

The Toodyay Herald

Your locally owned
community newspaper
Est. 1902

3800 copies circulating in Toodyay, West Toodyay,
Goomalling, Bolgart, Calingiri, Morangup, Coondle, Culham,
Bejoording, Nunile, Julimar, Bakers Hill, Clackline, Wundowie
and local districts

July 2015
Volume 337

Shire rates up 6.4 per cent

Michael Sinclair-Jones

TOODYAY property owners face a 6.4 per cent rates hike from July 1, with the annual minimum cost increasing by \$75 to \$1225 for the 2015/16 financial year.

The new rates range from 12.1925 cents in the dollar for town residential properties, 14.5307c for commercial and 13.3170c for industrial, to 0.8763c in the dollar for most farming and rural-residential properties.

Townsite properties are rated according to their gross rental valuations while rural properties are rated on actual land values, as assessed every five years by the State Government.

The rates increase consists of 1.4 per cent for the 2015 March quarter Perth Consumer Price Index and an additional five per cent, as set in the Toodyay Shire Council's corporate business plan and 10-year strategic community plan, which was adopted in 2013.

'On hold'

However, a plan announced two years ago to move hundreds of rural-residential properties to town rates has again been put "on hold" due to other priorities.

This year's proposed rates rises are advertised by the shire on page 16 of this month's *Herald* and are due to be finalised by a council meeting on Tuesday July 28.

The shire has invited land owners who wish to lodge submissions on the proposed new rates to send them to shire CEO Stan Scott by 4.30pm on Wednesday July 22.

This year's 6.4 per cent increase follows last year's 10 per cent hike, and an 8.5 per cent rise the previous year.

The biggest recent rates increase was 13.5 per cent in 2011-12.

Mr Scott said this year's proposed rates rise aimed to raise a total of \$5,879,724 – about \$350,000 more than last year.

Federal help

The percentage rate increase was lower than last year mainly because of an extra \$224,000 in federal road funding which will total \$509,000 in 2015-16.

Mr Scott said a plan to move hundreds of rural-residential properties to town rates based on gross rental values had been delayed by other plans.

These included a proposed new \$27.6 million recreational centre, creating a new shire economic development plan and other "significant planning issues".

"It's still on the books but will take more time," Mr Scott said.

"Gross rental values (for town properties) are generally a tenth of land value of rural or 'unimproved' properties, so the actual rates payable won't be greatly affected by any future change.

"There will be some winners – and some losers.

"People likely to pay more are those with more substantial homes on rural residential properties rather than those with smaller homes.

"That's because gross rental valuations are based on things such as the number of bedrooms and bathrooms, floor space, etc."



Alpaca love – getting up close and personal at last month's Toodyay Farmers Market

Rain, hail or shine – the markets are on

Toodyay Farmers Market
Helen Shanks

Helen Shanks

LAST month's third Toodyay Farmers Market in Stirling Park was a big success despite rain as hundreds of visitors grabbed wellington boots and umbrellas to shop at 38 stalls and attend talks.

The market supports local and regional growers, producers and artisans.

The monthly event is fast becoming a community hub and attracting more visitors to Toodyay.

Saturday craft markets and music jam sessions create an opportunity for local traders to gain from more visitors to

town on market weekends.

Rain, hail or shine, the Toodyay Farmers Market is on every third Sunday of the month, with the next one due on July 19.

For further information and more market day pictures, please visit our facebook page or visit toodyayfarmersmarket.org.

Dry July threatens Avon Descent

Michael Sinclair-Jones

AVON DESCENT organisers fear an unusually dry winter may force them to cancel at least part of this year's annual river race through Toodyay on August 1 and 2.

Low winter rains have left the Avon River almost dry in some places and the outlook for July is not good.

Only 25.8mm fell in Toodyay last month, less than half last year's June total and well below the mid-winter average of 98.6mm.

The two-day Northam to Perth paddle and powerboat race over 124km is hailed as a white-water classic and attracts hundreds of amateur and professional competitors from all over the world.

It floods Toodyay annually with thousands of spectators, support crews and media, and



Shallow pools at West Toodyay Bridge

is estimated to generate tens of thousands of dollars of income for the local cash-strapped business economy.

At the end of June, water was flowing moderately at Katrine but less so at Dumbarton Bridge, Connor Bridge and Newcastle Bridge, with virtually no navigable water at West Toodyay Bridge.

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Toodyay - National Tidy
Towns Champion 2015
this month



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The Toodyay Herald

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

Deadlines for the next edition are listed below with the paper on the streets in the first week of each month except in January when there is no edition.

All advertising should be emailed to advertising@toodyayherald.com.au. Editorial contributions and photographs should be emailed to news@toodyayherald.com.au.

Photographs for publication should be at least 500kb in file size to ensure quality reproduction in the newspaper.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions are \$2.50 per issue (postage and packaging) or \$25 per year (11 issues). Please send a cheque for the number issues required to PO Box 100, Toodyay 6566.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of *The Toodyay Herald* is available to Shire of Toodyay residents at \$10 per financial year, with members entitled to free advertising worth \$15 annually. Please send your name, phone number and residential, postal and email address with your membership fee to PO Box 100, Toodyay 6566 or leave it at 92B Stirling Terrace.

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

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DISTRIBUTION

The Toodyay Herald has a distribution of 3800 copies, with 1800 copies delivered monthly to PO boxes and letter boxes in Toodyay, Morangup and Bolgart. Copies are also available at roadhouses and businesses in Toodyay, Northam and York, and at Clackline General Store, Bakers Hill Newsagency, Gidgegannup Newsagency and Wundowie. Web address: www.toodyayherald.com.au.

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THANK YOU

Many thanks to the volunteers who helped produce this edition of *The Toodyay Herald*: Richard Grant, Peter Ruthven, Beth Ruthven, Sue Manning, Guido Verschoor, Jan Manning, Peter Robinson, Sandra Harms, Ieva Tomsons, Heather Appleby and Desraé Clarke.

ADVERTISING

ADVERTISING RATES

The cost of a casual display advertisement is \$4 (inc. GST) per column cm (NB Column width is 61.5mm.)

Full Page: Mono - \$560; Colour - \$611.50.

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NEXT TOODYAY HERALD EDITION

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

STORY DEADLINE

Noon Wednesday
 July 22

Noon Monday
 July 27

Please note our email addresses

Advertising: advertising@toodyayherald.com.au
 Articles and stories: news@toodyayherald.com.au

Ol' Blind Joe How Magna carked it

Stirling Hamilton

EIGHT HUNDRED years ago this month in England, in a water meadow beside the River Thames at Runnymede near Windsor, a beleaguered and highly unpopular King John affixed his royal seal to the Magna Carta.

The king, who was confronted and outflanked by 40 rebellious barons, agreed to the nobles' demands to protect their rights and property in order to avert a civil war.

It ended the king's authority as an absolute ruler and meant that his subjects could no longer be thrown in gaol, have their lands confiscated or be branded as outlaws without the right to a trial.

Until then, English kings had ruled using the principle of *vis et voluntas*, or 'force and will', making sometimes arbitrary decisions that were often justified on the basis that a king was above the law.

The interests of the common people weren't foremost in the minds of those who brokered the Magna Carta but it was granted by the English king at the urging of the archbishops, bishops, barons and knights who witnessed it.

Just 10 weeks later, the powerful Pope Innocent III sought in Rome to reassert papal authority over King John's rule and nullified the agreement, plunging England into an internal war.

However the spirit of fair dealing kindled by the Magna Carta burned brightly enough to survive, and various revisions and additions over the centuries have brought us to what we now consider as contemporary notions of justice.

The Magna Carta and Charter of Liberties express two fundamental principles that resonate to this day – the liberty of the church and a citizen's right to be brought to trial and be judged innocent or guilty by a jury of their peers.

However, the rule of law and the principles it embodies aren't chiselled into stone tablets and distributed to each country in equal measure.

Learned men and institutions in western democracies have studied, debated and fought wars over their content and implementation.

Bill of Rights

During the American Revolution, the Magna Carta served to inspire and justify rebellion in the defence of liberty.

New World colonists believed they were entitled to the same Magna Carta rights as Englishmen and they embedded those rights into new state laws and later into the American Constitution and Bill of Rights.

The Constitution's Fifth Amendment – "no person shall ... be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law" – is a direct descendent of the Magna Carta's guarantee of rights according to the 'law of the land'.

In 1941, as Europe and many other parts of the world were marching to the drums of war, US President Franklin D. Roosevelt famously said:

"The democratic aspiration is no mere recent phase in human history. It is human history. It permeated the ancient life of early peoples. It blazed anew in the Middle Ages. It was written in Magna Carta."

It's not small potatoes, and even in our own humble village we are afforded the right to a trial by jury or an appeal to a state tribunal if the local shire council knocks back a building application.

In thousands of ways these episodes in

history created the checks and balances that help protect our families and freedoms.

Sadly, these very foundation stones of governance which hinge on the separation of church, judiciary and executive powers now seem under grave threat.

If you or I were to do some shonky business deal that caused a third party serious financial loss, we could be locked up and eating porridge for years.

However, when our modern banking overlords recently caused the largest financial collapse in living memory through their shady practices, none of those responsible were held to account.

Taxpayers not only bailed them out but the bankers then rewarded themselves with massive bonuses from the public purse.

Every Tuesday in Washington, US President Barack Obama gathers his White House inner circle to decide which suspected bad guys on the other side of the planet will be obliterated by secret drone strikes that week.

Hasty politics

Meanwhile in Australia, our two major political parties are falling over each other in their haste to remove the right of refugees to access our courts.

And in a new move that further erodes the rule of law, some Australians who visit the Middle East are being threatened with the forced removal of their citizenship without the requirement of a trial and conviction.

Presidents and prime ministers have been gathering vast and over-arching powers to the executive arm of government, causing congress and the parliament to become a mere rubber stamp for their decisions.

This denies ordinary citizens their right to proper representation in the deliberations and actions of the nation.

Withholding information about Federal Government actions further undermines democratic accountability to the Australian people.

I don't know of anyone who voted for the invasion of Iraq, and polls showed that 80 per cent of people opposed it at the time.

But even our representatives in Parliament weren't consulted or allowed to speak on our behalf.

Labelling it a Prime Minister's 'captains call' or a 'king's edict' makes little difference to those whose rights are being trampled.

"Here is a law which is above the King and which even he must not break. This reaffirmation of a supreme law and its expression in a general charter is the great work of Magna Carta; and this alone justifies the respect in which men have held it." – *British Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill (1874-1965).*

feedback

The Toodyay Herald is a locally owned not-for-profit newspaper that aims to serve the community as a source of quality news and information.

Suggestions and comments are welcome to

PO Box 100 Toodyay WA 6566
feedback@toodyayherald.com.au

Office Hours

Highlighted days only

July / August 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5	6 9am - noon	7	8 9am - noon	9	10 9am - noon	11
12	13 9am - noon	14	15 9am - noon	16	17 9am - noon	18
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2	3 CLOSED	4 CLOSED	5 CLOSED	6 CLOSED	7 CLOSED	8

'Significant domestic violence' in Toodyay sinks IGA liquor bid

TOODYAY IGA has appealed against a decision to refuse a new liquor licence at the popular local supermarket after police fears it could worsen "a significant domestic violence problem in the town".

Owner Dean Carter applied to the WA Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor 12 months ago to open a new liquor store in an empty shop at the front of the IGA store.

It was his second liquor store application after an earlier rejection in 2010.

The latest bid drew five objections, including from local Stables Liquor Store owner Julie Robertson, Toodyay clinical psychologist Richard Taylor and local Christian religious education teacher Robert Adair.

However, the strongest opposition was from WA Police Commissioner Karl O'Callaghan who said the bid had "failed to acknowledge the significant domestic violence problem in the town".

107 incidents

Mr O'Callaghan said 107 incidents of family domestic violence were reported to local police in the 15 months to March 2014.

A third involved the use of liquor and 20 per cent involved an offence being committed.

A further 15 non-domestic assaults involving liquor were reported during the same period.

A total of 146 instances of anti-social behaviour, domestic violence and disturbances were reported in the town of Toodyay in 2013.

Alcohol was a factor in nearly 90 per cent of Toodyay police call-outs between 10pm and 2am "which correlates to the times when people would normally consume liquor".

Mr O'Callaghan said the applicant had failed to address "existing instances of alcohol-related harm in Toodyay and to acknowledge the significant domestic violence problem in the town".

The applicant had "overlooked the impact

on alcohol-related harm or ill-health that might be caused to local people".

In a separate objection, local clinical psychologist Richard Taylor said he was aware through his work in Toodyay and the Wheatbelt of "widespread problems relating to the abuse of alcohol and its impact on individuals and families".

"Extensive clinical experiences in the Wheatbelt suggest that adolescent drug and alcohol use is a major public health issue," Mr Taylor said.

He said a Perth-based study showed that people with greater access to liquor stores were "more likely to consume alcohol at harmful levels and to have had hospital contact for anxiety, stress or depression".

Liquor licensing authority representative Brett Snell said "nothing has changed in Toodyay - particularly alcohol-related harm and ill health - since the first application was refused in 2010".

"I accept the Police Commissioner's submissions that there are existing levels of alcohol-related harm in Toodyay that may be exacerbated by the establishment of an additional packaged liquor outlet in the town," he said.

"I also accept the professional observations and conclusions of Mr Adair and Mr Taylor regarding widespread problems relating to the abuse of alcohol and its impact on both individuals and families in Toodyay."

In his application, Mr Carter said including supermarket liquor as an 'add-on' department could increase sales by 10 per cent, which would benefit other businesses in Toodyay by attracting more customers from other towns.

His trade had grown by 30 per cent in the past three years with a current customer count of 6700 per week - and increase of 2500 per week over three years.

Mr Carter said he expected his appeal had only a one-in-five chance of success but he challenged state authorities to show that liquor-related problems in Toodyay were different to anywhere else in WA.



State champion Toodyay baker Jason Marion celebrates his latest awards

Plenty of passion, a pinch of madness and pre-dawn AC/DC score top awards

MULTI-AWARD winning Toodyay baker Jason Marion has done it again - four more wins at last month's Australian Baking Association State competition, including for best square white loaf.

It follows last year's wins in three categories and one in 2013.

In addition to this year's best white loaf, Jason also won 2nd for two pasties and two vanilla slices, and 3rd for two gourmet pies.

The white loaf is sugar and additive free. Apart from starting work at 2am each day, what's the secret for being a good baker?

According to Jason, it takes a lot of passion, a little bit of madness and the ability to work with minimum sleep.

"Some good tunes such as AC/DC on the stereo also help," he said.

"You also have to be quick on your feet and a fast thinker.

"Once the night's production starts, you will find yourself juggling doughs in the mixer, on the bench and in the 'prover', along with bread in the oven - hopefully not burning - at the same time as frying donuts.

"Sometimes alarm bells are going off everywhere.

"Believe me, time flies and before you know it the sun is coming up.

"It gives me great satisfaction when I'm looking at the shelves full of bread, cakes and pastries when our doors open at 7am - the best time to visit a bakery.

"Sourdough is my favourite, and it still amazes me that you need only flour, water and salt to get an amazing loaf of bread."

'Prisoner' Milton set to spend historic night in convict cell



'Prisoner' Milton prepares for incarceration

Newcastle Gaol Museum
Margie Eberle

SATURDAY September 12 will mark exactly 150 years since the completed Newcastle lock-up in Clinton Street was formally handed over to local colonial police.

Milton Baxter from the Toodyay Historical Society wants to ensure this milestone doesn't pass without fanfare.

He has volunteered to re-enact the imprisonment of the first inmate by staying behind bars for a whole 24 hours on the weekend of the historic anniversary.

He may even be put on trial.

Everyone is invited to drop by and keep an eye on 'prisoner' Milton throughout the Saturday to make sure he doesn't escape.

Several other activities are also planned throughout the day between 10am and 3.30pm.

The museum precinct will host stalls, displays, singers, walks and artists and - of course - feature a birthday cake.

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The Toodyay Herald

Secret squirrel

IT'S ALWAYS a risky move when grassroots local government tries to conduct its business behind closed doors.

Even seemingly innocuous explanations for doing so can sometimes have unintended and damaging consequences.

Such is the case with a Toodyay Shire Council bid to hold secret 'question and answer' sessions for councillors before their regular monthly public meetings.

It's inevitable that some councillors will arrive at meetings ill-prepared or uninformed.

Most are busy people with other jobs – the prospect of facing a 120-page council agenda packed with detail will always be a daunting task at the end of a hard day's work.

We expect our elected representatives to be fully informed about every decision they make on our behalf – anything less would be a betrayal of public trust.

It's true that the number of questions asked at meetings can sometimes cause frustrating delays, particularly if the answers are already contained in written reports attached to the council agenda.

And it's also true that councillors' questions often come with long-winded preambles that can sometimes divert attention away from the main debate.

However, not everyone can be an expert on complex issues such as town planning schemes or how local government rates are calculated – a variable mathematical formula that can easily lead to confusion.

Those required to decide on our behalf are entitled to ask as many questions as necessary to ensure they make the right choices on how much we end up paying.

But the problem with doing it behind closed doors is that ratepayers don't hear the detail of what the answers reveal.

Nor do they hear the straight-talking responses from council staff and have to rely instead on carefully constructed written reports that can sometimes conceal more than they reveal.

It's often the case that the real story about what's going on is not contained in the formal agenda and written reports but in verbal exchanges across the floor.

That's what ratepayers want to hear and what they are entitled to know.

Shire President David Dow showed strong leadership to defer the issue of 'information briefings' behind closed doors to a public forum for further debate.

If councillors have any sense, they should follow WA Local Government Department guidelines and kill the idea stone dead.

Michael Sinclair-Jones
Editor



The way we were – A horse-drawn carriage filled with mainly girl students at the former Toodyay State School in Duke Street. The school bus service was started by Fred Green in 1920 and travelled 26km a day between the school and the West Toodyay area. Photo: Newcastle Gaol Museum.

letters

Track fire danger

AFTER MUCH deliberation with shire personnel in 2015 the Nottingham Track has been 'cleaned up'.

It is an official dirt track, open only for emergencies.

However, some people have not yet learned what 'For Emergency Egress Only' means (like those who can't read the 90km/h speed limit sign and drive at 100-120km/h and overtake on double lanes, corners and hills).

The track is a fire hazard and edged by dead trees on both sides.

Any fire on the bottom can race uphill to endanger all properties and spread further up Nottingham Road or even to Folewood Road.

We have been told it is not the fire department but the shire that is responsible for town areas and that the shire will do a burn-off along the track within town boundaries.

Will the shire pay for destroyed properties when the fire gets out of control?

What about the smoke problem and will we residents be informed prior to this unacceptable event, let alone be asked about what will occur?

Letters have been written to the shire on the subject of verge wood.

A former shire community emergency services manager told us to simply take the wood.

However, the latest letter from the shire is that we have to fill out an application to the Department Environment Parks and Wildlife to obtain a licence to 'pick the fauna', meaning dead wood.

There are also dead trees that need to be cut down.

These trees are dangerous because on February 12 lightning struck three trees on our property as well as as a power transformer.

Dead track trees are a waiting danger.

Aside from the high fuel load posing high fire danger, dead trees may fall onto the track and hamper fire truck access.

Most threatening is the shire's idea of a burn-off within town boundaries in a heavily wooded area.

It was suggested the shire start at the top of the track and work downwards with a mulcher.

Mulch is a usable commodity for a variety of shire areas but burnt wood isn't.

More letters were written, including to new Community and Services Manager Robert Koch, who we invited for a walk along the track to discuss the issue.

Four weeks later there has been no acknowledgement letter or courtesy return call.

We reckon it's the new public service delivery system – not a good but an alienating, working method.

Toodyay Shire President David Dow revealed that the issue is 'on the list' subject to meetings and discussions, followed by priority decision-making about revenues and the importance of the issue.

The track may just remain a track with 'falling fauna' increasing the fuel load and presenting a danger to properties and hindering fire truck access.

This is not acceptable to the eight informed residents along the track and nearby who could be affected by a possible fire or burn off.

Monika Zechetmayr and Peter Edwards
Toodyay

Mining damage

I RESPECT Mr Terry Potts view ('Mining built our nation') in response to my May letter ('Poised at crossroads') and agree many towns across our nation have a history of mining, and that some miners have developed and opened up areas and contributed, some significantly, to the nation's economy.

The facts also reflect there are many towns left damaged by mining, some significantly, when becoming too reliant and not diversifying and with economic benefits

in the main flowing to shareholders, not locals.

My view is that mining bauxite or having a toxic landfill will not be an economic panacea for Toodyay and it will be damaging.

I hope that whenever shareholder companies seek to operate in the region they engage in a genuinely open and transparent manner and not resort to corporate-speak, intimidation tactics and glossy brochures to communicate with the community.

Local people must be afforded an opinion on how their community grows, the preservation of its environment and how we want life to be for our grandchildren's children.

I will continue to voice my opinion and advocate a sustainable long-term vision for Toodyay.

It needs to be a place where family farms can thrive; where unique and niche enterprises are encouraged and supported; where small operators and services are utilised; where the environment is valued and protected and, where tourism and visitor-based businesses are driven by Toodyay leaders having a 'think outside the box' agenda.

There would be many benefits for Toodyay if it is marketed as the 'amazing country experience' an hour out of a major city where visitors take a weekend trip.

They can spend their dollars while here and therefore create more opportunities, activities and real local jobs.

Helen Shanks
Toodyay

The Toodyay Herald invites you to have your say in our letters page. Please email your correspondence to news@toodyayherald.com.au with your full name, address and phone number. Letters that are short, sharp and to the point topical local issues are preferred. The Herald reserves the right to edit letters for length.

The Toodyay Herald

Ink in your veins?

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EC10485

Avon Descent organisers worried by low river levels as race day nears

Continued from Page 4

CANOING WA Executive Officer Rosalie Evans said organisers were extremely concerned by the low river levels.

However, no decision about the fate of the race would be made until the final week before the scheduled start.

The event has never been cancelled in its 43-year history.

"We've been saved by late rains many times in the past – including two years ago – but the long-range forecast is not good," Ms Evans said.

Only one day with a 'medium' chance of rain has been forecast for the whole of July. Canoeing WA would run a Northam to

Toodyay river race on Sunday July 12 but there was a concern that exposed coffee rock could damage power boats between Northam and Katrine.

When the river was low two years ago, power boats raced only from Katrine to Cobbler Pool via Toodyay, and from Bells Rapids in Walyunga National Park to the race finish at Ascot, while paddlers completed the whole 124km course.

About 550 craft raced last year but only 270 had registered so far this year.

"If there is no water, many hold off until the last minute," Ms Evans said.

The Avon Descent coincides with Toodyay's annual International Food Fair at Stirling Park on August 1.



Toodyay Shire President David Dow receives a donated defibrillator from Wendy Sofoulis

Heart machines kick in to help save lives

LOCAL resident Wendy Sofoulis has presented the Toodyay Shire Council with a portable heart defibrillator to be installed at the Toodyay Visitors Centre.

The life-saving device was bought with part of \$12,400 raised at last year's Butterfly Ball, held in memory of Wendy's daughter, Alecia, who died of Sudden Arrhythmic Death Syndrome (SADS) in 2011.

Funds raised at the ball were also used to buy heart defibrillators for the Toodyay Fire Brigade, Toodyay Karate Club and Mt Helena Football Club, and a large first-aid kit for the Toodyay Football Club.

Remaining funds were donated to SADS Australia and King Edward Memorial Hospital.

A further \$600 was raised for SADS at an annual football match this year between Toodyay and the Mt Helena, who Alecia strapped for.

Another match will be played at Toodyay Oval next March, and the next Butterfly Ball will be held in Toodyay in December 2016.

Both events will be organised to raise more funds for SADS and celebrate Alecia's life.

Music from Tom Price to Toodyay

CATCH MUSIC – a WA-based not-for-profit organisation – is set to start sessions in Toodyay this month after a successful season at Tom Price earlier this year.

Musicians from the 'Act-Belong-Commit' Midland Catch Music session will host a free showcase session for Toodyay residents on Tuesday July 13.

It forms part of the shire's Toodyay Inclusive school holiday program and will run from noon to 1.30pm at the Memorial Hall.

Volunteer coordinator Jacqui Wharton, originally from Toodyay, will help run the session with music facilitator Mike Kaye.

Local residents are invited to enjoy some great entertainment and to learn more about the organisation.

The Catch Music Toodyay term will launch on Wednesday July 22.

Weekly term sessions will be hosted by local musician and music teacher David

Five hours to decide just 11 items – why on earth does it take so long?

Fly on the wall
Peter Robinson

FIVE HOURS around the council table for just 11 agenda items is not a good use of time – more on that later.

The first agenda item was to confirm a financial contribution towards the national Tidy Town Awards to be held in Toodyay next March.

The shire has committed \$15,000 cash and in-kind support for this prestigious event and will join the Toodyay Tidy Towns committee to ensure an event that showcases Toodyay.

An interesting scenario exists along the west side of Duke Street South where a seven-metre-wide strip of shire-owned road reserve runs inside existing front fences.

About 30 years ago, Duke Street was to be widened but this never happened.

The shire now wants to return ownership of that land back to residents without them having to buy it back.

After a previous shire CEO tore down several advisory committees which consisted of members of the public and councillors, council has now set up an environmental advisory committee.

Three community members – Frank Panizza, Zinnia Browne and Wayne Clarke (with room for one more) – will be joined by councillors Sally Craddock, Bethan Lloyd and Rosemary Madacsi.

The shire's environment and reserves management officers are also included.

A 6.4 per cent increase in shire rates has been proposed for the 2015-16 year, with a minimum rate increase from \$1150 to \$1225.

We then came to a recommendation to have mandatory rubbish collection in areas where the service is currently provided (outside of town). After a great deal of discussion the proposal was defeated for the third time.

At last year's debate the administration were directed to bring forward a waste-management policy but why the admin. brought up the topic again without a draft policy is quite beyond comprehension.

Once again, the the direction from councillors is for a policy first.

However, the suggestion that the 390 residents who have opted out of bin collection are burying, burning or illegally dumping is a bit offensive.

They include many conscientious people who re-use, recycle, compost and feed chooks with their household waste.

Council elections are due in October. The councillors whose terms expire this year are: Andrew McCann, Bethan Lloyd, Rosemary Madacsi, Sally Craddock and Chris Firms.

Councillors debated whether to move to an electoral commission-run postal vote system.

This was defeated on the grounds of additional cost and marginal gain in voters.

Copyright policy was also discussed.

Strangely nobody mentioned financial gain or misuse of shire material, the two most important reasons for copyright.

Councillors approved the policy.

The council elected Cr Paula Greenway on to the Butterfly Cottages Inc. committee as a non-voting ex-officio shire representative.

The administration, in order to avoid

lengthy questions and clarifications during the meeting, invited all councillors to an agenda briefing session.

Due to late notice not all councillors were able to attend.

There was also concern that this may be interpreted as making decisions behind closed doors, so the gallery was again subjected to hours of question and clarification.

Why oh why is this necessary when many of the answers are already available in the addendum?

This whole subject needs more thought.

Are administration staff available to answer questions before meetings and, do councillors have enough time to research topics after receiving their agendas?

We need open and accountable government, as well as clear and efficient administration.

At the moment I'm not sure we have either.

Youth program puts Kristee in state finals

TOODYAY SHIRE Executive Support Officer Kristee Jolly has been named a finalist in the state-wide Child Safety Awards competition run by WA's Constable Care Child Safety Foundation.

Ms Jolly's nomination is in the WA Child Safety Employee section for her work in creating and organising the free 'Toodyay Inclusive' school holiday activity.

Her citation reads: "Since 2010, Kristee has worked relentlessly to make Toodyay a lively, engaging place for young people."

"She developed the Toodyay Youth Advisory Council and the 'Am I a Cyberbully?' program in conjunction with local police and Toodyay District High School."

"In 2013, Kristee created a free school holiday scheme – the Toodyay Inclusive Holiday program – which is still running today (see advertisement, Page 15) and has been an outstanding success."

"Kristee links with local sporting and arts groups to encourage young people to get involved in activities and off the streets."

Each section winner will receive a Child Safety service medal, honour certificate and



Child Safety Awards state finalist Kristee Jolly

\$1000 cash prize, and be eligible to win a further \$2000 in the overall Constable Care 2015 Child Safety Award across all sections.

Winners will be announced at a black-tie awards ceremony at the Perth Exhibition and Convention Centre on Saturday August 1.

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Toodyay man jailed 18 years for ice crime

Police Beat

With Sgt Warren Conder

A TOODYAY man has been jailed for 18 years after police seized a 'sizeable' quantity of illegal methamphetamine, or 'ice', from a local property.

The offender was a known drug user and police inquiries are continuing.

The conviction is part of a national crackdown on a dangerous drug that fuels domestic violence, serious assaults, violent robberies and widespread social upheaval.

A total of 24 people were charged with amphetamine offences in the Toodyay district in the past year.

A further 21 were charged with cannabis offences, 23 with possession of drug paraphernalia, five with illegal drug cultivation and three with selling and supplying drugs.

"Toodyay is no different to anywhere else," local police chief Sergeant Warren Conder said.

"WA is the worst State in Australia for ice and it is prevalent in this town.

"We lock up heaps of people for ice.

"It doesn't just affect policing, it also has a big impact on our health system, schools, homes, jobs, personal relationships and other aspects of everyday life.

"People say cannabis is harmless and recreational users should be left alone.

"However, this is not true because a high proportion of cannabis users go on to use heroin and ice.

"Ice has no boundaries – users can be 15-year-old schoolboys or members of parliament.

"Many ordinary people may not notice it but we see it all the time.

"For instance, I recently spotted a Toodyay man high as a kite talking to a picket fence.



An 'eightball' of methamphetamine or 'ice' worth about \$150 in a deal-bag seized by Toodyay police.

"Signs include hyperactivity – people rushing around at a million miles an hour – dilated pupils, fidgety behaviour and sweatiness caused by raised body temperature.

"People using ice at rave parties always carry bottles of water to avoid becoming dehydrated when they dance."

Local police are also concerned about the misuse of dexedrine (dextroamphetamine) or 'dexies', which are sometimes illegally used by young people and also by truck drivers to stay awake on long trips.

"They are little white tablets and there are kids in Toodyay who use them," Sergeant Conder said.

"The downside is that it can be fatal for one-in-ten users."

Sergeant Conder said a major problem with drug abuse in the Toodyay district was that it diverted local officers from other vital law enforcement work such as community policing and traffic management.

"Two of the most dangerous things coppers handle are random traffic stops and domestic violence because you never know what you will encounter – it could be someone violently affected by ice," Sergeant Conder said.

"Drink driving used to be the big thing but drug driving is now also a big issue.

"We also regularly use search warrants on local properties to look for drugs and have had some extremely good results.

"About half of those arrested are repeat offenders."

White LandCruiser sought

POLICE are seeking public help to identify a white Toyota LandCruiser (pictured left) that was used to commit a number of crimes in Gidgegannup and Cobbler Pool Road area on the morning of Monday June 1.

The vehicle was used to steal tools from a Gidgegannup property and then driven through the Paruna private wildlife sanctuary to Cobbler Pool Road.

A stolen red generator and angle grinder were used to cut a number of gates on a nearby Brookfield Rail track-service road which police know is frequently used by drug runners in an attempt to avoid detection.

The generator and angle grinder were also used to cut several steel poles holding rail security cameras which were also stolen.

The vehicle was then driven across the Avon River at a shallow crossing and headed towards Bullsbrook.

Police are urging anyone who saw the vehicle to contact them on 9574 9555.

Drink driver caught

A SENIOR citizen faces at least a three-month driving suspension, seizure of his vehicle and a hefty fine after recording a blood alcohol reading of 0.103.



Sgt Conder with a blood alcohol testing machine at Toodyay Police Station: "See one of these and you know you're in trouble."

Police stopped and breath-tested the man in Julimar Road on a late mid-week afternoon after they targeted a Toodyay licensed venue believing that an offence was likely to be committed.

"The driver's blood alcohol content was well above the 0.08 drink driving limit," Sergeant Conder said.

"I'm totally disappointed that we have a mentality in this town that it's OK to drink and drive and, even more disappointed, that it was an older member of the community who should have known better.

"There are school children crossing roads and parents driving cars at that time of the day and it could easily have ended in a road smash with people killed or injured.

"I have zero tolerance for this kind of behaviour, and all drink driving offenders will be prosecuted."

The motorist is due to face Northam Magistrate's Court later this month.

Facebook myths

TOODYAY POLICE have hit back at claims on local Facebook pages that they are lazy and never available when needed.

"It's disappointing to read these 'keyboard warriors' slagging off local police officers when we average at least 10 hours' work a day throughout the year," Sgt Conder said.

"Local officers don't get time off for Christmas, New Year and public holidays, and our social lives are often put on hold by work that is often difficult, unpleasant and dangerous.

"I believe it has helped to reduce crime in Toodyay over the past two years and makes the community safer.

"It's disappointing that some people should seek to belittle that effort publicly, with little thought to what actually goes on.

Livestock thefts

A SPATE of livestock thefts in the Wheatbelt has prompted a police call for farmers to be vigilant and ensure they carry correct paperwork when moving live animals on public roads.

More than 900 sheep, ewes, lambs and hoggets were stolen in 15 different thefts reported to police in the past 12 months.

"If someone is moving livestock and isn't carrying a consignment notice, the load will be suspected as being stolen," Sergeant Conder said.

"If it's not stolen, the driver will be issued with an infringement notice for not completing a consignment notice, as required by law.

"We've had reports of livestock stolen in Goomalling and York, and want to ensure it doesn't happen here.

"We've also had cases of people cutting farm fences and breaking gates to go shooting in the Julimar area which – apart from being illegal – can cause livestock to stray onto roads.

"I'm sure I don't need to remind people how dangerous this is for unsuspecting motorists – just the other day I had a large pig suddenly run across in front of me on Julimar Road."

Toodyay Road menace

MOTORISTS are being urged to take extra care on Toodyay Road after two more deaths last month on one of WA's worst roads.

"It's a very dangerous road that needs more overtaking lanes," Sergeant Conder said.

"The trouble is that people who use it frequently become complacent and then driver error becomes a big factor.

"They settle in behind the wheel, turn on the radio, start to get a bit drowsy with the heater going and the next thing you know, they've drifted onto the wrong side of the road into the path of an oncoming vehicle.

"It's one of the most dangerous roads in the State – a formula for death.

"Drivers need to maintain full concentration and stay alert and watchful for the entire length of their journey."

Ride sponsors sought

SPONSORS are being sought to help Sergeant Conder raise \$5000, for sick children, during a 4675km police motorcycle charity ride from Perth to Canberra in September.

The annual 'Wall 2 Wall' event commemorates police officers who died on duty and aims to promote motorcycle awareness and safety.

Local donations can be made online at: <https://theedge2015.everydayhero.com/au/warren>.



An offender uses a portable generator and angle grinder to cut Gate 5 at the western boundary of Paruna Sanctuary on a Brookfield Rail access track at 8.30am on Monday June 1

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Help us to keep a spotlight shining on our great town

The Toodyay Chamber of Commerce
Barb Dadd

MAJOR impetus has been gained since the Chamber of Commerce was resurrected with new enthusiasm early last year.

Events since then include a highly popular December street party with a traditional 'turning on the lights', festivities, local Christmas shopping and the introduction of a pop-up restaurant.

Business speakers addressed our Sundowners and a proposal to invigorate Toodyay's local, national and perhaps international profile is gaining momentum.

But busy people become even busier and in the end something has to give.

Chamber Chairman Charles Chitty and Secretary Chantelle O'Sullivan are stepping down after setting in train a period of rapid progress.

New people with business experience, entrepreneurial personalities and a passion for Toodyay are needed.

If you're interested, please contact Charles Chitty on 0427 980 335.

Meanwhile, the Avon Valley Regional Small Business Awards are now open for nominations, with forms available at www.toodyaychamber.org.au.

They cover home-based enterprises to businesses with up to 20 full-time staff.

There are three regional awards for the Best Business in Northam, Toodyay and York and nominations close on Monday August 3.

A presentation dinner will be held in Northam on Friday August 21.

The Toodyay Street Party Committee would like to hear from anyone who would like to help plan this year's event.

If you or your organisation would like to run a street stall, please contact Mark Dimmitt on 9574 4741 or email gpayne50@gmail.com, or 2jchamber@gmail.com.

Please visit www.toodyaychamber.org.au for up-to-date information on events and free business courses.

Fish and chips swing the scales

Restaurant Raconteur
Ravi Broadbean

SWEETHEARTS CAFE'S main claim to fame in Toodyay is that it cooks admirable fish and chips, and I must admit that we did have some misgivings about making it our next port of call.

However, Tarquin – and more significantly Daisy, who is studying first-year biology – were somewhat confused by the anatomical references pertaining to the promised chicken balls at Wendouree Tea Rooms as described in our May report and insisted they preferred fish and chips.

Hence we put aside our city-centric prejudices and ventured in.

Sweethearts is located on the older section of Toodyay High Street, not unadjacent to the Lolly Shop, and in all sincerity the most benevolent description of the establishment would be that it has a certain charismatic ambience of enigmatic charm, similar to other buildings in its proximity.

On entry, we were greeted by an impressively attired maitre d' only to discover that he was in fact treasurer of the local Freemasons Lodge and was heading off to a Masonic meeting in his regulation dinner jacket.

We ignored his perplexed looks and proceeded to the rear counter near the kitchen because, as we have discovered in this quaint backwater, there is no table service for ordering meals.

However, before we could begin to consider the extensive menu, Tarquin suddenly became beside himself with excitement and all thoughts of fish and chips and chicken balls were forgotten when he discovered a 'Stack of Pancakes with Butter



and Nutella' on the children's menu for \$6.

Daisy followed suit and so the children were therefore easily accommodated with pancakes and a shared side order of chips and gravy for \$7.50.

As indicated previously, the signature dish of this restaurant is fish and chips, and from the wide selection de poisson, I was undecided between the 'Red Spot Emperor', 'Yellow Label' and 'Black Mullet'.

I chose the former for \$18 and Bonita decided on the 'Warm Moroccan Salmon Salad with Couscous' at \$17.

Desserts were the usual slices of cake behind glass, although also on offer was a plethora of sweet pancakes at \$9.50 with accompanying ice cream combinations for \$7.50.

I selected a slice of the 'Apple Pie' which looked and tasted remarkably like a strudel, and Bonita decided upon 'Lemon Meringue Tart' which looked and tasted like a lemon meringue tart.

Both dishes were served with a dollop of ice cream, a dollop of cream and strawberry sauce.

To accompany our meal, I ordered a bottle of Chateau Ramage La Batisse Haut Medoc

We don't let grass grow under our feet

Autumn Club
Autumn Leaf

WE FAREWELLED Peg Nellian who has moved to Perth to be nearer her family.

Margaret has had a run of bad health and we pray her health improves.

Wess and Helen celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

We visited Northam Seniors Club for carpet bowls and are off soon to York Seniors.

Warwick Seniors Club will visit on on Wednesday July 15, and Wanneroo Seniors on Wednesday July 22.

Soon after, we visit the Wannamal Senior Club – grass doesn't grow under our feet.

Kath Chitty had a birthday last month, and Pat Old has her's on Sunday July 19.

There will be a special birthday on Monday July 13 when Laurie Beech turns 90.

If you are over 50 and looking for friends, join us on a Wednesday or call 9574 4587.

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Secret briefings ring council alarm bells

A SHIRE of Toodyay bid to exclude ratepayers from new information briefings immediately prior to council meetings has sparked a revolt by some councillors who want all such dealings to be open to the public.

The surprise move was raised as "new business of an urgent nature" at last month's council meeting after councillors got only five hours' notice of a new briefing session before the main meeting.

The Herald was barred from attending the hour-long briefing after being told the aim was to enable councillors to get answers to questions behind closed doors before the council meeting started.

At least four councillors said later that they opposed the move, with one saying it could lead ratepayers to think they were going back to the 'bad old days' of important decisions being made in secret.

The issue was raised in council by Cr Sally Craddock, who had to fight to win a five-three vote to have it discussed.

She then proposed to scrap the new pre-meeting briefings because she said it "could lead to the perception that decisions are being made behind closed doors".

Toodyay Shire CEO Stan Scott said he had called the pre-meeting briefing at short notice after receiving lots of emails from councillors about items on the agenda.

"The time spent in council meetings on questions and clarifications is often longer than the debate," he said.

"It leads to exchanges across the table that often become indistinguishable from the debate.

"The intent is not to come to a decision, but to simply allow councillors to be better informed so that the quality of debate will be better.

"Calling it at short notice was a mistake – for that I apologise.

"However, writing out information briefings as a strategy would be an overreaction to that mistake."

Shire President David Dow successfully proposed that the new briefing sessions be suspended until the issue's examined at a public forum.

The vote was carried 8-0.

The next shire forum will be held at 4pm on Tuesday July 14.

WA Department of Local Government guidelines suggest "agenda" forums to can enable councillors to "gain maximum understanding of any issue presented to the council on which they must vote".

"The complexity of many items means that elected members may need to be given information additional to that in a staff report and/or may need an opportunity to

ask questions of relevant staff members," the guidelines state.

"Some local governments hold forums immediately prior to council meetings.

"Anecdotal evidence suggests that in discussing the agenda of the forthcoming meeting at such forums, implied decisions may be made.

"This familiarity with the issues and known attitudes can lead to debate at the ordinary council meeting being stifled or non-existent, much to the chagrin of the public who are not privy to the earlier discussions.

"Forums held immediately prior to ordinary council meetings cause more complaints of secret meetings and predetermined decisions than any other type of forums.

"Agenda forums should be open to the public unless the forum is being briefed on a matter for which a formal council meeting may be closed."

Ambulance volunteers target new recruits at Avon Descent



From left: Toodyay ambulance volunteer Sue Eldridge, new paramedic Pat O'Dal and volunteer Jenny Maher are keen to help new local volunteers learn vital life-saving skills.

Toodyay and Districts St John Ambulance

VOLUNTEERS from St John Ambulance Toodyay and Districts will be out in force during the Avon Descent weekend on August 1-2 to launch a new recruitment drive for the local sub-centre.

"The recruitment efforts are an attempt to train five more volunteers to assist with ambulance response in the Toodyay, Morangup and Bolgart areas," Chairperson, Charlie Wroth said.

"With a new training program now in full swing and the addition of a full-time community paramedic to support the volunteers, it's a really exciting time to join our team.

"Our doors are open for more local people to become involved with their local ambulance service.

"We will also be running a wood raffle, CPR demonstrations and first aid kit sales as part of our campaign."

While the idea of volunteering for the ambulance service might sound daunting, Charlie says the sub-centre has it covered.

"We have a great induction, training and mentoring program that ensures volunteers feel welcome and supported," he said.

"Once you get into it you quickly realise that it's a great opportunity to give something back to the local community."

To find out more about volunteering at Toodyay, call 9574 2390 or visit www.stjohnambulance.com.au.

The Toodyay Herald

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ROAD SAFETY NEWS

Brought to you by the Toodyay RoadWise Committee

TOODYAY ROAD IN THE NEWS AGAIN

There has been much talk about an elephant in the Wheatbelt, "the elephant in the room" and the fact that the road toll in our region is something that everyone is ignoring or not talking about. There are commentators bemoaning the fact that a conversation needs to be started. But it is perhaps rude to the people of Toodyay to say that an elephant is required to kick start this conversation.

Ask anyone living in the Shire of Toodyay or using the Toodyay Road and they will tell you that the road has been problematic for many years.

The latest Main Roads crash statistics 2010-2014 give us the following evidence from the 40kms of Toodyay Road in the Shire of Toodyay:

- 113 vehicles were involved in 83 crashes
- Five fatalities, and 17 serious injuries (hospital)
- 69 of these crashes occurred in mid sections of road, 14 at intersections
- In the 13 kilometre stretch between Morangup Road and Sandplain Road there were 19 crashes, two fatalities and six hospitalisations

The fact that the Minister's media release on the Wheatbelt State Highway Review mentions Toodyay Road is good news. Toodyay RoadWise Committee has long lobbied for the attention that this Review should provide.

One of the stated objectives of this review, which is funded by red light and speed cameras, is to engage with all stakeholders including road users to identify workable, economic and effective solutions to crash locations. There are plenty to choose from on Toodyay Road and it would be very disappointing if the powers-that-be overlook it.

Back to the elephant in the room - there was an Indian parable of the blind men who attempted

to describe an elephant only by touch, each of them "seeing" it with their hands and hence defining it differently. This is a fable often used to make a point about communication, language, experience and deniability.

We have to expect that the members of this Review will have their eyes open, experience Toodyay Road and bring their expertise to bear and come up with infrastructure solutions (and fund them).

The other side of the road safety problem is that road user behaviour is always unpredictable; people make mistakes and take unnecessary risks, break the law. Some drivers choose to speed, overtake on double white lines, drink and drug drive. This is an education and enforcement problem and must be addressed by changing behaviour. In many ways, this is harder than fixing the road.

WHAT DO THESE ROAD CRASHES COST? AN APPROACH TO VALUING LIFE

The loss of life and quality of life provides a challenge to estimating the costs of road crashes. A vehicle can be replaced (at a market determined price) but a life cannot.

Recent studies operate on the concept that we do not need to value lives lost, but rather the benefit of reducing further risk to life. There is obviously benefit in reducing fatalities. Everyday people make decisions that trade-off risks to their lives against other benefits and in doing so, exhibit a

willingness to pay (WTP) for risk-reduction.

Using this WTP "number" or method, the value of preventing a fatality can be calculated.

The value of a life cannot simply be related to the productive output of people over their remaining lifetime, but needs to take into consideration the benefits of life, the value of leisure, family participation and other aspects of the quality of our lives.

Evidence from Australia and internationally suggests that a value of \$6 million (in 2006 dollars) should be used to reflect road users' WTP to avoid risks to themselves.

In simple terms, the cost of a road fatality must take into account both the dollar amount of the car, medical, insurance, emergency services, legal costs, loss of productivity etc. and a value of the social impacts, to family and friends.

Using this process, the total cost of road crashes in Australia in 2006 has been calculated to be around \$28 billion.

Now when viewed in these terms, and on the assumption that our society is willing to pay to reduce these road fatalities, a government spend of \$6 million to save one life on Toodyay Road could be considered money well spent. With five lost lives in five years being reckoned to equal \$30 million, this road could and should be brought up to a standard that can ameliorate fatal crashes.

This material sourced from: "The Cost of Road Crashes: A Review of Key Issues" by Dr Richard Tooth 2010 http://www.econ.mq.edu.au/Econ_docs/research_seminars/2011_research_seminars/Tooth_Accidents_180311.pdf



TOODYAY ROADWISE COMMITTEE



This project is supported by the Government of Western Australia's Road Safety Community Grants Program.

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Time to be vigilant amid prancing lambs

Bejoording Volunteer Bushfire Brigade

From the desk of The Badger

THINGS settled down beautifully last month after a hectic start to the non-fire season.

There was peace and quiet, some decent early rain and a chance for brigade members to enjoy their homes, get on with their day jobs and sleep through the night.

It's times like these you can sit back and enjoy the beautiful countryside, Bejoording's gentle rolling hills, green sprouting crops, new growth on tree tops and prancing newborn lambs.

Even weeds that started to die in May turned green again.

What we mustn't do is get complacent. House and shed fires can happen any time, especially when electric heaters and log fires become part of daily life.

Winter is the time to focus on protecting your property indoors as vigilantly as you protect it outdoors in summer.

Clothes drying racks too close to a heat source, open fires without a screen guard and poorly maintained chimneys are all common causes of fires.

The Bejoording Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade asks you to always plan and prepare

before lighting any fire, and have a clear contingency strategy in place should things get out of control.

Even at the safest times of the year, fires can pose a risk to people and property.

Whether it's burning off on your acreage or enjoying a backyard bonfire – take care.

Advice is free, but getting it wrong can be expensive.

For any questions, please contact Captain Lawrence Hayward on 9574 5106, or the Badger on 9574 4834, and leave a message if we're not there.

The next meeting is our AGM at 6pm Tuesday July 21 at the shed.

Deliberately lit fires strain volunteer brigade resources

Toodyay Central Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Mick McKeown

A BUSY FIRE season ended on June 16 when members put out a fire that had escaped from a deliberately-lit burn onto a road verge.

This was our third call-out since writing the last column for *The Toodyay Herald*.

All three call-outs were to fires that had escaped the control of the landowners who had deliberately lit them.

We again ask landowners to watch any fires that they have lit and to have adequate resources on hand to contain them.

A big thank you to all members who turned out during the 2014-2015 fire-season to fight fires or to provide assistance back at the shed.

Thanks also to Brigade Lieutenants Rowan Hunter, Rob Koch, Chris Farrall and Mick Giles, Secretary/Treasurer Wayne Clarke, Maintenance Officer the late Gary Holland (RIP) and our Fire Control Officers Brian Wood and Kevin Hug.

Thanks also to Desrae Clarke, Deb Day, Heather Brennan and Rhonda Holland who organised our emergency catering plans.

Office bearers elected at the May AGM were: Captain Mick McKeown, Lieutenants Rowan Hunter, Mick Giles and Mike Devlin, Chairman Paul Thompson, Secretary/Treasurer Wayne Clarke and Maintenance Officer Will Hort.

Rob Koch, who has been with Central for more than five years, is now Community Emergency Services Manager for Toodyay and Goomalling and we wish him well.

We're always keen to welcome new members.

Our training will not only help you to help others but give you the skills and confidence to help yourself when needed.

To find out more about our brigade or would like to join, please contact Captain Mick McKeown on 0439 998 808 or Secretary Wayne Clarke on 6364 3609 or email 2jcentralvbf@westnet.com.au.

'Petal' plaque honours John Flower

Morangup Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Kim Maddrell, Secretary

LAST MONTH'S meeting was followed by a plaque unveiling in memory of John (Petal) Flower who passed away two years ago.

Ros Flower and son Michael attended the ceremony with some old friends and retired volunteer fire fighters.

John was a firefighter with Mt Helena Brigade before moving to Morangup in 1999 where he joined the local brigade.

The brigade already had another John, so

John Flower soon became known as 'Petal'.

He held several brigade positions, including captain and fire control officer, and was a sector commander in the initial stages of the devastating 2009 Toodyay fire which destroyed 38 houses.

Some years ago, John reversed a truck on an angle into a station bay and when trying to straighten up accidentally demolished a brick pillar at the front of the building.

Replacement bricks were hurriedly obtained from Midland Brick and a local brickie repaired the pillar which from that day on was known as 'Petal's Pillar'.

John was awarded the National Medal for Service in 2007 – vale John Flower.

Toodyay SES earns spurs in manhunt

Toodyay State Emergency Services

Jeff Venn

TOODYAY SES was deployed for the first time for three days last month.

It joined units from as far away as Mandurah, Moora and Norseman to help search for a missing man in Bakers Hill.

Local members joined Northshore and Kalamunda units on the third day until police called the search off before midday.

Local members were able to see the SES way of conducting a forensic land search.

They met other SES unit members, saw their vehicles and equipment, and learnt from their field operations experiences.

Toodyay SES Manager Jeff Venn thanked members for their first search, with some taking part on all three days.

Other units were thanked for welcoming Toodyay into their search groups.

Kim Maddrell has been appointed Toodyay SES Deputy Manager and Gail Twomey is Training Manager.

Toodyay SES is still looking for new volunteers and also for donations.

Please contact Jeff on 0417 714 798 or via email captainmvbf@gmail.com.

Only frostbite burns occupy winter thoughts

Julimar Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Allison Wroth

WITH FREEZING mornings lately, the only burns I have been thinking of relate to frostbite.

Last month's AGM at 'The Fireplace' was attended by many brigade members and new Community Emergency Services Manager Rob Koch who chaired the election of officers for 2015-2016.

Our new captain is Peter Sapwell and the four lieutenants are Grant Scobie, Vicki Wesley, Christine Smith and Brian Rayner.

The Julimar brigade will again staff the Youth Hall kitchen at the Toodyay Show on October 10.

Our Christmas in July is fast approaching and we will advise soon about dress code.

I must thank Tim Walker for writing the Julimar column for the past two years.

More fire detail and gossip next month.

Felicitas Bauxite Mining Project



Felicitas Bauxite Mining Project

The Felicitas resource consists of approximately 230 million tonnes of bauxite and is estimated to have a mine life of at least 25 years. It is located mostly in the Shire of Toodyay with some extensions in Northam and Mundaring Shires. The development of the Felicitas Bauxite Mining Project could add up to 15% of Western Australia's current bauxite production. Over its life the mine will inject approximately \$3 billion in operating expenditure into the WA economy.

Community Advisory Group established - Morangup resident vacancy

The Bauxite Mining Community Advisory Group (BMCAG) has been established and has held two meetings to date. The BMCAG's aim is to ensure a broad range of views are heard and enable the community representatives to contribute to the Fortuna and Felicitas projects. The BMCAG has been established to facilitate formal community discussions and address the concerns of the community. Next month's discussion topics will be on the current Environmental Studies and the planned work programs to be undertaken.

There is a new vacancy for any interested Morangup residents who may like to consider joining the group or combining with another community member as representatives attending alternate meetings – meetings are monthly at present.

To register or ask questions about joining BMCAG please contact the independent Chair Leigh via email: leigh@hardingham.com.au or mobile: 0427 943 879. Your contact will remain confidential. Nomination forms are available at: www.bauxitemining.com.au Registrations will close 5pm Mon 13 July.



Mine design is being done with 4 key sensitivities in mind

- Traffic – minimise any increase in traffic on Toodyay Road and other local roads. Bauxite haulage via a conveyor through the farms to rail (Not Toodyay Rd).
- Noise – minimise impact of noise within regulations.
- Dust – no visible fugitive dust beyond property boundary.
- Water – minimise water consumption. The majority of water required for the project will be for dust suppression on haul roads, stockpiles and crushing/loading areas. No additional processing is proposed on site, which significantly reduces water demand requirements.

Followed by progressive rehabilitation of mined areas.

Mine Design

Several different permutations of rock breaking, transport & materials handling technologies have been examined. Our preferred option at this point is:

- Rock breaking in pit by surface miners.
- Rock & friable material loaded into trucks by loaders or excavators.
- Trucks haul to mine area feeders which load the bauxite onto a fixed conveyor.
- The conveyor transports ore to crusher located in a non-noise sensitive location at the north of the mine, where it is crushed and stockpiled.
- Ore is transported to the nearby rail siding and loaded directly onto trains. The rail operation is expected to be 4 trains per/day, each with 90 wagons and a train length of about 1.3km based on a 8.5 Mtpa operation.

Mining Technology Selections

From the initial reverse noise modelling work commissioned, we are getting a pretty good picture of the types of equipment we want to utilise for the mining operation and noise control options. Although these selections are not yet finalised they're the best options for managing costs, meeting production target and environmental parameters. This strategy includes the selection of smaller pieces of mining gear, sound suppression kits such as exhaust and radiator noise suppressors, croakers on beepers and noise insulation fit outs for engine bays which will all help with noise suppression. In more noise sensitive areas we will look to combine this with noise controls such as earth walls (bunds) and operational controls.

Surface Miners

- Eliminate the need for blasting
- Break caprock into fragments which can be handled by conveyor
- Option for dust collection equipment attachment



Trucks and Loaders

- Conventional mining equipment
- Used for bauxite loading and short haul to the conveyor
- OEM and after-market sound suppression kits and trays available



Feeder breaker

- Breaks any remaining oversize rock
- Feeds from ground level to conveyor



Overland conveyor

- Quiet & efficient means of transport across and below/over existing public roads.
- Configuration is still to be finalised eg covered or uncovered conveyor



Waylen farm a mirror image of UK Blewbury Inn

Toodyay Historical Society
Robyn Taylor, President

We were treated to a special presentation by members Linda Rooney and Peter Robinson after their recent trip to England.

Armed with photos of old Waylen farm – the two-storey house on the Bindoon Dewars Pool Road built in 1860 by the Britt family – they went in search of Britt's Blewbury Inn in the picturesque Berkshire village of Blewbury.

They had no trouble identifying the building which the Britts had replicated in their new home in Toodyay.

History and heritage in the spotlight

Museum Curator Margie Eberle helped the Toodyay Tidy Towns Committee parade

Toodyay's historic charms and achievements to Tidy Towns Judges Jo Gray and Gail Dodd.

Walking and talking through Northam

By the time this goes to press we will have enjoyed last month's Northam excursion.

Members of the Northam and Districts Historical Society were to meet us at the Northam Heritage Centre before we looked at what our neighbouring town has to offer.

The visit was due to include St. James Anglican Church (1911) in West Northam, where Rev John Mason preached before coming to Toodyay in 1919 to take over the pastoral care at St Stephen's.

We also planned to visit the beautiful 'Uralia' and 'Byfield' residences and others.

Our final stop was to be Northam cemetery, final resting place of Toodyay identities such

as Mayor W. G. Leeder and his wife Hannah (nee Morrell).

Coming up

We will be involved the Toodyay school holiday Inclusive Program on Friday July 17 at the Old Newcastle Gaol – members to be advised of details.

We meet next at 7pm on Wednesday July 15 in Donegan's Cottage at the Showgrounds and are planning a visit to Goomalling on Sunday July 26.

For more information contact Secretary Desrae Clarke at desraec@westnet.com.au, President Robyn Taylor on 9574 2578 or rdtaylor@inet.net.au, or member Beth Frayne on 9574 5971.

Donegan's Cottage (in the Showgrounds) is open every Thursday, 1-3pm. Postal address: PO Box 32, Toodyay WA 6566.

Bejoording in grip of Friday night footy fever

Bejoording Community Group News
From the desk of the Badger

FRIDAY NIGHT footy was a regular feature on our calendar last season with different members hosting in their sheds or man-caves each week.

Now with televised games two, three and even four nights a week, this weekly event has taken on a whole new place in our community.

The nights are fun and for the hosts easy to run. It's all over pretty early but there's no doubting the popularity of footy in our neck of the woods.

We've had a number of new members recently which is very pleasing but a special welcome must be made to Mitchell Mark Ferrie born on Wednesday May 27 weighing 6lb 3oz. (I thought we'd gone metric years ago but everyone still talks about babies in the old money).

Congratulations also to parents Whitney Croymans and Mark Ferrie. Young Mitchell has already enjoyed a couple Wednesday evenings at the Shed.

We'd like to thank Shelley Kingston from Bendigo Bank and Greg Warburton from Toodyay Shire who trekked up to the Shed on a cold Wednesday night to present us with certificates under the Tidy Towns and Adopt-a-Spot projects.

Fortunately they came up on our Soup Feast Night so they got a good warming on a particularly cold night.

As mentioned two months ago, we'd love to hear from any past or present Bejoording residents who have any interesting stories, mementos or photographs that can be included on a big story board we're making up for our 20th anniversary.

Contact Barry or myself and we'll arrange to copy or collect things wherever you are.

We meet every Wednesday evening (except in January) at the Bejoording Community Centre which shares premises with the local Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade in Bejoording Road.

Arrive from 6pm, and leave when it suits you. It's strictly 'come as you are' casual, kids are welcome and there are fun events every month.

For more details contact President Barry Grey on 9574 2149, or call The Badger on 0414 250 484. Hope to see you soon.

Starting married life in a tin shed

Country Women's Association
Elizabeth Mansom

THE ANNUAL WA Week lunch held by Tammin Branch was our only outing after our May meeting.

State President Sarah Kenny attended with her husband and told us about starting married life in a tin shed on undeveloped land at Badgingarra – not for the faint-hearted.

Last month's meeting was our 88th birthday.

CWA was only three years old in WA when we formed, and mention must be made of Mavis Rowles who has been a Toodyay Branch member for 61 of those 88 years.

Kathy Haynes offered to make a birthday cake and we got dressed up and had lunch at the Freemasons Hotel before returning to

the Hall for our monthly meeting.

We also held a White Elephant Stall last month and travelled to the Goomalling/Konongorring's International Day – always great even if chilly this time of year.

This year's country of study is Tibet, which certainly will be in the spirit of the day.

Caversham branch members are coming to Toodyay for Christmas in July on Wednesday July 8 and have invited us to join them.

Apart from a meal with friends, we can look forward to visiting Christmas 360.

State Conference is in Dunsborough from July 20-23 – it is always eagerly anticipated with bookings months ahead.

We meet at 1.30pm on the fourth Thursday of the month except in July during State Conference, so our next meeting will be on Thursday, July 16.

Perth Hills groups to seek unity on Darling Scarp

Avon and Hills Mining Awareness Group (AHMAG)
Brian Dale

JUNE was a month of meetings and catching up on things that needed attention.

The alliance we have formed with Yarloop's Community Alliance for Positive Solutions has provided our group with much-needed information on the effects of bauxite mining and refining.

We are also liaising with another group on the Darling escarpment and hope to form another alliance covering Perth Hills districts.

Have you seen any exploration drill rigs in your area?

If you have, please take a picture and send it with the location to info@ahmag.com.au and we will add it to our exploration watch on AHMAG's *facebook* page.

We all need to know where exploration is occurring because if a bauxite mine was to be approved in Morangup, then your area could be next.

Visit our website at ahmag.com.au where you can click on our *facebook* link for up-to-date information.

Not on *facebook*? No worries – just click on our website link and you can still read the page (but not comment) and you're still not on *facebook*.

'Xmas' wood raffle to help Hideaway fund-raising

Ida's Hideaway
Neil Stewart

OUR PATRON, Laurie Beech, celebrates a significant birthday this month. He has been Patron since we began and continues to support and give enthusiasm to our group.

We all wish him a 'happy birthday' and a lovely day with family and friends.

Ray is back home and improving.

We will hold our Christmas in July raffle on Saturday and Sunday July 18 and 19.

It will be a wood raffle with other prizes and a lucky dip. Toodyay residents have always been very generous in their support of our 'Christmas' fundraising.

Our AGM will be held on Saturday July 25 at 1pm All committee positions are open.

If you would like to join our happy group please contact Ida on 9574 2858.



Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Toodyay Community Resource Centre will be held on Wednesday 23rd September 2015

at the Centre, 79 Stirling Terrace Toodyay commencing at 6.00pm

To All Members and Prospective Members

The Toodyay Community Resource Centre Inc welcomes new faces to our Annual General Meeting. We provide a supportive environment that inspires new ideas and encourages different perspectives and we want **YOURS!**

By joining our committee, you'll have the opportunity to showcase your skills to enhance the Centre, connect with the Toodyay community through a myriad of projects and events, receive a raft of training and be part of a team that values your contribution.

For more information about our organisation, visit our website www.toodyay.crc.net.au, pop in to our office or to discuss a committee role further, please email our Chairperson, Gale Anderson at gale@wts.com.au

All TCRC Committee Members & Volunteers will need to apply for a Working with Children Card and National Police Clearance

emergency services

Only one brigade call-out last month

Coondle Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
Deb Bowen

LAST MONTH was quiet with only one call out.

We need to stay vigilant with fire awareness now that winter is here.

It is a good time to maintain fire breaks and properties generally.

Mick Rogers again ran a great training day

with six different scenarios that tested our skills and taught new ones.

A busy bee after included a reduction burn at the shed – thanks to everyone who attended.

We welcome our newest member Jane. It is great to see another female on board.

For more information about fire awareness or to join our brigade, please call Captain Mark Middleton on 0417 908 117 or visit the shed on Friday nights from 5pm onwards.

FOR SALE

<p>Machinery</p> <p>Chamberlain 4080 - INTER WD9 FORDSON Petrol (suit restore) MASSEY HARRIS 744D WELGER RP15 Rolls DENNIS Power Saws - 1 Twin Cyl 2 x Perkins P6 engines 3 x Ronaldson Tippet (Single Cyl Motor) PIG Farrowing pens (2) NEW</p>	<p>Firewood</p> <p>Dry Split Jarrah</p> <p>Garden Landscaping</p> <p>Cement Slabs White Concrete Blocks S/H Bricks Wrought Iron Gates</p>
<p>Garden Supplies</p> <p>Enviro Mulch, Mushroom Compost White and Yellow Sand, Gravel, Metal Dust, Road Base.</p>	
 <p>Organic Vegie Mix</p>	
<p>CJ & MO Ferguson</p> <p>10 Tannin Place, Industrial Extracts, Toodyay Phone: 9574 2987 or 0438 412 324</p>	
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Special AvonLink booked for Toodyay Show

Toodyay Agricultural Society
Mary Donegan Gurthries

We are now just three months away from this year's Toodyay Agricultural Society Show on Saturday October 10 and there is still time for you to plan what categories you wish to enter.

- The committee consists of:
- patron, Brian McGill;
 - president, John Mitchinson;
 - 1st and 2nd vice-president, Wayne Fletcher and Karen Dore;
 - secretary, Megan Ebdon;
 - treasurer, Tracey Salmond and,
 - members Alison Wroth, David Chitty, Mary Donegan Guthrie, John Smart, Colin Kendall, Sue Eldridge, Marna Lund, Sue Anderson, Bruce Guthrie, Evelyn Wacura, Kevin Hutchings, Kerry Knowles, Kristee Jolly and Meredith Lamb.

They meet each month and are planning an awesome extravaganza for you, your family and your friends to enjoy.

Why not become a member of the Toodyay Agricultural Society Inc. and support your show?

To join, please send your name and address with the appropriate fee to The Secretary, Toodyay Agricultural Show, PO Box 362 Toodyay 6566.

- Membership fees are:
- \$25 annually for one member's ticket, two guest tickets and one schedule
 - three-year membership \$55
 - \$5 annually for junior membership.

A raffle and membership drive will be held on Friday July 31 and Saturday August 1 outside the Toodyay IGA store – please come along to support your local Show.

A special AvonLink passenger service for visitors from Perth will leave Midland at 9am and arrive in Toodyay at 9.55, with a shuttle bus from the railway station to the showground.

The shuttle bus will return passengers from the Showground for a return train trip that leaves Toodyay at 4.30pm and reaches Midland an hour later.

It will be a great opportunity for city people, family and friends to enjoy the wonderful weather and hospitality of Australia's Tidiest Town.

The Agricultural Society would like to thank everyone who offered financial support for the first time this year and to the many who continue to support the show by sponsoring exhibitor prizes.

You will all be acknowledged in the schedule.

Also don't forget to check us out on facebook – keep up-to-date and share us with your friends.

Our entrant in the Royal Agricultural

Society Rural Ambassador Award this year is 21-year-old local vet nurse Melinda Lucas. Melinda was a junior member when she first joined the Toodyay Agricultural Society Committee in 2012 and went on to join the Entertainment Committee.

She also helped with Show publicity. The committee has decided this year to nominate Melinda as our representative in the Rural Ambassador competition.

The Central Group Award will be held in Northam this month.

The RAS Rural Ambassador Competition is a national competition for young rural adults who have a passion for living and working in rural communities.

Melinda certainly has that passion for her town and youth involvement.

The Toodyay Agricultural Society is very proud to support her in this competition and we are sure she will do her best against other entrants from York and Northam.

This year's Children's Section has been expanded with extra age groups to provide a wider range for children to enter.

A schedule handout will be available at Toodyay District High School before the holidays.

Arts Trail to showcase local studios during Avon Descent weekend

Arts Toodyay
Clive Eger

ARTS TOODYAY will embark on a new and exciting venture next month.

In a Toodyay first, 11 Arts Toodyay members will open their studio doors and invite visitors to drop in to see them at work.

The event is not new – arts communities from Mundaring to Margaret River have held similar art trails for many years.

Now it's Toodyay's turn and we hope it will become an annual event.

Scheduled for the Avon Descent weekend on August 1-2, it is hoped the Toodyay Art Trail will draw visitors after the boats leave.

Maps to help visitors follow the trail and find local studios are available from the Toodyay Visitors Centre and Toodyay Library.

Many artists are based in and around the central area of town but quite a few are a short way out and well worth the drive.

Studios will open between 10am and 4pm on the Avon Descent weekend and signposted with a distinctive 'Arts Trail' logo.

Drop in for a chat with some of Toodyay's many artists.

It's not often that you get to meet the face behind the canvas and have the opportunity to find out more about their creations.

For more information, contact Margot on 9574 2823 or magart2j@westnet.com.au.

Tapas treats tickle New Norcia tastes

PROBUS
Jan Ackroyd

SEVENTEEN members braved wintery weather to drive to New Norcia for the town's Tour and Tapas Trail.

The day's theme was Spanish legacy of 1847 and followed in the steps of the founder of New Norcia, Dom Rosendo Salvado.

Morning tea and toasted fruit bread was followed by a two-hour walking tour.

Our guide explained the monks' history and beautiful buildings.

We returned to the New Norcia Hotel dining room for a beautiful tapas-style lunch.

This was followed by wine tasting and sweet treats in a sitting room with a welcoming open fire.

We then toured you the New Norcia Museum and Art Gallery and bought produce and gifts in an adjoining gift shop.

Singing can overcome many things

Toodyay Community Singers
Margaret O'Sullivan

TOODYAY Community Singers formed to enable those who love music and singing to have somewhere to meet like-minded people.

Since its inception seven years ago, we have grown to a family group of about 28 and would love others to join us.

We entertain not only ourselves but the local community and are now well-known for performing in events such as the annual Moondyne Festival, Toodyay Agricultural Show, Anzac Day ceremony and the Christmas Street Party, to name a few.

We also now put on our own shows, the first of which drew more than 250 people.

Many things can be overcome when you sing.

Our latest venture was to 'pop in' on a local wedding to sing, then pop back out just as quickly, leaving guests wondering whether

it had been staged or is we were just passing and didn't like to miss an opportunity.

A busload of us plan to trek off to the Chidlow Pub for a Wednesday jam session – it may become a regular night out in future.

We are always on the lookout for new members, singers, a piano player, sewers, coffee makers and, listeners – there are spots for everyone.

Join us on Thursday nights at 7pm in the CWA Hall. For more information, please contact Margaret O'Sullivan on 9574 2183.

Wednesdays are a great time to get in on the spin

Toodyay Spinners
Ange Sturman

THE SPINNERS meet every Wednesday from 9am to noon, and every third Saturday of the month (also from 9am to noon) at Parkers' Cottage in the showgrounds.

The Felting group meeting time is now on the second Monday each month from noon to 3pm also at Parkers' Cottage. The Felting group contact is Jenny Cornwall, 9574 5978.

For more information on our group please contact Secretary Ange Sturman on 9574 2507 or President Gretta Sauta on 9574 2868. New members are most welcome – no experience necessary.

The Toodyay Herald

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Community clubs offered a start at 150th Toodyay Picnic Races

Toodyay Race Club
Geoff Appleby, Secretary

RACING AND Wagering WA has launched a new program to better connect race clubs with their local communities.

Community TAB has asked the Toodyay Race Club to nominate a worthy not-for-profit organisation or club within our community to be a 'community partner'.

The aim is to showcase the selected organisation at Toodyay's 150th anniversary Family Picnic Race Day on Sunday September 27.

Fundraising opportunities and facilities will be offered to the selected club and

Community TAB will make a dollar-for-dollar contribution for all money raised by the organisation on the day.

All clubs, organisations and groups no matter how large or small are invited to apply for this opportunity to raise funds and promote their club.

A brief written submission stating the type of fundraising proposed and details of the community entity should be emailed to the Secretary, Toodyay Race Club at gandha@iinet.net.au.

Submissions close on Friday July 31 and applicants will be informed of the decision following a Toodyay Race Club committee meeting on Friday August 7.



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Cremations & Burials
Pre-Paid Funerals

Our morning tea fundraiser for Cancer Council WA has raised \$12,000!
Thank you for supporting us.



264 Fitzgerald St Northam 96221411 www.PursloweTinettiFunerals.com



Crafty ladies can now make as much noise as they like

The Crooked Needle
Heather Wright

WE HAVE changed to a new venue. Our happy, chatty noise echoed a little in the resource centre so we have been lucky enough to be able to get use of the hall at the showgrounds where we can laugh and talk as loudly as we want. We meet from 9.30am to noon every Friday.

On the first Friday we decided to stay later for lunch at our new venue and it was agreed that bringing our own lunch was the go.

The first lunch was a success with one of our tribe, who is better at cooking than at craft, bringing a huge stockpot of soup.

Another of our group, our toy maker extraordinaire, had a little trouble finding her way out of the amenities. She was found whimpering: "I am locked in" when, in fact, she was trying to exit the wrong door. The ladies standing behind her lost it.

Some of our folk have decided a little cruise will be the fun thing to do in the New Year. So far six ladies have booked a four-day excursion. If the booking process is any indication we need to have a 'fly on the wall' to report the goings on.

It would seem that craft is barely on the agenda even though our boss lady is trying hard to convince the group that they should keep in mind that we are a craft group.

Speaking of the boss lady, she ran a workshop to teach us the art of grub roses. Fun, laughter and knotted threads followed.

The person who was instrumental in getting this course happening purchased face washers ready to try her new skill but was heard to say while throwing her hands in the air "this is too hard; I can't do this", so four face washers are now for sale at a low price.

Another participant, who does the most extraordinary crochet has put little grub roses on her beautiful baby outfits.

Some of our members are coming and going. It was great to see Pat back for a quick visit from her second home in Manjimup.

Val has returned from the Chelsea Flower Show. How awesome would that have been? She said it was magical.

One of our members has been having a hard time in recent weeks and still in hospital. We all hope Margaret is up and about soon and settled in her new abode. We will all make sure Joe is looked after.

Many ladies continue to prepare items for sale at the weekend markets after their success at the Moondyne Festival in May.

So the needles continue to click, the cotton is threaded, material is stamped, craft books are pursued and there is much chatter.

If you feel like this is for you, come along and you will be made welcome.

Woodturners aim to turn heads at Koorda Show

Avon Woodturners
Max J Heath

THE WOODTURNERS made some large spoons for the Toodyay Visitors Centre which means a few more dollars in the bank when we move to our new premises.

A wood raffle will also be held soon. Our Toodyay Show raffle prizes are now under construction and hopefully be on display in town in coming weeks.

We are planning an excursion to the Koorda Show early in September to spread the word about the art of woodturning.

Our convener won a mini lathe and wall heater at the last WAWA workshop – well done David and thanks for donating the heater to the woodturners.

Toodyay's 'Biggest Morning Tea' raises \$1160

Toodyay Community Resource Centre

TOODYAY Community Resource Centre held an 'Australia's Biggest Morning Tea' event last month that drew 76 visitors and raised \$1160 for cancer research, prevention and support services.

We would like to thank our sponsors, Wendouree Tearooms, Bottlemart, Freemason's Hotel, Makit Hardware, Home Hardware, Sweethearts Café, Toodyay Post Office, Richard's Christmas Shop, Toodyay Chemmart Pharmacy and Earth Sculptures Pottery and Inspirations.

Also special thanks Karen Hansen, Cancer Council; Shane Love, MLA; Toodyay councilors; representatives Vera and John Smart, Paula and Mark Greenway, Roma Heath, Pat Old, Desraé Clarke and, The Three C's Craft Group.

Most importantly, we would also like to thank everyone for coming along and showing their support and to our Toodyay Community Resource Centre Committee for all of their amazing efforts planning, baking, constructing cleaning, potting and helping out with whatever needed to be done.

It was a great event with lots of delicious food, beautiful plants for sale, raffles with prizes donated by many local businesses, lovely music and a PowerPoint presentation displaying all of our recent events.

We are so happy for this event to have been successful and to have done our part to raise funds and awareness for cancer.

We thank everybody for doing their part too.

If you would like more information about what the Australia's Biggest Morning Tea project is all about, please visit biggestmorningtea.com.au.

Toodyay Cheeky Bus to go over Northam pits

Toodyay Community Bus
Di Roberts

THIS COLUMN will be fairly short because some committee members are travelling and others moving house.

It's off to the Doctor of Windshields and side mirrors for the Cheeky Bus to replenish both these necessities.

The other huge, big and I mean big adventure for the Bus is to go over the 'pits' (not the Pits) in Northam.

Keep fingers crossed that all will be well with the Bus's insides being pushed and pulled.

There are more plans for how to use the Bus – we will keep you informed.

The Bus will be available for any function you may wish to have in the coming months.

Advertising feature

Motorcycle sport excitement heads for Toodyay

THE 2015 MAKE Smoking History WA Trial Championships is coming to Toodyay.

The state's best trial riders will be displaying extraordinary skills in this demanding discipline of motorcycle sport on September 13 at the farm property of Chris McKay on Woodendale Road.

The action runs 9.30am to 3.30pm. Entry is free to this exciting event which is proudly sponsored by Make Smoking History and Healthway.

Unlike most other forms of motorcycle sport, Trial Championships is not racing.

It is simply a competitor and their bike pitted against the terrain.

Trial is a sport of balance, skill and concentration. One at a time, competitors will ride over an obstacle course of boulders, streams, hill climbs, logs, drop-offs, and nearly everything else.

It is one of the world's most popular participatory motorcycle disciplines. In Australia about 1000 riders compete and in Europe many thousands compete regularly.

Trial riders compete in all weather conditions. From juniors aged seven years through to veterans from 40 to 70 years. Plus, there are classes to cover all levels of rider ability, levels such as A, B and C grades, club class and also veterans.

While it is spectacular and sometimes appears dangerous at the top level, speed and other competitors are not factors likely to cause incidents so, the sport remains very safe.

Very few injuries are sustained due to the low speeds and 'one at a time' use of sections by competitors.

Riders in the top classes attempt seemingly impossible obstacles and in the process perform some of the most amazing skilled trick riding, including air turns and hopping and bouncing the wheels during turns.

Trial motorbikes are specially made high-tech machines.

Very light (less than 70kg), low seat height and lots of power. They are usually single cylinder, liquid-cooled engines of around 250cc capacity.

They have lots of ground clearance and suspension travel with hydraulic disc brakes at front and rear.

Tyres are of a super soft compound and run pressures of about 4-6psi.

They are very similar to the bikes ridden by world champion riders such as Tony Bou and Dougie Lampkin.

Modern trials bikes are mostly manufactured in Europe by manufacturers such as Gas Gas, Beta, Scorpa, Montesa, Ossa and Sherco. Honda and Yamaha also manufacture engines for modern trial bikes.

Although new models cost up to \$11,000, you don't need a new bike to start riding and enjoying yourself. Second-hand models with mono-shock rear suspension and front disc brakes can be bought for around \$1400 to \$2500.

The event will be made up of different sections to enable riders to test their skills.

A Trial section is typically a taped area of natural terrain, incorporating obstacles such as rocks, creeks, mud, tree stumps, etc.

Different colour markers within the section determine the passage through the section (the line) a particular graded rider must take. For example an A-grade rider

will ride between red markers, B-grade follows yellow markers, C grade follows blue markers and club-class riders follow white markers. The higher the grade, the more difficult the section and line.

A rider 'earns' one point each time they put a foot down (known as a dab). After three points in any one section the rider may continue to dab or stop without incurring any more points. If the rider falls off or stalls the bike with their feet on the ground or if the bike moves backwards they are given five points (a five).

At the end of each lap the section scores are totalled to give a lap score, and when the rider completes the designated number of laps a total score is tallied. The rider with the lowest score is the winner.

The course for the 2015 Make Smoking History State Championships will consist of 10 sections spread over varied terrain, with riders completing four or five laps depending on their grade. The event is being

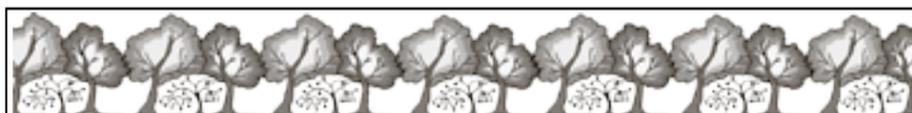
Promoted by Pathfinders Trials Motorcycle Club, it is an event guaranteed to provide excitement on Sunday September.

Make Smoking History – this is a smoke-free event and venue.

NOTICE

TOODYAY MOONDYNE FESTIVAL INC

Annual General Meeting
Monday 20th July
at 6pm
Freemasons Hotel
Stirling Terrace, Toodyay



Trees Cafe

Bolgart Ph 9627 5187

Take a pleasant trip to Bolgart just 38kms north of Toodyay. Come, enjoy our hospitality & home cooked food at the old Bank of New South Wales.

Breakfast on Sunday with the Sunday Times available.

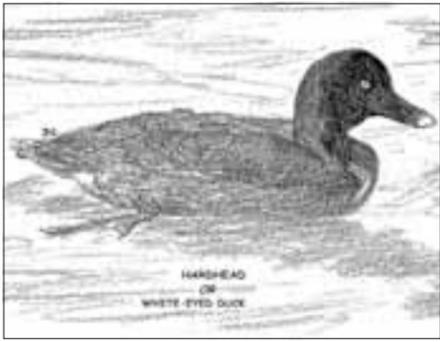
We look forward to seeing you again.

Hours Fri-Sat 10am - 3pm Sunday 9am - 3pm

Closed Public Holidays

Email: treescafe@hotmail.com www.treescafebolgart.com

Hardhead Duck visits Toodyay



Bird of the Month

Desraé Clarke

HARDHEAD Duck. Although the Hardhead Duck is not a common waterbird in this area the Hardhead has been observed on our waterways.

This species is also called the White-eyed Duck as the male has a distinctive white eye. Its body colour is a rich mahogany and in flight it shows white underwings and belly.

Its blackish-coloured bill is also distinctive as it is crossed with a blue-white band.

The female has a much paler brown body colour, a whitish breast, a dark eye and a blue-grey bill.

She is larger than the male at 420mm-545mm compared with the male at 415mm-490mm. Although this duck is usually silent the male has a soft wheezy whistle while the call of the female is a harsh rattle.

Breeding is between August and December or at times when food conditions are favourable.

The nest, built by the female, is a neatly woven hollowed platform lined with down and is usually found hidden among dense reeds.

Nine to 12 creamy-white eggs are laid with the female incubating them for about 30 days.

The Hardhead is found throughout Australia, apart from the desert areas, and wherever there is water from deep permanent water to brackish pools, sewerage ponds, dams, swamps, etc..

It feeds exclusively in water, diving frequently to feed on aquatic plants, insects, molluscs, shrimps, yabbies and small fish.

It may also dabble at the edge of a body of water.

This species never perches in trees. Wildlife Helpline 9474 9055 is a 24/7 volunteer service.

Contact Toodyay Naturalists' Club member Desrae on 6364 3609 or email: desraec@westnet.com.au.

Winter is here and it is time for soup

Scrumptious Tucker

Desraé Clarke

Chicken-and-Corn Soup

WINTER IS practically here and so is the soup season and what delicious recipes there are to be discovered.

I have found several chicken-and-corn soup recipes but this particular one is so simple, very economical, delicious and it is a favourite.

Ingredients

- 2 or 3 chicken legs or wings
- 1 onion, finely sliced
- 4 cups of water
- 2 small chicken cubes or 1 large cube
- 440gm tin of creamed corn
- 2 teaspoons soy sauce
- 1 teaspoon chopped ginger
- 3 finely chopped shallots
- 1 egg, lightly beaten

Method

Wash the chicken pieces then bring them to the boil in a large saucepan with the water and sliced onion.

Simmer until the chicken meat is cooked and falling off the bones.

Take the chicken from the saucepan, remove the skin and bones and chop the meat into very small pieces.

Return the chicken meat to the saucepan together with the corn, soy sauce, ginger and shallots.

Bring to the boil and simmer for three minutes.

Whisk the beaten egg into the soup and serve with crusty bread.



Judges Gail Dodd (left) and Jo Gray with Greg Warburton at the bird hide.

Toodyay shortlisted for three awards

Toodyay Tidy Towns

Greg Warburton and Beth Frayne

DEADLINES were met with the submission and newsletter No. 13 going in and out on time.

Toodyay was shortlisted in three award categories: Natural Environment Conservation, Heritage and Culture, and Young Legends. It was also selected as one of the seven towns vying for the state title.

On Judgment Day, June 16, everything went like clockwork due to many wonderful people helping to welcome judges Jo Gray and Gail Dodd in our heritage shire chambers.

The tour, displays and presentations once again showed what an amazing place and community we are.

Thanks to Debra for organising everything so well for the 15 people who watched the presentations.

Also thanks to Margie, Kristee, Linda Rooney and Greg, for helping Beth compile and present the powerpoint presentation.

Kristee's Young Legends presentation video left us all feeling impressed, proud and not surprised that we are state finalists in that category.

Vicki, Rob Broderick, Margie, and Toodyay District High School's Bev, Jana, and Tim earn congratulations for talking to the judges during the tour.

Many shire staff and volunteers were out cleaning up prior to judging, especially Andrew Carr who collected dozens of bags of litter at various locations.

Recent disappointing occurrences around the shire reaffirms that we need to keep Toodyay Tidy Towns going strong due

to some incomprehensible incidents of dumping in our reserves.

Julimar is a problem – large-scale dumping occurs in the Julimar Conservation Area which some people seem to consider a rubbish dump.

Greg and Vicki, with the help of Andrew, surveyed the worst areas and collected as much as they could, but unfortunately dumped asbestos is a major problem.

Department of Parks and Wildlife's caution tape placed during the recent controlled burning operation now festoons vegetation, adding to the litter load.

4WD Club help – Barry Cullen, Environmental Officer of the Four Wheel Drive Club of WA, is organising club clean-up activities in the Julimar Conservation Area to remove the pollution.

There is an alarming build-up of roadside litter along Julimar Road, rivalling sections of Toodyay Road.

A tent full of garbage was pitched in Balgaling Reserve next to an abandoned car. It took hours to remove the rubbish.

Red Hill Progress – the club recently met the Gidgegannup Progress Association to discuss a Red Hill clean-up.

They have worked hard over many years with little help from responsible agencies.

Dumping, resulting from no access to the waste-management facility sometimes occurs within the Gidgegannup town site.

We continue to campaign and work with Toodyay Road communities to get action.

Bottletop art – The Toodyay Tidy Towns Association's Toodyay Inclusive Program Session in July aims to make a bottletop mural (check our [facebook page](#)).

Please ring 9574 22 58 for information.

YOUTH FOCUS COMMUNITY GRANT



'Opening opportunities for a brighter future'

108 Stirling Terrace, Toodyay
Phone 9574 4077

Toodyay & Districts
Community Bank® Branch



79 Stirling Tce,
PO Box 862,
Toodyay WA 6566
P: 08 9574 5357
e: toodyay@crc.net.au
w: www.toodyay.crc.net.au

JULY 2015

MULTIFARIOUS MONDAYS

Art & Craft Group

MONDAYS

10:00am – 12:30pm
Cost \$4.00 per person
(plus cost of materials)

CCCs

Coffee, Chat & Crochet

TUESDAYS

9:30am – 12:00pm
Cost \$3.00 per person

ENGLISH AS A 2ND LANGUAGE

TUESDAYS

11:00am – 1:30pm
FREE

VOLUNTEERING WA TRAINING THURSDAY 13TH & FRIDAY 14TH AUGUST

This comprehensive 1.5 day course, delivered at the TCRC will provide your committee/community group with valuable skills to attract new volunteers, including generation X & Y. For further details or to register your interest, please contact our friendly staff.
Cost: \$65 per person (for both days)

BULK SCAN JULY SPECIAL

Do you have a collection of old (but important) documents that you'd like to back-up?
\$2.00 (up to 10 Pages)
\$4.00 (more than 10 pages)
We will scan the document and email it back to you within minutes.

ONE-ON-ONE COMPUTER TUTORING

We offer a range of one-on-one tutoring opportunities. Contact us to discuss your needs.

TOODYAY INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY PROGRAM

MONDAY 13TH – FRIDAY 17TH JULY

The Toodyay Community Resource Centre will once again deliver an activity for the Toodyay Inclusive Community Program! We are really looking forward to developing an EPIC program that will appeal to everyone! Keep updated with news on our Facebook page, or to join the mailing list, email Kristee at eso@toodyay.wa.gov.au



TOODYAY COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER 2015 AT 6PM

The Toodyay Community Resource Centre welcomes new faces to our Annual General Meeting. We provide a supportive environment that inspires new ideas and encourages different perspectives and we want YOURS!

By joining our committee, you'll have the opportunity to connect with the Toodyay community through a myriad of projects and events, receive a raft of training and be part of a team that values your contribution.

Want to know more? Please contact our Chairperson, Gale Anderson at gale@wts.com.au or pop in to our office.



Are you interested in becoming part of Local Legends for 2015/2016? Please contact Tenielle on 9574 5357 or email toodyay@crc.net.au to discuss the benefits for your local business.

JOBS BOARD

Drop by and check out our Jobs Board. Updated daily and features jobs in Toodyay, Northam & Wheatbelt and opportunities closer to Perth. We share all Toodyay job opportunities to our Facebook page also.

PRIVATE MEETING ROOM

Meeting room and video-conferencing available for hire. Please contact us to enquire about our rates.

TOODYAY INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY PROGRAM

MONDAY 13 - FRIDAY 17 JULY 2015



MONDAY 13 JULY

TREE PLANTING

Millard's Pool
9am - 11am

DANCE

Toodyay Memorial Hall
12pm - 2pm* **Under 9's 12pm - 1pm*

TUESDAY 14 JULY

TENNIS

Toodyay Tennis Club
9am - 11am

CATCH MUSIC

Toodyay Memorial Hall
12pm - 2pm

WEDNESDAY 15 JULY

ACTIVITY

Location
9am - 11am

RECYCLED ART

Toodyay Memorial Hall
12pm - 2pm

THURSDAY 16 JULY

SCOUTS

Youth Hall
9am - 11am

DANCE

Toodyay Memorial Hall
12pm - 2pm

FRIDAY 17 JULY

HISTORIC TREASURES

Old Newcastle Gaol Museum
9am - 11am

ACTIVITY

Location
12pm - 2pm

Your local community groups are hosting **FREE** have-a-go sessions with a variety of activities, games and challenges these school holidays! **Everyone is welcome - all ages, all abilities!** Remember to: Slip, Slop, Slap!

REGISTRATIONS ARE ESSENTIAL AS SOME ACTIVITIES HAVE LIMITED SPACES!

Registration forms are available from the following locations:

- Toodyay Visitors Centre
- Toodyay Public Library
- Toodyay Community Resource Centre
- Toodyay District High School

For further information contact Kristee Jolly at the Shire of Toodyay on 9574 2133 or email eso@toodyay.wa.gov.au



OUR SHIRE NEWS

JUNE 2015



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Recently, the Shire CEO and I met with the Federal Member for Pearce, the Honourable Christian Porter. The main purpose of his visit was to formally advise us that as part of its 2015 Budget allocations the Federal coalition has allocated \$334,938 of Black Spot funding to upgrade portion of Julimar road in the vicinity of the West Toodyay Bridge. Mr Porter also discussed the criteria surrounding applications for funding under the Federal National Stronger Regions Fund (NSRF). At this point in time NSRF appears to be the only avenue of Federal funding available for the Shire to access for our Sport and Recreation Precinct and this discussion was a precursor to me visiting Canberra to lobby for funding consideration.

Mid June in Canberra I met with an Officer from the Deputy Prime Minister's Office

and the Minister for Health and Sport to further our case for NSRF funding and I am extremely grateful for their advice and encouragement. I was also supported at these meetings by advisors representing the Hon Christian Porter and I thank them for their help.

Whilst in Canberra I represented the Toodyay Shire at the annual Australian Local Government National General Assembly preceded by a one day Regional Forum. Keynote speakers at these events included the Hon. Warren Truss - Deputy Prime Minister, The Hon Bill Shorten - Leader of the Opposition, Greens Leader Senator Richard Di Natale and several other perhaps lesser known persons speaking on a wide range of subjects relevant to local government. I will be presenting a report by way of a general overview to Council at a future Council Forum.

One speaker of note was 2015 Australian of the Year, Rosie Batty who spoke of her ongoing campaign against family violence. Ms Batty presented disturbing statistics

on violence towards women and children and has suggested that the term Family Terrorism may be a more appropriate terminology. She reiterated that family violence is not restricted to culture, income, education or race but touches all members of our society. Domestic violence accounts for the death of close to two Australian women per week and Police nationwide deal with an average 358 domestic violence matters per day.

Other speakers emphasised that the epidemic of methamphetamine use, commonly known as ICE, that has currently reached alarming proportions in our country now touches the majority of Australians in some way, whether by association with a person using this drug or affected by associated criminal activity. Again the statistics are frightening.

I encourage Council to recognise the devastating effects of both domestic violence and drug use and to do all it can to encourage recognition of these problems within our community.

EMPLOYMENT

LIBRARY OFFICER (PART-TIME) REMUNERATION PACKAGE \$58,950 (PRO-RATA)

The Shire of Toodyay is seeking an enthusiastic person to join the Toodyay Library Team. The Shire has a strong focus on providing excellent customer service.

The successful applicant will be a team player who assists in all aspects of Library Services. They will also play an active role in regular activities/events that are arranged through the Library.

The position is part-time and the successful applicant will need to be available to work alternate Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

The remuneration includes a cash component of \$50,960 pro-rata, uniform allowance and matching superannuation as per Council Policy.

A high level of interpersonal and communication skills will be highly regarded. For an Application Package including the Position Description visit www.toodyay.wa.gov.au or contact Carrie Skinner on 9574 9305.

Further information regarding the role is available by contacting Mrs Angi McCluskey - Senior Library Officer direct on 9574 2323.

Applications, which must address the selection criteria, should be forwarded to the Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Toodyay, PO Box 96, TOODYAY WA 6566 marked "CONFIDENTIAL - LIBRARY OFFICER (PART-TIME)" or emailed to records@toodyay.wa.gov.au.

Applications close 4.00pm on Friday 17 July 2015

Stan Scott
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO LEVY DIFFERENTIAL RATES

In accordance with Section 6.36 of the Local Government Act 1995, the Shire of Toodyay hereby gives notice of its intention to impose differential rates on rateable property in the Shire of Toodyay in the 2015/16 financial year.

Details of the proposed differential rates are as follows:

Category of Property	Rate in \$	Minimum Payment \$
General Rate - Gross Rental Value (GRV)		
Residential	12.1925	1,225.00
Commercial	14.5307	1,225.00
Industrial	13.3170	1,225.00
Other	12.1925	1,225.00
General Rate - Unimproved Value (UV)		
General	0.8763	1,225.00
Rural	0.8763	1,225.00
Morangup	0.8763	1,225.00

The rates in the dollar (\$) shown are estimates and may be changed as part of the Council's deliberations of any submission received. All normal statutory concessions for pensioner and other concession holders will apply.

The object of and reasons for each proposed rate and minimum payment may be inspected at any time on the Shire's website Toodyay.wa.gov.au or at the Shire's administration office at 15 Fiennes Street, Toodyay during normal business hours.

The Shire invites submissions in relation to the proposed differential rates which are to be addressed to Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Toodyay, PO Box 96 Toodyay 6566, by 4.30pm on Wednesday 22 July 2015.

Stan Scott
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

REGIONAL ACHIEVEMENT & COMMUNITY AWARDS

The search is on for individuals, businesses and community groups that are making a difference in our local community through the annual Western Australian Regional Achievement and Community Awards.

The Shire of Toodyay invites all residents to consider nominating an individual, business or group that is helping to reshape and inspire our community. If you know someone that has provided support and made a real difference in your life, why not give them a pat on the back and nominate them for an award. It would be great for our community contributors to be showcased in these Awards.

Nominations are now open in the following categories:

- Insurance Commission of Western Australia - Regional Safety Award
- LandCorp - Sustainability Award
- Perth Airport - Events and Tourism Award
- Prime Super - Community Group of the Year Award
- Horizon Power - Leadership and Innovation Award
- Rinehart - Development of Northern Regional WA Award
- Curtin University - Teaching Excellence Award
- Worldwide Printing Solutions - Sports Award

All category winners will receive \$2,000 thanks to the Commonwealth Bank. One of the eight winners in this year's Western Australian Regional Achievement and Community Awards will be selected as the Department of Regional Development Overall Award winner and will receive an additional \$2,000 from the Commonwealth Bank.

Nomination enquiry brochures are available from the electorate office, sponsors or by contacting the Awards Office on 08 9201 1155, emailing wa@awardsaustralia.com or by nominating online at www.awardsaustralia.com

Nominations close Friday 7th August 2015