

The Toodyay Herald

VOLUME 290

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Shire President, Kevin Hogg, addresses the crowd at St Stephens' Church lawn, Photo: Karen Jacomelli

Toodyay's Medical Services Seek Sustainable Future

Karen Jacomelli

THIS issue came to the fore recently when Dr. Richard Walkey and his partner Sean Byron were concerned that they were unable to attract more doctors to the area. The two current doctors were leaving by 1 July and the risk of Dr Walkey burning out was a concern.

They had written to the Shire in January 2011 wanting to discuss the continuity of medical care services.

It began snowballing in February and, by 19 March, a Public Meeting was held on the lawns of St. Stephens' Anglican Church. Nearly 300 people attended, out of a population of approximately 4,500 to 5,000 (2,917 rates notices are sent out by this Shire.) Emotions ran high as speakers gave differing perspectives. Some believed that the Shire should provide financial support to the current private practice through waiving of rent or the supply of accommodation and vehicles to attract prospective doctors. A Shire levy in the rates notice or a direct payment to the surgery were also suggested.

The Shire President, Kevin Hogg, stated that recruitment of another GP had been referred to forum but that the Shire's financial position needed to be ascertained first. It did not mean that all options would not continue

to be investigated. Whilst the Hon Grant Woodhams, MLA, Member for Moore and Speaker of the Legislative Assembly advised the crowd that it was the responsibility of the State and Federal Governments to provide medical services.

Another suggestion made was that petitions to government ministers should be 'drip fed' using the same words for maximum impact. Even Royalties for Regions was raised but that funding is only available for bricks and mortar. Also suggested was user pays or a partnership with the Wheatbelt GP Network.

It also came to light that Wyalkatchem had a 30% levy but that over a million dollars for the provision of medical services came from a bequest. Northam Shire on the other hand did not contribute to medical services of any of the four private practices currently operating there.

Historically, the Shire acquired the Old Toodyay Club (Stirling House). It housed the doctor, dentist and Silver Chain. After Dr Dyer left, doctors from Northam filled the vacancy because Dr Dyer could not sell his practice at the time. The practice ran down to the extent that the Northam doctors were going to close it down and expect the population to travel to Northam. Part of this was because the facility was old and run

down.

The council became proactive in 1988 after they conducted a survey that showed the highest priority was medical services. It would appear that nothing has changed. In light of the survey, the Shire revisited its budget and built the Alma Beard Centre in order to ensure we had adequate facilities for medical services.

After 18 years it appears that this community has hit another hurdle and hopefully commonsense and a collaborative approach to a solution will prevail and a blueprint for a sustainable model may be achieved.

The following is unedited information released by the Toodyay Medical Centre.

Dr Walkey wrote to the Toodyay CEO in January to advise him that Dr Banerjee was leaving the practice in July 2011 and as it is now very difficult to get Registrars to come to the country as it is no longer compulsory but suggested that they do a country stint, Toodyay faces the real possibility of having only one Doctor from July onwards. Dr Walkey rang the CEO in late January requesting a meeting with him (the CEO) and or Councillors to further discuss the matter.

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All contributions and advertising may be left at the office of *The Toodyay Herald*, 92 Stirling Terrace, Toodyay, or posted to P.O. Box 100, Toodyay, 6566 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.

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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.

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(OFFICE HOURS)

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Dr Walkey was advised that he didn't need a meeting as the Councillors were going to discuss the matter at a forum. As the letter to the CEO was just a general letter advising the situation, but with no actual request it is difficult to understand what the councillors were going to discuss at that meeting.

The purpose of the letter was to get the support of Shire to help attract a new Doctor to the area with the view of a meeting with all concerned to work out the structure and possible monetary shortfalls that would be required from the Shire of Toodyay.

To get any Doctor to work in a rural area is difficult, and even though Toodyay comes under the Workforce Shortage area and would qualify for International Medical Graduates, it is apparent that to attract a new Doctor to any rural area, in addition to minimum wages, rent free accommodation and a fully maintained car are a requirement.

Given that many rural shires are supporting their local Doctors in this way, Richard is looking for this support for a NEW DOCTOR only. The financial cost of a new Doctor would be approximately:-

Car - around \$1,000 - \$2,000 per month depending on car = \$12,000/\$24,000 per annum

House - \$300-\$400/week = around \$20,000 per annum

There would possibly be a shortfall in the weekly wages in the short term while the new Doctor builds up a rapport with the Toodyay residents and this could be around \$50,000+ per annum. It would be anticipated that this would decrease annually.

Without making every single person who comes to the surgery pay full Metropolitan prices for all medical consultations, treatment etc the surgery could not financially support the requirements for house and car entitlements for the new Doctor.

Dr Walkey is not looking to close the surgery, to the contrary he is doing everything that he can to ensure that Toodyay has at least 2 Doctor's in the town for now and in the future when he may possibly retire. He has advertised for a new Doctor with no success and is now looking at enlisting the AMA and the GP division to try and get an overseas Doctor to come and work in Toodyay - these things take time and time is what we are running out of and if there is no support from the Shire as to accommodation, car etc the likely hood of attracting a new Doctor here is minimal.

In regard to the request for the Shire to look at the rent currently being paid to the Shire, as the increase in bulk bill rebates has not increased in line with increases in wages etc, and as Dr Walkey currently bulk bills most patients, with all treatment room dressings also bulk billed, Dr Walkey is looking to have the rent on the premises reviewed to rent free to pass this saving on to the staff at the surgery in order to meet the wages that they can get elsewhere in line with their qualifications etc.

Dr Walkey has not in the past requested any personal or financial support nor is he looking for any financial support for himself in the future - to the contrary, his Company that runs the Toodyay Medical Centre has paid rent to the Shire for the use of the premises he is currently in. The company has purchased all the equipment in the surgery necessary to run an efficient medical practice and this includes the total fitout of the reception area, the three Doctors rooms, the Treatment room and all the dressing, drugs etc that are required to run the Treatment room. There has been no request for any support for this previously.

Dr Walkey and Sean also give a lot of financial support back to the Toodyay community in the way of donations of time (his staff helping with community events at his company's expense), resources and money. I know, I write the cheques that Richard signs.

We are running out of time to get another Doctor here in Toodyay before July, and once

the current Registrar's time here is up then we will have only Dr Walkey.

Given the current demands on Richards time with two other Doctors supporting him, come the future with only Richard here and no other Doctor support, the real possibility of his burn out in a very short time is evident and then we will have no Doctor in the town.

When people come in to see the Doctor, particularly from outlying areas, if they receive a script for medication, then they usually go to the local Chemist to have the script filled, they may possibly fuel up their car, might even have their car serviced while waiting at the Doctors, go to the local supermarket to do their shopping while in town, possibly have a cup of tea or lunch, go to one of the local shops to buy a birthday present etc, get their hardware requirements, have their hair done etc etc etc before heading home.

With no Doctor in the town the ramifications are huge. All of the above business' stand to lose out on income also.

With no Doctor in town, people wanting to relocate to the country to retire or work etc, will rethink coming to Toodyay as at the moment the closest town with Doctors is Northam and they are not taking any new patients from outside their town. The drive down to Midland to find a Doctor there becomes a real prospect. Why would you shift to Toodyay?

Our current Ambulance service would also be hugely impacted.

Richard and Sean have fully supported Toodyay in the past in many areas and they don't deserve or need the rumours and innuendo that are currently out there.

Dianne Cox
 Practice Manager

Grant Woodhams has supplied this brief summary of what he said at the public meeting and what the State Government, via WA Country Health is attempting to do:

1. The Shire is not bound to provide any financial assistance to any medical practitioners in Toodyay. The provision of health services is a Federal and State responsibility.
2. I can't speak for or represent the Federal Government. I am in the WA State Parliament.
3. I have been lobbying WA Country Health (Dr Felicity Jeffery) to prioritise recruitment of doctors for regional Western Australia. They do this in two ways. Firstly by continuing discussions with the University of Western Australia and Notre Dame University, these are the two universities in WA with medical schools, and trying to convince their graduates to work in regional WA. Secondly by actively recruiting doctors from other states and countries. Currently there is a recruitment program focussed on Ireland and England.
4. I will be speaking to the Minister for Health, Dr Kim Hames in Parliament this week, to see if there are any 'fast track' solutions available to Toodyay.
5. In reality compared to most towns in regional WA, Toodyay has been spoilt by the brilliant practice of Dr Richard Walkey. Most local governments in regional WA are in a position of having to provide huge and expensive (some up to \$900,000) incentives to attract and keep doctors. This sort of decision comes back to ratepayers and the shire.

Grant Woodhams adds that, although he didn't say it at the meeting, he would like to suggest it would be worth the community's while contacting the Combined University Centre for Rural Health based in Geraldton. There are discussions proposed to look at the establishment of a similar centre based at Northam, although it is early days yet.

The Shire President, Kevin Hogg, also made response in his President's Report to the Shire meeting on 15 March. This report is printed in full on Page 20 of this edition of *The Toodyay Herald*.

Lost the Community Notice Board?

It's now outside the Fruit and Vege shop in Stirling Terrace

Maverick Storm Strikes Toodyay



Maree Lewis

A FIERCE storm for the second time this year caused considerable damage to areas of Toodyay on the night of Monday 21 February. Winds gusting at an estimated 80 km per hour and torrential rain lashed drought stricken farmlands causing thousands of dollars worth of damage to housing, fencing and pastures. Violent lightning strikes caused minor fires while power blackouts affected some areas from evening to mid-morning of the next day.

People in Perth remarked at the time that the Hills must be copping a battering because the skies east of the city were constantly illuminated by sheets of lightning. In fact, the location of the storm was limited to Toodyay and surrounds. Reports from residents suggest that the path taken by the maverick weather followed a narrow strip from Dewars Pool through Coondle, across the town site and on to Majestic Heights where, in a final fit of rage, it wreaked destruction on some residents who have just rebuilt after the fires of 2010.

Craig Patching and Murray James are just two of those homeowners in Majestic Heights who, having almost completed rebuilding after the fires, found themselves once again battling nature in an effort to preserve their homes. Craig explained that the torrential rain sent a torrent of water down a firebreak which, because of the terrain, is more of a mountain goat track. Boulders and debris from the surrounds were caught up in the raging waters sent down the break and amounted to a mudslide that launched itself against his house.

"Mud was piled up one foot against the back and two to three feet against the side of the house," he said. Craig, who spent several days clearing slush out of his house and shovelling setting mud from around it, is remarkably stoic about it all and has retained his sense of humour, saying that he wants to rename the firebreak that is now a channel two feet wide and two feet deep, Craig's Creek.

Some farm owners in Coondle reported rainfall of up to 53mm in twenty minutes – "and that's only counting what went into the gauge, not across it," – while five minutes away, places received only 18mm.

A couple of residents along Phillips Road fought desperately and to no avail against waters spilling from swollen dams that, up till then, had been cracked yawning holes. The Pescud's were one of those families who were inundated by a tide of muddied waters that tore down the road and into their home. The damage to their property was featured on national news broadcasts across Australia. Mr Pescud's response to the flooding typically reflects the stoicism of Toodyay residents when he said to the *Herald*, "There's nothing left to do but clean up and wait for the insurance." Sadly, one home in the area lost its roof, the orange canvas now providing it with some protection, being symbolic of the family's terrifying ordeal.

Needless to say, the various volunteer fire fighting groups were immediately on the job, Coondle-Nunile for instance, having been called to a lightning strike fire reported from Bejording. Toodyay Shire



and volunteer groups worked throughout the night answering calls for assistance and alerting traffic to the numerous road hazards caused by falling trees and wash-aways. The Shire has been busy ever since, repairing roads and clearing drains blocked by mounds of debris. Tobie Prater, Development Support Officer for the Shire of Toodyay, was able to supply the following information: "The damage caused to the Shire road network due to the recent storm is estimated at \$464,000 and has qualified for funding under the WANDRRA program. We don't have an estimate of damage to private dwellings, however we understand there were 9 homes damaged."

The area affected by the storm is a changed landscape. Everywhere there are huge limbs of trees strewn across the earth and the spectacle of entire trees exploded by lightning or uprooted by enormous updrafts of wind is not unusual. The land itself is scoured red by torrents of water and the fodder from pastures hangs on the wire of fences or has wrapped itself around the trunks of trees. Dams are full but their walls are damaged and the water is foul with the scud of manure and soil ripped from the paddocks.

That's Mother Nature for you and whilst she was destructive on this occasion, there's no disputing, she sure was spectacular!



The All New IGA. Photo montage : Guido Verschoor

IGA: 'BIGA' and Better

Kim Lewis-Bicknell

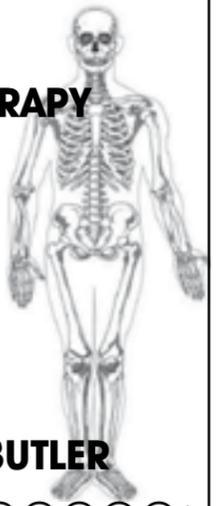
WITH a warm smile and firm handshake, I was greeted by the proprietor of Toodyay's brand new IGA supermarket, Dean Carter. I had organised to meet with him to get an update on how he thought the new IGA was doing.

Asked if he was pleased with the finished product, he replied, "Definitely." Dean has given his customers an increased retail space from 300sqm to 900sqm. He has tripled IGA's product selection, mostly complying with the needs of his customers which, of course, he values. Dean wants customer requests for products to continue, as his aim is always to please his customers.

Dean said that the Post Office was already in situ and people can look forward to the opening of a Cafe called *Mokka MMXI* in approximately two months time. To cope with the expanded patronage, the Shire will construct an additional 176 car bays. "The extra parking facilities for the town overall, I'm sure, will be much appreciated

Continued on Page 7

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Natural Disaster Relief Available after Thunderstorm

THE weather event associated with a severe thunderstorm in Toodyay on 21 March 2011 is eligible for disaster assistance.

FESA Chief Executive Officer, Jo Harrison-Ward, said that the severity of the damage met the criteria to be declared an Eligible Natural Disaster for the purposes of the Western Australia Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (WANDRRA).

The local government district affected is the Shire of Toodyay.

WANDRRA is administered by FESA, with assistance from other agencies, and provides help to people who have suffered the direct impact of a declared natural disaster.

Assistance through WANDRRA may be available for:

- Primary producers - freight costs and cost of materials for boundary fences abutting major roads, professional

advice grants and interest rate subsidies.

- Local governments - to clean up, repair and restore essential public assets including local roads.
- Small businesses interest rate subsidies on loans approved by Authorised Deposit Taking Institutions.
- Individuals and families personal hardship and distress assistance.

To apply for assistance or for more information contact the following agencies:

- Primary producers: Department of Agriculture and Food - www.agric.wa.gov.au or 1800 198 231
- Local government: Main Roads Northam Office 9622 4777
- Individuals and families: Department for Child Protection - 1800 032 965
- Small Business and other enquiries: WANDRRA Administrator (08) 9323 9552, email: [wandrra@fesa.wa.gov.au](mailto:wandrara@fesa.wa.gov.au) or visit www.fesa.wa.gov.au.

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letters

All letters to the Herald must carry the sender's name, home address and day and evening phone numbers. Pseudonyms are not accepted. We do not acknowledge receipt of unpublished letters unless the writer requests it. Ideally, letters will be a maximum of 200 words. By submitting your letter for publication you agree that we may edit it for legal, space or other reasons and may, after publication in the newspaper, republish it on the internet or in other media.

Thank You for Such Wonderful Community Support

SINCE OUR DEVASTATING house fire on 22 February, we have been overwhelmed by the generosity of the Toodyay Community, our family, friends and the kindness of strangers. Your support, kindness and generosity has been incredible. We would like to take this opportunity to say 'Thank You' to everyone. We could not have gotten through this tough time without such wonderful support.

As we are slowly trying to rebuild our shattered lives we would like to acknowledge your contributions and support. The process of getting our lives back on track and surviving through such hard times has been made easier on us and our three small children by all the generosity received.

We would like to take this time to say a special 'Thank You' to the following people/organisations for their continued support:

- Toodyay Caravan Park – for immediate accommodation and support ;
- Toodyay Central Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade – for their kind donation;
- Crisis Centre (Northam) for their immediate help;
- Our neighbours for raising the fire alarm, taking care of our animals and taking care of all of us and providing support immediately after the fire;
- Special thanks to Letiah Broderick for rescuing our animals and for braving the fire to check the house;
- The Op Shop and St Vinnies;
- The Lions Club for their fantastic and continued support throughout, including furniture and donations;
- WA Water Police and their friends for collections of furniture, clothes, toys and donations;
- Toodyay Playgroup for their wonderful support and donations;
- To our family and friends for all their support and generosity. In particular Trevor and Debbie Hutchinson (from Yanchep) for constant support, by organising and pooling of furniture, toys, clothes, purchasing items etc;
- To our family and friends in South Australia for support and donations;
- To all our friends in Toodyay for

organising events to raise donations, organising cooked meals (which helped tremendously!), clothes, toys, furniture, support and donations – THANK YOU;

- Local Church(s) for their kind donation;
- Foxburrow Holiday Accommodation for their kind support and donation
- To all anonymous donations received.

We are so thankful to live in such a wonderful community.

THANKS again to our family, friends and strangers in the Toodyay community and beyond for your generosity, kindness and support; we could not have coped without all your help.

Brenda and Guy Hutchinson

SO LONG, FAREWELL, auf wiedersehen, goodbye.

After eight enjoyable years, we have left the lovely town of Toodyay and are now living in Perth. We have really enjoyed living in this shire and we will miss it immensely. The personal touch and friendliness of a small town is noticeably missed. We will miss the friendly and professional services that places like the club, Greg's hardware, the little fruit and veg shop, IGA and the salon all gave consistently.

Working at the school was enjoyable and rewarding and we thank Alan and Wendy for the leadership and support they gave, as well as the other special teachers whom we have learned much from. We would also like to thank all the parents who supported the school and our efforts while we taught there.

All the best to the many people who we came into contact with in the shire who helped to make our time there enjoyable. We hope the river starts flowing soon!

Keith, Melinda and Georgia Marston

ON 12 MARCH we had a fantastic response to the Toodyay Business & Community Enterprise EXPO. The whole hall had such a positive buzz to it; everyone who entered the EXPO could not help but feel this, so thank you to our Community who all worked together to produce this wonderful day, so we could learn about all the terrific businesses and community groups that make up the foundation of this town.

Thanks go to all who helped to produce

an amazing community event and to the day visitors who took the time to visit and explore all that we had on offer. Special thanks go to the following:

- Living Towns who created the first step;
- Toodyay Living Community members who transformed this idea into something tangible;
- Local Toodyay sponsors who donated funds for the Expo;
- Business and community groups who donated beaut door prizes for our visitors on the day;
- All the exhibitors who showed what they were made of by such wonderful displays and a friendly manner towards everyone;
- The CWA ladies who donated delicious cakes and made many, many cups of tea to help us also raise funds for the Expo;
- Mary who spent many hours baking delicious cakes that were auctioned off;
- The Toodyay Music Club who entertained us with some great songs;
- 2 young talented boys who played the drums and guitar producing some fantastic music which brought in the crowds;
- And to the three cooks who manned the busy sausage sizzle stall all day.

So, many thanks to all for our first and very successful Toodyay Business & Community EXPO.

Sandy Mckay

IN THIS CHRISTIAN country and in this country town with several active Christian faith communities, it was sad to read (*Toodyay Herald* February) of the planned celebrations and 'mandatory welcoming event' on the most solemn day of the year for all Christians and many non-Christians who choose to respect that day.

The author of the article avoided the use of Good Friday although he did acknowledge the event was over the Easter weekend. It may be interesting to know who, if anyone, approved this event starting in our town on Good Friday?

Veronica Dymond

WE WOULD LIKE to let all drivers using Hoddy Well Road know how very appreciative we are for their slowing down to reduce dust.

Just adding a few more seconds to your trip has made such a big impact on our lives. We can now open up the front of our house to let the breeze in and not have the contents of our house covered in dust. A clean load of washing can now be taken off the line.

A special thank you to the truck drivers as the large volumes of dust also create a safety issue for other road users, particularly when driving into the afternoon sun.

Jan and Bill Manning

AT APPROXIMATELY 2.40PM, on 17 February, a tragic accident took place on the Toodyay Road near the Bailup Rd intersection.

The scene must have been horrific. Our 17-year-old son sustained serious injuries and the couple in the other car was killed.

We have been told about the amazing actions of first aiders and paramedics that undoubtedly contributed to minimising the extent of our son's injuries. A particular thank you to Pam Tennant who was there for Saxon at the accident site and also there for Casey when she received the news. We will be forever grateful to you all.

We would also like to thank everyone who offered whatever assistance they could, including a local landholder who cleared an area for the helicopter to land, other drivers who stopped to help out and witnesses who helped the police piece together events. Heartfelt thanks go out to the people of Toodyay, past and present friends and acquaintances and our great karate club. Everyone that offered their thoughts and prayers, cards and phone calls helped us through a very dark time - we certainly felt the love and support.

Saxon was in RPH and Bentley hospitals for a total of nine days. Each day his prognosis improved as he amazed everyone by having not sustained more injury from the amount of trauma he had received. He was determined to get to Uni as soon as possible so, with some assistance from disability services at UWA, he started classes only a week later than everyone else. Whilst the crutches have gained him some notoriety on campus he is looking forward to being fully mobile in the near future.

We are mindful that, whilst we are overjoyed at Saxon's recovery, there were two people who lost their lives in tragic circumstances.

Our deepest sympathies go to Rolf and Adele's families who have suffered the loss we are so grateful to have avoided.

In remembrance of lives forever changed I would ask everyone to treasure life and the lives of others and perhaps reflect on this a little each time we get behind the wheel.

Trevor, Melita, Saxon and Casey Jensen

THIS IS A PLEA to parents of Railway Road.

The weather has been so hot and the school is a long way from many homes. We do not mind in the least if hot children stop at one of our roadside taps to cool off before continuing but PLEASE will you impress on them the need to make sure the tap is right off?

After one very hot week, I walked up my

Continued on Page 5

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To our wonderful Customers we would like to thank you for the last 12 years of support at Shop 7, 111 Stirling Terrace. Thank you for the jokes, laughs, handy hints, great stories and sometimes sad, it has been a pleasure to be part of them all. A big thank you to everyone who offered to help with the move. This is a great community to live in: the support has been so humbling.

With that said, unfortunately we are having to close our doors for a while (something we tried to avoid but couldn't); we are sorry if we have or still are inconveniencing you. We are hoping that it won't be long before we are back trading again at our new location across from the Bendigo Bank. We can't wait to start the next exciting chapter, with a great new look and we all can't wait to be back having a laugh and listening to your great stories again. See you soon.

I would also like to thank Lui and Lynne from Country Realty who have gone over and above to help (hope your cape is hanging back up!) You are wonderful people.

To Neil and Lorraine, thank you also for your help and hopefully this will be all a horrible distant memory soon.

And to my wonderful, wonderful Staff, Brigitte, Fran and their families, thank you for the advice, pep talks (especially yours James), hugs and Kleenex tissues. I cannot put into words how much I value you both thank you. Oh sorry about the pay cut (for the time of closure.) I did my best to not let it happen believe me!

Continued from Page 4

driveway on a Saturday morning and was horrified to find a tap left running at about a quarter flow. I have no idea whether it was from Friday afternoon or longer ago but, by the huge wet area, the least we could have lost was 500 litres.

Driving past, one would not notice the running tap as it was soaking into a low area behind agapanthus and shrubs so we shall not know till a water bill arrives, how much was lost.

June Eastwood

Time to Move On



EARLY 1994, WHILST visiting family in Dowerin, we were asked if we could run a veterinary practice in the town. So we ran a clinic in the Dowerin sports hall during the long weekend in June.

The response encouraged us to look at other country towns in the wheat belt. We wrote to 10 shires in the wheat belt asking if they would like a veterinary clinic to visit on a fortnightly basis. Five shires responded favourably so we purchased a 24ft caravan which we spent the next 3 months refurbishing as a mobile clinic with a consulting area, operating area with kennels etc. These towns were Toodyay, Goomalling, Dowerin, Wyalkatchem and Cunderdin. In October 1994 we started our clinic running. Thanks to Peggy and Fred Waller who had the Toodyay Caravan Park at that time we were able to leave our van there between visits, picking it up on a Tuesday morning to start the Toodyay morning clinic held in the car park at the Medical Centre, then onto Goomalling for a lunch time clinic and to Dowerin for an evening clinic. When the evening clinic finished we would unhitch the van and stay the night with our relatives. Wednesday morning would see us travelling to Wyalkatchem for the morning clinic and then to Cunderdin, finally returning to Toodyay in the evening where we would once again park the van then head off home to Perth.

Toodyay was getting busier and busier so we accepted an offer from the Sofoulis family to rent their property at 92 Stirling Terrace and convert it to use as a vet clinic. In 1996 we opened our doors 4 mornings a week with Philip and a nurse driving up from Perth to run the clinic. We then decided to purchase a house in Toodyay in December 1996. Six months later in



July 1997 we were fortunate in having Bronwyn Copestake move to Toodyay looking for part time work, which enabled Phil to concentrate on the Perth hospital with Bronwyn and Judy running Toodyay. Then in January 1998 Sue Smith joined the staff. The clinic then became full time with Bronwyn, Judy and Sue gradually building the practice until Bronwyn left in 2002. Philip then sold the Perth practice and moved permanently to Toodyay to run the clinic. Throughout this time Philip and Judy were still doing the mobile run to other country towns but, after eight years, the caravan was showing severe signs of wear and tear and we were offered permanent premises in Goomalling and Wyalkatchem. We would like to record our special thanks to Clem Kerp CEO of Goomalling Shire who went above and beyond to keep us at Goomalling, providing us with a superb facility to work from. We continued in Goomalling and Wyalkatchem on a fortnightly basis until 2005 when the Toodyay clinic became too busy to service the other towns, ending an eleven year era of mobile veterinary service.

Philip was often requested by a Wyalkatchem client to become a greyhound breeding specialist as there were none in W.A. After much persuasion Philip did the necessary course to become proficient in canine frozen semen insemination and started offering this service in August of 2006. This connection to the greyhound industry led to him being asked to become an official greyhound track vet which in turn led him to become a harness track vet. Gaby Weaver joined the staff in November 2006 and along with Sue has been an integral part of the practice. Canine reproduction, greyhound and harness track work have developed into Philip's primary area of interest and so he has decided to sell Avon Valley Vet clinic effective from 31 March 2011.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank not only all of our staff for their skill, care and patience but also our clients, who have entrusted the care of their animals with us. Many of those clients have become firm friends over the years. The time has come to move on after 39 years in general practice to hopefully a less intense working life and to allow fresh, enthusiastic young veterinarians to take over the reins.

We wish Drs Chatfield and Thornton and their associates all the very best in their new venture.

Philip and Judy Lawton

Toodyay Medical Centre

AT THE RECENT meeting of our community on 19 March, three issues were highlighted.

1. The Toodyay Medical Centre will close in July if a replacement doctor cannot be found when Doctor Banajee leaves. Doctor Walkey has made his position very clear. His work load is already excessive. Without help he cannot and will not continue alone.
2. The Shire is in financial difficulty and is not able or interested in addressing the problem.
3. The rate payers of this town want and need the medical centre to be available; it is an essential service to which we are entitled.

Surely, there is financial advice available to the Shire regarding a loan to ensure that the town keeps this essential service. Surely, there is enough wisdom on the council (although five negative votes is a big worry) to value what we've got and make sure we keep it.

Joy Cruickshank

I SPEAK FOR myself and for my wife, Elizabeth. We attended the public meeting on Saturday 19 March. We understand that the Council is unable to move on this issue before 31 March 2011.

We strongly urge the Council, when its financial position becomes known, to give the highest priority to the retention of the medical practice. No other matter currently before Council is so important to the continued prosperity of the Shire. We believe the loss of the medical practice would impact first the pharmacy and subsequently lead to a loss of business generally. The patients of the practice would suffer. People would be less likely to move into the Shire. Some residents may very well move away. Property would be devalued.

The cost of retention would be great but unavoidable. Other shires have recognised this.

We listened with interest to Mr Grant Woodhams who told us that Royalties for Regions are intended to fund Infrastructure. Would the construction of a new house, dedicated to the medical centre for the use

of a doctor, be classed as infrastructure?

This matter is urgent. Dr Walkey needs certainty. He should be reassured that the Council will find a way to keep him in Toodyay.

Yours very sincerely

Bob Frayne

AS RATEPAYERS and attendees at the recent public meeting on Saturday 19 March re support for a new doctor, we were astonished and disappointed at the Council's lack of foresight as to the impact this will have on our community.

The stress on the medical service and our local doctor is extreme with the future loss of one of the current doctors. This will be further exacerbated and may even lead to the loss of all medical facilities in the town.

We were frustrated by the lack of leadership shown by the Shire, when the consensus was in favour of the introduction of a compulsory medical levy.

Despite our Council being constrained by debt, should our local doctor in his frustration at not receiving reassurance and support leave this community, the ramifications would be far greater than the current debt problem.

We feel that this matter is of the utmost urgency and the Council must act to bring a positive quick result to this end.

Jenny and John Clarke

THE CURRENT TALKING point refers to our surgery and its fabulous staff and Dr Walkey.

I find that our elected representatives on the Shire Council had decided at a recent meeting not to consider any action. The voting was four for and five against.

I was not at the meeting and cannot comment on what was said but the meeting on Saturday seemed to me to indicate what the majority felt and I would suggest that any concerned reader contact their Councillor and ask two questions: how did he or she vote and what his or her response is to the obvious feeling of the residents and ratepayers of the Shire?

Continued on Page 6

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letters

Continued from Page 5

Should we lose our surgery, the town will start to die, in my view. I wonder how our elected members feel about this; are they there to represent the common view or their own.

I am fortunate in having a carer, my son, who can take me to hospital should the need arise. Please think about your own position and take appropriate steps.

Jim Bavin

I WAS AT the public meeting on Saturday and, like everyone else, was worried about the possibility that Toodyay might end up without a doctor.

However, I was also concerned that reasoned thought had given way to panic. If this problem is to be solved we need to think about this calmly.

Yes, Richard is a great doctor and has given magnificent service to the town but the medical practice is a private business owned by Sean. Sooner or later, Richard will retire or move to a less stressful practice and, if he does not get a second doctor to assist him, it will be sooner, but it will eventually happen regardless. So the real question is, "Do we subsidise a private business in an attempt to ensure continuity of medical services in the town?"

Firstly, provision of medical services is a federal and state government responsibility, not a local government responsibility.

Yes, some rural and regional councils do take a role but this is not without cost and Toodyay is not exactly flush for funds at the moment. Some councils are partners in the business, some administer bequests from private individuals and some are financially crippled. Can we afford to enter into a bidding war with other councils for medical services? If this council acts irresponsibly, failing to provide the services and retain the staff it is required to under law and, instead, subsidises a private business, it could be forced into administration by the state government and then we get no say in local affairs.

I was stunned when somebody suggested not worrying about the firebreaks because, if we didn't have a doctor, who would

treat injured people? I'd prefer prevention over cure, as I'm sure Dr Walkey would. Firebreaks, roads, the footbridge, garbage collection and the list goes on, are all matters the council is responsible for; these are things they have to do. They might be able to give some assistance to the doctor's surgery, but I don't imagine the people of Morangup are going to be too happy with a rate hike to pay for doctors in Toodyay.

It's no good saying the council should sort it. That would be nice but, even if they threw every available dollar at the problem, there is no guarantee that it would do a scrap of good. A doctor who was willing to work in the practice would still have to be found and that is a long-term problem to do with the number of doctors that are being trained in this country and our ability to poach doctors from overseas.

Yes, there are things that can be done. If the community wants to set up a charitable fund for the purpose of supporting the provision of medical services in the Shire of Toodyay, that would be a positive move. The council could pay into that, even though this option is letting the state and federal government off the hook. The ATO would most likely judge it to be tax exempt but not a deductible gift recipient. If someone donated the use of a suitable house as a doctor's residence, that would be even better.

But the bottom line is, no matter what anybody does, there are no guarantees. A lot of towns have no doctor and not for want of trying. Toodyay may become one of them. And no, I don't live there at the moment; it doesn't have a university or a lot of jobs, either, but I hope to get back some day. The best bet is for everyone to pull together and do what they can do, whether it is to set up a fund, or lobby state and federal government. Forget about what you think someone else should be doing and the blame game; do what you can and keep your fingers crossed.

Kim Angus

HOW SAD IT is that five Councillors can dictate our health.

Thanks to Bruce and Karl for the meeting, to Sean who told it like it is and also to John Pearce for doing his homework. To Richard

and staff, thanks for 20 years of dedication.

Kath and Peter Fairhead

We Need Your Help

ON SATURDAY 19 MARCH, a public meeting was held in the grounds of St Stephens Church regarding a request from the Toodyay Medical Centre for some limited financial support to help attract another doctor to the practice following the resignation of Dr Banerjee in July of this year.

The meeting was an information meeting that enabled the Toodyay Medical Centre, Council and the general public to express their various points of view concerning this issue.

On Tuesday 22 March, a group of concerned people got together at the Toodyay Medical Centre to further discuss the funding issue. Consequently, the Medical Action Group for Toodyay was formed with the express purpose of assisting the Toodyay Medical Centre in its efforts to attract another doctor to the practice.

To achieve our desired outcome, we have adopted the following strategy:
To determine the level of community support for the Toodyay Medical Centre by means of a questionnaire;
To investigate all possible funding services;
To conclude both of the above by Tuesday 3 May 2011.

We are not working at cross purposes with the ongoing discussions between Council and the Toodyay Medical Centre. We are, however, disappointed at the apparent lack of urgency of these discussions.

We have already implemented our action plan to make contact with as many community members as quickly as possible. The more support we get from the community, the easier it will be to have our points of view listened to.

It is now time for the silent majority to stand up and be counted. Give us your support now and we will do our very best to ensure that the Toodyay Medical Centre continues to offer a first class medical service to this community.

We are privileged to have had Dr Richard Walkey as a member of our community for the last 20 years. It is now time to acknowledge his outstanding efforts in looking after our community and hope that he will continue to do so for the next 20 years.

To register your support, please contact me or any member of our committee.

We need your help now.

Committee:

John Pearce (Chairperson) faultytowers@westnet.com.au 0427 742 248; Pamela Walsh (Deputy Chair) pamela.walsh@bigpond.com 9574 5767; Angelika Jones (Secretary) angiejones@westnet.com.au 9574 2087; Dianne Cox (Treasurer) toosurg@westnet.com.au 9574 5869; Coral Grundy gruns@westnet.com.au 9574 2224; Kath Fairhead kathleenfairhead@yahoo.com 9574 2658; Sharon Boxall sboxall@silverchain.org.

au 9574 2703; Brian and Gwenda McGill gwendamcgill@skymesh.com.au 9627 5274; Bruce Prior ibprior@bigpond.net.au 9574 5928; Sally Bolger craigh1026@hotmail.com 9574 2246; Karl Walsh karl.walsh@bigpond.com 9574 5767.

John Pearce

Medical Action Group of Toodyay

HAVING JUST ATTENDED the public meeting on 19 March regarding the issue of keeping Doctor Walkey, I feel compelled to pen this letter.

I've lived in this community for the past 30 years and have had the benefit of raising four children with the medical help of Doctor Walkey for all manner of illnesses at all hours. Subsequently, I feel qualified to voice my opinion on this important matter.

My observation of the mood of the meeting was of overwhelming support for the cause to keep Doctor Walkey and his staff operating in our community. I noted Councillor Prater's public comment, "You don't represent the majority of Toodyay." I would suggest to Councillor Prater that the vast majority of those people at the meeting would strongly disagree and they voted with their feet and were present to represent the majority.

I feel that the five councillors who voted against any assistance for the medical centre do not represent the majority view of the community and consequently, if they are so out of touch with the community, they should not be our representatives on council. Councillors will come and go depending on their agenda. However a good doctor is hard to find while a great doctor is very rare so all avenues to keep Doctor Walkey must be pursued. I do not see the council or the majority of councillors being willing or able to be part of this solution.

The Toodyay Shire Council has had the benefit of first rate medical service at minimal cost to their budget compared to other shires which have had to offer attractive packages to entice a doctor to their town.

The community group focused on this matter needs our full support.

Gary Nelmes

The Meeting

Two hundred people turned out today To find a way for our doc to stay A small town not very far from Perth Desperate another doctor to unearth

The pressure is on our doctor now He cannot work another hour The stress of being the only one Will damage his health and make him run

There were people there from every walk And yes, these people sure could talk The Shire President tried to state his case With a gentle smile upon his face

Grant Woodhams' optimistic spiel Would take too long we all did feel And John turned everything upon its head "Let's all pay a levy now," he said

Most people there, the young and old In colours bright and noisy bold To keep our doc they'd join the fray And please Richard, will you stay?

By Meg Wayne
19 March 2011

Political Games

I WAS ASTOUNDED to see a former Councillor storm out of the last Council meeting, shouting and wagging his finger at the sitting Council and berating them about their inaction on the medical centre situation. Does he really think that the rest of the gallery is silly enough to be taken in with his theatrics?

We all know that the former Council, of which he was a member, made decisions that created a difficult financial situation for the current council by the unfinished and very expensive projects which now have to be completed and undertaken e.g. the IGA parking facilities and the new town depot to name a couple.

In my opinion, one of the former Councillors, who is thankfully still a Councillor, Cr Chris Firms, is a hero in this saga. As far back as 2008, if you wish to look up the Audit Committee minutes, he was asking pertinent questions regarding the affairs of that Committee, and may now be very satisfied that things are coming to light.

We have a long, hard road ahead but I feel sure if the present Council is given our

Continued on Page 7

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Join in the fun with Moodyne Joe as he runs around town, robbing shops, escaping custody and being a general menace!

There will be 'Joe's gang', coppers, floozies, swaggies and a town crier.

A mustache and cleavage competition. Plus 1860's regiment, wood chop, blacksmith, wood turning and craft demonstrations.

Art exhibition, antique collectors fair, car club display, children's activities, circus and town fair.

Everyone is invited to dress in pioneer costume!

All activities take place within the Toodyay townsite and run all day from 9am

See you there !

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letters

Continued from Page 6

support, they will sort out the mess and we may even be able to sort out the problems of the medical centre. I am assured negotiations will continue as soon as they know just what they can commit to.

Mona Coffey

New Skate Park Location.

IT CEASES TO amaze me as to the thought or lack of it that went into the skate park.

Who decided its final destination?

We have lots of visitors to this town who drive around the area looking at its qualities and what it may offer them in life if they were to move to the area. They are new to our roads and to driving past our newly completed project, the Skate Park!

Now we all know how kids' minds tick over. Some kids are mighty competitive. They will be trying to get as much height as possible and will, at times, come into the vision of drivers. Drivers may catch a glimpse of this diversion in the corner of their eye and, for only a moment, take their eyes from the road ahead causing what could be a serious accident.

Our park is renowned for its tranquil setting on the banks of the Avon River. You are going to turn a beautiful setting (do we want our facilities continuously graffitied throughout the park?) into an environment that does not fit in with the very place people from miles away visit for the peace and quiet. This will inevitably cause anguish for the park's visitors.

Please don't get me wrong: I'm all for more venues and facilities for kids and to see them exercising and interacting with others. I would have a ball watching them.

So I'm not against the skate park but am against its location.

Are we showing enough duty of care to the general public and the children using it? My answer to this is NO!

What's your opinion?

Mark Gillett

IGA: 'BIGA' and Better - continued from Page 3

by everyone," he added.

What Dean and Amanda Carter are trying to do is create a pleasant shopping experience for all of their customers. And it's working! Customers from Morangup, Northam and Goomalling, to name but a few localities, are being attracted to this new shopping experience in this bright and airy supermarket. The proprietors are providing a service for the community for the future, in the best way that they can - by keeping the customers happy. Customer satisfaction is their key objective and this involves service as well as goods. Assisting the elderly and disabled with loading their cars, for example, is a small part of what they do and it certainly encourages customers to come back.

Toodyay is indeed privileged to have a bright, brand new, state of the art supermarket with a huge variety of products, staffed by a helpful and friendly team and managed by a couple with passion and drive.

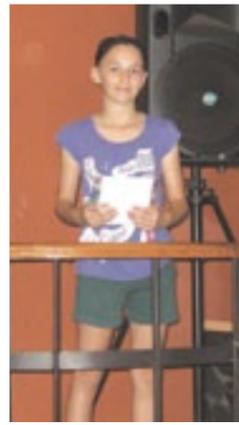
Success for Business Initiative

Maree Lewis

RESIDENTS of Toodyay and surrounding districts descended on the town for the inaugural Business and Community Expo, held on Saturday 12 March. The doors of the Town Hall were thrown open to 46 exhibitors representing business and community interests in the area. Other businesses in the town became involved via a Toodyay Main



The majority of stallholders in the hall. Photo Beth Frayne



Nicole Daros collecting the prize for the Treasure Hunt.

Street Treasure Hunt.

The Expo was organised by Living Communities Toodyay who recognised a need for people to see what businesses and services are available to them locally and to realise that these are competitive with those in Perth. According to Greg Winning who provided a huge amount of expertise and assistance to the Toodyay branch of Living Communities, "Events like these bring a buzz to the main street and the associated activities help bring life to a town." In his opening address for the exhibition he urged people to mingle and find out more about what Toodyay has to offer and so keep money in town.

Sandy McKay and the members of Living Communities Toodyay have been especially busy over the last two months contacting businesses and community groups and inviting them to participate. Sponsors to provide door prizes and to cover costs such as printing were sought and obtained, providing added attractions and minimising costs. One of the group's goals was to "create an event that is free for everybody - one where you don't have to pay to exhibit or to see it." Ms McKay commented that, through such exhibitions, the people of Toodyay "can form (their) own identity and work how communities used to work. The spirit needs to be there even before a crisis."

The traditional Aboriginal welcome speech was delivered by Pamela Welsh. The theme of the speech was, appropriately, Aboriginal Spirituality, defined as a "feeling of oneness and of belonging." This value was evident in the enthusiastic participation in the Expo.

The Toodyay Music Club performing outside the venue signalled that the event was underway. It was perhaps upstaged by talented drum and guitar duo, ten-year-olds Liam Leyland and Luke Catto. The Butcher's Sausage Sizzle attracted other hungry and happily curious people into the

main venue where they were greeted by a huge array of very professional displays. Suri Alpaca, to name one of many, was exhibiting to let people know they exist, to show their products and to be involved in the community. The Lions Club was keen to advertise its Postie Bike Run and the Shopping Trolley events, both of which will raise money for the Flying Doctor Service. The CWA, always keen to provide assistance, ran a coffee stall, its members contributing not only their highly regarded experience, but a cake each as well! The Bendigo Bank mascot, a bright yellow pig, organised a group photo shoot of participants. The smiling faces for the photo can be attributed to the success of the aims for this Expo.

Visitors to and participants in the Expo could register for a lucky door prize, compete



Best Exhibit: The Julimar Strip. Photo Karen Jacomelli

in the Main Street Treasure Hunt and vote for the best exhibition. Anton Beets was the winner of the door prize and Jo Daros was a most deserving winner of the Treasure Hunt. Best exhibit was undoubtedly a close competition and was awarded to the *Julimar Strip*. The *Julimar Strip* prize went to Kevin Mangini of the Avon Business Centre and the Toodyay Historical Society prize went to Grant Scobie. Finishing off the day, the CWA cakes were all auctioned providing many with a most pleasurable afternoon tea.

As one visitor to the Business and Community Enterprise Expo said, "I came to show a face, to see what's going on, what people are doing and what businesses are doing." According to Living Communities, this is going to be an annual event and, judging by the success of its inaugural occasion, there'll be even more business and community displays and many more visitors to see them.



April Special

Rump Steak
\$17.99 per kilo.

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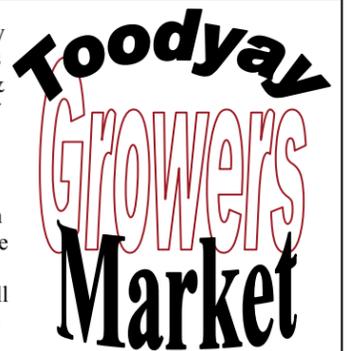
April Special

Get a free pack of 6 bread rolls, with every Loaf of Bread.



Toodyay Growers Market (formally known as Toodyay Home Fresh) is run by the original owners Carlos & Tom, and now with the backing of Mt Vernon Fruit & Vegetable Growers, now stocks the highest quality TOODYAY grown produce, and produce sourced from Western Australia. It is now the time for local producers to think about bringing in your best produce, to sell in our "new" old fashion store. We look forward to serving

our original and new customers, and thanks for the support during the difficult task of re-building our home and farm after the 2009 Bushfires.



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\$15 Wednesday Deals:

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Parma Night (Steak Sauces \$3 Extra)

Beer of the Month on Wednesdays:

\$5 Pints of "Tetley's"

Freemasons Hotel

April Special

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Kids Meal FREE with every Main Course.



If you see a product with any of these two labels, then you WILL be guaranteed that it was either grown right here in Toodyay, or made in Toodyay. This means that money spent with any shop with these products stocked, stays right here. The Grown in Toodyay is for Fresh produce grown in Toodyay, and the Made in Toodyay is a product that is Made in Toodyay, its that simple.
Support Local, Buy Local.....That's the choice!!

This advertisement courtesy of Mt Vernon Fruit & Vegetable Growers, growing since 2005 for a better Toodyay.



Remember: Toodyay Farmers Markets every Saturday outside the "New" fruit & Veg shop
Courtyard Markets every 1st and 3rd Saturdays.



Our Community Bank Turns Eleven



Jemma Hodge, Don Bates, Shelley Kingston and Piggy cut the birthday cake

ON Saturday 12 March, festivities were under way in the branch to celebrate our eleventh birthday.

Piggy came to town for the day to give out balloons, hugs, and to have his photo taken whilst being the guest of honour cutting our big birthday cake.

We were really thrilled with the large numbers who came in to share our special day.

Birthdays can be a time for reflection and we at the branch are no different, as we look back over this past year with pride at our community involvement.

We have shared the sorrow of the local floods and storms in Carnarvon and York, the fires in Roleystone and Lake Clifton, whilst rejoicing at being able to give financial assistance to these communities.

We are always continuing to support our local sporting groups, fire brigades, new Toodyay radio station, our school, our aged,

our youth and even involvement in our wonderful new Christmas street lights.

With a wonderful sense of pride and achievement we, as a community bank, can say, "Thank you for your continued support that allows us to continually support you, our community. In our 11 years, we have put back in excess of \$370,000 to local groups."



Piggy helps out at a Junior cricket match

Men's Sheds Unite

FOLLOWING the devastating fire of December 2009, the Toodyay Men's Shed received some significant donations to pass on to people who were in need.

A 'Loan Resource Facility' was created with funds provided by The Real Estate Institute of Western Australia that went towards the purchase of equipment such as scaffolding etc which complimented the enormous donation of tools by Makita Australia, Bunnings Warehouse and others. All this has been utilised by some of those in need of assistance in the rehabilitation of homes and infrastructure lost in that horrific event.

It is now twelve months on and the call on that resource has almost come to an end. The Management Committee of Toodyay Men's Shed, at its February meeting, resolved to offer to the Men's Sheds of York and Northam whose areas have endured massive damage and destruction during recent storms the custody of that 'Resource' to be split between them. Both those organisations indicated an enthusiastic and grateful acceptance of the proposal.

The Northam and York Men's Sheds Executives joined with Toodyay Men's Shed at its SHED, on Saturday 25 February for a breakfast and the transfer of 'custody' of the tools and equipment. The signing of formal documents was a momentous event and tinged with a lot of emotion.

President Bob Sims of the Northam Shed and President David Lawn of the York Shed, both expressed that they were overwhelmed

by the gesture from the Toodyay Men's Shed, and assured Chairman Jeff Roberts and his committee of Toodyay Men's Shed that the 'Resource' would certainly be put to good use for the benefit of those in their region who have been impacted by the recent storms.

Chairman of Toodyay Men's Shed, Jeff Roberts, recently toured the areas of Northam and York that had suffered severe damage and saw the evidence of the loss of infrastructure and damage to dwellings. He said that it was fitting that the good work of Men's Sheds can be continued and that a collective effort of cooperation can only benefit the regions at large. He suggested that a get together of all the SHEDS in the 'Avon Arc' (that is six or seven) should take place



Northam President, Bob Sims, Toodyay Chairman, Jeff Roberts and York President, David Lorne.

as soon as it can be arranged for problem solving, good fellowship and learning from each other.

New Veterinarians in Toodyay

HEARTLANDS Veterinary Hospital Toodyay is happy to announce the reopening of the local veterinary practice formerly known as Avon Valley Veterinary Clinic.

Dr Zoe Chatfield and Dr Tracey Thornton will be frequenting the practice along with Dr Candice Baker and Dr Natalie Ulrich. They are a highly skilled team servicing

both small and large animals in Toodyay, York, Brookton and surrounding areas.

The clinic opening hours are 8.30am – 5.30pm, Monday to Friday; 9am – 12noon on Saturdays. They have a 24hr Emergency Service – Phone 9574 5055.

They have full medical records of all clients and patients of Avon Valley Vet and are looking forward to meeting everyone.



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Fly on the Wall

Peter Robinson

THE Medical Centre became the centre of attention at the March ordinary meeting of Council. Question time had residents asking some very direct questions about the medical centre which were clearly answered. However, the issue of the medical centre didn't come up on the agenda until 'Matters of an Urgent Nature' at the end of the meeting, so I will cover that later.

175th Celebrations

The first item on the agenda was to do with funding for organisations and groups that intend to conduct 175th events this year. The steering group, chaired by Cr Prater, presented a list of the groups involved and the amount each group was requesting. The steering group has the details of what each group intend doing and what the funds are to be used for. The Council accepted the recommendation.

Morangup Shed

At the previous Council meeting, a building application for a shed on a property in Morangup was rejected because of size. The proponent has come back with a proposal for a smaller shed and just one sea container. This time the plans were approved. For some unexplained reason the sea container has to be painted an 'earth tone' even though it is 130 metres from the road, housed under a lean-to of the shed which will be pale eucalypt colorbond.

3-6 Dogs

I don't normally comment on applications for a third dog but this one has some twists and turns. However, it was eventually allowed, but for a six month trial period. A bit like probation, if there are no problems in the ensuing six months, then the permission becomes permanent. It is good to see Councillors come up with a fair and reasonable alternative to an Officer's recommendation.

Post Office Signage

Following a couple of other recommendations, we came to one concerning signage at the new Post Office.

The registered Australia Post corporate signs breach the Central Toodyay Heritage Area requirements in one aspect: the area of the sign which is business logo and corporate colour is 7% greater than permitted. Nobody would see that small amount of difference when walking or driving by. There was of course only one possible outcome: the signs are to be erected. However for at least 3 weeks, visitors to Toodyay have had no idea where the Post Office is.

I am reliably informed that consideration was given to making Australia Post change the colour of the signs, maybe to the mission brown that everything else in the main street is coloured. In itself the signs are only a small issue but it is indicative of the micro management that is coming out of the Planning and Development Department. Everyone I have spoken to since the meeting has thought it a joke or shaken their head in disbelief. Having to paint (once again mission brown) sea containers that are located in properties 20 kilometres or more from town is another example.

Despite the fact that we have a new supermarket, we are losing business

people and entrepreneurs from the town. The reasons need to be investigated and addressed.

Sea Container

You wouldn't believe it but the next recommendation concerned another sea container. This one needed approval because, for practical reasons, it can only be 26 metres from the road frontage instead of the required 30 metres, even though it is behind the building line of the house. The interesting thing here is once again it has to be painted an earth tone even though there is considerable vegetation along both road frontages of this corner block which would assist in the screening of the sea container. So, why an earth tone? Why not eucalypt green? In fact why does it have to be painted at all?

Basketball Court Lights

The Council will support an application to the department of Sport and Recreation for funding to install lighting at the high school basketball courts. This will enable local clubs to use the courts after school hours for training. The Shire will contribute approximately \$31,000 towards the project as our 2/3rd share of the cost.

Skate Park

The new skate park in Duidgee Park will be officially opened on Saturday 9 April as part of National Youth Week (1 - 10 April). The Shire has allocated \$5,000 from the Dry Season Assistance Grant towards making this a great youth focus day. Many people have had youth needs high on their wish list for some time so it is hoped that there is a good turnout on the day.

Emergency Management

The Shire has adopted and endorsed the draft Local Emergency Management Arrangements and the draft Local Recovery Management Arrangements. These documents now fulfil the Council's legislative requirements under the Emergency Management Act of 2005. The sterling efforts of Ranger Knapp were recognised by Councillors.

Emergency Services Manager

The Shire is negotiating with FESA and the Shire of Goomalling to establish a joint venture Community Emergency Services Manager. It is intended that Toodyay 'host' the Manager and provide the person with a vehicle. We have a spare vehicle in our fleet apparently. The other costs of employment are to be shared, 70% FESA, 15% Goomalling and 15% Toodyay.

Medical Centre

We then came to the great Medical Centre debate. Cr Larkin moved an amended motion that a meeting be arranged, as a matter of priority, between all elected members and representatives of the Medical Centre. This was passed unanimously.

Cr Somers then moved that, in the interim, as a gesture of goodwill, Council waive the second quarter lease payment of just over \$7,000. This motion was extensively debated with many good points raised.

This is an emotive issue. The availability of medical services is a very important and basic need. Without this service Toodyay will go backwards even faster. Even though July 2011 is not far away when Dr. Banerjee leaves, there are a whole raft of points that need clarification, discussion and compromise. Provided everyone goes into this subject with a clear head and a focus on

what is best for the community then we have a good chance of obtaining a satisfactory outcome. I fear there are some closed minds with locked in positions.

Please everyone show some goodwill and leadership.

Acting CEO

Following this meeting there was a short committee meeting (behind closed doors). This was followed by a Special Council Meeting to appoint Trevor Harkin as our Acting CEO. Welcome to Trevor. Thanks are also expressed to Clem Kerp (Goomalling CEO) who stood in for Simon Fraser for two weeks, doing a half day each day for that time.

New Policy for Rural Planning

THE Western Australian Planning Commission recently released the review of the State Planning Policy 2.5 (Land Use Planning in Rural Areas) and Development Control Policy 3.4 (Subdivision of Rural Land) for public comment.

Member for the Agricultural Region, Mr Philip Gardiner, said, "These two policy documents are the guidelines for all rural land subdivision development in Western Australia, particularly for land zoned for rural or agricultural purposes in a local or regional planning scheme or land zoned or proposed for rural living land uses. The public comment time is when members of the public and Local Government bodies can influence the final document.

"The new Control Policy 3.4 is friendlier to farmers and rural landowners and includes several changes that will make the rural subdivision process more user friendly and understandable, working to keep rural communities together," he said.

Mr Gardiner urges local government and rural landholders to read the document and make comment.

The documents are available on the Western Australian Planning Commission website at www.planning.wa.gov.au. Go to the Plans and Policies tab and down to public comment and then down to WA Planning Commission rural policies. The policies themselves, address and email address for comment is listed on this page.

The closing date for public comment is 27 May 2011.



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Toodyay Enjoys World Class Recital

WAMO! West Australian Mandolin Orchestra

Milton A Baxter

THOSE music lovers who did not, or could not, attend the performance of "The West Australian Mandolin Orchestra", held at the air conditioned Toodyay Memorial Hall, on Sunday 13 March at 3pm are certainly poorer for their absence.

Conductor, Robert Schulz, and his 23 musicians, who outnumbered the paying audience, provided an afternoon's entertainment that was quite remarkable. The scope and range of the offerings left nothing to be desired.

Originally the concert was destined for Northam but owing to the disrepair of the town hall, caused during the recent storm, a last minute substitute location was made and Toodyay was nominated. An advertisement was inserted in "The Toodyay Herald" of last month, with the result that we (those present) were the recipients of a wonderful demonstration by the more than capable group of musicians and their instruments, with 15 mandolins and a 5-piece mandola section, backed by 3 guitars. There was also featured an accordion and a truly unique wind instrument, played by their youngest member of the day.

The entire programme was designed to showcase the full gamut of the skills of the ensemble from instrumental to vocal.

At the conclusion of the concert, the applause for the entertainment was as though the hall was completely filled. Let's hope that, if the orchestra sees its way clear to return at a not too distant date, the patronage will indeed be commensurate with the standard of what these artistes provided.

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St John Ambulance

Karen Jacomelli

AS short as the month of February is, so too is this month's column.

The statistics for February revealed that the crews responded to 1 trauma, 20 medical and 6 cardiac calls. 21 callouts were dealt with by Toodyay covering a total of 2259kms and 6 callouts were dealt with by Morangup covering a total of 923kms. Morangup is pressing on in its endeavours to establish better facilities in their patch and hopefully more will be reported in some future edition.

Without the ongoing support from the Toodyay community, we would have difficulty meeting some costs expected to come from our sub centre. For example, uniforms are a local responsibility so, when the uniform was changed, we were required to bear the cost. Without the community's support, Toodyay crews would not have the new uniforms or be in the process of outfitting Bolgart and Morangup. Special thanks go to our staunch supporters and extra thanks go to the extra support provided by the local Op Shop, Miniature Rail, Lions and the Xmas trolley raffle.

Pictured wearing the new uniforms are Jaap, Mike, Pam and Fletch. As always, I prefer to take the photos rather than appear in them.

We would like to wish Jaap a speedy recovery with his ongoing back problem.



Jaap Zoon, Mike Irvine, Pam Tennant and Wayne Fletcher modelling the new uniforms. Photo Karen Jacomelli

Police Beat

Geoff Dickson
OIC, Toodyay Police Station

OFFICERS at the Toodyay Police Station tell me that there is still some degree of uncertainty amongst local drivers about the change in requirement for vehicles to display a registration sticker.

As you may all be aware, registration stickers are now no longer required and are not sent out with your vehicle registration renewals. Drivers now must monitor their expiry dates (like you do for firearm's licences, driver's licence renewals) to ensure that they do not allow their vehicle licence to expire.

A handy tip is to write your expiry in a diary, your mobile phones' calendar and your computers' calendar so you don't forget. You can always check the status of your vehicle licence by going online and visiting <http://www.transport.wa.gov.au/licensing/20382.asp>

Whilst you are at the Transport website, take the time to check your driver's licence as well to make sure that it is current or not under Fines Suspension.

Police are seeing a slight increase in graffiti-based vandalism in the Toodyay townsite. The cost to the community is counted in a dollar value and an impact on the general décor of our lovely historic townsite. I encourage anyone that sees graffiti being created to report it to Police or Crime Stoppers on the numbers listed below.

Further, as a direct message to parents and caregivers of youth in our community, please take an interest in what articles your children carry, particularly marker pens, paint pens and aerosol cans. Look at their hands for paint or pen staining, be inquisitive and ask questions as to why they need these items, as carriage of certain graffiti items can be against the law.

Police are looking for witnesses to a house fire on Church Gully Road, Coondle, on Tuesday 22 February 2011. If you saw anything suspicious or can provide information that could assist Police with inquiries, please call Toodyay Police 9574 9555 or Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000.

With regard to policing our local roads, Toodyay Police have been concentrating their efforts on several notorious roads within our Shire, particularly Julimar Road. Julimar Road has a history of serious and fatal traffic crashes which lead us to extra enforcement targeting this area.

Enforcing speed has been a particular focus for Julimar Road with many vehicles detected well in excess of the speed limit, particularly in the 80 km/h speed zoned area. Our local patrols include mobile radar and stationary laser actions supported by visits by our District Speed Camera. **Please slow down and save lives.**

Crime Statistics for the Avon Valley from February 24 to March 30.

Northam:

10 assaults, 9 burglaries, 24 cases of damage, 17 cases of stealing and 1 motor vehicle theft.

Northam police are looking for the offenders responsible for the damage and graffiti offences around town as well as a stolen 14 carat white gold set of earrings (slightly bigger than 10 cent coin) with 3 carat yellow diamonds (in a small 5cm square red box), a 78cm long (double) Italian gold, very fine, yellow and white gold oval pendant and a green/yellow "Hussy" 26 inch mountain bike.

Toodyay:

2 assaults, 1 burglary and 1 case of damage.

York:

4 assaults, 3 burglaries, 6 cases of damage and 4 cases of stealing.

York police are looking for two stolen Apple iPhone 4 mobile phones.

Local Police are also concerned about the number of juveniles in possession of sling shots or gings. A ging is a prohibited weapon as defined under Schedule 1 of the Weapons Regulations 1999.

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

Toodyay Community Safety and Crime Prevention

Compiled by Allen Clabaugh

THE Toodyay Safety and Crime Prevention (TCSCP) committee has elected a new chairman, Allen Clabaugh, to take over from Barry Vose, who has retired from the Bendigo Bank and from the TCSCP committee. The committee reviewed the final draft of its proposed Rules of Association (constitution) and is now submitting its constitution for approval. This is the next step in becoming an incorporated organisation, a process that will enable the committee to apply for the funding of large projects.

The Office of Crime Prevention has awarded the TCSCP committee a grant of \$22,000 and the committee is collaborating with the Shire of Toodyay in order to determine the most effective use of these funds.

Installation of security cameras throughout the town is proceeding and a successful grant application by the Shire has increased the number of camera locations. Signage is being erected to ensure people are aware that they may be recorded undertaking unlawful activities, and this is particularly targeted at graffiti and other forms of anti-social behaviour. Further initiatives from the TCSCP Plan will be developed over the next few months. These include a campaign to urge community involvement with Neighbourhood Watch Rural, and to initiate some 'safer roads' initiatives (like the reduction of the current 110km/h speed limit in most rural subdivisions).

If you are interested in joining the Neighbourhood Watch Rural sub-committee or helping to establish a local 'RoadWise' sub-committee, please contact the Secretary, Wayne Clarke, on 6364 3609 or email toodyaycscpc@westnet.com.au.

Toodyay Central Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Desraé Clarke

ALTHOUGH our Captain, Kevin Hug, had initially said the Brigade had had a quiet month, the night before our proposed General Meeting, on Tuesday 22 March, was anything but quiet!

36mm to 40mm, plus, rain fell in a very short time and involved a considerable Central area. Our team, plus Brigades throughout our Shire, responded very, very well and need to be congratulated on the hours of work that resulted. It was an amazing event! Commencing with constant lightning, at all angles of the sky, followed by fire reports – then the pelting rain! Creeks flooded, roads damaged, two houses de-roofed, trees down, rocks and large rubble, sand and gravel on the flooded roads – a terrifying night for many! The maelstrom resulted in an incredible display of teamwork from our fire brigade volunteers, Fire and Rescue teams, Police, Fire and Emergency Services, State Emergency Services and heavy equipment volunteers who are members of our community.

Seven of our Brigade members attended an in-house training on 10 March when vehicle checks were conducted together with familiarisation of equipment. On 13 March three units and five members attended Julimar for a joint training session with the covering of the basics of the new radios. Thanks Brent! The next in-house training was held on 24 March with Jason Newman. Julimar Brigade member, Warren Hall, has transferred to Central –Welcome, Warren!

YOGA

Monday 6pm ~ Friday 9am
Toodyay Community Centre

9574 4184

April's training schedule:

Sunday 10 April – 0915hrs joint Brigade training at the Fire and Emergency Services Centre, Stirling Terrace, Toodyay.

Friday 15 April – 1800hrs at FESA Northam. Training to lead into Structural Fire Fighting on Saturday 16.

Saturday 16 April – 0800hrs Structural Fire Fighting till approximately 1600hrs.

Members interested in the above training (or if you know of any new interested members) or regular fortnightly Thursday evening training, please contact Captain, Kevin Hug, 9574 2612 (mobile 0418 932 515) or Mick Giles, Training Officer, (mobile 0417 954 298). Assistance from senior Brigade members much appreciated.

Those members who missed the showing of the FESA-produced DVD, 'Aware Assess Address,' that addresses the Health Safety Welfare guide to managing heat illness, smoke and fatigue, may sign for and borrow this excellent documentary. It has been extremely well put together with fire fighting personnel included in all areas.

A Captains' Meeting was held to discuss the idea of the creation of small 'bushfire ready awareness groups' within the Shire. The suggestion is to encourage people, not members, of a brigade to be more aware of fire risk and what they can do in time of fire.

Remember training dates as above and, if attending, please contact Kevin or Mick ASAP!

General Meetings of the Brigade are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month commencing 7.30pm at the Fire and Emergency Services Centre, Stirling Terrace, Toodyay with the next meeting Tuesday 26 April. New members are made very welcome. Please come along to the next training session (every fortnight on a Thursday evening) or the General Meeting. Enquiries may be made to Captain, Kevin Hug 9574 2612, or Secretary, Wayne Clarke 6364 3609.

Coondle-Nunile Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Kerry Gregory

DESPITE the continuing heat and dry conditions, we are thankful there have been very few incidents of fires since last month. The inevitable lightning strikes have and will continue to occur as autumn progresses and hopefully we will be getting some rain from those thunderstorms. Crop burning has commenced in adjoining shires of Victoria Plains and Goomalling and, from some of the vantage points within our district, the smoke sometimes appears to be on our patch. Remember that such fires in our Shire may only be authorised by Fire Control Officers.

Our crews who turned out for the recent lightning strike fire on the evening of the mini storm on 21 March found themselves patrolling Dewars Pool Road for rather a prolonged period. This was due to the inundation of water, laden with swirling topsoil, half a metre deep in places preventing road access along the road at several locations. Well done guys! I've heard there were folk who saw your flashing red and blue lights and decided not to risk going down the road.

The Coondle 'Flamin Eros' recently won the Thursday night Corporate Bowls competition winning five nights out of six and were narrowly beaten for the overall winners of the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday competition. It was great fun and well done to all those who participated.

The next Brigade meeting on Saturday 9 April at the Coondle Fire Shed on Coondle West Road at 5pm will be the AGM for election of Office Bearers for the next twelve months. This will be followed by the usual AGM dinner. If you are intending to attend, please either RSVP on the sheet at the Shed or phone me on 9574 4470. This helps for catering as the Brigade provides the meat for this event. All members are urged to attend.

Locals are most welcome to join us at the Coondle Shed on Coondle West Drive any Friday evening from about 5pm onward. For any information on joining the Coondle Brigade or property fire prevention and safety, phone our Captain Peter Ruthven on 9574 2951 or one of our local Fire Control Officers. Contact details for Fire Control Officers are on page 11 in the Toodyay Community Directory.

FREE Chittering Landcare Centre

Saturday 2nd April 2011
9.00am – 3.00pm
at
Chittering Landcare Centre
Morning Tea &
Light Lunch Provided!

Fire Seminar - Are you at Risk?
How vulnerable are you to bush fire?
Burning the bush is not always the best management option. Presentations on fire behavior and risk management by Mr Ralph Smith FESA, Ms Penny Hussey and Mr Kevin Pollock from DEC, Senior Planner and Senior Ranger from Shire of Chittering & Mr Charlie Roth recovery coordinator for Toodyay fires.

Saturday 16th April 2011
9.00am – 1.30pm
at
Chittering Landcare Centre
Morning Tea &
Light Lunch Provided

Bushfire Survival - How to be prepared.
This is a workshop presented by experienced fire officers and landholders on protecting you and your home.

Don't lose your precious way of life.
Protect the natural value of your bush.

RSVP Essential for both - Ph: 9571 0400 or
chitteringlandcare@inet.net.au

emergency services

Bejoording Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Terri Spark

WE would like to thank everyone for the fact that there were few fire call outs for the last couple of months.

The Toodyay storm a few weeks ago saw us busy with the need to assist with road management and to set up night patrols in order to keep an eye out for lightning strike ignition points. At times like this, it really does highlight the forces of nature; it also provides a most spectacular display.

March has been a busy month with ongoing shed improvements and renovations. We are looking forward to being able to move in, sit back and look with pride at our new surroundings.

The new fire awareness packs are ready and are a vast improvement on the loose-leaf promotional fliers that we used to hand out. The Captain would like to recognise all the work that has gone into updating this form of information access to the public. It will continue to improve the way we and the community respond to emergency situations and definitely makes access to response procedures to everyone more effective. We always endeavour to promote and provide these packages to our community members so, if you have not received a package and are interested in receiving this package in its updated format, please don't hesitate to contact Lawrence or Barry.

With brainstorming we had also indicated an idea to initiate informative signs in the local community but these have had to be put on hold as we liaise with the Shire which appears to have a similar idea. Hopefully, action will not take too much more time in regards to this issue as we feel that fire ban restrictions being posted in the immediate communities will reduce fires being lit by those not cognisant of the

changing ban season.

Our last day of fire burn-over training took place on 27 March. Further training days will be worked out at the next meeting which will be held over the Easter break.

Coming up soon will be our annual Farmers' meeting which is a chance for all farmers in the area to catch up and find out any information they need for the upcoming harvest period. It also represents a great chance to grab our famous Bejoording burgers! The date of this meeting will be advised in a later issue.

If you have any enquires about upcoming events, please call Lawrence Hayward (9574 5106) or Barry Grey (9574 2149).

Signing off for now but remember to always be fire ready and if you see a fire, call 000.

Julimar Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Grant Scobie

APART from the wild weather on 21 March, we managed to make it through yet another month of the fire season without major incident.

Like all other Brigades, Julimar was out there on 21 March, initially on a fire call but, eventually, trying to protect drivers from plunging unprepared into a raging torrent that just happened to be crossing the road. The whole thing seemed laughable in the beginning. There we were hurrying to a fire and there the first on the scene were saying, "We can't see the fire. It's raining too hard!" What a joke! Rain! And then it hit.

After slowing to a crawl along Coondle West Road and realising that the left and right sides of the road had melded into one stretch of unknown, our unit decided to pull into the next entrance. This happened to be the Coondle-Nunile fire shed entrance so, dodging felled trees, the 1.4 (the 2.4 was off the road for a different reason - gearbox troubles - again) dropped in on the guys who were manning the shed. Unfortunately, the wind and rain were so strong, our guys

couldn't get out of our vehicle and the Coondle guys couldn't get the shed door open on one side or closed on the other.

Finally, the door was opened and we were welcomed into the blacked-out haven of a (almost) dry, safe shed. Many thanks to Coondle for their welcome; we joke and carry on about 'differences' and "my Brigade's better than your Brigade" but, when it comes down to it, we're all in it for the same reason; we're all part of a whole for our community.

Once the storm had abated a little, we were able to leave and take up positions at wash-overs and, later, to spend some time moving debris off the road. It seemed a bit strange that we signed up to fight fire but ended up fighting water, instead, and we did, at times feel a little out of our depth (pun intended!) But, from a firefighters point of view, we could certainly have been deeper in the proverbial had we had to attend the original fire.

Pictures posted on the PerthNow website (www.perthnow.com.au) show the original fire and it was a big 'un. Go to the website, select Photo Galleries and type 'Toodyay' into the search box. Choose 'Reader Pictures: Thunderstorm over Toodyay' and have a look. Whew! And we only had one truck.

The 2.4 is back in the shed, now, temporarily fixed until a new part arrives. Third and fifth gear are now available to drivers so they don't feel short changed any more.

Training for March was another shared event with our Central colleagues. A half-a-dozen or so popped over in their units to our shed and we ran an overview of the necessary functions of the new radios. They're complex little devils (the radios, not our Central colleagues - although...) and, although we haven't received any official training, our own Communications' Officer, Brent Wearmouth (the only one who'd read the manual), took us through ONLY the things we may need to use, at the moment, on the fire ground. Heck, that was enough, anyway. We parked vehicles fitted with the new jobbies around the place and played a few games and discovered a few

things about the size of fingers and hands and buttons (big fingers do not push some of the buttons easily while big hands push all of the buttons too easily - and at once.) Anyway, we all benefitted - just a shame so many didn't attend. This training will be repeated over the season break and we shall try to get all members au fait with the beastie.

Our AGM will have occurred on 2 April and our April training was on 3 April, after the deadline for the paper. May training TBA. The next General Meeting of the Brigade will be on 2 July at 5pm.

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

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

STOP PRESS

2 April 2011: THE AGM of the Julimar Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade came to a grinding halt following uncertainty as to the legalities of a nomination for the position of Captain of the Brigade.

One of those nominated was not a member of the Julimar Brigade but of another within in the Shire of Toodyay. An objection from the floor that the nominee was not a member of the Brigade brought about some discussion; it seemed that the directions as to the conduct of the meeting did not specifically identify such a possibility so it was unclear as to what could be done.

A motion was proposed that the meeting be postponed until such time as clarification could be sought. It was passed unanimously and the meeting closed prematurely.

The AGM will now take place at 6pm on Saturday 9 April.

TOODYAY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY INC

is seeking EXPRESSIONS of INTEREST from local **Community Groups, Community Organisations, Businesses** or **Individuals** for completion of the following tasks related to the Annual Agricultural Show to be held on

SATURDAY 15 OCTOBER 2011

Monetary remuneration for services provided will be donated to the groups or persons undertaking any of the activities listed below. Duty statements are available from the TAS Secretary on 9574 2465.

- Cleaning of Exhibition Hall/Lee Steere Pavilion, prior to Monday 10 October 2011
- Assisting with preparation/set up of facilities/equipment on Friday 14 October, 10am start **and** dismantling of facilities Sunday 16 October, 7am start.
- Grounds Caretakers, 10pm to 6am Friday 14 October and Saturday 15 October.
- Organisation/operation of the bar, Saturday 15 October, midday to 9pm.
- Organisation/manning of the gates, Saturday 15 October, 6am to 4.30pm.
- Operation of Youth Hall Kitchen (light snacks only), Saturday 15 October.
- Operation of the Tearooms – Saturday, 15 October and/or Sunday 16 October.
- Cleaning of grounds Sunday 16 October, from 7am.
- Cleaning of oval Sunday 16 October after 4pm (conclusion of Equestrian Events)
- External parking – down Toodyay/Connor/Jubilee Streets, Saturday 15 October, from 7am
- Pick up and set up of equipment for Equestrian Arena Friday 14 October. Dismantling and return of equipment. Removal of horse manure outside arena, Sunday 16 October, after 4pm.
- Gate Traffic Management Saturday 15 October, 4.30pm to 8pm

All interested groups/organisations/businesses or individuals are requested to submit their **EXPRESSIONS of INTEREST in WRITING** for any of the above tasks, including the proposed donation required. Please note, the lowest donation requested may not necessarily be accepted.

CLOSING DATE for EXPRESSIONS of INTEREST is 31 MAY, 2011.

All correspondence to : The Secretary, Toodyay Agricultural Society Inc, PO Box 362, Toodyay WA 6566

education

TDHS P&C News

WE will be having a Mother's Day raffle during May, with an opportunity for you to win a hand-made quilt, kindly donated by Liz Ferguson. The P&C would like to thank Liz for all her hard work with organising not only the quilt, but other raffle prizes as well. Liz and Stephen Ferguson are always strong (but quiet) supporters of TDHS and the P&C and their donations of goods and time are greatly appreciated.

Sports Faction Shirt

After a resoundingly positive response to our suggestion to update the sports faction shirt, the P&C is, this year, committed to getting it finalised. If you would like to help with organising the initial designs ready for presentation to the School Council and wider school community, please contact Pamela Barwood through the front office. We are looking at both shirt design and also new faction colours. Also we are hoping that the students will become involved in designing a logo for each faction.

Canteen

The canteen needs support to stay open five days a week. There is plenty of choice and, for less than \$2, you can buy a variety of snacks, including: yoghurts, yogos, fruit salad, cheesies, pikelets, popcorn and, of course, the ever popular slushies. Look out for the daily specials and help support the canteen, a service run by the P&C which aims to provide a range of healthy lunches and snacks at a reasonable price.

How many of you have used the canteen because you suddenly realise you have nothing in the house for the school lunches? How many of you use the canteen as a reward for good behaviour? How many of you are glad to have the canteen available because some days it's just easier to get a lunch order? Well, without your ongoing support, the canteen may not be there on the day that you need it! Regular, even small, purchases will help the P&C to keep providing you with this valuable service five days a week.

Canteen issues will be discussed in detail at the next P&C meeting, once we have an idea of the sales for Term 1. Decisions may be made at the next meeting regarding the

future of the canteen, so if you have any concerns or ideas, please come along.

The issue of reduced student numbers at TDHS has been discussed at various meetings, including the last P&C meeting. It will be discussed again at the next meeting where we will have some feedback from the exit surveys sent to the parents of students who have recently left the school. Please come along to the next P&C meeting if you have concerns about the decline in student numbers, or if you have ideas on promoting TDHS and retaining students.

Would you like someone in particular to attend a P&C meeting as a guest speaker, or do you have a particular topic which you would like discussed? If so, please talk to Owen Catto on 9574 4682, or Nyaree Lawler on 9574 4772.

Next P&C Meeting: 18 May at 7pm in the staffroom.

Toodyay Youthcare Council School Chaplaincy News

THANK you very much to everyone who supported our street stall in February, either by donating goods and raffle prizes or buying from our stall. It was a very successful weekend with takings of over \$600 from the stall and \$1039 from the raffle. The winners of the raffle were:

- 1st prize Adele Luke
- 2nd prize Peter Ruthven
- 3rd prize Mark Doran

Once again, thank you all very much and God Bless You.

Also, we would like to extend our most gracious appreciation for the support earlier on of the 'Friends of Toodyay Chaplaincy'. Response has been amazing. If you would like to become a supporter of the 'Friends of Toodyay Chaplaincy' for an annual donation of \$10 please contact Gina. The wonderful thing about being part of 'Friends of Toodyay Chaplaincy' is the delicious morning tea you are invited to at the end of the year.

We have six CRE Teachers at the moment. However, with the tight time-frame to be worked in, it would be wonderful if there

were some people who could help us out. Interested people can contact Millie Heath on 9574 2069. CRE is very rewarding, and often very entertaining.

Future Fundraisers include a Street Stall on 11 and 12 May, a Ball in August and Family Concert in September to name a few. Watch this space.

For more information, contact Moya Bruce (Secretary) or Gina Gulbransen (Treasurer) on 9584 0136.

Toodyay Cub Scouts Invade Goomalling

AN action-packed weekend was held recently at Scott and Gill Ways' property when they hosted the Toodyay Cub Scouts camp. Fourteen cubs, Team Leaders and Parent helpers pitched their tents and readied themselves for two days of raft building, canoeing, swimming and bush walking. (Many locals are familiar with Scott and Gill's property, commonly known as the 'Clay Pits')



The main focus of the weekend was the inaugural raft building challenge – girls verses boys. Utilising materials found on the property including wood, bamboo, rope and plastic 44 gallon drums, rafts were quickly formed under the supervision of two parent helpers – Scott for the boys and Sam for the girls. The end result was a meticulously crafted vessel for the boys and for the girls... well let's just say it looked a bit wonky. Initial testing of the rafts saw the boys sailing from one side of the lake to the other with ease, whereas the girls' raft had a few problems (namely sinking.) Once the girls managed to keep their raft afloat it was time

for 'The Great Raft Race'.

Both teams set off with amazing determination, the boys oozing confidence



and the girls shrieking at each other to go faster. After a great effort on both sides, the team that won the race was...the GIRLS! (Admittedly, they were helped by Scott's son, Jamie, who in true cub fashion lent a helping hand by swimming behind the girls raft and pushing it to victory.)

Once the race was over, all parties enjoyed lots of swimming and canoeing, exploring the bush land and observing the wildlife including the black swans, wild ducks, pobblebonk and motorbike frogs.

Before heading home on Sunday afternoon, the Cubs visited some of the Ways' friendly farm animals. They patted the miniature ponies and foals, stroked the pet sheep, checked out the alpacas and visited 'Egginborough Castle' and 'Duckingham Palace' where the geese, ducks and chooks reside.

Overall it was a fantastic weekend for everyone...and yes, Toodyay Cub Scouts will definitely be camping here again!

Many thanks to the Shire of Goomalling for helping out by lending life jackets for the weekend to keep the cubs safe and also to Des Van Wensveen for donating the plastic drums.



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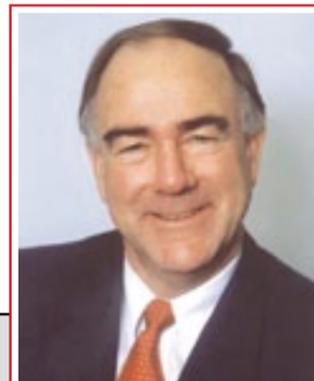
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Toodyay Kindergym



TOODYAY Kindergym has started for 2011. Welcome to all the new families who have joined us and we would also like to say farewell to the families who have started kindly and hope you are enjoying it. Thank you for all that you contributed over the years.



Kindergym runs on Fridays from 9.30am to 10.30am. The children enjoy a range of pre-kindergarten activities such as singing, shapes, colours, counting and lots of active gross motor skills. Each week we set up a circuit that they can negotiate at their own pace. So mums and dads bring your children along for an hour of movement and fun. We look forward to seeing you.

A very big thank you to the fantastic group of parents, who set up, run and pack up the circuit each week. Also thanks to Daphne who comes in each week and helps pack all the equipment away.

Please feel free to join us having fun in a casual and relaxed atmosphere every Friday (that school's on) down at the Sports Pavilion from 9.30am. Don't forget that your first session's free.

Enquiries, call Jodee (president) on 9574 4656.

Toodyay Playgroup & Baby Playgroup

ALL playgroup members are urged to come and join us for our Busy Bee to clean toys and premises on Thursday 14 April from 9.30am. Please bring a plate of food to share for morning tea.

Our next planned event will be at the Fun Station in Midland on Thursday 26 May at 10am. All current playgroup members are welcome to come along and have a fun day out.

Toodyay Playgroup is open on Tuesday

and Thursday from 9.30 - 11.30am at the Community Centre in Stirling Tce. New families are always welcome. Please come along; it's a great way to meet other parents, make new friends and allows little ones 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 Wednesday 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 per 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.

Local Teenager Wins State Film Award

ON 19 March, at the 24th WA Screen Awards, local teenager, Clayton Orgles, won the prestige award for 'The Best Secondary Film in WA'.

The Western Australian Screen Awards are a celebration of the industry's creativity, hard work and talent. Clayton's drama movie, 'The Crossroad', received the highest production standard mark ever seen in the history at his school, Swan Christian College. Clayton, who has lived in Toodyay his entire life, said, "I've always had a fascination with how movies were made and I have had an interest throughout my childhood. During the last six years, I began producing my own films."



Clayton has received many awards for several of his short films. Three years ago, his documentary, 'Two Planets, One Future', which he produced while at St. Joseph's school in Northam, was a finalist in the national competition Scinema and was also invited to enter into the international film festival

Academia Film Olomouc in the Czech Republic.

Clayton is a committed, passionate young film maker, now beginning production on his latest film to be shot around Toodyay. Clayton's short films can be viewed on his website 'Day of Chaos Films' (<http://dayofchaosfilms.tumblr.com/>).

This year he has begun studying Bachelor of Screen Production at Murdoch University and is aspiring to one day work on an Australian feature movie.

Toodyay Friendship Group

SUPPORT through friendship is here!

Yes, we are still meeting every Thursday morning at 10.30am in the Catholic Parish Hall and have decided to bring craft things to do while we chat and drink our cuppa.

Please join us, we'd love to see you. Contact Gina on 9584 0136 for further information..

Toodyay Spinners

Phil Lansell

SOME of our members attended a spin-in in Busselton; no doubt all had a good time. Share Table:- Felted mats, brown and white diagonal line in alpaca - Toppie; knitted patterned square in llama by Jan; a febrile brown and white child's vest and alpaca skein by Ange; knitted jumper (reddish) by Lois; knitted-felted mug cover and scissors covers felted by Elaine; skein alpaca by Glynne; skeins x 2 white merino - silk - grey merino and possum by Val; felted squares x 2 - 1 swirl pattern in purplish colours, 1 knitted middle and felted top and bottom in Llama by Jan; jumper (child's) in wool and commercial wool and little jumper the same for a teddy in white fleck by Margaret Rankin.

The Club meets every Wednesday from approx 9am - approximately 12midday, at Parkers Cottage in the Showgrounds. We also meet on the second Saturday of the month at the same time and place.

For further information, please contact the President, Carol Worrell, on 0407 429 047 or the Secretary, Phil Lansell, on 9574 2015.

Little Rascals

IN the month of March, our 'Little Rascals' enjoyed two very special visits.



Esther showed the children some Irish dancing and had them join in enthusiastically and Lani and Lauren from Toodyay Ballet School took a class which will be conducted every two months.



Please contact Coral on 9574 2922 for further details.

Toodyay Friends of the River

Greg Warburton

IT was all hands on deck for our March working bee which marked the launch of our campaign to develop Lloyd Reserve and the Seed orchard. The two chainsaws kindly donated to us by Vernice Pty Ltd last year will be put to good use with on-going removal of dead wood and seed orchard trees. Special thanks to Bethan Lloyd and Alan Knapp for on-site advice and planning for the upcoming hazard reduction burn and to Dave Street for operating the chainsaw.

TFOR was well represented at the Clean

Continued Page 14

Toodyay Ballet School

Everyone should have the opportunity to dance. Lots of parents will say to me that their child is never going to be a ballerina and so they see no value in taking lessons. There are so many advantages for children who enroll in ballet classes. Because the exercises are mostly symmetrical, using the same side of the body, and are based on basic gross motor skills, the children quickly learn to have more control and awareness over their bodies.

Children who study ballet develop co-ordination skills that assist them in all sorts of sporting and social activities. Classical ballet in particular is known for its physical enhancing capabilities relating to posture and core body strength. By continually being encouraged to use abdominal and lower back muscles, children develop good habits that allow the correct development of growing bodies and can assist in later life regarding old age complaints relating to incorrect posture.

The commitment needed to undertake classical ballet exams over a number of years is a good indication of the metal of a child and their ability to set and achieve life goals. These are impressive characteristics on your first job application, indicating the kind of self-discipline valued by would be employers.

Classes are offered in classical ballet, jazz, tap, and acrobatics.

Class prices range from \$7-\$10

Please contact us for an information package.

First class is free, so come along and try it!

Enquiries—Lani McGeady A(dip)CBA CICB cert iv
9574 4459

www.toodyayballetschool.com



THE FACTORY

Toodyay Baptist Church

Jesus Works

Sunday Service

10.30am

18 STIRLING TCE, 9574 4546

Toodyay Friends of the River continued from Page 13



Clean up Australia Day

Up Australia Day. Thank you to Kerry and the Shire for their support and organisation and to community members who turned up, especially the family from Northam who cleaned up at Pelham Reserve. It is disappointing though, that the community has shown so little interest in forming a Tidy Towns Committee. We certainly need one.

TFOR was delighted to receive funding from the Shire as a part of the 175th Year Community Grants. This will allow us to purchase and install signage at strategic locations along the river. The ageing and



Red Banks Pool, Lloyd Reserve

dated TFOR sign in Duidgee Park has been relocated and will soon feature the catchy wording and graphics decided on by the committee.

Our April meeting on Sunday 17 will commence at 8am at Duidgee Park and will have to include some more work in Lloyd reserve in preparation for the May burn. In the meantime, if any member can spare some time to continue with the wood piling, it would be appreciated. I'm hoping to have Greencorp working in there this month.

A reminder that River section reports are due this month!!

The Harper Brook Re-veg fence survived the flood relatively unscathed but major damage has occurred along Phillips Brook to some Rivercare projects.

A hearty welcome from the committee to Sarah. Our thoughts are with both Sarah and Wayne who both undergo surgery this month. We wish them a speedy recovery. Enquiries re TFOR Greg 0438 920 617, Robyn 9574 2578, Desrae 6364 3609.

The Toodyay Herald is aware that 'Toodyay Friends of the River' generally appears in the 'Environmental Matters' section of the paper. However, this month, the article had been misfiled and was discovered amongst stories of a different ilk.

We apologise to all if they found it hard to find this article.

Ed

Country Women's Association

ON Thursday 24 February, the Toodyay Branch of the CWA held its AGM. Officiating at the meeting was Mrs Enid Rose.

The meeting opened with reciting of the motto and the singing of the National Anthem.

The election of the new office bearers was held with no objections:

President	Mrs Vivien Street
Vice President	Mrs Rita Harrison
Secretary	Mrs Kathleen Haynes
Treasurer	Mrs Glenys Clabaugh

Last year was an extremely full and costly year with many upgrades to the hall both inside and out to comply with health and safety regulations. The provision of air conditioning by Dr R Walkey is proving very welcome.

Each year the CWA international body chooses a country for each branch to study. Last year was Poland; this year we are looking at life in Morocco. It is very interesting to learn about women's lives in different countries.

A lively discussion was held about the expo on 12 March. CWA has started a search to find "Who in Toodyay has the oldest CWA Cookbook?" I know mine is tattered and well used. It doesn't matter what condition it's in, please let us know if you have an old copy. There will be a prize for the winner.

Our next meeting is on 24 March (4th Thurs in the month) at 1.30pm. New members are more than welcome. We look forward to meeting you; you are just good friends we haven't met yet.

Expressions of Interest to Celebrate 175 Years of the Settlement of Toodyay

THE history of Toodyay's beginnings is well-written in Rica Erickson's 'Old Toodyay and Newcastle', an interesting, hard-covered publication available from both the Shire Office and the Information Centre. There are so many names, still heard in our



Shire, that were those of pioneers mentioned by Mrs Erickson.

Toodyay is celebrating 175 years of settlement of the area - 1836 to the present day. The celebrations will be occurring

throughout the year culminating with a: **Parade of Floats Depicting Our History: Saturday 1 October.**



Mac and Elsie Wroth and grandchildren during Toodyay's 150th Pioneer Trek, 11-13 April 1986. Photo Dawn Atwell (courtesy of Ray Paynter)

The 175th Anniversary Celebrations Committee would like to encourage community groups, children, sporting groups and community members to begin to organise floats now which depict the history of our Shire. Wearing period dress is always a lot of fun, especially for the children! Display machinery, old farm trucks, draught animals, carts, treadle sewing machines, household goods, hand wringers, washing boards, farm implements, and the list goes on and on. The committee welcomes your enquiries, suggestions and, most of all, your participation in this exciting event.

Enquiries may be directed to members of the Committee:

Cr John Prater	9574 2656
Len Leeder	9574 4343
Desrae Clarke	6364 3609

Toodyay 175th Year Celebration

Moondyne Festival Extravaganza Is Only One Month Away

THE Moondyne Festival brings Moondyne Joe and his various escapades back to life. Joe and his fellow bushrangers will once again run riot throughout the town of Toodyay, holding up various businesses and anyone else in their path. You will see Joe and his gang flaunting 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 entertainment throughout the day will include Fun Fair, Circus Workshop, Sheep Shearing, Log Chop, to mention but a few, and, of course, the lively street theatre encompassing the trials and tribulations of the infamous Moondyne Joe.

The Moondyne 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 Moondyne.

The Moondyne committee would like to thank all our sponsors for their fantastic support and donations and also our much appreciated local arts and crafts enthusiasts who have registered to join in this annual celebration by exhibiting and demonstrating their talents and wares on the day.

Those who haven't yet registered for a stall, time is running out so please contact us today.

We would also like to hear from anyone who is willing to volunteer their services on the day for parking, assisting stallholders and general maintenance and enquiries.

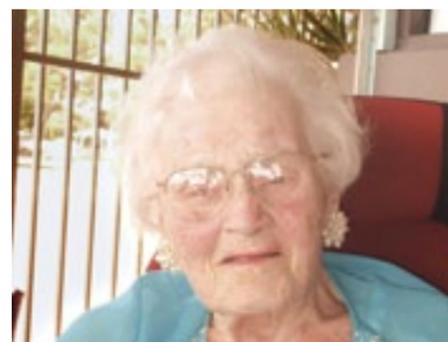
So come on everyone, dust off the old fancy dress togs and shake out the mothballs from your floozy costume. Together we can make Moondyne Festival 2011 bigger, better and more enjoyable than ever.

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!!

Almost a Century of History



ON 21 February, Helen Chitty celebrated her 97th birthday with her two daughters, Noreen Petrovich and Pamela Baskovich, son-in-law, Nikola Baskovich, great-grandson, Nikolas Brooks, and niece, Marlene Andrijich of Toodyay. The family took her for afternoon tea at Sunsets in Rockingham and enjoyed looking out over the ocean and having a cuppa.

Helen was a long time resident of Toodyay and lived firstly with her late husband, Phil Chitty's family at Glenmoore, Dewars Pool.

Helen and Phil were married in 1943 and moved around during the depression years, finally coming back to Toodyay and settling on the property know as 'Sandsprings' on the Julimar Road.

With their two daughters they moved to 'Brookdale' then 'Rose Valley' on the Harders Chitty Road.

Since her husband's death in 1965, Helen has travelled widely through Europe and England. She enjoyed her retirement years in Fremantle, Hamilton Hill then Armadale and, finally, Yangebup.

She completed a Bachelor of History at age 83 and until last year was the oldest student to complete a degree at Murdoch Uni.

Nowadays, Helen resides at Gracehaven Baptist Care in Rockingham and has fond memories of happy times spent in Toodyay.



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The Toodyay Historical Society

Beth Frayne
Secretary

THE Society sends its best wishes to Shire CEO Simon Fraser for a speedy recovery from his operations. Also our thoughts are with several of our members who have been having a 'rough trot' heath-wise in the last month or so. Thank you to all those members who have renewed their membership. We look forward to hearing from you if you haven't yet done so, this special 175th Anniversary Year.

We have had a busy month, which is nothing unusual. Well done to all concerned with organising and participating in the exciting Toodyay Business and Community Expo on 12 March. THS made some good contacts. Many thanks are due to THS members who staffed our stall. (I thought the CWA display was super! Lots of history there! Well done, Viv!) The Society was very pleased that Council approved the financial submissions from community groups for the 175th Anniversary Celebrations. Our submission for \$9,000 will go mainly towards display panels and photographic preparations for our Toodyay Pictures Historical Exhibition, but also for the reinstallation of the Nunyle Agricultural Hall memorial stone and the publication of The Long Toodyay Chronology, Part 3 (1951-2000). All these projects will result in physical works that will exist well into the future.

Recently, a lot of intellectual effort was put into nominations for this year's WA Heritage Awards. The Society has nominated our hard-working Vice President Robyn Taylor for the professional award category, as well as supplying letters of support for several nominations by the Shire. Fingers crossed! Four of our members will have attended an in-house Oral History Training Workshop in early April, run by OHAA trainer (and THS member) Doug Ayre. So our OH Co-ordinator Nina Paterson will soon have greater trained member support and we can start fighting over the use of our state-of-the-art digital recorder. We also have a new member who is skilled on OH interview transcribing, Full OH steam ahead!

The Society has become a member (it's free) of the Toodyay Visitor Centre, so you can read all about us on the TVS website. You may have noticed some of our members taking lots of pics (inside and out) of the old IGA and Post Office buildings. For once, we remembered to take photos before a major function change in our Main Street. This is an important archival function of local historical societies. Many thanks are due to the management of these businesses for allowing us this opportunity. Shots of the building of the new premises have also been captured. At our March business meeting, we also discussed attendance at the State History Conference at York, President's Len's 6PM radio interview and State Heritage Register Workshops.

Thirteen members enjoyed a hot February twilight excursion to St. Philip's Anglican Church, Culham. Many thanks to our 'tour guides' Marlene Andrijich and the Most Rev. Peter Bourne. It was the first time inside for some. THS supplied a short Chronology on this 1852 church as a thank you. We were very sorry to hear about the damage to the churchyard in the recent storm. The March excursion to Clackline, Mokine, Spencers Brook, Muresk and Burlong Pool, also attracted some 27 members and friends, although a few peeled off home and abroad after the splendid roast lunch at the Spencers

Brook Tavern (1885). Many thanks to our guides, members Don Carter and Len Leeder. We visited a pet cemetery, Clackline memorials, bridges and former railway platforms, a 1942 aircraft memorial, a private museum, a Muresk suspension bridge, the pub (with Len's railways talk) and beautiful Burlong Pool with dredge.

Next events: Our Annual General Meeting will be held on 10 April 2011 at 2pm at the CWA Hall, Stirling Terrace, Toodyay. This will be followed at 2.30pm by afternoon tea (members, please bring a plate) and an informal lecture, display and forum on Talking about the TAS (Toodyay Agricultural Society). All welcome (especially TAS members). We will also have a stall at the Moondyne Festival on 1 May. Members, please let Len know when you can help re the roster. Everyone else, do come and visit us!

Next general meeting: Wednesday, 20 April 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)

Toodyay Pictures – 175 Years Historical Photograph Exhibition

TOODYAY Memorial Hall will be filled with fascinating memories during the last week in September.

The Toodyay Historical Society will present a free exhibition of photographs telling the story of the town and district in the 175 years since the townsite of Toodyay was first declared at West Toodyay in 1836. The exhibition will run from 24 September to 2 October to coincide with the culmination of the town's 175th celebrations.

Council has approved a substantial grant from the Shire's 175th Anniversary funding to help make this a truly memorable exhibition.

The exhibition will include early drawings, photographs and movies illustrating daily life, Indigenous history, buildings, significant events, agricultural and commercial activities in the town and district of Toodyay from the 1800s right up to more recent times.



Can You Help?

We are asking you to help make this a very special Toodyay exhibition by looking through your collections for photographs that might add extra interest. We are not just looking for pictures from the 1800s, although previously unknown early photos would be very exciting. We would like to show Toodyay life right through the 20th Century as well, but our existing collections do not cover the period 1900-1970 as thoroughly as we would like.

Perhaps you have photographs, slides or home movies from that period showing things like farming activities, local industries

and businesses, sporting groups, school classes and teachers (preferably with names!), town celebrations and buildings before and after major renovations, to name but a few. Some more recent events after 1980 will be included, but our existing collections already cover that period quite well.

Please contact one of the people listed below if you have items that you would like to see considered for this exhibition. With your permission, we would make copies of suitable items and return the originals promptly. We may be able to assist in converting limited amounts of Super 8 and video movies to digital format on DVD if necessary. Closing date for submission of material is 30 June 2011.

Email: Jenny at twojay52@bigpond.com
Phone: Len on 9574 4343
Beth on 9574 5971

Toodyay Music Club

Jenny Edgecombe

March Activities

THIS month's audience had an unexpected bonus resulting from the large attendance at the February theme night. A number of members had 'leftovers', as Maurice dubbed them. We feasted handsomely on these new items that performers had held over to allow for the larger number of performers at the previous meeting.

The song that Maurice introduced in this manner was particularly suited to his voice, as he took the lead in singing 'How Can You Mend a Broken Heart?' accompanied by Peter and Moya and their ukuleles.

A tune that has been in my mind constantly since the March meeting is 'All My Life's a Circle', with Moya singing the lead vocal so sweetly, and beautiful harmonies by Eileen, Peter and Maurice. Our club has certainly been enriched in the last year by items from the 'Hills contingent', individually, as a group and in combination with a number of other club members. As an example, Eileen joined Jeanette later in the evening for a lovely rendition of 'The Long Yard'.

One of the enjoyable aspects of this club is the way in which local members and those who live outside the shire blend for performances. The group consisting of Allan and Spencer on guitar, Leila on

double bass, and Teddy on ukulele covers Toodyay, Bullsbrook and Morley! They combined particularly well this month in backing Spencer as he sang 'Don't Tell Momma I Was Drinkin''. Leila's double bass can usually be heard adding depth to other people's items, but this month Allan's guitar took a back seat to the bass when Leila produced the melody for an instrumental section when Allan sang the very popular 'Smile'.



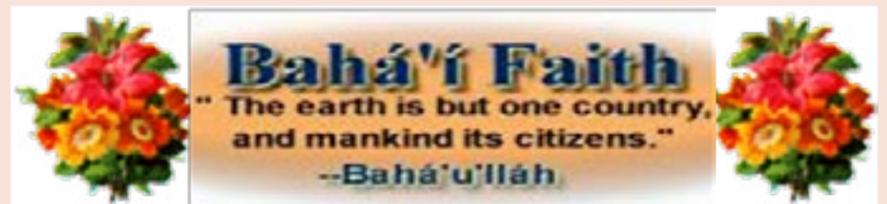
Members performing at EXPO

'Toodyay Pete' (as opposed to 'Hills Peter') brought out his banjo again this month, this time singing as he played 'Hush Little Baby', successfully clearing one more hurdle in the process of learning to play. After the supper break, Meg had us in stitches as she read her poem, about the adventures to be had on their regular trips, 'To Loiter in Toodyay Town', something many local residents will appreciate, where a few small errands can take an enjoyable half a day.

There were many other excellent performances during the evening, but I will finish this report with a line from the cheerful Scottish song 'Tak A Dram' that Joe sang to close the evening, 'Now the time has come to leave you, one more song before we go'.

Next Meeting: 7pm Friday 8 April. Any style of singing or instrumental performance is welcome, so long as it is 'acoustic'. Second Friday of each month at the CWA Hall. Further Information: Teddy or Spencer on 9574 4492.

The Toodyay Herald
Online
www.toodyayherald.com.au



THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

Abdu'l-Bahá, the Centre of the Covenant in the Baha'i Faith was asked, in the early years of the 20th Century, about the meaning of the Resurrection of Christ. Part of His answer is as follows:

The resurrections of the Divine Manifestations are not of the body. All Their states, Their conditions, Their acts, the things They have established, Their teachings, Their expressions, Their parables and Their instructions have a spiritual and divine signification....

Therefore, we say that the disciples were troubled and agitated after the martyrdom of Christ. The Reality of Christ, which signifies His teachings, His bounties, His perfections and His spiritual power, was hidden and concealed for two or three days after His martyrdom, and was not resplendent and manifest. No, rather it was lost, for the believers were few in number and were troubled and agitated. The Cause of Christ was like a lifeless body; and when after three days the disciples became assured and steadfast, and began to serve the Cause of Christ, and resolved to spread the divine teachings, putting His counsels into practice, and arising to serve Him, the Reality of Christ became resplendent and His bounty appeared; His religion found life; His teachings and His admonitions became evident and visible. In other words, the Cause of Christ was like a lifeless body until the life and the bounty of the Holy Spirit surrounded it. Such is the meaning of the resurrection of Christ, and this was a true resurrection. But as the clergy have neither understood the meaning of the Gospels nor comprehended the symbols, therefore, it has been said that religion is in contradiction to science, and science in opposition to religion, as, for example, this subject of the ascension of Christ with an elemental body to the visible heaven is contrary to the science of mathematics. But when the truth of this subject becomes clear, and the symbol is explained, science in no way contradicts it; but, on the contrary, science and the intelligence affirm it.

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

OPEN DAY

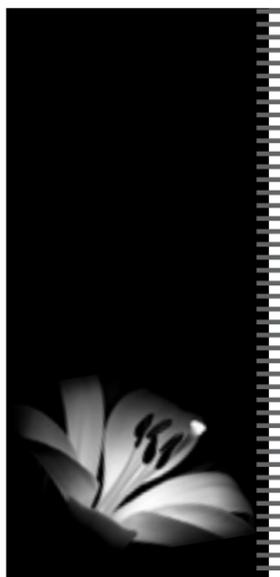
at

Ruth Lawford's Studio/Home in Toodyay
Saturday 30 April, 10am-2pm

Looking for a special gift for your mother on
MOTHERS DAY
or something to spoil yourself with?

Share a cuppa on our lovely verandah
and see other artists' work also for sale.

Lot 121 Whitfield Road (off Goomalling Road)
Toodyay Ph 9574 4695



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 St. 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

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 Butterfly 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 KINDERGYM

Kindergym Fridays (except school holidays), Toodyay Sports Pavilion. Contact: Jodee 9574 4656

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 9.30 - 10.30am Enquiries phone Felicity on 9574 4254.

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 February, May, August and November, 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 February, April, May, July, September (AGM) and November at 2pm at the Bowling Club. Contact John 9574 5681

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's Future in the Spotlight

THE talk on the streets of Toodyay is often about the direction the town is taking. Whether it be about access to services, business activity, community culture or the environment, we all have an opinion on the direction we should be taking and probably even more ideas about how to achieve it.

However, the Living Communities Toodyay group is keen to facilitate big and positive thinking in Toodyay and as such has organised an enjoyable and interactive evening for the community called 'Toodyay: 2020 Vision', to be held on 16 April at the CWA Hall at 6.30pm.

The evening is designed to allow attendees to explore ideas and creative thinking for our community but it's not about 'blue sky thinking'. A recent event in Goomalling has led to the establishment of a local cinema, local business voucher system and the planning for their very own community run market garden. Practical outcomes are expected!

"Toodyay has a formidable array of skills, expertise and knowledge, from the very young to the not so very young," says co-creator of the Living Communities concept, Greg Winning.

"The idea behind Toodyay: 2020 Vision, is to get the input of people involved in daily Toodyay life: students, business people, retirees, commuters, community groups, etc to come together and explore a positive future for Toodyay. How does this town see itself in relation to the outside world and why do we choose to live here? What will we want in future to make sure people still make the choice to want to be here?"

Greg is at pains to point out that the session is about co-operation and positivity.

"This is about exploration and creativity. Innovative towns are the most successful and this event is about promoting ideas, thinking 'can do' rather than finding excuses why we can't. We need to promote working together because we all want a community that functions."

He said that you need to attend if you have ideas and can see a positive future for Toodyay.

"What does a positive future Toodyay look like? What will we need to have and do to achieve that? Come along and help us find out."

The Living Communities Toodyay group recently organised and ran the highly successful Enterprise Expo at the Memorial Hall as a way of emphasising the roles businesses and community groups have in bringing our town together. This will be the second step in running the Living Communities development project in Toodyay.

For more information on 'Toodyay: 2020 Vision', email greg@livingcommunities.com.au or phone 0421 995 019.

Toodyay Miniature Railway

June Eastwood

APRIL will be 'clean up' time when the loco shed, carriages, engines and rolling stock will need to be rid of the summer's accumulation of dust and cobwebs. The track will need maintenance in places where the heat has warped lines. All leaves and debris will also need to be removed from track surrounds. The latter task in previous years meant hours of raking the entire 1.1km track. Thanks to modern inventions, an even better result is obtained with an electric blower operated by someone perched on Percy's bonnet with the electricity supplied by a generator towed on the works wagon behind.

The diesels will commence operation from Easter Saturday between 11am and 3pm, Sunday (Easter Day), 11am till 3pm, Monday (ANZAC Day), 1pm till 3pm, Tuesday (public holiday), 11am till 3pm. Wednesday will also be the usual 11am till 3pm school holiday schedule. Steam trains will have to wait till it rains before firing up.

Stan received an interesting call from the brother of the gentleman who built steamer 'Shandy'. From sketchy information we already had, we believed 'Shandy' was built in 1938 but it seems the gentleman built three similar engines. The 3rd was 'Shandy', built in the late 1940s. 'Shandy' has had several previous owners including the nephew of the builder who was a sugarcane engine driver who, unfortunately, fell from his cane engine and was killed.

The gentleman who rang will be visiting Toodyay later this year to renew acquaintance with 'Shandy'.

Toodyay Neighbourhood Watch

'Neighbours Looking after Neighbours'

Desraé Clarke

'MEET Your Neighbour Day', developed a few years ago, was the 'brainchild' of Andrew Heslop; this year it has been designated for Sunday, 27 March. (Note: It is not a 'get to know your neighbour' but a 'get to meet your neighbour'.)

One never knows when urgent assistance may be needed from a neighbour. A child may have an asthma attack, the family dog may have been bitten by a snake, the cattle may have gone wandering, or it could be smaller problems of a flat battery in the vehicle, a child needs collection from school, etc.

The Shire of Toodyay, with its wonderful country lifestyle, gives its residents space and privacy to live as they would wish without neighbours close by. However, it must also be remembered how important neighbours are in time of crisis.

Since we purchased our land in 1984, the Shire has suffered a number of catastrophes including burnt homes, severe accidents, the loss of our school from arson and a number of catastrophic fires. One hears such wonderful stories of 'neighbourliness' which is so important to maintain spirit following a crisis.

'Meet your Neighbour Day' on Sunday 27 March will have passed by the time this edition of the Herald has been distributed. However, don't be disillusioned – bake a cake and ask several neighbours in to have morning tea by leaving a note on the gate. When we had a 'Meet the Neighbour Day' recently, two new families were very pleased to meet those on surrounding properties, especially to say a friendly 'hello' when they pass by in town.

Toodyay Police	9574 9555
Crimestoppers	1800 333 000
Goodbye Graffiti	1800 44 22 55
Emergency	000
Australian Passport Information Office (in the event of a stolen Passport)	131 232

From the Pavilion Avon Wood Turners' Notes

Max J Heath
Convener

WHAT an interesting month we have had in Toodyay.

We got to the pavilion on Sunday 26 March to find the pavilion had had water through it, so started the day with a clean up. Our monthly meeting followed this.

There was not a lot to discuss this time and so it was a quick meeting. However, we did discuss the three people who are going to attend a demonstrators' course at Swan Wood Turners and the visit we plan to have with them this month.

One of their members, Mr Bob Nichols, will be demonstrating turning with an inlay. This is where one can join other types of wood so as it comes out inlaid or even have something like aluminium inlaid. It should be a good evening with them.

From now on our Sundays will start at 9am instead of 8am.

Our club project is still progressing nicely but Bill Beswick is having some trouble with the wheel. If I know Bill, he will get around the problem somehow.

We have also had offers of timber that we need to attend to. I don't know where the time goes, but it certainly goes.

We recently had a trip to Albany and I noticed that there are still a lot of split Jarrah posts in fences down that way and wished that I could get onto some of those, as they are interesting turning.

Anyway that's about all from the pavilion at the moment. Please remember that, if you would like some information on the Wood Turners, phone me, Max Heath, on 9574 2069 or come to the shed on Sunday Mornings any time after 9am.

AVAS News

Sense of Being

AVAS appeals to ALL community groups: sport clubs, men's sheds, meal on wheels, youth clubs, schools, Scouts and Girl Guides, any organisation, all citizens of the Avon Valley. Be a part of our April photographic exhibition by bringing in your photos. Pick up the camera and express your feelings about environment, sense of place and belonging. Downloads from mobiles can be done at AVAS. The exhibition will be open throughout April. Show us your Avon Valley.

Gala Evening

Avon Valley Arts will be presenting the prestigious Northam Art Prize this year with a gala evening for the opening and presentations of awards on 5 June at 5pm. Venue to be advised. Entry forms and fees are due by 18 May and artworks to be handed in 27 May. Entry forms are now available from AVAS.

Eisteddfod 2011 Festival

AVAS invites entrants from the Avon Valley & Districts to participate in the Eisteddfod 2011 Festival. The Eisteddfod Week begins Sunday 14 August and the Eisteddfod 2011 Festival Concert starts at 2pm Sunday 21 August. Schedules available from AVAS and entries close 4pm Friday 3 June.

Shape

SHAPE is back! We have school holiday workshops at the Old Girl's School from 2 May through to 6th May. Sessions twice daily 10am - 12 noon and 1pm - 3pm. Still only \$5 per session, information on activities available soon.

Exhibitions

Arts Toodyay Moodyne Exhibition

Sunday 1st May
The theme is WAGGAS & WONDERS, a display of a variety of art forms of yesteryear. It has the theme of wearable or usable art which includes things like waggas (quilts from old suiting) decoupage, jewellery, beading, bread dough, etc.

Entry forms are available from Nuala at LJ Hooker or phone John on 9574 4664 and we can send one to you.

We are looking forward to displaying your entries.

Easter Services

St John the Baptist Catholic Church

Maundy Thursday	21 April	6pm
Good Friday	22 April	
Stations of the Cross		10am
Passion of the Lord		3pm
Holy Saturday		
Vigil Ceremonies	23 April	5.30pm
Easter Sunday	24 April	
Mass (Friars)		10am

St Stephens Anglican Church

Maundy Thursday	21 April	7.30pm
Good Friday	22 April	8am
Easter Sunday	24 April	10am

Toodyay Baptist Church

Easter Sunday	24 April	10.30am
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Toodyay Christian Fellowship

Easter Sunday	24 April	9.30am
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Jehovah's Witnesses

	17 April	7.30pm
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ANZAC Day

Monday 25 April

Dawn Service		
ANZAC Pk War Memorial		6am
March		
Stirling Tce (Memorial Hall) to War Memorial		10.30am
Main Service		
ANZAC Pk War Memorial		11am

Thank You

Toodyay Red Cross Unit wishes to thank all who supported our Red Cross Street Appeal and Raffle.

The Street Appeal raised \$366.15 while the Raffle raised a further \$607.95 with a grand total of \$974.10.

Raffle winners were:

1 st Prize	A36	Cheryl
2 nd Prize	A73	Stella
3 rd Prize	B19	G Tyler

Congratulations to all winners.

Annual General Meetings

Toodyay Youthcare Council AGM

School Chaplaincy Committee, 4 May, 2011 at 2pm at Toodyay District High School in the staff room. To be followed by the Ordinary Meeting.

Moya Bruce
Secretary

The Toodyay Historical Society (Inc.) will hold its AGM on 10 April 2011 at 2pm at the CWA Hall, Stirling Terrace, Toodyay. Followed by afternoon tea (members, please bring a plate) and an informal lecture, display and forum on Talking about the TAS (Toodyay Agricultural Society). All welcome (especially TAS members). Contact Beth Frayne (9574 5971) or Len Leeder (9574 4343)

The Annual General Meeting of the **Toodyay Garden Club Inc** will be held on Thursday 14 April 2011 at the CWA Hall at 11am.

We look forward to seeing you there

Special General Meetings

Toodyay Chamber of Commerce - Moving Forward

Notice to all members: A special general meeting will be held on Wednesday 11 May 2011 at 6.30pm at Uncle Vinnie's Restaurant.

The purpose of the meeting is to elect new committee members as a result of resignations by current committee members.

Exciting new initiatives will also be tabled at the meeting.

New members are welcome to attend.

For further information please contact Barbara Mottershaw, Secretary, on 9627 5277

The Toodyay Ratepayers & Residents Association Inc has been inactive in recent times.

A meeting of this Association will be held on 7 May 2011 to discuss whether:

1. There is a need or desire to continue the activities of the Association;
2. If so, what activities it should undertake and what role it should play in the Toodyay community;
3. If necessary, to elect office bearers;
4. If it is decided there is no desire or willingness for its continued operation, then to pass a special resolution for it to be wound up.

This meeting, which will incorporate the Annual General Meeting, will be held in St Stephens Anglican Church Hall at 10am on 7 May 2011.

Philip Perkins
Vice President

General Notices

2Jers

Our next Casino trip will be on Monday 9 May **NOT 16 May**. For more information, phone Ida on 9574 2858.

Toodyay Community Safety and Crime Prevention Association

NOTICE is hereby given that Wayne Campbell Clarke of 129 Stirlingia Drive Toodyay, being fully authorised by the above named association intends to apply to the Commissioner for Consumer Protection on or after 12 April 2011 for incorporation of the Toodyay Community Safety and Crime Prevention Association.

The association is formed for the purpose of providing a forum in Toodyay for community safety and crime prevention, and to oversee the implementation of the Toodyay Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan as endorsed by the Office of Crime Prevention.

Signed Wayne C Clarke

The Toodyay Football Club

The Toodyay Football Club is applying for a Club – Restricted Licence. This licence allows us to sell liquor and will cover all events and matches for the year, decreasing administrative duties which would occur for Occasional Licences for each event.

As a club we believe that this is the right course of action which will benefit not only the club but you, the residents, who live in the area.

With this Licence we feel we will be able to have better trained and accountable staff which ultimately means a more responsible service of alcohol reducing the risk of anti-social and violent behaviour whilst on or

after patrons leave the premises.

We are willing to co-operate with the local police, licensing authorities and the Toodyay Liquor Accord in all incidents that may occur and follow any recommendations, policies and guidelines we may be required to adhere to. We have discussed and implemented fundraising events to promote and provide a social environment for members and players of the club whilst being aware of our duty of care to members and the general public and to you, the residents of Toodyay.

Any sound from events we have throughout the year will be during an approved time-frame and in most instances will be until 12am. We will keep noise at a respectable level.

The clubs stance on any anti-social or violent behaviour is a removal of the player from the club and inline with the Liquor Accord. This regulation will apply to a member or a spectator equally.

Any objections to our application can be lodged with the Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor by 30 April 2011. Our submission can be viewed at the Toodyay Sports Pavilion.

Vinnies Toodyay

Your local Vinnies in Stirling Terrace is now open on a Monday. Come up and pay us a visit.

We now have new stock in for your winter needs.

We are looking for new volunteers to join our friendly team. Phone Jackie on 9574 2529.

Birthdays

Rob Welburn	Damien Orr
Daryl Orr	Steve Hide
Raelene Fleay	Michael McKone
Damien Higgins	Steve Cullen
Murray Hasson	Charlotte Hunter
Julia Robinson	Angela Johnson
Eryn Louise Evans	Renee Watson
Tim Downie	Carolyn Downie
Mark Taylor	Ben Sloper
Nicholas Nelmes	Elysha Watts
Janine Evans	Kiah Connor
Evelyn Eddy	Carole Plackett

Mary Bendtsen

Anniversaries

Michelle & Les Sloper

To support Toodyay's 175th Birthday celebrations the Toodyay Junior Football Club with the assistance of the Shire the Toodyay is holding a FREE Community Event!

FREE Family Fun Outdoor Movie Event

TOODYAY SHOWGROUNDS
16 April 2011 3pm till late

Bring your blankets & chairs and come down for some great family fun! We will have 3 bouncy castles for all ages, AVATAR on the big screen and assorted food & drinks available.

This is a club fundraiser and an event held to assist our club in keeping your fees low, the lowest in the Avon Valley so please come and support the club for this great family event!

Football Registrations Available from
3 – 6pm

Free Bouncy Castles
Members' Merchandise Available
Food & Drinks Available

BAR OPEN

Contact Dave Flaherty 9574 4145,
Sharon Ferguson 9574 4402
or Michelle Haycock 0439 754 144

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F: 9622 5700

E: admin@wheatbeltclc.com.au

Arts Toodyay

Margot Watkins

THE last few months have been active, with workshops and displays, albeit in all that horrid heat.

A marvellous pastels workshop by Brian Aylward was packed with participants and interest and much praised. Some more people have joined up as a result. Thanks to the Shire who subsidised it and to Brian and organisers. We were very pleased also to receive a donation of an excellent fold up easel from Desraé Clarke. Many thanks to Desraé from us all. It will be very useful at our picnic deferred from last year...still awaiting clement weather!

In March there was a two-day workshop with Jackie McFarlane who was most helpful to everyone and generous with her advice and skills. This also was well-attended. Everyone worked hard and created some very special personal sculptural pieces, all unique and different. Many thanks are due also to Ruth who organised everything and accommodated Jackie over the weekend.

On the last weekend of March we had our artists' information and display day in the Courtyard, accompanied (separately!) by some excellent music by Anastasia Buettner on saxophone and Naomi Millett (classical guitar). This created a great ambience. Tables displayed tools and works in progress so visitors were able to see the processes involved in the making of a finished artwork. A good variety of mediums and methods was demonstrated. Visitor numbers were a little disappointing, perhaps evidence of the changing demographic due to the supermarket relocation. Hopefully people will adapt favourably and 'freerange' more in future.

Coming up in April on Saturday 30th is another of Ruth's Open days. You will be able to find a special gift in time for Mother's day and the chance to drop some hints if you want something too! There will be art, jewellery, vintage creations, kimonos and silk scarves, and many other items. Ring Ruth for details on 9574 4695

Also that weekend, of course, is the Moodyne Festival on Sunday when we will have our 'Waggas and Wonders' Exhibition in the CWA hall - only a month to go. Ring John on 9574 4664 for details of forms, closing dates etc and remember to visit on the day. See also the separate article.

Sculpture-by-the-Sea at Cottesloe was hugely popular this year with some wonderful and imaginative works on display. There were many highlights with only a few works somewhat hohum-ish. Local sculptor, Nic Compton's piece was certainly not hohum-ish. It was impressive and centrally displayed right there on the main beach area. I imagine it was made out of materials available locally such as jamwood and baling twine. Great work!

29/12 Toodyay Bushfire Projects

Robyn Taylor

SINCE our last report, some members have met with a community funding project officer at LotteryWest with a view to gaining sponsorship for the documenting of material that can create a lasting record of Toodyay's bushfire experience.

The documentation will embrace personal memories from those who would like to share their experiences, to an account of how the fire and its aftermath were managed. It will also comprise photographs, DVDs, oral histories and print media coverage. Importantly it will include a record of fire-damaged artefacts that have special significance to their owners. It is not intended that these artefacts should be donated or held in a central place. Rather, they will be recorded and photographed as part of a lasting record - a true community collection.

LotteryWest has expressed support for the project and we expect to submit a funding application soon.

A proposal is being put to the Shire Council to have the Bushfire Projects become a sub-committee of the Museum Advisory Committee and this will need to be agreed to before the funding submission can be lodged. An important part of this application will be to employ a suitably trained person to record material to a high museum standard. This will provide an excellent basis for potential future projects such as an exhibition, a publication, a permanent display or public artwork.

If you would like to become part of the projects' team, please contact Brian

Shepherd: b.shepherd@optusnet.com.au; or Robyn Taylor: rdtaylor@inet.net.au

An Exciting May Workshop

Watch this column in the May edition of the *Herald* for details of an opportunity to have your precious, much loved items assessed by professional conservators who will also advise on appropriate storage, conservation measures, and suitable conservation framing for artworks.

Led by well-known conservator and archival framer, Greg Manzie, of Glyde Galleries in Mosman Park, a team of leading WA conservators will visit Toodyay and donate their time for a day as their way of assisting survivors of the fires. Bring your fire-damaged items for this unique opportunity on a date and place to be advised. The service will be free to fire survivors, while others are welcome to seek similar advice at a modest fee per item. The occasion is entirely not for profit; the fees collected will be used to offset the cost of mounting the workshop and to defray some of the presenters' expenses.

Survivors of the recent Roleystone fires are to be invited to the workshop. This will provide an excellent opportunity for Toodyay survivors to share experiences and possibly provide support for the visitors. In addition a number of present and past Museum Studies students are expected to be on hand to look and learn and apply their recently acquired skills in a practical situation.

The day promises to be very busy, so spread the word and let's make it a really worthwhile occasion.

Toodyay Garden Club

Gale Anderson
Secretary

THE Toodyay Garden club opened the year on 3 March with our first visit for 2011 visiting Phil and Jenny Perkins property, 'The Limes', which is perched on top of the West Toodyay Hills off Clarkson Rd.

This property spreads to some 10 acres which include 160 Blood Orange Trees and 60-70 Tahitian Lime trees. All these trees are fully irrigated from bore water which comes from a very plentiful supply of high quality water pumped into a holding tank and then transferred to a larger tank. From this tank Phil has some very cleverly engineered plumbing and electrical arrangements to add soluble fertilizer to the water prior to using on the trees.

The water is carried in 25mm poly pipe with small size feed-off lines to each tree and then through three-way premium plastic spray stakes which he regulates depending on age of tree and time of year. Over his orchard he has very clever moisture sensing stakes which monitor the amount of moisture in the ground at any given time.

Phil and Jenny have also built two beautiful

chalets on their property which they rent out during the year; these are proving very popular with families visiting Toodyay.

The Garden Club was treated to a wonderful evening with a very descriptive walk and talk around the property and in addition we met up with some alpacas to feed.

As we gathered together in the evening, we watched the sun go down over this magnificent property with its wonderful views overlooking the valley. We all admired the vista whilst the Indian Pacific train rolled along and enjoyed our sausage sizzle. It was great to catch up with our fellow gardeners and to find out just what was on the agenda for this year.

The Toodyay Garden Club is open to anyone who wishes to attend our visits; you do not have to be a member to attend. Just come along as a visitor for the day; most visits are within school hours so why don't you bring a friend and join us.

Our May visit will be to Perth Zoo - a great experience to see behind the scenes of the Nursery. This will be a bus trip so get in early for your seat. We will meet in Charcoal Lane behind the Memorial Hall.

So, if you are interested, then watch out for our posters around town or call Gale on 9574 4740 or Margaret on 9574 5885.

Toodyay Agricultural Society Founded 1852

Pam Jackson
Committee Member

The Society is seeking Expressions of Interest from local community groups, community organisations, businesses or individuals for completion of various tasks related to the Annual Agricultural Show. Monetary remuneration for services provided will be donated to the groups or persons undertaking any of the tasks. For further details look for the advertisement in this issue of the Herald or contact the TAS Secretary on 9574 2465.

The first committee meeting for 2011 was held on 14 March. Two new committee members were welcomed: Stan Eastwood and John Mitchinson. Tasks for this year were assigned to:

Shire Communication & Liaison	Gaven Donegan
Agriculture Co-ordinator	Brian Wood
Chief Steward	Alison Wroth
Rural Ambassador Co-ordinator	Alison Wroth
Equipment Co-ordinator	Kevin Hutchings
RAS/Central Group Rep	Kerry Knowles
Catering/Food Vans	Kerry Knowles
Show Recorder	Tracey Salmond
Schedule	Tracey Salmond
Equestrian	Leah Broderick
Ground Space	David Chitty and Kerry Knowles
Entertainment	Evelyn Wacura and Mary Groves
Schedule Advertising and Sponsorship	Barbara Mottershaw
Grant Applications	Barbara Mottershaw
Publicity/PR	Pam Jackson
Property Maintenance	John Smart
Vintage Cars & Equipment	Stan Eastwood

Exhibit Sections for the Show

Last year entries in some sections were up and in some sections entries were down on previous years. It would be great to see an increase in entries in all sections this year. We need you to participate and enter into one or more of the various sections available to ensure an increase for 2011.

We will once again advertise the Show by way of a poster, to be distributed in the local and broader community. To help cover the cost of printing and distributing the posters we are looking for sponsors. If you would like to make a donation towards the printing and distribution of the flyers please contact Pam on 9574 2881 or post your donation to Pam Jackson at PO Box 58, Toodyay 6566. Your donation will be acknowledged on the posters and will also be listed in the Show Schedule.

SHOW DAY

Saturday 15 October 2011
We look forward to your support.

Garden Week 2011

GARDEN Week, 7-11 April 2011, is set to be a gardening spectacular, celebrating the best in horticulture, gardens and landscaping.

Proudly supported by major sponsor, Water Corporation, the event is a highlight on the West Australian event calendar and one not to be missed at the beautiful Perry Lakes Reserve in Floreat.

Open 9.30am until 5pm daily, visitors can explore over a hundred exhibits, breathtaking displays, new products and design concepts, garden art and purchase thousands of colourful plants.

There will be children's entertainment and activities, educational seminars with media gardening professionals, interactive displays and special appearances by celebrities including Rob Palmer from Better Homes & Gardens, demonstrating his favourite tips and tricks for DIY gardens. Shades of Green will be presenting their home-grown cooking demonstrations. Celebrity chefs including Josh Catalano and Russell Blaikie will take food direct from garden beds and demonstrate how easy it is to have an edible garden.

Industry associations LIAWA (Landscape Industries Association WA) and WALDA (West Australian Landscape Design Association) will have eye-catching displays.

There will be a strong focus on sustainability and waterwise gardens at the event, showing you how to save the environment and money. Find out how you can get your hands dirty and thumbs green at Garden Week in April 2011, by visiting www.gardenweek.com.au.

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News from Bolgart and Surrounding Areas

Doris M Martin

BOLGART Rural Merchandise held an Autumn Update connected with farming on Friday 25 March, 2011 at the Bolgart Sports club at 7.30am for breakfast and an 8am start to conclude at 12.10pm. Various guest speakers were listed on the agenda to speak on various aspects of farming.

We were pleasantly surprised on Sunday 27 March to receive a visit from former residents of the area, Ray's brother, Les, his wife, Joan Martin and nephew, Gary and his wife, Alana Martin. They had come to Bolgart to attend the 60th birthday celebration of Annette Lee which was held at the Bolgart Hall on the Saturday night and was well attended. It was lovely to see them looking so well.

Birthday wishes were also being extended to Jack McGill on his 7th birthday on 13 March. Jack celebrated his birthday with family and also went and saw a movie entitled *Rango* in Perth. Tobe will celebrate his birthday on 13 April and he will get to go to the Water slide at Hillarys Boat Harbour.

Candice Watson recently celebrated her 21st birthday at the Yerecoin Tavern. Candice is the daughter of Neil and Fiona Watson.

Condolences are extended to the family of the late Jean Edmonds of the Victoria Plains area in their loss. (Jean was the widow of the late Tom Edmonds).

One of the most important issues to rear its head in recent times was the meeting held in the grounds of St Stephen's Church at Toodyay where several hundred concerned folk attended to learn of the future for the Toodyay Medical Centre. It appears that there could be a shortfall of doctors in time to come due to there being no stipulation in place now that new doctors must serve a year in the country before setting up a practice in the city. Doctors that do come have to establish a clientele and with no real assured income until they do and the cost of rentals

and travel etc, is not likely to attract a great response. Shires are not bound to help with the provision of a home or car although there are some that do provide them. Toodyay has not been able to see its way clear in the past to help out and may not be able to in the future although they are looking into the possibility. If they can't, it seems hardly likely that the medical centre will be retained.

The doctors there have provided an excellent service to the ratepayers of the area and also to ratepayers of adjoining areas. One doctor is leaving in July and with something like 7,500 clients on their books, it would be unlikely that Dr Walkey and even one other doctor would be able to handle the load and could suffer burn out from the strain of trying.

Questions arose as to how the public could help and much was said about lobbying Parliament etc, for help, but I would like to see either a voluntary levy on rates or a fund to retain the surgery or even groups of people holding various fund raisers to help support it. Why not go out on a limb and advertise the facts and call for all interested parties, eg ex-residents to donate to the cause. It has worked in the past when it came to needing funds to save churches from falling into disrepair, and provided many thousands of dollars for that cause.

Let's not forget that the Medical Centre at Toodyay was named after Nurse Alma Beard who lost her life fighting for Australia and was shot in the back when her and other nurses were forced to march into the sea. Let us all fight for the medical centre and the excellent doctors that we have at our finger tips.

We have all been experiencing topsy turvy weather with wind storms and flooding etc. Twice within three months the power has gone out and residents of Bolgart and nearby areas have been without power for much longer than they really needed to be. Don't forget one can claim some compensation for an extended outage of 12 or more hours.

Bejording Babble

Kim Leonhardt

GOOD morning all. First up this last month was Pizza Night. We don't usually get delivery service out here, so it was with much excitement and expectation that all the little kiddies sat out the front of the Community Shed, saliva drooling into little pools at their feet, waiting for the clip clop sound that would signify Burke and Wills arriving with all our Pizzas.

When they arrived (pizza's that is... not Burke and Wills with clip clopping horses), it was just like Christmas, what with the sounds of boxes being torn open, and all the "oohs" and "ahhs" trying to navigate their way through a jumbled mess of half-chewed Supreme and Meatlover sustenance, stumbling into the ether, and resonating into parents' ears, who lovingly responded with, "Can't you kids keep your mouths shut when you're eating please?"

As luck would have it, Pizza Night was also, coincidentally, Darb's Birthday! So happy days it was for me who, for once, said, "Tonight, Darb, I'll take you out to tea for your birthday!" And all we had to do was just walk to the Community Shed and have some pizza! Score 1 for a romantic night! Darb also, I'll have you know, apparently hasn't turned 50 yet either.

Shane had his '1 year anniversary on turning 18' party last month as well. Lots of 'doof doof' music with the occasional handbrake turn with a CD. You know... when 'DJ Hoop Hog' can't keep his fingers off the CD and just has to spin it in the other direction for a second or two. I was standing with the oldies complaining about what is classed as music these days, when I had to defend my right foot which, of its own accord, was getting jiggy with it... homey. I then explained that, well, yes actually, I do own Fat Boy Slim, Eminem and Scooter, though with Scooter he has to be played at 11 (volume setting, not time) to do him

justice. I was losing my audience, their eyes were glazing over (though that could have been the steady advance of cataracts.) I had to do something! I panicked and said, "So bro's, wot toons you mix up on your boom box?"... I was alone... very alone... I found Darb (she's not quite 50 yet) and we listened to the 'doof doof' together... though she had her fingers in her ears.

Will the parties never stop? Margaret had her SIXTIETH! It's in block letters coz this age is actually true! It was written down! Lawrence said, "Come to Margarets 60th!" How could I possibly have this one wrong? I can't! It's not wrong! AND... it was a good party. Everyone lost their way getting there (sure looks different at night) and there was no 'doof doof', just all classics! (I've been accepted back into the fold!). Brendan was mesmerised by a tree, Skiddy was worn out and went home EARLY, Bonnie was naming every star in the known universe, Spark Mark was doing a David Attenborough on the natural history of bats, Darb and Fi (both of whom aren't quite 50 yet) were intimidating Lawrence and Andrew and Skye were wondering if they made the right choice moving to the country! Andrew and Skye are our newbies, and OF COURSE they made the right choice!

Formula 1 Day was the next event. I was drinking wine that day and, so as not to be intimidated by anyone, I built my own Corporate Box in the living room, and watched Webber come 5th from there!

Coming Events... Our AGM and T-Bone night is Wednesday 6 April though I expect, if this is the first you've heard of it, then you've missed it. However PASTA NIGHT is on Wednesday 4 May from 6pm at the Community Shed. If you wish to become a member, fees are now due. \$50 for a family and \$25 single.

Don't forget the Shed is open every Wednesday from 6pm and I'll see ya there!

Healing in the Hills "The greatest moral challenge of this generation" (Kevin Rudd 2010)

Bob Adair

For the Toodyay Christian Fellowship

AT this time of the year, two significant events in world history line up: one is the commemoration of ANZAC day, the other is Easter. Both will be celebrated on the same weekend this year.

These celebrations deal with moral challenges. Our soldiers proudly went to fight for freedom as defined by their political leaders and the social dictates of the day. This was the "war to end all wars." Sadly, this was not the case.

We are now very aware that the conflict during that April-May was a resounding defeat, militarily speaking. However, what we celebrate was in fact a great victory for both sides of the conflict. This was a great moral victory. Words like decent, honourable, just, humility, bravery, describe the action of the men in the conflict; what those brave men fought for was the Aussie ethos of a fair go and justice and it is this moral victory that we celebrate.

We do not celebrate empty words that slide the mouths of our political leaders like "there will be no child in poverty" nor like my headline, "the greatest moral challenge of this generation." It was the let's just get on with it attitude that inspired men. The well-used saying "actions speak louder than words" makes sense to all of us. This truth empowers the ordinary person because it is anchored solidly in reality and action.

I have always understood that there are issues with the church and there will be issues with individuals who claim to be Christians but no one can bad mouth Jesus Christ. Actions do speak louder than words when it comes to Jesus Christ; what He said he could deliver He did deliver. Many millions of people throughout history and still today know that Jesus' words are always followed by life changing action; the Bible tells us that he is the living word of God.

Easter is not about bunnies, nor is it about Church ceremony and, heaven forbid, it was never about another Aussie long weekend. So what is it all about?

It is about someone meaning what they say and acting on their word, like "I am the way and the truth"; "I have come so that you may have life in all its fullness"; "I have not come to condemn the world but to save it."

Easter is about Jesus proving that he is who he says he is. No ruler or politician has ever been able to resurrect himself or herself. Jesus said he could do it and he did. Here is another saying, "the proof is in the eating of the pudding." Jesus made many promises about the power he has to change lives and, throughout the ages, millions have experienced the reality of these life-changing words. I know that there are readers who know exactly what I am talking about. Still, some would ask where is your proof?

Well, I suppose if I was conducting a scientific experiment and I could replicate a result 200 times, that would be sufficient proof. It seems a bit futile to ask this question when this experience by now has been replicated millions of times.

Christianity is based neither on a church experience (great as that can be) nor on the good works of Christians throughout history but on what Jesus said He would do for us and through us today.

What is the greatest moral challenge of the 21st century? To believe Christ's promise and do it His way.

Get a Bible and find out what Jesus says. Then, if you need help, send your questions to Answers, PO Box 1397, Toodyay, 6566.

Entries Open for QUIT Targa West 2011

QUIT Targa West will roar into action on the last weekend in August (25-28) 2011 and organisers are happy to announce entries are now open.

The seventh running of QUIT Targa West will see the City of Perth, the Shires of Toodyay and Kalamunda and the City of Swan come alive.

In 2011, 100 crews are expected to take part in the event, which has cemented its place as Western Australia's premier tarmac rally and one of the top rallies on the Australian tarmac rally calendar.

QUIT Targa West Event Director Bob Schrader is excited about 2011 and is looking forward to continuing on from the success of the last six years.

"In 2010 crews and spectators saw a number of significant changes to the special stages run during the event, including the introduction of the Killarnee City of Perth Super Stage run on the beautiful Swan River foreshore and the stages run in Bullsbrook," Schrader said. "In 2011 I am pleased to confirm both these stages will once again form part of the event and I am looking forward to making some more announcements about new and exciting changes to the 2011 event shortly."

One of the most attractive features of QUIT Targa West is that it provides an opportunity for anyone, not just professional motorsport drivers, to participate in a world-class event, along some of the best roads in international rallying.

Divided into four separate categories run under one banner, teams will compete in either the Competition or Challenge categories, which are further broken down into Modern (post-1982) and Classic (pre-1982) classes.

The tarmac rally is renowned for attracting a wide and varied field of vehicles, which compete along some of the most spectacular roads Western Australia, has to offer.

Schrader is thrilled about the quality of the course they will provide in August and is encouraging both existing and new crews to sign up early to avoid missing out on a place in the field, which is capped at 100 entries.

"QUIT Targa West is more than just a rally; it is an escape from the real world, a great way to combine passion with the social and competitive side of rallying and an avenue for teams and fans to indulge in their passion in this beautiful part of Australia," said Schrader. "The rally showcases Western Australia to not only the rest of the country but also the world and attracts participants to the state from interstate as well as providing a great spectacle for the public."

To find out more about how you can be involved in QUIT Targa West in either a competitor, official or volunteer capacity contact the event on info@targawest.com.au or call 9324 4566.

The Entry Form, Itinerary and Draft Supplementary Regulations are available for download on www.targawest.com.au.

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