

# The Toodyay Herald

VOLUME 288

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The dust storm; looking north from Coondle. Inset: House in Wattening following the storm. Photos Jess Prowse

## From One Extreme to the Other

### Grant and Bettina Scobie

JUST as the first anniversary of the horrific bushfire of 29 December 2009 passed by, Toodyay, and its neighbouring towns were attacked by another extreme of nature.

On 29 January, the area was hit by fierce winds, a dust storm and a downpour that left houses unroofed and a blackout that was to last, in some cases, days.

Toodyay was luckier in this instance than Northam where over 100 houses lost their roofs and York where nearly 100 homes were similarly damaged. To date (31 January) I have heard of some damage and only one roof being removed in Wattening.

Without going into the argument about blame for the source of the December 2009 fire, the main problem on that day was the extreme weather, with temperatures over 45 degrees and strong winds.

On Saturday, 29 January, the weather again was extreme. In fact, firefighters were on high alert as the temperature soared to 42 degrees and above and winds were gusting. Then came the enormous wind, blowing topsoil off paddocks already devastated from the drought and, finally, bringing a downpour that lasted only a few minutes.

As mentioned earlier, houses were unroofed but the damage was much more extensive. Apart from the physical damage to property, 80 power poles were uprooted in Northam alone, plunging the whole area into what was to become an extended power outage.

Air conditioners didn't work when the temperature remained in the high 30s and stayed high overnight. Houses

lost refrigeration and freezing, ruining foodstuffs. And, to cap it all off, the businesses in town were unable to resupply because they were in the same boat. Due to time constraints, we were only able to speak to a handful of the local businesses affected. *The Toodyay Herald* acknowledges that all Toodyay businesses were hard hit.

The general mood around Toodyay around Tuesday 1 February was one of exhaustion, sadness and frustration and yet everyone was flat out cleaning up, restocking shelves and putting an extraordinary amount of positive energy into restoring their businesses.

The Toodyay Supermarket ran out of power on Saturday evening and, despite their best efforts, perishable items started to become unsaleable with \$100,000 worth of stock lost.

The Toodyay Butcher and the bakery were also without power and Steve Gurman (butcher) would like to personally thank George and Tyrone Murray for their assistance; without their help they would have been ruined.

The new owners of Toodyay Home Fresh, Cory Keating and Phillip Gardside summed up the situation with a very apt formula: no power = no stock = no business. They put on a very brave face as they swept up the remains of their stock. Throwing away all of their newly acquired smallgoods for their delicatessen must have been heartbreaking. They reopened on Wednesday 2 February with limited stock and hoped to be fully operational by the following Friday (excepting the deli items.)

Mario and Paul Letta from Vince's Italian

Restaurant reopened on Monday 31 January despite limited stock and quiet trade. They would personally like to thank their friends and loyal customers for their support and offers of assistance.

Brian Dawes from the Cola Cafe said his business sustained huge losses including loss of takings and stock. Due to the power outage, they were unable to trade on Sunday, their biggest trading day which attracts many tourists and regular bikers. They reopened on Tuesday 1 February with a limited menu and expected more deliveries on Thursday.

Sean E'maung, Top of the Terrace's chef, urged people to "please be patient with all of the local businesses. Everyone is in the same boat and doing the best they can under the circumstances."

The clean-up goes on, the restocking continues and, as their doors reopen, please support your local Toodyay shopkeepers; they need you more than ever.

Western Power takes no responsibility for the damage and businesses are left to their insurers. Unfortunately, stock on hand in insurance policies is a guess-timate and most have found replacement prices much higher than insured value. And this doesn't even begin to touch the surface of lost income from the days the businesses were out of power.

Toodyay is a town of battlers and, as proven last year, pulls together as a community when the going gets tough. Needless to say, if the local businesses can't keep going, Toodyay will lose so everyone, please:

SHOP LOCAL.

### this month



Toodyay Bug-in is coming  
page 3



Australia Day 2011  
page 6

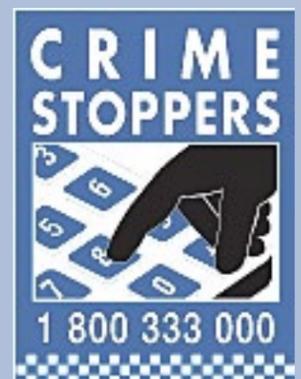


Fire Anniversary  
page 3

### Anti-social Behaviour Disappoints

TOODYAY has so much to offer. It is disappointing when the actions of few hurt the community as a whole.

If you see suspicious behaviour, don't take the law into your own hands but don't ignore it either. Call:



Whether it be fire, vandalism or misconduct, write down the date, time, location, description, rego details and take a picture (if you have a camera/phone) but DO NOT put yourself at risk.

Police cannot catch and convict criminal behaviour without evidence.

Your community is in your hands; it's your choice.

Are you selling, buying or want your property managed?

CALL US NOW!

Toodyay 9574 4200 Northam 9622 5011



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

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

## 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.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions are available at \$2.50 per issue (postage and packaging) or \$25 per year (11 issues) by writing to P.O. Box 100, Toodyay 6566, enclosing a cheque for the number of issues required.

### MEMBERSHIP

Membership of The Toodyay Herald is available to residents of the Shire of Toodyay at \$10 per member per year (July - June). Send your name, phone number, residential address and postal address with your membership fee to P.O. Box 100, Toodyay 6566 or leave it at 92 Stirling Terrace.

Readers who reside outside the Shire of Toodyay are not eligible for membership but for \$10 per year are invited to become a 'Friend of the Herald'.

Members receive \$15 free advertising per annum.

### COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

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0429 896 860

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### DISTRIBUTION

The Toodyay Herald has a distribution of 3,200 copies. 1,800 copies are distributed as a 'Householder' to the residents of Toodyay, Morangup and Bolgart. Copies are also available at the roadhouses and businesses in Toodyay, the Northam and York Tourist Bureaux, the Clackline General Store, the Bakers Hill Newsagency and the Gidgegannup Newsagency. Online at www.toodyayherald.com.au

The Toodyay Herald is printed by

**RURALPRESS**

## THANK YOU

Thank you to the volunteers who helped with this edition of the *Toodyay Herald*: Karen Jacomelli, Jim Bavin, Speedy Cox, Paul Sutton, Wayne Clarke, Beth Ruthven, Peter Ruthven, Shirley Banks, Guido Verschoor, Sue Manning, Peter Robinson, our photographers in Toodyay.

## ADVERTISING

### RATES

\$3.10 (inc. GST) per column cm (NB Column width is 61.5mm)

Full Page: Mono - 496; Colour - \$547.50.

Setup size: 260mm wide by 400mm deep.

Half Page: Mono - \$248; Colour - \$299.50.

Setup size: 260mm wide by 195mm deep.

Quarter Page: Mono - \$124; Col. - \$175.50.

Setup size: 127.5mm wide by 195mm deep.

Page Nomination Loading: Front page - 100%, Back page - 50%, Centre pages / Page 3 - 25%, other pages - 10% (based on mono price and inc. GST)

Colour advertisements of a size not listed above incur a \$51.50 surcharge with the exception of the Trades and Services section. A one-off setup fee (artwork fee) will be charged for advertisements which are not print ready. Advertisers, please supply

postal address for accounting purposes and the number of issues in which you would like your advertisement to be included. Accounts are issued every month with payment required within 30 days. Payment may be made by post, EFT transfer or at the Herald offices.

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Single advertisement in colour (including initial artwork): \$22.

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**DEADLINE**

**ISSUE**

**Tuesday 22 Feb**

**NEXT EDITION**

**DUE OUT ON**

**Thursday 3 Mar**

ACCOUNT ENQUIRIES ONLY

**0429 896 860**

(OFFICE HOURS)

## Six Months On

**Grant Scobie**  
 Editor

BELIEVE it or not, it's been six months since Samantha Connor moved on and I was promoted to the position of Editor for *The Toodyay Herald*. It's been quite a learning curve.

Sam had given me plenty of opportunities when I was Assistant Editor to get my mind around the various differences between her position and mine but, I must admit, I was less than attentive at times.

It's a big difference between saying, "I'll speak to the editor and get her to make a decision," and having to do it myself. And I've had successes and I've made mistakes!

One mistake was making a blanket statement that I would print all letters to the editor as long as they weren't defamatory. So I printed one that was not really appropriate. I believe I'm on top of that now.

I know there would be people out there saying I've made other errors and I hope that I can address these as they are brought to my attention. I also know that we are developing as a paper and are improving as time goes on.

One thing that readers should be aware of is that we are not manned by journalists and are, therefore, not an 'investigative' newspaper. Sure, we do sometimes do stories on local subjects but, in general, we don't have the capacity to interview both sides of the story to make it fair. 99% of articles published in the paper are supplied by contributors and are printed as is (with some editing.)

On the subject of Assistant Editor, we are looking for someone to help out. Please see Karen Jacomelli's article on the right to get more info.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all our contributors and advertisers for their continued support of *The Toodyay Herald*. It is great to hear kind words from members of the community regarding the appearance and content of the paper.

We will strive to keep up and raise the standard of the paper as time goes on.

## Expressions of Interest for Volunteers

**Karen Jacomelli**  
 President, The Toodyay Herald

AFTER some years of dedication from past and present production crew and committee members, we are now wanting to see who is out there who has the same desire as us to ensure the ongoing survival of The Toodyay Herald as an authentic community paper.

We will provide some training to suitable applicants who show promise and dedication to upholding the group's desire to remain a community-focussed, voluntary organisation.

Volunteering can be rewarding as well as time consuming (the more we get involved.) Hence we have tried to break up the many and varied roles into smaller, skill-specific tasks so you can do more or less depending on your other commitments. You may have the skills to take on a number of different roles. Some roles have a small remuneration in the form of an honorarium.

So do you have any skills in reporting on community events, writing community articles or using computer software? Do you have well-developed literary skills, interpersonal skills, an eye for accuracy, photographic skills? Are you able to sell advertising or have you done any media studies, or graphic design? Do you have a desire to learn or further develop your skills to become the Assistant Editor?

The 2009 -2014 Vision Statement for the *Herald* is "To continue to be an independent, vibrant, viable, community based provider of choice for quality local news, information and effective advertising."

So if you think you could possibly contribute to keeping this vision alive, have a desire to expand your skills, learn new ones and are prepared to volunteer your time to this end, consider sending us your contact details via email on toodyayherald@westnet.com.au.

## A Call to Toodyay Businesses and Community Groups

**Greg Winning**

TOODYAY is a vibrant and diverse community and one of the ways this diversity manifests itself is by the extraordinary variety of businesses and community groups available to Toodyay residents.

Locally owned businesses help keep more money in the local economy and studies have shown that the local economy benefits up to three times as much from having a locally owned business in town than otherwise.

Community groups are economic forces in their own right, contributing vital social and human capital to the economy.

The Living Communities Toodyay group, which champions the philosophy that local is vital, is launching its 6-phase project to build resilience in Toodyay with the Business and Community Enterprise Expo on 12 March at the Memorial Hall on Stirling Terrace.

The expo aims to highlight and celebrate the diversity of locally owned enterprises and community groups that play a vital role

in the fabric of the community as well as build awareness of the Living Communities programme.

It will be an event where small cottage businesses, start-up enterprises and community groups as well as large and established concerns are encouraged to participate. The event is free for exhibitors, although public liability insurance is required.

For visitors to the expo, there will not only be plenty of information and samples from local enterprises but entertainment from local groups and musicians, refreshments and interactive displays from Living Communities Toodyay.

Living Communities is inviting all locally owned enterprises and community groups to participate but emphasise that there are limited places available. For more information about exhibiting, call Sandy on 9574 4721

For further information about this community announcement, phone Greg Winning on 0421 995 019.

## Moodyne Festival

IT is only three months to go before we celebrate the next Moodyne Festival.

The Moodyne Festival brings Moodyne Joe and his various escapades back to life. Joe and his gang will once again run riot through the town of Toodyay, holding up various businesses and anyone else in their path. You will see Joe and his gang flirting with the floozies, defying the tedious temperance ladies whilst trying to evade the local constabulary who are intent on locking them up and throwing away the key.

The Moodyne Festival is a wonderful display of life during the pioneer years. Everyone attending including stall holders, local businesses, artists and visitors are cordially invited to dress in period costume for the day

and truly get into the spirit of Moodyne.

The Moodyne committee would like to invite all local Arts and Crafts enthusiasts to join in this annual celebration by exhibiting and demonstrating their talents and wares.

Also, we are looking for volunteers who could provide their services on the day for parking, assisting stallholders and general maintenance and enquiries.

Together we can make Moodyne Festival 2011 bigger better and more enjoyable than ever.

Please contact Jasmin on: 0412 710 253 or call into the Library and see Angi for further details.

As our Town Crier says:

**Oyez, Oyez, Citizens of Toodyay, Come One, Come All!!**

## Creating a Lasting Record of the Toodyay Fires

AT the anniversary meeting and exhibition held at the Town Hall on Tuesday 28 December 2010, a number of personal objects from the bushfire, photographs and works of art were loaned for display. These created a lot of interest and, for many of the



people present, they brought back memories. The objects and works on display were only a small sample of what resides in the community as testimony to 29/12.

While it is beneficial for all of us to get on with life and look to the future, such a major and defining event in the community is an important part of our history and, as such, needs to be recorded for future generations.

The *Toodyay Bushfire Project* aims to make a systematic approach to recording the bushfire event. By doing this the experiences of survivors and the contribution of volunteers will be recognised and recorded for the future.

The Project steering committee is attempting to gather as much evidence as it can relating to the fire experience so as to compile a thorough record that may form the basis of a publication, an exhibition and/or a display. A commemorative artwork in a public space is also a possibility.

The aim is not to actually collect objects or other evidence to be placed in a central repository, but rather to share information about precious things that belong to and are kept by community members who were affected by the fires. In order that this project is carried out thoroughly and professionally, sponsorship is being sought.

In order to find out what things people have that could be part of this project, the committee has devised a simple form for recording any items you think may be

significant. The form is available at the Library where completed forms can also be dropped off. Please take a little time to participate and encourage others to do so.

With individual objects, if you have a photograph this could be attached to the form.

For further information call Robyn Taylor on 9574 2578, Margot Watkins on 9574 2823 or Brian Shepherd on 9574 2601.

## 2011 Toodyay Bug-In Is Coming...

**Ray Willis**  
President and Editor of the Volkswagen Club of WA (Inc)

WHAT is a Bug-In you may ask? In simple terms, a Bug-In is the meeting of representatives from the Volkswagen Clubs of Australia to participate in a long weekend of friendship and social motor sport competition.

The Bug-In is hosted by a different state-based VW Club over the Easter weekend every year, moving from State to State in an anti-clockwise direction. The 1st Bug-In was set in Albury, NSW in 1970.

The Volkswagen Club of Western Australia Inc, as the 2011 host club, has chosen to hold the 42nd National Bug-In, in and around Toodyay over the Easter long weekend - Friday 22 April to Monday 25 April.

The event is attracting people from all states as well as our own club members here in WA. For those that are driving across from the east, a convoy is also being organised to depart Adelaide on Monday 18 April to make the 5 day trip to Toodyay.

Following the Bug-In, there will be a 4½ day Road Trip starting from Toodyay on Tuesday 26 April which will take the Volkswagen enthusiasts around the South West.



The four days of the Bug-In will feature



social get-togethers and events including the mandatory welcoming event on the Friday night, a Show'n'Shine, a motorkhana and a presentation dinner.

The general public will be able to view the Motorkhana as well as the Show'n'Shine and, if you have a Volkswagen, you are welcome to enter the Show'n'Shine.

Our club has been involving Toodyay and its businesses leading up to the 2011 Toodyay Bug-In and will be continuing to do so during the event's four days. We have had a fabulous response so far and look forward to this being a wonderful Bug-In.

Our club participated in the car show section of the Moondyne Festival back in May 2010 and ran a successful trial Motorkhana in September. This was followed up by the Toodyay Visitor's Centre accepting our



invitation to participate in the Shannons 2010 Day of the Volkswagen held at Burswood in December and promote Toodyay.

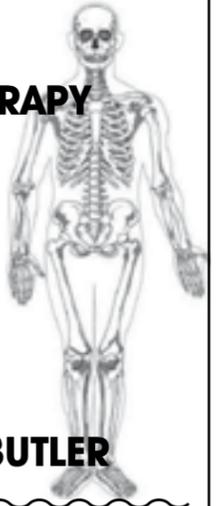
Also, as part of our promotion of the Bug-In, the Avalon Homestead Guesthouse in collaboration with the VW Club provided an accommodation prize for the Bug-In weekend of 22 to 25 April. The owners, Peter and Delveen Wakefield, are seen presenting the gift certificate to the winners - VW Club

WA members Bob and Allie Lafferty (photo).

With only around 2 months left before Bug-In, the organisation process is in full swing and everybody is eager to get to Toodyay and experience the historic town and its attractions.

Information can be found on our website at [www.vwclubwa.com](http://www.vwclubwa.com) or if anybody has an enquiry about the event they can contact me by email [bugin2011@vwclubwa.com](mailto:bugin2011@vwclubwa.com).

## TOODYAY PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICES



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## Carnarvon Flood Appeal

The Toodyay community having suffered considerable loss following the December 2009 bushfires that ravaged the region would like to repay the generosity shown to their community by establishing an appeal to support the community of Carnarvon.

Funds raised will go to the Lord Mayor Distress Relief Fund to assist recovery efforts in Carnarvon.

Show your support today by donating at any Bendigo Bank branch or online at [www.bendigobank.com.au/foundation/carnarvon](http://www.bendigobank.com.au/foundation/carnarvon)



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15,500 litre capacity

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9574 2044

# letters

ON 1 DECEMBER 2010 the Water Corporation changed the status of the shire water standpipe from 'country' to 'commercial', raising the cost of water to \$4.50 per 1000L. The Shire takes 60c of this to cover administration and maintenance costs.

I've spoken to three of the tanker drivers who deliver water from the standpipe and they stated they very rarely do any commercial deliveries. These drivers make their living transporting water, not from the water itself. They deliver to domestic situations in areas where there is no scheme water. For the most part, residents in these areas subsist on their own water, reducing the burden on the government water system. Yet, should they need public water, they are being forced to pay multiples more, plus transport and storage costs, than the majority of West Australians who have water conveniently piped to their doors via expensive Water Corporation infrastructure.

By my own observation, the only substantial use of the standpipe for commercial purposes is road construction of which very little has occurred in the year since those in the River Hills Estate were completed.

No-one in their right mind would start a commercial venture that depended heavily on water in an area where they needed to transport in such expensive water.

At any rate, it would not be difficult for administrators to distinguish between domestic and commercial use and charge accordingly.

Prior to 1 December the cost of the water from the standpipe was \$2.50 per kilolitre (Northam Shire \$2 per kilolitre to the present.)

The Toodyay Shire was taking \$1.37 of this \$2.50. The Water Corporation recorded 40,989 kilolitres used from the standpipe in the 2009/10 'consumption year'. The revenue taken from the standpipe by the Toodyay Shire over many years far outweighed the administration and maintenance costs, judging by the amount of water that leaked from the facility each day. The leaks in the standpipe have very recently been repaired but only after years of unnecessary waste.

One wonders if it wasn't the Shire's overindulgent revenue-raising from the standpipe that prompted the Water

Corporation's exorbitant price hike.

An even more disturbing aspect is, apparently, during the devastating '09 fires, tanker trucks supplying fire brigades with water waited in a queue to load at the single standpipe (Northam Shire has nine standpipes.) This severely restricted the amount of water to firefighters, a scenario to bite us on the proverbial again at any moment. Yet, whilst the Shire was making such handsome profits from the standpipe no attempt was made to rectify this problem.

It would also be in everyone's interest not to discourage those living in these areas where Water Corporation infrastructure is non-existent to keep their water tanks topped up in case of a fire emergency.

Such hikes in the cost of water cause more pressure on the groundwater supplies which can lead to long-term, if not irreparable, damage to the environment.

Whether it is the Water Corporation or the Shire responsible for these inequitable charges, it's those who, in all fairness, should be paying less for water transported from the standpipe and commended for their minimal dependence on public water, get it, undemocratically, in the neck.

*R Barker*

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS and thank you to ALL who contributed in any way to promoting the Christmas atmosphere through our town.

The beautiful lights and ornaments created good feelings and gave our town new life that has been missing for a number of years. I'm sure it gave any visitor who saw it a "want to come back" feeling. It was really very well done.

Good on ya Toodyay.

*Ben Camenzuli*

WE WOULD LIKE to thank all of the farmers, water carriers and numerous fire brigades who attended the fire on their leased property on Telegraph Road on Saturday, 11 December.

Your prompt assistance was very much appreciated.

Thank you.

*Barry and Stephanie Clarke*

RECENTLY, I WAS disappointed and saddened to see that the 60-year-old jacaranda tree behind the new IGA had been removed.

Was this beautiful tree really so difficult to work around? Remarkably, it clung to life over many months as construction went on. It softened the stark wall and was a visual asset, a home for birds and a shade provider.

It is frustrating to feel like a lone voice in the wilderness. It is frustrating to be categorised as some kind of foolish, anti-development, 'tree hugger' when I express concern about the ever increasing removal of large trees in our community. I feel helpless to protest, which is why I have been posting notices around town voicing my distress.

After reading one of my flyers, a couple of elderly Toodyay-ites asked me, "Do you really care or do you just like the look of it (the tree)?" - a question I found strange. They then labelled me a hypocrite because I drive a car.

To me, simplistic, confused arguments like these simply reinforce the need for people to be more aware of their environment and to stand up for the trees.

It seems ironic when we have tarted up Toodyay with expensive Christmas decorations that another of the town's precious natural sights, an established tree, can be so easily destroyed.

*Naomi Millett*

## Fly on the Wall

**Peter Robinson**

THE first Council meeting of the year was very short with little on the agenda. Nevertheless there were a couple of items worth reporting.

### Deposit of Local Government Funds

The State Government Minister for Local Government (Hon. John Castrilli) is proposing to make all Local Governments invest their funds with an 'AA' (or better) rated financial institution. This would leave the Bendigo Bank out of the system. Since the Bendigo Bank model has been so successful in assisting rural communities, it would be a travesty if they were suddenly sidelined. The need to protect local government funds is not in dispute, particularly after the Rothwells bank fiasco. However, simply having a 'AA' rating is no guarantee as Lehman Bros were rated at 'AAA' at the time of their collapse. It would be more prudent to include all ADI's (Authorised Deposit taking Institutions), which are regulated by APRA, as suitable for Local Government. Our Council passed a motion with this intent, to be forwarded to the Minister and all State politicians. In my opinion, Mr Castrilli seems to be good at blundering as he was the one who made a debacle of the Shire amalgamation issue.

### Ward Boundaries

The Local Government Act requires each Shire to carry out a ward review every eight years. Toodyay is about to go through that process. There will be public consultation involved in this review. Looking at the figures, it would appear that our number of electors in each ward is comfortably within the allowed variation. However, we still have to bear the cost of this process. It is interesting to look at the population figures for Toodyay, which show a decline of 33 since October 2009. Given the increase

of population in the State and the grave concerns of unsustainable growth Toodyay had a couple of years ago, this figure is surprising. It may have something to do with the difficulty in getting any planning/building approvals over the last 5 years.

Apart from the monthly financials this is all that was on the agenda.

A couple of Councillors continue to rustle papers and write notes when the Shire President is giving his monthly report. I'm of the opinion that this behaviour may be politically motivated; it is certainly not what I'd call well-mannered. I imagine there will be some voters come October this year who remember this behaviour.

## Update on Toodyay Bushfire Financial Assistance Scheme

BY 29 January 2010, more than \$1.9million in payments have been approved from the Toodyay Bushfire Financial Assistance Scheme.

Premier Colin Barnett said 38 claims totalling \$1,948,650 had been signed off, with an average approved payment of \$51,280.

"Claims approved range from \$1,000 to the maximum \$190,000 and include 15 claims where houses were completely destroyed and 10 claims where people had no insurance," he said. "Of these, we have paid 11 claims totalling \$957,500. The other 27 claims are waiting for claimants to return signed acknowledgement forms.

"To date, 122 claims have been lodged and 102 have been contacted by the loss adjustor."

The State Government and Western Power announced the \$10million financial assistance package in October for residents directly affected by the December 2009 Toodyay bushfire.

Mr Barnett said he was pleased with the progress of the payouts from the scheme which was made up of a \$5million ex-gratia, goodwill payment from both the State Government and Western Power to help affected households get back on their feet.

An estimated 137 properties were damaged, with 38 homes destroyed. Up to 20 homes were uninsured while other affected homes were underinsured.

"It has been a year since the Toodyay bushfires and I am pleased that so much work has been done since the scheme was announced in October," he said. "The scheme acknowledges the impact of the fire on people who were not insured or who were not fully insured while also recognising the contributions already made by insurance companies.

"Residents receiving payments through the assistance package have not waived their rights to future litigation against Western Power. The question of liability can only adequately be resolved in a Court of law therefore if people or their insurer choose to litigate, that is their right."

The total payment for each property is capped at \$190,000, which compared favourably with the support provided to victims of the February 2009 Victorian bushfires (\$15,000 for contents and a maximum of \$85,000 for homes destroyed) which were primarily funded by donations.

## Expressions of Interest

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## Karate Master to Visit Toodyay



THE Toodyay Karate club is abuzz with excitement as members prepare for a full-on weekend of karate seminars by world renowned Shotokan karate expert, Sensei Andre Bertel 6th Dan. Sensei Bertel will be in Toodyay from 10 – 15 February.

Sensei Bertel spent many years in Japan as the personal student and assistant of Asai Tetsuhiko Shihan 10th Dan. Since Master Asai's death, Sensei Bertel has made it his life's work to continue training and teaching traditional Shotokan karate in the style of 'Asai-ha Shotokan-ryu'. He is perhaps one of the best in the new generation of Shotokan masters - Japanese and non-Japanese.

He is a certified Shotokan Class A instructor and 17 times New Zealand National Karate Champion.

Sensei Bertel's seminars are hugely popular all over the world and he has a large international following. He has taught as an invited expert in clubs in Europe and Asia and already his calendar for 2011 is fully booked. The karate club is greatly honoured that Sensei Bertel, on his first trip to Australia, has chosen Avon Valley Shotokan to host an open seminar at Toodyay Memorial Hall on 12 and 13 February. Karate students from all over Australia and overseas have expressed interest in visiting Toodyay to attend this special karate training. It is an open event and all martial artists are welcome.

Sensei Bertel will conduct classes for all students of the Clackline/Toodyay Karate Club, from the littlest peewee to the most senior, on Friday 11 February. They can't wait to meet him and learn as much as they can and to show him, his wife and all karate guests the hospitality and attractions of the Avon Valley.

Club fundraising and community support have made it possible for the club to invite a world class instructor into our midst, and to encourage international visitors.

## Toodyay Local on Ministerial Advisory Council

TOODYAY local and C.Y. O'Connor Institute's Access and Equity Manager, Samantha Connor, has recently been appointed to the Ministerial Advisory Council on Disability after a lengthy and competitive nomination process.

"It is a great honour to be selected," said Samantha. "I'm looking forward to representing the interests of people with disabilities in the Wheatbelt. It is also an important opportunity to work with a group of similarly minded individuals."

The Council's advice to the Government is based on consultation with the community and key stakeholders. It is also a means of keeping the Government informed about major issues affecting the lives of people with disabilities, their families and care givers.

Samantha has a condition herself, and two of her children have autism, so she is in a strong position to advocate for the services that are needed for people with disabilities, especially in country areas.

"We have additional challenges in the Wheatbelt," says Samantha, "due mainly

to a lack of access to services locally and distances that people have to travel to receive the help and care they need."

In her role as Access and Equity Officer at C.Y. O'Connor Institute, Samantha looks after the day-to-day needs of students with disabilities attending the Institute, making sure that there are no barriers to their education and that they have the same access to learning as every other student. This includes providing extra staff to assist them and specialised equipment, along with liaising with lecturing staff to ensure all their needs are met.

"I believe that this will be a good thing for post-secondary and tertiary education in Western Australia, as Trevor Paterson (Edge Employment and former NDCO) and I both have experience working to support students with disability in the education sector," says Samantha. "We'll now be in a position to directly advise the Minister and hopefully positively influence the strategic direction for services to provide support for students with a disability."

## Toodyay Rallies for Flooded Communities

TOODYAY Community Bank Branch has partnered with Bendigo and Adelaide Bank's philanthropic arm, Community Enterprise Foundation to raise funds for the flood-affected communities of mid-west Western Australia.

On Saturday 18 December 2010 heavy rains caused extensive flooding in Carnarvon and the surrounding districts, with many properties still cut off from civilisation.

Toodyay Community Bank Chair, Vicki Wesley, said the Toodyay community understood what it was like to be faced with adversity and was keen to assist the people of Carnarvon in their time of need.

"Our community has been through similar challenges, but thanks to the support of people right across Australia we got back on our feet," Ms Wesley said. "It's going to be a pretty tough road ahead for the communities in the mid-west and they will need all the help we can give them."

"We hope that by assisting another community to recover and rebuild, we can repay some of the kindness that everyday Australians showed us when we needed it most last Christmas."

Funds raised by the Carnarvon Mid-West Flood Appeal will be donated to the Lord Mayor's Distress Relief Fund to be distributed to the community.

Toodyay Community Bank Branch Manager, Don Bates, said funds raised for the Carnarvon area would enable the Lord Mayor's Distress Relief Fund to assist those suffering hardship.

"Recovering from a natural disaster is a long process, but our experience shows that it can be done with the help and compassion of others," Mr Bates said. "Many families have lost everything and I'd like to encourage everyone to dig deep and give what you can."

Donations to the Carnarvon Mid-West Flood Appeal can be made at any Bendigo Bank

branch or online at [www.bendigobank.com.au/foundation](http://www.bendigobank.com.au/foundation).

Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

## Toodyay Keeps on Giving

Lindsey Read and Kylie Brown

ON Sunday 16 January 2011, the Victoria Hotel hosted a fundraising extravaganza in support of local, Simon Harrington.

After Simon lost his car in an accident, his many friends were left wondering how they could help. The decision was made to hold an auction and raffle during an open-mike afternoon at the Victoria Hotel. Many generous businesses and individuals from the local Toodyay community and Perth donated items and services to be auctioned or used as prizes in the raffle.



With the hotel packed with people the auction began and, thanks to the generous spirit (and a bit of friendly competition) of everyone involved, a fantastic \$4128 was raised by the auction's close.

The giving didn't stop there though and, thanks to some extra cash donations, the final total was raised to \$5000.

The organisers are thrilled and convinced

this will allow Simon to buy a replacement vehicle. A special thank you must go to Margaret and all the staff at the Victoria Hotel, several of whom donated their time, working for free on the day.

A bank cheque for \$5000 was presented to Simon on his return to town. It is wonderful to see yet another example of the Toodyay community's willingness to support each other in times of need and the organisers wish to extend another huge thank you to everyone involved.

## 2011 WA Multicultural Community Service Awards

THE Western Australian Multicultural Community Service Awards recognise individuals, organisations and businesses who achieve excellence and innovation in advancing multiculturalism, through participation, equity and promotion.

There are three Award categories:

- Individual (up to five awards will be presented in this category)
- Organisation – three streams are available (three awards are available):
  - Community Service Excellence Award – For not-for-profit organisations receiving funding for and providing services specifically to ethnic communities and people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) backgrounds.
  - Engaging the Community Innovation Award – For all organisations not specifically funded to provide services to CaLD communities.
  - Implementing Multiculturalism Locally Award – For local governments only.
- Business Migrant of the Year (one award is available)

Nominations must be received by close of business, Monday 7 February 2011.

The Western Australian Multicultural Community Service Awards are coordinated by the Office of Multicultural Interests and are sponsored by the National Australia Bank and supported by Lotterywest.

Download the Nomination Forms and Guidelines in PDF or MS Word 2007 format from [www.omi.wa.gov.au/](http://www.omi.wa.gov.au/).

For further information, please contact Ms Wendy Chew, Assistant Communications Officer, Office of Multicultural Interests on 9217 1616 or email [wendy.chew@omi.wa.gov.au](mailto:wendy.chew@omi.wa.gov.au).

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# australia day 2011



THE Toodyay Citizen of the Year for 2011 was Pam Tennant.

She was selected from a very worthy group of nominees including Sean Byron, Laurie Biggs, Roma Heath, Robyn Hanson and Alan Knapp. Shire of Toodyay President, Kevin Hogg, said it was a very difficult decision to make as all nominees would have been worthy recipients.

Reprinted here is Pam's nomination:

**Reasons for Nomination:**

The main reason for Pam's nomination relates to her commitment to St John Ambulance in Toodyay. Pam has been an active member of the Toodyay Sub Centre for 17 years as a volunteer. In this role she has acted firstly as a very competent ambulance officer, but also as a First Aid Trainer and Skills Trainer for other volunteers.

She has served on the management committee of the Sub Centre for 15 years and in that time has served as committee member and in various appointed roles including treasurer, secretary and special events organiser.

Her astute financial management has assisted the Sub Centre to grow to what it is today – well equipped with four ambulances over three locations, a high standard of

building infrastructure and strong team of dedicated volunteers.

Pam now works as Officer Manager in a paid capacity. This completes her involvement with St John Ambulance in Toodyay to cover every aspect of the sub centres functions. Outside her hours as Office Manager she is still one of our most active volunteers.

From the time an emergency call is received, Pam will probably answer the phone regardless of the time of day or night. She will ensure there is someone to handle the job, and often that will be Pam herself.

When the Ambulance is dispatched, it will be fuelled, serviced and functioning, with all necessary medical supplies. Various batteries will be charged, communications equipment will be working and necessary paperwork available, all because Pam has checked.

The volunteer Ambulance Officers will be competent because Pam has mentored them and kept their refresher training up to date. When the task of delivering the patient to the hospital is complete, Pam will deal with the paperwork and address any problems that need to be rectified. She maintains the supply of stores and drafts up rosters.

The Sub Centre's budget goes that bit further with Pam managing it. Her budgetary restraint is legendary.

The whole system functions because Pam is toiling away quietly but industriously behind the scenes to ensure that it does function.

**How has the nominee demonstrated active citizenship and enhancement of community life?**

Pam previously worked at the Toodyay Medical Centre for 9 years. This, combined with her volunteer ambulance work means she has an enormous amount of local knowledge.

When conducting her duties as an ambulance officer, often she is welcomed into the home of the patient as a friend. Combined with Pam's personal knowledge of the patient, this provides a great deal of reassurance, minimising the stress associated with the transport of the ill or injured patient to hospital. There are lots of thankyou cards to Pam on the Sub Centre notice board.

Ambulance Officers sometimes work in "difficult" situations. These can be quite unpleasant, mentally challenging and, to some, very distressing. Pam, in these situations is calm, considered, professional and inspirational, though she may have a little cry when she gets home. A true angel

dedicated to the care of her fellow man.

The tireless effort she puts in to maintain an effective ambulance system for the Toodyay area results in a service to the people of Toodyay that is about as efficient as it can be. With around 500 calls a year, this is a service that reaches out to a significant proportion of our community. At present the backbone to this effective system is our Pam and we love her dearly.

**How has the Nominee's contribution been recognised elsewhere?**

Pam has received a number of awards through the St John system including:

- Priory Vote of Thanks (recognises outstanding contributions to the service and not readily awarded)
- Western Australian Sub Centre trainer of the year in 2008
- 12 year service medal
- Certificate of Commendation (for a "difficult" incident attended in 2009)



The Toodyay Young Citizen of the Year was Damon Geary.

**Reason for nomination:**

Damon is a resident of Toodyay and a Year 10 student at Toodyay District High School. He is 15 years old. Damon has been an active citizen in the Toodyay community within the sporting area of Hockey. The Toodyay Hockey Club wishes to nominate Damon for his leadership qualities, taking on the role of coaching young, junior hockey players by demonstrating skills and providing technical instructions and tips to players within the Minkey Hockey programme for 2010. Damon has made a valued contribution to the community by giving our younger players inspiration and being a good role model.

Damon has also gained personal

achievements in the Avon Hockey Association. As Captain of the U/15s team at the State Championships, the team won the B division for Avon. Damon has also represented Avon at Regional level and has participated in the U/15s State Trials. He has represented Avon in the U/17s State Championships and was awarded the Avon Hockey Association's U/17s Runner Up Fairest and Best as well as highest player achievement for the U/17's Magic team. Damon has also represented the Men's division of the Avon Hockey Association. He was selected in the WA Hockey Talent Programme for 2010 and 2011, representing the Avon Hockey Association.

**How has the nominee demonstrated active citizenship and enhancement of the community life?**

Damon was involved in the Minkey Hockey programme for the 2010 season for the Toodyay Hockey Club, introducing and promoting junior hockey in the community of Toodyay. He has provided ongoing support to junior players by giving coaching lessons, tips and drills, providing resources and encouraging future junior players to play hockey. Damon has endeavoured to encourage young children in the community to have a go at hockey to ensure players for the future and thereby promoting the Toodyay Hockey Club.

Damon was a junior himself and played Junior's hockey and Senior's Women's hockey with Toodyay Hockey Club in his younger years.

As some sports have been moved out of Toodyay, it is wonderful to see that Damon is keen to volunteer his time to support and promote Minkey and Junior hockey for the Toodyay Hockey Club.

**How has the nominee's contribution been recognised elsewhere?**

Damon is a member of the Avon Hockey Association and has represented them extensively over the years in the State Championships Division. He has provided coaching assistance to the U/17s Saint's team in the Avon Association in Northam. His responsibilities included preparation of skills development and improved positional game play for player's personal development. He was involved in encouraging and mentoring a junior goalie to help develop skills needed to play at a higher level of hockey in the men's team. Damon has done umpiring duties for the junior teams and seniors for the Avon Association.



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# Australia Day @ Toodyay



Toodyay Scouts Raise the Flag



Barbecue breakfast for all



Decked out in the Australian Flag



Toodyay Citizen of the Year: Pam Tennant



Vegemite Painting

Face Painting



Our latest Australian Citizens taking the oath



Cory Clynes receives her Certificate of Citizenship from Shire President, Kevin Hogg



# emergency services

## St. John Ambulance

Karen Jacomelli

2010 finished with the following statistics:

**November**  
32 callouts (Toodyay 26, Bolgart 3, Morangup 3) involving 10 trauma, 18 medical and 4 cardiac, totalling 2,691 kms.

**December**  
31 callouts (Toodyay 27, Bolgart 1, Morangup 3) involving 8 trauma, 21 medical and 2 cardiac, totalling 3,793 km.  
Now we are in to 2011 and it's back into training on a number of levels. Existing officers will continue to attend ongoing skills training and some will attend further training to advance current skills.

Recruitment has yielded a small number of new people in all three locations. Remember that this is an ongoing process and it is never too late to put your hand up if you are interested in joining as a volunteer; there is a variety of roles. Contact Pam Tennant at the sub-centre. If she is not there, she may be on a callout so don't be discouraged.

Perhaps you want to start by doing your Senior First Aid course. Whether it is to know what to do to be able to assist family and friends, for work requirements or for whatever reason, Jenny Willgoss and Valerie Cale are back by popular demand on Sunday 27 February in Toodyay. A workbook is required to be completed before attending. For registration and your workbook pack, contact Jenny Willgoss 9574 2455 (A/H 9574 2412) or Pam Tennant 9574 2390.

A special thanks goes out to the Toodyay Lions Club, Toodyay Op Shop and the Miniature Railway for donating towards the cost of our new uniforms. So often community groups, manned by volunteers, are supporting each other in numerous ways and it is much appreciated.

Speaking of which, St. John's volunteer, Pam Tennant, has been nominated for Citizen of the Year, the results of which will be printed in this paper. Congratulations on her nomination and thanks to Pam for her many hours of voluntary work as an ambulance officer, trainer, and secretary on

the committee, not forgetting all the extra hours she also has put in as Office Manager.



Pam as Office Manager

## Locals Take Action for Fire Safety

IN late December the **Parklanders Fire Ready Group** held its second meeting to discuss a collective way forward for the people residing in the cul-de-sac end of Parkland Drive (past Malkup Brook Road) in Julimar.

The meeting, hosted at the *Oliomio Olive and Lavender Farm* (439 Parkland Drive), was well attended with 16 of the 17 properties represented (the missing representative was held up in traffic!) Francis Moran, as the Fire Ready Group Street Coordinator, will be the main point of contact for the residents, the idea being that residents will keep Francis up-to-date with their movements (eg. away from home for a week) and will use him as their point of reference on 'danger' days.

It was decided that the group's first action should be to compile a contact list, to be shared amongst the Parklanders. Apart from detailing family members and pets residing on an individual property, it was decided that noting any fire fighting equipment on the property would also be of use during an emergency (eg. if 'Jim Smith' has a perfectly good fire fighter pump on his property but is out at work, his neighbours will be aware of this and know that his permission is given for them to avail themselves of it.) To build

upon this, once the list has been circulated the group will be going on a 'Parkland Ridge Familiarisation Tour'. All residents will be invited to join a walking tour of the properties to familiarise themselves with the layout (eg. where does the driveway go and how do you get to the front door?) and location of equipment.

Further down the track, the group hopes that all residents will be able to avail themselves of CB radios to ensure uninterrupted contact in the case of an emergency. Shire Ranger and Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, Alan Knapp, (also a resident of the cul-de-sac) said that he felt proud to be a part of the group.

Residents left the meeting with a positive feeling that they would be empowered to become proactive in an emergency and with the instruction to formalise their Bush Fire Ready Plans which could be shared with others at the next meeting.

## Julimar Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Grant Scobie

DECEMBER was marred by the fact that someone had decided to mark the anniversary of the 29 December 2009 fire with a fire of his own.

The fire, in Morangup, took many days to put out and, like the 2009 fire, many puffs of smoke were reported day after day by concerned residents/passers-by.

Firefighters have to get used to this but it does become wearing. Being woken up at 3am for another call-out to the same fire when one is sure it is safe is difficult to accept. However, and I stress this, it is better to be safe than sorry!

The only trouble is that, in this case, our arsonist was not satisfied with our work and, on occasion, relit the thing. There is much talk about the appropriate penalties for this behaviour and I don't think there'd be too many people in Toodyay who would blink if some of the more extreme punishments were meted out.



The Morangup fire from the air taken by Joe Edgecombe as they flew into Perth

The most important thing to say is that everyone must be vigilant. Please, if you notice any suspicious behaviour, call Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000 and report what you've seen.

All brigades were placed on high alert from 28 - 30 January. A new initiative, forming special, emergency Incident Control Teams was put in place and we were ready to roll at the first report of fire. Instead, we get dust, wind and rain. We were relieved but, also, fearful of the consequences. Luckily, Toodyay was spared the worst.

Training in December involve OSH issues such as the 'fend-off' position, placement of road cones and signs, parking on the fire ground and some other things. Members of Central Brigade joined us and everyone learned a great deal about safety on the road.

January training was a continuation of OSH where we discussed possible dangerous situations on the fire ground and how to protect oneself. This included a dummy, wheel-changing exercise (we didn't want to be caught short with a wheel off the vehicle and receive a call-out. Anyway, we discovered a flat on the inside rear wheel on Friday night vehicle check so some had already had the pleasure of the real thing!)

The Brigade had a presence at the 'Toodyay Festival of Plenty' on 26 November and had a lot of good responses from the public. We also had the pleasure of placing our vehicle in position to aid the fire eater so that the gusty winds were not as dangerous as they could have been.

The next Brigade meeting will be on 5 February 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



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# emergency services

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 brigade and get to know the people who are just like you, residents of Toodyay.

## Coondle-Nunile VBFB

Peter Ruthven

IT seems like every time you watch the news recently there is a fire in bush in Perth or nearby countryside. Unfortunately the cause is all too often arson and there are many more fires that don't make the news. These are the smaller fires that your local Volunteers get to early and extinguish before they spread and destroy a lot of property.

Not all fires are started by arsonists. Some are caused by carelessness; welding, angle grinding and using ride-on mowers in areas with rocks are great activities to toss out sparks into dry grass. However, many fires are purely accidental, caused perhaps by lightning strikes or the motor that unexpectedly, and sometimes inexplicably, bursts into flames.

But, let's go back to the arsonists. What could possibly prompt someone to want to set fire to property, to put people's lives at risk? Even if they only light up bush land, this still risks the lives of firefighters attempting to control the fire before it spreads, destroying houses, livelihoods and possibly taking lives.

What is it in their little brains that gives them a thrill to see other people's property destroyed?

How can you help? Simply, be observant. If you see someone acting suspiciously, have a look and get descriptions of people and vehicles.

This, of course, now raises the question of whether to call 000. This is the dilemma. If there isn't actually a fire or some other emergency you shouldn't call 000. Having said that, it's better to be safe than sorry. However, even if you decide not to call 000, don't hesitate to ring Crimestoppers, 1800 333 000, to pass on any information you have. Added to information Police already have, this might be just what they need to catch an arsonist.

Similarly, after larger fires there are frequently follow-up calls. While many calls are justified, some are not. A wisp of smoke from something on the ground hundreds of metres into burned ground probably doesn't warrant 30 plus volunteers being called out, sometimes in the middle of the night only to be stood down half way there. It is very hard for volunteers to maintain enthusiasm if this happens repeatedly. However, again err on the side of safety. If in doubt, call 000. We don't want you to wait until we have a raging fire before you call.

All brigades have been quite busy over the

last couple of months with a couple of larger fires and several other smaller ones. As usual, the turn-out has been exceptional, particularly as we don't have rostered crews during the Christmas/New Year period. Thank you to all those people who have made themselves available.

We have had two meetings since the last Herald, the biggest of course being the December meeting and Christmas party. This was a great night, thanks to Kerry and the many people who helped beforehand and on the night.

Our next Brigade meeting is on Saturday 12 February at the Coondle Fire Shed on Coondle West Road and new members or visitors are welcome.

You are also welcome to join us at the shed any Friday night. This is a great opportunity to meet people from your local area. Alternatively, if you would like information about any aspects of fire prevention and safety, phone Peter Ruthven (Captain) on 9574 2951 or one of our local Fire Control Officers.

## Morangup VBFB

Cheryl Mustchin  
Secretary

AS I sit here to write this, the beeper has gone off yet again and our marvellous guys and girls are out there answering the call. It has been a trying time since the last week of December with the fire in the Morangup Reserve and subsequent call-outs to Black Swamp road. We have been extremely lucky, unlike the communities of Lake Clifton and surrounds. Our hearts go out to them.

On the east coast, unheard of flooding and, over here, stupid, thoughtless, evil individuals lighting fires. They don't realise that it's our sense of community that keeps us all going.

New Year's Eve saw some of us at the home of one of our members; it was also a celebration for his birthday. He is now officially a 'pensioner' but you'd never know it to look at him. Thanks for letting us share it with you, Mike.

We were all on tenterhooks while trying to unwind; we knew the call would come – it was only a matter of time. The boys took off to do what they do; our only concern was one of our guests who was wearing a kilt and a black akubra. The look of horror on his face as the call came through was priceless! The fire was attended to and he performed to his usual standard of excellence that we have come to expect. The teasing I gave him about photos being attached to this article gave us all a good chuckle. If you haven't heard it from us, Alan, thank you; we do appreciate you and your sense of humour.

It's going to be a very long and trying season. To all members of the Toodyay community, please stay vigilant. The quicker we get the calls the faster our response time. Check your fire plans and evacuation points. Don't be concerned if anyone thinks you're paranoid; I'd much rather be thought of as paranoid than

trapped in a fire.

If any of you are unsure of what you need to do, please contact your local brigade. We are all here to help. Stay safe, be cautious and look after your neighbours.

Our brigade meets every Saturday at 8am and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7pm for our general meeting at 3 Wallaby Way, Morangup. Enquiries to Cheryl Mustchin, Secretary, on 9572 9556.

## Bejoording VBFB

Terri Spark-Colfer

THE last couple of months seemed to have flown past and you may have noticed a gap in our usual spot in the newspaper. So again we need to play catch up on events that have occurred.

We will begin by saying that fortunately fire calls have been minimal and our last significant fire was on 29 December 2010.

This was off Toodyay Road, in the Morangup area and we believe this was deliberately lit. The area was dense bushland and it was contained before it could impact on any major buildings. The Captain would like to extend his appreciation to the crews who assisted in the effort of containment and mop up at the event which was 60kms from our back door.

News at home begins with the fact that our facilities are soon to be extended which will provide us with a Comms area, a storage/locker room and an area for use by the community. This will proceed with the assistance of various community members who are kind enough to provide their valuable time and knowledge for the project. Our current worktable was loaned to us from the Julimar Fire Brigade, many years ago, so we are keen to update our facilities, especially given the increasing size of our brigade and the ever expanding size of our community. The Bejoording area has shown an expansion which is not likely to stop any time soon. Our new facilities are overdue and necessary to keep us prepared for any incidences which may occur.

Missed in our last congratulations and

welcomes to the Fire Brigade, we need to backtrack and recognise Jared and Matt who completed their training in October. They became active members for the brigade as of this year and we appreciate the dedication of the newest members of not only the brigade but also to the community.

On 5 February another two members will be participating in basic fire training. Minka is currently an auxiliary member and Kathleen is a Bolgart resident. It is great to see that the interest in the brigade has reached past the immediate Bejoording vicinity.

With our expanding member numbers we have added benefits, one being a large enough brigade to warrant the need for an extra vehicle and now we have been gifted with a second unit. It is 'Fast Attack' or 'Light Tanker' which holds about 350-400L water. It should provide us with easier access/manoeuvrability to a fire (eg. around houses) and will be a great support vehicle to the 1.4 Fire Unit (for those not in the know, the '1' is in reference to the quantity of water the vehicle is capable of holding, i.e 1000L, the '4' is in reference to the drive capacity, i.e, four wheel drive).

We have a Training day on 30 January at 10am to discuss what to do for a 'burn over', especially now that we are operating the two vehicles.

By the time this has gone to print, this event will have been completed. A 'burn over' is what to do if you are in a vehicle which is caught within the path of a fire. If you have an interest in finding out any information such as this, you are most welcome to discuss it with members of the brigade; they will be more than happy to assist you with your enquiries. It is essential that not only the brigade has knowledge of what to do in a fire emergency!

Our next Brigade meeting will be held on 19 February at 6pm so, if you need any further details, just contact Lawrence on 9574 5106 or Barry on 9574 2149.

Finally, please remember that, for any emergency calls, it needs to go through 000. It is necessary for all call outs/responses of the Brigade to be registered through this line.

## TOODYAY CLEARING SALE Date TBA

Drilling Contractor has ceased Operations  
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### Plant

Mobile air compressor, portable welder generator, trailer mounted cherry picker, mono type pumps used and unused, hydraulic steel pipe cutters, portable hydraulic hose crimping machine, 2 lathes, 2 magnetic base drills, 2 pedestal drills, 2 power hacksaws, 5 welders - mig tig stick, several hydraulic power packs, 12 volt 240 volt and petrol, wood lathe, 4500 litres cartage tank, bladder type cartage tank, hydraulic winches, air driver, sand blaster home made, car trailers licensed and unlicensed, Massey Ferguson 14 disc plow, Frederick Wheel stick rake, diesel powered mud pump, hydro powered grout pump, 650 x 350 compressor air end.

### Sundries

Drilling rods used and unused, drilling hammers r/c and conventional used and unused, large piston compressor, Cat C9 engine parts unused, selection of hydraulic hose, used and unused, hydraulic fittings used and unused, hydraulic pumps and motors used and unused, electric and air hand tools, hydraulic cylinders used and unused, taps & dies metric and imperial 6" subm pump, 4cyl cummins engine, selection of drill bits 1/2 to 2", scrap steel, shelving and storage containers long range, two way radios, satellite phones, fire extin, etc. range of oil and air filters, 12 volt motors, boss fittings, oxy set, high pressure ball valves.

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## Toodyay Central VBFB

Desraé Clarke

The Brigade members would like to thank Lesley, Kevin and the Hug young ones, for a great venue at their home for Central's Christmas get-together. It was a super night and really enjoyed by all – many thanks!!!

Mick Giles, Training Officer, asks that members interested in training sessions contact him on his mobile 0417 954 298 or Captain, Kevin, 9574 2612 (or mobile 0418 932 515) as to their ability to attend. Mick also asks that if any senior members of the Brigade are available to assist with training it would be very much appreciated.

A Bushfire Brigade Introductory Course is to be held at the Julimar Fire Shed on Saturday 5 February commencing 8am and finishing 5pm.

Central Brigade is sad to lose several members, Bob and Thelma Symonds, Adrian and Diane Delicata and John and Christine Morhall, who are leaving the Toodyay area. We wish them all well and thank them for their untiring support to Central and the community.

Although we say 'goodbye' to some members we welcome Karen, Morgan and Megan Goodman, Debbie Welsh, Aaron Hug and Craig Patching; Megan and Aaron have become members as cadets. Welcome to you all and best wishes for a great learning experience with Central.

Over the past month there have been eleven call-outs with an excellent response from our members; there has also been a 'controlled burn' at the West Toodyay Bridge.

Remember the Bushfire Brigade Introductory Course that is to be held at the Julimar Fire shed on Saturday 5 February commencing 8am and finishing at 5pm.

Please let Mick or Kevin know if you are interested in participating.

The next General Meeting of the Brigade will be held on Tuesday 22 February commencing at 7.30pm and held at the Fire and Emergency Services Centre, Stirling Terrace, Toodyay. New members are made

very welcome – please come along to the next meeting. Enquiries may be made to Captain, Kevin Hug 9574 2612, or Secretary, Wayne Clarke 6364 3609.

## Changes to Bush Fire Act

THE Emergency Services Volunteers Association Inc (ESVA) applauds FESA's decision to initiate changes to the Bush Fire Act in regard to Total Fire Bans and its impact on farmers.

Earlier changes to the Bush Fire Act in 2009 meant that farmers were prohibited from harvesting or driving vehicles in paddocks when a Total Fire Ban was declared by FESA. With a declaration of a Total Fire Ban based on weather forecasts for regions, rather than observed local conditions, this meant that farmers were unable to harvest even if the actual conditions in their Shire did not attain those forecast.

Mr John Iffla, President of the ESVA says the Association raised concerns with FESA over the unintended consequences of the changes to legislation to farm operations in rural Western Australia.

"The ESVA met with FESA soon after the first Total Fire Ban was imposed during the 2009/10 harvest season to discuss the issue and detailed its concerns and possible solutions in correspondence to FESA's Chief Executive Officer," said Mr Iffla. "We were very pleased with FESA's prompt response in acknowledging the concerns and undertaking further consultation with stakeholders and local governments," he added. "FESA addressed all the points raised by the ESVA and has achieved a widely acceptable solution for the rural industries whilst still protecting the communities during times of expected extreme weather conditions and widespread fire danger."

The change in legislation passed by Parliament in November 2010 sees local governments again responsible for imposing Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans, with certain guidelines and restrictions to be adhered to. This means that farmers can harvest when there is a Total Fire Ban in

place, provided that their Local Government has not implemented a Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban and they have a fire appliance with a minimum of 400L of water on hand.

Mr Iffla said that the change in legislation will rely on Local Governments to monitor local conditions, as they are compelled by legislation to impose a ban if the Fire Danger Index reaches 35.

"We urge local governments to be active in monitoring temperature, relative humidity, fuel load, curing and wind speed to ensure bans will be implemented when required," said Mr Iffla. "Some local governments have in the past set a lower index base for enforcing a ban, and we encourage them to continue this if they feel that is appropriate."

In conclusion, Mr Iffla stated, "With the positive steps taken by FESA to assist the agricultural industry, it is the individual's responsibility to be aware of any bans in place and we recommend that people contact their local government to learn how they can best access this information."

## Community Safety & Crime Prevention Plan for Toodyay

Compiled by Wayne Clarke

IN December 2010, the Office of Crime Prevention (OCP) endorsed a Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan for Toodyay. The OCP provided funding of \$10,000 for development of the Plan, and rather than using consultants, the Toodyay Community Safety and Crime Prevention Committee (CSCPC) decided to develop the Plan themselves. The funds not used in this process could then be used on projects identified within the Plan.

**'Eyes on the street – looking for trouble'**  
With the Plan endorsed, the OCP will provide an additional \$20,000 for projects that have been identified. The CSCPC has developed a project (again, endorsed by the OCP) called 'Eyes on the Street – Looking for Trouble', as an initial project. The project involves the installation of a number of security cameras in Toodyay. Instances of burglary and anti-social behaviour (including assault, hooning and graffiti) and property damage are escalating. The security cameras are being installed to identify the individuals responsible, and assist in their apprehension and conviction.

### Local Alert Register

Another component of the Plan is to develop a Local Alert Register. The object of the register is to develop a web site specific to Toodyay that will provide residents with up-to-date information on community safety, links for victims of crime, child and parent helplines, and suicide prevention. It will have a community email register attached, where urgent crime messages can be relayed to those registered with the site. The register is already being compiled, and if you wish to participate you can email your details to: [toodyaycscpc@westnet.com.au](mailto:toodyaycscpc@westnet.com.au).

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business phone number and locality. A strict protocol is used to ensure details (such as email addresses) are kept confidential and not distributed.

Over the coming months, the CSCPC will develop an implementation strategy for actions identified in the Plan. If you are interested in being involved please watch for details in future editions of the Toodyay Herald.

## Police Beat

Sgt Geoff Dickson  
Toodyay Police

THE holiday period has been busy for Toodyay Police responding to various incidents throughout the sub-district, including reports of theft, damage and sporadic incidents of burglary.

Your police remind you that protecting your assets is your responsibility, so please take time to look at security in your home, your property and your vehicles. The constant message of 'Lock up, Lock up, Lock up' is one that you will hear us preach. Lock up your home, your gates and your cars. Making it hard for people to commit crimes of opportunity is the single key ingredient to help reduce your loss.

Another excellent tactic is to get to know your neighbours. Neighbourhood Watch is a formalised programme that supports neighbours looking out for each other and reporting suspicious behaviour. Even if you are not part of such a program, you can form your own informal links with neighbours in your street. Do you have their contact numbers, after hours contact numbers and do you let them know if you are going on holidays? Be there for each other; many eyes make crime difficult!!

Toodyay Police would like to remind the community that the main contact number for Toodyay Police Station has changed to (08) 95749555. This is our day-to-day business number. For life threatening matters, you should ring '000', for all other matters, you can ring our station number.

If the station is unattended, the phone will divert to either a new state-wide centralised call system, or to our station mobile phones.

If you are diverted to the call system, please follow the prompts. Don't hang up. We have constant contact with our communications section; they know what we are doing and will put you in contact with us if phone contact fails. Tell them what is happening and they will advise us locally to arrange police attention, if required. If you hang up because you can't speak with local police, then we will not be able to respond to your concerns.

By the time you read this, school will be just going back for the New Year. Please be vigilant, especially around Drummond Street. With the foot bridge being closed, police expect extra pressure on Drummond Street at the beginning and end of the school day, so please keep an eye out for our little community members, walking to and from school.

Whilst talking about using our roads, Toodyay Police have noticed an increase in the numbers of drivers exceeding the prescribed alcohol limit here in Toodyay. We are increasing our patrols, concentrating on random breath tests and recommend that all drivers look to using nominated drivers (skippers) and avoid drinking then driving. Don't try to second guess how much you can drink before you drive. Put simply, if you drink alcohol, don't drive.

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## P&C News

DON'T miss the welcome Sundowner and light supper on 16 February at 6pm in the staffroom at the school. We would especially like to invite all the new parents to the school to come along and meet other parents and get involved in the school's activities. The P&C is a great way to make friends, to know what is going on at the school and to be involved in your child's education and development.

Not everyone can get to the P&C meetings, but that doesn't mean that you can't be a member of the P&C. You might like to help out in the canteen or the uniform shop for a couple of hours or be a part of the fundraising working group or help out at busy bees. Whatever your interest and availability, the P&C would appreciate your input and support. By signing the form given to you by the school, consenting for the P&C to have your contact details, you can receive the minutes from each meeting via email to keep up-to-date with both school and P&C activities.

Some of the achievements of the TDHS P&C in 2010 include;

- Assisting with setting up both the middle and lower primary playgrounds;
- Cleaning up of the Kindy/Pre-primary play area;
- Successful fundraiser at the Toodyay Agricultural Show, as well as a wood

- raffle and cake stall;
- Supporting the Country Week Netball;
- Supporting the Constable Care programme;
- Cleaning up of leaves and debris at the back of the school to reduce fire risk;
- Screening around the bottom of the demountables to reduce fire risk;
- Revamping the canteen menu and working with the WA School Canteen Association to ensure the canteen doesn't run at a loss;
- Upgrading the uniform shed and ordering process to reduce turnaround time between ordering and delivery;
- Organising a Senior First Aid course to be delivered during school hours to make it easier for parents to complete the course; and
- Increased profile of the P&C through regular articles in both the *Herald* and the school newsletter.

If you would like to be involved in the P&C but are unable to make the Sundowner, please contact the current President, Owen Catto on 9574 4682.

### P&C 'Meet and Greet' Sundowner

16 February at 6pm in the staffroom at Toodyay District High School. Drinks and a light supper will be provided.

The Sundowner will be followed by the TDHS P&C AGM.

## Aussie Schools Unite with SchoolAid

AS parents, teachers and students prepare for another school year, Australian schools are being urged to unite with SchoolAid to support its Floods Relief Appeal and take part in a National Relief Appeal Day observing a minute's silence and donating gold coins.

SchoolAid demonstrated its strength as a leader in schools fundraising when it rallied schools across the nation in 2009 to support its Victorian Bushfire Appeal raising close to \$1 million and subsequently the organisation distributed these funds to schools and organisations supporting the recovery process for children. SchoolAid Founder, Sean Gordon says, "It's time to do it again. The kids being impacted by these devastating floods need our support. As a Queenslander, I am witnessing firsthand the scale of this disaster, but my experience with SchoolAid tells me that we can make a difference."

By observing a minute's silence at 1pm AEDST on 17 February, lowering flags to half mast and each student bringing in a gold coin donation towards the Appeal, Aussie Schools are set to make a huge difference and raise funds for our friends, neighbours and families overwhelmed by the flooding and its unprecedented impact.

As the disaster unfolds in Queensland and in other regions, SchoolAid is again ready with a call to action to school kids throughout the nation, who will be looking for an avenue to directly help as they arrive back to school later this month.

Every Australian school can easily get involved in the SchoolAid Floods Relief Appeal. Visit [www.schoolaid.org.au/projects/schoolaid-floods-relief-appeal.aspx](http://www.schoolaid.org.au/projects/schoolaid-floods-relief-appeal.aspx) for all the details. Funds will be distributed to communities, particularly to children and schools most in need via SchoolAid's trusted charity partner network.

Little Rascals  
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0-12 YEARS -  
BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL

## Toodyay YouthCARE Council

### M Heath

For Toodyay YouthCARE Council

MY sincere apologies for missing the December deadline. I had many to thank and was too late. I trust all had a very happy, safe and blessed Christmas and that the New Year has started well for all.

To the Parishioners of St John the Baptist Church, Dean at IGA, Caroline and Greg Downie at Makit Hardware, Gatto Christian Shop, Woolworths of Northam, Bendigo Bank, Jenny Norman, Jenny Clarke and Julie Jenkinson for their very generous donations for our Street Stall on Saturday 27 November, our grateful thanks. Our thanks also to the wonderful members of the Toodyay Community for their support.

Prize winners were 1<sup>st</sup> Prize – Sue Griggs, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Clarissa Robins, 3<sup>rd</sup> – Wendy Camenzuli, 4<sup>th</sup> – Peg Nelligan, 5<sup>th</sup> – Samantha, 6<sup>th</sup> – Sharron.

Sincere thanks must go to the Toodyay Shire, Toodyay Op Shop, Lion's Club, CWA, P&C and, of course, the Friends of the Chaplain who faithfully supported us throughout the year. Without this support the Toodyay YouthCARE Council would be unable to maintain our School Chaplain.

As the year gets under way, the fundraising activities will begin with a Street Stall later in February. Yes, it is early in the year but the target of \$22,000 takes a lot of effort to raise. We look forward to the continued support of our friends in the Community.

Once again, our very grateful thanks.

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## Toodyay Scouts

### Dropbear

OUR Scout Group held its first meetings for the year last week, with the Rover Scouts and Scout Troop meeting for their annual planning meetings at Adventure World. The Toodyay Rovers just returned from Oz Moot, a Rover event in Adelaide, which saw the Rovers travelling on expeditions to Coober Pedy and other fantastic sites. Julia will be writing a full report next month - well done, guys!

The Scouts met last Saturday 29 January - the day Cyclone Bianca swept through Toodyay. Looks like we managed to avoid all of the weather by driving around and through the storms on the way home! We left just as it started to rain, great timing. The eleventh billion tonne Scout trailer went for a cruise down through a paddock in Coondle, handbrake on all the way, stopped neatly by a ringlock fence fifty metres down the hill; no damage done! Glad our Scouts stayed safe and that there was no significant damage. Thank you to the parents and leaders who helped make this event possible, especially Rob, Dave, Pamela, Bron and the Tintookie. Thanks also to (former Scout and now grown lad) Kieran for stepping in at the last moment to provide transport.

In between the Rampage and the Tunnel of Terror and the Sling Shot and the Power Surge, (in awesome, sunny, non cyclone looking weather in Perth) we managed to plan a lot of our year with the Scouts providing some great ideas. The big event for this year for the Scout section is Campwest - this is a mini Jamboree, held in October at Mandejal, which is attended by up to 1000 Western Australian Scouts. At Campwest, you have the opportunity to do a whole heap of activities over the course of four or five days...and make some fantastic new friendships. In between some significant badgework involving landcare, citizenship, campcraft and air activities, there are also a heap of activities planned for the first half of the year - amongst many other activities,

our Scouts will hold an activity with another Troop, learn about light aircraft and visit our Scout Air Activities base, hike on the Bibbulmun track, bike hike on the Munda Biddi track, hold the ANZAC vigil and shear a sheep! We plan to build devices that will let our Scouts 'walk on water', plus build recycled material regattas for a boat race in August...and our major fundraising activity for the year, a Christmas in July dinner for the community. The term programme will be on the website this week, at [www.toodyayscouts.weebly.com](http://www.toodyayscouts.weebly.com).

Thank you also to the Scouts who participated in the flag raising for Australia Day and also with the breakfast at Duidgee Park. It is always a great honour to be invited to raise the flag for our community, and you did a great job. Well done. We look forward to welcoming our linking Cubs - Cubs have a big year planned too, including a big water camp, some awesome activities and an attempt to break the world record for spitting watermelon seeds! Cubs and Scouts had a great end of year camp last year and it is always good to 'mix up' the sections - the Cubs cooked dinner for the Scouts on the first night, and on the second night the Scouts prepared a 'feast' on the jetty over Lake Jones. The Scouts and Cubs participated in a caving activity, blind trail and aerial runway, which is the biggest in the southern hemisphere. Scouts went for a moonlight hike out to the Low Ropes course, which they navigated by torchlight, and also installed a memorial plaque at our Outdoor Chapel for Ethan Bropho, a former Scout who passed away last year. If any members of the Toodyay community attend Manjedal for camps or activities, please feel free to go and spend a moment at the Chapel and remember Ethan. To the parents who attended the camp - thank you for all your help, guys! Its great to see Dads participating in camps with their sons or daughters.

Cubs and Scouts will go back for Troop and Pack meetings on Thursday 10 February, one week after school starts. If you would like to join Scouts or Cubs, please ring Danielle

Continued Page 13

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*Toodyay Scouts continued from Page 11*

(9574 4005) or Samantha (9574 2363) for more information (after 6pm). Cubs are aged from 7.5 years to 10.5 years, Scouts are aged from 10.5 years to 14.5 years and our Rover Scout section are aged from 18 years to 26 years (phone Julia on 9574 4227). For more information about joining, check out the new members information kit at [www.toodyayscouts.weebly.com](http://www.toodyayscouts.weebly.com) - it will give you a heap of information about who our Scouts are and what they do.

Rovers are currently looking for other young people who have mechanical aptitude to join Rovers and participate in our annual CAMS Motorsport activity, Bush Baja. The Toodyay Rover car is in need of some repair and beeping up after a hard week at Baja last year!

I promised one of our adult Scout members that I'd mention this in the paper so here it is. Our Scouters are always prepared - so prepared, in fact, that we are really watchful members of the community, even at 1am. I'm sure the police were very grateful for the phone call to let them know the Community Centre's alarm was going off, possible sign of a break in. Not so sure that the fire brigade appreciated the phone call to say that the Community Centre was alright because it was surrounded with smoke, especially as the 'smoke' was actually night time mist from the sprinklers...source of great amusement to all of the person's fellow Scouters, especially at the subsequent facebook entry - 'oh NO I'm going to go and hide in the cellar' when she realised her mistake, but could already hear sirens down the street...we still think you're awesome, Scout! :) Better to be safe than sorry, and we hope that members of our communities are equally watchful - its about looking after each other and keeping our town safe.

See you at Scouts.

## In Days Gone By Schools in the Toodyay area in the old days.

**Ron E Waters**

SCHOOLS in the Toodyay area in the old days; just imagine what it would have been like!

Those days it was more difficult for the school teachers to look after the children, as they had such a large playground. Just imagine the West Toodyay school near the river; the children would have been playing in the water all the time. I don't know how Mr Keo and Miss Roach looked after them. I often wonder what they did for drinking water when you get a summer like this and their rain water tanks went dry because of no rain.

The school at Culham was called Pell Mell and was built on the side of a stoney hill where there was some small gum trees just off the Old Plains Road. Just imagine what it would have been like for Mr Fry looking after the children with such a large area for the children to play. When he left there he went to a large school in Queensland. I bet he found it easier to look after and teach the children there.

The school at Coondle was situated just off the Bindoon Road, about half a mile from the Bolgart Road, nearly straight opposite the two storey house there. Miss Mercey Syred and Miss MacCluney taught the children there. The children had a nice flat area to play in. Some children planted some trees there. My Dad, Albert Waters and Stan Cook planted two big gum trees; one has survived and the other one got pushed down when they formed the Bindoon Road. I don't know much about the other three schools, Wicklow Hills school, Nunyle school and the school down Toodyay-Red Hill Road, but I suppose the teachers had it just as hard at those schools to look after the children. It was also hard for the children as a lot of them lived a long way from school and had to walk to school and walk home again after school some times in

terrific heat and sometimes in pouring rain. The children had lots of jobs to do on the farm when they got home. A lot of those children who were taught then did very well when they grew up; some became good farmers, some became school teachers, and some became shop keepers and other businesses and some just got good jobs.

I would like to know what the school teachers' pay was those days; I bet it was not very much. Today it is much better for the teachers and students as now we have motor transport and nice school buildings and smaller playgrounds.

I still often wonder what happened when a child got sick at school with no telephone and a child having to walk a long way home. Today Mums or Dads get a phone call from the school and go and bring the sick child home.

The school at Newcastle had been given trees to plant by the School Inspector when the school started, so the next year he came up to the school to see if they had all survived and was going to replace them if any had died. He was pleased to see they had all done well. While he was there Mrs Sinclair gave him a lovely afternoon tea and had cooked him some nice cakes. It shows tree planting started a long time ago in the Toodyay area.

When I went to school in Toodyay in the late 1930s there were gum trees, lilac trees, peppercorn trees, fruit trees and grape vines that had been planted years before and a nice rose garden and a few shrubs grown along the main building. I still remember some of the teachers' names. The two Head Masters were, firstly, Mr Redell and then came Mr Ward. My first teacher was Mrs Ratican and the lady that took us for scripture was Miss Whitfield. The teachers I remember over the years were Miss Tyre, Mrs Sundercomb, John Morris, Gladys Twine, Miss Scott and Mrs Dawson.

The train used to go right past the school between the school and the shops where we park our cars today, so the children used to run down to the picket fence on the school boundary and wave to the people on the train. The train driver would blow the whistle because of the roads that went from the school to the town which were at both ends of the school yard.

Every Tuesday I would take in two nice rabbits cleaned ready for cooking to the Post Master's wife, Mrs Lambert, and she would give me one shilling and sixpence for the rabbits (that's 16 cents in today's money.) So I made sure I never stayed home sick on a Tuesday. I also did like school.

## Toodyay Playgroup and Baby Playgroup

**Brenda Hutchinson**

TOODYAY Playgroup is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9.30 - 11.30am at the Community Centre in Stirling Tce. New families are always welcome so please come along. It's a great way to meet other parents, make new friends and allows the little one to socialise with other children (dads welcome too!) Our playgroup is informal, set in a casual environment for you and your little ones to enjoy.

In addition to our regular sessions, we also have Baby Playgroup especially for babies (0-12 months). Baby Playgroup is held on Wednesdays 9.30 - 11.30am. All

new mums and babies (and older siblings) are welcome to come along. This session is a great opportunity for mums to interact with other mums with access to Child Health Care Nurse, information sessions and other facilities as needed. So come along and join us.

The Toodyay Toy Library has been incorporated into the Toodyay Playgroup and toys can now be borrowed by members of Toodyay Playgroup and Baby Playgroup. The cost is \$2 per toy/fortnight. All money raised will be put back into the Toy Library to replace toys as needed.

Any enquiries about Toodyay Playgroup and Baby Playgroup please call Brenda Hutchinson on 9574 4489.

## Toodyay Neighbourhood and Rural Watch 'Neighbours looking after Neighbours'

**Desraé Clarke**

THE Police Arson Squad and the Fire and Emergency Services Authority Fire Investigation and Analysis Unit are encouraging community awareness to assist Police with information which leads to an arrest and prosecution of arson offenders. They ask the community to report any suspicious behaviour to:

CRIMESTOPPERS 1800 333 000

There is a \$50,000 reward for anyone who provides information which leads to the conviction of people lighting deliberate fires in Western Australia. Reports can be made anonymously and can remain anonymous when claiming a reward.

In addition, under the Bush Fires Act 1954, the crime of bush fire arson attracts a penalty of up to \$250,000, 14 years prison - or both! Anyone who has information relating to any deliberate or suspicious fires should contact:

CRIMESTOPPERS 1800 333 000.

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

EMERGENCY CALL 000

NON-EMERGENCY CALL 9574 9555

CRIMESTOPPERS 1800 333 000

GOODBYE GRAFFITI 1800 442 255

Office hours of the Toodyay Police Service:

Monday 9am til 3pm

Tuesday 9am til 3pm

Wednesday 9am til 3pm

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 Police Assistance Centre or Northam Police Station, please don't hang up. Please listen to the prompts and follow them as appropriate to your situation. Your call will be taken and

your needs will be assessed by police who will then determine the correct course of action required, including contact with local police.

Remember, just because our Toodyay Police didn't answer your phone call, it does not mean they are not working. They may be in the next road from where you have called!

## My View

**Anne Skinner**

I WAS fortunate to be a speaker at the service for those of us who survived the fire of 2009. I have been asked to submit this, especially for those who were unable to hear what I was saying, and for those who were unable to be there.

My name is Anne Skinner what you see and like is Yashua Jesus, and what you see and dislike, - is me. My husband Reg and I live up there in the fire zone.

I don't profess to be a great speaker, however, I believe Adonai God, has given me something to bless someone here today.

We, the survivors of the 29.12.09 were forced with unanticipated changes to our lives that left us all with great feelings of loss.

When something like this happens we are faced with some important decisions that often determine the outcome of our future.

Each of us have faced this last year with varying degrees of change. None of us generally enjoy change, especially if caused by things out of our control.

Sometimes these things can be - loss in the case of divorce, loss of a loved one through death, loss of freedom due to sickness, and loss of employment, to name a few. It's what we do, regarding these changes that can make all the difference.

Early in 2010, I wonder if like Reg and I, you had the usual well meaning Platitudes that not only made us frustrated (everything going too slow), angry (who was to blame), miserable (nothing was the same), lonely (no one understood) and confused (insurance com. causing problems), fearful (every fire engine sound causes panic), and also with feelings of guilt (why did I still have my home). All of the above and, may be more.

Loss can either draw us close to Adonai God or make us turn from God.

How could He allow this to happen? For what purpose did this happen?

Why would He let us loose so much?

I have to confess here, as much as I have walked and talked with the Lord over these 34 odd years, in my deepest dark moments I did cry out to Him in this way.

I didn't turn away in despair nor did He turn from me in disappointment. He knows our darkest thoughts and if we turn to Him, He will be our refuge and our strength, our very present help in trouble. This is according to

*Continued Page 14*

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My View continued from Page 13

Ps.46:1

He had heard and He knows our every thought. Ps.94:11

I read something the other day, and it got me thinking. 'The more that is taken away – or lost, the more clearly will we see what is left behind'.

I'm not referring to what was lost on our properties, but how we feel about what was uncovered in ourselves after the fire.

Up in Queensland, the farmers have to burn the harvest of sugar cane before they can chop it down. To make fine pottery and beautiful glass objects, they must be tempered by fire – sometimes more than once. God uses bad things to refine us to make us better people, we need to learn and understand circumstances from His point of view.

After the fire, I saw what was uncovered in me, some things I didn't like, which I am still dealing with, I might add.

ONE OF MY FAVOURITE VERSES IS FROM PHILIPPIANS CH 1 v 6. And I am sure of this: that the One who began a good work in me (I paraphrase here) will keep it growing until it is completed on the Day of the Messiah Yashua. (He hasn't finished with me yet), but I also saw some good qualities, I didn't know I had.

Is it possible that good can come out of this horror?

Yes I believe so. We have a chance to start over. Some here who have lost every item they have ever owned, may question me on this, I know. Please hear me out, Here is one those platitudes I spoke of earlier. "What doesn't destroy or kill me only makes me stronger".

In Romans 8:35 Emissary Paul tells us, that while we are His, Who can separate us from the love of the Messiah? Trouble? Hardship? Persecution? Hunger? Danger? War? No nothing can separate us from Him.

Even in Jochanan – John 16:33 he tells us that Yeshua said "In the world you will have tribulation, but be of good cheer, or as another translation said, be brave! I have overcome the world or I have conquered the world!"

Is it possible He wants us to look to the future in front of us, and trust Him for the outcome? Yes of course that doesn't mean if wrongs are done we don't just let people walk over us, or destroy us. But it could mean the difference between, peace now and peace in the hereafter, or pain and suffering now and in the hereafter.

BE OF GOOD CHEER my friends. Is His cry for you today? No, maybe things will not be the same as they were, but now I have neighbours I didn't know I had. I can also tell when visitors come calling long before they come on the driveway. I have experienced brotherly (and sisterly) love never known before. I feel so much part of a community I only ever dreamed of before. I have seen the goodness of mankind, and I believe I am a better person because of this last year.

I'm not foolish enough to ask for more troubles that I may be more improved, but I pray that as each day unfolds He will show me His unceasing love and guidance. Along with His patience and His forgiving heart.

I know my husband will agree that God has not finished with me, there is still so much more improvement to be done.

## Bejoording Babble

Kim Leonhardt

WELCOME to 2011!

Let's start the year off with some good news. That's right! You guessed it! I mean, what else could it be? The Oldies wiped the floor of the muddy arena, with the young'uns! We have returned as the supreme beings of the Mud Footy Arena! Huh! There were certainly some long faces in the young'uns camp that day. Oh. Hang on. Apparently the long face belonged to Reggie the dog, who was seen licking the young'uns wounds. He was pretty busy too, what with all the lost and dejected young souls out there. But, to be fair and, I suppose, to give the young'uns their due, they were due for a loss and we were just the team (of supreme beings) to accommodate them!

Now, on to the Christmas Party! Guess what?! Santa was there! Holy cow, and slap me in the face with a cold salmon! He showed up! I didn't think it'd be possible after the Rudolph Affair of 2009! Obviously, our negotiating team, expertly lead by Ballbreaker Bob, managed to have the influence necessary to steer Santa towards an amiable agreement. Santa's helpers did seem a little out of place, what with their dark glasses, dark suits, built like a couple of Arnies, and steering Santa to our Shed by his elbows (I swear Santa's feet weren't on the ground!) But, with a nod from Bejoording's Ballbreaker Bob, the two heavies brushed Santa down, and Santa's REAL little helpers, Bonnie and Renea, came to Santa's aid. All the kiddies passed on their wishes to Santa, while all the parents were nervously trying to eavesdrop! And then... we all bogged into the food! Except for Santa. Ballbreaker Bob had another engagement for him!

Shrinkles! Do you remember Shrinkles?! Yeah, ya do! Well, some might've known him as Andrew. That's right; he used to live here then moved to Perth. Well he came back for a visit the other day and decided to stay the night. It was a particularly long night as I recall. Well, to cut to the chase, he woke in the morning, and it was daylight. He rolled over to check the time on his mobile and... Holy flappin' Batman capes! It's midday! He's supposed to have been at the Glossops first thing and then be in Perth by 1! He leaps up, races to the car, and starts heading to the Glossops. Funny, he thought, everyone seems to be sleeping in a lot longer than usual! He's driving up their road, looks at the car clock, and it says 6.30. 6.30!! What's going on here?!! Gets his mobile out... and it reads 6.30 as well. Hmm. It seems, when he looked at his mobile in bed... it was upside down! He had a nap in his car while he waited for the Glossops to get up.

Wednesday Nights are back on: 6pm onwards. 2 February will see our Community Meeting and Hamburger Night. I know, I know, if you're just reading this now, then you've missed it. However, our next feast night is Wednesday 2 March and our next Community Meeting (the AGM actually) is Wednesday 6 April.

See ya's all there.

## RSL Toodyay Sub Branch

John Adams  
Secretary/Treasurer

AS a new year commences we are sad to acknowledge the passing of two of our former sub branch members.

Sir Ernest Lee Steere, a long time member and supporter of our sub branch, recently passed away. Sir Ernest was a well known West Australian and Toodyay identity. We also wish to remember Ted Rowe who passed away last November. We continue to offer our support to his widow Belle.

On a more pleasant note we are pleased to advise that Taylor Ferguson has been selected to participate in this year's Sandakan Memorial Tour of Borneo. Congratulations to Taylor and all the other applicants; the quality of all applications was outstanding. We are proud to be able to offer the youth of Toodyay the opportunity to expand their knowledge of our history and heritage.

We also wish to sincerely thank our major sponsors:

Shire of Toodyay  
Lions Club of Toodyay  
Toodyay District Community Bank  
Dr. Michael McGuinness  
Toodyay Op Shop  
Anderson Earthmoving  
(Friends of Rick and Jo Turner)  
Hon. Grant Woodhams M.L.A.  
Hon Judi Moylan MHR

We also wish to thank the Toodyay District High School for their support.

The tour will be conducted over the last two weeks in April and we look forward to Taylor's report on her return.

Sub branch members are reminded that our next meeting will be at 2pm on Saturday 5 February 2011 at the Toodyay Club.

## Inside the Shed

"Blokes Supporting Blokes"

Jeff Roberts  
Chairperson

HELLO Shedders. 2010 Christmas has gone and New Year 2011 is with us. There are new beginnings and fresh ideas. Optimistic is what we are and where we are heading.

Your Management Committee convenes again on 1 February and is ready to move forward with the same sense of purpose that characterised it this last year. There are more plans in the pipeline and the determination to reach goals.

Some of our members have not been in the best of health in the last few weeks. To them we wish a speedy recovery and for them to be able to spend time with the rest of us at 'The Shed' quite soon. The Men's Shed also offers our deepest condolences to those who have lost loved ones of late.

As you have learned by now, we are to have a 'Breakfast' on the last Saturday morning of each month at 7.30 am and we would encourage all members to let the Secretary know a week before, so we can cater for the masses.

The Shire of Toodyay has conveyed to the Toodyay Men's Shed a willingness to consider a plan for us to construct a building for our use, west of the new Works Depot and adjacent to the old Railway Station. Your Management Committee will consider the offer in February and call a General Meeting and invite your vote on the matter. The Committee urges you to attend that meeting so that we can comply with our Constitution.

Our congratulations to Steve Bannister and his group, Toodyay Community Radio. The station is up and running; tune into FM band 105.3 and enjoy the best of music that the listeners chose. Of interest is the advertising that we are enjoying. Well done Steve, and many thanks.

We have welcomed six new members, Brendan, Greg, Sean, Ross, Geordie and Craig, in the last quarter. Great to have you on board!

One of our members is currently putting together a pamphlet about Toodyay Men's Shed and its purpose. This pamphlet, when completed and approved, will be distributed to all health care professionals in our region, as well as the Avon Region Cancer Care Unit. The information contained will help those men who are ailing or in a dark place, with the strong invitation to be part of us and to share.

TMS is developing a 'buddy' system. If you, as a member, feel that you can help by being able to be a friend for one who may be reaching out, please advise the Chairman of your willingness to be on the list. Phone Jeff on 9574 2498. Please take note, 'Thursday Activity Day' is Thursday mornings from 9 o'clock.

That seems to be about all for now and, should you wish to join our gallant band, don't hesitate to call our Secretary, Geoff Ebdon on 9574 4568.

Until next time we will see you 'In the Shed'.

## Toodyay Miniature Railway

June Eastwood

TOODYAY Miniature Railway members celebrated the coming New Year with a lovely evening barbecue partaken while overlooking valley views at the home of Isabel and Phil Roberts. Phil and Vern excelled as cooks and, while we sipped the drinks, the two Labradors made sure that not one guest overlooked patting them. The party did come to an abrupt halt when Phil and Paul received a fire call but happily, things were under control, so Phil was able to return to farewell the guests.

Shandy, Stan's 73-year-old steam engine, has been recorded for posterity in the form of a children's book. Approximately three years ago, a lady from Canberra was visiting with her two grandchildren. It was a chaotic day with Shandy being overturned at Turtle Crossing where vandals had forced a stone into the points. Kind Shire helpers came to right the engine and the visitors eventually had their ride. So impressed were the children, they wanted to write a book on their adventures. Grandma went back to Canberra and set about the task, enlisting the help of an illustrator friend.

This week we received a consignment of beautifully presented books entitled 'Shandy's Adventure at Turtle Crossing'. The cover page features an actual photo of Shandy steaming from Newcastle station. The following 29 pages feature one colourful full-sized illustration to each page of story. The whole is printed on high quality paper and the book itself is "Dedicated to the wonderful volunteers of the Toodyay Miniature Railway who share their fun with children – of all ages!"

Our volunteers have been subjected to much vandalism, property theft and damage over the last months and then along comes this lovely surprise to bring a proud smile to their faces. In a phone conversation with the author, Mrs. Thomas assured me she cannot wait to return in July to renew acquaintances and catch up with Shandy's big mate: Red Smoky.

We have all been disappointed with the problems surrounding the beautiful sleek Avon Blink. This electric train was powered by two gopha motors. However these proved to have insufficient power and no suitable replacement motors could be found. Avon Blink has spent the last two years languishing in the loco shed but now there is good news on the horizon. Graham has been able to procure a wheelchair motor which, touch wood, will see Avon Blink back on the tracks by the opening of our running season at Easter.

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## The Toodyay Historical Society



**Beth Frayne**  
Secretary

HOPE everyone had a happy Christmas and is enjoying/surviving another hot and dry (more or less) New Year. However, we were saddened to learn of the death of Sir Ernest Lee Steere on 9 January. A former Lord Mayor of Perth (1972-1978), Sir Ernest was the first Patron of our Society (1980-1993). Our condolences to Rennie and family.

Our Monster Garage Sale at Donegan's Cottage, on Saturday, 30 October, was its usual great success.

This was followed by the Society's 30th Anniversary Dinner in the Freemasons Hotel dining room on 25 November. It was a great night with a number of special events including Vice President Dr Robyn Taylor (with her Professional Historian's Hat on) officially launching member Alison Cromb's long awaited *The History of the Toodyay Convict Depot*, and member Beth Frayne's *Long Toodyay Chronology, Part 2 (1901-1950)*. New member Professor Jenny Gregory presented the Society with a copy of the *Historical Encyclopedia of Western Australia (UWA Press, 2009)*, which she co-edited with Jan Gothard, together with its recently published Index. We were hugely entertained by our singing duo Jenny and Joe Edgecombe. Jenny had devised a small display for the occasion on the Toodyay school fire in 1993, which featured an archived cassette of songs that had been prepared by the school students and teachers as a fund-raiser. Jenny performed some excerpts from the songs.

Wasn't November 25th's Festival of Plenty a wonderful experience? The lights certainly brought everyone into town! A pleasing number of people stopped at the Society's booth to buy raffle tickets and have a chat. The lucky winners of our Christmas raffle were J. Henry (1st Prize) and Lynette of Toodyay (2nd Prize).

At December's Council meeting, Vice President Robyn Taylor presented to Shire President Kevin Hogg a copy of Part 2 of the Chronology mentioned above.

## Arts Toodyay

**Margot Watkins**

If you haven't melted, you might get excited by some great workshops coming up. Prior to those, we are holding another textile gathering on Saturday 5 February. Ring Bev 9574 2898 or 0428 531 008 for more details.

Two subsidised workshops using some of the funds allocated to us by the Shire will take place in February and March. The first, on Saturday 19 February, is a one-day **pastel** workshop run by Brian Aylward. This costs only \$30.

The second is a two-day workshop by Jacky McFarlane, a mixed-media artist who has also studied in Italy. The cost for this is \$65. Participants will make a journal using found objects from our pioneer past to create a tactile assemblage or sculptural piece which will be sure to become a family heirloom. Other components may be vintage textiles, treasured family photos and miscellaneous ephemera to add meaning and nostalgia. This workshop will be on Saturday and Sunday 19 and 20 March. Phone Ruth on 9574 4695 if you would like more details or to book a place.

President Len Leeder is our representative on the Shire 175th Birthday Celebration Steering Committee, and has attended the inaugural meeting. The Society will be involved in some of the events happening later this year. Also, in December we enjoyed a Christmas Sundowner picnic in Duidgee Park, accompanied by much singing and poetic rendition (much like the 'socials' of old). Beth presented a rather fine poem by Jack Sorenson entitled, 'St. Patrick came to Toodyay'. Non-members don't know what they are missing by not joining the 'Hystericals'! You might have seen us at the Australia Day Celebrations in Duidgee Park and purchased a copy or two of our publications.

At our January business meeting, we discussed the 175th Birthday Celebration, updating historical information in the Toodyay Directory, new photos of Toodyay in the 1920s in the State Library's catalogue, the Toodyay Agricultural Society Honour Board Project, the Society's contribution to the recent Bushfire Exhibition, a broken window at Donegan's Cottage and many other topics. Next event: Our Annual Planning Day, Sunday 6 February 2011 at 2pm, at the Leeders' home, 179 Julimar Road. All are welcome. Please bring something to share for afternoon tea or for the sundowner afterwards. We have a lot to discuss as this year is the 175th Anniversary of European settlement of the Toodyay Valley. The 2011 Programme will be issued after the Planning Day.

Next general meeting: Wednesday, 16 February 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 - 9574 5971, President Len Leeder - 9574 4343, or Vice President Robyn Taylor - 9574 2578.

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

We are also very happy to welcome under our umbrella the Ragbag Quilters group who will now be able to have their gatherings in our cosy facility. I'm sure they will add an extra dimension and diversity to our activities.

The writers group will begin soon with fortnightly meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month. Phone Nuala on 0429 386 317 for details.

Advance notice also to an upcoming initiative that will be of interest, I hope, to others in our community: we are establishing an 'Artists Market' in the courtyard next to the newsagent where different members will showcase their work. They will demonstrate their techniques and have a small selection of their work for sale. The first one is on 26 March and will go from about 9.30am to 1.30pm. But again, contact Bev if you need more info or would like to join in. It will be fun!

And finally, remember the exhibition during Moondyne (May) is looming. It is tentatively titled 'Waggas and Wonders' and can be any textile/artwork inspired by the 1930s.

## Little Rascals Christmas Party

ON Wednesday 1 December, the children of Little Rascals Child Care had a very special visitor. Bells were ringing, children were singing and, from out of the fuss, came Santa Claus on a big red fire engine. The children squealed with excitement! Had they been naughty or nice?

A sausage sizzle and bouncy castle had kept the children entertained until Santa arrived and the children's families had a chance to join in the fun of the day and got to meet other families from the centre. Thank you to the families who attended and to the Toodyay Fire Brigade.

Santa is only one of the very special visitors Little Rascals has throughout the year. Each month, as well as a special visitor, we have a dress-up day and we celebrate a different country and incorporate into our programme different languages, cultures and craft activities.

Little Rascals caters for children 0-12 years and provides before and after school pick-ups and drop-offs to Toodyay High School.

Each day with the guidance of our professional, caring staff, children delight in



activities to stimulate their imaginations and creativity through music and movement, craft, language session, outside obstacle courses and games.

Enrolments are now being taken for 2011 so get in early to reserve a place for your child. If bookings are made before the end of March there is no enrolment fee.

Government assistance is available to families.

Enquiries to Coral or Raelene on 95742922.

## Toodyay Community Singers

WELL, Christmas is well and truly over and the Toodyay Community Singers will once more commence rehearsals (at least that's what we call them!) on Thursday 3 February from 7pm - 9pm at St. Stephen's Church Hall.

We are sure everyone agrees that Sean Byron and his team did a wonderful job in lighting up Toodyay for Christmas. The singers were more than happy to do 'their bit' and to dress in Victorian costume for the occasion was a plus. We would say however, that we made curtains and upholstery fabric, etc do the strangest things! It was wonderful to see people joining in with us and obviously having fun.

We are excited about the coming year to see just what we can achieve with forthcoming events. We have been most fortunate when fundraising for our own sound equipment to have had very generous donations made to us by Sean Byron, The Toodyay Op Shop, The CWA, The Autumn

Club, Veronica Donegan, John Taylor and some of our own members as well. To all of them we say a big Thank You; we are really appreciative.

We hope that we can live up to our name and perform for any organisation within our community; you only have to ask. We would like to encourage anyone who likes to sing for the fun of it to join us. There are no auditions, no need to read music, no exorbitant fees. Why not come along and give it a go? Singing and music is great for the body and soul and has extraordinary health benefits. We are a very friendly and welcoming group and new members always feel at home after their first rehearsal.

What have you got to lose? Come along and sing your heart out! Give the arm flapper (conductor) a hard time, she loves it!

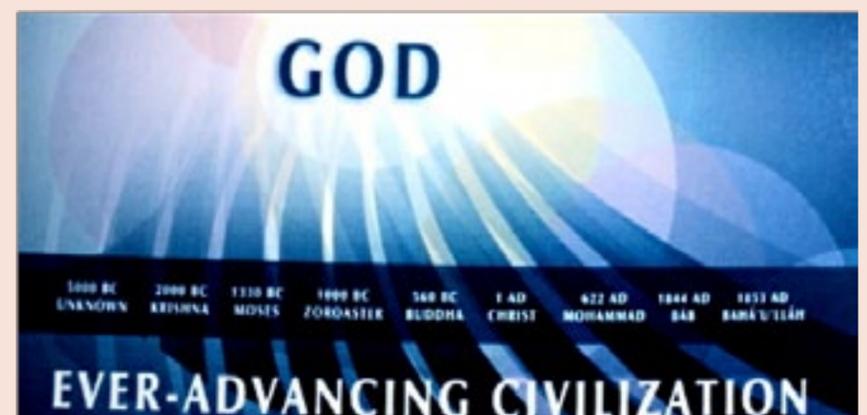
Call Trish 9574 4330 or Peter 0421704429 a call and they will give you all the information you need.

A very Happy New Year to everyone!



Bahá'u'lláh (The Glory of God) Who the Baha'is believe is the Promised One of all the religions of the world and speaks with the voice of God for our age announced over a hundred years ago that:

"The peoples of the world, of whatever race or religion, derive their inspiration from one heavenly Source, and are the subjects of one God. The difference between the ordinances under which they abide should be attributed to the varying requirements and exigencies of the age in which they were revealed. All of them, except a few which are the outcome of human perversity, were ordained of God, and are a reflection of His Will and Purpose..."



Bahá'u'lláh also warned us that "The well-being of mankind, its peace and security, are unattainable unless and until its unity is firmly established. This unity can never be achieved so long as the counsels which the Pen of the Most High hath revealed are suffered to pass unheeded.... Cleave unto that which draweth you together and uniteth you."

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

# 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/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 KINDERGYN

Kindergyn 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 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, Monday 6pm Toodyay Community Centre. 9574 4184

## Toodyay

## Community Radio

### Steve Bannister

THE launch of 105.3FM Toodyay Community Radio went off well and a big thank you to all those who took the time to phone and email in your very positive comments about the station. However the frequency we were allocated interfered with TV reception so we had to turn down our transmitter power. We were a bit upset with the licensing people over East, as they are the ones who gave us the frequency, and who are supposed to know of any potential problems. But we are in the process of sorting this out.

Without the help of our volunteers and some very generous funding from the Bendigo Bank the station would never have started broadcasting. Our broadcasting will get better and more reliable when we are able to purchase our own equipment. And there's the 'Catch-22'. Lotterywest want to give us money, but we need a home, and a lease on that home, before we can get any money. Nearly all the other community radio stations in Australia operate from premises owned by their Shire Councils. Since April 2010, we have been asking the Toodyay Shire Council to help us. But it seems that Toodyay is full and there are no community buildings that can be used by anyone, not just a community radio station.

Perhaps we were a bit naive when, in November, the Shire finally agreed to allow us to use the old Railways Building down at the new unfinished Council Works Depot; we thought we'd actually be able to move in and use the building. The plan was to give us the majority of the building, but part of it was to be kept, by the Shire, for the communal use of other local community groups as well, as the Shire want to move other community groups down to the new Works Depot land. This was a good idea; we could all have use of the communal meeting room, we could all have use of the communal toilet, and we could all have use of the communal kitchen. What we didn't expect, was that WE would have to pay for it all. We were expected to pay for the refurbishment of the building to bring it up to code, including the communal areas for everybody else to use, before we were even allowed to move in to our part, something that was never mentioned at the Council meeting in November! We would have to build a disabled ramp up to the building, widen all of the door frames, knock down the existing toilet and build a disabled one, pay for Western Power to lay cables and connect the electricity to the building, pay for Telstra to lay cables and connect the phones to the building, get water and sewerage connected, etc, all of which were previously laid, but had been ripped up by the Shire during 'Groundworks'. We would have had to have done all of this, BEFORE the Shire would even consider entering into a lease with us. There is a chance, though, that the Wheatbelt Development Commission can help with part of the funding with that, but not guaranteed. We're still hopeful that the Shire will help us.

Unfortunately, this lack of a home by the time we launched meant that the Jukebox Request feature part of the station wasn't working either as we needed a home with internet access, but that's one problem we've fixed. If you go to [www.jukeboxradio.com.au](http://www.jukeboxradio.com.au) and visit the Request page, you'll see that it's all up and running again, and you can search and select which music gets played on the radio.

Just to round-up, I want to remind everyone, that we are doing all of this for you. Toodyay Community Radio is for the people living in and around Toodyay, therefore you can have a say in what is being played on the radio. This can be either through the Jukebox feature on our website, or by leaving comments on 9574 4554, or emailing us at [toodyayradio@live.com.au](mailto:toodyayradio@live.com.au). We hope that we are playing something for everyone, but until we hear from you, we can't be sure.



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## obituaries

**Marijana Reynders (nee Uys)**

3 December 1954 – 11 January 2011

WHEN Marijana Reynders (nee Uys) died after a short, but intense, fight with Glioblastoma Multiforme, a lot of unfinished paintings, poetry and stories died too. Such a tragedy. But she faced death with such calmness and dignity that it inspired everyone close to her. What a girl. It must have been the Viking genes in her ancestry shining through.

The day after she 'left', I wrote a little story and sent it to some of our friends, simply to vent some of the grief I experienced. However, I received so much feedback that I decided to repeat it here. I have taken some liberties with the details of her voyage, just because I have such fond memories of the mail-ship era.

Some younger readers might not be familiar with the vessels I am describing but many older folks will remember the Royal Mail Ships that sailed between the UK and South Africa. From Southampton they would make their first landfall at Cape Town, and then proceed to Port Elizabeth, East London and Durban before returning to the UK. I grew up in East London during the 50s and 60s and can vividly remember Union Castle ships such as the RMS Windsor Castle, Pendennis Castle and Transvaal Castle calling at the local port.

East London has the only river harbour in South Africa and, in order to make it navigable and prevent a built-up of sand at the entrance (apparently one could cross in an ox-wagon at low tide during the early 1800s,) they dredged the entrance and built a large breakwater on the seaward side and a shorter pier on the landward side (do a Google Earth if you can.) This makes entering and leaving quite tricky for large ships, hence the port has a resident pilot to steer the ships in and out.

One can watch the ships leaving either from the quayside, from the pier or from the adjacent Orient beach (named after the Russian sailing ship that ran aground there in 1907 on its way to Australia.)

One more thing: those perfect afternoons. I'm sure they are not unique to East London but I've spoken to several people who are familiar with them. Typically, in March and April, one would encounter an 'Indian

Summer' with balmy afternoons, neither hot nor cold, hardly a cloud in the sky and not a breeze moving. I can recall many a Friday afternoon after school when I would lie on my back on the back lawn of my parents' home, just watching the clouds or the odd small plane flying overhead.

It was on such a perfect afternoon that Marijana left...

In July 2010, after discussing an MRI scan with her neurologist, we realised that she might have to embark on this adventure, travelling to the 'other land' to visit so many of her beloved friends and family, such as her late dad, her beloved 'Ouma Granny' and others that she had not seen for some years. And so, on that perfect cloudless Friday afternoon, I drove her to the quayside at East London where the Windsor Castle was moored.

We checked in her baggage and then there were the usual embraces, cuddles, whispering sweet nothings and promises, and I held her close to me until they were preparing to raise the gangways. Now I had to let her go on board. Half-way up the steps she hesitated for a few seconds, turned half-way around and briefly looked at me as if she still wanted to tell me something (maybe wanting to remind me to look well after all the animals at home) but then she continued up the steps and disappeared into the ship.

A few minutes later she emerged on the lower passenger deck amidst the hundreds of other passengers. Like everyone else she tossed me a coloured streamer and, by a sheer fluke I managed to grab the other end. And there we stood, two soul-mates connected with a simple piece of crimson crinkle paper, just like all the other passengers and well-wishers on the quayside. She was radiant, looking more like an excited schoolgirl rather than a mature woman – the reddish curly hair that she hated so much (and I always thought to be sexy) and the little blue dress with the white collar.

We seemed to stand there for ages, then the crew with their thick leather gloves started slipping the mooring ropes off the bollards and the two steam-driven tugboats, one at the bow and one at the stern, gave full power and started pulling the grand old lady of the seas away from the quayside. The red crinkle paper streamer between us grew taut, and snapped.

After fifty yards or so the tugs stopped, cast off their ropes, the water at the Windsor Castle's stern started churning and the massive piece of steel came into motion with some Phillip Sousa march music playing over the loudspeaker system. I waved and waved until I could see Marijana no longer; then started running around towards the Orient Beach to catch another glimpse of the departing vessel.

The ship moved much faster than I could, so I was not in time to see transfer of the pilot but I could hear the deafening roar of the big ship's horn and the "whoop, whoop, whoop" of the pilot boat as the two vessels parted ways; the smaller boat made a u-turn, and returned to port. As a reached the beach, I could still see the Windsor Castle's stern

but she was now quite some distance away. I stood there for about half-an-hour, until I could see her no more.

By now dusk had set in and there was this indescribable blue-and-purple haze on the eastern horizon where the ship had disappeared. I clambered onto the rocks, and just stared at the sea, this amazing piece of water that's been there for billions of years and will be for as many, I guess. A terrible sense of melancholy, of loss, of emptiness, overcame me.

Then I realised that neither the Windsor Castle, nor Marijana, were really gone. I just could not see them. That ship was still afloat in all her greatness, all 38,000 tonnes of her. At that moment people were sitting down for cocktails and preparing for dinner and, at the next port of call, people would watch the her docking and someone would say, "Hey, there's Marijana!!"

Just as we humans cannot see more than 13.4 billion light years (in any direction) into an apparently limitless universe simply because of limitations in our technology or see a ship beyond the horizon simply because of the curvature of the earth, death is a horizon beyond which we cannot see simply because of the limitations of our senses. So Marijana is not truly 'gone', I just cannot see her due to the constraints of my present existence.

And so all I, as a human being, can do in the meantime is to try not to miss her too much, continue with this life as best I can and find comfort in continuing and finishing some of the tasks we started together.

And at some point in the future I'll just have to do that same trip. I'm sure she'll be waiting on the other side; same smile, same curly hair. Maybe even the blue dress as well.

My sincere thanks to so many people in the local community for their moral and financial support and to the staff at the Avon Hospice who fussed incessantly over their 'little angel' and made the last ten days of her life more bearable. You are actually the angels of mercy.

I'll miss you, Marijana.

*Deon Reynders*

**Jean Francis Broomhall (nee Bygrave)**

1 November 1914 – 5 December 2010

**Vale Jean Francis Broomhall**

IN 2004 I had a lengthy discussion with Mrs Jean Broomhall regarding her early life from when she was a newlywed and came to live at Bolgart.

Born Jean Francis Bygrave to parents, William Henry Bygrave and Maud Francis Bygrave (nee Minson), at Northam on 1 November 1914, she was to live an interesting life. Schooled at Northam, she was later to move to Wiluna and work in a store there. She was surprised when her beau, Fred Broomhall, contacted her to say that he was planning on purchasing a bakery in the Bolgart area. The previous owner/baker, a Mr Owen, had been killed near Hawthornden just out of Toodyay as the result of a traffic accident and Fred (who worked at the Broomhall family bakery at Northam) saw an opportunity of buying the Bolgart Bakery and being able to get out on his own and begin a new life.

So it was on 19 October 1937 that she and Fred married at Northam and came to Bolgart to begin their married life at Poincare Street in a small house adjoining the shop and bakery. Jean found it a shock to discover that the house had no running water or electricity and also a backyard toilet. Fortunately, being a resilient couple, they adjusted to the changes and really came to love the life.

So as not to be lonely, Jean often took her knitting and sat in the bakehouse knitting of a night by the light of a hurricane lantern while Fred either baked his bread or mixed his dough ready for the next lot of baking. He usually mixed the dough around 4pm and then began at midnight or 2am to do the baking. Their house was lit by candle-light and they only had the hurricane lantern to do the baking by. They continued that way until 1947 when they leased the bakery to Jean's nephew, Jack Turner, and went to Katanning to run Broomhall Bakery until 1952 when they returned to Bolgart and, once again, took over the bakery there.

Jean usually ran the shop for Fred and they also sent bread by train to as far afield as Miling and Toodyay. In later years they delivered bread in their own vehicle to Yerecoin. Their flour was obtained from Northam and other products they needed came from Perth by a combination of train and truck. By 1972 they had pretty well had enough of the baking trade and at that same time Yerecoin had started a bakery of their own and began delivering to towns within the Victoria Plains Shire, so Fred decided that it was as good a time as any to quit the business.

Jean told me that, in all their years of baking, they were only ever caught for five pounds or, in today's terms \$10. She could also remember only one dispute with a client when there was an extra Monday in a month which meant the client had extra bread to pay for but couldn't see why this would be the case.

Jean was amazed by the unity of the rural folk in this small farming community. Despite the fact that there were less than 100 folk in the town itself, they were to still enjoy a full life of sport and recreation. The trust of the people impressed her and, despite the long and unusual hours in the bakery trade, it did not curtail their social life and they had many a lovely evening meal with friends dining at each other's houses.

*Continued Page 18*



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# obituaries

# public notices

Jean laughed heartily as she remembered the elderly farmer who at one stage tried to ride his horse into the shop itself to get his bread and how he had discovered the only way to do this was to dismount and leave the horse outside. Fred and Jean were asked to do unusual things such as to meet the train on which they usually sent the bread going north of Bolgart to actually look for a lady wearing a black hat with a white daisy on it and give her the bread rather than to send it, which would have cost her the freight. It amazed Jean somewhat that, in those days, when bread was left in un-manned sidings with only a box for the consignment notes, one very rarely ever heard of goods going astray from those sidings.

One of the main things that Jean will be remembered for is her music. She had learned the piano at six years of age which saw her immediately accepted into the community and she often played the piano for dances, concerts, school concerts, choirs and the like. This was in the days when there would be many country dances and at least three balls a year. Usually there would be an Anglican Ball, a Catholic Ball and a New Years Eve Ball. On occasions there would be a Debutant Ball and Jean recalled one in 1954 and how beautiful the young girls looked in their evening wear. Many of the sporting clubs would hold dances to raise money for their clubs.

Jean felt upset that the young men in those times seldom showed up at the dances until the hotels closed which was around 9pm.

When Bolgart formed a CWA choir in 1964, Jean was once again at the helm playing for the group for near on 30 years. Later the choir became known as the Victoria Plains Choir and the choirs had some wonderful achievements during the course of their respective lifetimes.

When in her 80s, she was called on to play the Bolgart School song at Wongan Hills for the school choir and all she had to learn it from was a tape. With no more than two days to learn the tune and having little of this two days free to learn it, I volunteered to transcribe the tape for her into sheet music and so, on the big day, Jean took her seat at the piano and gave of her best.

In later years, Jean and Fred lived in Albert

Street in Bolgart. It was whilst living here that she was to lose Fred to a heart attack on 27 January 1988; he was buried at Northam. She spoke so warmly of him and how he loved listening to her play the piano.

Even in her later life, Jean played the organ for St Augustine Anglican Church at Bolgart and only failing eyesight made her retire from this voluntary position. She did still, however, help out at the local library.

Sadly, she eventually was admitted to Northam Hospital due to failing health and was to die there on 5 December, 2010. A huge crowd attended her funeral held at Northam on 10 December 2010. The main service was held at St John's Anglican Church, presided over by the Reverend Peter Bourne and the interment was at the Northam Cemetery where her husband Fred was buried.

I was sad not to be able to attend her funeral to say farewell but my husband Ray was undergoing an operation at Joondalup on the same day. Jean will long be remembered for her wonderful donation of time to so many worthwhile causes in the Bolgart area. Rest in Peace Jean.

*Doris M. Martin*

### Bolgart Contributor Dies at 97 Years

MRS Jean Broomhall of Bolgart died at the Northam Hospital on 5 December 2010 at the grand age of 96 years. She was born in Northam on 15 November 1914.

Jean played a busy and supportive role in the town, contributing to the whole fabric of Bolgart life for nearly 70 years. Her association with Bolgart began when she married Fred Broomhall in October 1937 and they began running the local bakery together after he had bought the business in March of that year. They had a five-year break starting in 1947 when they ran a bakery in Katanning and leased the Bolgart business. Jean played an active role in the bakery and, for the next 30 years, they produced bread renowned for its excellence far and wide, baked pies and pasties and many more tasty delights which drew customers from surrounding towns as well. Jean delivered bread to Calingiri and Yerecoin each week.

Jean was a sportswoman too, playing hockey, tennis, some golf and was an accomplished lawn bowler.

But her forte was her love of music, in particular playing her beloved grand piano and neighbours could often hear her lovely music wafting down the street as she sat playing. She was an integral part of the St Augustine's Church of England congregation where she was organist for more than 50 years. Her musical expertise also meant that Jean played the piano for dances, concerts and school productions or when entertainment for visiting groups was needed. Jean was a long-term CWA member from about 1961 and attended meetings until August 2010. Her talent as a pianist was really appreciated when she accompanied the Bolgart choir at many festivals and competitions and they won various awards and pennants through the years.

She received a Certificate of Appreciation and Life Membership of the Bolgart Progress Association because of her long link with the group and support of their endeavours to improve the town amenities and facilities.

Of particular note is the fact that she was a volunteer librarian from the Bolgart Library's inception in 1991. She undertook this work with enthusiasm and diligence and was always ready to handle the bi-monthly book exchanges. She really enjoyed this work and hated the fact that diminishing eyesight made it hard for her to continue, but she still participated in Monday shifts at the library until October last year.

Over her lifetime, Jean received a number of awards which recognised her contribution to the district. One was presented by the WA Week Council in the category of arts, culture and entertainment in the WA Citizen of the Year Awards. Another, in 1994, from the Anglican Church of Australia, cited her years of devoted service as organist from the Parish of Toodyay and Goomalling. The Victoria Plains Shire Council also presented her with a nomination certificate for the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary community service awards in 1996. These were just a few of the acknowledgements of her voluntary contributions made to the Bolgart community organisations. Jean's generosity of spirit and exemplary citizenship will long be appreciated and remembered by the many who called her friend.

*Gwenda McGill*

## Bereavements

### SYRED Dorothy Lois

11.2.30 – 24.11.10

Our darling Mum suddenly left us the way she lead her life, quietly and without fuss, at home, to be re-united with her beloved husband, Raleigh, who was taken from us on 28 January 1988.

In accordance with Mum's wishes, a private funeral was held at Culham Cemetery.

Her humour, kindness and gentle nature will live on forever with her loving children Rhonda and Tony.

We would like to thank everyone who sent cards, for phone calls received and personal expressions of sympathy. They were greatly appreciated.

### REYNDER Marijana

Marijana's quest for life has sadly drawn to a close.

In true Viking tradition, Marijana fought her aggressor with determination, vigour, courage and humour.

Farewell to our Rainbow Warrior; you touched our lives and opened our hearts.

Your memory lives on.

*Angi McCluskey*

### ROBERTS Marjorie

To our wonderful loving Granny, we will miss you so much. Gone to be an angel in the sky. Watch over us and keep us safe. We love you so much.

Till we meet again. Died 25/1/2011

*Andrew, Melanie, Seth, Nicholas and Nate*  
xxxx

### ROBERTS Marjorie

Died 25.1.2011

My Amazing Mother, we spend 6 hard years battling along every day, you were my best friend, my mother and my confidant. You are with James and Nana now. Sleep peacefully. We love you and miss you so much and will never forget you.

Forever free in your garden.

*Jenny, Johnny, Max, your special Billy Boy, Echo and the girls.*  
xxxx

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# public notices

## In Memoriam

### RALPH Trevor

Passed away 22.1.2010.

It's 12 months since you left me. You are never forgotten and always in my heart until we meet again. I still love you heaps.

From your loving wife

*Norah*

### RALPH Trevor

A year has gone since you left me. Each and every day I miss you not being here but I know one day we will meet again and go for that road trip we both wanted to do, you on your Harley and me on my bike. I am now riding for both of us, Dad, as we both shared the same passion for motor bikes. You will always be in my heart. I couldn't have wished for a better Dad. Miss you forever, Dad.

Lots of love from your daughter,

*Allison*

### RALPH Trevor

4.4.47 - 22.1.10

It's been 12 months since you left us but it still feels like yesterday. Not a day goes by that you are not in my thoughts. Every time I walk into the shed I expect to see you sitting there, ready to give me a cheeky comment, but you're never there. We all miss you terribly. We all deal with it in our own way. I guess I've chosen not to deal with it just yet. I still hold on to a bit of hope that you'll come back. When you left you took a piece of me with you. My smile will always cover the pain I really feel and just how sad I really am. Life just isn't the same any more and it never will be. That's the hardest part to accept. You were a wonderful person, a wonderful father, but most of all a wonderful mate.

Love you always and forever,

*Rosemary  
xxxx*

In memory of Len ROSER, formerly of the Buffalo Barn, Toodyay (also Derby and Waroona).

Deepest sympathy to Lee, Heath and Bill - we will remember Len fondly and his love of music, fun and family. Our thoughts are with you all.

*Peter, Samantha and family*

## Thank You

I would like to extend a very special thank you to everybody that was involved in some shape and form with Marjorie Roberts.

Special thanks goes to all the Silver Chain girls. You girls are wonderful and I am going to miss seeing your faces every day. Mother appreciated everything you ladies did for her.

Also thanks need to go to the palliative care people at the Northam Hospice; your kindness and love helped us in this hard time.

Thanks to Millie Heath who became a wonderful friend to mother and helped her come to peace with leaving this world.

And finally to Dr Walkey who was a great support to me. Without him, I am sure I would have gone crazy.

Thanks everybody.

*Jenny Maher*

### EDWARDS Jarrad

12.12.76 - 21.12.10

Judith, Bianca and Sarina wish to thank all for their kind thoughts and condolences on the passing of their son and brother in WA on 21.12.10.

Special thanks to the people who helped at the accident scene and very special thanks to Jarrad's friends and workmates in WA for all their help and kindness to our family.

Jarrad was laid to rest in the Berri Lawn Cemetery in the Riverland SA on 10.1.11.

Please accept this as our personal thanks.

### To the People of Toodyay

12 WEEKS will have passed us since our son Ethan left us.

We would like to express our love and gratitude to all of the people that came to support us in our grief; there were so many of you. A list was made but because we were so overwhelmed we couldn't maintain that list. We especially want to say thanks to Sgt Geoff Dickson, Const Matt Bruce, the ambulance officers, Pam Tennant, Jaap Zoon and our wonderful doctor, Richard Walkey, for their specialist service and the dignity given to our precious Ethan.

To the dear lady named Diane Andrijich who found Pamela in the street and stopped to give assistance to a very distraught woman until John and Jenny White came. And not ever forgetting our son's friend, Kerwin Stuart (Snr), being there for Pamela.

For the love and support given to us from Pamela's sister Jill Moore-Holtman and our niece Tracy, we extend our appreciation to them. They helped hold our household together during the initial stage of our grief and trauma. Thank you.

Words cannot express our appreciation to Doctor Walkey for being here for us over and way above his duty of care and the love to our son and ourselves.

All the love and care we were given helped us through a very, very traumatic time. The pain and sorrow expressed by so many of Ethan's friends overwhelmed us all. We pray that the parents of his friends will be able to help their children during the time of grief and thereafter. To all Ethan's friends, thank you for the hugs we received from you.

Our thanks also to Sally Bolger, Margaret O'Sullivan, Shelley Kingston, Kate Wakka, Sarah Wlawzowski, The Department of Children's Protection Regional Manager, Robert Becker, and his staff, Dawn Lambert, Kirsten Arthur, Kim Reader and others. Again, thanks to the WA Police Officers in Toodyay.

All of you beautiful people in Toodyay, words cannot express our love and appreciation, all of our long time friends from various parts of the State - thank you. We pray that you never have to experience the loss of your child in this manner.

The menfolk who supported Karl: long time friend, Kevin Jones, Karl's brother Kim and his wife Jenny, long time friend WA Police Inspector Colin Murray, Rob Pearce, Bob Adair, Barry Bodle, John Prater, Ross Jennings and Sgt Geoff Dickson - thank you.

To Archbishop Barry Hickey, not once but three times in his very busy life gave our son much respect by his wonderful presence. Archbishop Hickey honoured our son who was a treasured gift from God to us. We thank him.

The Toodyay Shire Council Members and the CEO Simon Fraser and Councillor John Prater performed a miracle that was achieved in four days which would normally take up to six-twelve months to achieve. Written authority from the Department of Indigenous Affairs, the Aboriginal Land Trust, the Aboriginal Heritage Site and the Ballardong peoples of this region to place a Memorial Rock for this young man who touched the lives of everyone who met him. He was a very special child.

Ethan packed so much into his life with football (Auskick), then on to under 17s with Saints in Northam, soccer at school, swimming, long distance running, his music and his baseball. He came on an ocean cruise with us; he met some lovely people and his persona was an enviable one.

Whilst his time with us was short he gave us so much joy. He was always making sure we gave him boundaries. We pray for the young people that they will know where to get help.

All of you, you know who you are, thank you very much for being here for us and with us into our grief. Our doors are opened

to you. May God's blessing be upon you as they are upon us.

Last but certainly not least, we thank Barbara Iocco for her love and support; a true friend indeed.

*Karl and Pamela Walsh*

## Engagement

### ATKINSON - LEE

With great delight, John and Carol join with Daphne and Murray to announce the engagement of Donna and Dean on Christmas Day. We wish them lots of love and happiness for a wonderful future together.

## Birthdays

Margaret Gill	Frank Danger
Kathy Robinson	Nicholas O'Sullivan
Mal Johnson	Jeanette Jones
Denley Jones	Lorraine Turnbull
Phil Smith	Terry Flowers
Letiah Broderick	Ryan Broderick
Michelle Sloper	Maria Seed
Samantha Smart	Lynette Hicks

## Anniversaries

Wayne & Desrae Clarke  
Sharon & Trevor Turnbull

## Raffle

Toodyay, you have done well. The gourmet raffle was won by Grant Scobie and we raised \$1,000 for Lake Clifton.

## Casino Trip

2JRs, our next casino trip is on 14 March. For more information please contact Ida on 9574 2858.

## AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Toodyay Agricultural Society will be held on Monday 14 February 2011 at 8pm at the Youth Hall, Toodyay Showgrounds.

## Shave for a Cure

If you are participating in the 'Shave for a Cure' for 2011, could you please contact Sandy at the Toodyay Hair Studio (9574 2505) to arrange a day, a time and a place to perform this very worthwhile charitable cause.

## Stockade

'Stockade' is an afternoon of challenges (games) followed by a night session with bands and a speaker. It is open to all high school aged children.

'Stockade' takes place at the York Church of Christ, Cnr Avon Tce and Pool St on 5 of March 2011 from 3 - 10pm.

Contact Natalie on 040 988 5632 for details.

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## First Aid Course

St John Ambulance will be holding a SENIOR FIRST AID COURSE on Sunday 27 February in Toodyay. Workbook is required to be completed before attending.

For registration and workbook pack, contact Jenny Willgoss 9574 2455 (A/H 9574 2412) or Pam Tenant 9574 2390.

## Healing in the Hills God and the disaster

### Bob Adair

For the Toodyay Christian Fellowship

LAST year at this time, I wrote about the Haiti earthquake just after the fires, and it has caused me to think about the big question that people often ask, "Why does God let these things happen?" It's a tough question if you do not know who God is or where we fit into the big picture.

In an earlier age, not so long ago, the average Joe or Jenny knew where they fitted into the scheme of things; they were awestruck by creation, the power of an earthquake, flood and fire. Our ancestors were aware of an orderly society; they acknowledged and respected authority not only in the human realm but in the spiritual world.

The average Aussie has lost his/her way; respect and authority has been diminished. When you mention spirituality, every man's opinion is right. Most of the time our focus is on number one; there is no God and, if there is one, He should be ignored, that is until there is a natural cataclysmic event like fire or flood. I can now justify putting any thought about God on the back burner. How could God let this happen? Surely, here is proof that there is no God.

In Haiti, people who had been deprived of many of the benefits of a modern society and for many years worshipped a variety of voodoo demons suddenly, when confronted by a natural disaster, respond by turning away from religious practices and turning to the simplicity of worshipping God in a holistic way. It was noteworthy that, during the Brazilian mine disaster, the entire nation called on God to protect their miners.

So what is wrong with the Aussie attitude? We get things done don't we? My question is, how much more could we do if we had a higher authority than Ms Gillard to hold in awe? And therein lies the problem. No one wants to just get on with the job; we have to have an inquiry or a Royal Commission. The level of accountability and standard of morality in the 21<sup>st</sup> century has plummeted in the Western world. The benchmark that God sets lifts us up. The way in which He helps us deliver a higher standard is not complicated and Jesus (God in the flesh) first empowers us then shows us the way allowing us to do what we know is right and just (worshipping in an holistic way.)

Getting back to basics, taking responsibility, stopping the blame game - God calls this repentance. This process starts with the individual then flows through to our families, our community, and then those who govern us.

The floods proved one thing: there are powers greater than mankind. The Darwinian principle of the survival of the fittest fails miserably when we are faced with disaster.

Yes, God is alive and well. He is simply waiting for you to acknowledge Him. You can start by talking to a Christian friend or going to church.

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