

# The Toodyay Herald

Your locally owned  
community newspaper  
Est. 1902

4250 copies circulating in Toodyay, West Toodyay,  
Goomalling, Bolgart, Calingiri, Morangup, Coondle,  
Culham, Bejoording, Nunile, Julimar, Bakers Hill, Clackline,  
Wundowie, Gidgegannup and local districts

May 2016  
346

## Moondyne magic attracts bumper crowd



Hundreds gather in Stirling Terrace to witness one of two mock trials of Moondyne Joe (pictured below right) for stealing a horse, bridle and saddle. Perfect autumn weather for this year's annual Moondyne Festival and a big range of attractions – including a moustache competition, sheep shearing, swaggies, musketry, floozy contest, colonial coppers and town crier – drew 3000 people. It provided bumper trading for Toodyay's restaurants, cafes, bars and other retailers. Photo: Nikki Spencer. More pictures Page 11.

## City dogs maul sheep

Michael Sinclair-Jones

NUNILE sheep farmer Des Driessen has a warning for weekend visitors who bring their city dogs to Toodyay – lock them up at night or risk having them poisoned.

Des says he has lost 42 fine-wool merino ewes worth up to \$200 each and a top stud ram worth about \$2000 since last year's shearing season – all savagely torn apart in night-time dog attacks.

"They're silent killers, they don't bark and it sickens me in the morning when I find sheep on my property with their throats torn out and hind legs butchered," Mr Driessen said.

Mr Driessen said the attacks seemed to happen mostly on long weekends when hobby farmers invite friends with their big dogs, which are allowed to roam free at night.

"It's cost me more than \$10,000 in stock losses since last September and I want it to stop."

Mr Driessen first raised his concerns in a letter to the Shire of Toodyay more than a year ago and was told eight weeks later that rangers already knew about the problem and had 'canvassed' nearby property owners about unregistered or uncontrolled dogs.

"Unfortunately, none of this activity has identified any offences or obvious source of the problems you have experienced," Toodyay Shire CEO Stan Scott wrote.

"We will continue to pay particular attention to dog control in your location but as always it is difficult to actually catch the dogs in the act."

Mr Driessen used Question Time at last month's Toodyay Shire Council meeting to complain that stray dogs were still killing up to nine sheep a night on his property.

"We lose sheep every long weekend," he said.

"I reckon it's visitors on hobby farms who bring their city dogs to the country and let them roam loose at night without thinking about the damage they do to other people's property."

"I've warned about a dozen hobby farmers in the area that I'm accredited to use 1080 poison and I will use it in dog baits to stop my sheep being torn to bits at night."

"I'd like shire rangers to be a little more aggressive towards stray dogs that attack sheep."

Toodyay Shire President David Dow said Cr Eric Twine had already raised the stray dog problem with shire staff.

Cr Dow said he would take Mr Driessen's question on notice and answer it at the council's next meeting on Tuesday May 24.

"We certainly won't ignore your questions," Cr Dow said.

"We have a problem with hobby farmers and visitors bringing their big guard dogs up from the city."



Nunile farmer Des Driessen says he will use 1080 poison baits to stop dogs from neighbouring properties tearing his sheep apart on long weekends.

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](mailto:advertising@toodyayherald.com.au). Editorial contributions and photographs should be emailed to [news@toodyayherald.com.au](mailto: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 \$303(postage and packaging) per year (11 issues). Please send a cheque to PO Box 100, Toodyay 6566

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership of *The Toodyay Herald* is available 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.

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 Members:  
 Sandra Harms, Stirling Hamilton,  
 Rosemary Madacsi, Andrew McCann  
 and Michelle Haycock

Editor: Michael Sinclair-Jones  
 Asst Editor: Meredith Neilsen

## ADVERTISING

Sandra Harms: 9572 9061 or  
 0475 590 025  
[advertising@toodyayherald.com.au](mailto:advertising@toodyayherald.com.au)

## ACCOUNTS

Beth Ruthven 0429 896 860  
[accounts@toodyayherald.com.au](mailto:accounts@toodyayherald.com.au)

## NEWS & GENERAL INQUIRIES

9574 2106  
[news@toodyayherald.com.au](mailto:news@toodyayherald.com.au)

## DISTRIBUTION

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## NEXT TOODYAY HERALD EDITION

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Noon Wednesday  
18 May

Noon Monday  
23 May

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 Articles and stories: [news@toodyayherald.com.au](mailto:news@toodyayherald.com.au)

# Ol' Blind Joe

## The four seasons

WHEN MY son was to be born, my wife chose this fancy pants private hospital housed in a Brisbane mansion.

After he popped out, these clucky old hens declared that they're gonna weigh him and take him away for observation.

"Pig's arse ladies," I didn't say, asking politely instead for five minutes alone with my family first.

After his brief kiss and cuddle from mum, I stole him away and crept up into the attic to find sanctuary behind an old wardrobe.

For the rest of the afternoon while his mother slept, I sat cross-legged and cradled him with my finger in his mouth to suckle.

Babies spend nine months in the shadowed sea of their mother's belly and the beat never stops - it's as regular as clockwork.

To put a newborn in a crib under fluorescent tubes in a room full of crying babies is heartless.

They should be with their mother drinking jugs of milk and listening to that song they know so well.

Things have improved a bit since then - but baby, we still gotta long way to go.

The blossoming of childhood is the most beautiful of all seasons and an enchanting time for both parent and child.

I jagged it and grew up in San Francisco during the sixties and school was cool.

The library, music room, swimming pool and art workshop were open all year with a couple of teachers wandering around if you needed a hand.

There was even a games room with a pool table, ping pong, chess, darts, etc.

On the weekends there was a hangi - a Maori way to cook food on hot rocks in the ground - bicycle decoration and other loosely-based activities to take part in.

Down the road was a fascinating natural history museum where you could withdraw live critters like in a library.

They lent cages with raccoons, snakes, birds or whatever you wanted with tucker for them.

For a month they would join the dozen aquariums in our shed full of lizards and snakes I'd caught in the hills at age eight.

I mention this as I heard on the radio that they're gonna have this walk-to-school day and they said kids until the age of 10 have to hold an adult's hand crossing the road.

Bugger that - if I saw my parents on the way to school I'd turn around and run away across the highway before they saw me.

From the age of 14, I was a YMCA and YWCA youth leader and read widely on the subject of child psychology.

On weekends, kids played games, made music and created arts and crafts.

Holidays involved camping, canoeing, bushwalks and archery, etc.

Little did they know they were learning things while having a bunch of fun.

Playing - unstructured time with rules set by the kids - is how they learn independence, problem-solving, social skills and bravery.

Strong-willed children become adults who can change the world if we resist the temptation to tame the spirit out of them.

Children are now less free than they have ever been and miss out on critical life-coping skills because they don't play anymore.

In 1998, 30 per cent of US teachers believed that children should learn to read while in kindergarten (pre-school) - by 2010 it was 80 per cent.

For 40 per cent of British kids, wealth and fame are their sole ambitions.

Competition and individualism is the religion of our time, justified by a mythology of lone rangers, sole traders, self-starters and self-made men and women.

Psychology professor Jean Twenge at San Diego State University looked at four studies covering seven million teens and young adults and compared things between the 1980s and thirty years later.

She found high school students in the 2010s were twice as likely to see a professional for mental health issues, they struggled to remember things and 73 per cent had trouble sleeping - symptoms that are all strong predictors of depression.

In 2010 the British Mental Health Foundation found loneliness to be a greater concern among 18 to 34-year-olds than among over-55s.

We have services for kids aged up to 18 and social activities for the elderly but there's a whole demographic in between that dips out.

About a third of Australians suffer from the sorrow of loneliness and a new study of three million people has found that it is as much a threat to longevity as obesity and as potent a cause of early death as smoking 15 cigarettes a day.

Dementia, high blood pressure, alcoholism and accidents - all these, like depression, paranoia, anxiety and suicide - become more prevalent when connections are cut.

The Australian Institute of Family Studies found that for elderly people "loneliness increased more sharply for men when they started to live alone than it did for women who appeared to ward off loneliness by increasing their involvement with friends and family."

Men's social networks tend to decline after the death of a partner and men are less likely to seek help or ask for support.

So drop in for a cuppa with someone you know who would enjoy a chat, and make the world a brighter place.

*I'd give all wealth that years have piled,  
 The slow result of Life's decay,  
 To be once more a little child,  
 For one bright summer day.*

Lewis Carroll (1832-1898), *Solitude*

## New online look for *The Toodyay Herald*

*THE TOODYAY HERALD* is pleased to announce the launch of a new, more user-friendly online newspaper, thanks to the generous assistance of the Wheatbelt Development Commission's Community Chest Fund, through the State Government's Royalties for Regions program.

Clicking on [toodyayherald.com.au](http://toodyayherald.com.au) will take you to a new home page with all the latest local news, photos and letters as well as past and present editions of the entire paper.

The new format enables you to keep your friends and families informed by sharing individual news stories, photos and letters on Facebook and other social media.

Our new website also has contact details for *Herald* committee members and

guidelines for writing *Herald* articles and submitting photos for publication.

We have also included an 'Emergency Contacts' menu on the home page.

It includes phone numbers and online links for essential services such as doctors, hospitals, vets, poisons information, Western Power and other useful general information.

If you know of any other helpful contact numbers for our website, please email [secretary@toodyayherald.com.au](mailto:secretary@toodyayherald.com.au).

Soon we will add a history of *The Herald* with photos.

Anyone with information about *The Herald's* history and that of its predecessor, *The Newcastle Herald*, is invited to contact us so this section can be updated.

Office hours are from 9am - noon on highlighted days April-May 2016

| Sunday | Monday               | Tuesday | Wednesday                | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|----------------------|---------|--------------------------|----------|--------|----------|
| April  | 4                    | 5       | 6                        | 7        | 8      | 9        |
| 10     | 11                   | 12      | 13                       | 14       | 15     | 16       |
| 17     | 18                   | 19      | 20<br>Advertise deadline | 21       | 22     | 23       |
| 24     | 25<br>Story deadline | 26      | 27                       | 28       | 29     | 30       |

# What do you want your shire to look like?

THE SHIRE of Toodyay will use a public survey to find out what people want their shire to look like over the next five years.

It will ask questions about future land use and development, and whether three per cent population growth is too little or too much.

The community input is being sought for a major shire review of local planning laws. Toodyay shire councillors agreed last month to circulate a questionnaire and 'issues papers' for public response.

Residents will be asked if they want more people to live in the town and more high density housing such as town houses and units.

They will also be asked if farmers should be able to diversify or subdivide.

According to the WA Planning Commission, current shire support for larger rural residential and 'lifestyle' lots of five to 40 hectares may no longer be sustainable without connection to public water supplies.

"The recent introduction of bushfire regulations will also impact on the future

viability of rural residential developments," the survey says.

Residents are asked if they want more tourism in Toodyay and on rural land, and whether the town centre is 'sufficient' to cater for current and future populations.

Residents are also asked if Toodyay needs more industrial land, what types of industries might be suitable and whether they favour a 'composite zone' where people can live in and operate a 'light-service type business'.

Other issues include bushfires, mining, water, landfill, transport, rail, infrastructure, agriculture, sport and recreation, employment and home businesses.

The shire lists heritage protection as Toodyay's No. 2 planning issue (after population) and asks if people support the shire's current approach.

There's also space in the survey for comments on any other land use planning issues that people think are important.

See Editorial, Page 3, *Bat in the Belfry*, Page 10.



## Rain fails to dampen Anzac spirit

More than 250 people braved wet weather to take part in last month's Anzac Day Dawn Service and Anzac Parade (above). Rain held off for most of the morning, including for a traditional Gunfire Breakfast. An RAAF flypast was cancelled due to low cloud but that didn't deter participants from honouring fallen and injured comrades. RSL report Page 15.

# Over 'The Ditch' Debbie no lone ranger

Ieva Tomsons

IF ANYONE was born to be a ranger, it's Toodyay's Debbie Papps.

As a fourth-generation farmer's daughter growing up in New Zealand's South Island, she was mustering sheep on horseback and shooting feral pigs, possums, rabbits and deer from an early age.

Debbie left school before she was 16 and worked various jobs until marrying in her early 20s.

She had four children and joined the local fire brigade for 'more community involvement'.

This commitment to volunteering resulted in Debbie receiving the prestigious Golden Branch for being Marlborough district's best female fire fighter in 2004.

Without planning, she was steadily building on the skill-set for becoming a professional ranger.

Debbie parted ways with her husband and headed to the top of the South Island where she worked as a private investigator and security guard – skills that have also come in handy in as a local ranger.

In Picton she met logger and fisherman Phil Papps and for a while they led a self-sufficient lifestyle in quite remote areas.

Debbie jokes that their two children Maddison (10) and Frederick (9) are "probably the result of having no TV or only one channel".

After an inexperienced logger almost felled Phil they decided to try their luck over 'The

Ditch' in Australia.

The family arrived in Perth in 2010 with a suitcase each and their legal documents.

"We thought we'd give it two years," said Debbie.

Unsurprisingly, city life wasn't for them and within six weeks they moved to Toodyay where Phil started a FIFO job and Debbie signed up for ambulance duties and joined the Central Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade.

Two years later, with retrenchment looming, Phil asked Debbie to get the forms for a ranger's position that he'd heard about.

After reading the job description, Debbie reckoned she fit the bill and Phil told her to "go for it".

In 2012 Debbie's varied work history, years of volunteering, firearms experience and knowledge of livestock landed her the ranger's job.

Debbie is part of a team that "gets on like a house on fire" and says that her boss Les Vidovich and fellow ranger Ian Whyborn work well together in trying to educate the community.

Dealing with stray stock, feral cats and dogs, issuing parking and burning infringements and clearing trees from roads are all in a day's work for a ranger.

Sifting through the faeces of a suspected canine livestock killer to establish evidence is also part of the job.

As shift workers, rangers are rostered on until 5pm when the calls are diverted to messagebank.

"We attend life-threatening incidents,

including dog attacks in progress, but all other matters such as stray cats and dogs are dealt with after 8am.

"We're not on Facebook all the time and prefer people to call and take pictures of any incidents that can help if cases go to court."

On the 1 September 2014 Debbie went to work as usual.

At noon a call came through that a truck carrying more than 400 sheep had rolled over on the outskirts of Toodyay.

It was a "shattering" day that ended at 10pm after having to shoot 282 badly injured animals.

Once again Debbie's previous experience of encountering a stock truck rollover when she was in her 20s no doubt helped

her resolve to deal expediently with the confronting scene.

Late last year Debbie's dedication to the ranger's role resulted in a nomination for WA Ranger of The Year.

Her community involvement, effective liaison with local police and emergency services and overall accessibility resulted in Debbie being named first runner-up in the state-wide contest.

"I was absolutely stoked to even be nominated," said Debbie.

For this 'accidental' ranger, being recognised as someone "who has achieved excellence in service to the community" is an unexpected bonus for doing a job she clearly loves.



Toodyay Shire Ranger Debbie Papps deals with sheep in a disastrous local truck roll-over.

# AQUARIUS

## FREIGHT



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# The Toodyay Herald

## Biting the bullet

THE TOODYAY Shire Council seems hamstrung by an inability to decide how to plan for economic growth and development

Two years ago, the shire adopted an economic development plan that said Toodyay needed to grow bigger with more jobs and young families to service the needs of its rapidly ageing population.

It said Toodyay needed to become a worker hub for "new and innovative and knowledge-intensive" industries, a mining service centre and generator of new high-skilled employment to attract younger people.

International consultants RPS said Toodyay would continue to see "considerable residential growth" reflecting lifestyle, amenity, generational and retirement appeal, and proximity to Perth.

The urgency of adopting this plan was rammed home last month in a new shire report that reveals Toodyay faces an aged-care housing crisis over the next 10 years due to a lack of local services and facilities.

So it comes as a surprise that the shire is now asking local people if they want Toodyay to grow at all.

A new shire community survey – yes, yet another one – asks if planned population growth of three per cent is too little or too much.

Most of the questions ask people if they want things to change or stay the same.

Significantly, 'Heritage Protection' is ranked above all other economic considerations except population size.

Members of organised groups that support this view are likely to respond strongly to the survey while others may see it as a waste of time, as evidenced by the poor response (less than three per cent of ratepayers) to the shire's recent 'age-friendly' survey.

Also puzzling is the lack of relevant information in supporting 'issues papers'.

There is only limited reference to the shire's economic development plan and precious little on key economic drivers identified as essential for Toodyay's growth and development over the next 20 years.

The survey cites an unnamed recent national survey which showed that "92 per cent of Australians value heritage as a core part of our national identity".

That may be little comfort to local traders, developers and ratepayers who have to run the gauntlet of shire heritage policy to get even simple things like solar panels on roofs or up-market advertising signs to promote their wares.

Others seeking to build studios and other outbuildings simply give up after months of spending thousands of dollars on architects' drawings, engineers' reports and development application fees.

Toodyay is rich in heritage architecture that shapes its unique character but the shabby state of many of the town's privately owned assets – including two historic hotels, old post office and disused tavern – indicate a need to promote more commercial investment across the whole spectrum of the local economy.

The shire needs to bite the bullet and show leadership to plan for that future.

Michael Sinclair-Jones  
Editor



The way we were – Two-year-old Rodney Lee rides a rocking horse outside the former Wendouree Tearooms (now Amy's Cafe) in Stirling Terrace circa 1942. The photo was taken by his mother Edith while she, Rodney and his older brother Gordon (now living in Fremantle) were staying with Edith's parents, the Hillbricks, who ran the bakery and tearooms 1938-45. Jagers Store (now Christmas 360) is across the road on the left. Rodney Lee, now 75, became a wool presser and lives on a 28ha property at Worsley, near Collie. Photo courtesy Gordon Lee and Toodyay Historical Society.

## letters

### Assault victim 'victimised'

AS FORMER Toodyay shire councillors, we were disappointed but not surprised to read last month's *Herald* court report of former deputy shire president Bethan Lloyd's guilty plea in the Northam Magistrate's Court to unlawfully assaulting former Cr Chris Firms in council chambers last July.

Without being present in court and with no opportunity to defend himself or present witnesses to give his version of events, the victim was victimised further.

It is a pity a man so committed to this community, people's rights, good governance and truth, and who gave eight highly productive years of his time to serve our community should be treated in this manner.

Rosemary Madacsi  
West Toodyay  
Andrew McCann  
Toodyay

### Fire bans create dust bowls

WELL, finally we are allowed to enjoy the bliss of an open fire under the stars without any restrictions or need for a permit.

This time of year also gives small land owners the chance to burn dead fuel from the previous summer.

Well that's what I thought when I tried to clear dead undergrowth on April 21 when the fire season was officially opened.

Early April rains were out of the ordinary compared with previous years.

However, a Shire of Toodyay SMS text message on March 8 said permits would be issued only for burning stubble or chaff – small land owners were not allowed to burn dead summer fuel.

Since the shire consists mostly of small hobby farms or big blocks that don't crop or wish to crop, the autumn restricted burning period applies to only a minority of mostly broadacre farms on the shire's outskirts.

This means small farms and large property owners can burn effectively only in late spring.

My problem last year was that a spring burn is not followed by sufficient rain for new growth to form and creates a barren dustbowl until first rains arrive and new growth germinates.

Another problem with bare earth is that run-off from summer storms can cause severe erosion in the burnt area because it lacks vegetation to hold soil in place.

The main purpose of an autumn burn after first rains is to clear dead summer vegetation and provide soil with natural potash left by a controlled burn.

This provides nutrients for greener stock pasture and also helps seeds to sprout for flora that need fire to bake the seed and open it to germinate when rains arrive.

Allowing property owners to burn only in the current 'unrestricted' period means a lot of the fuel and dead growth is now too wet to burn without heavy smoke which annoys neighbouring property owners and is a potential health risk.

I and many others try to do the right thing by removing as much fuel before winter arrives and very little will burn.

This helps make properties less fire prone in summer because it reduces fuel levels.

With fires becoming more intense and more frequent, I would have thought the shire would do more to work with land owners who want to reduce the impact of fires on their properties.

The shire's varied topography means it is not viable for some property owners to use mechanical means to slash or maintain fuel levels.

For them, burning is the most effective and cost-efficient measure available.

Surely now that permits are being controlled by the shire, it can ease up on the strict 'farmers only' policy and allow other property owners the same opportunity to burn off dead fuel.

This will result in less smoke pollution and reduce the threat of severe fire in the summer for those who elect not to live in an arid wasteland after a spring burn.

James Knapp  
Volunteer firefighter/property owner  
Coondle East

### Old fogeyville

NOT ONLY is there a looming crisis for aged care in Toodyay, there is a huge crisis looming for young people to stay or return and develop businesses and other creative outlets in this town.

If this is not supported by local community groups and even more so the shire and its bureaucrats, young people will not be encouraged to be part of Toodyay.

Toodyay will become nothing but a retirement community.

We will then need wheelchair kerbs, aging clubs, old-age specific activities, lots of dusting of cob webs, dust (more than we already have) and other considerations such as a 20km speed limit, traffic lights to allow the slower populations to cross the road without danger, no dogs as they can endanger the older feeble people and so on.

Monika Zechetmayrand Peter Edwards  
Toodyay

### Beauty spot blemish

IN THE SCHOOL holidays our mum took us for a drive to Cobbler Pool.

It is very beautiful there by the rapids and we saw frogs, kangaroos, herons, and a spoonbill.

What wasn't so nice was the amount of rubbish people have left behind. It was a lot – beer and wine bottles, cans, cigarette packets, food containers and drug paraphernalia among other things.

We tried to help by picking up as much as we could, even though some of it was yucky and potentially dangerous to humans and wildlife.

Perhaps the shire could consider putting a few bins at this popular beauty spot and campsite?

And how about an eco-friendly toilet? The toilet paper scattered around the site was really off-putting.

Surely if these simple resources were there visitors would use them instead of trashing the fragile environment.

Leo (13) and Fuzz (8) Millett  
Toodyay

### High and dry

I WAS bemused by the photo caption on page three of the last month's *Herald* that read "The Avon River in full flood".

If the author had done a little research they would have seen that the flow depicted in the photo is only a trickle compared to the Avon's flood history.

It's worth having a look at the Newcastle Bridge pylon at Duidgee Park to see the flood levels marked there.

The January 2000 flow level is only a metre up the pylon but nearly over-topped West Toodyay Bridge, and the 1983 flood created a wall of water nearly two metres high over Extracts Weir.

The river flooded Beverley, York and Northam so regularly in the 1950s that in response the State Government commenced the River Training Scheme to change its flow.

The highest flood level recorded for the Avon was back in 1872 – regarded as a one-in-100-year event that saw water lapping at the foundations of St. Stephen's Church.

Half of the original Toodyay settlement was washed away.

We are well overdue for another 100-year flood, which if it occurred would have a devastating effect on our town.

However, with climate change it's hard to imagine that happening.

Greg Warburton  
West Toodyay

### Online Herald rocks

THE NEW *Toodyay Herald* website looks great and the inclusion of a 'what's on' listing and style guides for contributors is an excellent idea.

I know how complicated it can be to create such a site and make sure that the navigation works properly and that the links are all double and triple checked.

Well done to *The Herald* team.

Clive Eger  
Dumbarton

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

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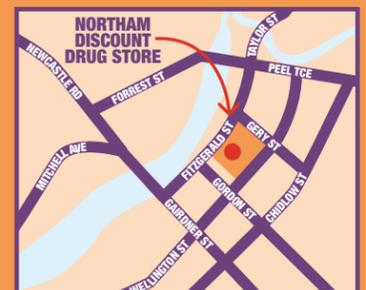
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### TRADING HOURS

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# TRG squad called to 'armed seige'

## Police Beat

With Sgt Warren Conder  
Toodyay Police Station



TWO ALLEGED domestic violence sieges at the same address on the same night last month have led to a man being jailed for breach of parole and further charges being laid.

Police were called to a rural property in Clackline about 10pm on a Sunday by a man who claimed he had just been attacked in his home by a cousin armed with a Bowie knife. The man claimed he was forced out of his house, leaving his partner inside to face the threat of further violence.

Toodyay officers arrived at the scene to assist Northam police and located a man with a small cut on his throat and other minor wounds.

They called for reinforcements from the Tactical Response Group (TRG) which specialises in sieges.

A tactical plan was drawn up and six officers approached the property, entered it and freed the woman.

The cousin was unhurt but the woman had facial bruises.

However, it soon became apparent to police that the alleged offender was not the cousin but the man who had called for help.

The woman claimed the cousin – who lives in the same house – had gone to her defence when her partner allegedly bashed her during an argument.

The cousin used military skills to allegedly disarm the man and evict him from house.

Police subsequently charged the woman's partner with one count each of domestic assault and wilfully misleading police.

He was released on protective bail early next morning on condition he did not return to the house or try to contact his partner.

However, police allege the man returned to the house about 6.30am after being released on bail and barricaded himself in for a second siege before being re-arrested.

He was found to be on parole for an earlier offence, taken into custody and escorted back to jail to face further charges in the Northam Magistrate's Court.

### Drug-drivers test positive

A WHEATBELT road traffic safety blitz during the Anzac Day long weekend resulted in 2900 vehicles stopped, including 20 in Toodyay just prior to the town's 10.30am Anzac Day Parade on Monday April 25.

The Toodyay operation in Stirling Terrace

resulted in three motorists charged with driving without a valid driver's licence and one for driving an unlicensed vehicle.

Three days later, police conducted another operation using marked and unmarked cars and stopped another 400 motorists in Stirling Terrace.

The second operation resulted in two drug-driving charges – one for cannabis and the other for methamphetamine.

The methamphetamine driver had no valid driver's licence.

Another motorist was found to be in possession of an unlicensed firearm, which was seized by police.

Two other motorists had no valid driver's licences and five vehicles were issued with work orders for road safety defects.

There were no positive tests for drink-driving.

"I called in the Wheatbelt Traffic Enforcement Group for these traffic campaigns because I am a firm believer that they reduce road trauma," Sgt Conder said.

"They also help reduce the number of drug- and drink-drivers who think they have a right to drive on our roads.

"Unlike for alcohol, there is no minimum amount of illegal drug in a person's system below which a person is allowed to drive.

"Planned new WA laws will suspend drivers' licences as soon as a drug test confirms positive, as currently occurs for drink-drivers, instead of waiting until court which could take several months."

The maximum penalty for a drug-driving first offence is \$500 and three demerit points, with double demerits on the Anzac Day long weekend and other designated WA public holiday long weekends.

Drug-driving second offenders face a penalty of \$500-\$1000 and lose their licence for a minimum of six months.



A 1960s Stihl 08 chainsaw with distinctive red bumper spike similar to one stolen last month from a locked shed at Toodyay District High School.

Drivers found to be impaired by drugs, characterised by suspicious or erratic driving confirmed by a driver assessment or blood test, face a more serious charge.

The first offence penalty is a fine of \$900-\$2500 and licence loss for a minimum of 10 months.

Second offenders can be fined \$2100-\$3500 and lose their licence for 30 months or more, while third offenders can be fined up to \$5000, lose their licence permanently or be jailed for 18 months.

### Burglary spike

LOCAL police have reported a recent spike in burglaries in the Sandplain Road/Wandoo Circle area, about five kilometres south of the Toodyay townsite.

Police are chasing leads on the stolen equipment, which includes chainsaws and other tools and equipment stored in sheds.

The Toodyay District High School was also burgled and a demolition hammer and a 1960s Stihl 08 chainsaw with a distinctive

red bumper spike stolen from a locked shed.

A unique-looking bicycle worth about \$500 was stolen when a Stirling Terrace house was broken into.

The black and grey Malvern Star has unusual gold-coloured pedals.

Police are seeking information from anyone who may have seen the missing bicycle or other stolen goods.

### Groundhog Day

A MAN driving an unregistered Holden Commodore ute with an unroadworthy work order was also found to have no valid driver's licence when stopped by police for a traffic check on the Bindi Bindi Road last month.

A week later, police spotted the same vehicle being driven by the same man in Folewood Road, and this time his vehicle was seized.

The man is due to face Northam Magistrate's Court on two counts each of driving without a valid licence, driving an unlicensed vehicle and driving an unroadworthy vehicle.

# Illegal dumping mars Anzac Day break

## Greg Warburton

WHILE most of us were remembering our fallen service men and women over the Anzac Day long weekend it seems others took advantage of the holiday to undertake illegal dumping throughout the shire.

By Tuesday, several reports had come in of dumped rubbish and tyres including one incident where the equivalent of four trailer/ute loads had been deposited in a nature reserve at Coondle West.

Luckily community-minded locals Brenton, Russell and Toni Chrimmes and Jess Boag were tipped off and went out to investigate.



Unwanted tyres dumped illegally at Dumbarton Bridge Reserve on Anzac Day long weekend.

They were appalled and did not hesitate to clean it up. Special thanks are extended to the crew for their quick response.

By the end of the operation the rubbish had been relocated to the Waste Transfer Station where it should have gone in the first place.

It is mystifying as to why the culprit did not simply take the rubbish there instead of going to the trouble of dragging it up a rough track and risking a hefty fine.

Creating an environmental hazard and contaminating valuable wildlife habitat is also a consideration.

Even if you don't have a tip pass it's only a \$3.50 fee.

More than 25 tyres were dumped in full view at the Dumbarton Bridge reserve and the serial tyre dumping at River Road continues.

The Main Roads bins were filled to overflowing with household rubbish during the weekend.

This included the bins at the information bay that contained rotting fish, garden weeds and a kangaroo carcass. Certainly not rubbish you'd expect to accumulate on a normal road trip.

Because Main Roads no longer empty these bins it is left up to volunteers to do the work.

It is illegal to dump household rubbish in Main Roads bins.

Meanwhile, our rangers and reserve management officer are investigating these incidents.

A lot of evidence is usually contained within an illegal dump and it is often easy to trace it.

Several prosecutions have resulted from

investigations recently.

Anyone contemplating these actions needs to understand that it is a criminal offence and prosecution can result with fines up to \$5000.

These actions are particularly insulting to Toodyay Tidy Towns who are working hard to keep our community litter-free.

Please report illegal dumping or suspicious related behaviour to the shire on 9574 2258.

## FAMILY LAW

### DEFACTO RELATIONSHIPS

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## 60 March calls keep ambos busy

**St John Ambulance**  
Heather Appleby

ON AN average of twice a day in March you may have seen the Toodyay & Districts Ambulance on the road as crews attended a total of 60 calls.

The Bolgart ambulance attended two call-outs, the Morangup crew attended 18 and Toodyay crews went out 40 times.

Of these 60 calls, 41 were medical transports, seven were trauma cases, six were for cardiac problems and there were six other various emergencies.

Medical transports are transfers of patients from hospital to hospital.

We usually travel from Northam Hospital to one of the Perth hospitals, but have been known to travel from York, Quairading,

Narrogin, Merredin and many more country towns.

All of our crews are volunteers who put in hours of their own time and not only when you might see them in the ambulance.

They also attend regular training sessions, provide first aid posts at the football and events such as the Moondyne Festival and conduct training sessions at the sub-centre, schools and volunteer fire brigade stations.

The Bolgart and Morangup sub-branches are still seeking additional volunteers.

If you have an interest in serving the community as a St John Ambulance officer, you can register online at [stjohnchangeslives.com.au/volunteer-ambulance-officer.html](http://stjohnchangeslives.com.au/volunteer-ambulance-officer.html).

Thank you to all who supported our Mothers Day raffle and special thanks to the Toodyay businesses who donated goods

or services: Toodyay Bakery, Toodyay Newsagency, Toodyay Chemmart Pharmacy, Amy's Café and the Griffiths family.

We really appreciate your support, as we realise just how often you must be asked for donations.

Have you completed a first aid course?

If not, the St John Ambulance Toodyay Sub-Centre is holding another one-day course on Saturday May 14.

This provides an excellent grounding in first aid, enabling you to gain the skills needed to provide first aid procedures and basic life support skills.

A free first aid kit is provided to all participants.

Call Carolyne for details on 9574 2390 or 0428 957 600 or email [sjatoodyay@bigpond.com](mailto:sjatoodyay@bigpond.com)

## It's raining, it's pouring but don't you go snoring

**Bejording Volunteer Bushfire Brigade**

From the desk of The Badger

APRIL SHOWERS certainly blessed us with some excellent soaking rain mid month plus a good follow up a week or so later.

Everywhere is greening up, and an early spraying of fire breaks is a good idea.

The fire risk is subsiding rapidly, but only outdoors. Indoors it is increasing.

House and shed fires can happen at any time of the year, but especially in the colder and wetter seasons when electric heaters and log fires become a part of daily life.

So please focus on protecting your property indoors as vigilantly as you protect it outdoors in the dry season.

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.

When burning outdoors you still need to be vigilant and remember that windy days and fires are not a good mix.

Hopefully May will be a well earned breather for all our active firefighters as well as our auxiliaries, and we might even plan a few more social events.

The main thing is we have finished the fire season intact and safe; we met every demand on our services and we have a solid team taking us into next year.

We have moved from the permit season and now there are no restrictions our real enemies for the coming months will be complacency and lack of care.

If you have any questions, contact captain Barry Grey on 9574 2149 or the badger on 9574 4834. Please leave a message if we are not there.

Our next regular meeting is at 6.00pm on Tuesday May 17 at the shed.

## Wayne gets a gong for volunteering

**Toodyay Central Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade**

Mick McKeown

WAYNE WEAVER has been named Volunteer of the Year for 2015/2016 by Toodyay Central Bush Fire Brigade.

It may have been a quiet year for most of our brigade members but Wayne turned out on many more occasions than the rest of us

He attended most of the fires and call-outs in the shire over the summer and travelled to Northam, Gidgegannup and Waroona-Yarloop.

While we were all digesting our turkey

and plum pudding, Wayne turned out on Christmas Day when he took the 12.2 water tanker to a fire in Northam.

Wayne was presented with his award at the April meeting of the Brigade.

This was our Annual General Meeting and this year's officer holders are: Captain – Mick McKeown, Lieutenants – Mick Devlin, Chris Farrall and Mick Giles, Fire Control Officers – Brian Wood and Rowan Hunter, Secretary – Wayne Clarke, Treasurer – Bronwyn King, Maintenance Officer – Will Hort.

The only new appointment was Bronwyn King who has taken on the treasurer's job.

This year is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the

formation of Central Brigade and we marked the occasion at the April meeting by the cutting of an anniversary cake which we were then obliged to consume before being allowed to go home.

Thanks to Desrae Clarke for the excellent cake bought from the Toodyay Bakery.

If you are interested in finding out more about our brigade, or if you would like to join us, contact our captain, Mick McKeown 0439 998 808, our secretary, Wayne Clarke 6364 3609 or email: [2jcentralvbf@westnet.com.au](mailto:2jcentralvbf@westnet.com.au).

Our next monthly meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 28th of June at the fire-station in Stirling Terrace.

## Bonfire barbecue to boost the ranks

**Julimar VBFB**  
Alison Wroth

RETURNING from the Anzac service in town, I realised how many times the word 'volunteer' was used in the speeches.

WW1 was the war to end all wars and many men enlisted or volunteered, risking their lives and any chance of having a family, to serve their country.

What a huge effort by these young and sometimes not so young men for the nation they loved.

Compared with these incredible acts, when a fire brigade asks for volunteers to learn skills, help the community and join a group that is more like one big family, we are not exactly knocked over in the rush.

We are nearly into winter now and the hills are green throughout the valley so this is a good time to remind everybody that Julimar is always keen to attract new and keen brigade members.

You do not have to sign up to put your lives on the line like the Anzacs did all those years ago to become a radio operator or auxiliary member.

If you are interested in learning how to become a fire fighter and protect your home and community, please contact our Captain to discuss membership or just call into the brigade fire shed on any Friday night from 5.30pm.

There will be a casual social event on Saturday June 11 for all brigade members, whatever your rank or qualifications.

Tim, Lou and Brian have offered to cook us a lovely barbecue but I won't thank the chefs yet until we taste the meat.

Other members have offered to do the salads and all in all with the bonfire, it will be a wonderful night.

Thanks to Jan and the social committee for organising this event.

Julimar Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade is holding its AGM at 7.30pm on Saturday

June 18, following the General Meeting at 6.30pm.

Nomination sheets for the operational positions of captain, lieutenants and training officer are now on the wall and only fire fighters can nominate, second and vote for these positions.

So have a good think, grab a pen and nominate, but you must have a seconder.

All other office bearers can be nominated by fire fighters and auxiliaries who have been members for 12 months or longer.

After all the action at the AGM we will have our usual barbecue.

It's a beautiful time of year now and if the rain keeps coming, the farmers will be happy and we will have food on the table.

Time to clean up the backyard so there is not so much to do in spring. Restrictions have been lifted and all backyard rubbish piles and dry leaves can be burnt without a permit.

See you at the Brigade's fireplace on Friday nights from 5.30pm.

## Coondle brigade happy to see the green

**Coondle VBFB**  
Max Heath

HI FROM the Coondle brigade and how nice to see some green around.

It appears that our main fire season may be over but of course there is always someone who throws a spanner in the works.

The opening for burning was fairly quiet except for one burn that was conducted when conditions were not favourable, causing a lot of headaches.

Although this has been one of the quietest fire seasons for a while, the lack of finishing rains last year meant there was not the usual fuel load.

Speaking of fuel loads, and now burning restrictions have been lifted, this is the time to tidy up your property.

If you have dead grass around there is still some danger of fire creeping away, so have your equipment handy when conducting these burns.

Coondle AGM was held on April 9 and there are a number of changes.

Colin Stevens is now captain with Mark Middleton first lieutenant, second lieutenant is Deb Bowen, third lieutenant is Jamie Norgate and last but not least Dave Isbill is fourth lieutenant.

Our Treasurer is still Nick Griggs and secretary is still Sally Hudson.

It was good to see the hierarchy attend and thanks to CBFC Officer Craig Stewart for chairing the meeting.

The brigade is still training on Sundays following the meetings and our monthly meetings will continue throughout winter with training the following day.

Members are demonstrating excellent commitment to these days.

Coondle will continue its roster for a couple of weeks yet and we will of course be on standby all through the off season.

For further information please contact Colin Stevens on 9574 5967 or Sally Hudson on 0406 092 339.

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into our community**

**So where do you bank?**



# Morangup sessions back on shire agenda

**Morangup Progress Association**  
Danielle Wrench

FOLLOWING the Shire of Toodyay's commitment to two information sessions per year with Morangup residents, a Shire of Toodyay Information Session was held at the Morangup Hall on Saturday, April 16.

This was the first session for the 2015/16 financial year due to the impact of the October elections and bedding-in of four new councillors.

Attended by Shire President Cr David Dow, the full council, CEO Stan Scott and 54 Morangup residents, with an additional 35

apologies received, this was an opportunity for the shire to address any questions or concerns and to provide information and updates to the residents of Morangup.

At the previous meeting the full council and CEO sat at the front of the room facing the residents. This time the president and CEO were at the front with the rest of the councillors sitting with the residents.

To allow the Shire of Toodyay an opportunity to consider questions, the MPA made recommendation to residents that they submit questions in writing prior to the meeting.

This process proved to be an effective

way for the shire to prepare responses, thus removing the need for questions to be taken on notice – the normal practice in a forum such as this, when details are not available for a shire response.

Questions ranged from future rate-increase percentages, the plan for building and managing the ongoing costs of the public pool to an updates on the Opal Vale landfill site and bauxite mining.

Roads were also discussed – the scheduled grading of unsealed roads, future plans for the sealing of unsealed roads and the removal of dryandra (parrot bush) on verges for both fire safety and visibility.

The drop-off points for the school bus service, the National Broadband Network for Morangup and the ongoing Morangup Hall power-supply issues were also raised.

The shire advised there would be 10 discussion papers issued for comment in the near future, covering a range of topics via the Shire of Toodyay's website.

Copies would also be forwarded to Morangup Hall.

Residents were encouraged to provide feedback on topics of interest.

Residents wanting further information can contact the association secretary via email, [secretary@morangupmpa.com.au](mailto:secretary@morangupmpa.com.au).

## Overseas investors buy big lake in Wundowie

**Avon Hills Mining Awareness Group**  
Brian Dale

BEFORE WE get into recent local land transactions, AHMAG is happy to announce the winner of our first wood raffle.

Volunteer firefighter Ron Larkin of Morangup bought the winning ticket for the trailer load of split jarrah delivered last week.

Thanks to all who bought tickets increasing much-needed funds and we look forward to your support for the next raffle.

The developer of Mauravillo Estate in Wundowie, JB Investments, has sold Lake Glesna a 491 hectare site to Chinese/Singaporean investors.

Lake Glesna has an amazing spring-fed freshwater lake and is located between Mauravillo residential estate and Glesna Park owned by major landholder and farmer Peter Cook.

Glesna Park is a 5000 acre property that forms part of the Felicitas bauxite resource where tenements are managed by the recently formed Yankuang Bauxite Resources (YBR) which is 100 per cent owned by the Chinese Government.

This sale coupled with the previous sale to foreign investors of Mark Hay's Chedaring Farm on Golf Links Road Wundowie, creates even more questions and uncertainty in the area.

What lies ahead for neighbouring communities and property owners who live in close proximity to the Felicitas and

Fortuna bauxite resources?

There have been rumours of beef cattle and feedlots thrown into the speculation of land usage and it is interesting to note that when Bauxite Alumina Joint Ventures (BAJV) was operating in Bindoon, its slogan was "Beef and Bauxite".

Bruce Groenewald, YBR's exploration manager, has stated the bauxite projects will go ahead when economic conditions improve in China, probably within the next couple of years.

Mr Groenewald in response to a prospective resident's inquiry about mining also stated that:

The changeover of tenements from one business to another is taking some time to process.

When the money starts coming back in they will try to buy up parcels of land to secure the area.

Exploration will continue and they will complete their environmental studies.

There will be vast amounts of financial outlay to begin with, including the construction of the conveyer belt that will pass under Toodyay Road (road needs to be lifted or tunnelled under) and over Morangup Road.

The disused rail siding near Cobbler Pool on the Avon River would need to be rebuilt to accommodate load-out facilities for trains.

The mine, according to Mr Groenewald will operate for a minimum of 25 years but for now he was in a 'curating' mode.



Wood raffle winner Ron Larkin (left) with AHMAG's Brian Dale. Photo David Jones.

Unlike BAJV who had a shopfront in Toodyay, there has been no update from Yankuang since the takeover in January and as far as Mr Groenewald is concerned, it

seems to be business as usual.

If Herald readers hear of local land sales to overseas investors, please contact AHMAG via Facebook or ring 0418 898 788.

## Bejoording warms to winter with fire pit camaraderie

**Bejoording Community Group**

AT LAST – as I write this column, news arrived that we can light our fire pit at the shed.

There's nothing quite like standing in a big circle around that fire, feeling its warm glow flow right through to your bones, and just chatting about nothing important with friends.

Wednesday April 6 was our AGM and there were no surprises.

In his absence on a well deserved holiday the Badger was voted in as secretary, which I guess is the price you pay for not being there.

A big thank you to Kim Leonhardt for

holding down this position for some years – you deserve a break.

Barry Grey continues as president, Marc Bodium as vice-president and Linda Veltman will be treasurer.

Wednesday April 20 was our annual Air-hockey Championship, organised with precision by Renee Kesic and Monique Youssouf.

Well done girls, and the winner this year was Phil Cook from Bolgart who is our newest member.

An excellent sausage sizzle was offered after the excitement settled down.

We are expecting a good turnout for our annual Taco Night and the open fire should ensure a good crowd.

By the time you read this we will have completed our annual Clean-Up Bejoording Day and the wood cutting team will also have stacked enough logs to fuel our fire for the rest of autumn and winter.

The dust rarely gets a chance to settle on this community.

Your monthly reminder – 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.

Come along 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.

If you want to know more you can contact president Barry Grey on 9574 2149, or call The Badger on 0414 250 484.

## Back-cracking Sats are back

IT'S BEEN four years since Dr Bob Mattin retired, leaving Toodyay without a chiropractor on Saturdays.

But now, Dr Kate-Lyn McIntosh will be open on Saturdays for those who find it hard

to book in Mondays or Thursdays.

For appointments at Lamp Chiropractic Toodyay call 9574 2493 or refer to the back page of the 2016 *Toodyay Community Directory*.



**St John**

## St John Ambulance

### “Provide First Aid”

## One day course

To be held on Saturday, 14 May 2016  
St John Ambulance, Stirling Terrace Toodyay

**This is a general one day course that would benefit all those at work, home or for leisure. The course provides an excellent general grounding in first aid and will enable you to perform appropriate first aid procedures and basic life support skills. This unit satisfies training requirements across a range of community and workplace settings.**

Contact Carolynne for further details:  
Phone: 0428 957 600 or 9574 2390  
Email: [sjatoodyay@bigpond.com](mailto:sjatoodyay@bigpond.com)  
**Free first aid kit for all participants**



### Best deal for local Tradies



The Toodyay Herald offers the best exposure for tradies to the Avon & hills, circulation of 4250 copies each month and growing

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# No IGA convenience store in old Newcastle

**Toodyay Historical Society**  
Robyn Taylor, President

HOW DID the first settlers manage without a corner store, much less a supermarket, when they first set up home in the Swan River colony?

Today it is hard to imagine how daunting it would have been to plan what to take to the other side of the world, to an unknown place that had never been settled by Europeans.

Self-sufficiency was required, and the understanding that for the first couple of months there might be no reliable sources of food except what you brought with you.

Plants and seeds were an essential part of the cargo on the long voyage out from England as well as authoritative books on the cultivation of crops, orchards and vegetable gardens.

With the seasons being so different from the English climate, the settlers knew they would have to adapt.

At our April AGM, WA garden history expert John Viska revealed the fascinating story of colonial kitchen gardens in WA.

His talk was illustrated with historic sketches of garden layouts, paintings and early photographs of old cottages.

I am sure John's talk inspired many in the audience to start investigating our own early garden history in Toodyay.

At the AGM we welcomed new secretary Linda Rooney, with many thanks and appreciation to retiring secretary Desraé Clarke who will remain on our committee.

At our April meeting we were delighted to open a box sent from the Enrolled Pensioner Guards Group to find an almost intact clay pipe.

The pipe has a Donegan connection, and it may have once been a lady's pipe given the finely moulded decoration around the bowl. According to some stories, Mrs Pensioner Guard was not always ladylike in her habits.

Before the meeting, Wayne Clarke gave a very interesting talk on the history of the Toodyay Land Conservation District Committee (1989-2015).

We all agreed information such as this needs to be preserved as part of Toodyay's environmental history.

Beth Frayne led our April excursion around the Toodyay Public Cemetery to look at the burial sites of some of Toodyay's WW1 veterans.

Her research had identified at least 25 men whose exploits have been recorded in a small illustrated reference booklet.

Most were Anzac servicemen but some, including Ernest Gray (Toodyay Road Board foreman 1927-32), Tom Patten (Eric Patten's father and well-known raconteur) and John Truman (Calcarra farmer who won the Belgian Croix de Guerre) served in the British Army and migrated to WA.

After touching on the stories of eleven men, morning tea was served in the delightful CWA gazebo.

The Society had a stall at the annual Moondyne Festival attracting the crowds with our popular cut-out figures, convict Greg and information about Ol' Joe.

## Coming Events

MEMBERS please note there is no excursion this month due to our involvement with the Moondyne Festival.

Our next general meeting is 7pm, Wednesday May 18 at Donegan's Cottage, Toodyay Showgrounds.

Our feature speaker will be Jenny Edgecombe talking on 'hidden gems in my Chitty book' highlighting some significant aspects of Toodyay's history such as the pioneering work in agricultural education and the government files on the 1931 school bus crash. Visitors welcome.

For more information please contact secretary Linda Rooney secretary.2jths@gmail.com; president Robyn Taylor rdtaylor@iinet.net.au. Phone 9574 2578, or Beth Frayne toobide4@iinet.net.au, 9574 5971.

Postal address: PO Box 32, Toodyay WA 6566.

Donegan's Cottage in the Showgrounds is open 1-3pm every Thursday.

Membership is fantastic value at \$10 pa. Contact: Robyn Taylor: 9574 2578.



Visiting the grave of WW1 veteran Earl Joseph Wroth. (Photo: Jenny Edgecombe.)

## A tidy farewell for Beth

**Toodyay Tidy Towns**  
Greg Warburton

THE TOODYAY Tidy Towns Committee is now thinking about the way forward after its national achievements.

Our Shire continues to support and guide the committee on its path as we aim to strengthen and enhance our effectiveness.

All the team members are committed to continuing our core work of litter and waste management and, of course, keeping Adopt-a-Spot strong but we are also inspired by future possibilities.

Firmly on the agenda going forward is a project with the working title of The Creative Interpretation of Toodyay.

This will be a way to bring into the public space the heritage, stories and characters of Toodyay in art form and everything from murals, mosaics, sculptures and informative walk paths is on the canvas.

With so much material and talent to draw on, it will be a breeze coming up with ideas.

With a little luck our budget submission will allow for the first step which is the completion of a mural on the north-facing wall of the new Charcoal Lane toilet block.

The profile and surface of the wall make it an ideal location for a mural and promises to add colour to an already greatly improved area with the new car park and facilities.

Many thanks to Deb Andrijich for organising a lovely celebration get-together at the Visitors Centre at which we had the sad task of farewelling our indefatigable secretary Beth Frayne.

Beth has been with Toodyay Tidy Towns since its early days and has been a driving force in so many ways, especially with submission writing.

Understandably, with Beth's range of community commitments and local research projects, something has got to give.

What a way to go out though, not only a National Tidy Towns Award and hosting

event but a Toodyay Active Citizen of the Year under her belt as well.

Further, Beth, Peter Robinson and the committee have all been nominated by Keep Australia Beautiful WA for the Volunteering WA awards to be announced soon.

In the meantime, committee member Linda Rooney has coordinated our submission for the Heritage and Culture Category in this year's Tidy Towns awards which was due on April 30.

Forty-three towns have entered the state awards this year, including Albany (the 2015 State title holder) and our neighbours Goomalling, Wongan Hills and Quairading.

The April Tidy Towns newsletter will cover absolutely everything about the national titles event.

All those who supported this event have received our new Certificates of Appreciation created by Debra, Beth and Greg with the help of Shire Officer Adam. Letters of thanks have also been sent to our major partners and sponsors.



Farewell and thank you Beth from the Tidy Towns Committee.

We wish to advise that the Toodyay Community Resource Centre will be closed for a short time during the transition to our new location.



## WE ARE MOVING

As from the 24th May 2016 our new location will be at the Courtyard  
111 Stirling Terrace Toodyay.  
We hope to see you at our new premises soon.

We will be providing the same great service in a more central location with expanded facilities for the community.

Our Courtyard is open to the Public during business hours and you are very welcome to come down and relax, sit read a book and eat your lunch or meet up with friends.

**Courtyard Markets are held every 3rd Saturday of the month**

If you would like to hold a stall please phone us on 9574 5357

Like us on facebook for updates and invites to events and programs



PO Box 862, Toodyay WA 6566  
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# Falling asleep in the Mad Hatter's teapot

## Bat in the Belfry

Geoff Appleby



THE SHIRE of Toodyay's apparent inability to produce accurate policy documents for council meetings continued in even more of a muddle last month with a 'local planning strategy review' full of basic drafting errors.

Readers may recall how voting in March on the shire's revised corporate business plan stalled after Shire President David Dow said that even he had "found quite a few mistakes in it".

Mercifully, it sailed through second time around in April and everyone should now be full bottle on "making it happen", to quote from the plan's cover page.

But muddle-headed thinking dominated the new local planning strategy review, which includes a ratepayers' questionnaire.

The item was moved by Cr Kate Wood and seconded by Deputy Shire President Therese Chitty after Cr Brian Rayner spotted the first clanger in Question 2(b) about the shire's planned population growth rate of three per cent.

"Should it be higher or lower?" the survey asked – tick "yes" or "no".

In other words, tick yes if it should be higher or lower or no if it should be higher or lower.

Cr Rayner said it should be two separate questions: 2(b) "should it be higher?" and 2(c) "should it be lower?" with a yes or no answer for each.

You'd think a simple stroke of a pen could have fixed it up without too much fuss but what followed was like a scene from Alice in Wonderland's Mad Hatter's Tea Party.

The Shire President reached for his rule book and declared that setting things right required proper meeting procedures to be followed.

First of all, a formal amendment was required to rewrite Question 2(b) and add a new Question 2(c), both with the correct wording.

Cr Rayner put his hand up as mover and – because other councillors also wanted to speak – Cr Dow called for a seconder, for which Cr Rob Welburn obligingly responded to get formalities underway.

On and on it went as the meeting plodded laboriously towards revising question 2(b), adding question 2(c) and changing some other obvious minor errors, with the Shire President calling speakers for, speakers against and finally speakers for or against before inviting the mover and seconder to speak again if they wanted.

Along the way, Cr Paula Greenway asked if the whole review and questionnaire should be referred back to a public forum for further discussion.

Cr David Dow said it had already been to a forum several times and he just wanted to get on with it.

Cr Craddock said a list of issues in question eight should be in the same order as those listed in a series of accompanying "issues papers".

The mover and seconder were asked if they agreed and the amendment was passed 9-0. But that wasn't the end of it.

Some councillors said lots of typographical errors still needed to be corrected.

The Shire President reached again for his rule book and declared that another formal amendment was required, which was moved again by Cr Rayner and seconded this time by Cr Kate Wood.

More debate followed with further calls for speakers for, speakers against, then speakers for or against, a right of reply for mover and right of reply for the seconder before the second amendment was carried 9-0.

It read simply "that minor typographical errors in the issues paper be corrected before distribution to the public".

But wait, there's more.

The whole lot – original motion and two amendments – now had to be put to the vote.

Cr Craddock let fly that she was extremely unhappy with a lot of the questions, many

were meaningless and sentences were garbled and hard to follow.

The question, "Do you value heritage" is so vague that how can we be sure anything meaningful can come out of it?" she asked.

"People need more information before they can give informed answers – I think it needs to go to a consultant."

Cr Chitty said she thought it had already gone to a consultant.

"If there are too many questions in front of you, you will get bamboozled," Cr Chitty said.

Cr Wood – a professional journalist who knows a bit about writing plain English – said she agreed with Cr Craddock that the "whole thing can be rewritten to be more palatable to the public".

Back to the Shire President's rule book. "Any more speakers for, any more speakers against, any more speakers for or against – no, then I will put the vote," he said.

It was carried 6-3 with Cr Craddock asking – after an hour of tedious and often repetitive debate – that her dissenting vote be recorded for posterity.

By now the Dormouse was fast asleep in the Mad Hatter's teapot.

I could go on about another seemingly interminable debate about split motions,

cafe-strip heritage colours, non-conforming advertising signs and other such matters.

Suffice to say that – like the baker the previous month – the butchers will now be allowed to advertise in their selected colour by a 6-3 vote, with Cr Craddock again asking that her dissent be recorded.

She did, however, score a win with street-level A-frame advertising signs, which will be deferred to the shire's May 10 public forum after yet another tortuous debate, including whether it should wait until June.

By then, the Cheshire Cat had almost faded from sight, leaving only its grin for Alice to see.

The shire's ongoing and costly WA Supreme Court legal battle against former CEO Graham Merrick and former shire president Charlie Wroth was, as usual, listed last and discussed behind closed doors.

The upshot is that councillors accepted Shire CEO Stan Scott's recommendation that he and Cr Dow attend court-ordered mediation in Perth with authority to "accept or reject any proposed settlement".

The secret part of the meeting ended with a cryptic one-liner about "progress in the recovery of the alleged overpayment" from Mr Wroth's private company, Warragenny. Curiouser and curiouser, said Alice.

## Toot toot – here's our tiny train

Toodyay Miniature Railway Inc  
June Eastwood

THE SAYING "it's a small world" was really brought home to us last week.

Author of *Shandy Makes New Friends* Joan Thomas decided to visit a steam museum in Thirlmere NSW and took along a few copies of the book to see if they would sell them for her.

Joan handed one to the receptionist who nearly fell off her chair when she opened it and saw the name Toodyay.

Excitedly the lass told Joan her ancestors came from Toodyay – the James and the Jones families.

We are wondering what we can do to inform locals residents that Toodyay has a

miniature railway and it's worth a visit.

Twice lately locals have told us they did not know we existed.

Last Wednesday a large Bayswater family arrived at the station all wreathed in smiles.

They did know we had the railway but were told it did not run in the school holidays.

By pure luck they decided to come up on Wednesday anyway to have a look round and heard the train whistle.

They loved their ride, and had two.

From time to time we have had colour photos of our trains in *The Herald*, two six-hour promotions in the street of our *Shandy* book and signs at the end of town.

Perhaps Mr Editor when you are having a slow news month we could cover the front page with train photos?



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# Vibrant Moondyne Festival a spectacular success



The 1860s Regiment fires a musket fusillade to get proceedings underway.



Joe and his gang on the run.



'That miserable scoundrel Moondyne Joe is guilty - lock him up' says the prosecutor.



Raucous floozies turn out to free their bushranger hero, Moondyne Joe.

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## C3PO, Wild Horses rope in art lovers

Arts Toodyay  
Clive Eger

WHAT DO you get when you have Little Mother, the Chook Family, Wild Horses and C3PO all in the same room?

You have the Arts Toodyay Moondyne Art Exhibition at the CWA Hall.

Once again the annual exhibition has attracted a wide selection of artworks from the Toodyay area and beyond with more than 40 works on display.

Visitors to the Moondyne Festival were delighted at the high standard of work on display and some even purchased a painting.

The most recent Arts Toodyay workshop, conducted by Margot Watkins, was all about the ancient Japanese art of paper folding – origami.

Participants transformed simple sheets of coloured paper into a variety of animal shapes and other intricate forms – very different from the folded paper planes that we used to make at school.

Meanwhile the Arts Toodyay mob are getting on with the planning for the second open studio Art Trail event in October.

This year 15 artists will be opening their



studios for visitors to see them at work.

More details will be advertised here closer to the date.

Arts Toodyay member Ruth Silvester, held another of her legendary Open Days on the day before the Moondyne Festival.

Visitors to her studio on Whitfield Road discovered an Aladdin's Cave of beautiful Japanese fabrics, fine china and Ruth's hand-stitched journals.

Everyone is welcome to join Arts Toodyay – there is bound to be something to interest you among our activities and the winter months tend to be our busiest time for workshops.

We meet on the first Tuesday of each month in the old Police Station on Duke Street at 8pm. Come along and join us there.

## New turners tackle tools with aplomb

Avon Woodturners  
Max J Heath

HI THERE from the Avon Woodturners.

Things have been swinging along well at the Pavilion and Wednesday nights have been going really well with new turners coming to grips with the tools.

Turners are undertaking more difficult items quite successfully.

We have decided on our raffle prize for the Toodyay Show and are starting to get things together for this item.

Sundays have been going along quietly and some turners have been tackling their competition items.

David Doye brought some fluid to show us how to stain wood to a carbon finish simply by putting steel wool in vinegar, leaving it for a while and then wiping on the wood. It polishes to a nice finish.

A tidy little income will result from a request by the Duyfken Foundation for us to make 120 pens made from timber from the Duyfken's replaced decking.

As this was too much for our little club, Swan Woodturners have come on board and will do quite a few for us.

We are still waiting to hear when our new premises will be started and are looking forward to moving in.

There will be a lot more room to move around and space where we can put in some other machinery to help us with our craft.

It appears that we now have all our demonstrators organised for our weekend workshop in June and it should once again be an informative day.

Well that's about all from the wood turners for now and please take advice from RoadWise and don't drive tired.

Cheers from the Avon Woodturners.

## With lace and eyelashes for panache

Toodyay Community Bus Inc.  
Di Roberts, Secretary

HI FOLKS, the Cheeky Bus brings you news of happenings in April and what to expect for the coming months.

The committee contacted the Toodyay Picnic Races and the Toodyay Agricultural Society with the offer to provide a shuttle bus for their forthcoming events and both have responded with a resounding 'yes'.

Wonderful news and the Toodyay Agricultural Society is happy to put a little advertisement about us in their program.

We are pretty chuffed to be able to help alleviate parking problems and also bring together folks who do not wish to take their vehicles to these events.

We will keep you posted on dates and times for pick up and return.

Recently it has been very gladdening to see buses from other districts visiting our beautiful town and enjoying the friendship we all have to offer.

Thank you Shire of Toodyay for your consistent help in keeping our town one that we can all be proud of.

As you all know, happiness is sharing with others and there was great excitement and happiness when the Cheeky Bus participated in the wedding of Therese and Gary from Morangup, taking guests from the ceremony at Connors Mill to the Duck Duck Goose Cafe for the reception.

A gift of champagne glasses, champagne and chocolates was presented to the couple by the committee along with very happy wishes for a wonderful future.

The bus was resplendent with lace and a flower girl and of course eyelashes on the front.

Inside, white satin ribbon adorned each seat for the guests and even the gear stick for the driver, Peter Robinson (who really looked the part of an English gentleman in a top hat, vest and clothing fit for the wedding).

Thank you, Peter, for showing the married couple and guests that the bus has panache.

The Cheeky Bus loves getting dressed up and is available for any event, so if you have



anything special coming up in the next few months, please contact our wonderful girls at the Toodyay Visitors Centre to make a booking.

Happy days to you all, and of course to all the beautiful mothers who are so very very special, have a happy, happy Mothers Day.

## Spinners take a country spin

Toodyay Spinners  
Ange Sturman

A GROUP of Toodyay Spinners went to a spin-in in the Porongurups at the end of March and had a really good time.

The rest of us have been busy with projects for the Moondyne festival at the beginning of May and the Fibre Festival in June.

Heather has made another stunning beret and Carol W. wove a striking scarf in red and black, as well as spinning several skeins of interesting wool.

Our group meets every Wednesday from 9am to noon, and every 3rd Saturday of the month (also from 9am to noon) at Parkers' Cottage in the showgrounds.

For further information on our group please contact Heather Jones, Secretary on 0407 287 002 or Judy Mackie, President on 9574 4421.

The Felting Group meeting time is now on the 2nd Monday each month from noon to 3pm also at Parkers' Cottage.

Felting group contact is Jenny Cornwall 9574 5978.

New members are most welcome – no experience necessary.

## Change Lives Become a volunteer today!

**Vacancies exist at our BOLGART and MORANGUP centres for suitably motivated individuals to become Volunteer Ambulance Officers**

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Contact Carolynne for further details  
**0428 957 600 or 9574 2390**  
sjatooday@bigpond.com



**St John**



## TRAINEE- PART TIME

The Toodyay Community Resource Centre Inc. is a not-for-profit organisation. We offer a range of services to the Toodyay community including the delivery of social and business development events, venue and equipment hire, secretarial services, one on one tuition, public access internet and provide an Access Point for the Department of Human Service customers.

Are you considering undertaking study? Why not earn money and develop on-the-job skills while you study. We are seeking a reliable and friendly person for our busy centre for 47 hours per fortnight, commencing in May for an 18 month term.

### What we offer

- An excellent working environment, within a small team.
- On site study day per week (paid)
- A diverse range of tasks and duties
- Supported learning with opportunities to gain experience in many facets of community development, administration and customer service.

### The successful applicant

- Will enjoy working with people and have excellent customer service skills.
- Will be computer literate.
- Will have excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Will be willing and eligible to undertake tertiary study in Business Administration.
- The successful applicant will be reimbursed of any cost to provide a National Police Check and a Working with Children Card.

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For enquiries or to discuss the opportunity further, please contact our office on (08) 9574 5357

# Guru of Grind goes quiet at Shed

**Toodyay Men's Shed**  
Inside the Shed

THE SCRIBBLER wanders through April.

Our first wood raffle of the season has been a success thanks to the generosity of the Toodyay folk.

It never stops amazing me the number of people who come past and say they do not need the wood but here's a donation anyway, or to please give it to a pensioner if they win. Well, with winter coming we have made Colin a very happy man.

Due to a lack of products the Shed is not attending the Toodyay Farmers Markets this month but beware, we will be back.

At the moment our lads are placing handrails for the new Community Recreation Centre which is relocating at the rear of the old IGA or the Christmas Shop.

Our Guru of Grind has bent the steel pipes and welded on the fixtures, so for now there is peace and quiet at the shed until he starts something new.

Our Sailor has been making wooden

bookmarks of various timbers and we have had a request from the Northam Library to supply them with more.

This is a growing market it seems in this day of e-mails, tablets and e-phones.

Rain lovely rain, but please not at the shed. We were inundated to the extent that Mr M had to dig a spoon drain around the verandah.

Still it keeps the ant population down and also provides the horses with a place to play. Enter the school holidays – have you been visited by the grandies?

They arrive and then the fun begins. Water ways have to be guarded or they turn into mud runs; hands off Grandpa's workshop; keep out of Nan's craft room; who fed the dogs last; four kids cannot collect one egg from the chooks.

I guess you have all been there, if not your turn is coming.

We were at the Moondyne Festival but only had an information gazebo.

Lots of visitors popped by to find out what we do and whether they were interested in our company as we prepare to build a new

home in town at the shire's old works depot.

We love talking to people and everyone was welcome, young and old.

The West Australian Men's Shed Association (WAMSA) held a zone meeting in Goomalling on April 21 to discuss placing men's sheds in a zone to better manage growing numbers.

Toodyay is in the Northern Wheatbelt Zone and The Honcho, Boss and Gnome were due to make the trip to find out what is happening and where we will be going in the next year.

That's Men's Sheds, growing all the time. Has anyone noticed the new sign in Harper Road – no?

Please look out for it as it tells everyone where we hope to build our new shed.

With luck and the gods on our side, Lotterywest and Royalties for Regions will send us a little money to build it.

Well, that is April's little shower for May, so be good and if you would like to call in for cuppa and a chat, just ring Fred on 9574 5795 and we will happily accommodate you.

Autumn is the right time for us

## Get ready to plant your Show spuds

**Toodyay Agricultural Society**  
Alison Wroth

HERE are some great ideas for all the green fingers out there who want to plant vegetables in time for the Toodyay Show but are unsure of the right planting times.

Below are some planting times I acquired from our champion veggie grower, retired steward and now judge, Len Leeder.

For the week starting May 23 plant potatoes; June 1 broad beans; June 13 rhubarb and silverbeet; July 4 cabbages, cauliflowers, beetroot, peas and broccoli; July 11 turnips, swedes and snow peas, and in the week commencing July 25 plant lettuces.

Hopefully this will inspire young and not-so-young existing show exhibitors to plant something new and different and also encourage someone who has never entered vegetables before to give it a go.

I am pleased to announce that the agriculture section has been added to events judged for the President's Trophy – previously it was limited to sheep, cattle and wool.

Entries in only two sections out of the four are required so this should add incentive for farmers to enter more exhibits.

Cereal crop farmers with a few cattle or sheep could enter both or either in the show for a chance to win the President's Trophy.

If you would like to become a Toodyay Agricultural Society member and have a say in running of the Toodyay Show at the AGM or possibly be on our Show Committee, join now and you will get one member pass, two guest passes and a Show schedule.

Contact Secretary Carrie on 0476 918 601 or email [toodyayagsociety@gmail.com](mailto:toodyayagsociety@gmail.com).

If you are aged 18-30 and are interested in becoming our next Royal Agricultural Society Rural Ambassador to represent Toodyay and the Toodyay Agricultural Society, please contact me on 0437 099 960 or a/h on 9574 2681.

We are seeking someone to represent the youth of Toodyay who enjoys the country lifestyle and what they can bring to the community. – hope to speak to you soon.

## Back in swing with Bindi Bindi Road cleanup

**Toodyay Autumn Club**  
Autumn Leaf

WE ARE getting back into the swing of things and started the year off with a cleanup of Bindi Bindi Road.

Later in April some of us ventured into

Midland Gate for a day at the cinema followed by lunch and a round of retail therapy the shops.

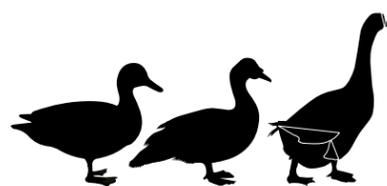
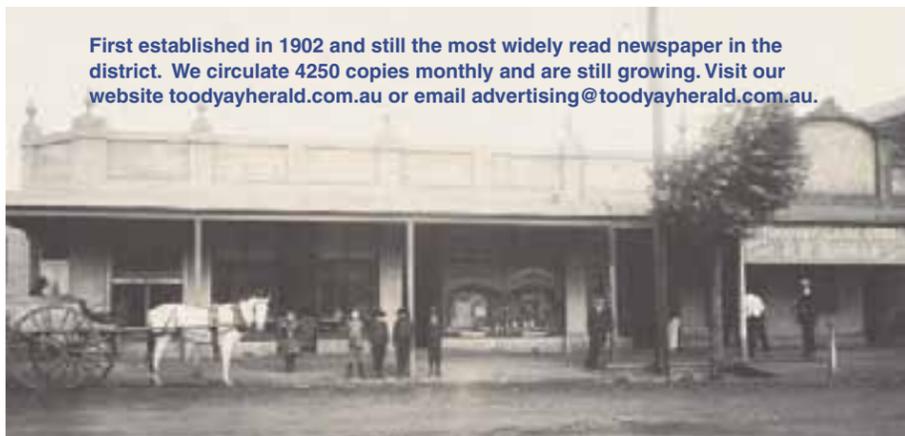
In the first week of this month we have invited the senior group from Gidgegannup for a game of carpet bowls with lunch and afternoon tea provided.

A few lucky members are on holiday, some in New Zealand and others in Europe.

We all hope they are having a wonderful time.

Zeta Mather is our only member with a birthday this month and we all wish her a very happy day on May 4.

First established in 1902 and still the most widely read newspaper in the district. We circulate 4250 copies monthly and are still growing. Visit our website [toodyayherald.com.au](http://toodyayherald.com.au) or email [advertising@toodyayherald.com.au](mailto:advertising@toodyayherald.com.au).



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Special Mothers Day menu  
Please ring for details.

**Don't forget Family Schnitzel Night every Thursday night**

Schnitzel, chips, salad & dessert of homemade Gelato \$25. Choice of Beef or Chicken and 5 toppings  
Normal menu also available

**Coming soon Taste of Asia Night**

**Friday 20th May.** Join us for a Taste of Asian Banquet night. Joining our resident Chef Gary is Guest Chef Richard Liow. Tantalise your tastebuds with dishes from Singapore, China, Malaysia, Thailand & Japan

Register your interest via email [:info@pecanhill.com.au](mailto:info@pecanhill.com.au) or ring 9574 2636.





## Craft group's shoes will never be on the nose

**The Crooked Needle**  
Heather Wright

WHAT A busy time we have had in the last month.

We were so delighted to walk into our meeting hall and find the walls adorned with our new wall hanging The Gathering Room.

The project was started by one of our members Pat, who now divides her time between Pemberton and Toodyay and completed by our ever-able Annette, who seems to be capable of handling anything that comes her way.

We thank these two ladies for brightening our day with such a lovely piece of handcraft.

Yarn bombing is over for the year and I am sure everyone can see the colour it has added to our streets.

Well done Glynne for your gentle persuasion in getting us to be part of this community activity.

We know we are only a small part of the Fibre Festival but many ladies are proud of their efforts and some even showed talent.

We welcomed another two new members

at our last gathering and we hope these ladies will enjoy the company that craft provides.

Our head motivator had some making shoe-perfume-thingys for our own use.

Some girls whizz them up in a minute while others take their time to come to a satisfactory completion.

Now dear Gail has everyone gathering bits and pieces of fabric for our June quilt making project.

By Jove, I hope it is a small one.

Once again the stalwarts of our club have put themselves forward to help with poppy making for the children's holiday activities.

This session was well attended and Gail, Annette and Tania are to be thanked for giving their time and effort.

It is wonderful that in our community we have such caring people who give of their time freely but sadly it does seem harder and harder to get volunteers.

Our best wishes go to Jan who is caring for Evan after he gave her quite a scare and we are glad things are looking good now.

To any of our other members who are having an off time, we look forward to you being back in the fold again.

Crafter Suzanne should be back soon after yet another jaunt to the other side of the country.

I wish I could crawl into her bag one time. In May we have a bus trip to the Craft Fair so credit cards are sure to get a workout there. Until then, Happy Crafting.

## Probus has a lot to offer Toodyay's 400 'oldies'

**Probus Club of Toodyay**  
Joan Bath

LAST MONTH'S *Toodyay Herald* reported that the shire's draft 10-year plan predicted the population aged over 70 is expected to more than double to 892.

So that means there must be about 400 'oldies' out there now who may like to join Probus for a new lease on life.

In celebrating 40 years, members of Probus throughout Australia identified how the organisation has helped them – transitioning from working to retirement by providing fellowship with others in a similar situation, providing a new circle of acquaintances, keeping the mind active, staying in touch with the community, learning from interesting guest speakers and so much more.

Toodyay Probus has a lot happening and keeps us all on the go, so come and join us.

By the time you are reading this article, we will have been on our May excursion to the morning WASO concert.

After that is a tour of the Red Hill Waste Facility and lunch at the Wild Goose Café in late May/early June.

Last month's guest speaker was inspirational. Dr Ros Worthington has based her whole life on giving, turning what most would consider tragedies into the building blocks for developing charities providing grassroots support.

She grew up in an orphanage in Geraldton and a foster home in Chapman Valley and left school at 14 to make her own living.

After a nearly 20-year battle with chronic breast disease from age 16, she founded Breast Cancer Care WA.

Just one of her initiatives, purple safety work boots, has raised \$1 million.

The suicide of her beloved husband of 15 years still moves her, but she saw the need to bring mental health issues to the fore and spearheaded the Help me campaign with Lifeline WA.

Other charities she has been involved

with are Make-a-Wish, Love Angel and an orphanage in Bali.

None of her charities receive government funding.

Her latest social enterprise, to be launched on June 1 this year, is the sale of coffee pods with 10 cents from every pod going to the charity of your choice.

Used pods will also be collected and recycled to make worm farms and mushroom packs.

Watch out for Community Pod soon.

Anyone interested in joining Probus, please contact president Peter Healy on 9574 4778 or for membership, John Smart on 9574 2339.

Probus' next meeting is at 7pm on May 10 at Coorinja Winery. See you there.

## Hideaway says goodbye to old bingo friend Christina

**Ida's Hideaway**  
Neil Stewart

ANZAC DAY was a time to remember those who gave their lives for their country.

We have lost one of our members, Christina, who was a long time Saturday afternoon bingo friend.

Although we have not seen as much of her these last couple of years her friendliness and 'soft brogue' will be sadly missed.

Ann and Syd are back after two weeks away. They are true gadabouts and we are always pleased to see them again.

Did you know that the moon moves two inches away from the Earth each year?

If you would like to join our Saturday afternoons please contact Ida, 9574 2858.

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# 70 Toodyay veterans in march to remember

**Toodyay RSL**  
Bruce Guthrie

APRIL is the busiest month in the RSL Toodyay sub-branch calendar.

On April 7 Toodyay District High School students conducted their Anzac Day ceremony with poise and great sincerity before the full school, parents and visitors.

Students representing their years performed tasks including storytelling and reciting the ode.

During the function RSL Toodyay sub-branch president Peter Brennan presented the RSL Toodyay Cadet Encouragement Award to Thomas Ferguson.

Thomas has been a strong and dedicated member of the Toodyay Emergency Services Cadet Unit for some years and has always shown a very high standard of commitment in all activities.

This perpetual award is presented annually to the cadet considered out-standing in all aspects of the program.

Well done, Thomas.

And congratulations to Toodyay District High School on conducting a wonderful service.

Winners of the 2016 Sandakan Scholarship Tour recently met with sponsors and the RSL President for photographs and conversation and received best wishes for their journey to Borneo in April.

2016 Scholarship winners Catherine and

Kobe have recently returned from their trip and we will publish their story in *The Herald* June edition.

RSL Toodyay sub-branch wishes to sincerely thank all the following sponsors of this scholarship tour for their ongoing generosity and support:

- Shire of Toodyay
- Bendigo Bank
- Toodyay Dental Clinic
- Toodyay Op Shop
- Toodyay Lions Club Inc

We also acknowledge the considerable support and assistance given by Toodyay District High School.

Anzac Day 2016 was commemorated with the dawn service, a gunfire breakfast, the Anzac Day Parade through town and the 11am service at the Toodyay war memorial.

The breakfast provided by Lions Club of Toodyay was held for the first time at the historic Wicklow shearing shed in the Museum precinct.

It is estimated a total of 70 veterans, citizens, emergency services personnel, scouts, cadets and descendants of service men and women marched in the parade.

On a rainy day, an estimated 250 people attended the dawn service, 200 the breakfast and 250 came to the main service at 11 am.

RSL acknowledges the wonderful support given by the Shire of Toodyay, Toodyay



Lions, Toodyay Scout Group, Toodyay Community Singers and Toodyay Theatre Group.

The war memorial site grounds and gardens were picture-perfect.

Pleasing on the day was the presence of veterans from outside the Shire and new residents. Many others wore medals of now-deceased relatives.

Anzac Day 2016 Toodyay was successful and memorable for all the right reasons.

## General RSL notices for May

RSL thanks you, our generous community, for supporting our fundraising street appeal on May 22 and 23.

We will hold a fundraising firewood raffle on May 13 and 14 outside IGA.

The RSL general meeting is at 2pm on Saturday May 7 at the Memorial Hall.

Everyone is welcome to attend, particularly if you would like to discuss membership.

# Fun day for kids baking tasty Anzac bikkies

**CWA**  
Elizabeth Mansom

SEVEN Toodyay CWA members recently visited Mt Helena/Parkerville branch for a fashion parade.

Proceeds of entry and raffles plus a percentage of the takings were in aid of Motor Neurone Disease, the charity CWA branches state-wide are working for this year.

Each branch holds a function in aid of this disease and forwards the proceeds to the state office.

We understand 75 per cent of the money

raised will go towards research into Motor Neurone Disease and 25 per cent to services for people with the condition.

When I say there is presently no cure and only one medication which might extend life by only a few months you will appreciate the emphasis on research.

Trish Chitty was a welcome visitor at the recent craft fair where we started a group project of knitted squares for a blanket.

A blanket of knitted squares was started as a group production, members taking home yarn, a pattern and instructions.

During the school holidays CWA took part

in activities organised for students.

The more than 20 children who came to our hall to make Anzac biscuits were described by one of our ladies as 'lovely, bright and interested'.

The ladies declared the day fun and the biscuits delicious so we hope the children and parents think the same.

Our special thanks to the parents who stayed and helped.

On Wednesday April 20 three of us went to Bindoon to hear an interesting talk on Australian wildflowers.

On Anzac Day CWA ladies distributed

Anzac biscuits after the 11am service.

Our annual Cancer Morning Tea will be held on Monday May 30 and we also intend having a Women's Health Day on a Friday in May but have yet to decide which date.

The CWA meets at 1pm on the fourth Thursday of the month in the CWA Hall next to the Garden Centre in Stirling Terrace, Toodyay.

There is plenty of parking in Charcoal Lane and disabled access is from Charcoal Lane down the side of the hall.

Hall bookings are being taken by Glenys Clabaugh on 9574 5110 or 0427 478 325.

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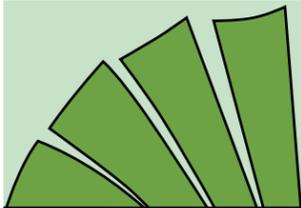
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# OUR SHIRE NEWS



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The final quarter of the Shires financial year can perhaps be described as a time of optimistic anticipation as staff work toward completion of this years budgeted works

program.

Often tail end projects are delayed because of external factors beyond the Shire's control.

Projects yet to be completed include:

Lighting of Multi use courts: Light poles are on site but cannot be erected because all the available lights have been purchased by a supplier of mining services.

Stirling Terrace Information Bay (not a bus shelter as suggested by some social media commentators). Framework erected but problems with the supply of cladding. Hopefully available early May 2016.

Community depot sheds. Tenders awarded in December 2015 for the supply and erection of sheds, but construction delayed by the need to address compliance requirements to allow certification by an external private building certifier prior to the issue of a building permit. (Perhaps a little ironic that the Shire is required to issue a building permit to build on its own

property). Sand pads and concrete slabs were installed at the end of April 2016.

The joint AROC/Butterly Cottages Inc. aged housing project aimed at constructing units on the Butterly Cottages land in Anzac Avenue is still on track for ground works to commence this financial year. Currently the Shire is liaising with utility suppliers to ensure that water, power and communications infrastructure is installed at the optimum time during construction.

The annual road construction program is almost complete despite the unusual summer weather creating havoc with the timing of bitumen work that requires warm conditions for optimum results. The upgrade of Waters road is about to start then the works crew will commence their winter road maintenance programs.

All councillors attended a community information session at the Morangup Community hall on Saturday 16 April 2016. I thank the Morangup community for their hospitality and the opportunity to answer questions and receive community input.

Council will next week commence its annual budget deliberations, starting with road and building inspections and then a series of workshops with the aim of adopting the 2016/17 budget on the 26 July 2016.

The current rates review process aimed at determining the appropriate method of valuation to each property will not be advanced enough to use

when setting the rates for the coming year.

Last week I received a card from Keep Australia Beautiful National Australia acknowledging Toodyay's efforts in hosting the national awards event. A few words that remind me of the reason many of us live in Toodyay.



Dear Cr. Dow,

Thank you + your wonderful community for helping us deliver a successful 2016 Australian Tidy Towns Awards event.

The town of Toodyay truly embodies the Tidy Towns spirit + we were so impressed by everyone we met. Thank you for your contribution. With Gratitude, Phillip, Gem + the KAWA team

## IMPROVING FIRE SAFETY

At its April 2016 meeting Council appointed Vernice to construct an Emergency Access Way between Sand Springs Road and Malkup Brook Road in Julimar. The Access Way will provide a safe alternative route in the event of a major fire. There are also two smaller projects; one linking Dreyer Road and Wilkerson Road in West Toodyay, and the other improving the Fire Access tracks around the Morangup Community Centre and Fire Shed.

These projects are the latest in a group of Shire investments in improving fire safety within subdivisions. They are priority recommendations in the Strategic Review of Bushfire Policy completed for the Shire by Bushfire Prone Planning. The review is available for downloading from the Shire website and includes a number of recommendations for managing bushfire risk within the Shire of Toodyay.

Council will be discussing the full suite of recommendations at the May 2016 Council Forum, with a view to adopt at the May 2016 Council meeting.

## EVENTS IN MAY & EARLY JUNE

**Friday 13 May 2016**

Thank a Volunteer Day (CRC Courtyard Gardens)

**Sunday 15 May 2016**

Toodyay Farmers Market

**Sunday 5 June 2016**

Toodyay Fibre Festival



## MUSEUM NEWS

Opening in May 2016 at the Newcastle Gaol Museum is our new temporary exhibition entitled "Not Just Barefoot and Pregnant... But Much, Much More!"

Our exhibition will be exploring Toodyay women's stories, using the Australian Historic Themes Framework. Some of the areas we will be covering are establishing schools, forming associations, lodging people, migrating through organised colonisation, retailing foods and beverages, displacing indigenous people and playing and watching organised sports.

Some of our subjects are Mary Gertrude Gadsdon of Key Farm, Dutch immigrant Joanne Peters and hoteliers Ellen Wing and Charlotte Herbert. We will introduce Jane Donegan who managed to achieve financial independence, unusual for a woman in the nineteenth century and Annie Stack, who was matriarch of the Culham Camp, where she managed contracts for land-clearing and fencing. These are just a few of the stories we will be sharing.

The exhibition will run until October 2016.

## PENSIONER CAPPING

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSIONER RATES CONCESSION FOR 2016-2017

In the past pensioners have received a 50% concession on their Council rates. As part of the 2015/16 State Budget, the State Government announced that from the rating year commencing 1 July 2016, the 50% concession allowed to eligible pensioners on local government rates would be capped at \$500. WA was the last state to cap the value of the pensioner concession.

There has been extensive lobbying by the local government sector seeking to change this decision or at least increase the cap. The State Government has announced that the cap on the pensioner concession will be \$750 instead of the proposed \$500. This is a significant improvement, but will still result in higher costs for some pensioners. The concession cap will still apply for the 2016/17 rates.

The Shire of Toodyay applies the pensioner concession on behalf of the State Government, but is not responsible for the introduction of the concession cap. This is entirely a State Government decision. If you are adversely affected by this decision you may wish to contact your local member of the Legislative Assembly, Shane Love. He can be contacted on 9927 2333.

## LIBRARY CH@T

The Many Minds Discussion Group had an interesting discussion on 14 April 2016 with the topic being: "Is a dream the ultimate freedom or the ultimate prison?", and on 28 April 2016 the discussion was "How do you define honesty? Can one be too honest?"

On 12 May 2016, the topic for discussion is "Readers Theatre (find your inner actor)". On 26 May 2016, the topic for discussion is "All my biggest problems/failures began with the smallest compromise."

New members are always welcome, so come along and join this lively group for some very interesting discussions, enjoy a coffee or tea in the meeting room at the Library.

The Creative Writing Group is a small group who explore and nurture new and creative methods of writing. Come along and join this cosy group, enjoy a lovely cuppa in the meeting room and meet new friends and explore new ideas. For any enquiries please telephone library staff on 95742323.

### New Items Bookshelves

Drop in to the library and peruse the shelves for a relaxing read through the cold wet days ahead. We have a dedicated area for "New Items" each month.

With the exchange from State Library of WA, donations from local people and new items purchased, we have approximately 250 to 300 "New to Toodyay" items each month. The selection varies: fiction, non-fiction, large print, DVDs and audio books.

### Regular Events for May 2016

#### Baby Rhyme / Story Time

Every Monday (except Mon 2 May 2016)  
9.15am to 10am

#### Morangup Library

10 & 24 May 2016  
2.30pm to 5pm

#### Many Minds Discussion Group

12 & 26 May 2016  
10am to 12noon

#### Creative Writing Group

5 & 19 May 2016  
10am to 12noon



## TOODYAY INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY PROGRAM

The Toodyay Inclusive Community Program was held during the April 2016 school holidays from Monday 18 to Friday 22. This Program welcomed along several new community groups and some well known faces along with several new families.



The Monday morning activity was run by the Toodyay Junior Football Club who did a splendid job at keeping the kids entertained for the full 2 hours. The participants learnt key handballing skills, kicking and passing to each other and ended the Program with a mini game.

The afternoon session was all about celebrating Anzac Day and the CWA ladies taught us all how to make Anzac biscuits. The participants enjoyed getting their hands into the mixture and while some turned out great, others looked more like an Anzac Slice! Nevertheless we all enjoyed them!

Tuesday morning was our regular tennis session and as always, it was very well run by the Toodyay Tennis Club. The participants used both the synthetic and new tiled surfaces.

Tuesday arvo saw a new initiative to the Program in Nature Play. This session was

all about getting outdoors and teaching the participants to enjoy nature and to appreciate their surroundings. We gathered at Duidgee Park and with the help of parents, we completed a Nature Play Treasure Hunt. The objectives of the hunt ranged from skimming rocks, making shapes and animals from clouds, finding leaves with different colours and finding different kinds of animals. Each participant was given a Nature Play Passport so they can continue the Program at home.



Wednesday afternoon the Clackline Toodyay Karate Club took us for a karate lesson at the Youth Hall and hopefully gained a few new members!

Thursday morning the Toodyay Soccer Club gave us a lesson at the oval and we had everyone involved including children as young as 2 and all parents which was fantastic to see.

Thursday afternoon we went back to our Anzac Day theme and with the craft ladies we made poppies to wear on the day.

Friday was our final day on which we played hockey and made scarecrows with the Toodyay CRC for the Moondyne Festival.

A huge thank you to all involved and bring on July 2016 for the next week of fun!



## ARE YOU READY TO GET ACTIVESMART?

ActiveSmart is a free program to help Wheatbelt residents enjoy a more active, healthy and connected lifestyle in their local community.

By joining you will receive one-on-one telephone coaching with our team providing tips and support to help achieve your goals, a comprehensive activity, sport and recreation guide, and resources that are tailored to your interests and your local area.

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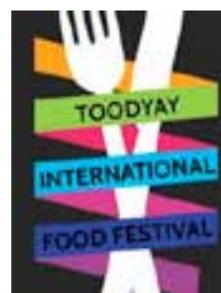
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## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

**Toodyay International Food Festival & Family Fun Day**  
**SATURDAY 6 AUGUST 2016**  
**10AM - 4PM**

Toodyay's International Food Festival will be held on Saturday 6 August 2016. The Shire of Toodyay would like to partner with your business to deliver the event, offering unique promotional opportunities in the lead up to and on the day.



Sponsoring the Toodyay International Food Festival is a great way to create brand awareness and generate exposure for your business not only to the Toodyay community, but also amongst tourists, spectators, and wider audiences through the many associated media partners who cover the Food Festival and Avon Descent.

Whilst the Shire of Toodyay receives funding for the Toodyay International Food Festival from Lotterywest, local sponsorship is also a necessity to ensure maximum community and economic benefit. The funding for the Avon Descent Family Fun Days notes the significance the events make in not only the local community and tourist cultures but also ensures that the world's greatest white water race is an experience enjoyed by all.

This event would not be possible without the ongoing support from our local businesses.

If your business wants to get on board as a sponsor and be part of this spectacular event. Please contact the Event Coordinator at the Shire of Toodyay, Debra Andrijich on (08) 9574 4318 or at [events@toodyay.wa.gov.au](mailto:events@toodyay.wa.gov.au) to discuss Sponsorship options.



## RANGER SERVICES

### A TIMELY WARNING

Rangers receive quite a few complaints about dogs wandering onto properties and attacking livestock, wildlife (such as kangaroos) and other domestic animals. If these dogs can be traced back to an owner an infringement notice of \$200 will be issued for a dog being on a property without consent. If the dog is also unregistered this can incur a further \$200 infringement. Also, please remember that farmers are able to shoot dog(s) on site if they are in the act of chasing and attacking livestock. Under registration requirements, fences need to be adequate to contain your animals.

If you require any further information please contact Shire of Toodyay Ranger Services on 9574 4555.

### ELECTRIC BOUNDARY DOG COLLARS

A reminder at this time of year with surging power and outages, that when the power goes out so does your dog's collar.

With storms predicted please ensure your dog is contained in an appropriate area or building. Dogs often respond with the fight/flight response with thunder and lightning and can run several kilometres away from home.

Also, due to wet weather, the ground has softened and can result in fences giving way. We would like to remind all property owners to check and maintain fences to keep stock off the roads.



## PUBLIC COMMENT

### PROPOSED EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRY – GRAVEL LOT 8 CHITTY ROAD, HODDY'S WELL

The Shire of Toodyay has received an application from WA Gravel Pty Ltd for an extractive industry licence at Lot 8 Chitty Road, Hoddy's Well.

The applicant is seeking approval to remove gravel for road building and construction purposes from an area on the property of approximately 4.36 hectares. It is expected that an average of 21,700m<sup>3</sup> of gravel is to be excavated per year. The anticipated duration of the extraction program is approximately 10 years.

Your views on the proposed extractive industry are encouraged and welcomed. The proposal is available for inspection at the Shire of Toodyay Administration Centre, Old Court House, 15 Fiennes Street, Toodyay, during office hours.

Submissions on the proposed development may be addressed in writing and lodged with the Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Toodyay, PO Box 96 Toodyay 6566, by 4.00pm on Thursday 2 June 2016.

Further information on the above proposal is available by contacting the Shire's Development Services Department on 9574 2258.

**Stan Scott**  
 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

## CONTACT US AT THE SHIRE

Office: 15 Fiennes Street, Toodyay WA 6566  
 Open Mon - Fri 8.30am-4.30pm  
 Post: PO Box 96 Toodyay WA 6566  
 Phone: (08) 9574 2258  
 Fax: (08) 9574 2158  
 Email: [records@toodyay.wa.gov.au](mailto:records@toodyay.wa.gov.au)

## LICENSING SERVICES

The Shire of Toodyay no longer provides Department of Transport Licensing Services.

**All Licensing is now conducted through the Toodyay Post Office Monday to Friday 9am – 4pm.**

