door and heading towards her office. I picked up my *eight-dollar-latté* and- *Ugh!* It was cold! I would never get those wasted eight dollars back! All the things I could of spent it on... I snapped myself back into reality. Without really paying attention to what I was doing, I dropped my coffee into the small bin just beside the doorway and went straight into my office.

Wow! I had never seen the Bank look so Christmassy before. It was definitely something. The tastefully decorated tree that stood without going unnoticed by each and every person who passed by. The elaborate display of cuisine that was flawlessly set out. The ostentatious appearance of it all was very different to how the Bank usually looked. Had I walked into the wrong building? No, of course not. I couldn't have. I mean, how many parties in Perth have a guest with a stare as cold as Alaska?

She had been avoiding me all week because I had been given the promotion that she had been working towards for over a year. I had no idea that *I* would be given the promotion that *I* wasn't even working towards. So I accepted the promotion. That was my prerogative. It wasn't my fault, right?

Well, her demeanour was nonchalant but her facial expression told an entirely different story. I decided to walk over and say, "Hi." I think, for the first time in my life, I was lost for words. "So... w-what's new with you?" I tried.

"Oh, you know, stolen promotion, found out I can't move to Sydney, the usual." Sarcasm dripping from every word. Why her face hadn't turned a deep jade of green with envy was beyond me.

Let's try again. "Well, if you want you can come with me to the airport in a few hours, we could grab a bite to eat and have a nice chat."

"Busy." Olivia cut me off. *What?!* That was an olive branch! I had never seen this side of her before. Oh wait! Yes I have! A few weeks ago before all this started, I ate the last of her jelly babies. "Bye." She added in a curt tone, which was her way of putting an end to the conversation. So without another word I turned around to say my 'goodbyes' to the rest of the guests. I was then on my way to Sydney.

0 0 0

I walked into the tall skyscraper that now was home to my new job. The radiant sun was gleaming off my sunglasses and my eyes were squinting so much that I could hardly see. After I waited a moment for my eyes to adjust to the light inside, I went into my new office. This was my third week, and so far this prestigious job *wasn't* all that it was cracked up to be. There was only a *tiny* difference in my wages and the people were extremely rude. Not only to me but to each other *and* to customers.

I went to the office of the banks director and worked up the courage to knock on the door. No answer. I tried again. Still no answer. I decided to take a chance and just go in. Well no wonder there was no answer, there was nobody there. I slowly and carefully placed my resignation on the desk and just walked out.

The next day I got a call from the director to say that he had regretfully accepted my letter of resignation. I found his polite tone very strange compared to the last three weeks of brusque behaviour that I had to put up with. In three days I was to hop onto a plane and fly back to Perth. I couldn't help compare the two jobs. My job in Perth, I thoroughly enjoyed. I would meet for coffee with my best friend, Olivia, and I got on well with all of my co-workers as opposed to my job in Sydney.

I sat in deep thought, silently watching families, couples and friends walking, or should I say running, to the gate for the flight back to Perth. The tannoy was announcing the last call for passengers to board the plane. What do I do? Do I take a considerable risk that if I go back to Perth there is a possibility that I might get my job back? Or do I stay in Sydney and look for a new job entirely? Five minutes. I had *five* minutes to make up my mind that would decide my future. In the same second, I got up, stepped away from the bench and stepped toward my future...

Maneater

Samuel Bowman

THE message in this story is very simple. DON'T GET LOST!!

Hello, my name is Samuel T. W. Bowman, Year 5, 10 years old, and am an archaeologist. But I am not used to paeleontology, and because of that, I was called out to a very important site. A specimen unlike any other. "Well, I'm impressed! The specimen is a *helix fossil*", a glowing fossil. "What is a glowing fossil doing in an old mine?" As we walked deeper into the mine, two reptilian forms flew over us. As we found the mine console, we flicked on a switch that turned on the lights of the mine to reveal an anomaly (a portal that leads the world to the future). The lights also revealed characters that have not been seen for millions of years, and creatures that don't even exist yet. The animals were *Quexalcoltas*, *Bangis*, and creatures from the movie Twilight, the *night stalkers*.

As we got closer to the anomaly, I said, "Don't make any sudden moves:.. Just then, a rock slipped and they flew everywhere, so we jumped into the portal. It was a whole new world, where the past, present and future all meet together. But something was threatening it. I'd heard of a temple that concealed a great evil, *Mocceooter* and his sons the *Rockshiy*. The Mokter were a great evil, and one of the Mokter tried to destroy the world with a doomsday device. The other one tried to destroy the human race with an oscillator key. Jet and I would not let that happen!

"Today's the day to defeat evil and save the world. Let's go!" Jet and I met up with the local blacksmith, *Barda* and his son *Lief*. They gave me the magic token warrior's sword, a magic cape and the *Belt of Albion*, studded with topez, the ruby, the opal, the labes lusi and the emerald. The belt fitted perfectly around my waist, and as soon as I put it on and touched it, it shone brighter than ever. So we used the amethyst, the 6th gem hidden in the maze of the beast. Bardar and Lief warned Jet and I. Bardar said, "The maze of the beast is a dangerous place on the western side of Dread Coast". Lief said, "The *Glus* is a horrible creature. I will have to guide you through".

"Victory! I now have the Amethyst!" "Well, I'm not impressed" said Jet muttering

to himself. "What did you say about the quest?" I asked. "Because it is getting a bit boring" replied Jet. Just then a shadowy figure came out of the moonlit shadows. The figure was heavily armed with a crossbow, a magma sword, what seemed to look like a couple of magma daggers, and what looked like a soul saber. He was wearing a golden helmet. The helmet was moulded to look like an eagle's head. The visor was moulded to look like a hooked beak, and the helmet was moulded to look like feathers. He was also wearing a dragon plate (which is a kind of thick armour plating), and a blood red tailored cloak. I then knew it was 'Nick, how are you doing?'

TO BE CONTINUED.....

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P&C News

Owen Catto
P&C President

THE P&C had an informative meeting with both the Shire President and the Acting Shire CEO who were guests at our meeting on 17 November 2010 to discuss the footbridge issue and others.

The footbridge approach to our school is the only practical walking access to the school for the children and parents that walk to and from our school each day. Because of school accessibility problems by road (ie single road access to the school), it also provides another option as a drop off point. It is estimated that some 300 to 400 children/parents use this footbridge on a daily basis. We also need to remind the Education Department of their educational responsibility in providing school accessibility options. Our school is unique in only having a single road access. It is an essential bit of infrastructure to both the community and the school.

This note is a call for support from school parents to write to our local politicians (Grant Woodhams et al) to explain the need to fix this footbridge. Contact your local Shire Council representative (verbally and written) and let them know your position. Write to the Director General of Education and our District Director to let them know we need their support on this issue.

The following factsheet, prepared by Simon Fraser, Acting CEO Shire of Toodyay, gives a good summary of the state of play in

fixing the footbridge.

Please become involved, because we can make a difference.

TOODYAY FOOTBRIDGE

FACT SHEET

1. The Toodyay Footbridge was previously in the ownership of the Education Department of Western Australia (EdWA).
2. Council, at its Meeting of 26 October 2000, considered a request of EdWA to transfer the ownership of the Footbridge to the Shire and resolved as follows: *That Council advise the Education Department of Western Australia that in view of the importance of this footbridge to its community and its primary link to the Toodyay District High School, Council accepts the transfer of the Toodyay Footbridge from Newcastle Park to the Shire of Toodyay effective immediately on the basis of:*
 1. \$85,000 being paid by the Education Department of Western Australia to the Shire of Toodyay in recognition of immediate works required and long term liability, two payments to be made as follows:
 - a. \$60,000 in the 2000/2001 financial year
 - b. Balance of \$25,000 to be paid in the financial year commencing 2001/2002 and these funds to be

completely paid by the conclusion of the 2005/2006 financial year

2. That an appropriate reserve account be established for the funds.
3. The Footbridge was transferred to the ownership of the Shire of Toodyay on 27 April 2001.
4. In 2009, the condition of the Footbridge became of concern to both Council and the community, resulting in the Shire financing a "Scope Definition Report" which was prepared by Consulting Engineers, BG and E Pty Ltd. The Report concluded as follows:
 - *The existing timber superstructure is in very poor condition and should be replaced.*
 - *The existing timber substructure is in fair to good condition with adequate capacity (subject to some repair work) to support the replacement superstructure in accordance with AS 5100 code requirements.*
5. In deliberating on each recommendation contained within the Report, Council agreed that its preference was to pursue the following superstructure replacement option: *Reconstructed spans with steel beams including design and documentation - \$767,000.00 with timber deck... An additional cost of \$90,000 to modify/rebuild the abutments and repairs to the substructure is applicable to each of the Superstructure options.*
6. On the basis of this outcome, an estimated total of \$857,000 is required to refurbish the Footbridge.
7. Council has provided an allocation of \$600,000 to part finance this undertaking in its 2010/11 Municipal Budget. The shortfall of \$257,000 was hopefully to be financed by EdWA.
8. In correspondence dated 9 July 2010, the Shire of Toodyay requested EdWA to set aside \$257,000 in its 2010/11 Capital Works Budget as a contribution to this project. In the same correspondence, the following request was also made: *Accepting the tight fiscal constraints under which EdWA operates, the opportunity to explore innovative financing arrangements to enable the project to proceed would be appreciated in the event that the \$257,000 request is beyond the scope of EdWA's current capital works Budget.*
9. In correspondence dated 23 September 2010, EdWA confirmed, in part, as follows: *I acknowledge the importance of the footbridge as essential infrastructure for both the community and for access to and from the district high school... Whilst I accept your comments on the deterioration that has occurred to the bridge, the Department's position is clearly that bridges do not fall within the realms of its core business. You would appreciate that the Department has constant pressures on its budget to maintain high levels for educational opportunities across the State, and I therefore regret that I am unable to provide funding assistance for your bridge refurbishment.*
10. On the basis of this response, there is a projected shortfall of \$257,000 in respect of this project.
11. On the advice of a Shire's Consulting Engineer, Local Government Insurance Services (LGIS) and the Shire's own maintenance staff, the bridge poses a significant liability in terms of user safety and, as such, the decision was made to close the bridge. The School was notified of this decision in advance of it being implemented.
12. The decision of the Shire to close the footbridge was not taken lightly. The Shire is well aware of the inconvenience that this decision will cause but felt

obligated to make this difficult decision having regard for the inherent risk to public safety, in particular the safety of children being the principal users of the Bridge.

13. The Shire is doing everything within its power to secure the shortfall of funds to enable the bridge refurbishment to proceed.
14. The Shire has engaged Consultants to prepare a tender specification based on the recommendations contained within the "Scope Definition Report" in order for the Shire to proceed immediately to tender in the event that the financing shortfall issue is resolved.

Simon Fraser
Acting Chief Executive Officer
18 November 2010

If you need information on who you can write to and their address, please contact Owen Catto on 9574 4682, or Nyaree Lawler on 9574 4772.

Toodyay Youthcare Council (Chaplaincy)

Millie Heath

OUR 'Friends' morning tea at the school was wonderful. Delicious food provided by the Yummy Chummies, lovely setting in the open area quadrangle and a large crowd to enjoy it all. Our very grateful thanks to Marilyn Piper, Home Economics Teacher, and her students for their hospitality.

Acting Principal, Wendy Camenzuli, welcomed guests and spoke of the value of having a School Chaplain.

We were pleased to have the YouthCARE CEO, Mr. Stanley Jeyaraj, attend, giving us a very informative speech on developments with Chaplaincy and CRE.

Rosemary Bond has been a CRE Teacher here in Toodyay for many years and various speakers paid tribute to her service, not only in this area but also as a relief teacher. We will miss her guidance, and support and wish her well in the future.

The car boot sale was most successful and our thanks to Moya Bruce for organising this fundraiser and the raffle held on 26 / 27 November, which was the final effort for this year.

This will bring us up to our target and give us a little in kitty to start next year.

Thank you to all who have supported our recent events.

We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the Toodyay Shire, Lions Club, CWA, P&C, Op Shop, 'The Friends' who have faithfully supported us throughout the year and all those who have supported our various fundraisers. Thank you all. Without your wonderful support, we would be unable to have our School Chaplain.

May you all have a peaceful and blessed Christmas.

Friends of the Chaplaincy

TOODYAY Friends of the Chaplaincy held their annual appreciation morning tea at the Toodyay District High School Courtyard Café on Wednesday 22 October.

The morning tea was attended by more than 40 supporters and friends, including: Mr Stanley Jeyaraj CEO of YouthCARE; Sam Mastrolembo, Deputy CEO, Shire of

Continued Page 14

Year One AQWA Excursion

16.11 AQWA

I saw a cuttlefish and a shark and a stingray, fish and a papa fish. My buddy made funny sounds. We held a starfish.

By Cameron

16.11 AQWA

I saw some sharks.
I saw some seahorses.
I saw some sea cucumbers.
I saw some starfish.
I saw some jellyfish.
I saw some fish.

I saw some snapper fish.
I saw some lion fish.
I saw some turtles.
I saw some crocodiles.
I saw some clown fish.
I saw some sting rays.

By Tameka

16.11 AQWA

I went to the touch pool and I saw a sting ray. I went to see the crocodiles. They were cute because they were small and they had small teeth.

By Jethro

16.11 AQWA

On Monday we went to AQWA. I saw a jelly fish in the danger zone. I touched a baby shark, it felt smooth. I saw some angel fish and they were black and white. There were baby crocodiles. There were sting rays, eagle rays, sharks and big turtles. The sting rays had their sting barbs cut off. I felt a sea cucumber, they felt squishy. I patted a sting ray. I saw a baby sting ray. It looked cute. I also saw snapper, little fish in the touch pool, lion fish, star fish and spotty fish.

By Alyssa

16.11 AQWA

I saw a shark and sting rays and a starfish and turtles and sea cucumbers and fish and jelly fish and seahorses and crocodiles and angels.

By Cody

16.11 AQWA

I saw some sting rays and I saw some sharks and I saw turtles. I saw a diver. I saw jelly fish. I saw star fish. I saw some sea horses. I saw a waterfall.

By Jade

16.11 AQWA

I saw a tiger shark and a whale shark and a sea cucumber and the sea cucumber sprayed at the rock. I saw a diver. In the rock pool I saw a shark. The sting ray went over the top. In the touch pool I saw a jelly fish. I saw a massive fish. I saw a pink snapper. I saw a massive shark. I saw a little sting ray. I saw a massive jelly fish. I saw a gigantic fake shark. There was a big sting ray. I saw a

little crocodile. It was little. I saw a medium sized jelly fish.

By Michael

16.11 AQWA

I saw a shark and I saw a sting ray and I saw a star fish and the touch pool had a sea urchin and a sea cucumber. I saw a sea horse and a sea snake and a jelly fish and a puffer fish. It was fun and I liked the fish. The turtle was big. There was an angel fish there, some cat fish and there were some clown fish.

By Hannah

16.11 AQWA

I saw a shark.
I went in the tunnel.
It was fun.
Jelly fish too.
I had fun, so did you.
I saw all of the sea creatures.
Sharks too.

Well I saw a scuba diver in the water.
I had a wonderful time.

I came, you came.

Did you have a good time?

Yes I did have a wonderful time.

You have to go up the stairs in AQWA.

There was a turtle on the roof. There was an alarm.

By Jordan

16.11 AQWA

At AQWA we saw sharks, jelly fish and a star fish, sting rays, turtles, a big fish, small fish, sea horse, crocodile, coral, stone fish and a sea snake.

By Amaris

16.11 AQWA

I saw lots of sharks and turtles and some starfish and I like it when they go on top of me and we saw lots of good things to hold and they feel good and I like AQWA too and it was good and that was the bestest day ever. I saw the diver too and we saw the diver feed the sharks and the fish too and I liked it when he fed the shark too.

By Skye

16.11 AQWA

I patted the sharks and the little shark liked me and we went through it and we saw a big shark and lots of starfish. I saw some sting rays. It was fun there.

By Nathaniel

Buddy Thank-you

Mr Orr, Mrs Ellis and Mrs MacKenzie would like to thank Mr Gibson and his class for being fantastic buddy companions to our classes throughout our entire day.

We would also like to thank our bus driver, Mr Venn, for his assistance during our excursion.

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Friends of the Chaplaincy - cont from page 13

Toodyay as well as Mr Don Bates, Manager of Bendigo Bank Toodyay.

The School Chaplaincy is strongly supported by many community groups and individuals with their fundraising events. The local Bendigo Community Bank has also become a strong supporter and helps to maintain the Chaplaincy service at our local school.

Chaplain, Benn Gladden, was given a sincere thank you from our school Principal, Mrs Wendy Camenzuli. Benn provides many support services to our school including Pastoral Care for students, coordination of the No Limits leadership programme, Cadet Camps, Breakfast Club, Classroom support and assistance as well as the Chaplaincy Basketball cup competition.

The Friends of The Chaplaincy have held their morning tea at the school Courtyard Café for the past few years and catering is provided by Yummy Chummies.



L-R Mrs Moya Bruce Committee Member CCA and Crystal Ryan, member of Yummy Chummies Catering Group.

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Local Business Helps Students

TREECHANGE Alpacas of Toodyay recently played host to 45 Lockridge Senior High School students by providing the venue for a combined full day excursion incorporating Agriculture, and Business Management and Enterprise learning areas.

Business teacher and alpaca breeder, Angela Bartels, put together the excursion package highlighting to students many of the business opportunities that the agricultural sector can provide.



Showcasing a 'real life' example of small business and creating cross curricular links with the agriculture department at Lockridge SHS, Angela encouraged students to understand traditional business issues such as finance, marketing and quality of product. Students were also introduced to other issues pertaining to a stud industry on the verge of producing commercially viable fibre, such as the cost of feed, nutrition, stocking rates, etc. Assisting Angela was guest speaker Isi Cameron from 1300Alpaca.com who discussed with students the importance of value adding and the benefits of e-commerce in small business.

Students were surprised to hear that Alpacas were first brought to Australia by Charles Ledger in the 19th century. Unfortunately this initial venture failed and alpacas were reintroduced into Australia in

the late 1980s and have now been part of the farming landscape for more than 20 years.



Now successfully used as herd guards, protecting sheep, goats and chooks from foxes and other predators, alpacas form part of sustainable farming practice. Alpacas are environmentally friendly leaving a smaller ecological footprint than the native kangaroo and are more efficient feeders than sheep. Add to that the current price of alpaca fibre which can be as high as \$65 per kilo, the industry has the foundations for a very productive and viable future.

Many of the students had never seen an alpaca up close so the students were provided with some basic knowledge and an introduction to the new arrivals at Treechange: spring cria. Students were given the opportunity to feel the soft handle of the fleece and weigh the cria to ensure weight gain was progressing at the appropriate rate.

At morning tea break, students were treated to home-made alpaca-shaped biscuits (definitely no alpacas were harmed during



the baking process). Later students were split into three groups and all were encouraged to take part in the hands-on activities.

Safety for both students and livestock was a priority during the day and the first activity involved instructing students on how to hold an alpaca, put on a halter and commence halter training. The second group were involved in pregnancy testing using both spit-off and electronic methods. The final group became fleece assessors in a mini competition, using their new found skills to select the 'champion fleece'.

Alpacas can be incorporated into Science, Photography, D and T, Business, English, and S and E subject areas. For ideas on how you can incorporate them into your teaching programme, please contact Angela Bartels, Lockridge SHS on 9378 0200.

Bendigo Bank Youth in Our Community

MRS Wendy Camenzuli, Principal of Toodyay District High School was pleased to congratulate Kirsty Egerton as the 2010 winner of the Bendigo Bank Youth in our Community Award.

Kirsty was congratulated at a special Awards Assembly held at the school on the school's Open Day, Friday 12 November.

The award consists of a \$5,000 grant,

in the form of a bank account, to be used for education purposes. It may be used to further the student's education in Years 11 and 12 or to assist with education at TAFE, Traineeships or University.

The Award competition is open to any Year 10 student who lives in the Toodyay Shire. Application forms are available from the Toodyay Community Bank. The applicant must write a submission outlining their work and involvement in the community activities and sport.



Mrs Wendy Camenzuli and Kirsty Egerton

Little Rascals Child Care Centre

Raelene

OUR special visitor for November was Constable Care who taught us about manners using a puppet show. The children were fascinated and enjoyed the puppet show.



Also pictured is Coral Grundy, holding the award won by Vassallo Corporation at the Wheatbelt Training Awards on 31 October 2010. Vassallo prides itself on providing quality childcare to the community and has two centres in the wheatbelt area: Little Rascals in Toodyay and Northam Early Learning Centre in Northam.

Our award was Employer of the year for encouraging and supporting staff to participate in quality, effective professional development and Certificate and Diploma training.



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The History of The Toodyay Convict Depot *A Tale of the Convict Era of Western Australia'*

By Alison Cromb

Desrae Clarke

ALTHOUGH Alison's professional life was that of a medical microbiologist, her great love, from her schooldays, was history. However, her professional life of research gave her an invaluable grounding.



Many years ago, Alison's interest in the history of Toodyay's Convict Depot was captured when she was given a copy of Alexandra Hasluck's *Unwilling Emigrants*. This well-written publication encouraged her, over the following fifteen years, to delve deeply and enthusiastically into the convict establishment of Western Australia leading her on a trail of research

involving the Royal Engineers, Pensioner Guards and the rules and regulations of the convicts themselves. She was especially interested in the routines followed and changes that occurred in the early days of penal settlement in Western Australia as these differed considerably from the penal system practised in the eastern states of Australia.

Alison has read widely on her subject including copies of Colonial Reports that have been stored in London, frequenting the State Records Office, the Battye Library and Landgate. She also drew on the printed work of John Vincent Barry and his publication, *Alexander Maconochie of Norfolk Island* Oxford University Press, Amen House, London, 1958 and Cherry Gertzel's BA honours thesis, *The Convict System in Western Australia, 1850-1870*, University of Western Australia, 1949.

Alison states, "I have endeavoured to carry out the research in as much detail as possible and it is fully referenced. At the same time, it has been my aim to present the material simply and clearly for ease of understanding and interest."

The book has been self-published by Alison, a major achievement for an author. Printed in Western Australia by Optima Press, Osborne Park (ISBN 978-0-646-52963-9), it is a valuable addition for the home library. The book was launched at the Toodyay Historical Society's 30th Anniversary Celebration on 25 November 2010 and is available from the Toodyay Historical Society and the Toodyay Visitors Centre at a cost of \$35 plus p&p.

The Toodyay Historical Society

Beth Frayne
Secretary

THE Monster Garage at Donegan's Cottage, on Saturday, 30 October, was a great success. Many thanks to all for everything.

Vale former member, Dr. Marion Austin-Crowe. Marion was a well-respected member of the Society in 2003-2005. In 2004 she became our enthusiastic and tireless secretary on the retirement of Lyn Hammer. Marion was a critical member of the executive that hosted the State History Conference in Toodyay in September 2004, an event the Society remembers with great pride and satisfaction. Our condolences to husband Phillip and family.

At our November meeting we dealt with several interesting issues: foundation stone encapsulation, producing fillers for Toodyay Community Radio on scintillating topics, selecting Len Leeder as our representative on the Steering Group for the Toodyay 175th Birthday celebrations, recent interesting book donations on the Irish in WA and the Children's Friend Society and bush fire memory recording and interpretation. One of members has just completed the first part of a project to produce a comprehensive searchable alphabetical list of all the Toodyay district people listed in the WA Post Office Directories (1893-1949).

We have organised a great programme for our 30th Anniversary Dinner in the Freemasons' Hotel on 25 November, the actual anniversary day of the formation of our Society. By the time you read this, we will have enjoyed two book launches, a

special book presentation and sundry pieces of entertainment. We will have enjoyed the presence of our new Patron, Mr. Hector Wood and his wife.

Everyone is aware of Alison Cromb's *The history of the Toodyay Convict Depot: a tale of the convict era of Western Australia* (See the review elsewhere in the paper.) Beth Frayne has been furiously working on Part 2 (1901-1950) of The long Toodyay chronology, due to be launched at the anniversary dinner. It is very hard for her to leave anything out, even when the deadline is looming. It will be a good read, but Beth thinks she won't want to read it again for quite some time!

THS will have been part of the 'Festival of Plenty' on 26 November, so we hope you stopped for a chat, bought copies of the new Toodyay history books and tickets in our renowned Christmas Hamper raffle.

We do not have a general meeting in December, but we will be enjoying a Christmas 'bring your own everything' Sundowner at Duidgee Park, Saturday, 4 December, 6pm.

Merry Christmas to all our members and friends and we hope the New Year is a happy and healthy one.

Our next general meeting will be Wednesday 19 January 2011, 7pm at Donegan's Cottage.

For information about any matter to do with the Toodyay Historical Society or how we may assist you or your group, please contact our Secretary, Beth Frayne, on 9574 5971, President, Len Leeder, on 9574 4343 or Vice President, Robyn Taylor, on 9574 2578.

Our headquarters is at Donegan's Cottage, which is open to the public every Thursday from 1pm to 3pm, though we will be closed between Christmas and the New Year. You will find us on Toodyay Street in the Toodyay Showgrounds. Membership is \$10. (Postal address: PO Box 32, Toodyay WA 6566.)

Such is Life The Cumquat Tree

Bettina Scobie

WHEN my husband and I moved to Toodyay eleven years ago, I lovingly transplanted our thriving young cumquat tree into a pot and popped it under our verandah.

Every year, we watched it grow a little and, despite enduring the ravages of drought, heat stroke, insects and neglect, every year it would recover, grow some lovely new shiny leaves. And so the cycle would continue. We laughingly called it our 'bonsai' cumquat. Something was even eating the little, orange-coloured fruit, many of which had a nibble taken out and were scattered on the ground. Bang went all my plans to make jam or, even better, brandied cumquats...

The reason I'm speaking of our little cumquat tree in the past tense is that, the other night, we were sitting under our verandah, when a bloody big kangaroo sauntered up our back steps, clapped his eyes on our cumquat tree and completely demolished it in three mouthfuls. We were absolutely speechless.

After a long pause, we looked at each other and burst out laughing. We laughed and laughed as the kangaroo continued to eat his way through our potted plants (chomp, chomp, chomp) and, as the tears rolled down our faces and our bellies ached from all that uncontrollable laughter (chomp, chomp), we struggled to our feet, doubled over, and went inside (chomp, chomp.)

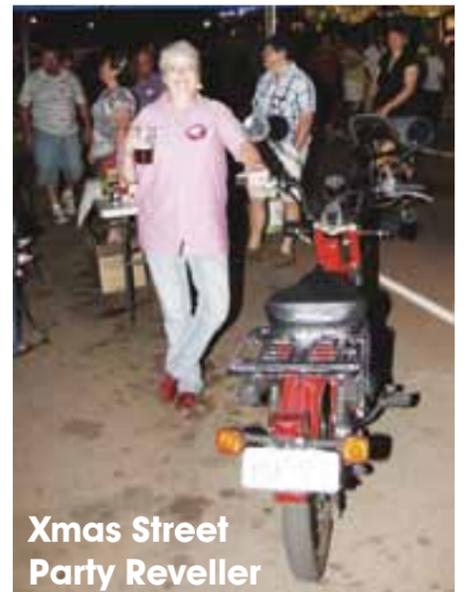
Who needs a television? We haven't had such a good night's entertainment for ages!

When Bettina mentioned she would like to write a story for the paper on our amusing evening, I thought, why not? It struck us both that there would be many, many stories about Toodyay life that tickled the people of Toodyay so Such is Life is the outcome.

Please send your amusing story to:

*Such is Life
The Toodyay Herald
PO Box 100
Toodyay WA 6566*

*Grant Scobie
Editor*



Xmas Street
Party Reveller

Ida's Hideaway

Greasy Sleeve

WELL, it's almost Christmas again and, by the time this goes to print, the street party will have been and gone so thank you to all our helpers and to all who supported us. Thank you so much.

Birthday wishes this month go to Tina Short (4th) and Ray Edwards (8th). A very Happy Birthday to you both.

I would like to say another big thank you to all our volunteers who help every week. Thank you. And a very special thank you to Gail and Tina for their help in the kitchen while Ray and I were sick and our one week holiday. Thank you so much. And thank you to Graham of the Toodyay Bakery for your ongoing support.

Ida's Hideaway is a voluntary organisation to assist the seniors of Toodyay. We meet every Saturday afternoon at Butterfly House from 1pm til 4pm. You can play bingo, cards or you can just have a chat - whatever you like. So, if you have nothing better to do, please come along; you will be most welcome.

Ida's Hideaway would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very safe and Happy Christmas and New Year.

Season's Greetings to all



The Meaning of Return

On the meaning of the return of Christ anticipated by Christians, Abdu'l-Bahá, the Centre of the Covenant in the Baha'i Faith gave the following explanation:

"We will begin to elucidate it from the Gospel, for there it is plainly said that when John, the son of Zacharias, appeared and gave to men the glad tidings of the Kingdom of God, they asked him, Who art thou? Art thou the promised Messiah? He replied I am not the Messiah. Then they asked him, Art thou Elijah? He said I am not. These words prove and show that John...was not the promised Elias. But on the day of the transfiguration on Mount Tabor Christ said plainly that John, the son of Zacharias, was the promised Elias.... The explanation is this: not the personality, but the reality of the perfections, is meant -- that is to say, the same perfections that were in Elias existed in John the Baptist and were exactly realized in him. Therefore, John the Baptist was the promised Elias. In this case not the essence, but the qualities, are regarded.... For example, there was a flower last year, and this year there is also a flower; I say the flower of last year has returned. Now, I do not mean that same flower in its exact individuality has come back; but as this flower has the same qualities as that of last year -- as it has the same perfume, delicacy, colour and form -- I say the flower of last year has returned, and this flower is the former flower....Now observe that in the sensible [physical] world appearances are not repeated, for no being in any respect is identical with, nor the same as, another being. The sign of singleness [of God] is visible and apparent in all things. If all the granaries of the world were full of grain, you would not find two grains absolutely alike, the same and identical without any distinction. As the proof of uniqueness exists in all things, and the Oneness and Unity of God is apparent in the reality of all things, the repetition of the same appearance is absolutely impossible." Therefore, the return of the body or the spirit of Christ in its former essence and condition is impossible and unrealisable. What is meant is that a Holy Being with the attributes and perfections of Christ will appear. The Baha'is believe that Bahá'u'lláh who first raised His call in 1853 is the Return of Christ in the Glory of the Father.

For information, email: info-toodyay@wa.bahai.org.au or call 08 9330 6999



Xmas Street Party Stalls

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

Thursdays (adults) 6 - 7.30pm at The Factory Baptist Church All instruments provided. Enquiries: Heather on 9574 5463.

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 Wendy on 9574 4172

AUSTRALIAN BREASTFEEDING ASSOCIATION

For breastfeeding information and the company of other mums. 2nd Tuesday of month, 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 9622 1192.

AVON WOODTURNERS GROUP

Monthly meeting 4th Sunday 9am 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: Call for details. 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

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 AND FUN FOR THE OVER 55's

Wednesday 9am, Sports Pavillion.

IDA'S HIDEAWAY

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

JULIMAR VOLUNTEER BUSH FIRE BRIGADE

Meets 1st Saturday of month, 6pm at Julimar Fire Station followed by BYO BBQ. Training Sunday following meeting, 10am, Julimar Fire Station.

MOERLINA

Every Tuesday and Thursday Toodyay Sports Pavilion

MORANGUP PLAYGROUP

Morangup Community Hall, Lot 3 Wallaby Way, Morangup. Every Wednesday 9.30 to 11.30am (excluding public and school holidays). Emma Whately 9572 9376, Julie Slater 9572 9914 or Chere Rothwell 9572 9298

MORANGUP VOLUNTEER BUSH FIRE BRIGADE

Meets 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7pm, Saturday mornings at 8am at 3 Wallaby Way, Morangup. New members welcome. Contact Cheryl Mustchin 9572 9556

MURDER MYSTERY CLUB

Meets Third Friday of the month, Toodyay Library, 10am - 12.30. Ph Liz 9574 5967 or Dot 0407 656 853

RAG BAGS QUILTING GROUP

1st, 3rd Wednesday, 10am CWA Hall

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 4WD CLUB

Meets every 3rd Saturday of the month. Please contact Dave Isbill 9574 4035 for location and time.

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 BUSHWALKERS

Visiting local reserves renowned for their biodiversity. Wednesday mornings, 7am (Time may vary). Contact Sally on 9574 4184 or Sarah on 9574 2118 for details.

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 COMMUNITY RADIO 105.3fm

Meets 1st Tuesday of the month at 7-ish (or as soon as the coffee is ready.) Phone 9574 4554 for this month's venue. New members and volunteers to help run the station welcome.

THE TOODYAY COMMUNITY SINGERS INC

Thursdays 7-9pm, St. Stephen's Church Hall. Contact: Peter 0421704429 or Trish 9574 4330

TOODYAY DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL P & C

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

TOODYAY DISTRICTS HORSE & PONY CLUB

4th Sunday of every month (Feb - Nov), Toodyay Race Course. Contact Tanzi 0427 859 493

TOODYAY FRIENDS OF THE RIVER

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

TOODYAY GARDEN CLUB (Inc)

1st Thursday of each month 10am. Contact Gale 9574 4740 or Margaret 9574 5885 for next club venue.

TOODYAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

TOODYAY KINDERGYM

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

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 MEN'S SHED

Meets at Race Course on Thursday. For times, please phone Geoff Ebdon on 9574 4568

TOODYAY MONTESSORI

Monday and Wednesday 9.30 - 11.30am Enquiries phone Sally on 9574 4184 or Jodie on 9574 5569.

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 2560 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, Brenda Hutchinson 9574 4489

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: CArol Worrell 0407 429 047; Secretary: Phil Harmer 9574 2015

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 TOWN WALKS

Walk around our beautiful town. Monday and Friday (varies). Contact Prim on 9574 2490 for details.

TOODYAY VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE

1st Monday of each month Fire Station, 8pm

UNITING CHURCH

10am, St Stephen's Church, Toodyay

YOGA

Friday 9am Friday CWA Hall. 9574 4184

Update Your Family Income to Avoid an Overpayment

KEEPING Centrelink updated with any changes to your income is the best way to avoid a Family Tax Benefit (FTB) debt.

Human Services Portfolio General Manager, Hank Jongen, said Family Tax Benefit is based on a family's income over the full financial year, and many families will estimate their annual income in order to receive fortnightly payments.

"At the end of the financial year, when families lodge their tax returns, Centrelink will balance any FTB payments made, based on estimated income amount, with the family's actual FTB entitlement based on income from their tax returns," Mr Jongen said. "If their estimated income is lower than their actual income, it may mean they'll have to repay any FTB they've been overpaid throughout the year."

Mr Jongen said while only a small proportion of families' customers may receive an overpayment, measures and payment options are available to help families reduce the chance of a debt.

"If your income varies throughout the year, you may choose to receive part or all your payment at the end of the year as a lump sum. This means your FTB will be based on your actual family income and you're less likely to incur a debt," he said. "Families can provide a new estimate of their income at any time during the financial year. If the new income amount is higher than their previous estimate, Centrelink automatically reduces the FTB payment rate for the rest of the financial year to help reduce any overpayment."

"The FTB supplement payments, which are available at the end of the annual FTB reconciliation process, can also be used to offset any overpayments made throughout the year."

"The bottom line for parents is this - if your income changes throughout the financial year, let Centrelink know as soon as possible."

Customers can update their family income estimates at any time using Online Services on the Centrelink website (www.centrelink.gov.au) or by calling 13 6150. Customers with an overpayment can contact Centrelink on 13 6330 to discuss their repayment options.



Our spring cria are arriving now. Quality females are currently available for sale with male & female cria at foot. Prices to suit all budgets; call us to discuss your needs or to arrange a farm visit.

Stud Service

Hot Chilli is currently available for stud service. An ultrafine male Chilli will bring fineness and soft handle to your herd. Service fee \$750

Herd Guards

Rent Try Buy Book now for next lambing season. Experienced herd protectors available for sale or rent.

Pets

Pets with Personality Alpacas make excellent pets and lawnmowers, if you are looking for a pet with a difference, call us to find out more or arrange a farm visit.

Contact us

Angela & Dieter Bartels
Ph: 9574 4144
info@treechangealpacas.com.au
www.treechangealpacas.com.au

public notices

Bereavements

BROPHO (WALSH) Ethan
05.10.95 – 15.11.2010

In loving and cherished memory of our beautiful son who woke the sunshine in everyone he knew. Tragically taken from us in his fifteenth year. We had the honour of Ethan's company for so short a time. The terrible gap he has left in the lives of so many people will never be filled. The void in our lives is forever. Thank you my son for your spiritedness, your talent in excelling in all you tackled and I thank you for your unconditional love. Always carried in my heart.
Your Dad,

Karl

BROPHO (WALSH) Ethan
05.10.95 – 15.11.2010

Immunuel Leo Ethan Troy, our beautiful son's birth name. ("Immunuel meaning – God is with us.) He was certainly a chosen child from God a gift to us. Everyone who knew our son was so impressed by his wonderful spirit and his loving heart to all. My precious son will always be with us in spirit he left us so many precious memories. The joy he gave us will always be cherished. He is now in the care of our Heavenly Father. Now Ethan will have all his answers and our Lord God takes our pain from us.
Ethan's Mum,

Pamela

BROPHO (WALSH) Ethan
05.10.95 – 15.11.2010

From the Holy Bible a message to Ethan from his Heavenly Father.
"Therefore I will gather you to your ancestors, and you will be buried in peace. Your eyes will not see all the disaster I am going to bring on this place." 2 Kings 22:20

BROPHO (WALSH) Ethan
05.10.95 – 15.11.2010

With sadness in our hearts, we say farewell to a fine young man who left us far too soon. When he awakens he will be in a much better place.

Our sympathy to Karl and Pamela
Toodyay Christian fellowship

BROPHO (WALSH) Ethan
05.10.95 – 15.11.2010

Words cannot express our sorrow, shock and grief. A beautiful, courageous, sweet, talented, happy, handsome, little boy, who grew even more so. Ethan, you are on Jay's list too, and ours forever. We love you sweetheart.

We are here for you, Pamela and Karl, as always.
Aaron Tammy Jay Kelsey and Atiya Broadwood

BROPHO (WALSH) Ethan
05.10.95 – 15.11.2010

We are a fairly tight knit group and just recently one of ours has been hurt really badly. The loss of one's family is something we can only start to imagine.

To Karl (dear friend) and family, our most sincere condolences.

On behalf of the Toodyay Men's Shed

BROPHO (WALSH) Ethan
05.10.95 – 15.11.2010

To Karl and Pamela Walsh
Toodyay Baptist Church wishes to express its deepest sympathy in the tragic loss of your dear son Ethan and we are praying that God's strength will be there when yours is gone, that His grace and mercy will carry you on and that the unending love He has for you will lift you up and carry you through.

Toodyay Baptist Youth Group is grateful for our memory of Ethan.

We will cherish your laughter, smile and

caring nature. You will be with us forever in our hearts.
With all our love,
God Bless

Toodyay Youth Group

ROWE William Edgar John (Ted)

In loving memory of William Edgar John (Ted) Rowe.

Passed away on 9-11-2010 at Hollywood Hospital.

His family would like to express their sincere thanks to all who offered support, prayers, flowers and cards following his passing. Thanks also to members of the RSL who took an active part in the funeral service.
Bell Rowe, Roy, Jenny, Leanne and Alison

In Memoriam

EDDY, David (Bant) 19-12-2005
It's been 5 years now, my darling and I am still missing you heaps. You will always be in my heart, now and forever.

Loving you always,
Your wife,

Evelyn

Farewell

I am saddened to farewell a very dear friend in Ken Hellmrich. Since my arrival here in Morangup he has taught me so much about the pleasure we receive in contributing to our community services. I am certain that many of his friends here have also benefitted from his company and generosity and like myself, would wish him every happiness when he goes to live with his son Craig, daughter in law and grandchildren.

You are a fine gentleman Ken Hellmrich.
Peter Kirkland

Season's Greetings

As Christmas draws closer and another year ends
We reflect on the past, and think of customers and friends
Acknowledging the wonderful support you continually show
And the way your loyalty has made our branch grow
So to you and your families all, we wish you every possible good thing,
That this Christmas and the New Year will surely bring
Filled with peace, love, joy and lots of Festive cheer
And look forward to another happy, successful and prosperous New Year.
Merry Christmas To all
From all the staff and directors of Toodyay Community Bank

Engagement

MILLS - DADD

Dean and Sharon Mills are thrilled to announce the engagement of their daughter Stacey to Daniel, son of Ron and Claire Dadd of Goomalling.

Congratulations to you both.

Birthdays

December

Kieran Connor	Melanie Pree
Hannah Welburn	Jill Orgles
Emily Panizza	Richard Walkey
Sean McDermott	Susan Calyum
Corey Higgins	Megan Smart
Ray Edwards	Jake Connor
Samantha Connor	Peter Robinson
Brenton Chimes	Frank Taylor
Les Hyde	Jessica Wade
Anthea Ferguson	Gary Rowlands
Jack Vesperman	Rachel Sloper
Ivy Adams	Billie Dodemaide

Helen McKenzie Freda Richardson
Sandy Mijota

January

Chris Robinson Brook Chrimes
Elaine Danger Justin Huggett
Nicole Hide Bonnie Glossop
Tristan Yarran Taylah Vesperman
Mena Chapman

Anniversaries

December

Paul & Jo Sutton

January

Denley & Jeanette Jones
Caroline & Greg Downie
Dawn & Garry Fitzgerald
Charles & Elaine Danger
Greg & Jill Orgles
Fred & Shirley Hacking

Invitation to Everyone

29/12 – ONE YEAR ON – 29/12
"Sharing Our Memories" Community Gathering

Everyone is invited to come to the Memorial Hall and share their memories in an informal Community Gathering on Tuesday (the day it happened) 28 December 2010 (Public Holiday) from 10am to 12.30pm. This will be preceded by a short commemorative service in the fire area on the corner of Sesselis Street and Racecourse Road at 9am.

Bring to the hall your photos, artefacts, stories, artworks and memorabilia, or simply your warmth and compassion, for an informal sharing (if you want to) of your experience of the event that affected so many of us. You might also like to share positive developments or outcomes.

Of course there will be delicious refreshments available.

We would like to invite anyone who has framed or mounted artworks and photos, including digital formats, or objects relating to the event, that can be independently displayed to bring these to the Town Hall on Monday 27 December, between 12 noon and 2pm.

This is to have time to set up a display to

create an ambience for the Gathering. The display will remain until 4pm, 30th December, the day after the actual anniversary. Please pick up a form for recording your details from the Library or LJ Hookers and complete by 20 December so preparations can be made. Details of collection times etc will be on the form.

Enquiries can be made to Robyn on 9574 2578 or via email: rdtaylor@iinet.net.au or Brian on 9574 2601 or via email: b.shepherd@optusnet.com.au.

Annual General Meeting

The date of the Annual General Meeting of the Toodyay Pony Club has been changed to 11 December 2010 at Happy Valley, Clackline.

For further information, please ring Tanzi on 0427 859 493.

Avon Valley Arts Society

Life Drawing Sessions

AVAS has a live model drawing session on the first Wednesday of every month at the Old Girl's School (next to AVAS), 5.30-8pm. Easels are supplied. Please bring your own materials. Cost is \$22 per person. Phone 9622 2245 to register.

Folk Roots and Dance Festival

AVAS and the WA Folk Federation are putting on a free event for all the family featuring Folk Music and Dance performances. Held in Bernard Park, Minson Avenue, Northam on Saturday 4 December, 10-30am-3.30pm. Market, stalls, Bouncy Castle and free face painting! Bring a hat, rug or folding chair and your lunch and enjoy a lovely day in the park.

Magic Sounds

The Magic of Gongs and Quartz Crystal Bowls will be held in the Old Post Office Gallery on Sunday 12 December at 6pm. Call 9621 1373 for more details.

Please Note

Avon Valley Arts Inc. will be closing on Thursday 23 December 2010 and re-opening on Monday 10 January 2011. We wish you all a happy and safe Christmas.



Increase to Water Standpipe Charges

On 4 October 2010, the Water Corporation advised the Shire of Toodyay as follows:

"The Water Corporation is in the throes of converting a number of Local Authority Standpipes to Commercial rating based on the predominant commercial use of the service. The Shire of Toodyay standpipe on the Northam-Toodyay Road (A/C N° 9007933760) is due to be converted to a Commercial service from 1 December, 2010.

This Standpipe is currently rated as a Country Standpipe with the following charges;

Annual Service Charge - \$186.60

Consumption - \$1.128/kL

Once converted to a Commercial service, the following charges will apply;

Annual Service Charge - \$5,853.90 (Commercial service annual charges are based on the size of the meter - this meter is an 80mm meter)

Consumption

- First 300kL - \$2.969/kL

- Over 300kL - \$3.885/kL"

Due to the short notice provided to the Shire of Toodyay by the Water Corporation, a report was not able to be presented to the Council until the November meeting.

At its Ordinary Meeting held 18 November 2010, the Council resolved as follows:

"That:

1. As of 1 December 2010, Council increase the cost per kL of standpipe water to \$4.50 due to the increased cost burden placed on the Shire of Toodyay by the Water Corporation; and
2. The fee increase be relayed directly to all registered standpipe users in the Shire and to the public via local media publications.
3. The Shire of Toodyay correspond with the Water Corporation to discover their rationale and their application of charges for a country stand pipe versus a commercial standpipe."

Simon Fraser

A/Chief Executive Officer

2 December 2010

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Christmas Sunday trading hours

Sunday 12th, 19th & 26th December

10am-6.30pm



1 Week Special.

On sale 1st December 2010 until 7th December 2010.

<p>\$37⁹⁹ ea Tooheys Extra Dry Stubbies Ctn 24/345ml</p>	<p>\$13⁹⁹ ea Devil's Lair Fifth Leg Wines 750ml</p>	<p>\$50⁹⁹ ea Corona Stubbies Ctn 24/355ml</p>	<p>\$20⁹⁹ ea 6 Pack Jim Beam White & Cola Cans 6pk/375ml</p>
	<p>\$33⁹⁹ ea Johnnie Walker Red Label Scotch Whisky 700ml</p>	<p>\$12⁹⁹ ea Goundrey Homestead Wines 750ml</p>	<p>\$9⁹⁹ ea Jacob's Creek Sparkling 750ml</p>

2 Week Special.

On sale 8th December 2010 until 21st December 2010.

Julie, Peter, Brigitte & Fran would like to thank our valued customers for their support throughout the year and wish them a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

<p>\$40⁹⁹ ea Carlsberg Green Stubbies Ctn 24/330ml</p> <p>AVAILABLE 8/12/10 - 14/12/10</p>	<p>\$32⁹⁹ ea Smirnoff Vodka 700ml</p>	<p>\$9⁹⁹ ea Wolf Blass Red Label Wines 750ml</p>	<p>\$13⁹⁹ ea Amberley Wines 750ml</p>	<p>\$8⁹⁹ ea Yellowglen Yellow Sparkling 750ml</p>
	<p>\$40⁹⁹ ea Victoria Bitter Stubbies Ctn 24/375ml</p> <p>AVAILABLE 15/12/10 - 21/12/10</p>	<p>\$13⁹⁹ ea Yalumba Reserve 2L Casks.</p>	<p>\$20⁹⁹ ea 6 Pack Bundaberg UP Rum & Cola Cans 6pk/375ml</p>	

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Mon - Thu 9am to 7.30pm
Fri - Sat 9am to 8pm
Public Holidays 10am to 6.30pm

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Western Power Prepares for Early Bushfire Season

WITH the arrival of warm summer temperatures following one of the driest winters on record, Western Power is preparing for a particularly bad bushfire season.

Western Power Managing Director Mr Doug Aberle said the business was fast-tracking high priority work.

"Each year we prepare a Bushfire Management Plan that covers all aspects of bushfire management including the way we operate the network, how we prioritise work and how we alter work practices on high fire risk days, including emergency helicopter patrols of our assets. This year Western Power has fast tracked its asset reinforcement and replacement work in high and extreme fire risk zones.

"Western Power also has fire response teams ready to assist FESA at the site of a fire," Mr Aberle said.

"Western Power's Network Operations Control Centre conducts daily bushfire risk assessments, works closely with other agencies and has crews ready to respond if required," he said.

Western Power is also:

- coating all new wood poles in high and extreme fire risk areas with fire retardant paint;
- silicone coating approximately 20,000 pole tops;
- inspecting and clearing vegetation from around lines, particularly in high fire risk areas, by 30 November;
- minimising the risk of arcing between lines that are blown close to each other in strong winds, by reducing particularly long spans between certain poles.

"Each year there is always a risk a fire will be sparked by vegetation, birds or animals contacting powerlines or by lightning striking power poles.

"Bushfires often damage the network, interrupting power supplies and impacting the performance of essential rural services, including those required to fight fires.

"Western Power urges people to have a heightened sense of caution during bushfire season," Mr Aberle said.

Random Photos of Xmas Street Party



the toodyay

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